



The Leeds Branch Newsletter

Newcastle Festival

On the 9th February 2002 a Ladies team represented the Branch at the Newcastle Festival. This was the largest Festival Newcastle had run. We were competing against 11 other teams in the Ladies section.

We all managed to get there on time after been stuck in a traffic jam on the A1.

After putting on our poncing lotion(perfume) courtesy of Darlington teenagers, we took the floor to dance Farewell to Crumlin (J) and Miss Florence Adams(S). The team danced very well. Although we don't know what position we came after London who were 1st and Manchester & Newcastle join 2nd, everyone we talked to thought we were next in line. We got some excellent comments on our reels of 4, circles and corner pass and turn.

Four of us stayed for a excellent and lively evening dance to the music of the Colin Dewar Band.

We all had a great weekend. Thanks to all the team for practicing hard and dancing well, especially to Lyndsey who stepped in a the last minute, and had only one run though. *Catherine Livsey*



◀ *The Ladies Team: Louise Fordyce, Pat Hynes, Heather Craven, Isabel Douglas, Lyndsey Martin, Catherine Livsey, Jennifer Edmonson and Alice Stainer.*

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

please contact me, Catherine Livsey Editor, 6 Woodlands Avenue, Lepton, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire HD8 0HZ.

Tel 01484 432270 day

or 01484 306637 evenings.

Email catherine@cl-d-design.co.uk

If for some reason you don't receive any copy of the Branch newsletter please contact Alan Carr on 01943 466702.

Membership Fees 2002-03

Due to circumstances beyond our control, membership fees will have to rise by a minimum of two pounds for the year commencing July 2002. At the Society AGM in Perth, the delegates voted to increase the Headquarters element of the membership cost from £8.00 to £10.00. Unfortunately the Branch has no option but to pass on this increases to the members. The Committee will do its best to keep further increases to a minimum and try to maintain class fees and admission to dances at their current level. Although we can give no guarantee of this at the moment.

The Headquarters contribution is used to promote Scottish Country Dancing worldwide and in the production of subscription copies and the Bulletin. The remaining two pounds which remains with the Branch is used to produce the Newsletter which is a very professional publication, subsidise classes and offer concession to students and school children. In addition, members enjoy reduced admission prices at the Social Dances.

The Branch relies on the support of its members for its financial well-being by attending classes, dances and supporting the Branch shop. The committee hopes that you will continue supporting the Branch.

There will be further details in the May Newsletter and the fee increase will have to be ratified at the Branch AGM in October.

Alan Carr (on behalf of the committee).

Subscription to this Newsletter can be taken out at £3.00 for 4 issues for non Leeds Branch Members.

Contact Brenda Burnell for details and form.

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

40th
ANNIVERSARY
COMMEMORATIVE
CLOTHING

with
embroidered
Leeds RSCDS
logo
in old gold

POLO SHIRTS
£15

(available in white,
blue, bottle green,
red, in sizes
Ladies 10, Small,
Medium, Large)

LAMBSWOOL
V-NECK
SWEATERS
£25

(available in blue or
bottle green,
sizes 36" to 48")

LADIES
CARDIGANS,
WOOL/ACRYLIC
(sizes 34" - 48" in a
range of colours)

£30

or in white acrylic
at £25

Yvonne Tredgett
01302 851174
or at Branch dances

Examinations

In December last year the Branch had a busy weekend with teaching exams and the new Dancing Proficiency Test. The Saturday at St Mary's was a long day and I would like to thank all the Branch members who came and danced for the candidates. Your support was invaluable.

On the Sunday we moved to Askwith for the Test. A lot of hard work had gone in to preparing for this. The set dances are not the easiest to do especially when trying to maintain good technique. The examiners, Helen Frame and Ian Hall, had another long day and left us with some unexpected results! All who took part will receive their certificates and know that they have made history by taking the first Test held in a Branch. *Brenda*

In June and July 2001 there was a cosmopolitan gathering of certificate candidates at Askwith. For the prelim; Catherine from Chester and Alistair from Derby, and for the teachers Ann from Harrogate, Fiona - Ayr via Leeds, Louise - York via Glasgow, George - Hull, Malcolm - Harrogate, Terry - Darlington, and Walter - Glasgow via Leeds. The classes continued through September, October, November and into December culminating

with the exams at St. Mary's on the 8th December. Our thanks; to Brenda for all her hard keeping us in order, pointing us in the right direction, and all the necessary unseen hours; to Jack for his excellent musical accompaniment, to Helen for her helpful hints and assistance; and to all the "stooges" who helped on the exam day and during the course.

Written before the tests were taken.

Congratulations to everyone that passed.

Darlington would like to thank Leeds for the opportunity for six dancers to take the Dancing Proficiency Test at Askwith on Sunday 9th December. Despite 'exam' nerves we all enjoyed this afternoon and the experience. *TC*

Special, Congratulations from the Leeds branch to Leeds Branch member Ann Baranyai on passing her full certificate and now joins the branch teaching staff. She will help teach the Knareborough on Wednesday evenings.

Brackenwood Entertains

On Thursday 29th November 2001, the Brackenwood Class celebrated St Andrews Day. This celebration also coincided with a visit by a group of Ladies from the Garforth & District Ladies Club. The ladies had already had a talk from Brenda Burnell, our teacher at Brackenwood, and were very keen to try Scottish Dancing for themselves.

The evening was arranged and 16 ladies arrived, only three having admitted to any dancing experience.

A lovely programme had been arranged, with opportunity for regular class members to enjoy

their usual dancing and also to demonstrate simple dances for the Garforth Ladies to join in, partnered by those with experience. Furious activity followed accompanied by much laughter, total enjoyment and occasional chaos.

All the ladies said 'when

can we do it again?' and this pleasure was due to the excellent teaching and the generosity of the Brackenwood class, not to mention some delicious Shortbread with our tea & coffee.

Thank you Brackenwood
Stella Summers



Malhamdale Weekend

Once more the time arrived to pick up my passengers for our annual winter weekend school at Malhamdale. Although the weather this year was not as spectacular as last, the journey and company was good and we were all in high spirits on arrival.

There were one or two subtle changes about the place, but the welcome was as warm as ever. Our rooms allocated, we moved in and Val and I eventually discovered what was for me -oh! joy of joys - 'a 'barf' rather than a shower.

Unpacking done, back to reception for registration, coffee and the meeting of friends, old and new. There were quite a few dancers who had never been before and were looking forward to the unknown. The evening meal (rather scrummy) was devoured, the tables cleared and on to the evening social. Not too many dances so as to tire us out, but well balanced and very danceable. As always, George Meikle's music spurred us on and a most enjoyable time was had by all.

Saturday morning class began and our teacher for the weekend, Andrew McConnell, started to put us through our paces. With the combined talents and humour of both teacher and musician, the laughs were many and often. With Andrew's approach, we all had a lovely time leading up to lunch.

The Saturday freetime was spent by all in many different ways, and I must say "Thank you" to the ladies who gave their

afternoon to me, it was very much appreciated.

And so to another delicious dinner and the evening dance. Again super music, a good programme and a wonderful atmosphere made sure that the evening was a success. We finished it off with a bit of a gathering in one of our group's room, which was in the stable block, and the party spirit was prevalent. The general ambience of the throng was very light and heartwarming, and it was a shame when the fella with the sandbag came to call on Val and me. We left the gathering giving a passable rendition of "Show me the way to go home", and wended our

weary way back to our room and sleep. We were tucked up snug and warm, oblivious that a few of the revellers at the gathering, who were staying in the main house, got locked out, and only by diverse means, later managed to regain access to their beds

Sunday morning dawned and class began again with the same approach as Saturday. Many steps were practiced accompanied once more with lots of laughs, but the highlight of the morning's proceedings was when Andrew needed to demonstrate a woman's movement. Standing on the woman's side of the couple, he gathered up his kilt pleats and proceeded to

dance as woman, making quite sure that we all knew exactly what we should do, and for his efforts, we all got it absolutely right.

Lunch came and with the thank you speeches at the end, we learned with a tinge of sadness that the manager for the past few years, was moving onto pastures new. We all wished him the best of luck for the future, and I'm sure many of us were quietly hoping that the new manager would make our next stay as comfortable as in previous times. The new dancers, having loved every minute of the weekend joined in with our thoughts - Roll on next Malhamdale.

Kathie Dosell

Keeping the Heart Beating...



The Heart Beat Ball in on 17th November 2001 at University Great Hall was a great occasion. Ball

gowns and charlie's, great music from the David Cunningham Band, good programme (60's style)

from Mc Nigel Campbell. Lovely nibbles and fizz. It was a real pulse raiser, and enjoyed by all.

Darlington Appreciation Day

Saturday, 1st December saw the 30th Darlington Appreciation Day. The Appreciator Ian McKenzie who has appreciated the day for all of the last 30 years has now retired from this post. He will be really missed, as he has certainly given us lots of helpful tips and pointers about helping to improve our dancing over the years.

This year, there were only 8 dancers from the Leeds Branch, so we entered all 8 of us into both the senior and intermediate sections, as we had dancers of both standards. In the intermediate section we danced the well know 'Reel of the 51st Division' as a set dance and to dance Espie McNab as our own choice dance.

In the senior section we dance 'West's Hornpipe' as the set dance and our choice was 'Reel of 5' this is a medley of Strathspey and Reel for 5 dancers, involving Highland steps as well.

The afternoon was greatly enjoyed by all the dancers who attended from



different classes even though overall attendance was a lot lower than in previous years. However we were fortunate to have David Cunningham and his Band playing for us. They played wonderfully as usual and even played christmas carols to accompany the general dance "The Christmas Tree", this was

however only under the condition, set by David that we all sang along!!!

I would like to thank Brenda Burnell on behalf of all the dancers who came from Leeds, for taking us all on

the train and taking responsibility for us all day, as well as to Terry Charters who yet again organised another memorable and enjoyable day for all.

Dora Connolly

Brackenwood Burns' Night

The annual celebration of Burns' Night was well attended at Brackenwood. After dancing for an hour the haggis was piped in and Lisa addressed the haggis. It was exactly a year ago since Lisa and three young men came to the Thursday class. She was pounced on to address the haggis for us as she had the right accent! This year by common consent she attacked the haggis as with a dagger (a small kitchen knife really) and said the immortal words. Everyone was well fed and we managed one more dance to round off a happy evening.

Photograph - The haggis (carried by Betty) was piped in (carried by Jennifer)!



A Second Scroll for Leeds Branch

At last year's AGM in Perth, Roy Goldring was presented with his Society Scroll by the Earl of Mansfield. Leeds put forward Roy's name for his services to the Society mainly for his contribution to new dances. He has devised many popular dances because they are so danceable. At the our December dance Roy was presented again with his Scroll when the Branch committee turned the tables on him by creating a dance for him! 'Roy of Olicana' was danced

for him by dancers from the Tuesday class and then everyone danced it. George Meikle (who was playing that evening) wrote a tune specially for it.

For those not there on that evening and are wondering about Olicana – it is the Roman name for Ilkley.

Thank you Roy for some super dances!



40th Birthday

Saturday June 15th

This dance will take place at West Park Centre with Kenny Thomson and the Wardlaw Band. The evening will start with a Wine Reception at 7pm and dancing will commence at 7.30pm. There will also be the traditional strawberries and cream as well as a birthday cake. As this is a special event, the dance will continue until 11-30pm.

Admission will be by ticket only and will cost £7-00. Tickets will be available at Branch Dances, from class teachers, committee members and by post from:

Alan Carr, 35 Moor Drive, Otley LS21 1DZ

01943 466702. Cheques should be made payable RSCDS Leeds Branch.

Help!

- 1) The Branch is looking for a small hall suitable for the Level 3 class on Monday evenings for next September
- 2) The band for the June Birthday Dance requires overnight accommodation for the Saturday evening on June 15th. Again, if you can help with one or two beds it would be greatly appreciated.

If you can be of assistance with either of the above please call Alan Carr on 01943 466702.

Sat 16th March 2002 7.30pm

SOCIAL DANCE

West Park Centre, Spen Lane

Music: Sandy Leggett Guest M.C : Peter Clark

Admission: RSCDS Members £5.00, Non Members £6.00,
Students £2, Children £1

Programme

Espie MacNabb	8x32J	MMM 1
John of Bon Accord	8x32R	Book 33/No.5
The Braes of Breadalbane	8x32S	Book 21/No.7
Kiss under the stairs	8x32J	MMM 2
The Music Makars	8x32R	Book 33/No.1
The Bonnie Lass of Bon Accord	64S	Bon Accord Bk
Hurlygush	4x32J	Dunedin V
Sleepy Maggie	8x32R	Book 11/No.5

Frae A' the Airts	8x16S+16R	RSCDS Leaflet/6
The Starry Eyed Lassie	8x32J	Book 23/No.11
Swiss Lassie	8x32R	Book 39/No.1
Sugar Candie	8x32S	Book 26/No.9
Farewell to Crumlin	4x32J	Book 32/No.4
Balmoral Strathspey	4x32S	Book 22/No.3
Midnight Oil	5x48J	Bankhead 3
De'il Amang the Tailors	8x32R	Book 14/No.7

Extras

Cherrybank Gardens	3x32S	Bankhead 1Drewry
Diamond Jubilee	4x32J	Book31/No1
Fifeness	8x32R	4 for '78

Sat 18th May 2002 7.30pm

SOCIAL DANCE

West Park Centre

Music: Ian Slater Solo M.C : Roy Goldring

Admission: RSCDS Members £4.50, Non Members £5.50,
Students £2, Children £1

Programme

Good Hearted Glasgow	8x32J	Knapman
Highland Lass	8x32R	Bk30
From Scotias Shores	8x32S	RSCDS Leaflet
Miss Mary Douglas	8x48J	Bk10
College Hornpipe	8x32R	Bk20
Double Diamond Strathspey	4x32S	Goldring
Wee Cooper of Fife	6x40J	Foss
Back to the Fireside	8x32R	Bk38

The Miller of Sessnie	5x32J	Goldring
Rev John MacFarlane	4x32R	Bk37
Braes of Mellinish	8x32S	Bk25
Fyket	8x40J	RSCDS 1965
The Sailor	8x32R	Bk24
Miss Milligan's Strathspey	8x32S	RSCDS Leaflet
Todlen Hame	8x32J	Bk16
General Stuart's Reel	8x32R	Bk10

Extras

Ian Powrie's Farewell to Auchterarder	128J	
The Barmkin		
Miss Johnson of Ardrossan		
Invercauld's Reel	8x32S	Bk11

DATES, DATES, DATES

Teachers' Workshop

Saturday April 20th 2002 at St Mary's Church Hall Hawksworth

This year, the Branch Teachers' Workshop is taking a different format. It will contain elements of the Teaching Skills Courses held recently in Edinburgh and St Andrews. The Branch has been fortunate in obtaining the services of Helen Frame, who taught the course at St Andrews to organise the Workshop.

We will also have the pleasure of welcoming Jennifer Wilson, who will be in charge of the music.

The course is aimed at practising teachers and all the participants will be expected to take part in a practical teaching exercise working in small groups.

The Workshop will run from 10am to 5pm, with breaks for lunch and drinks, all of which will be included in the cost of £15.

Application forms can be obtained from Yvonne Tredgett to whom they should be returned:

Yvonne Tredgett, 17 Aviemore Road, Warmsworth, Doncaster, S Yorkshire DN4 9ND. Telephone 01302 851174

There are still a number of places available so application are still welcome

MARCH 2002

16th 25th Children's Festival
2pm West Park CDC
Sandy Leggett Trio
MC Peter Clark

16th Social Dance
7.30pm West Park CDC
Sandy Leggett Trio
MC Peter Clark

22nd - 24th Weekend School
Clifton Hotel, Scarborough
Anita Mackenzie/
George Meikle

APRIL 2002

20th Teacher's Workshop
St. Mary's, Hawkswood Ave,
Leeds 5.
Helen Frame/Jennifer Wilson

MAY 2002

11th Highland Workshop
10am St. Mary's,
Hawkswood Ave, Leeds 5.
Teacher Catherine Livsey

Why not give it a try!

Morning will be for Beginners, no experience necessary, and will cover things like Foursome Reel & 1/2 Tulloch and Shepherd's Crook.

The afternoon is for more experienced dances and will cover the Ladies & Men's dances for the White Rose Festival (Highland Fling and Village Maid) plus something a little different if time.

MAY 2002 continued

18th Social Dance
7.30pm West Park CDC
Ian Slater (Solo)
MC Roy Goldring

JUNE 2002

1st Summer Dance Darlington
Dolphin Centre, Darlington
Further details & tickets from
Terry Charter 01325 240 757

15th 40th Birthday Dance
7.30pm West Park CDC
Kenny Thomson's Wardlaw Band
MC Gerry Yates
More details earlier in this
newsletter

29th Otley Charity Dance
Civic Centre, Otley
Neil Barron
Further details & tickets from
Roy Goldring 01943 601373

JULY 2002

5th White Rose Festival
& 6th St Peter's School, York

If you would like to be part of a branch team please contact Catherine Livsey 01484 432270 Day. Catherine will also be sending a block booking for tickets for the branch. If you want her to get tickets for you then please contact her ASAP.

For further information & bookings for all branch events please contact Yvonne Tredgett 01302 851174 unless other wise stated.

Classes

Fees and Levels

Level 1, 2 & 3 - £2 per class,
£3 (if the class has live music).

Level 1 - Beginners.
Level 2 - General.
Level 3 - Experienced Dancers.

Spring/Summer Term Classes 2002

Spring Terms ends wc March 25th and
the Summer Term starts wc April 8th

After Spring Bank Holiday, the regular classes will concentrate on the Mass and Social dances for the White Rose Festival. In addition, there will be a number of classes organised by Catherine Livsey working on the festival Demonstration Dances. Full details will be in the May Newsletter.

All Levels

Monday, 1.45 - 3.45pm
Adel Methodist Church Hall, Adel, Leeds 16
Teachers: Barbara Caldicott, Alan Carr

Level 2

Tuesdays, 7.45 - 9.45pm
Adel Methodist Church Hall, Adel, Leeds 16
Teacher: Susan Carr

Level 3

Wednesdays, 7.45 - 9.45pm
Mechanics Institute, Calverley
Teacher: Roy Goldring
Feb 20th to March 27th,
No class March 20th

No Classes arranged for Summer term

Level 2

Wednesdays except the
4th Wednesday of each month,
7.30 - 10.00pm
Holy Trinity Church Hall, Knaresborough
Teachers: Ann Baranyai & Malcolm Frost

Level 2

Thursdays, 7.45 - 10.00pm
Brackenwood Community Centre,
New Building, Lidgett Lane, Leeds 8
Teacher: Brenda Burnell

Children

Fridays 7.15 - 8.45pm
Hawksworth Wood Primary School,
Broadway, Leeds 5
Teacher: Brenda Burnell