

# Light and Airy



## Scottish Country Dancers of Winnipeg

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### Committee of Management 2013/14

<b>Chair:</b>	Joyce Cormack	204-224-2291
<b>Vice Chair:</b>	Don Johnson	204-885-9879
<b>Secretary:</b>	Gerri Stemler	204-488-7386
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Joan Curle	204-254-6697
<b>Light and Airy Editor:</b>	Sheila Careless	204-233-8808
<b>Social Secretary:</b>	Bob Poole	204-888-3173
<b>Assistant Social Secretary:</b>	Betty Poole	204-888-3173
<b>Membership:</b>	Debra Forrest	204-284-4667
<b>Publicity:</b>	David Kroeker	204-284-4667
<b>Demonstration:</b>	Agnes Brydon	204-837-7346
<b>Library:</b>	Christine Wallace	204-478-1026
<b>Teachers' Rep.:</b>	Maureen Burnham	204-786-7767
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Sheila Careless	204-233-8808

### From the Chair....

Here we are at the beginning of the 51st year of the RSCS Winnipeg Branch and, at this time, it seems fitting to remember our 50th Anniversary celebrations. What a busy year we have just had and what a success it has been! The year began with the 200th anniversary of the Selkirk settlers and our pageant of music and dance followed by a very spirited ceilidh at Lower Fort Garry. This was followed by a wonderful dinner at the convention center celebrating the bicentennial, our Grand's & More tea, the Burns Dinner and dance, our most successful and enjoyable weekend workshop and ball which ended with a tea dance and a chance to renew acquaintances with many former members and, finally, the release of a CD by our very own Scotch Measure accompanied by the book of dances celebrating our 50th anniversary. These events all took place under the capable leadership of Christine Wallace and the branch is most thankful for everything that Christine has done for the branch. We know that she will continue to be involved in any capacity that she is able. Of course, these events don't happen without a lot of planning and efforts of many people so I also thank the COM and the workshop committee and everyone else who helped out in the past year. Sincere thanks to those who are stepping down from the COM: Christine who has completed her term as chair, Anne Morrison who has served as social secretary for the past two years and Heather Ferguson who has been Light & Airy editor for the past three years. Your contributions are most appreciated and you leave

very big shoes to fill!

Reg Curle had planned to step down as librarian but has agreed to continue in this job for the time being and, for that, we thank him.

Thank you to those who are continuing to serve on the COM and welcome to our incoming executive - Bob and Betty Poole who are taking over as social secretaries and Sheila Careless who is taking over as Light and Airy Editor. Thank you for taking on these responsibilities. I look forward to working with everyone and hope to have a very successful and exciting year of dancing.

The coming year will be less hectic and more normal than the one just past so we can concentrate on what is most important to us - dancing!

The committee has approved the schedule of classes and social events for the coming year and is working on finalizing the Robert Burns evening and the weekend workshop. We will continue to have a 10 week class Thursday evenings for newcomers called "An Introduction to Scottish Country Dancing".

Please take note of the dates in the calendar of events.

As we concentrate on increasing the interest of Scottish country dancing in the community, I feel that we dancers are the best ambassadors and can provide the best publicity of all. We can promote this fun, wholesome and healthy activity to people that we meet. I also feel that we should all have a small supply of branch business cards and make them available, as appropriate, to people that we meet. Members of the COM will have a supply to give out to dancers as we encounter each other over the summer and they will be available at the Pavillion of Scotland. Let me know if you would like a supply and I will arrange to get them to you.

You are all welcome to join the Winnipeg Burns Club at the Memorial service July 21 at 2 PM. If there are enough dancers, we can do a few dances on the grass at the legislative grounds, a most beautiful location. The branch will be entertaining August 1 at the Millennium Gardens 260 Douglas Ave in North Kildonan. Dancers who wish to participate are invited to call me for more information. We will be meeting there at 6 PM and the entertainment starts sharp at 7 PM. Even if you don't wish to dance, come out to support us and see the show.

Also, consider volunteering at our table at the Pavillion of Scotland during the week of August 4 to 10. This is an opportunity to publicize our dancing and hopefully interest people to come out and give it a try. Call David Kroeker if you are able to help out.

And finally, the first major event of the year is our Open House Thursday September 5th at St Paul's at 7:30. I look forward to seeing everyone there and I challenge all dancers to bring at least one new person to the Open House. Let's try to get a large number of new people out to try dancing!

Finally, it took quite a while for summer to arrive, but it finally has, so enjoy the remainder of our very beautiful summer.

*Joyce Cormack*

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## 2013/14 Dance Season

<b>Thursday, September 5</b>	Welcome Dance/Open House – No charge 7:30 pm
<b>Week of September 9</b>	Fall Term <b>Regular</b> classes begin
<b>Thursday, September 12</b>	Fall Term <b>Basic</b> classes begin
<b>Thursday November 21</b>	Last <b>Basic</b> class of Fall Term
<b>Tuesday, November 26</b>	St. Andrew's Social (hosted by the Technique Class)
<b>Week of December 9</b>	Last <b>Regular</b> classes of Fall Term
<b>Thursday, January 9, 2014</b>	Welcome Dance/Open House – No charge 7:30 pm

<b>Week of January 13</b>	Winter Term <b>Regular</b> classes begin
<b>Thursday January 16</b>	Winter Term <b>Basic</b> classes begin
<b>Saturday January 18</b>	Burns Dinner and Dance
<b>Monday, March 3</b>	Class Social (hosted by the Fort Garry Class)
<b>Thursday March 20</b>	Last <b>Basic</b> class of Winter Term
<b>Thursday, April 3</b>	Spring Social (hosted by the COM and Teachers)
<b>Week of April 21</b>	Last <b>Regular</b> classes of Winter Term
<b>Friday-Sunday May 2-3</b>	Workshop Weekend

Please note: All dates are subject to change – please check the calendar each month. Socials are at St. Paul's Church Hall, North Drive and Point Road, at 8:00 pm, with admission of \$10.00, unless otherwise noted.

## From the Editor

As I begin my term as the new *Light & Airy* editor, my hope is that I can fill the very large shoes left by Heather Ferguson. This is something brand new for me so I hope I don't disappoint. I look forward to working with everyone that will submit articles for the newsletter and hopefully finding other interesting articles for you to read. Summer is officially here, as we can be witness to with the heat and the mosquitoes. It will be different to not dance every week but I do hope you can come out to either the **Burns Day** or the **August 1<sup>st</sup>** dancing. We need to keep those brain cells in shape for the fall!! For those of you travelling over the summer, I hope you have wonderful trips and safe travels and I wish everyone a very fun and relaxed summer holiday. To submit articles for the *L & A* please send emails to me at [careless@mts.net](mailto:careless@mts.net)

*Sheila Careless*

## Branch News

### 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Weekend:

If you were unable to be at the Saturday night dinner or would like to be reminded of what was said, you can read Marge Krip's speech below.

"The two founders of the Winnipeg Branch were David Williams and Archie Nixon. David was born in Winchester, England and Archie in Winnipeg. Archie was living in Sweden. They met in St. Andrews in 1959. David was taking his 2<sup>nd</sup> certificate and Archie his first David said he was moving back to Winnipeg in the Fall of that year and Archie was moving back home. They discussed the possibility of forming a group. An advertisement was place in the paper asking if anyone would be interested in joining, to call this number. I had just moved to here that year and by happenstance read the personals [one and only time]. I spoke to David for three hours & that is how I joined the wonderful group of dancers. We started off with about 20 people and classes were from 8-11 ! David wrote to H.Q.'s requesting that our group might be able to form a branch; ideal timing as Miss Milligan was visiting that year and Archie would be able to his 2<sup>nd</sup> certificate. We received a letter on May 11<sup>th</sup> 1963 that our application for branch status had been approved. In Jan. of 1963 there was a large influx of new dancers. Two of these new dancers, were Nancy Johnston and Betty Redfearn [nee MacLellan] had taken their 1<sup>st</sup> certificates in London and returned to Wpg in the fall. He also advised that three members Cathie Campbell,

Marjorie Krip [Fergusson] and Chris Wallace had expressed a desire to take their 1<sup>st</sup> certificates. [I think the more appropriate word would be shanghaied]. Miss Milligan was returning in the fall of the year – great timing.

If I may backtrack a bit, during the winter of 1960, our numbers had depleted somewhat to the princely number of 4. These brave souls – David, Archie, Jeanie Merriman and me. We kept the class going. The rental of the hall was \$20. We each paid our share quite an expensive evening; but we did master a lot of two couple formations and two couple dances ----

Our numbers slowly grew and we danced at quite a few demos. David used to make up some quite elaborate stories whilst introducing the dances – Miss Bennet’s Bonnet comes to mind.

One group that asked us to perform regularly was the Gaelic Society. We would arrive to a very stuffy hall; the old dears sitting all huddled up in their winter gear with unsmiling faces to match. When we asked to hang up our coats, they would always want to charge us. Our payment was a very weak cup of tea and maybe a cookie; ah the joys.

In his report to H.Q. David mentioned that he was doing research on the Selkirk Settlers. I believe that the dancers participated in the bi-centennials last year and from what I hear, it was very successful. I never heard the results of David’s research, but knowing him, it would have been a very thorough.

We grew in the early, seventies, to 120 members – six adults classes and 3 children’s classes. The branch under Margaret Bowie direction produced a stage show of “Scottish Fancy” and also the start of Mug Pub which lasted for many years.

Before closing I would like to announce that Jeanie Merriman of San Francisco sends her very best to the Branch on their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations.

I would like to give many thanks to Elspeth Gray, Secretary at H.Q. for her helpful report. At the same time I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the branch for allowing me the privilege of presenting a brief history of your Branch. I thank you, one and all and wish you all good luck in your future dancing .

Any questions please feel free to speak to either Monique and I during the evening.”

## **Thank you!**

I would like to convey my sincere thanks to all members of the branch for all of the get well wishes including the many lovely cards and beautiful flower arrangements.

*Christine Wallace*

## **Our condolences**

Our condolences go out to Gerri Stemler on the passing of her father, Albert Holland, who passed away June 30<sup>th</sup>. The service was July 5<sup>th</sup> and notice was in the July 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the Free Press. Our thoughts are with you and your family.

## ***Fall class information***

The teachers for classes starting in September 2013 are as follows:

Fort Garry Social Class (Mondays):

1<sup>st</sup> term: Maureen Burnham

2<sup>nd</sup> term: Peter McClure

Technique Class (Tuesdays):

1<sup>st</sup> term: Joyce Cormack

2<sup>nd</sup> term: Cheryl Durnin

Basics of Scottish Country Dancing (Thursday nights):

1<sup>st</sup> term: Cheryl Durnin

2<sup>nd</sup> term: Maureen Burnham

## ***Upcoming Events***

### **Robert Burns Annual Memorial Service**

*July 21, 2013*

The Annual Memorial Service and Celebration of the life and works of Robert Burns will be held on Sunday, July 21, 2:00 pm, at the Burns statue located on the Kennedy Street side of the Legislative grounds. This is the actual date of Burns' passing in 1796. The Burns club has invited us to participate with our dancing so it would be nice if we have a good turnout from the branch. For further information, contact Joyce Cormack at 204-224-2291.

### **Dancing at Millennium Gardens**

*August 1, 2013*

The Winnipeg Branch has been invited to provide entertainment/dancing at the Millennium Gardens on Thursday, August 1 at 7:00 pm. The Gardens are located at 260 Douglas Avenue in the River East area. If you are interested in participating, please contact Joyce Cormack for more information.

### **Pavilion of Scotland - Folklorama**

*August 4 - 10, 2013*

This year the Pavilion of Scotland will be open during Week One of Folklorama, on August 4 -10. The Pavilion is located at Glenwood Community Centre, 27 Overton Street in St. Vital.

Volunteers will be needed for the RSCDS booth, which will be located in the Cultural Area in the quieter, air-conditioned gymnasium. The Scottish Country Dancers will also be leading participation dances each evening in the Cultural Area. Members are encouraged to join in the dances and illustrate the fun of Scottish Country Dancing.

The Demonstration Team will be performing on the Main Stage on Tuesday, August 6. In addition, a number of Branch members will be performing on the stage in the Cultural Area during the week.

Branch members can also be found volunteering in many areas of the Pavilion, particularly the Cultural Display. The theme this year will be the influence of Scotland on Canada.

If you are interested in volunteering at the RSCDS booth, please contact David Kroeker (204-284-4667). For more information on activities in the Cultural Area, contact Heather Ferguson (204-795-2337). Information on performance times and volunteer opportunities can be found on the Pavilion website ([www.pavilionofscotland.ca](http://www.pavilionofscotland.ca)).

*Heather Ferguson*

### **Demonstration Team**

Upcoming Demonstration Team performances:

August 6      Pavilion of Scotland  
8:55 pm & 10:15 pm

*Agnes Brydon*

## ***15<sup>th</sup> Annual Manitoba Tourism Awards "Event of the Year"***

Bicentenary of the Red River Settlement is recognized as a finalist in this category for commemorating the historic milestone of the 1812 arrival of settlers in Winnipeg through a series of events. These events, driven by a dedicated corps of volunteers, included participation from the Scottish, Aboriginal, Metis and Francophone communities, highlighting this as a truly Manitoban celebration.

The other 2 finalists are the Festival du Voyageur and the Lockport Dam Family Festival. For more information visit the website at <http://www.manitobaturismawards.com>

## ***Here and There***

### ***Kilt for sale***

Hunting Chisholm

Waist: 48"

Bottom: 72", pleated, 17' open/flat

Width: 32"

Please contact Anne Lindsay at [malindsay@shaw.ca](mailto:malindsay@shaw.ca) if interested.

## ***Out of Town Events***

### **Sackville, NB**

*July 28-August 4, 2013*

TAC Summer School

Teachers: Elaine Brunken, Linda Henderson, Jimmie Hill, Antoine Rousseau, Bill Zobel

Musicians: Muriel Johnstone (Director), Jim Lindsay, Keith Smith, Ian Robertson, Judi Nicholson, Angela Young

Contact: [www.tac-rscds.org](http://www.tac-rscds.org)

### **Prague, Czech Republic**

*August 23 – September 1, 2013*

Dance Scottish Week in Prague

Teacher: Ron Wallace

Music: Muriel Johnstone

Dance classes and sightseeing in Prague

Contact: [dvorana@dvorana.cz](mailto:dvorana@dvorana.cz) or [www.dvorana.cz](http://www.dvorana.cz)

### **Port Townsend, WA**

*September 6-8, 2013*

RSCDS Seattle Branch

Fort Worden Scottish Country Dance Weekend Welcome Dance, Classes, and Ball

Teachers: Barbara Johnston, Elinor Vandegrift, Andrew Smith, and Fred DeMarse

Music: Waverley Station

Contact: Kathi Ploeger ([fwreg@rscds-seattle.org](mailto:fwreg@rscds-seattle.org))

### **Pacific Grove, CA**

*November 1-3, 2013*

RSCDS San Francisco Branch

Asilomar Weekend Workshop

Dance & Ceilidh, Classes, and Ball

Teachers: Barbara Johnston, David Newitt, Jennifer Reiner, Mervyn Short, Ron Wallace.

Music: Red Thistle Music, Ian Muir Dance Band

Contact: Julee Montes (650-722-0473 or

[julm-hcs@pacbell.net](mailto:julm-hcs@pacbell.net))

Be sure to check the Inter-City Scot website for more information on dancing events in other cities (there is a link on the Winnipeg Branch website).



## **Bannockburn Live: A feast of food, music and history**

**700 years after Scotland's most famous battle, experience the biggest ever re-enactment of the Battle of Bannockburn at Bannockburn Live.**

The National Trust for Scotland's three day spectacular takes place on **Saturday 28, Sunday 29 and Monday 30 June 2014** and, as well as a brutally realistic re-enactment of the battle, features an array of themed villages, where visitors can enjoy everything from Scottish food and drink to sports, crafts and literature, exciting outdoor activities, an action packed children's programme, a main contemporary music stage and more.

See, taste, smell, hear and discover medieval life in the historical encampments, then watch Robert the Bruce and Edward II lead their armies to battle at Bannockburn Live.

**Further information for groups and clans can be found [here](#).**

**For more information and to buy tickets, visit [www.bannockburnlive.com](http://www.bannockburnlive.com)**

### ***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 August/September 2013 issue is approximately **August 24<sup>th</sup>**.

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@mts.net](mailto:careless@mts.net)

This and the past 11 issues of the *Light and Airy* are posted on the Branch website ([rscdswinnipeg.ca](http://rscdswinnipeg.ca)).