

# DIARY

## May 2009

- 5 Spring Class Cleveden, Secondary School
- 5 Beginners Class, St Paul's Church Hall
- 12 Spring Class, Cleveden Secondary School
- 12 Beginners Class, St Paul's Church Hall
- 19 Beginners Class, St Paul's Church Hall
- 26 Westerton Summer Dancing
- 29 Glasgow Branch Dance Bearsden Burgh Hall

## June 2009

- 9 Westerton Summer Dancing
- 23 Westerton Summer Dancing
- 27 Ayr Summer Assembly Troon Concert Hall
- 28 Mugdock Dancing in the Park, 2.00-4.30pm

## July 2009

- 3 Glasgow Branch Summer Dance, N K Hall
- 7 Westerton Summer Dancing
- 21 Westerton Summer Dancing

## August 2009

- 4 Westerton Summer Dancing
- 7 Glasgow Branch Summer Dance, N K Hall
- 18 Westerton Summer Dancing

## September 2009

- 1 Westerton Summer Dancing
- 12 KelvinGrove, Dance to John Carmichael
- 16 Glasgow Branch, All classes start this week
- 18 Mickel CDC, Carmichael Hall

## October 2009

- 2 Glasgow Branch Dance Clarkston Hall
- 30 Bishopbriggs Annual Dance

## November 2009

- 21 Glasgow Branch Club Night, N K Hall

## December 2009

- 4 Glasgow Branch Dance Milngavie Town Hall
- 12 Glasgow Branch Xmas Club Kessington Hall

## January 2010

- 15 Annual Ball Erskine Bridge Hotel

## March 2010

- 5 Glasgow Branch Dance Carmichael Hall
- 20 Glasgow Branch Club Night, N K Hall

## May 2010

- 21 Glasgow Branch Dance Bearsden Burgh Hall

Flora Frame                      flora.frame@ntlworld.com  
Wilma Brown                    Wilmacdbrown@aol.com  
Glasgow Branch                www.rscdsglasgow.org

## Contact / more information

Flora Frame 0141 942 6850  
Glasgow Branch  
Flora Frame 0141 942 6850  
Glasgow Branch  
Glasgow Branch  
Mgt & Chris Saunders 0141 942 7519  
Flora Frame 0141 942 6850

Mgt & Chris Saunders 0141 942 7519  
Mgt & Chris Saunders 0141 942 7519  
Wilma Brown 01292 315 558  
Glasgow Branch

Flora Frame 0141 942 6850  
Mgt & Chris Saunders 0141 942 7519  
Mgt & Chris Saunders 0141 942 7519

Mgt & Chris Saunders 0141 942 7519  
Flora Frame 0141 942 6850  
Mgt & Chris Saunders 0141 942 7519

Mgt & Chris Saunders 0141 942 7519  
Glasgow Branch  
Glasgow Branch  
Irene Harper 0141 571 7132

Flora Frame 0141 942 6850  
Chris Scott 0141 772 2262

Flora Frame 0141 942 6850

Flora Frame 0141 942 6850  
Flora Frame 0141 942 6850

Flora Frame 0141 942 6850

Flora Frame 0141 942 6850  
Flora Frame 0141 942 6850

Flora Frame 0141 942 6850



Charity Registered in Scotland  
SC 008002  
www.rscdsglasgow.org

ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

# GLASGOW BRANCH

## May 2009 Newsletter

### Chairman's Notes

Dear Members,

Isn't it nice that the longer daylight hours are now with us --- time to get involved in our outdoor pursuits of bowling, gardening and hill walking. Summer dancing continues, of course. Please join us for the Branch dance in Bearsden on 29th May, at Mugdock Country Park on Sunday, 28th June, Summer Dances in New Kilpatrick Church Hall on 3rd July and 7th August and Kelvingrove Art Gallery on Saturday 12th September.

Occasionally, I hear the refrain 'What do I get for my subscription to the Society?' (i.e. Headquarters as distinct from the Branch). In these difficult economic times, trimming our budgets is important. So, obviously, people consider whether or not their membership of the RSCDS is worthwhile. If these are your thoughts, I would ask you to consider all the benefits that your subscription brings to the wider aspect of Scottish Country Dancing.

If you dance at local, Branch or Affiliated classes throughout the UK or abroad, you will receive a similar, consistent, high standard of teaching. You are benefiting from the quality training and testing of teachers by the Society's exam system. This system has been reviewed and revamped over the years to keep it effective and relevant.

Put your pumps in your suitcase and you can easily 'Join in the dance' practically anywhere in the world. The RSCDS is the pivotal link, keeping track of all events, and sending teachers abroad, which maintains standards and consistency.

Since 1923, collected books of near forgotten dances, and commissioned books of new dances, have been published worldwide by the RSCDS. That's why you can dance the same dance in the same way in Airdrie or Argentina, Hamilton or Hong Kong.

The music for Scottish Country Dancing requires to be of a strict tempo, and again the Society ensures that this is so, with its training for musicians.

The recently started medal tests for young people are proving successful. Also, Summer and Winter schools organised by RSCDS, and the Spring Fling for younger members, bring people from abroad --- fostering many lifelong friendships, helping the tourist industry, and publicising a part of our Scottish culture. Dancing teams abroad are a very worthy representative of Scotland, and have created a tremendous interest in our country and culture.

In 1923, Miss Milligan and Mrs Stewart rescued Scottish Country Dancing and its music from near demise. They realised the need for a recognised organisation which would have the authority, devised from sound research, to publish definite formats of all known dances, and have conformity in their teaching. Thus they became co-founders of the Scottish Country Dance Society. With the revival and publishing of the traditional dances came the revival of interest in the traditional music, and side by side, this combination has proceeded.

You may no longer (or never have) taken advantage of any of the wider aspects of Scottish Country Dancing, but every time you dance you are still benefiting from the central organisation, standards and structures of the Society. That's why we should be proud to pay our subscriptions, to ensure that the organisation which gives us pleasure, exercise and friendship continues, and flourishes, for the next generation. Otherwise the Society will fragment and Scottish Country Dancing and its music will eventually dissipate into obscurity.

*Best Wishes  
Margaret*

---

---

### **Editorial - May, 2009**

Once again it is time for our AGM in the Woodside Halls – the timing and agenda are printed in this newsletter. Please try to come along if you can – your opinion does count.

Although our dancing winds down a bit for the summer, there are still plenty of opportunities to keep dancing. Glasgow Branch has booked a number of events and would like your support if you are not away on holiday. We are hoping to have one or two 'Come and Try' events during the summer in new locations about the city, with the final one in Kelvingrove, as in previous years, in September. Details will be put on the website and made available at dances as we finalise the details. Again, any support that you can give to help us publicise Scottish Country Dancing will be much appreciated - and it is an opportunity for some free dancing to good music!

The Children's Festival in the Kelvin Hall was again a great success this year. We have reported it from several viewpoints – school teacher, children and our own organiser. I think we can see how much hard work and enthusiasm goes in from all sides to make the event a success. A special thanks to Ruth Beattie who has organised it for the last three years and is now moving on to greater things!

*Pat McBride*

Editorial Committee:-

Pat McBride, Iain Hutchison, Katherine Morrison, Sandy Morrison.

### **Invitation to Braemar - June 2009**

Castleton Dancers of Braemar invite you to a celebration of dancing, and other pleasurable pursuits, in one of the most beautiful parts of Scotland.

The weekend will kick off with an informal, licensed Ceilidh in Braemar Village Hall on Friday 5th June at 8pm. Brian Casey will provide the music and a stovies supper will be served.

On Saturday morning there are classes, followed by a free afternoon.

The main event is on Saturday night with a Scottish Country Dance in the Stag Ballroom of Mar Lodge, starting at 8:00 pm. Music is by Frank Thomson's Band. A finger food buffet supper will be served.

On Sunday morning there will be a Farewell Fun Dance.

More information is available on  
the Glasgow Branch website, or call 013397 41225.

### **The Benefits of Scottish Country Dancing for Bone Strength**

Some members of Glasgow Branch voluntarily participated in a research project carried out by Ms Sabitha Stewart at Glasgow Caledonian University last year under the supervision of Dr Morag Thow. The focus of the research was to ascertain if the forces generated in the pas de bas step were sufficiently high to improve bone strength and hence reduce the risk of osteoporotic fractures.

The volunteers attended Glasgow Caledonian University where they walked, marched, danced and side stepped over a force plate. The results indicated that the pas de bas step generated forces of almost twice body weight through the lower limbs. These forces generated in the pas de bas step are significantly near to the force recommended in a previous study undertaken in Germany in 2004. This study indicated that impact forces between 1.5 and 3.5 times body weight could offset bone loss in women and suggests that Scottish Country Dancing is beneficial in terms of good bone health in addition to the other well known benefits in physical and mental health.

Following the research into the effects of Scottish Country Dancing on bone health in women carried out at Glasgow Caledonian University last year, a further study is to be undertaken into the balance reactions of men and women who are regular dancers. Volunteers (men and women) over 60 years of age who have been dancing for more than six months are requested to contact Dr Morag Thow at 0141 331 8133 by telephone or be email to M.Thow@ gcal.ac.uk if they are interested in participating in the study.

**Branch Dance Friday August 7th 2009  
New Kilpatrick Church Hall 7.30 - 10.30 pm  
Music: George Meikle**

Good Hearted Glasgow	8 x 32 bar jig	Knapman
Bratach Bana	8 x 32 bar reel	Drewry
Fair Donald	8 x 32 bar strathspey	RSCDS Book 29
Napier's Index	8 x 32 bar jig	RSCDS Book 45
Shiftin' Bobbins	8 x 32 bar reel	Ormskirk
Seann Truibhas Willichan	8 x 32 bar strathspey	RSCDS Book 27
Machine Without Horses	8 x 32 bar jig	RSCDS Book 12
Summer Assembly	88 bar reel, square set	RSCDS Book 35
Interval	Light Supper	
St Andrew's Fair	8 x 32 bar jig	1982 RSCDS
Mairi's Wedding	8 x 40 bar reel	Cosh
Minister on the Loch	3 x 32 bar strathspey	Goldring
IPFTA	128 bar jig square set	Hamilton
Peggy Dewar	8 x 32 bar reel	RSCDS Book 38
Silver Strathspey	8 x 32 bar strathspey	RSCDS Book 44
White Heather Jig	4 x 40 bar jig	Cosh
Deil Amang the Tailors	8 x 32 bar reel	RSCDS Book 14
Extras		
Neidpath Castle	3 x 32 bar strathspey	RSCDS Book 22
Music Makars	8 x 32 bar reel	RSCDS Book 33

**Tickets £7.00 & information from  
Flora Frame 0141 942 6850 or [flora.frame@ntlworld.com](mailto:flora.frame@ntlworld.com)**

**Proposal by New Zealand Branch on RSCDS Membership**

New Zealand Branch tabled a motion at the RSCDS AGM in 2008 which, if approved, would remove the constitutional requirement for members of Branches also to be members of RSCDS. This motion was remitted to the Management Board to review the constitutional and financial implication of the proposal. The results of this review will not be made available to Branches until 5 June 2009. It will not therefore be possible to consider this report at the Branch AGM, which must be held in May each year as required by the Branch Constitution. Members attending the Branch AGM may wish to express their views on how to proceed with this most important issue.

**The ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY  
GLASGOW BRANCH  
Registered Charity No SC008002**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING TO BE HELD AT  
19.30 ON 14 MAY 2009 IN WOODSIDE HALLS, GLASGOW**

**AGENDA**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Chairman's Remarks
3. Minutes of AGM held on 22 May 2008
4. Matters Arising
5. Branch Report
6. Accountant's Report
7. Financial Report
8. Report to the Trustees
9. Appointment of Accountants
10. Election of Office Bearers and Committee for 2009-10
11. Motions
12. Election of delegates to RSCDS AGM
13. Any Other Business

**Office Bearers**

Hon. President	Mrs N Lawson
Hon. Vice-President	Dr A MacFadyen
Chairman	Mrs M Weir
Vice-Chairman	Mr I Hutchison
Secretary	Mr D M Drummond
Treasurer	Mr A Morrison
Social Events Convenor	Mrs F Frame (Not seeking re-election)
Publicity	Miss P McBride
Membership Secretary	Mrs M Daniel
Youth Co-ordinator	Mrs P Gillies
Dem. Group Convenor	Mr S Wilkins

**Committee**

Mrs R Beattie (Not eligible for re-election)  
Mrs K Morrison (Not eligible for re-election)  
Mrs M McCrudden (2008)  
Miss H Battson (2007)  
Mrs M Sanders (2008))

Motion submitted by D M Drummond

That Article XII.1 of the Constitution of the Branch be amended to read:

“Subject to any restrictions on numbers and any procedures contained in the Society's constitution, the Local Association in General Meeting, (which failing, the Committee), may appoint a delegate or delegates, all of whom have attained the age of 18 years, to attend a general meeting of the Society and represent the Local Association at such meeting, subject to such delegates not being Office Bearers or members of Boards, Committees or Sub-committees of the Society.

## Letters Page

Dear Editor,

Around a year ago, when the RSCDS subscription increased enormously, I made a definite decision not to rejoin. After a few conversations with this person and that, I changed my irrevocable mind and decided that I *would* join, for that year anyway.

Dick Daniel's letter has started me thinking again. What exactly do I get for

(a) my £7 contribution to the Glasgow branch and

(b) my £15 to Edinburgh?

The results are in.

Glasgow branch: lots! Financially, £1 cheaper for each class, plus the newsletters.

Edinburgh: er, nothing, really. A glossy magazine I don't really want.

I am having a (possibly unlikely) vision of a free-standing RSCDS Glasgow, with no affiliation to Edinburgh.\* But that is plan A. So I had probably better have a plan B. I am edging towards the idea that I will not join the Society in the coming year. I will, however, continue to go to classes, paying the unsubsidised amount. On the basis of £1 per class for 2 terms of 12 classes each, and probably missing 2 or 3 classes for one reason or another, that is now a more or less "break even" situation. The difference is that the extra money will go to the Glasgow Branch, not to mill-stone Edinburgh.

Who knows, who knows? Perhaps some other members may do the same? The downside is that I would no longer receive a copy of the newsletter. But I suspect I would be allowed to buy a copy.

*Joyce Mumford.*

\* [Why is HQ in Edinburgh anyway, when, as Jim Ferguson points out, Glasgow is the birthplace of the Society?].

If you would like to write to us on the above, or any other topic of interest, please send letters either by e-mail to [glasrscdseditor@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:glasrscdseditor@hotmail.co.uk) or by the more traditional method to Pat McBride, 25 Wester Cleddens Rd., Bishopbriggs, Glasgow G64 2NQ.

Letters can also be handed to any member of the editorial team at dances, classes etc.

The next newsletter will be published in September. Closing date for any input is Friday, 7th August.

## *Scottish Country Dance Festival - 25<sup>th</sup> March 2009*

**Review by Kirsty Duncan,  
Primary 6 class teacher, Castleton Primary, Castlemilk**

It started on a cold, wet day when Jan Breckenridge, Principal Teacher at Castleton Primary and I attended an intensive two hour tutorial on the *Red* group's Country Dances for the Scottish Country Dance Festival at the Kelvin Hall. It was the second day back after the Christmas holidays, the 6<sup>th</sup> of January - what a shock to the system after our winter break! At breakneck speed our tutors from the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society and members of the Glasgow PE team taught us the steps that our children would need for the festival. Realising it would soon be March before we knew it, Jan and I organised an after school club on a series of Mondays from January to March and used a P.E. slot from the daily timetable to teach the dances to the children - although I think we could have still been practising until June to get ready for the festival! Actually, we ran out of time to teach the optional dance, St Andrew's Fair. Jan and I were delighted when we discovered that Jim Ferguson, a tutor from the RSCDS, would be able to attend, teach and revise at every one of our Monday sessions! Phew! What a relief! We could not have managed without him! We are both extremely grateful for Jim's tuition of our dance team. His calm and patient teaching style worked miracles with our children!

When it came to the morning of the festival the children were extremely excited! We had made large red ribbon rosettes with tartan ribbons and a 'Castleton Primary' logo pinned on, which they attached to their uniforms - they all looked so smart! Nicole and Lauren from our dance team were chosen to carry our school banner in the Opening Parade. I have to confess that when I heard the skirl of the pipes and then watched as the girls entered the Kelvin Hall behind four pipers, I had a huge lump in my throat and a wee tear in my eye! The pipes usually provoke that reaction in me but the children had all worked so hard to prepare for the festival with Jim, Jan and me since January and it was just the culmination of it all coming together beautifully. It was also lovely to see the rest of my children clapping and cheering their classmates on with pride!

The children were itching to get on with the dancing and they had a wonderful time accompanied by the excellent five piece band. They were especially thrilled to finish their dances at the correct time with the music! Probably a first - even in rehearsals we didn't manage that! It was a joy to watch their faces as they took part, especially the boys: they were beaming from ear to ear and loving every minute of it! I think my favourite moments of the festival were when both dance sets from the *Red* group and the *Yellow* group all managed to squeeze onto the Kelvin Hall dance floor for *The Dashing White Sergeant* just before we stopped for lunch and when we did the last dance *The Flying Scotsman*. Watching seven hundred children having so much fun, laughing, dancing and cheering was worth all the hard work at rehearsals! We really did have a brilliant day at the Scottish Country Dance Festival and Jan, the children ("Can we do it again next year, Miss - pleeeeeeeese?!") and I are looking forward to attending the festival again!

*Comments from some of the children  
from Sighthill Primary School who attended the Festival.*

I did enjoy the Scottish Country Dancing and all of the boys got a good report. The boys were the best on the dance floor. The dance festival was fan-dabby-dossay and I was tired after all that hard practising. I was almost ready to sleep for a week. At the end we did auld lang syne and it was fun.

*Christopher.*

I really enjoyed the Scottish Country Dance Festival. My favourite dances were the round reel of 8 and the dashing white sergeant. At first when we started practising I felt nervous but then I got used to it. It was fun when we did Auld Lang Sighn.

*Ryan.*

Before we went to Kelvin hall we was practising Scottish country dancing. We practised 7 dances. When Miss Tweedy told us that we was going to go to the festival I was nervous but when I went to the festival I wasn't nervous anymore because I thought every class was doing the dance by there self. They was doing it in groups.

Thank you for organising the festival. I really enjoyed the festival.

*Ilhan.*

When I was coming to Scottish Country Dancing I was excited and before I came we were all practising so hard. I enjoyed the Scottish Country Dancing and I enjoyed when me and Michael were holding the banner. I enjoyed when the red group was making two circles. Thank you for the people organising the festival.

*Asma*

Scottish Country Dancing was fun because we met different schools. The first dance we did was very confusing for the girls because we had two girls who didn't know what to do so we got confused. Then we had lunch, after we did more dancing then we did alude lane sine at the end.

*Gloria*

I enjoyed practising at gym but when it was time to go to Kelvin hall nerves struck me. But as soon as I got on the dance floor I was ready to do all my dances. But when we got a great comment from a lady it gave me encouragement. But my favourite dance was the dashing white sergeant. It was a very good trip and I would like to do it again.

*Kevin*

When we were practicing at first it felt very hard to get the beat. And my partner felt it hard too. Then I got used to it the 3rd week, and my partner got used to it 2 weeks after me. When we all went into Kelvin Hall I felt very confident because I have been on stage since I was five years old. I enjoyed all of the dancing and the people I had in my group. But I really enjoyed the dashing white sargent because you got to meet other people from other schools. I really enjoyed the day and I would like to do Scottish country dancing again.

*Claire*

**Beginners Classes Extra Weeks**

By popular request these are to continue for a few additional weeks during the Spring Term.

**St Paul's Church Hall on Dumbarton Road**

(instead of Clevedon Secondary School)

Teacher Liz Ferguson

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April for five Tuesdays

Music by David Ross

**Branch Dance Friday May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
Bearsden Burgh Hall 7.30 - 10.30 pm  
Band Kenny Thomson**

Auchinellan Jig	8 x 32 bar jig	McLean
The Reel of The Royal Scots	8 x 32 bar reel	Leaflet 7
Jean Martin of Aberdeen	3 x 32 bar strathspey	Johnstone
Purple Heather Jig	4 x 40 bar jig	Dickson
The Australian Ladies	8 x 32 bar reel	Campbell
The Golden Wedding Strathspey	4 x 40 bar strathspey	RSCDS Book 33
West's Hornpipe	4 x 32 bar reel	5 Traditional SCDs 1965
The Plantation Reel	5 x 32 bar reel	Moretti

**Interval**

Hooper's Jig
The Falls of Rogie
The Duchess Tree
Aird of Coigach
Minard Castle
The Minister on the Loch
The Merry Dancers
The Deil Amang The Tailors

**Light Supper**

8 x 32 bar jig
8 x 32 bar reel
8 x 32 bar strathspey
4 x 48 bar jig
8 x 40 bar reel
3 x 32 bar strathspey
8 x 32 bar jig
8 x 32 bar reel

**Raffle**

MMM2
Attwood
Drewry
Bayly
RSCDS Book 22
Goldring
RSCDS Book 4
RSCDS Book 14

**Extras**

The Frisky
The Luckenbooth Brooch

8 x 32 bar jig
8 x 32 bar jig

RSCDS Book 26
Dickson

**Tickets £7.00 & information from  
Flora Frame 0141 942 6850 or [flora.frame@ntlworld.com](mailto:flora.frame@ntlworld.com)**

## Summer Dancing 2009

A reminder of the dancing organised by the Branch for this summer:-

Sunday, 28th June	Mugdock Country Park David Ross	2:00 – 4:30 pm
Friday, 3rd July	New Kilpatrick Church New Halls George Meikle	7:30 – 10:30 pm
Friday, 7th August	New Kilpatrick Church New Halls George Meikle	7:30 – 10:30 pm
Saturday, 12th Sept	Kelvingrove Art Galleries John Carmichael	2:00 – 4:30 pm

We are also hoping to have dancing in the Forge and one of the South Side Centres. More details on the website or at dances as we make the arrangements. Please come and support us if you can.

## Glasgow Demonstration Team News

At the Edinburgh Festival at the start of March, we had entered three teams. All the teams danced very well, and one of the mixed teams won the Cussons Trophy.

At the Glasgow Festival the following week, the teams again all danced very well, with the ladies team just losing out in the ladies section, and the mixed teams winning the mixed and square dance sections. The team that danced the Dancing Master won the Glasgow Branch Quaich, thus keeping the Quaich in Glasgow for a second year.

The following week was the Ayr Festival, and the teams again performed to a very high standard and won the ladies section and the medley.

At the Dumfries Festival at the end of March, the group had entered a team for the ladies section, the ladies foursome, the mixed foursome, the mixed section and the McNab dance. The teams all danced very well winning trophies for all the sections but the McNab dance which was won by the Thornhill Dancers.

*Alasdair Brown*

## **Branch Dance Friday July 3rd, 2009 New Kilpatrick Church New Halls 7.30 - 10.30 pm Music: George Meikle**

Maxwell's Rant	8 x 32 bar reel	RSCDS Book 18
Jennifer's Jig	8 x 32 bar jig	Drewry
Braes of Breadalbane	8 x 32 bar strathspey	RSCDS Book 21
Mr Wilson's Hornpipe	8 x 32 bar reel	RSCDS Book 16
Seton's Ceilidh Band	4 x 64 bar jig	Fordyce
The Moray Rant	3 x 48 bar strathspey	Drewry
The Falls of Rogie	8 x 32 bar reel	Attwood
Posties' Jig	4 x 32 bar jig	Clowes
Interval	Light Supper	
College Hornpipe	8 x 32 bar reel	
The Bramble Bush	8 x 32 bar jig	RSCDS Book 25
The Cashmere Shawl	8 x 32 bar strathspey	Boyd
The Piper and the Penguin	48 bar reel square set	Scotia
Pelorus Jack	8 x 32 bar jig	RSCDS Book 41
Drumelzier	4 x 32 bar strathspey	Blair
The Laird of Milton's Daughter	8 x 32 bar jig	RSCDS Book 22
The Duke of Perth	8 x 32 bar reel	RSCDS Book 1
Extras		
Lady Lucy Ramsay	8 x 32 bar strathspey	MMM 2
The Montgomerie's Rant	8 x 32 bar reel	RSCDS Book 10

**Tickets £7.00 & information from  
Flora Frame 0141 942 6850 or [flora.frame@ntlworld.com](mailto:flora.frame@ntlworld.com)**

## Glasgow Children's Festival

It is another year and another Festival being held in the Kelvin Hall. On Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March, 700 children gathered to take part in the Fourth Festival of Scottish Country Dancing. They represented forty schools in the city with some newcomers joining us. We had a wonderful day and the atmosphere was bubbling with excitement. Once more representatives of the Strathclyde Police Pipe Band led the grand banner parade and John Renton and his Scottish Country Dance Band again provided wonderful music for the dancing. Before the dancing began we were welcomed by the Deputy Lord Provost Alan Stewart, who was clearly very impressed with the spectacle before him and he remained with us for the morning despite his busy schedule. The Education Manager for Primary Schools, Anne Marie McGovern, also gave us kind words of encouragement and emphasised that this was just the kind of event that met the criteria for the new Curriculum for Excellence, now approved as the way forward in the Scottish education system. We were also pleased to have present the former P.E. Manager of the project, Christine Watson, who has given so much of her time to make it a success. I wish to take this opportunity of thanking: the new P.E. Manager, Andrea Crawford, for all her kind co-operation, all the Branch teachers who have worked so hard for the last six months and all the helpers who assisted on the day. As I retire as Convenor of the event, due to other commitments, I wish the future of the Festival well and hope that despite the current financial restrictions it will continue to thrive.

*Ruth Beattie*