



Sept
2024

RSCDS Calgary Branch Newsletter



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What a busy summer we have all had and we are going to finish it off with a bang during the first week of September.

We still have a number of volunteer slots open for both the Casino and the Canmore Highland Games. If you have any time to give August 31, September 1, 3 or 4, please consider helping us out.

Locally, over the summer, many of our members have been participating in the Summer Dancing classes being held at Scarboro Community Hall and the Cross and Thistle Technique Class at Haysboro Community Hall. Both classes have been well attended and I'm sure will be offered again next summer.

A little further afield, one of our members travelled to Australia for Australian Winter School and two members travelled to St. Catharines, ON for TAC Summer School. If you have never been to a week long school, it really is a great opportunity to hone your dance skills. Also, the friends that you make really are something to treasure. There are many opportunities for schools that are longer than just a weekend. Why not give one of them a try? Check out our website and the RSCDS newsletters and magazines for more information on these wonderful events.

There have been a few dancers asking about the different types of teaching certificates and what is involved in becoming a Scottish Country Dance

teacher. If you are interested, I'm planning on having an information session in the fall. Email me at president@rscdscalgary.org to let me know if you are interested in this information session. Once I know who is interested, I'll pick a date that works for everyone.

Plans are really coming together for our Fall One Day Workshop to be held on October 19, 2024. Ron Wallace (California) and Gael Forster (Victoria) will be teaching us. Gary Thomas (California) and Lisa Doyle (California) will be playing for classes. At the evening dance, Flindrikin – Gary, Lisa and Ron, will be our band. This will be the first time they will be playing as a band in Canada. Registrations forms are included in the email this newsletter was attached to.

Classes are starting up again over the month of September. Don't forget to tell your friends about our Beginner Class starting on September 17th at 7:00pm at Haysboro Community Centre. I hope you all have a great dancing season and I look forward to dancing with you at our events over the next few months.

Yours in dancing,

Sharon Barker

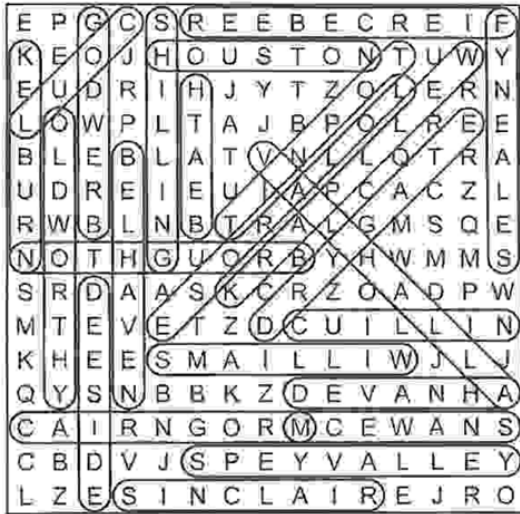


Find fun, fitness &
friendship with Scottish
country dance!

FUN AND GAMES

Answers to July's Puzzles

Scottish Breweries Word Search



Contest questions:

1. When and where was the Scottish Country Dance Society (SCDS) formed? A public meeting was held in the Athenaeum, Glasgow, on 26 of November 1923 at which it was decided to form the Scottish Country Dance Society.
2. Who were the two ladies credited with the forming of the SCDS? Miss Jean Milligan and Mrs Ysobel Stewart of Fasnaclloch.
3. What year did SCDS become The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society (RSCDS)? 1951. In 1947 Princess Elizabeth became Patron of the Society and remained as Patron upon her accession to the throne in 1952. In the year before Princess Elizabeth's accession, her father King George VI bestowed the title of "Royal" on the Society as a mark of its excellent service to social life in Scotland.
4. Bonus question: Michael Diack is shown in the picture below. How was he involved in the Scottish Country Dance Society?

In the early 1920s Mrs Ysobel Stewart was the Guide Commissioner for Argyll and was of the opinion that it was more appropriate to teach Scottish Country Dances to Scottish Guides, feeling strongly that these dances should be preserved for future generations. She made a list of Scottish dances which she had known all her life, and along with the accompanying music she approached the Glasgow based publisher Patersons, with a view to producing a book of these dances.

Patersons agreed to take on the project and at a meeting with Michael Diack, he told Mrs Stewart about the Beltane Society, which had been formed in Glasgow in 1912 to popularise Scottish dancing, but which had failed due to the outbreak of war.

Through his work as Superintendent of Music in Glasgow Schools, Diack knew Jean Milligan, a lecturer in Physical Education at Jordanhill College and a founding member of the Beltane Society. She was also a collector of dances and music, and taught Scottish dances to her students. Diack arranged for the two women to meet and from that meeting they decided to proceed with the publication of a book of twelve dances, as well as forming a Society to support the publication.

No winners this time. Stay tuned for more questions and puzzles coming your way in the next newsletter.

MEMBERSHIPS

Our membership year runs from July 1st to June 30th each year and we generally start accepting renewals at our AGM at the end of May. Our membership dues, which were \$20/year for many years, have increased to \$25/year as voted by the membership at the 2023 AGM in September 2023.

Membership forms for 2024/2025 will be available at the dance classes and on the website.

Another reason to join the RSCDS Calgary Branch...

As an RSCDS member you will have the opportunity to vote on policies/decisions brought to the membership at the annual general meeting, (AGM), or at any special general meeting, (SGM). In doing this you can be a part of deciding the future direction of RSCDS Calgary Branch.

Another major benefit of being a Branch member is that it includes membership in The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society (RSCDS), the worldwide organization of which Calgary is a Branch. The value of this worldwide membership is £26 (\$44.25). As a member of RSCDS, you are able to log into the 'My RSCDS' section of the [rscds.org](https://www.rscds.org) website. For more information on how to login, please email Freda Osborne at membership@rscdscalgary.org.



Download the New Member's Membership Guide:

https://mcusercontent.com/5ec57552b339d6fcide5f6c53/files/45601477-b820-aa5d-be4a-2bc6f61eaeff/New_Members_Welcome_Pack_2024.pdf

Want to be a SCD Teacher?

Have you ever thought about being an RSCDS Certificated teacher or becoming more technically proficient in your own dancing...however, you don't know what's involved or where to start?

Types of certificates available from the RSCDS:

- Basic Teaching Skills
- Core Training for Instructors
- Teaching Certificate
- Dancing Achievement Award
- Medal Tests for Young Dancers

Sharon Barker

Will host an information session on what teaching and dancing certificates are available and the prerequisites for each type.

Email Sharon at president@rscdscalgary.org or call 403-701-3218 to let her know you are interested and a date will be picked to suit everyone.



CALGARY BRANCH NEWS

Board News

Thank you to everyone who has either joined the board or has stayed on for another year. We are still in need of a Corresponding Secretary!

Board members:

<i>President</i>	<i>Sharon Barker</i>
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Ann Longair</i>
<i>Recording Secretary</i>	<i>Sheree Iffla</i>
<i>Corresponding Secretary</i>	[vacant]
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Kathy Moorcraft</i>
<i>Casino Chair</i>	<i>Freda Osborne</i>
<i>Directors at Large</i>	<i>Don Hunter, Cathy Turnbull, Janet Newediuk, Lorraine Girodat, [2 vacant positions]</i>

Call for Additional Board Members

Although board members need to be re-elected by the membership each year, they can sit on the board for up to 5 years. In general, board members serve for 5 years, and some keep on coming back to serve again after taking a year off. We work hard, but have lots of fun working together too!! Please contact Sharon Barker at president@rscdscalgary.org if you would like to take on one of these positions:

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY – This is a new position and will be a Director at large position. The Corresponding Secretary will be responsible for keeping the membership informed – generally through email, but if your skills lie in social media, then this position could include keeping Facebook up to date as well. Emails go out to the membership with the quarterly newsletters, to announce events or ask for volunteers. If enquiries are received from the public interested in joining beginner classes, the Corresponding Secretary would respond to those as well. Skills needed include sending emails from Apple Mail or MS Outlook, and managing the contact list for members. A MacBook Air laptop is available for the Corresponding Secretary which will have access to the contact lists of the membership.

DIRECTOR AT LARGE (DAL) – We encourage each dance club/group to have a representative from that club or group to inform the board of any issues coming up, and to be able to report back to their club/group with what is going on at the Board level. The DALs would attend as outlined below.

The board meets monthly generally on the second Saturday of each month from 10am to noon. We do event planning including setting up for events, decorating, buying food and drink and organizing volunteers to help. We manage communications with Branch members like these monthly newsletters, maintain our website, post to social media, and take memberships. We do the governance work for the Branch such as drawing up policies and procedures, financial management and strategic and budget planning. There are a lot of ways for board members to contribute.

We hope you'll consider joining our team!

Urgent Call for Casino Volunteers

The Branch's next Casino Event will be on Tuesday, September 3rd and Wednesday, September 4th, 2024. There are still a few shifts to be filled.

Night	Position	#	Hours	
Tues	Banker	(1)	07:00pm - 03:30am	This position must be filled by a member who will need to complete the Casino Volunteer form A.S.A.P.
Tues	Count room	(3)	11:00pm - 03:30am	3 people needed, do not need to be members, do not need to fill out any paperwork.
Wed	Cashier	(1)	11:00am - 07:30pm	A day shift! This position must be filled by a member who will need to complete the Casino Volunteer form A.S.A.P.
Wed	Chip Runners	(2)	07:00pm - 03:30am	2 people needed, do not need to be members, do not need to fill out any paperwork. Note: the Chip Runners may finish early (but no promises!)

Since 5 out of 7 of the remaining positions do not require membership we would encourage members to reach out to friends and family. Did you know that each volunteer helps raise in excess of \$1600? Also remember that volunteers get free food and drinks during their shift!!!

Volunteering to be the "Spare On-Call" for all shifts would also be helpful. Very seldom have we had to call on those people but it would be nice to have some just in case.

Please email duanemartin@mac.com with the position you would like to work. Thank-you for volunteering!

Canmore Highland Games – Call for Volunteers

The Canmore Highland Games will be a full weekend this year: Saturday, August 31st and Sunday, September 1st. Lots of fun and activities will be available. Find more information at: <https://canmorehighlandgames.ca/>

We are looking for volunteers to help staff our information tent **for both days**. Please consider volunteering for a shift and email secretary@rscdscalgary.org and/or fredaosborne@shaw.ca. Your gate pass will be either free if you work at the booth, or the Branch will cover the cost. Thank-you!

We have also been asked to do a dance demo on Sunday September 1st. We'll do two shifts of half an hour each. Nancy Laing and Janet Newediuk have put together a simple dance program. We will also be asking for audience participation for two of the dances. These are the selected dances:

- *Shiftin Bobbins*
- *Lock Ness Monster – with audience participation*
- *Rakes of Glasgow*
- *Jig to the Music – with audience participation*
- *Deil Amang the Tailors*

New Website

This is just a reminder that the new website for RSCDS Calgary is up and running. There you will find information about the branch, classes, activities and links to RSCDS Scotland and so much more. Please check it out at <https://rscdscalgary.org/>.

One-Day Fall Workshop

Please join RSCDS Calgary for a fund day and evening of dance at the Calgary Fall Workshop. The theme for the dance follows the *RSCDS Dance around the World* theme and includes some of the dances from HQ (listed in the [News from RSCDS Headquarters](#) section and highlighted in *blue* below). Note that there will be a Special General Meeting before the evening dance. Light refreshments will be served at the dance.

Date	Saturday October 19th, 2024
Teachers	Ron Wallace (Santa Rosa, CA) and Gael Forster (Victoria, BC)
Musicians	Gary Thomas and Lisa Doyle (Santa Rosa, CA) will be playing for classes. Flindrikin will be our band at the evening dance.
Location	Calgary First Assembly Church – 6031 Elbow Drive SW

Beginner/Improver Level: This class is open to dancers with a minimum of three months of dance experience. Emphasis will be given to standard steps and formations and how they are incorporated into the dance.

Experienced Level: This class is open to dancers with a minimum of two years of dance experience, with at least 1 year in a non-beginner class. These dancers must have a good standard of footwork and technique, good phrasing and are very familiar with the common standard formations (including but, not limited to: reels of three and four, poussettes, allemandes, promenades, rights and lefts, chains and corner formations).

Evening Social Dance Programme

Highland Fair	RSCDS Graded	J6X32	2C/3C L	Beginner
<i>Cape Town Wedding</i>	RSCDS Book 39	S8X32	3C/4C L	Intermediate
City of Stirling Reel	RSCDS Book 53	R8x32	3C/4C L	Intermediate
<i>A Trip to the Drakensberg</i>	RSCDS Book 38	J8x40	3C/4C L	Advanced
<i>The Swan and the Tay</i>	Perth 800	S3X32	3C/3C L	Intermediate
The Old Man of Storr	RSCDS Children	R8x32	3C/4C L	Beginner
<i>The Laird of Milton's Daughter</i>	RSCDS Book 22	J8x32	3C/4C L	Intermediate
Lady Glasgow	RSCDS MMM	S8X32	3C/4C L	Beginner
The Royal Deeside Railway	RSCDS Book 40	R8x32	3C/4C L	Beginner
~ INTERMISSION ~				
<i>The Shetland Shepherdess</i>	RSCDS Graded 3	J8x32	3C/4C L	Intermediate
The Paisley Weavers	RSCDS Graded 3	S3X32	3C/3C L	Intermediate
<i>The Homecoming Dance</i>	RSCDS 5 for 2009	R4x32	4C/4C L	Beginner
The Chequered Court	RSCDS Book 42	J8x32	3C/4C L	Intermediate
Asilomar Romantic	RSCDS 30 Popular Vol 2	S8X32	3C/4C L	Advanced
Mairi's Wedding	RSCDS 30 Popular Vol 2	R8x40	3C/4C L	Intermediate
Scottish Waltz		Waltz		

Check the website for dance descriptions, diagrams and links to videos: <https://rscdscalgary.org/upcoming-events/>

NEWS FROM RSCDS HEADQUARTERS



SAVE the DATE! November 23rd 2024

Join the RSCDS on Saturday 23rd November as dancers in every corner of the globe enjoy dances from around the world.

Taking dancers on a journey from Scotland around the world and back, the programme features 12 dances with connections to six continents through devisers, themes and locations, before bringing everyone together with The Homecoming Dance.

https://rscds.org/blog/dance-around-world?mc_cid=42145ad9b7

	<i>Dance</i>	<i>Continent</i>	<i>Location Connection</i>
ST	<i>The Swan and the Tay</i>	<i>Oceania / Australasia</i>	<i>Australia and Scotland</i>
R	<i>(Perth 800 / Leaflet)</i>		<i>Deviser Audrey Saunders, Perth WA</i>
A	<i>Oriel Strathspey</i>	<i>Oceania / Australasia</i>	<i>New Zealand</i>
TH	<i>(Book 32)</i>		<i>Deviser Ian Simmonds, Wellington</i>
S	<i>Capetown Wedding</i>	<i>Africa</i>	<i>Capital of South Africa</i>
P	<i>(Book 39)</i>		
E	<i>From Scotia's Shores we're noo awa'</i>	<i>North America</i>	<i>Canada</i>
Y	<i>(Leaflet)</i>		<i>Deviser Bob Campbell, Ontario</i>
	<i>A Trip to the Drakensberg</i>	<i>Africa</i>	<i>South Africa</i>
	<i>(Book 38)</i>		<i>The main mountain range of SA</i>
J	<i>Antarctica Bound</i>	<i>Antarctica</i>	<i>Celebrating the Scottish National Antarctica Expedition of 1902/1904</i>
I	<i>(Scotia Suite)</i>		
G	<i>Shetland Shepherdess</i>	<i>North America</i>	<i>USA</i>
S	<i>(Graded Book 3)</i>		<i>Deviser Ron Wallace, Santa Rosa, CA</i>
	<i>The Laird of Milton's Daughter</i>	<i>Asia</i>	<i>India</i>
	<i>(Book 22)</i>		<i>Devised by Lord Craigmyle while In India</i>
	<i>Cadgers in the Canongate</i>	<i>Europe</i>	<i>Scotland</i>
R	<i>(Book 9)</i>		<i>Edinburgh</i>
E	<i>Dancing in the Street</i>	<i>Asia</i>	<i>Japan</i>
E	<i>(Book 42)</i>		<i>Deviser Tom Toriyama, Tokyo</i>
L	<i>Castle in the Air</i>	<i>Europe</i>	<i>Switzerland</i>
S	<i>(Book 43)</i>		<i>Deviser Minnie Banninger, Bruten</i>
	<i>The Homecoming Dance</i>	<i>Europe</i>	<i>Scotland</i>
	<i>(Leaflet)</i>		<i>Deviser Anne Thorn, Helensburgh</i>

FALL CLASSES

Branch Supported Classes

Tuesdays

- ✘ **CALGARY BRANCH BEGINNERS CLASS** - 7pm – 8:15pm
 - ✘ **Fall session: September 17 - December 17**
 - ✘ Haysboro Community Centre - 1204 89th Avenue SW
 - ✘ Contact: secretary@rscdscalgary.org
- ✘ **CROSS AND THISTLE SCOTTISH DANCERS** - 8:15pm – 10pm
 - ✘ **Fall session: September 17 - December 17**
 - ✘ Haysboro Community Centre - 1204 89th Avenue SW
 - ✘ Contact: Sharon Barker 403-701-3218 crossandthistle@hotmail.com
- ✘ **DOUGLAS SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB** - 7pm – 9pm
 - ✘ **Fall session: September 10 – December 10**
 - ✘ Cambrian Heights Community Hall - 600 Northmount Drive NW
 - ✘ Contact: Janyn Bertram 403-585-3842 douglasscdclub@gmail.com

Thursdays

- ✘ **CALGARY SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY** (St. Barnabas Group) - 7:30pm – 9:30pm
 - ✘ **Fall session: September 12 - December 19**
 - ✘ St. Barnabas Anglican Church Hall -- 1407 7th Ave NW
 - ✘ Contact: Jim Adamson 403-271-1208 dancie@shaw.ca
- ✘ **CONFEDERATION PARK SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB** - 7pm – 9pm
 - ✘ **Fall session: September 12 – December 12**
 - ✘ Cambrian Heights Community Hall - 600 Northmount Drive NW
 - ✘ Contact: Janyn Bertram 403-585-3842 confedparksdclub@gmail.com

Fridays

- ✘ **AIRDRIE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS** - 7pm – 9pm
 - ✘ **Fall session: September 6 – December 13**
 - ✘ Airdrie United Church Hall, 212 1 Ave NE, Airdrie
 - ✘ Contact: Ann Vanderwal 403-912-8086 or see: www.airdriescottishdancers.org/

Other Area Classes

- ✘ **ST. ANDREW-CALEDONIAN SOCIETY**
 - ✘ For more information see: standrewcaledonian.ca
- ✘ **CANMORE SENIORS ASSOCIATION**
 - ✘ Contact: Margaret Boyle mboylecanmore@gmail.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

Within Calgary – Branch Events

- ✉ **CALGARY ONE DAY WORKSHOP** – Saturday, October 19 2024
 - ✉ Hosted by: RSCDS Calgary Branch
 - ✉ Teachers: Ron Wallace (California) and Gael Forster (Victoria)
 - ✉ For more information see: <https://rscdscalgary.org/upcoming-events/>

Within Alberta

- ✉ **LETHBRIDGE SCDC 2025 WORKSHOP & BALL** – April 4 – 6 2025
 - ✉ Hosted by Lethbridge Scottish Country Dance Club
 - ✉ For more information see: <http://www.lethbridgescottishcountrydance.org/workshop-and-ball-2025.html>

Outside Alberta

- ✉ **NARAMATA SCD 20th ANNIVERSARY DANCE & WORKSHOP** – September 6-7 2024
 - ✉ Hosted by Naramata Scottish Country Dancers, Penticton, BC
 - ✉ Instructor: Rebecca Blackhall-Peters
 - ✉ For more information see: <https://www.facebook.com/ScottishDancingPenticton/>
(scroll through their Facebook posts to find the details)

- ✉ **FORT WORDEN WORKSHOP** – October 4 – 6 2024
 - ✉ Hosted by RSCDS Seattle Branch
 - ✉ For more information see: <https://rscds-seattle.org/fort-worden/>

- ✉ **RSCDS AUTUMN GATHERING 2024** – November 1 – 3 2024
 - ✉ Hosted by RSCDS HQ
 - ✉ Location: Edinburgh, Scotland
 - ✉ For more information see: https://rscds.org/events/autumn-gathering-2024?mc_cid=42145ad9b7

- ✉ **ALOHA HAWAII** - February 14 – 16, 2025
 - ✉ Hosted by RSCDS Hawaii
 - ✉ For more information see: <https://rscdshawaii.org/workshop/>
or contact dance@rscdshawaii.org, or melissarlindsay@icloud.com

SEE YOU ON THE DANCE FLOOR!



Charitable gaming funds raised with the support of



We gratefully acknowledge the support of
the Province of Alberta through



*Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
Calgary Branch*

*secretary@rscdscalgary.org
www.rscdscalgary.org*