

From the AGM.....

Fireworks appeared early this year at the AGM in Perth. Lawrence Boyd, Convenor of General Purposes & Finance made a stinging attack on the Management Board which almost had us all gasping for breath. He was resigning after 2 years of his three year term of office, criticising the Board for its lack of governance, unacceptable standards and for not facing up to the need for strengthening of systems.

His report of the Annual Accounts was very worrying with the Society facing insolvency sooner rather than later. Nevertheless, despite the bleak outlook he was professionally confident that the proposed annual increase in subscriptions of £5.00 intimated to delegates only weeks prior to the AGM was necessary if only to give the Management Board a breathing space "to get its act together". There has been no time to take this to ordinary members and as can be imagined there was heated and lengthy discussion both for and against the motion.

The meeting which included a successful outcome for Glasgow Branch's motion on Disclosures, supported largely by Banffshire Branch, extended the AGM to a three hour session.

Information from the Forum on Topics such as Finance, Vision for the future, Summer & Winter Schools including Flings, Publicity and Publications, Use of AGM time will appear on the RSCDS web-site or from myself.

Finally, we congratulate Pam Gillies who takes on the post of Convenor of the Membership Services Committee, Helen Frame, Ayr Branch who received her Scroll, and our own Secretary, Duncan for a successful conclusion to his lengthy and dedicated work to gain Disclosure Certificates for our Teachers.

Jim Ferguson

Stop Press - Disclosure Certificates

Any doubts about support for the Glasgow Branch motion at the RSCDS AGM on 3 November were laid to rest when the motion was passed with 126 votes in favour and 19 against. Our thanks to Banff Branch for seconding the motion and to other Branches who responded to appeals for support. This revealed that a number of other Branches have experienced the same problems as Glasgow. The motion has tasked the Management Board to investigate the processing of application by RSCDS Headquarters and find out what went wrong. This will no doubt take some time.

As the Disclosure Certificates are urgently required for those teaching children in order to comply with the law, the Branch has made arrangements to submit applications directly to the Central Registered Body which deals with Disclosure Certificate applications from charitable organisations. This has proved successful, and the first certificates were issued within six days of the applications being submitted. Any Branch teacher requiring a Disclosure Certificate for teaching in schools is asked to contact the Honorary Secretary.

Duncan Drummond

ST ANDREWS NIGHT DANCE FOR BEGINNERS CLASSES

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 30

The Branch is holding a night of dancing to give the introductory classes another experience of attending a "real" dance. For this we need members of the branch to come along and be a partner for the less experienced. Last March we had our first attempt at such an event and it was enjoyed by all.

Please come along for a different St Andrew's night and if you do, please let Liz Ferguson (tel 0141 557 9695) or myself (tel 0141 637 7357) know so that we have enough cakes etc by Tuesday 27th November. The cost is £3.00 each, music is by CDs and we start at 8.00 pm in the Whiteinch Centre.

Programme

R	Virginia Reel	Bk 40	J	Jolie de Vivre	Bk 39
J	Nice to see you	Gr Bk	R	Highlandman's Umbrella	Glw Ju
R	Wedderburns Reel	Bk 11	S	Lady Glasgow	MMM 1
S	Rakes of Glasgow	RSCDS 1982	J	Machine without horses	Bk 12
J	Joe McDiarmid's Jig	Bk 13	R	Maxwell's Rant	Bk 18
R	Reel of the 51 st Div		J	Honeymoon	Gr Bk

INTERVAL

Auld Lang Syne



Jim Ferguson

DIARY

November 2007

- 30 **Beginners Dance, Whiteinch Community Centre (8.00-10.00pm)**
Further details <http://www.rscds.glasgow.org>
30 Ayr RSCDS, Troon Concert Hall, Branch Dance
Contact Wilma Brown 01292-315-558

December 2007

- 1 St Andrews Night Charity Dance, Bearsden Hall.
Contact Graham Murray 0141 570 1001
3 **Last week for most classes**
7 **Branch Dance, Bearsden Burgh Hall**
Contact Flora Frame 0141 942 6850
7 Hamilton RSCDS, Eddilwood Hall
8 Just for Fun, Kessington Hall, Bearsden.
Contact Alistair Cowan 0141 204 3713
10 **Final Monday Classes**
12 Helensburgh RSCDS, Hermitage Academy New Building
Contact annethorm@pladdaway.freeseerve.co.uk
17 Martice SCDC, Albert Halls, Stirling
Contact Peter Pinnock 01786-822-775
20 RSCDS Stirling Dance, Albert Halls
Contact Jane Balman, 01786-822-853
22 Ayr RSCDS, Carrick Webster Hall, Monkton. Christmas Ceilidh
Dance
31 Contact Wilma Brown 01292-315-558
NK CDC Hogmanay Ceilidh, NK Church Hall
Contact Meg Barrowman 0141-942-4287
- January 2008**
- 1 RSCDS Helensburgh, Members Dance,
Contact annethorm@pladdaway.freeseerve.co.uk
11 **New Year Ball, Paisley Town Hall**
Contact Flora Frame 0141 942 6850
24 Westerton SCDC, Westerton Village Hall, Thursday 24th January
2008

February 2008

- 1 NK Club Country Dance, Bearsden Public Hall
Contact Mgt Barrowman 0141-942-4287
15 Hamilton RSCDS, Eddilwood Hall
22 **Aberfoyle Dinner Dance & Overnight Stay,**
Rob Roy Hotel Aberfoyle
Contact **Maureen Daniel** on glasrscdsmemsec@hotmail.com
22 RSCDS Helensburgh, Victoria Halls

March 2008

- 2 RSCDS Helensburgh, Junior Dance
Contact annethorm@pladdaway.freeseerve.co.uk
7 **Branch Dance, Carmichael Hall**
Contact Flora Frame 0141 942 6850
22 **Club Night, NK Church Hall**
Contact Flora Frame 0141 942 6850
28/30 RSCDS Spring Fling in Glasgow. Contact RSCDS HQ website
28 Spring Fling Ceilidh, Glasgow University Union 20.30 - midnight
29 Scottish Country Dance, Hillhead High School 19.30 - 23.00

April 2008

- 4 **Branch Dance, Milngavie Town Hall**
Contact Flora Frame 0141 942 6850
4 RSCDS Helensburgh, Hermitage Academy New Building,
Weekend Ball
Contact annethorm@pladdaway.freeseerve.co.uk
5 RSCDS Helensburgh, Hermitage Academy New Building,
Weekend Class
Contact annethorm@pladdaway.freeseerve.co.uk
5 RSCDS Helensburgh, Hermitage Academy New Building,
Weekend Dance
Contact annethorm@pladdaway.freeseerve.co.uk
18 RSCDS Hamilton, Eddilwood Hall

June 2008

- 20 **Summer Ball, Glasgow City Chambers**
Details later

SENIORS' GROUP

An Afternoon of Gaelic Music

On the afternoon of Wednesday, October 24, 2007 the guest speaker was Branch Member, Johan MacLean who spoke about Gaelic Music to an appreciative audience, including several accomplished musicians. Johan chose examples from the huge variety of music to illustrate the different categories of songs, singing a verse and chorus from each piece. She included "Orain Luaidh" - communal work songs, often sung for wauking tweed; milking and walking songs which have very prominent rhythms, adding amusing anecdotes about the practices and gossiping of the workers. Johan gave us titbits of "Orain Mor" or big ballads, and songs of the sea, laments and leaving songs where the words are so poignant and beautiful. Johan read verses in her lyrical accent and translated passages to make her points. The work of the hugely successful Popular Modern group Runrig was praised as they write and perform in the traditional manner. The presentation ended with what we were all waiting for, a lively performance of "Puirt a Beul" - songs for dancing to, known in English as Mouth Music.

Our grateful thanks to Johan for an excellent afternoons entertainment particularly as she was struggling to fight off a lingering cold.

Maureen Daniel

The next meeting of the Seniors' Group will be the Christmas lunch on Tuesday 4th December at the Ewington Hotel at 12.30pm.

Contact Ruth Beattie for more information.

Obituary

CONSTANCE FREELAND 1927 - 2007

We are sorry to record the death of Connie Freeland, a long-standing member of the Branch. Her funeral on 4th August was attended by members who recalled her work as Matron of the Royal Alexandra Hospital in Paisley, her love of Bridge, the RSNO whom she followed as far as London and Vienna and for whom she was a passionate supporter and fund-raiser. She danced in the 50s and 60s in Shawlands, firstly with Archie Murdoch, Margaret Prentice, then Tom Steele and latterly at Jimmy McMillan's class. She also assisted at the first Princes Square event by handing out leaflets for Branch Classes. She was greatly loved by her extended family and looked forward to visiting them up north. We extend our sympathies to them all.

Jim Ferguson

As we go to press, we have received the sad news of the death of our Hon Vice President Duncan MacLean on Monday, October 29, 2007. We will be printing an appreciation of Duncan's life in our next edition.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND WORK OF DR JEAN MILLIGAN

I was very pleased to be one of the Branch representatives at a very special event on the 14th September last, in the Crawford Theatre at Jordanhill Campus of the University of Strathclyde.

A distinguished company of guests from near and far was welcomed by Branch officials and the day began with an introduction by the event MC, Prof Effie Maclellan, followed by the Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University, Professor Andrew Hamnett in the theatre on the walls of which were projected the portrait of Jean Milligan from the front cover of Book 34. There then followed an address by Irene Bennett, Chairman of the RSCDS, and a plaque was unveiled jointly by one of the children from Garscadden Primary School and Mrs Irene Calithness, St Andrews RSCDS, an old friend of Dr Milligan.

We were then treated to an excellent display of dancing by the Garscadden children and Glasgow Branch Demonstration Team accompanied by Gordon Simpson on fiddle.

A final tribute giving some personal and amusing anecdotes came from Robert MacKay RSCDS and the vote of thanks was made by Miss Dorothy Paterson RSCDS Glasgow.

The Branch was represented on the organising committee by Ruth Beattie, Johan MacLean, and Fiona McDonald and our thanks go to all for a most fitting day of celebration.

The wording on the plaque, the eventual site of which is not known owing to removal from Jordanhill is as follows:-

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF DR JEAN MILLIGAN

SHE WAS PRINCIPAL OF THE WOMEN'S PHYSICAL EDUCATION DEPT
AT JORDANHILL 1916 - 1948

AS CO-FOUNDER OF THE RSCDS IN 1923 HER PURPOSE WAS TO
RESTORE THE TRADITIONAL DANCES AND MUSIC OF SCOTLAND

TO-DAY THE SOCIETY IS A WORLD WIDE ORGANISATION THAT
CONTINUES TO PRESERVE AND FURTHER THE PRACTICE OF
TRADITIONAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING.

Jim Ferguson

AFFILIATED CLUB NEWS

Westerton SDC Burns Supper Dance

Westerton Village Hall
Thursday 24th January 2008

6.45 - 10.30pm
Music by David Ross Duo

Price £15.00
Further information from
Cathie Brownlie
0141 942 9004

BISHOPBRIGGS Country Dance Club

Our annual dance on 26th October went well with about 70 dancers there. The music was provided by Billy Gray and his band who ventured all the way from Ayrshire to play some excellent music for us. Our raffle raised £76 which has been sent to the Marie Curie cancer charity in memory of George Stirrat who played for our dance for many years. Thanks to all who attended and made it a great night.

