

Leeds Branch Dancers Newsletter

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The Children's Team at Darlington Festival

Future Newsletters

The Branch welcomes your news, stories, views, questions etc...

Please send all copy for future newsletters to Catherine Livsey, 11A Hill Top Road, Moldgreen, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire HD5 9LX. Tel 01484 515257
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Copy should be with her at least three weeks before publication for the November, February and May issues, and early July for the August issue.

If for some reason you don't receive a copy of the Branch newsletter please contact Brenda Burnell on 0113 267 6655.

From the Chair ...

Hopefully we have seen the last of the snow, so we can enjoy the rest of the dancing season with some warm spring and summer weather.

We have a lot to offer this term. Firstly we have the Children's festival on 17th March. This is a very enjoyable afternoon to watch, so why not come along and support the Children.

In the evening we have our monthly social dance with music from Luke Brady's Band and a great programme by our MC Jean Dyson.

Friday 30th March to Sunday 1st April is Scarborough Weekend. I hope all of you who have booked have a great time.

On Saturday 28 April is the Highland Day School. We will work on the basics of Highland and ladies step. The aim of the day is to help people with the Highland dances at the White

Rose Festival. This is great fun so come along and give it a go.

We then have our next Branch Social dance on 19th May with music from David Hall. This is a change to advertised due to Colin Dewar's work commitments. Our MC for this evening is Alan Horsfall with another great programme.

On 28th May we have our Jubilee Tea Dance to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the branch's Golden Jubilee. This should be a great afternoon so if you are free then come along and dance to the music of Ian Slater. Then celebrate with a faith tea afterwards.

We then have our 50th Anniversary dance to mark the founding of Leeds Branch with a dance at West Park on 16th June. This should be a great evening of celebration including a

programme based on our early dances, light refreshment and cake and a glass of wine to toast the branch. We also have Gordon Shand's Band playing for us. So come and help us celebrate, tickets will be £11 and available early March. We will be taking names for ticket at tonight's dance. Don't miss out order your tickets now!

The second of our big celebrations will be a ball at Leeds Grammar School on 17th November dancing to Sandy Nixon's Band more details in the next newsletter or on the website. Not to be missed so put it in your diaries.

You can now follow the branch on twitter and facebook

Twitter

www.twitter.com/RSCDSLeeds

Facebook

Rscds Leeds Branch

Why not give it a go and keep up-to-date with our the latest news.

Catherine Livsey

Subscription to this Newsletter can be taken out at £5.00 for 4 issues for non Leeds Branch Members.

Contact Brenda Burnell for details and form.

The Branch web site is www.rscdsleeds.org.uk Why not give it a try.

Children's class news



One evening in November our girls joined the St Paul's group to take their Medal Tests. Fiona Turnbull came to examine the girls and was very amenable to alter our timetable when one of our dancers failed to turn up on time.

It was a successful Test with Carla and Hannah gaining credit standard in Grade 3 and Cami doing the same in Grade 1. Eden was completing her Tests and gained a distinction in Grade 5. Well done girls!

Throughout the Tests everyone was ably supported by Helen and Lucy. Without their support we could not have managed. We missed Rachel helping but she has now moved on and is now studying in Middlesborough. We look forward to having her with us for our own Children's Festival in March.

Darlington

Although our numbers remain low we were able to take a team to the Appreciation Day in Darlington in late November. Last year we cancelled our visit when the first snow of that very cold spell decided to start that very Saturday. This year we went by car, thanks to kind parents.

It was a good afternoon of general dancing and solos for adjudication. Peter Cass was this year's adjudicator and he made favourable comments about our Branch team dancing The Earl of Erroll's Reel. For this event we were able to meet up with Rachel who slotted into our team as if she had not missed our practices in Leeds.

Adjudicator's comments:

'Their footwork was very good, particularly the timing of the pas de basque.'

'Covering in the set was excellent'

'This team had great confidence - the dance flowed beautifully.'

And Now...

we are busy preparing for the Southport Festival which is being run by new management this year. I'm sure it will be just as enjoyable as it always has been in the past. Then it will be our own Festival in March when Rachel will be home to dance with us again.

We have now started some new dancers from Hawksworth Wood School. This is part of our agreement so we can continue to use the school free of charge. Amongst the newcomers is a boy who shows signs of being a very good dancer - we will do our best to keep him!

Brenda



Southport Festival



Yesterday we went to the Southport Festival. The forecast was not encouraging but having practised the dances we decided to go. This year we were travelling in cars as we only had eight dancers going. The journey over was uneventful until we were almost in sight of Southport when two lots of road-works added twenty minutes to our journey. It was raining and windy when we arrived and the ground proved to be a skating rink but we made it into the Convention Centre (the old Floral Hall) and had a good afternoon's dancing as the rain continued to pour.

The children danced well and their new made up solo dance was very well done and deserved the applause that followed it. There was slight hiccup after the Dashing White Sergeant when the balloons failed to escape their net nest but eventually they came down on to a crowd of expectant dancers. Then it was all over for another year.

We left Southport in the pouring rain and negotiated the road-works with only one wait for the lights to change and regained the motorways easily but then! The traffic built up, sleety rain was replacing the pure rain and the pace of travel dropped dramatically. The rain, snow and sleet continued as the traffic got more intense and we suffered two major hold-ups of 30 and 45 minutes as we climbed slowly to the top of the Pennines. We had become used to seeing a long line of red lights ahead of us but on clearing the top we were amazed to see a line of headlights that stretched for about eight miles! We felt great sympathy for all the drivers and passengers in that line of traffic because their wait would be far greater than ours had been.

Eventually after a steady drive back into Leeds we were all home by 11.00 (our average speed for the journey was 19 mph). After a great afternoon, I am so grateful to the skill



of the drivers in getting everyone safely back to Leeds.

After snow, wind and snow in the last three years surely we are due a good day next year!

Brenda



Sat 17th March 2012 7.30pm

SOCIAL DANCE

West Park Centre, Spen Lane

Music: Luke Brady's Band **MC:** Jean Dyson

Admission: £9, Non-member £10, Full time Education £3,
Children under 11 £2, Spectators £1

Programme

The Last of the Lairds	8x32 J	Book 22
The Revd. John MacFarlane	4x32 R	Book 37
Argyll Strathspey	8x32 S	Book 35
Muirland Willie	8x32 J	Book 21
The Cumbrae Reel	8x32 R	Book 28
Cherrybank Gardens	3x32 S	Drewry, Bankhead 1
Miss Mary Douglas	8x48 J	Book 10
The Reel of the 51st Division	8x32 R	Book 13

INTERVAL

Duke of Atholl's Reel	8x32 J	Book 16
Miss Johnstone of Ardrossan	5x32 R	Goldring 14 Soc Dances
Monymusk	8x32 S	Book 11
The Jubilee Jig	8x32 J	RSCDS Leaflet
The Ladies of Dunse	8x40 R	Book 26
The Robertson Rant	1x80 S	Book 39
The Laird of Milton's Daughter	8x32 J	Book 22
Maxwell's Rant	8x32 R	Book 18

Extras

Campbell's Frolic	8x32 J	Book 15
General Stuart's Reel	8x32 R	Book 10
Balmoral Strathspey	4x32 S	Book 22
The Deil Among the Tailors	8x32 R	Book 14

Newcastle Festival

Once again we took part at the Newcastle Festival. No prizes this time but we got good comments about how well we danced.

This year we danced Best set in the Hall and Peggy Spouse MBE. We also finally danced the Story of Castles Medley which was planned and devised 4 years ago but as to date I hadn't enough people to dance it. This went well and everyone enjoyed doing it.

My thanks to the team for all their hard work and dedication to practicing, especially the Saturday afternoon practice when we had bad snow. I would especially like to thank Jane for having the stand in for me at the last minute when I pulled my calf muscle.

Here's to next year. If any of you wish to join us then let me know, especially if you would like to do the medley. The whole day is great fun, especially our little party until 2.30am in the morning.

Catherine Livsey



Sat 19th May 2012 7.30pm SOCIAL DANCE

West Park Centre, Spen Lane

Music: David Hall (please note this is a change to advertised Musician) MC: Alan Horsfall

Admission: £9, Non-member £10, Full time Education £3, Children under 11 £2, Spectators £1

Programme

A Jig for Mrs Dunn	6x32 J	RSCDS Children
Mrs MacLeod	8x32 R	Book 6
Sugar Candie	8x32 S	Book 26
The Gilly Flower	8x32 J	Book 36
Back to the Fireside	8x32 R	Book 38
Barbara's Strathspey	8x32 S	Book 46
King o' the Rookery*	8x32 J	Barbour-Music Makers
The Reel of the Royal Scots	8x32 R	RSCDS Leaflet

INTERVAL

Miss Allie Anderson	8x32 J	RSCDS Leaflet
MacDonald's Hornpipe*	8x32 H	Stacey-Footnotes 5
Culla Bay	4x32 S	Book 41
Links with St Petersburg	8x32 J	Book 46
Inverneill House	8x32 R	Book 35
Gang the Same Gate	8x32 S	Book 36
Macleod's Fancy	4x32 J	Book 33
The Montgomeries' Rant	8x32 R	Book 10

Extras

Wild Geese	8x32 J	Book 24
Neidpath Castle	3x32 S	Book 22
Hooper's Jig	8x32 J	Misc 2
Happy Returns	8x32 R	Misc 2

* Will be Walked Through

Branch Shop Whats new Books & Cds

Auld Friends Meet - The Collected Leaflets of Roy Goldring includes 49 dances.

Dancing On Air - 12 new dances devised by Bill Zobel & Muriel Johnstone with music composed by Muriel Johnstone and played by her on the accompanying CD

Berkhamsted Diamond collection contains 17 dances with the CD by Sandy Nixon and his Scottish Dance Band.

The Gordie Diamond is not a new book but Robert Whitehead and the Danelaw Band have now produced the CD to accompany it.

6 x Through the Dance by Muriel Johnstone is a compilation of tracks with "6x32" in Jig, Reel and S/S time. It is intended for smaller class sizes where you have only 3 cpl sets. Some tracks are "3x32": once through, a pause to allow that couple to step to the foot of the set, then a 4-bar intro and another 32 bars, as well as some "6x40" tracks in Jig and Reel rhythms.

The Scotia Suite by Roy Goldring and the Dookie Bookie, published by the 30th Australian Winter School, Melbourne & District Branch are back in print after being out of print for a couple of years. If you missed them first time round, now's your chance.

A Dancing Tour, with 10 dances devised by Jim Rae was published in 1999. We have not stocked this before but the dances came recommended.

If you would like any thing else we are happy to try and get it for you.

See www.rscdsleeds.org.uk for full details.

Please support your Branch shop!

Sad news from Sweden

Older members who took part in the Exchange Visits with Sweden will be saddened by the news of Ulf Rilde's sudden death while out walking. Ulf was the leader of the group from Orebro and he was much in evidence when his group met our dancers both here and in Sweden.

Malhamdale 2011

My friend Marian Mitchell from Welwyn Garden City is very good at finding Scottish country dancing holidays when she knows I'm going to be visiting England twice a year, so I was happy to hear about your weekend at Malhamdale, it just fitted in nicely because I was returning to Canada December 7th. Also, that is where Marian and I met originally, on a dancing weekend probably 10 or more years ago. It is a good location when you have to use public transport.

I was a little nervous when I saw the programme as there were quite a few dances I didn't know, but I needn't have worried. From our arrival, when Yvonne invited us to join her for drinks in her room before dinner, people couldn't have been more friendly and welcoming. It was also nice to see Jenny and Keith and Stephen from the Arran weekend the year before. That's the beauty of Scottish country dancing, people travel around so much you do run into familiar faces even if you don't always remember names. Poor Stephen didn't get to do much dancing, because of breaking a bone in his foot the first night.

Our teacher, Christine MacDonald, was very patient and did very well at getting through to those of us who don't seem to be able to remember dances after we've finished them. It must be quite a challenge to teach the various levels of expertise in one class and still make it fun. It also helped for the evening dancing when the more complicated dances were briefed, but if we did make mistakes nobody looked disapproving, we just laughed it off and carried on.

Throughout the weekend we had excellent music from Phill Jones which gave us a lift to our dancing especially when we were beginning to wilt!

Alan very kindly took a few of us for a walk on the windy and damp Saturday afternoon, which turned into an adventure when we got lost partway through! Luckily a runner came along who showed us the correct path, we had only just missed it. The rain came down quite heavily before we got back to the Newfield Hall, so it felt very good to get into a hot shower, but I still enjoyed the walk anyway.



A few of us stayed on till the Monday and got the bonus of the snow covered scenery without having to be on the roads. We had an enjoyable evening sitting round the fire on Sunday before dinner and over coffee. Some energetic people played table tennis for a while, then we did 3 dances.

I will certainly be checking to see if this weekend is held again this year. Barring something unforeseen I plan to be back in November/December and would definitely want to attend again. Dianne

I think everyone on the course would like to thank Yvonne for all the hard work she does so that the course runs smoothly. Many things we do not see go on behind the seams as well as juggling numbers when people are ill and have to drop out sometimes at the last minute. Thank you Yvonne

Thank you too to Derek Kendall for patiently steering us through the evening dance programmes to good effect.

Everyone on the course

Sat 16th June 2012 7.30pm 50th ANNIVERSARY DANCE West Park Centre, Spen Lane

Music: Gordon Shand's Band **MC:** Catherine Livsey
Tickets: £11, Full time Education £3,
Children under 11 £2, Spectators £1

Programme

The Highland Fair	8x32 J	Graded Book
Maxwell's Rant	8x32 R	Book 18
Monymusk	8x32 S	Book 11
Muirland Willie	8x32 J	Book 21
Red House	8x40 R	Book 7
The Robertson Rant	1x80 S	Book 39
Miss Hadden's Reel	8x32 J	Book 23
The Axum Reel*	2x32 S	Book 18
The Montgomeries' Rant	8x32 R	Book 10

INTERVAL

The Laird of Milton's Daughter	8x32 J	Book 22
General Stuart's Reel	8x32 R	Book 10
The Braes of Breadalbane	8x32 S	Book 21
Bonnie Anne*	1x96 J	MacNab
The Sailor	8x32 R	Book 24
Jimmy's Fancy	8x32 S	Book 14
The Last of the Lairds	8x32 J	Book 22
Mairi's Wedding	8x40 R	Cosh

Extras

A Trip to Bavaria	4x32 R	Collins
Neidpath Castle	3x32 S	Book 22
The River Cree	8x32 J	Book 8
The White Heather Jig	4x40 J	Cosh

* These dances will not be recapped or walked

DATES, DATES, DATES

The many dances arranged locally are listed in the Yorks & North East Scottish Country Dance Diary.

2012

Leeds Branch 50th Anniversary Year

Social Dance 7.30pm
West Park Centre, Leeds LS16 5BE
Music: Neil Barron & Day School Musicians'

Saturday 17 March Children's Festival

West Park Centre,
Leeds LS16 5BE
Music: Luke Brady

Saturday 17 March Social Dance 7.30pm

West Park Centre,
Leeds LS16 5BE
Music: Luke Brady's Band

Friday 30 March to Sunday 1 April Scarborough Weekend
Clifton Hotel, Scarborough
Teacher: Mervyn Short
Musician: George Meikle
Contact Yvonne Tredgett
Tel: 01302 851 174

Saturday 28 April Highland Day School
Adel Methodist Church Hall,
Gainsborough Avenue,
Adel, Leeds LS16 7PQ
Teacher: Catherine Livsey

Saturday 19 May Social Dance 7.30pm
West Park Centre,
Leeds LS16 5BE
Music: David Hall
(this is a change from advertised)

Saturday 28 May The Jubilee Celebration Tea Dance 1.45-3.30pm
Adel Methodist Church Hall,
Gainsborough Avenue,
Adel, Leeds LS16 7PQ
Music: Ian Slater
See programme below

Saturday 16 June 50th Anniversary Dance 7.30pm
(tickets required cost £11, Full time Education £3, Children under 11 £2, Spectators £1, available early March) includes Strawberries and Cream, cake and glass of wine.
West Park Centre, Leeds
Music: Gordon Shand's Band

Saturday 7 July White Rose Festival
Afternoon 2-5pm,
Evening Dance 7-10.30pm
Gateways School, Harewood, Leeds LS17 8GS
Music: George Meikle and the Lothian Band

Saturday 15 September Day School
West Park Centre, Leeds LS16 5BE
Teacher: Alasdair Brown

Social Dance 7.30pm
West Park Centre, Leeds LS16 5BE
Music: Marian Anderson and her Scottish Dance Band

Saturday 17 November 50th Anniversary Ball
(tickets required)
Leeds Grammar School, Leeds LS17 8GS
Music: Sandy Nixon's Band

Full details of these events will be circulated at Branch dances and posted on the Branch web site www.rscdsleeds.org.uk where you will find dance programmes, dance reminders and application forms.

Monday 28th May 2012 THE JUBILEE CELEBRATION TEA DANCE

Adel Methodist Church Hall Gainsborough Avenue LS16 7PQ
1.45-3.30 followed by FAITH TEA Music: Ian Slater MC: Don Andrews

PROGRAMME

The Royal Deeside Railway	8x32	R	Book 40
Mrs Stewart's Jig	8x32	J	Book 35
The Golden Wedding Strathspey	4x40	S	Book 33
The Jubilee Jig	8x32	J	Leaflet (Golden Jubilee or 11)
The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh	8x40	R	Book 39
Miss Milligan's Strathspey	8x32	S	Leaflet (Golden Jubilee or 19)
Vintage '62	4x32	J	Leeds 40th: Goldring
The Royal Yacht Britannia	8x40	R	Book 43
The Dream Catcher	96	S	Book 45
The Reel of the Royal Scots	8x32	R	Leaflet (27)

EXTRAS

Miss Hadden's Reel	8x32	J	Book 23
Miss Gibson's Strathspey	8x32	S	Leaflet (18)

The jubilees we celebrate with this tea dance are the Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee and Leeds Branch Golden Jubilee

Classes

Spring/Summer Terms 2012
WC 16th April 2012
to WC 28th March 2012

Short term

Fees: £3.50 per class
Single Class Ticket £24.00
Multi-Class Ticket £40.00

Long term

WC 16th April 2012
to WC 2nd July 2012

Fees: £3.50 per class
Single Class Ticket £35.00
Multi-Class Ticket £60.00

Classes

Monday Afternoon

1.45 - 3.45 - General/Beginner
Adel Methodist Church Hall, Gainsborough Avenue, Adel, Leeds LS16 7PQ
Teacher: Don Andrews

Monday Evening

7.45 - 9.45pm - Experienced
Calverley Conservative Club,
Victoria Street, Calverley LS28 5PT
Teachers: Catherine Livsey
Malcolm Brown To be confirmed

Tuesday evening

7.45 - 9.45 Intermediate/Beginner
Adel Methodist Church Hall, Gainsborough Avenue, Adel, Leeds LS16 7PQ
Teachers: Irene Dracup

Thursday Afternoon

2.00 - 4.00 - General/Beginner
(2.30 start 3rd Thursday of the month)
St Margaret's Church Hall, Ilkley LS29 9QL
Teacher: Don Andrews

Thursday evening

7.30 - 10.00 - General/beginner
Lidgett Park Methodist Church, Lidgett Place, Leeds LS8 1HG
Teachers: Brenda Burnell,
This class continues all year round

Friday evening - children

5.30 - 7.00
Hawthorn Wood Primary School,
Broadway, Leeds LS5 3QE
Teacher: Brenda Burnell

Sunday afternoon

4 March, 15 April, 6 May,
3 June & 1 July 2012
1.45 - 3.45 Askwith Village Hall, Askwith
Dancers with a good knowledge of steps and figures and with ambitions to extend their repertoire. All Welcome
Teacher: Catherine Livsey

For more information see
www.rscdsleeds.org.uk

