

Light and Airy



Scottish Country Dancers of Winnipeg

info@rscdswinnipeg.ca

www.rscdswinnipeg.ca

Volume 46, Number 3

December 2014

Committee of Management 2014/15

Chair:	Don Johnson	204-885-9879
Vice-Chair:	Scott MacRae	204-885-7111
Treasurer:	Donna Robinson	204-253-2519
Secretary:	Agnes Brydon	204-837-7346
Social Secretary	Bob Poole	204-888-3173
Asst. Soc. Scty:	Paula Ferreira	204-475-7001
Publicity;	David Kroeker	204-284-4667
Membership:	Debbie Forrest	204-284-4667
Demo Scty	Agnes Brydon	204-837-7346
Library:	Christine Wallace	204-478-1026
Light & Airy:	Sheila Careless	204-233-8808
Teacher's Rep:	Maureen Burnham	204-786-7767
Webmaster:	Sheila Careless	204-233-8808

A Word from the Chair....

In the last edition of the Light & Airy it was reported that I was suffering badly from a travel bug. I am happy to say that after my two weeks away in London, York, Grantown-on-Spey and Edinburgh, I am now fully recovered-until of course the travel bug strikes again. It was a great trip, and one of the highlights was the opportunity to briefly visit the Headquarters of the RSCDS in Edinburgh. It is an elegant yet surprisingly modest centre for our world-wide organization. In the meeting room a portrait of Miss Jean Milligan holds pride of place, a gentle reminder of the vision she and Mrs Ysobel Stewart had when they founded our Society in 1923. And since those first days, the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society has spread joy of dancing around the globe. (see pictures below).

We have just finished our first term of dancing. I trust this has been an enjoyable and at times challenging season of dancing for you. Our thanks are extended to our teachers for their careful preparation and calm presentation of dances and technique at our classes. We are also grateful to our band, *Scotch Measure*, for the live music we so

enjoy at our socials and we are very appreciative of those who organize and host the refreshments after dancing. And thanks to all of you who so faithfully come out to classes and branch events, regardless of the weather. Our final dance evening on Monday, Dec. 15 was for all classes, and it proved to be a most enjoyable time. And while there are no classes until the New Year, all are invited to the Tea Dance on Sunday, Dec. 28 from 2:00-5:00 p.m. at St Paul's Anglican Church.

Once classes resume in the New Year we will have the Burns Supper to look forward to on January 24th, and the Workshop in May, to name but two of our events.

Until we meet again, I wish you a very Happy Christmas and all the best in the New Year.

Don Johnson

2014/15 Dance Season

Sunday, December 28	Afternoon Tea Dance 2-5 pm. \$5 St Paul's Church
Week of January 12, 2015	Winter Term Regular classes begin
Saturday January 24	Burns Dinner and Dance, Silver Heights United Church
Friday, February 13	Valentine's Ceilidh
Monday, March 2	Spring Social (hosted by the Fort Garry Class)
Wednesday, April 1	Wind-Up Social (hosted by the COM and Teachers)
Week of April 13	Last Regular classes of Winter Term
Friday, April 24	Ceilidh
Friday-Sunday May 1-3	Workshop Weekend

Please note: All dates are subject to change – please check the calendar each month. Socials are at **Silver Heights United Church - 199 Garrioch**, at 8:00 pm, with admission of \$10.00, unless otherwise noted.

From the Editor...

I looked back at my report from last December and I was commenting on how cold it was outside. What a difference from the weather we are having now. Some days I wish I had my skates to put on! Be careful out there people. We don't want anyone to have to miss class due to injuries. I know I will have to work off the Christmas dinners I will have the pleasure of partaking of (and not cooking☺).

I am looking forward to the tea dance on the 28th. What a lovely way to spend a Sunday afternoon.

Sheila Careless

❖ Branch News

Fall Class Schedule – Registration forms can be found on our website

Mondays – Fort Garry Social Class

Term 2: Joyce Cormack

Tuesdays – Technique

Term 2: Margaret Zadworny

Thursdays – Basic Class

Term 1 & 2: Cheryl Durnin

Technique Class Report

Perhaps it was the cold weather but the number of participants at our recent Dec class was significantly diminished so that we had only 5 couples. We had fun though, and Maureen introduced us to some interesting dances with intriguing names and figures. The “Snow Eater” was written by Fiona Miller from Lethbridge Alberta where they claim “chinooks” bring warm Pacific winds to “eat” up their snow. We can only hope that our doing this dance will create similar conditions here. That dance had a bourel which we took some time to become familiar with again and I found it to be different doing this in quick time versus strathspey, where you have more time to think about who you are and thus what you must do. Another challenge was the dance named “Rye Twist” which certainly has twists and turns and has some connection with the Robert Burn’s song, ‘Coming through the Rye.’ I think we finally got it, but this was a result of three attempts this term! We had five couples so it seemed just right to finish off with the Black Mountain Reel which is one of my favourites and keeps you alert trying to recall who you are and thus what you are required to do, and do pretty quickly.

We were glad to have Margaret Spears back to class, she has been busy this autumn and late summer with work and her daughter’s wedding. Other news Maureen had her car towed away by Dr Hook so she and Bob Poole had to venture into the underworld of Dr Hook’s confines on Higgins, which Bob tells me, is not a friendly place to visit. Wendy Land and her family are looking forward to several weeks in Mexico starting Dec 18 so we wish them well and a Merry warm Christmas. Ron Krug is also anticipating a milder winter as he will be living in Victoria for several weeks (?three months) in the New Year.

We hope lots of people turn out for the combined class on Dec 15 and if we don’t see you then, a very Merry Christmas from the Tuesday class.

Lynn McClure

A Thank You from Rena Laird

Dear Friends,

My apologies for the long delay in saying thank you for your lovely gift of roses. They lasted for such a long time and added much joy to the hospital room. Of course the best part was the visit from Don whose company was a real treat.

I’ve been home for 2 weeks now and hope to be more mobile when the heavy cast is removed from my foot.

We had to move to a slightly larger suite to accommodate the lift to get me from bed to chair so perhaps your record could be changed from 201 to 413-still 3161 Grant.

Adam joins me in sending our thanks and best wishes to you all.

Sincerely,

Rena.

❖ *Upcoming Events*

Tea Dance Dec 28, 2014

Over the past number of years the branch has traditionally held a Betwixt/Between social evening between Christmas and New Year’s. This year we have decided to try something different - an afternoon Tea Dance on December 28 from 2-5 PM. These dances seem to have become quite popular in other places in the world so we thought we would try it here. Won't it be fun to dance on a Sunday afternoon in December?

Mark your calendars for Sunday Dec 28 from 2-5 PM at St Paul's Hall. Should you have any family/friends visiting for the holidays, please bring them along with you. They will be most welcome. The dance program will consist of old favourites as well as some simple dances that can be done by visitors. The dancing will be followed by refreshments and socializing, so please bring a small donation for the food table. Admission is \$5.00. Any questions? Call Joyce Cormack at 204 224 2291.

Hope to see you all December 28th!

Burns Dinner & Dance

Saturday, January 24, 2015 at Silver Heights United Church, 199 Garrioch Avenue.
Ticket: \$35 each - prepaid - and will be on sale beginning Monday, Nov. 24th at all classes.
Tickets may also be purchased from Betty Poole - 204-888-3173 or Jean Highmoor - 204-832-8117

Deadline for ticket purchase is January 18, 2015.

Thank you,

Burns Committee

PROGRAMME

ESPIE MCNABB (J8x32)	3C (4C set)	MMM 1
LADY DUMFRIES (R8X32)	3C (4C set)	MMM 1
PAISLEY WEAVERS (S8X32)	3C (4C set)	3rd Graded Book
FOXTROT & POLKA		

INTERVAL

BURNS HORNPIPE (H4X32)	4C (4C set)	RSCDS Bk 27
THE DEUKS DANG OWER MY DADDIE (J8x40)	2C (4C set)	RSCDS Bk 19
THE SILVER TASSIE (S8X32)	3C (4C set)	Leaflet #1
GAY GORDONS		
OLD NICK'S LUMBER ROOM (J8X32)	3C (4C set)	RSCDS 26

INTERVAL

LIGHT & AIRY (J8x32)	3C (4C set)	RSCDS Bk 4
MAXWELL'S RANT (R8x32)	3C (4C set)	RSCDS Bk 18
THE LEA RIG (S6x32)	2C (3C set)	RSCDS Bk 21
THE DE'IL AMANG THE TAILORS (R8X32)		RSCDS Bk 14
WALTZ		

AULD LANG SYNE



RSCDS Winnipeg Workshop and Ball 2015

May 1-3, 2015
17 Wing Air Force Base, Bldg #76
Whtewold Rd., north of Ness Ave.

Teachers:

Sharon Barker, Calgary, Alberta
Bob Anderson, Victoria, BC

Put the dates on your new, 2015 calendar and get ready to boogie!

Your workshop committee has been hard at work already!

In consultation with the Teacher Committee and with the support of the Committee of Management, we have decided to go with two out of town teachers for this year's workshop. Evaluations indicated that although we love our local teachers, it is refreshing to have instruction from someone who we don't see on a weekly basis. The whole weekend of dancing, dining, socializing and being entertained will cost you \$150. Put aside \$25 a month from now till May and you will have the \$150, just like that!

We are hoping this will entice you to sign up for a weekend of festivities, starting with the Ceilidh in the 17 Wing Bar on the Friday evening and continuing Saturday with dance classes morning and afternoon, ending with a sumptuous supper and Grand March and Ball. Sunday morning we will dance and dine, having a Brunch at the end of the morning session. Watch for the brochure and registration form which should be on the website by end of January, 2015.

Questions or comments may be directed to Jane Nattrass, Coordinator of the Workshop Committee.

Report of Demonstration Secretary December 2014

Upcoming demonstrations:

January 22, 2015

Betel Home, Selkirk

June 20, 2015

Highland Games, Selkirk

Practices Held:

Nov. 12, 19, 26, 2014

Upcoming practices

Jan. 14, 21, 28, 2015

Feb. 11, 18, 25, 2015

❖ *Here and There...*

For anyone interested, The Celtic Trio (Shirley Tinsley and Lynn and Peter McClure) will be playing at The Wellington on 14 Jan at 7:30 PM, and at the Prairie Ink Restaurant at McNally Robinson booksellers on 23 Jan between 8 and 10 PM.

The Trio

The Stitching of the Great Tapestry of Scotland

The kits were first sent out to groups for stitching in early spring of 2013 and by June finished panels were coming in with instructions not to iron or treat the linen. The average number of hours spent on each panel has averaged about 400 hours but some have taken much more. One stitcher spent 7 hours doing Sean Connery's hair. When returned after initial inspection the panels are taken to the "wet room where they are tacked onto wooden frames to stretch the fabric evenly in all directions and realign the fibers of both the linen and wool. On the frame they are sprayed back and front with water using a garden sprayer and remain for 3 days til dry. They are then backed with cotton finished and hemmed to be ready for hanging with either Velcro strips or dowels. Textiles are vulnerable to many things such as moths, mites, damp, mildew, and more. Whenever it is exhibited levels of dampness and light must be controlled and appropriate conditions must be maintained when stored or transported.

Funds are being raised to exhibit and take the panels on tour, first to Scotland and England and then further afield. As the panels aren't joined it is possible parts can be taken to smaller venues. After that there is hope the tapestry will be on permanent display.

As of 2013 and increasing with worldwide contributions 50,000 sewing hours (equivalent to sewing 24 hours a day for 6 years); 300 miles of yarn (enough to lay the length of Scotland and beyond); 1000 stitchers; 165 panels.

History is about change and change always involves loss. Memories fade into half forgotten myth. The freeze frame of a tapestry panel is an attempt to catch a moment and hold it still. Some of the moments on the 160

tapestries of the Scottish panels and the world wide contributions include the origins of Scotland from the seas 420 million years ago, immigration, the Romans, the Vikings, the Angles, St. Columba, exploration, royalty, battles, religion, sports, agriculture, whisky, oil, politicians, actors. The topics are relevant to the social history of Scotland.

Joan Curle

The Scottish Diaspora Tapestry 2012-2014

A project to involve communities around the world in the celebration of Scottish heritage and culture.

Scots have migrated all over the world and have often had a profound impact on the areas where they settled. This project will see 25 such communities documenting their Scottish connections in a series of embroidered panels. Their combined stories will pay homage to the incredible determinations and courage of Scots over the centuries.

The enormous success of the creation of the Battle of Prestonpans Tapestry showing the early part of the Jacobite campaign of 1745 completed in 2010 by 200 volunteers from around Scotland inspired the creation of the Diaspora Tapestry.

In early 2012 the 25 communities were chosen to provide interesting Diaspora tales. Each community was invited to produce between five and ten panes, each measuring 50 cm x 50 cm.

Based on the Diaspora communities' stories and with their design input, Andrew Crummy who did the design work for the Prestonpans Tapestry created the outline designs for the linen panels. This ensured artistic consistency to the overall project although individual interpretation is encouraged in the use of stitches and colours to reflect local traditions.

The arrival and assembly of the Diaspora Tapestry were one of the highlights of the previous summer. In the following weeks and months the partner Scottish communities will host local exhibitions and events to celebrate their own section of the tapestry.

This project will create an enduring tribute to the Scottish Diaspora. The tapestry, which is likely to measure at least 90 metres, will continue to be displayed long after Homecoming, both at home and abroad. Because it is designed in sections, it will also be flexible and can be separated for display in different locations simultaneously.

Eventually the aim is for the Diaspora tapestry to join the Battle of Prestonpans Tapestry in a venue in Prestonpans, but until then it will tour the UK and the counties which helped in its creations. It will continue to educate audiences and promote Scottish heritage for many years to come.



Don's Travels



Don at 12 Coates Crescent



Miss Jean Milligan

Scottish Country Dance Ghillies and pumps

www.avriel.com

Your one stop shoe shop for all your dancing needs. H11's and H splits are on sale now.

Scottish Screen archive of the Nat'l Library of Scotland

<http://ssa.nls.uk/film> (Note that there is no "www" in the url.)

A huge archive of historical videos on all things Scottish. Some, but not all, can be viewed on your screen.

To see a particular film, you add a number to the url above. For a general film about Scottish dancing, add /2224 to the above; I think this is something some of us have seen before.

To see Rakes of Glasgow, add /0313.

To see The River Cree, add /0850.

And for a short look at The Duke of Perth, add /3270. This also shows a really nice view of a formal ball "back in the day". Note the speed of the music!

There may be other SCD clips as well, but it will take some searching to find them. There are also SCD references, e.g., Mrs MacLeod, for which the video is apparently not available on screen.

❖ *Out of Town Events*

Arbrae's Winterlude Weekend & Ball, Ottawa

Feb 6 – 8, 2015

Experience Winterlude in Ottawa, and music by Torridon.

Welcome dance, Sight-seeing, Slow Jam, and Ball in the beautiful Glebe Centre.

Tickets: ewoodbury@sympatico.ca

613 746 5466 or visit www.arbrae.org

Annual Aloha Winter Weekend

February 13-15, 2015

RSCDS Hawaii

Teacher: Linda Henderson

Music: Humuhumunukunua'pua'a & Strathspey Society Band

www.rscdsHawaii.org

30th Annual West End Workshop

Saturday, March 28, 2015 ~ 8 p.m.-1:30 a.m.

Turner Fenton Secondary School, Brampton

Teachers: Ron Wallace (California), Scott Reid (Hamilton), Keith Bark (Mississauga). Musicians:

Don Bartlett, Laird Brown, Fred Moyes

Cost: \$58 Workshop, lunch and Tea Dance, \$30

Youth, \$20 Tea Dance only. Ron will also teach at

Erin Mills, Friday, March 27 and at a Teachers' Workshop Sunday, March 29. More info in the

new year. Contact: theresamalek@rogers.com

46th Annual West Toronto Ball

Saturday May 9, 2015

Columbus Event Centre, Lawrence Ave. & Dufferin St.

Save the date for the 46th annual West Toronto Ball. NEW

LOCATION - The 2015 West Toronto Ball will be held at the beautiful COLUMBUS CENTRE at Lawrence Avenue West and Dufferin (www.columbuseventcentre.com)

Music by Scotch Mist. More info soon.

Annual West End Workshop

Mar 28 – 30, 2015

RSCDS Toronto

Teachers: Ron Wallace (California), Scott Reid (Hamilton), Keith Bark (Mississauga).

❖ *Important Dates*

COM meetings: COM meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month from October to May.

Next L&A: Deadline for the December issue will be **January 11, 2014.**

Members are encouraged to submit articles, pictures or information of interest to Branch members. Please send submissions for the *Light and Airy* to Sheila Careless at careless@mymts.net
This and the past 11 issues of the *Light and Airy* are posted on the Branch website (rscdswinnipeg.ca).