

# Light and Airy



## Scottish Country Dancers of Winnipeg

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### Committee of Management 2011/12

<b>Chair:</b>	Pat Clubb	774 2796
<b>Vice Chair:</b>	Christine Wallace	478 1026
<b>Secretary:</b>	Gerri Stemler	488 7386
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Joan Curle	254 6697
<b>Light and Airy Editor:</b>	Heather Ferguson	795 2337
<b>Social Secretary:</b>	Anne Morrison	488 9548
<b>Assistant Social Secretary:</b>	Rose Klusowski	775 5281
<b>Membership:</b>	Debra Forrest	284 4667
<b>Publicity:</b>	David Kroeker	284 4667
<b>Demonstration:</b>	Agnes Brydon	837 7346
<b>Library:</b>	Reg Curle	254 6697
<b>Teacher's Rep.:</b>	Christine Wallace (Interim)	478 1026

### From the Chair....

The RSCDS dance year is quickly coming to an end. Classes have ended and the workshop was held on the weekend of April 27-28. During the past month, all the COM members were madly whipping reports together for the AGM on May 16, 2012. I have tried diligently to keep the meetings flowing, with everyone having an opportunity to participate in the dialogue around the table, and completing Branch business. It amazes me that after a two hours (plus) meeting, we are shooing people out the door still talking and laughing and debating . . . and then going for coffee to socialize.

Tartan Day, celebrated on April 5 in the Rotunda at the Legislative Building, was well attended this year. RSCDS dancers performed three dances to much enjoyment, along with the Highland Dancers and, of course, the Manitoba Pipe Band. Dr. Harry Duckworth gave the key note address, which was an overview of the Selkirk Settlers and their importance to the development of the Red River Valley and the foundation for the province of Manitoba.

Have we achieved our goals this year? Yes and No. We did not increase our membership but we're holding steady. The Basic Class was terminated at the end of the first term in December. The Technique Class and the Fort Garry Class continued with good attendance and much progress. The Demonstration Team, with 12 members, is always out in the community, dancing and spreading the word about Scottish Country Dancing. Branch socials have been well attended with tremendous spirit. The Investment Fund is open for business and although no proposals have been submitted yet, an exciting one is being planned for the Anniversary year with a CD of dance music by Scotch Measure. The curriculum resource for teachers, complete with dances and music appropriate to the experience of the Selkirk Settlers, was presented at the SAGE conference in anticipation of the 1812 Bicentennial Celebrations in September 2012, and is available online.

A new Committee to the COM (Growth and Development), formed in February, is hard at work, planning for the next year, along with our very active Publicity team. We raised membership fees slightly this year, along with social fees. The plan was to raise fees gradually over a three year period to operate a balanced budget so we will have a slight deficit in expenses over expenditures again this year. This is my assessment today, after much brooding in preparation for the AGM and the end of my tenure. What pleases me most, in retrospect, is the active communication between the COM and the membership. Ideas and information have been accessible through the *Light and Airy*, with members submitting reports regularly to Heather (editor), and members attending and speaking at COM meetings, which were lively with much debate. Meetings were long but always productive.

Thank you to all the Board members who will be staying on for another year. The new COM, elected on May 16, 2012 at the AGM, will have lots of fun preparing for the events of the Bicentennial of the Selkirk Settlers and the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the RSCDS Winnipeg Branch. Thank you to the Executive Committee (Christine Wallace – Vice Chair, Gerri Stemler – Secretary, and Joan Curle – Treasurer) for all your hard work and support.

*Pat Clubb*

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### 2011/12 Dance Season

**Friday, June 15**

Diamond Jubilee Social, \$10.00  
St. Paul's Church Hall, 8:00 pm

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### From the Editor

May has been a busy month for the Winnipeg Branch. Following a very successful ceilidh, workshop and dance at the end of April, dancing continued with Spring Dancing on May 8 and 22. In between all this dancing, the Branch paused to focus on business at the AGM on May 16.

The 2011/12 dance season will end on a high note, with a social on June 15 to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of our patron, Queen Elizabeth II. Dancers are asked to dress for the occasion, and Ken Natrass and Ron Krug will provide the music. To prepare for the event, a quiz on the Diamond Jubilee is included in this issue.

Even after the official dance season has ended, Branch members will continue to be busy with Scottish Country Dancing – at the Heritage Days at Lower Fort Gerry in May and June, participation dances at the Pavilion of Scotland in August, and numerous performances of the Demonstration Team over the summer.

Don't forget the Big Bike event on June 20 at The Forks! Come out and support the Scottish Country Dancers team – ride the Big Bike, pledge a rider or cheer on the team as it rides through The Forks.

Have a great summer!

*Heather Ferguson*

## Proposal for Branch Classes 2012/13

The proposal for the 2012/13 class structure, which appeared in the March issue of the *Light and Airy*, was approved at the AGM on May 16. The proposal will now go back to the Teachers' Committee for review and then forwarded to the COM for approval at the meeting on June 6.

## Mug Pub Memorabilia

The Branch is looking for someone to store memorabilia from the former Mug Pub Pavilion. Please contact a member of the COM for more information.

## Upcoming Events

### Diamond Jubilee Social

June 15, 2012

The Winnipeg Branch will be hosting a social evening to celebrate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II. The social will be held on Friday, June 15 at St. Paul's Church Hall, beginning at 8:00 pm. Music will be provided by Ken Nattrass on accordion and Ron Krug on piano. Admission is \$10.00 per person.

Participants are encouraged to make this a truly special event by dressing for the occasion. Suggested attire for women includes evening dresses, tiaras, fascinators, long gloves, and pearls. Men may wear highland dress or suits with top hats (optional).

#### Dance Program

The Jubilee Jig	32J3	Golden Jubilee Bk
Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh	40R3	Book 39-7
The Silver Tassie	32S3	Leaflet Pkt Book #1
The Sailor	32H3	Book 24-4
Long Live the Queen	32R4	MMM #51
Balmoral Strathspey	32S4	Book 22-22
The Happy Meeting	32J2	Book 29-9
Happy Returns	32R3	MMM #30
MacDonald of the Isles	32S3	Gendarroch #8
Reel of the 51st Division	32R3	Book 13-10

*Crib notes are available on the Branch website.*

## Manitoba Highland Gathering

June 16, 2012

The 46<sup>th</sup> Annual Manitoba Highland Gathering will be held at Selkirk Park on Saturday, June 16, 2012. The event includes Highland Dance, Pipe Band and Heavy Games competitions as well as the Manitoba Canoe and Kayak Championships.

The event also features many other activities that are common at a traditional highland gathering. Sheep dog trials, Highland cattle, sheep shearing, and the Wee Heavy Games are some of the many events. Of course, no gathering would be complete without Scottish food and drink, a Scottish Market, and live entertainment (including the Winnipeg Branch Demo Team).

Come out and support this unique Scottish event. For further information, visit the MHG website at [manitobahighlandgathering.org](http://manitobahighlandgathering.org).

## Big Bike 2012

June 20, 2012

The Heart and Stroke Big Bike will roll through Winnipeg on June 20-22, 2012. The 30-seat bike will ride through The Forks from 1:00 – 8:00 pm on June 20 and downtown in the vicinity of the Legislative Building from 11:30 am – 3:30 pm on June 21 and 22. Money raised by the event goes to support the Heart and Stroke Foundation in Manitoba.

The Winnipeg Scottish Country Dancers have entered a Big Bike team this year to highlight the Bicentennial of the arrival of the Selkirk Settlers as well as promote the health benefits of Scottish Country Dancing. In keeping with the theme, all team members are asked to wear tartan or Selkirk Settlers attire.

Our Big Bike team is scheduled to ride as follows:

**Wednesday, June 20**

**4:30 pm  
The Forks**

Riders should meet at the canopy at 4:00 pm. Each rider must collect at least \$50 in pledges. Those raising \$100 or more will receive a Big Bike t-shirt and have their name entered into the Grand Prize draw for a six-night trip to Honolulu, Hawaii (including return airfare and accommodations). Riders earn one more Grand Prize entry for every additional \$100 raised. Since our team registered by March 16, we have also been entered to win a Canadian First-Aid Heartsaver AED package.

It is easy to raise pledges as everyone has been touched by heart disease or stroke. Since 1993, over 50,000 riders in over 100 Manitoba communities have raised over \$3.5 million for locally funded research. Further information can be found on the event website, [manitobabigbike.ca](http://manitobabigbike.ca).

### **We need more riders for our Big Bike team.**

If you are interested in joining the Scottish Country Dancers team, please contact me at 795-2337 for information on how to register. Come out and have a great time, while supporting research into heart and stroke and promoting the benefits of Scottish Country Dancing and the Bicentennial!

The following is a picture of my last year's Big Bike team, which included some Winnipeg Branch members. Do you see any familiar faces? Now imagine yourself on the Big Bike, with everyone decked out in tartan!

*Heather Ferguson*



*2011 Big Bike Team*

### **Demonstration Team**

The Demonstration Team has a busy summer ahead. Upcoming demonstrations include:

May 30 –	Heritage Days
June 19	Lower Fort Garry
June 16	Manitoba Highland Gathering
July 1	Lower Fort Garry
July 1	Teulon Métis Gathering
July 14	Union National Métis
August 14	Pavilion of Scotland
September 1-11	Selkirk Settlers Bicentennial Celebrations
September 7	RSCDS Bicentennial Pageant

*Agnes Brydon*

### **Selkirk Settlers Bicentennial Pageant**

*September 7, 2012*

The Winnipeg Branch will be presenting a pageant and ceilidh celebrating the immigration of the Selkirk Settlers to Manitoba in 1812. The event will take place on the evening of September 7 at Lower Fort Garry. A budget has been drafted for the event and funding options are being explored. Watch for further information in future issues of the *Light and Airy*.

### **Bicentenary of the Red River Selkirk Settlement**

*2012*

Information on the history of the Selkirk Settlement and special events to celebrate the Bicentenary can be found on [www.redriver200.ca](http://www.redriver200.ca).

### **RSCDS 50th Anniversary 2013**

*May 18, 2013*

The 50th Anniversary Committee continues to plan the 2013 weekend workshop and ball. The workshop will feature two out-of-town teachers. The Committee is finalizing the arrangements for an exciting new venue for the ball.

The 50th Anniversary project of a CD and book of dances has been approved in principle. A business plan is in development.

### **Event Reports**

#### **Thursday Social Evenings**

*The following articles are comments from two participants of the Thursday Social Evenings.*

I really enjoyed the Thursday night dances that were held in February and March. There was a good variety of dances (many I had never done before) and it was great to experience the different teaching styles with a different teacher each week. The dances were very social and we got to meet up with different people as we sometimes changed partners during the dance. It was good to have the variety of walking or doing skip change of step. The only thing missing in my humble opinion was the strathspey. That would have given visitors a complete picture of the wonderful world of Scottish Country Dancing. I hope we do this again in the fall.

*Sheila Careless*

Hello everyone! When I was asked to write a little review of the Thursday evening social classes, I was very excited to have the opportunity to express how much I enjoyed it and learned from week to week. As a new dancer with no previous knowledge of or experience in Scottish Country Dancing, I found the social class a great way to be introduced to the music, the formations, and the basic steps. Although I was initially a little nervous, I was made to feel welcome the moment I walked in through the doors. Everyone was wonderfully supportive, encouraging, and friendly.

I would highly recommend the social class to anyone, from new dancers like myself to skilled RSCDS Winnipeg Branch members, who want to get to know new people and have a lot of fun! Thank you to everyone I had the pleasure of meeting and dancing with over the last few months, and I am sure I will see most of you again when I return in the fall as a regular member.

*Megan Cordeiro*

### **Spring Workshop and Dance**

*April 27-28, 2012*

Well, another workshop has past successfully. I would like to thank my committee for all their hard work and preparation over the year and the many volunteers who assisted on the weekend.

The Ceilidh and practice dance was held on Friday evening. There was a great turnout, with nine Ceilidh items, which included belly dancing, poems, songs written for the occasion, dulcimers, flutes and harps! I have heard that everyone had a great time, even though it was very crowded for the dance practice!



*Dulcimer and Guitar Trio  
From Thunder Bay*



*Sing-a-long at the Ceilidh*

Elaine Brunken, from Maryland, was our guest teacher and Cheryl Durnin was our local Branch teacher for the weekend. Ken Natrass and Ron Krug were the workshop musicians. The teaching was again done between the two churches, St. Bede's and Silver Heights. The comments from the participants were very positive: "fantastic teaching, wonderful rapport with students, amazing, a delight and I learned so much, learned something new from each of them, great sense of humor, lots of fun and very patient, and humor and skill are the best motivators!"



*Belly dancer from  
Thunder Bay*



*Song from Alex Coates  
of Kenora*



*Guest Teacher Elaine Brunken with  
Lynn and Peter McClure*



*Local Teacher Cheryl Durnin*



*Ready to dance to the music of Scotch Measure*

The evening was hosted by Christine Wallace and began with everyone participating in the Grand March led by Jamie Kubasiewicz on Pipes. Our thanks to Scotch Measure for their fabulous music for the evening – the music and the dances were soooo appreciated that several dances were encored!! We also enjoyed ogling the raffle items and, for a little bit of a difference, we had two silent auction items. A big thanks to Robin and Mike Lynch who offered a two-night stay at their bed and breakfast on Quadra Island, as one of the silent auction items!! The winner was Sharon McGillivray from Dryden! Congratulations!

There will be a surplus but this has yet to be calculated! Thanks again to everyone.

*Jane Natrass,  
Chairperson, Spring Workshop Committee*

### **Workshop Raffle**

I'd like to thank all those who donated to the raffle tables at the dance workshop. Many lovely gifts were donated, which made our baskets overflowing with more than just vouchers. Usually I have bought items at the dollar store to make it look like the baskets have more than envelopes in them but this year this wasn't required.

We need to thank Canada Safeway, the Manitoba Museum, the Manitoba Chamber Orchestra, and the Winnipeg Symphony for their help. The Lynchs' donation of a voucher for their bed and breakfast on Quadra Island was well competed for on the silent auction sheet and our anonymous painting donor gave the display an interesting sparkle.

Our dancers who were generous with their time and gifts need a big thank you for making our raffle a big success: Jean Highmoor again for her knitting, last year it was an afghan, this year a pair of highland socks which went to a dancer from Thunder Bay; Margaret Zadworny for the highland design slate placemats and coasters which can displayed in a variety of ways; Sharon Plaitin, Jane Natrass, David Kroeker and Debbie Forrest, who raided their stashes to share their best. Sorry, David, despite your \$10 of raffle tickets you didn't win the chocolate basket. A big thank you to these major donors and others who gave.

The workshop depends on the raffle to help pay expenses. A big thanks to Jean for helping me at the auction table and with ticket sales. I didn't think we were selling as many tickets as usual until Jean returned from selling out on the floor.

Jean Highmoor needs a knitting project for next winter for our next raffle so if you have any suggestions you can pass them on to her.

*Joan Curle*



*Workshop Chair  
Jane Natrass*



*Branch Chair  
Pat Clubb*



*Dressed in Selkirk Settlers attire at the Spring Dance*



*Joan Curle selling tickets for the raffle*



*Joyce Cormack (on the left) introducing Scottish Country Dancing at the Transcona Seniors Centre*

*Photos from the Spring Workshop and Dance are courtesy of Ray Plaitin.*

## **Lost and Found**

Found after the workshop: A size large, hip length cardigan. It is black with long sleeves and pockets. If it is yours, please contact Sharon Plaitin at 204-661-1257.

## **Dancing at the Transcona Seniors Centre**

You may have heard some talk about the Growth and Development Committee that has been meeting over the last few months. The committee has been exploring ideas that would raise the profile of Scottish Country Dancing in Winnipeg and, in doing so, increase our membership. This led me to contact the Transcona Seniors Centre to find out if there might be an opportunity to show the local seniors what we do.

The person that I contacted suggested that I arrange a demonstration of the dancing prior to one of their lunches. Six of our Branch dancers volunteered to come out and dance prior to the lunch on March 27th (approximately 120 people at the lunch). Announcements were made at subsequent lunches and, as people indicated an interest in trying the dancing, two sessions were held (April 19 and April 26) with 15 people and 14 people respectively attending. Those seniors who attended were really enthused and asked us to come out again on the 17th of May.

At this time I wish to give my sincere thanks to the Branch members who joined me in this initiative to introduce Scottish Country Dancing to my Transcona Community. As an item of interest, I was so pleased to see two of my "Transcona Ladies" join us at Spring Dancing on May 8th at St. Paul's.

*Joyce Cormack*

## **Here and There**

### **Diamond Jubilee Quiz**

Test your knowledge of the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II with the following quiz. Answers are on page 8.

1. The Diamond Jubilee is a celebration of Queen Elizabeth's
  - a. Coronation
  - b. Ascension to the throne
  - c. Marriage to Prince Philip.
2. How many countries, in addition to the United Kingdom, recognize Queen Elizabeth as their Head of State?
3. Is Canada one of these countries?
4. The Queen is also Head of the Commonwealth. How many countries are currently members of the Commonwealth?
5. When will the official celebrations for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee take place?
6. The celebrations will include which of the Queen's favourite sporting events?
7. Queen Elizabeth is the longest reigning British monarch. True or false?
8. Who designed the official emblem for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee?
9. A new commemorative medal was created to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee. How many Canadians will receive the award?
10. How many birthdays does the Queen celebrate each year?

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

### **Salt Spring Island, BC**

*June 15-17, 2012*

Salt Spring Scottish Dancers

Simply Scottish on Salt Spring II

Teachers: Elaine Brunken, Mary Murray and  
Geoffrey Selling

Music: John Taylor, David Mostardi, Mary Ross

Contact: C. Bennett (cdBennett53@gmail.com)

### **St. Louis, MO**

*June 22-23, 2012*

Highland Mist Scottish Country Dancers

St. Louis Ball and Workshop (dancers and teachers)

Teacher: Alan Twhigg (CA)

Music: Finest recorded SCD bands

Contact: Douglas Schneider  
(paradisedouglas@gmail.com)

### **Saskatoon, SK**

*September 29-30, 2012*

RSCDS Saskatchewan Branch

32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Workshop, Banquet and Ball

Teachers: Irene Paterson and Fred Demarse

Musicians: Ken Nattrass and Ron Krug

Contact: Bob McNaughton (info@rscdsSask.org or  
www.rscdssask.org)

### **Banff, AB**

*October 6-8, 2012*

RSCDS Calgary Branch

Dancing in the Rockies

Teachers: Marjorie McLaughlin (USA), Simon  
Scott (Canada), Sue Porter (Scotland) and Ron  
Wallace (USA)

Music: Laird Brown and the Scottish Accent

Contact: Ilo Torgerson (Torgeri@shaw.ca)

### **Santa Fe, NM**

*November 2-4, 2012*

RSCDS New Mexico Branch

Gala Scottish Dance Weekend

Teachers: Bill Zobel and Tine McKay

Music: Muriel Johnstone and Judi Nicholson

Contact: Rob Sanders (RobTaosSCD@ao)

### **Pacific Grove, CA**

*November 2-4, 2012*

RSCDS San Francisco Branch

Asilomar Weekend Workshop and Ball

Teachers: Rebecca Blackhall-Peters, Roberta  
Gotfried, Dwayne McQuilliams, Antoine Rousseau,  
and Janet Lois Walker

Music: Calum MacKinnon & Andy Imbrie,  
Fiddlesticks and Ivory

Contact: Julee Montes (650-722-0473 or  
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).

## ***Important Dates***

**COM meetings:** the first Wednesday of the month from October to May.

**Next L&A:** Deadline for the June/July 2012 issue is **June 22, 2012.**

Members are encouraged to submit articles, pictures or information of interest to Branch members.

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

## **Answers to the Diamond Jubilee Quiz**

1. b. Queen Elizabeth ascended to the throne on February 6, 1952. Her coronation didn't take place until a year later, on June 2, 1953.
2. In addition to the United Kingdom, Queen Elizabeth is the Head of State of 15 countries.
3. Yes. Canada is one of these countries.
4. There are over 50 countries in the Commonwealth.
5. The official celebrations for the Diamond Jubilee will take place over a four day "weekend", from Saturday, June 2 to Tuesday, June 5, 2012.
6. The celebrations will include the Queen's attendance at the Epsom Derby. The Queen is an avid horse racing fan.
7. False. Queen Elizabeth is the second longest reigning British monarch. Queen Victoria currently holds the record.
8. The official emblem for the Diamond Jubilee was designed by 10 year old Katherine Dewar. Her design was chosen from 35,000 entries from school children from across the UK.
9. 60,000 Canadians will receive the medal.
10. The Queen celebrates two birthdays – a private birthday on her birth date (April 21) and an official birthday held on a Saturday in June.