



From the Chair



Future Newsletters

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

Please send all copy for future newsletters to Stella Summers.

Her e-mail address is stellaian@sums4.fsnet.co.uk 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.

or Catherine Livsey,
Please note

New address details

11A Hill Top Road,
Moldgreen, Huddersfield,
West Yorkshire HD5 9LX.
Tel 01484 515257
Email catherine@clid-design.co.uk

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

*Pictures
October Branch Dance*

As many dancers know, October saw the passing of Shirley Shields and Trisha Lodge. Memories of them appear elsewhere in the newsletter but I would like to say that Doreen and I will not be alone in remembering good times with them.

Numbers at our dances have not been good for much of the past year. We need to encourage new people to join us but the turnout could be improved if more of our existing members danced regularly. We have consistently good musicians playing for us (Barbara Manning and Ken Martlew were excellent in October) and there is a wide variety of dances on the programmes. So if you are an absent friend or irregular attendees please come

whenever you can. If there is anything which keeps you from coming, other than health or family commitments, please give me a ring. Tel: 01943 601373

The AGM passed quietly and quickly and I am glad to welcome Lesley Enoch as secretary along with Sue Hayton and Jean Dyson as members. I am also pleased that two previous members, Val Hall and Jean Weatherill are staying on.

Brenda Burnell continues to serve as Membership Secretary.

This still leaves the Committee short of members and we may need to consider co-opting
Roy Goldring

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.org.uk Why not give it a try.

Obituaries



Trisha Lodge

Trisha Lodge, one of our dancers of many years, passed away recently. Those of you who were around when the branch held the ceilidhs will probably remember Trisha along with her sister Sheila and the rest of our group doing sketches, one being 'Swan Lake' which we performed when the Swedish Dancers were over here on an exchange visit. Another was a skit on Macbeth and we decided to have all the children of our families throwing bats from the balcony, these were always a laugh at practices. As well as Sheila she had a brother Peter and son David. She was a regular at branch and club dances, and Avis' class at St Columba's until very recently. She had relatives in New Zealand and Australia and when visiting she would usually find some Scottish Dancing to attend and was always very proud of being from Leeds and a member of the branch. As well as Scottish Dancing she was a keen walker and enjoyed her days out in the countryside. Also she found time to do voluntary work with the National Trust and Beningborough Hall and the Thoresby Society. Even with her health problems she was always bubbly and having a laugh. Her funeral was well attended by Scottish Dancers, Sheila said that some of her cousins were amazed at how many friends Trisha had. No doubt she will be watching over us and joining in with the heavenly dancers. We will all miss Trisha's presence at dances. Our thoughts are with all her family.

Lesley Enoch

Sat 16th December 2006 7.30pm

SOCIAL DANCE

West Park Centre, Spen Lane

Music: Kenny Thomson and the Wardlaw Band
M.C: Alan & Susan Carr

Admission: £6, Non-member £7, Full time Education £3,
Children under 11 £2, Spectators £1

Programme

Nice to See You	4x32R	Book 40
The Isle	8x32J	Graded Book
Fair Donald	8x32S	Book 29
Inverneill House	8x32R	Book 35
The Chequered Court	8x32J	Book 42
The Double Diamond Strathspey*	4x32S	R Goldring Leeds 40th
John of Bon Accord	8x32R	Book 33
Airdrie Lassies	4x48J	Book 26

INTERVAL

The Jubilee Jig	8x32J	RSCDS Leaflet
Miss Johnstone of Ardrossan	5x32R	R Goldring 14 Social Dances
From Scotia's Shores We're Noo Awa'	8x32S	RSCDS Leaflet
Major Ian Stewart	8x32J	Book 35
Shifftin' Bobbins	8x32R	R Clowes
The Dream Catcher	1x96S	Book 45
Pelorus Jack	8x32J	Book 41
The Deil Amang the Tailors	8x32R	Book 14

Extras

Round Reel of Eight	1x88R	Book 27
Seann Truibhas Willichan	8x32S	Book 27
Lamb Skinnet	8x 32	Book 14

* This dance will be walked through

Adel Christmas Tea Dance 2006

at Adel Methodist Church Hall
Gainsborough Avenue (behind the Lawwood Arms)

**Monday 11th December,
starting at 1.45pm**

All the dances will be walked through and Seasonal Refreshments will be served.

R Nice to See You

J A Christmas Ceilidh

S Fair Donald

R Shifftin' Bobbins

J The Jubilee Jig

S The Dream Catcher

J Pelorus Jack

R The Deil Amang the Tailors

Everyone Welcome

Memories of Shirley Shields

I was really sad to hear in early October that one of our founder members had died.

I first met Shirley when she attended the classes at Lawnswood School run by the Club. It was a lively class and once a month Mrs Gudger came over from Stalybridge to teach us. As Shirley got more and more into Scottish dancing, she went to St Andrews to take her teaching certificates. By the time June 21st 1962 came round there were the required number of certificated teachers to form Leeds Branch. Shirley, along with Mair Pinnell, Dr Cunningham and Hammond Jack the inaugural meeting was held and our Branch was born.

Shirley taught P.E. and maths at Templefield School in Dewsbury and Scottish dancing became a big feature of that school. Her teams travelled to various competitions and always returned with the trophy. With regular practice and keen competition to be in her teams, the dancing was polished and of a very high standard. She brought this demand for good dancing to the Branch advanced class which she taught for many years. After her retirement she continued to teach and have shows, classes and demonstrations within her group for charities.

In the last few years Shirley became more immobile but it was still good to see her at our 40th celebration to cut the cake with Mair and at the Festivals in Leeds and York. Diana would bring her along with her Caledonian children's teams and give her chance to chat to some of our older dancers.

We all have happy memories of Shirley and I would like to share a couple of them with you. In the early days of dancing in Leeds hardly anyone had a car but when Shirley got hers it led to many funny stories. She had this strange way of getting from A to B usually travelling by C and sometimes C was in the opposite direction! At after



Shirley and Mair cutting our 40th cake

dance gatherings Shirley always had some travelling tale to tell.

Who could not forget 'The Spanish Flea'? At one of our Ceilidhs a Spanish set arrived to dance to the music of that name and the flea was passed down the set – and had us all itching!

Shirley will be a sad loss to Scottish dancing but with happy memories like these we shall always remember her.

Brenda Burnell



The unforgettable Spanish Flea

Sat 20th January 2007 7.30pm

SOCIAL DANCE

West Park Centre, Spenn Lane

Music: Phil Jones and Sue Jennings M.C: Jean Dyson

Admission: £6, Non-member £7, Full time Education £3,

Children under 11 £2, Spectators £1

Programme

Hoopers Jig	J 8x32	MM 2
College Hornpipe	R 8x32	Bk 20
The Lea Rig	S 6x32	Bk 21
Kelloholm Jig	J 8x32	Leaflet 1997
Blooms of Bon Accord	R 4x32	Drewry
One Pair of Hands	S 4x32	R Goldring
The Frisky	J 8x32	Bk 26
Clutha	R 4x48	Bk 31

INTERVAL

The Wild Geese	J 8x32	Bk 24
Cumrae Reel	R 8x32	Bk 28
The Gentleman	S 8x32	Bk 35
Joie de Vivre	J 8x32	Bk 39
General Stewart's Reel	R 8x32	Bk 10
Cherry Bank Gardens	S 8x32	Drewry
Campbell's Frolic	J 8x32	Bk 15
Maxwell's Rant	R 8x32	Bk 18

Extras

Mrs Stewarts Jig	R 8x32	Bk 35
Fraser's Favourite	R 8x32	1976 leaflet
Balmoral Strathspey	S 4x32	Bk 22

Gillie Chalium Hits Adel

A small but select band of enthusiasts hit Adel Methodist Church hall on Saturday for the biannual Highland day school. Enthusiasts from both sides of the Pennines, such as Catherine Livsey's reputation as a Highland dance teacher.

Being a small group, a few of them already quite well versed in the Highland version of Dance Scottish, Catherine felt able to depart from the usual pre-White Rose Festival routine of Crook, Fling, and Lilt, and get the swords out as soon as the warm-up was over. Good fun it was too, and all managed to get at least part of the way round the two slow/one quick routine before kicking the sword into the street. By that time we were ready for lunch.

After a partial change of personnel for the afternoon, we were into something completely different but equally challenging, Seann Triubhas. Entering the fray for the afternoon session was one very experienced Highland dancer (and progressing nicely on the country dance scene as well), Eileen Murray, so by now we had someone to copy. And needed it. Three slow steps, to mourn the proscription of the kilt or so they say, and a quick one to celebrate its return. Well, it is probably true to say all need more practice, and we will be back in May for the second Highland day school of the year to make sure we get it.

Thanks, Catherine, for an excellent and enjoyable day's dancing.

Don Andrews



Scottish Country Dancer - Issue 3

Please contact Brenda Burnell if you have not received your copy. Should you have received 2 copies please pass on the surplus one to any member who has not received theirs.

New members

Welcome to Leeds Branch for Eileen Murray and Mary O'Meara. Both are well established in our dancing classes and dances.

Welcome back too to Kathryn Slater after a few years' absence.

Sat 17th February 2007 7.30pm

SOCIAL DANCE

West Park Centre, Spen Lane

Music: Ian Muir

M.C.: Avis Harrison

Admission: £6, Non-member £7, Full time Education £3, Children under 11 £2, Spectators £1

Programme

Pelorus Jack	J 8x32	Bk 41
Fraser's Favourite	R 8x32	1976 leaflet
The Dream Catcher	S 3x32	Bk 45
Muirland Willie	J 8x32	Bk 21
Trip to Bavaria	R 4x32	Collins
Frae A'The Airts	M 8x16+16	Leaflet
Gothenburg's Welcome	J 8x32	Bk 37
Festival Fling	R 8x32	Bk 44

INTERVAL

The Argyll Square	J 3x32	Bk 43
The Clansman	R 8x32	Bk32
The Robertson Rant	S 80 bars	Bk 39
Johnnie's Welcome Home	R 8x40	Bk 32
Laird of Milton's Daughter	J 8x32	Bk 22
Gang the Same Gate	S 8x32	Bk 36
Georgies Jig	J 4x32	Leaflet 32
Royal Deeside Railway	R 8x32	Bk 40

Extras

My Friend Joe	J 8x32	Bk 38
Lassies of Dunse	J 8x32	Bk 18
Preston Mills	R 5x32	Bk 45
Eileen Watt's Reel	R 8x32	Autumn 2005

Aberdeen Adventure

I never really counted, because they didn't stand still long enough to be counted, but I would guess about ten or so Leeds members congregated in Aberdeen (Scotland!) the first week-end in November.

Why? Plot Night? No, a bit of business and a lot of pleasure. It was the RSCDS AGM.

Now some people do go for the business, as each Branch sends its delegates, in this case Alan Carr and me, who are required to sit and vote at the meeting. I'll come back to that later, but the fun bit first.

There are two dances, one on the Friday evening and one on the Saturday evening. Strictly, the Friday one is a Ball, formal dress preferred, the Saturday a Dance, informal. Lots of dancers, near enough to 600, and great bands, George Meikle's Lothian Band and Frank Thomson's SCD Band. Scottish dancing at its best.

I would never have earned a living as a fashion writer, but as I am writing this largely to encourage you to turn up at this jamboree in 2007, some information about dress may help. For the Ball, men mainly in kilts and black jackets (which may be removed if the MC says so – just the jackets), though I did see one tasteful moss green Montrose with jabot and cuffs, and wondered if it was the one I had seen advertised on e-Bay a bit back. The ladies in long, or longish, dresses, some with sash though probably not a majority. On the Saturday, kilts and open neck shirts for the men, and a big choice for the ladies, very varied. Great dancing, super music.

As well as the dances there is a class on the Saturday morning, this year taught with great expertise by Helen Russell. 16 sets, some class. She included Bonnie Ina Campbell in her programme just to show she was not intimidated by numbers!

Also on the Saturday morning there was a 'Members' Forum' organised by the Bristol Branch. Fifteen round tables were set out, twelve chairs at each, and members sat round randomly, no Branch groupings, at these tables. Four questions were posed, and each table was asked to discuss two of them for an hour or so and report back in one minute. That helped to concentrate the mind, and it worked splendidly. The questions, in brief, were 1) how do you think outsiders see us, 2) how should the society develop, 3) what about publishing and sales, and 4) how to relate to the affiliated groups.

There were also meetings on a smaller scale on the Sunday morning, but the main business event was the Annual General Meeting on the Saturday

afternoon. It was most ably chaired by the Earl of Mansfield, piped aboard with appropriate music by Alan Harrison, and included the presentation of Scrolls as well as the formal business. Among the Scroll recipients two are well known in Leeds, Pat Clark and Avis Harrison.

Stewart Adam, chair for the last two years, stood down and was replaced by 'chair-elect' Irene Bennett, resplendent in a waistcoat in the new RSCDS tartan. Results of elections were announced. Alex Gray became chair-elect, and will take over from Irene in two years time. Our own Alan Carr, former Leeds branch chair, was one of eight new members of Management Board. There were new members of the Education and Training Committee, including Louise Fordyce who many will remember from her time in Yorkshire, and for Membership Services Committee, on which Catherine Livsey is already a member. There was only one volunteer for General Purposes and Finance Committee, so he was drafted in before he had a chance to change his mind!

The hard work came when detailed amendments to the Constitution had to be considered and voted on. For a change to Constitution a 66% majority is required. The first one got 67%! After that things got easier, and the revisions as a whole were adopted almost unopposed. After two hours, the meeting drew to a close and we were let out. A quick tea, a shower, and back to the dance floor.

One other thing, the RSCDS web site. www.rscds.org. The site has been revised, is now easier to use, and the passwords for the members' area have changed. They are now advance and (you've got it!) retire.

So what was the adventure? You try getting a taxi in Aberdeen, Friday and Saturday nights!

And next year? Perth. 3rd November. Massive Sports Hall for the dances. Room for about 800! You'll enjoy it!

Don Andrews



A few members of the Leeds Branch enjoying being in Aberdeen

Term Tickets

There will be one price only for 'term tickets' for Branch classes in 2006/7.

The price will be the same as for 'single class' tickets in previous years, but holders will be able to use them for any Branch class.

The price for the sping term will be £27.50. The term runs for 13 weeks from week commencing 8th January 2007 to week commencing 2nd April 2007.

It is hoped that this arrangement will encourage dancers to support other classes as well as their own, and so extend their range of experience.

Looking at it purely financially, as the Branch runs five classes each week, (plus a few extra 'dem' classes on Sundays) it means that for £27.50 you can attend up to 65 classes at 42p per class.

Try comparing that with your local adult education service!

DATES, DATES, DATES

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

2006

Sat 1-3 December

Malhamdale Weekend

Teacher: Christine MacDonald

Music: George Meikle

Mon 11 December

Christmas Tea Dance 1.45pm
at Adel Methodist Church Hall
Gainsborough Avenue (behind
the Lawswood Arms)

Sat 16 December

Social Dance 7.30pm

West Park Centre, Leeds

Music: Kenny Thomson and the
Wardlaw Band

2007

Sat 20 January

Social Dance 7.30pm

West Park Centre, Leeds

Music: Phil Jones

Sat 17 February

Musicians Day School

Adel Methodist Church Hall,
Gainsborough Avenue, Adel,
Leeds 16

Teacher: Ian Muir

Social Dance 7.30pm

West Park Centre, Leeds

Music: Ian Muir

Full details of these events will be circulated at Branch dances during the summer and posted on the Branch web site, www.rscdsleeds.org.uk.

Application forms and information for all day schools and weekend are also available from Yvonne Tredgett, 17 Aviemore Rd, Warmsworth, Doncaster DN4 9ND. Tel 01302 851174.

Sat 13-15 April

Scarborough Weekend

Teacher: Helen Russell

Music: George Meikle

Sat 12 May

Highland Day School
Adel Methodist Church Hall,
Gainsborough Avenue, Adel,
Leeds 16

Teacher: Catherine Livsey

Sat 19 May

Social Dance 7.30pm

West Park Centre, Leeds

Music: Ian Slater

Sat 16 June

Social Dance 7.30pm

West Park Centre, Leeds

Music: George Meikle

Sat 7 July

White Rose Festival

Afternoon 2-5pm

Evening Dance 7-10.30pm

Gateways School, Harewood,
Leeds LS17 9LE

Music: Nicol McLaren and the

Glencraig SCD Band

Ask your class teacher

for more details

Classes

Autumn Term 2006

WC 11th September 2006

to WC 11th December 2006

Spring Term 2007

WC 8th January 2007

to WC 2nd April 2007

Fees: £2.50 per class,
see opposite for term costs

Classes

Monday Afternoon

1.45 - 3.45 - General/Beginner

Adel Methodist Church Hall

Gainsborough Avenue, Adel, Leeds 16

Teachers: Susan Carr & Don Andrews

Monday Evening

7.45 - 9.45pm - Advanced

Calverley Conservative Club,

Teacher: Catherine Livsey

Tuesday evening

7.45 - 9.45 Intermediate/Beginner

Adel Methodist Church Hall

Teachers: Alan Carr

Wednesday evening

7.30 - 10.00 - General/Beginner

Holy Trinity Church Hall

Knaresborough contact Malcolm Frost

for venue 4th Wednesday of each

month 01423 872686

Teachers: Ann Baranyai

and Malcolm Frost

Thursday evening

7.45 - 10.00 - General/beginner

Brackenwood Community Centre,

New Building, Lidgett Lane, Leeds

Teachers: Brenda Burnell/
Stella Summers

Friday evening - children

5.30 - 7.00 re-commencing again

12th January

Hawthorn Wood Primary School,

Broadway, Leeds 5

Teacher: Brenda Burnell

Sunday afternoon

1.45 - 3.45 10th Dec 2006 14th

Jan, 4th Feb, 4th Mar, 1st Apr, 6th

May, 10th June, 1st July 2007.

Askwith Village Hall.

Dancers interested in demonstration

work, innovative dances and

technique. All Welcome

Teacher: Catherine Livsey

For more information see www.rscdsleeds.org.uk