



# The Leeds Branch Newsletter

## From the chair



June Dance 2003

First of all, as this is the last Newsletter before the Branch AGM, and therefore towards the end of my first year 'in the chair', I would like to thank all those who have been such a help to me. Not only the committee members, of whom more later, but the teachers, the event organisers, and all those whose enthusiasm for Scottish dancing has been so infectious.

Welcome back, too, to those who have spent some part of the summer at St Andrew's. No doubt they enjoyed themselves, and I hope they will 'cascade' their newly extended skills and knowledge to the rest of us as the opportunity arises.

I would also thank those who gave us such a good dance, and a good supper, at the summer 'strawberries and cream' dance in June. This is a regular feature of the Leeds Branch year, and long may it continue.

A number of stalwarts will be retiring from the committee at the AGM in October, and I would like to thank them, on everybody's behalf, for their contribution. Alan Carr has completed five years on the

committee, three of them as chairman, and I must say I would have struggled a good had it not been for his constant support, advice, and encouragement. Derek Kendall has been an excellent treasurer, and has pointed out to the committee what needs to be done financially. Adrian McDonald and Val Hall have always done more than their share and will be hard to replace.

Colleagues may wonder why the Branch's constitution is such that good committee members are required to leave after a set period. When the constitution was first drafted, it was felt that it should be written in such a way that there is a measured but regular turn-over of officers and committee members so that the Branch does not get stuck in a rut. When the constitution working party recently put forward a revision for consideration at the AGM this year, it agreed with this basic principle, while making some adjustments to meet with current requirements.

Regarding finances, the committee is concerned that expenditure is far ahead of income. It is clear that over

recent years the Branch has been using up its reserves, and that steps need to be taken to redress the balance. In the short term, the problem will be addressed by putting up fees for classes and dances, though by quite small amounts. All our dances will continue to use 'live' music, but with a higher proportion of smaller bands and single musicians, thus reducing expenditure. But in the longer term the balance will be redressed most effectively by getting more people to take part in both classes and dances, and all members are asked to do what they can to encourage this.

Now for a few noteworthy future events. No doubt Peter Clarke's half day school on 20th September will be excellent - to be held at Adel Methodist Church Hall owing to the non-availability of West Park on that afternoon. The AGM on 18th October will be in all your diaries, not only because of the AGM but also because of the 'new music' of Keith Smith and James Gray, two rising stars on violin and piano/keyboard, and Alan Horsfall's first stint as MC for a Branch dance. The November Ball at the

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@cld-design.co.uk](mailto:catherine@cld-design.co.uk)

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

University Great Hall, Derek Kendall's programme, is another event to look forward to.

Finally, looking well into the future, plans are moving ahead for the re-instatement of the White Rose Festival in July 2004 as a joint Branch/Leeds SCD Club venture. Not that everything has run smoothly. That would be just too easy.. We had it all booked for Beckett Park, its original home, on 10th July, George Meikle to play. Then Beckett Park gave back word. (Surprise, surprise, remarked one of the organisers from an earlier festival!). I made a few threatening noises, and it now looks as if we are back on track for BP on 10/7, but at the moment I can't be absolutely positive. We already have a good number of volunteers offering help from both the Branch and the Club, but others are always welcome. Let me know if you are available.

I'll keep you all informed how things develop.

A good dancing season to you all.

*Don*

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.

# St Andrews 2003



Younger Hall - St Andrews

It seemed very early in July when Summer School started this year. The numbers were low for the first week but this made social dancing more comfortable. As the weeks progressed the numbers gradually increased and the fourth week was full. This year there was a noticeable lack of North Americans and far fewer Japanese attending than last year when they made up almost a third of the attendees.

## Week 1

Avis and Brenda were teaching, Brenda Pattison and Jean Nuttall were dancing and they were joined for their first visit by Christina Quirke and Angela Welsh.

Apart from the usual morning classes and evening social dancing there were 'walk throughs' and technique sessions in the afternoons – hardly time to go to the beach unless you were an early morning swimmer (and there were at least two).

On the first Monday the dancing was to Fiddlers 3 + 2 and they were pure

magic. The recordings they made for the Society give a pale impression of what they produced on that first evening. The three fiddlers play in unison backed by an accordion and piano. Don't ever miss the chance to dance to them as they are wonderful.

New additional sessions were introduced this summer. Derek Haynes took a very interesting couple of hours on devising dances. He talked a lot of sense about using traditional figures. The class was divided into two sets and were asked to devise a dance incorporating a reel of three or four, a wheel or circle and rights and lefts (half figures could be used if desired). It was amazing how two very different dances emerged and they were duly danced at the Ceilidh on Friday night.

David Cunningham also gave us an insight into how a CD is made from the very first letter of enquiry through to the finished CD ready for sale. No wonder they cost so much to produce initially – none of us realised the

amount of time and work that follows a recording.

## Week 2

There was a big change over of dancers and this brought Betty Sumpton, Sandra Webber and Jennifer Edmondson to join the two Brendas and Avis who were already there.

The musicians' course led by Mo Rutherford ran parallel to the dancing one. There was another session on devising dances and Alistair MacFadyen came to give another of his fascinating talks about the style and development of Scottish Country dancing. His talks are full of historical facts plus many amusing

anecdotes and his sense of timing is perfect. He must have been a wonderful lecturer to have had at university!

Jennifer was able to take part in the ladies' step demonstration on Thursday night in the Younger Hall. Five young ladies danced The Lilt and it looked very good.



Jennifer Edmondson taking part in the ladies' step demonstration.

## Sat 20th September 2003 7.30pm SOCIAL DANCE

West Park Centre, Spens Lane

Music: John Renton Quartet M.C : Donald Andrews  
Admission: RSCDS Members £6.00, Non Members £7.00,  
Students £2, Children £1

### Programme

Vintage '62	J 4x32	Goldring 2002
Reel of the Royal Scots	R 8x32	Leaflet
Miss Milligan's Strathspey	S 8x32	Leaflet
Fraser's Favourite	R 8x32	Leaflet
The Gentle Shepherd	Slow J 4x32	Book 17
Instructor's Choice	Strathspey	Book 43
Summer Assembly	R 88	Book 35
Tribute to the Borders	J 8x32	Leaflet

The Frisky	J 8x32	Book 26
Milton's Welcome	R 8x32	Book 33
James Senior of St Andrew's	S 4x32	Book 42
Instructor's Choice	Reel or Jig	Book 43
College Hornpipe	R 8x32	Book 20
Autumn in Appin	S 4x32	Book 31
Highland Rambler	R 8x40	Leeds 25
Follow Me Home	J 8x32	Book 38

### Extras

Mrs Stewart's Jig	J 8x32	Book 35
Seann Truibhas Willichan	S 8x32	Book 27
Cumbræ Reel	R 8x32	Book 28
Maxwell's Rant	R 8x32	Book 18

Friday gave us a session with Jennifer Wilson playing and advising some of the musicians in a class situation. It meant doing most things three times through to give different musicians the chance to play. The volunteer class was patient and learnt that playing for Scottish Country dancing is not just playing the black dots! To round off the afternoon we were treated to Jennifer's playing of a set of hornpipes for The Sailor. The session went so quickly that there was no time to deal with strathspeys – hopefully next time.

The music for the Saturday evening was the icing on the cake for the first fortnight. With band leaders David

Cunningham, George Meikle and Neil Copland playing alongside class musicians Judith Linton, Sheena Sturrock and Fred Moyes plus more from the musicians' course, the music had to be good. Along with the wonderful sprung floor of the Younger Hall (and if you've never experienced that you should) and lots of encores for the special 'band' to play their tunes again it was a fitting end to the first fortnight.

## Weeks 3 & 4

Derek Kendall and Yvonne Tredgett became the Leeds representatives for week 3 and were joined by Jean Morrison and Alice Stainer for the last one. It was good to see Alice back dancing again and looking



Alice Stainer in *The Thistle with the ladies*, step class.

so well. She hopes to be back with us again in the autumn. She was chosen for the mixed team demonstration on the last Thursday and danced *The Thistle with the ladies'* step class. Both the mixed and ladies' dances went very well but it was sad to see only two men and eight women in the men's highland dancing.

The end of the course saw the exams as the finale to the Prelim and Teacher's Certificate classes during the second fortnight. The Prelim class was truly international with 1 Russian, 1 Japanese, 1 Chinese, 3 Germans, 2 North Americans and the remaining 7 from the UK representing the worldwide spread of Scottish Country dancing.

Both fortnights had a spate of fire alarms this year. Week 1 had several but luckily during the day. Week 3 was less fortunate with one of theirs going off just after midnight.

The end of the month

brought the end of Johan MacLean's four years as Director of Summer School. She has changed the format gradually during her directorship by introducing new afternoon sessions and this year some interesting talks along with special extras to celebrate the 80th year of the society. We wish her well in her retirement and look forward to seeing her back teaching when Linda Gaul takes over next year.

## Footnote

Book 43 arrived early (well actually on time) this year but as with most things something else didn't arrive. The CD is not yet available but should any of you play the music, the correction of the barring for some of the 40 bar dances is available from Brenda Burnell.

The dances in Book 43 in bulk are confusing and difficult to learn and remember but taken one at a time they will probably, in time, become popular.

**Sat 18th October 2003 8pm**  
(following AGM Meeting at 7pm)

## SOCIAL DANCE

**West Park Centre, Spen Lane**

**Music:** Keith Smith and James Gray **M.C:** Alan Horsfall  
**Admission:** RSCDS Members £6.00, Non Members £7.00,  
Students £2, Children £1

### Programme

Machine Without Horses	J 8x32	Book 12
The deil among the tailors	R 8x32	Book 14
Capetown Wedding	S 8x32	Book 39
Tribute to the Borders	J 8x32	Leaflet
Bratach Bana	R 8x32	Drewry Bon Accord
Anna Holden's Strathspey	S 6x32	Book 42
JB Milne	R 8x32	Foss
The Chequered Court	J 8x32	Book 42
Hooper's Jig	J 8x32	MMM2
Swiss Lassie	R 8x32	Book 39
Minister on the Loch	S 3x32	Goldring:Graded
The Hazel Tree	J 8x32	Drewry Leaflet
Maxwell's Rant	R 8x32	Book 18
Butterscotch and Honey	S 4x32	Attwood
Major Ian Stewart	J 8x32	Book 35
Montgomerie's Rant	R 8x32	Book 10

### Extras

Mairi's Wedding	R 8x40	Cosh
The Lea Rig	S 6x32	Book 21
Duke of Perth	R 8x32	Book 1
The Last of the Lairds	J 8x32	Book 22

## OTLEY CHARITY DANCE

Doreen and Roy wish to thank all the people who bought tickets or who kindly made donations. Over £300 was sent to Marie Curie.

We have booked the hall for 3 July 2004.

# Teachers' Workshop



A group of qualified, partially qualified and would be teachers gathered at Adel Methodist Church Hall on Saturday May 17th for our Teachers' Workshop. This was lead by Elma McCausland from Bangor, Northern Ireland and the piano music was provided by Jack Judson.

First we tackled the teaching of the Tournee (by popular request). We did not really find any teaching skill practice suitable for teaching this

infrequently danced formation. Everyone had their own pet theory for remembering which hand to retain at the end of bar 4!

The Tournee accomplished, Elma steered us through the routine of teaching steps. Working in pairs we were encouraged to give each other constructive criticism. After lunch organised by the ladies from Brackenwood, we went on to teach formations and dances.

**Sat 15th November 2003**

**7.30pm - 11pm**

**ANNUAL BALL**

**Leeds University Great Hall**

**Music:** The Ian Muir Trio M.C : Derek Kendall

**Tickets:** £8, available from Jean Dyson 01943 461022

## Programme

Hooper's Jig	J 8x32	MMM2
Ladies of Dunse	R 8x32	Book 26
Auld Friends Meet	S 8x32	Goldring Leaflet
The Last of the Lairds	J 8x32	Book 22
Round Reel of Eight	R 88	Book 27
Peggy's Strathspey	S 8x32	Book 41
John of Bon Accord	R 8x32	Book 33
Lammermuir Hills	S 6x32	Goldring Leaflet
South from Oban	J 8x40	Leeds 10

Jubilee Jig	J 8x32	Leaflet
From Scotia's Shores We're Noo Awa'	S 8x32	Leaflet
Milton's Welcome	R8x32	Book 33
Follow Me Home	J 8x32	Book 38
Glasgow Country Dance	M 8x32	Book 23
Cramond Bridge	R 8x32	London Jubilee
Bonnie Lass of Bon Accord	S 64	Drewry Bon Accord
Montgomeries' Rant	R 8x32	Book 10
Todlen Hame	J 8x32	Book 16

## Extras

West's Hornpipe	H 8x32	5 trad.
The Diamond Jubilee	J 4x32	Book 31
McDonald of the Isles	S 6x32	Carnforth

These workshops are always interesting and very worthwhile whether to refresh teachers' skills or to encourage new ones. We certainly had a wide range of experience in the group this

year and hopefully in the near future we will have new teachers encouraged to take their exams.

Many thanks to all those who made it a satisfying day.

## Graeme Baranyai

He has piped for the Knaresborough Class since its inception. On the 10th July he played solo for The Tewit Band's performance of "Highland Cathedral" in a national competition at The Festival Hall, where they came 2nd in their class.

We devised this for him as an eighteenth birthday present at the beginning of the year.

*Ann Baranyai & Malcolm Frost*

## Piping with the Highlanders

A three couple, 32 bar Reel in a three couple set.

### Bars

- 1-8 1's lead down for three, back up for three and cast to second place. Second couple step up on bars 7 and 8.
- 9-12 1's cross right down below 3's and cast up round 3's.
- 13-16 1's cross right up between the 2's and cast to 2nd place, in the middle, facing each other. 3's dance in on bar 16, ready for...
- 17-24 1's & 3's poussette
- 25-32 2's, 3's & 1's six-hands-round and back
- Repeat from new position

Tune: Itchy Fingers (Trad)

This dance was devised January 2003 by Malcolm Frost to celebrate Graeme Baranyai's eighteenth birthday.

On 25th January 1999 Sandy Dunleavy of Radio York generously arranged for Graeme to pipe, on air, with Duncan McKay of "The Highlanders" as part her special "Burns" programme

The tune is one of Graeme's favourites

**Note:** Bars 9-16 require considerable flight. In particular, the 1st lady should be starting to cross up between the 2nd couple at the end of bar 12 so that she does not impede her partner who has to be in 2nd place, in the middle of the set on bar 16, with sufficient time to adjust his balance to start the poussette.

## Your Branch Needs You!

At the AGM to be held in October we will be in need of Committee Members.

Would **YOU** like to become more involved with the running of the Branch? It is not such an onerous task. Meetings are held about every two months during the season.

Anyone interested and who would like more information, please contact Jean Dyson on 01943 461022 or Don Andrews on 01535 605065.

# Where Does the Money Go?

Because Branch Socials have been consistently losing money over the past two years, The Committee has reluctantly decided to increase admission charges. We would like to outline the cost of running a social so that you will understand why this price rise is necessary.

## Fixed Cost

Hire of the hall	£75.00	Refreshments	£15.00
Security man	£50.00	<b>Total</b>	<b>£140.00</b>

The Variable Cost is the price of live music.

As a rough guide, it is £100 per player plus expenses depending upon how far they have to travel. So a three-piece can cost between £300 and £400, making the cost of a dance between £440 and £540 respectively.

This means that in order to cover the cost of a band dance, we require between 75 and 90 dancers at £6.00 per person. On a number of occasions last season we did not reach the lower number so we lost money on most occasions as we were charging £5.00 admission.

You can see from these figures that we need the support of our members if we are to continue to have the high quality bands we are accustomed to. The alternative is to use more single musicians and only have a band two or three times a year.

## The lack of support at the socials poses a number of questions:

Should we make the programmes more attractive to newer dancers?

Are the programmes perceived as too straightforward?

Should we talk through the dances?

Do we run too many Socials?

Are members happy with the venue?

The Chairman Don Andrews would value any ideas you have on how to improve attendance at Branch Socials.

*Alan Carr*

# Branch AGM

is on Sat 18th October 2003 at 7pm West Park Centre, Spen Lane) followed by a SOCIAL DANCE at 8pm. Please come and support the branch.

## Branch Constitution

**The proposal for the revised constitution is included in the AGM agenda.**

Copies of the current (1997) constitution were circulated with the winter Newsletter, and the proposed revisions were published in the spring Newsletter, with a request for observations, comments or amendments.

Two proposals for amendments were submitted;

1. That the quorum be reduced to 20% of the membership, or 20 members, whichever shall be lesser. Reason: to allow business to be transacted in the event of a low attendance.

*The committee agreed that this amendment be included in the proposal.*

2. That husband and wife should not be permitted to serve on the committee together.

*The committee took the view that this amendment should not be included.*

The proposal before the AGM is the proposal as published in the spring Newsletter, plus item 1 above.

Any further amendments will be received, in writing, by 1st October 2003. Amendments will not be received after that date. They should be submitted to the Branch secretary.

At the AGM, any amendments received on or before October 1st will be put to the meeting and voted on first. Then a vote will be taken on the proposal, as amended.

To be approved, any additional amendments and the proposal must receive the vote of not less than two thirds of the members present and entitled to vote. ( XII Alteration of Constitution).

## PRICES FOR THE 2003/2004 SEASON

### Dances

RSCDS members	Single musician	£5
	Band	£6
	Ball	£8
	'Strawberries and Cream'	£7

Others: to be announced on the programmes.

### Classes

£2.50 per class. Term tickets (14 weeks): £30 for one class, £45 for any number of classes.

Classes will be expected to maintain an average attendance of 12, or the committee reserves the right to increase the fee to generate an income of £32 per session to cover the cost of rent and expenses.

The committee regrets these increases, which are the first for some time, but believes they are essential to move towards balancing income and expenditure.

## Subscriptions Reminder

Many members have already renewed their membership for this year, thank you very much. I have included a note to those who have not been in touch with me yet and look forward to hearing from them soon.

### Welcome to new members

Alan Proctor and Kathryn Williamson - we look forward to you attending our events this year.

*Brenda Burnell*

# DATES, DATES, DATES

## SEPTEMBER 2003

**17th Knareborough "Come and Try" evening**  
at 7.30pm Holy Trinity Church Hall. Tell your friend, or anyone who might be interested in Scottish Country Dancing.

**20th Half-day School**  
at Adel Methodist Church Hall  
Teacher: Peter Clark Music: Pat Clark on Piano

### PLEASE NOTE: Change of venue

The half day school will be at Adel Methodist Church Hall, Gainsborough Avenue, not West Park as formerly advertised.

The 'high tea' and evening dance will be at West Park.

**20th Social Dance**  
7.30pm West Park CDC  
Music: John Renton Quartet  
MC: Don Andrews

## OCTOBER 2003

**18th Social Dance & AGM**  
AGM 7pm Dance 8pm following meeting  
West Park CDC  
Music: Keith Smith & James Gray  
MC: Alan Horsfall

**25th Highland Day School**  
10am to 3.30pm Adel Methodist Church Hall,  
Gainsborough Avenue, Adel, Leeds  
Teacher: Catherine Livsey  
Forms in this newsletter.

### COME AND GIVE HIGHLAND A GO!!!

It is not that difficult. Catherine will show you how to achieve Highland movement without you having to put a lot of effort in. The day will include simple Highland Dances and Country Dance with the odd Highland Step in them. It is great fun so come and try.

## NOVEMBER 2003

**15th Annual Ball**  
7.30pm to 11pm Leeds University Great Hall  
Music: The Ian Muir Trio  
MC: Derek Kendall  
Tickets: £8 available from Jean Dyson 01943 461022

## DECEMBER 2003

**17th Knareborough Class Christmas Party**  
at 7.30pm Holy Trinity Church Hall. All welcome, Faith Supper, the programme will be based upon a list of dances requested by class members

**20th Social Dance**  
7.30pm West Park CDC  
Music: David Cunningham

# Classes

## Fees

£2.50 per class.

Term tickets (14 weeks): £30 for one class, £45 for any number of classes.

## Classes

**Begin week commencing  
15th September through to  
15th December (inclusive)**

### Monday afternoon

1.45 - 3.45pm

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

Teachers: Barbara Caldicott, Alan Carr

### Monday Evening (Advanced)

7.45 - 9.45pm

Calverley Conservative Club, Calverley

Teachers: Various -  
Starts with Avis Harrison

### Tuesday Evening

7.45 - 9.45pm

Adel Methodist Church Hall, Adel, Leeds 16

Teacher: Susan Carr

### Wednesday Evening (Beginners)

7.45 - 9.45pm,

**Starts 8th October for a 10 week course.**

The Stables, Back Church Lane,

Adel, Leeds 16

Teacher: Catherine Livsey

Please spread the word about this class, tell your friends, everybody you can, especially the young, as this is our future. Come and help if you wish. If you want more info either contact Catherine Livsey 01484 432270 or Don Andrews 01535 605065

### Wednesday Evening

except the 4th Wednesday of each month,

7.30 - 10.00pm

Holy Trinity Church Hall, Knareborough

Teachers: Ann Banyai & Malcolm Frost

Starts with 'come and try' evening see

Dates, Dates, Date, for more details.

### Thursday Evening

7.45 - 10.00pm

Brackenwood Community Centre,

New Building, Lidgett Lane, Leeds 8

Teacher: Brenda Burnell

### Friday Evening Children

7.15 - 8.45pm

Hawthorn Wood Primary School,

Broadway, Leeds 5

Teacher: Brenda Burnell