



*Yvonne Tredgett and Jean Dyson with flowers presented with their Branch Awards*

## 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.orangehom.e.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,  
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West Yorkshire HD5 9LX.

Tel 01484 515257

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

# Children's Festival

There were several changes at this year's Festival. We had to move to another venue as West Park is no longer available to us on Saturday afternoons. The hall at Abbey Grange School (rather run down compared with its former state) was much smaller than West Park. Two groups, from Wakefield and Gateshead, who have supported us loyally over the years, were unable to come this year. With smaller numbers we fitted into the smaller hall.

The enthusiasm of the children was just as great and they all joined in eagerly for the social dances. It is a time of stress (the healthy kind) for teachers. You work hard to get your teams to rise to the occasion and put up with children dropping out when they find they can do something else just at the last moment! You have your last minute 'walk throughs' before they dance their solo dances for adjudication

and keep your fingers crossed! This year I was lucky, the teams from Cookridge School danced very well but I'll let into a little secret about one of the dances. I have great problems teaching good allemandes – we chant to the music, we chant when we are dancing but still they lose a well defined shape. So on March 17th I said to my team 'I will be there with my camera and I will find out who it is not in line on bar 5'. *continued on page 5*



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](http://www.rscdsleeds.org.uk) Why not give it a try.

# Highland Day School

Another successful Highland Day School took place at Adel Methodist church on Saturday May 12th.

The teacher once again was Catherine Livsey. The aim of the day was to go through the Highland dances for the White Rose Festival. In the morning after a energetic warm up to the Scissors Sisters I don't feel like dancin' we actually did feel like dancing and continued by going through the basic positions & movements. We then worked through a 4 steps of the Highland Fling and then danced them. After this we went on to the Shepherds Crook. It was then time for lunch. Everyone had a good chat and laugh while eating lunch. It was soon time to start again. The afternoon was the Strathspey, Highland Reel and 1/2 Tulloch which we worked through in great detail. There was just enough time to do 4 steps of the Scottish Lilt, before going home to a well earned soak in the bath. We are all looking forward to the next day school in October so way not join us.

**Sat 16th June 2007 7.30pm**

## **SOCIAL DANCE**

**West Park Centre, Spen Lane**

**Music:** George Meikle

**M.C.:** Catherine Livsey

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

### **Programme**

Miss Hadden's Reel	J 8x32	Book 23
Maxwell's Rant	R 8x32	Book 18
The Birks of Invermay	S 8x32	Book 16
The Grumpy Gentleman	R 8x32	Birmingham Diamond Jubilee Book
Swiss Lassie	R 8x32	Book 39
Capetown Wedding	S 8x32	Book 39
Red House	R 8x40	Book 7
Bonnie Anne *	J 1x96	MacNab Book 2

### **INTERVAL**

Machine without Horses	J 8x32	Book 12
The Whistling Wind	R 8x32	Book 36
The Dreamcatcher	S 1x96	Book 45
A Tribute to Trish	J 8x40	Roy Goldring
Blooms of Bon Accord	R 4x32	Drewry
Miss Gibson's Strathspey	S 8x32	RSCDS Leaflet
Follow me Home	J 8x32	Book 38
Duke of Perth	R 8x32	Book 1

### **Extras**

Waverley	J 4x32	Book 15
The Reel of 51st Division	R 8x32	Book 13
Jean Martin of Aberdeen	S 3x32	RSCDS Three Dances 2006
Chequered Court	J 8x32	Book 42

\* This dance will not be recaped or walked through

# Highland Ball

We are still planning a Ball in November jointly with York and North Humberside Branch. Further details will be in the summer newsletter.

## Sad news from the Society

Older members will be sad to hear that Jackie Johnstone passed away earlier this year. Anyone who saw him dance will remember his impeccable technique and elegant style in both highland and country dancing.

More recently George Lawson died. He was a former President of the Society. He was a very fair examiner and as a teacher was very keen on the Society methods. He taught his classes thus and added his own personal blend of humour.

It is with sadness and regret that the society learned of the death of band leader George Stirrat on 16th May 2007 in Monklands Hospital after a short but bravely born illness.

His passing will be a great loss to the many dancers who have enjoyed his music.

## Obituary

### Doris Hunter (Richards)

Doris passed away early in March after a short illness; she had been dancing regularly until Christmas. Her funeral was well attended by Scottish Dancers. She had been a regular dancer in Leeds for over 30 years, both at the Branch and Club. It was always a pleasure to be in Doris's company listening to her Geordie accent. She married Bob in 2004 after meeting up with one another, at a dance, the previous year. Our thoughts are with Bob and their families. Another sad loss to the dancing fraternity.



# Scarborough Weekend

Later than usual this year a group of dancers descended again on Scarborough and to the Clifton Hotel. We were in our usual 'home' this year. The weather was fine but very misty – sometimes the castle was there and sometimes not.

The teacher for the weekend was Helen Russell and she taught some interesting dances, selecting two for the Saturday evening dance programme. To keep the dancers' feet moving George Meikle played well all weekend. He arrived in his very smart red mini which is now his pride and joy (pictures in the scrapbooks). Yvonne was there again to make everyone feel welcome and she certainly draws in the newcomers to make them part of the group. Her programmes (or were they Derek's?) were very well re-capped by Derek. His descriptions were clear and concise and he moved the evenings on at a pleasant pace.

The food this year was good and efficiently served. We were lucky having the dining area adjacent to the dance floor to ourselves. The staff kept us supplied with cold water throughout the dancing sessions – very welcome as it was a warm weekend.

All too soon it was the Sunday lunch and Pauline was thanking everyone who had made the weekend a success. Not sure if Yvonne had any problems to sort out this year but it certainly didn't show.

**Well done everyone.**



*George Meikle and Helen Russell*



# Musicians' Day



Following on from our successful biennial Musicians' days we decided this year to run one after only a year. There was a good response and Ian Muir (already booked to play in the evening) agreed to tutor the musicians. All moved along smoothly until the music arrived. It was not what I expected – only two sets were for dances on the evening dance programme! Many phone calls later we got the remaining music on the Saturday morning of the course and I had a happy hour photocopying copies for the remaining musicians. Also at the last moment three regular musicians had to pull out because of illness. They are now recovered and looking forward to coming next year.

Although these courses have not generated the class musicians I had hoped for, the enthusiasm amongst the musicians is infectious. My willing band of helpers who prepare a meal for everyone at lunch time definitely have 'music while you work' during their morning chores.

In the evening Avis had prepared a programme that Ian had approved and twelve of the musicians stayed on to play with him. It was good music for dancing and everyone taking advantage of the day had really enjoyed themselves - the date is already in their diaries for our course next year.

*Brenda*





# Children's Festival continued

It had the desired effect and the allemandes were described by the adjudicator as 'excellent'. The younger team danced well too but this time it was me that got it wrong and had them turning by the right instead of the easier eight claps as in the instructions! Later a team danced the best ever performance of the Hebridean Weaving Lilt. The lines could have been straighter and there were a few arms flapping in stead of on waists but the momentum was great and nobody went wrong (and we didn't have a practice the week before).



The Branch team somewhat depleted when dancers dropped out gave a good performance of the Round Reel of Eight. We borrowed two dancers from Darlington and they didn't let us down. Helen, Dora and Rachel danced Derek Haynes' Celtic Medley as it was St Patrick's Day and repeated in the evening for the dancers there.

In the second half of the programme Roy came along to present two of our members with Branch Awards. These are given by Branches to their members for services to the Society in the Branch. Jean and Yvonne were the recipients and it was thought appropriate to present them at our Festival as both are involved with children.

**Jean** has been a very good Branch secretary for many years and now is a member of the committee. She has on occasions chaired the meetings. While still working in school she brought teams to our



Festivals and remained involved as secretary for the event. For the last few years Jean has been our MC. She receives the applications and chases up the late comers, then sorts the programme before coming to keep everyone dancing. Every month she makes supper for the bands and hosts most of our committee meetings. Always a willing helper in any way and now helps with lunches for our day schools - nothing is too much trouble for her. **Thank you Jean.**

**Yvonne** has for many, many years run the Branch shop - bringing her goods to the dances, setting it all out and then clearing it away when everyone had made their purchases. Over the years the shop has made us lots of money and helped Branch funds. She also made us the banners with white dancers on a blue background and tidied up the tartans we use at dances. Dancers who attend our weekend courses will know how hard Yvonne works organising teachers, musicians and then looking after everyone to make us all feel very welcome. She has brought teams to our children's Festivals over many years and even on retirement has kept the groups dancing and coming. **Thank you Yvonne.**

Our other thanks go to Robert Whitehead for providing the music for the afternoon and to Fiona Turnbull for adjudicating the solo teams that danced. Also to all the helpers who kept everyone refreshed during the afternoon and to the adults who helped the less experienced dancers in the social dancing. It really is a team effort that makes these events enjoyable.

**Thank you everyone.**

*Brenda*

# WHITE ROSE FESTIVAL 2007

**Saturday 7th July 2007, Gateways School, Harewood.**

Anybody willing to help with the event please let me know: this is one of the major showpieces of the Scottish dance calendar.

'Setting up' begins at Gateways School at about 2.00 pm on Friday 6th, laying out the field and the Sports Hall.

Work continues on the Saturday morning from about 10.00am pitching tents, marking out the assembly area and other 'last minute' jobs that can't be tackled the day before for security reasons.

Visitors begin to arrive any time after 11.00, and need help with car parking, welcoming and looking after.

During the afternoon there is a real need for non-dancers to make themselves available for staffing the information tent, helping visitors to find their way around, and 'trouble shooting'.

Finally, after the event, at about 5.00pm, help is needed with tidying up and clearing away. 400 or so dancers inevitably leave their mark even if in small measure, and we like to leave the site as we find it, spick and span.

Anybody willing to help, particularly on the Saturday, please contact me on 01535 605065, donald@hbandrews.fsnet.co.uk

**If you would like to join us, and enjoy a fantastic afternoon and evening of dancing than please contact Catherine Livsey for details and to reserve your place. Tel 01484 515257 or email catherine@cld-design.co.uk**

## DATES, DATES, DATES

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

### 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  
Glenraig SCD Band  
Ask your class teacher  
for more details

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](http://www.rscdsleeds.org.uk).

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

### Class Dates 2007/08

#### Autumn Term 2007

Week commencing  
10th Sept-17th Dec

#### Spring Term 2008

Week commencing  
7th Jan-10th March

#### Summer Term 2008

Week commencing  
31st March-19th May short term  
Week commencing  
7th April-7th July long term

#### Saturday 12th July 2008

White Rose Festival

## Classes

Summer Terms 2007

WC 16th April 2007  
to WC 2nd July 2007

**Fees:** £2.50 per class,  
Term costs £24.00  
for any Branch class.

## 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, Catherine Livsey

### 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  
3rd 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](http://www.rscdsleeds.org.uk)