

# Scottish Country Dancer



# NY

RSCDS New York Branch Autumn 2014

## A word from our new President, Ken Donnelly...

**Fellow Dancers,** First let us all give thanks and cheer to our outgoing President Tom Marshall for his long and dedicated service and commitment to the *New York Branch*, in keeping us dancing and the Branch alive and well. Thank you Tom! I'm sure that first drink at the JC Ball will taste twice as good!



Tom was assisted by Secretary Sabrina Kirkpatrick who has kindly consented to stay on for another term, for which I am deeply grateful. I'm also very pleased to have as our new Vice President, Shelby Peak, and new Board members Donna Vermes and Fred Cotton. Wendy Pally continues her duties as Membership Chair with Chris Ronald carrying on his role as Correspondence Secretary. Sam Kerns is our hard working Treasurer helping to keep us solvent, Sue Trapp our newsletter editor, Vivian "Meetup" Annapol and Sue Ronald, our Web specialist. *Tapadh Leibh* to all our teachers too - the Fergie's, Deborah/Peter, Ellen and so many more for your efforts. Special thanks go to the Pawling Committee this year for a splendid escape away from the hustle and bustle of daily life.

As we look forward to next year, expect gradual modernization of the Branch in line with changes at RSCDS HQ in Edinburgh, as well new regional and local events for your enjoyment. Our immediate challenges are to increase membership, attract the younger generation and build a stronger financial position, all towards creating a vibrant and sustaining Branch in New York City. And we will do it having fun along the way with music and dance!

To kickoff our 2014/2015 season, thanks to Isabelle Smith, we dance at a new venue: St Bartholomew's Church on Park Ave. This provides us the excellent opportunity to build anew, to expand and grow. But to do it we need your help, so join in to help us on a new journey! We need volunteers to serve on the House Committee, on general duties including set up for dance class, and volunteers to serve on the Finance Committee to oversee the financial well being of the Branch.

Lastly, it is all hands on deck to help make this year's JC Ball a success. Please help the JC Ball co-chairs Wendy Pally and Maureen Ocasio by reaching out to as many Dancers you know outside the Branch to encourage them to attend. We need to get attendance up.

I am always amazed at the skills and dedication of our teaching staff, the camaraderie of our Branch folks, and I always thoroughly enjoy the experience of Scottish Country Dancing. If you have any ideas or comments on the Branch or wish to serve in some capacity please feel free to contact me at:  
203-947-6609, or  
kdonnelly@hotmail.com.  
Keep smiling...

**Slàinte mhor!**  
*Kenneth*



Ken at the Round Hill Games in Connecticut.

**Look for us on**



[www.facebook.com/RSCDSNYC](http://www.facebook.com/RSCDSNYC)

**and**



<http://www.meetup.com/The-New-York-Scottish-Country-Dancing-Meetup-Group>

# Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

NEW YORK BRANCH, INC.

2014-2015



Thursdays, 7:30 PM  
Community Center of  
St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church  
109 East 50th Street  
New York, NY  
*See inside for full schedule.*

\$12/class for non-members

*First-time visitors receive a coupon good for  
one FREE admission on a future visit*

[www.rscdsnewyork.org](http://www.rscdsnewyork.org)

## CLASS SCHEDULE

Series I Sept 11 – Nov 6 (9 week series)  
Series II Nov 13 – Feb 5 (9 week series)  
*No dancing Nov 27, Dec 25, or Jan 1*  
Series III Feb 12 – Apr 9 (9 week series)  
Series IV Apr 16 – Jun 18 (9 week series)

## EVENING SCHEDULE

7:30 PM – 7:45 PM Warm-up for everyone  
7:45 PM – 8:45 PM Classes  
8:45 PM – 9:00 PM Break  
9:00 PM – 10:00 PM Social dancing

## SPECIAL EVENTS

NY Branch Preseason Dance Thu, Sept 4, 2014  
NY Branch 1st Series begins Thu, Sept 11, 2014  
Alpine Boat Basin (NJ Branch) Sun, Sept 21, 2014  
End of 1st Series Party Thu, Nov 6, 2014  
Jeannie Carmichael Ball\* Sat–Sun, Nov 8–9, 2014  
John Drewry Dances Eve (BK) Sat, Dec 6, 2014  
Holiday Party Thu, Dec 18, 2014  
Westchester Hogmanay Wed, Dec 31, 2014  
Robert Burns Night (NYC)\*\* Thu, Jan 22, 2015  
End of 2nd Series Party Thu, Feb 5, 2015  
Central Jersey Workshop (NJ Branch) TBA  
New Haven Ball (New Haven) Sat–Sun, Mar 7–8, 2015  
Rerr Terr (NJ Branch) Sat, Mar 21, 2015  
Tartan Day Parade TBA  
End of 3rd Series Party Thu, Apr 9, 2015  
Annual General Meeting Thu, May 7, 2015  
Pawling Weekend Fri–Sun, May 15–17, 2015  
Westchester Ball Sat, Jun 6, 2015  
Joint End of Season Party\*\*\* Mon, Jun 22, 2015  
SUMMERDANCE TBA

\*Jeannie Carmichael Ball – Sat, Nov 8, 2014

Sunday Brunch Dance – Sun, Nov 9, 2014

Thayer Hotel, West Point, NY  
(Music: Hanneke Cassel & Dave Wiesler)

\*\*Robert Burns Night – Joint Party with Scotia

Location TBA (Live music)  
Charge for this event is \$12 and is not included in the series

\*\*\*End of Season Party – Joint with Scotia

Metro Baptist Church, 410 W. 40th St. (Live music)

**SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCES** are the exciting jigs and reels, and the elegant Strathspey—the historic social dances of Scotland. For centuries they were enjoyed both at Court and in the countryside, and today they are danced in hundreds of RSCDS groups throughout the world. Performed in sets of 3 to 4 couples, these dances are truly “social” and our classes offer a friendly, helpful program in which to learn them.

## FEES, 2014-2015

Single Membership	\$40.00
Joint Membership	\$70.00
Young Adult Membership (18-24)	\$30.00
Youth Membership (12-17)	\$17.50
Associate Membership*	\$10.00
Single class, Member	\$10.00
Single class, Non-member	\$12.00
Nine Week Series, Member	\$64.00
Full-time students	½ price

*First-time visitors receive a coupon good for  
one FREE admission on a future visit*

\*Associate memberships are available to those who are members of RSCDS through another Branch.

## Membership allows you to

- Vote at our Annual General Meeting
- Receive the RSCDS magazine
- Receive the Branch newsletter
- Be eligible for a scholarship
- Apply to RSCDS Summer School in St. Andrews, Scotland, and TAC Summer School in Canada
- Receive discounts at many RSCDS events around the world
- Receive a discount on the RSCDS website
- Receive preference when applying to New York Branch events where space is limited
- Support training of new Scottish Country Dance teachers
- Join in advancing the art of Scottish Country Dancing

**Partners are not required.**

**Please wear only soft-soled, heel-less shoes such as ghillies or unblocked ballet slippers.**

This issue is brimming with contributions from our members, hurray! Please continue to submit photos from our various events—especially “candid” shots, and anything else you would enjoy sharing with your fellow dancers.

Many thanks to everyone who supplied images, words, and ideas. Shelby Peak and Ross Parker are great shutter-

bugs. Lois and Dave Goldberg, and of course Sue Ronald, have been immeasurably supportive, and shown enduring faith in the continuity of Scottish Country Dancing, and this newsletter. Happy dancing!

*Sue Trapp*

**P.S.** Remember to look out for the **hyperlinks!**



# the Teacher Candidate Class

The **RSCDS New York and New Jersey Branches** are jointly sponsoring a *Teacher Candidate Class*. We began classes at the end of August and have a group of 13 dancers at various stages in the *RSCDS* teacher training process. Candidates come from four different states – New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Pennsylvania, and travel to HoHoKus in New Jersey for our Saturday classes.

The *RSCDS* procedure for training teachers is quite thorough, divided into five different Units, and takes several years to complete.



**Unit 1** focuses on the theory of *RSCDS*-style Scottish Country Dancing and involves studying a 250-page long Manual and taking a two hour exam on its contents. Eight of our candidates are taking the Unit 1 examination.

**Unit 2** is a practical dancing exam and the candidates will know by heart 12 dances and be ready to brief and dance them to a high standard. We have nine candidates taking the Unit 2 exam.

**Unit 3** is a teaching exam. Candidates teach a step and a 16 bar phrase involving one main formation in 20 minutes. When Candidates have passed Units 1, 2 and 3 they have gained their 'Part 1' and are able to teach *RSCDS* classes.

**Unit 4** is an interesting one and, unlike the other units, it cannot be failed, although those submitting their papers can be told they need to gain more experience before they can fully qualify. Having passed their Part 1, candidates teach under the guidance of an experienced teacher who acts as a mentor. Then, they submit to the *RSCDS* in Edinburgh a complete record of their teaching and lesson plans for a course of classes of at least six hours in length. This process takes at least two years.

The final **Unit 5** is another teaching exam and this time candidates are required to teach an *RSCDS* dance to 16 or 18 dancers, focusing on the steps and formations etc. necessary to dance the dance really well. The Unit 5 candidates have thirty minutes of teaching time.

When a candidate has completed Unit 4 and passed Unit 5 they are said to have their 'Part 2' and are awarded the **Full Certificate**. We have four candidates working on Part 2. If you would like to read more about the teacher training process check out <https://www.rscds.org/article/teaching-certificate-2>.

Chris and Sue Ronald are the tutors for the course, Debbie Saunders, NJ Branch President, is the organizer and handles all the paperwork with the *RSCDS* in Edinburgh. Theresa Forbes is our official video director and is already working hard videoing our sessions to help candidates and tutors have real feedback on areas to focus on and progress made in both the dancing and the teaching.

New teachers cannot be trained, however, without YOUR HELP! Soon we will be sending out email messages asking you to volunteer your time and be angels (aka 'stooges') at our classes. We have a really great group - come and join us one Saturday! Work on your own knowledge of technique and formations –learn dancing as well as dances. If you are able, stay and have a bite to eat at a nearby diner after the class. Make it a day of learning, fun and friendship! We'll be in touch again soon.....*Chris and Sue*





The  
Royal Scottish Country Dance Society  
presents the  
**42nd**  
**Jeannie Carmichael Ball**  
**Saturday, November 8, 2014**

Music by  
**Hanneke Cassel & Dave Wiesler**  
**The MacArthur Ballroom at The Thayer Hotel**  
**US Military Academy at West Point, New York**  
Sherry 6:00pm \* Dinner 6:30pm \* Grand March 7:45pm  
\*\*\*\* Kilt or Black Tie \*\*\*\*

**Ball Tickets \$90.00 Per Person**  
**Contact Mary Zagami: mzagami@aol.com**  
**Need transport help? Contact maureen.ocasio@yahoo.com**

For hotel reservations contact  
**The Thayer Hotel at 845-446-4731 or 800-247-5047**  
**Mention the "RSCDS Scottish Dance Group"**  
**\*Please book early, rooms are limited\***

**Sunday Brunch/Dance**  
**with Hanneke Cassel & Dave Wiesler**

at The MacArthur Ballroom  
(Sunday Brunch/Dance alone \$55.00)  
**Brunch 9:00am to 12pm    Dancing 11am to 2pm**

**Jeannie Carmichael Ball**

**2014 Application**

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 21ST, 2014**

- I have enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ Ball Tickets at \$90.00 per person
- I have enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ Ball and Brunch/Dance Tickets at \$115.00 per person
- I have enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ Brunch/Dance only Tickets at \$55.00 per person
- Additional contribution to support the Jeannie Carmichael Ball \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make check payable to RSCDS NY Branch Ball**  
Send with this form to: **Mary Zagami, 1636 Williamsbridge Road, Bronx, NY 10461**

Ball Programme	
A Trip To Gretna Green	32 J 3
A Reel For Alice	32 R 5
Castle Douglas	32 S 3
Follow Me Home	32 J 3
The Duke Of Perth	32 R 3
Linnea's Strathspey	32 S 3
The Cranberry Tart	32 J 3
Culla Bay (Sq Set)	32 S 4
Australian Ladies	32 R 3
Interval	
Mole's Frolic	32 J 3
The Button Boy	32 R 3
Glasgow Highlanders	32 S 2
The White Heather Jig	40 J 4
The Duchess Tree	32 S 3
The Penny Reel	32 R 3
The Hazel Tree	32 J 3
Minister On The Loch	32 S 3
Da Rain Dancin'	32 R 3

Brunch Programme	
Joie De Vivre	32 J 3
John McAlpin	32 S 3
The White Cockade	32 R 3
Spirit Of The Dance	32 S 3
Best Set In The Hall	32 J 3
Flowers Of Edinburgh	32 R 3
Interval	
A Capital Jig	32 J 3
Margaret Parker's Strathspey	32 S 3
Pinewoods Reel	32 R 3
Lady Peak's Strathspey	32 S 3
Machine Without Horses	32 J 3
Rest And Be Thankful	32 R 3



To see diagrams and videos of the dances check out  
<http://my.strathspey.org/dd/list/2569/>

# Brooklyn Class RSCDS

Proudly Presents the 2014 Edition of our Annual

## Special Memorial

# John Drewry Night

***Familiar dances on our great wooden floor!***

**December 6, 2014 7:30 pm \$10** (add \$1 for printed briefs)  
Intermediate and Advanced Dancers Only

Homecrest Presbyterian Church  
Avenue T and East 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Brooklyn, NY

**Refreshments—the best!!!**

Take the Q train to Avenue U and E 15<sup>th</sup>  
and walk one block north to the church.

Send reservation (by Nov 15 to receive briefs by mail) to  
David E. Goldberg, 64 Centre Street, Woodmere, NY 11598

For information: David Goldberg 516-295-2327 GREBDLOG64@YAHOO.COM

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_ (Check to RSCDS Brooklyn)

Please reserve my (our) places:

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Hospitality needed \_\_\_\_\_ Available \_\_\_\_\_

### DREWRY NIGHT (tentative) PROGRAMME 2013

Silver City	S	3C	32	Silver City	The Hazel Tree J	3C	32	Brodie
New Opera	J	3C	32	Australian	Peat Fire Flame R	3C	40	Bon Accord
Kenora Reel	R	3C	32	Bankhead 2	Duchess Tree S	3C	32	Brodie
Lady Peak's Strathspey	3C	32	32	Greenburn 2	Ramadan-ce R	3C	32	Turkish
Bratach Bana	R	3C	32	Bon Accord	MacLeod's Fancy J	4C	32	RSCDS 33-3
Twixt Don and Dee	S	4C	32	Deeside 2	Byron Strathspey S	3C SET	32	Deeside 2
Netherby Hall	R	2C	32	Bon Accord	Crossing the Line R	3C SET	32	Bankhead 6
Margaret Parker					Bees of MaggieKnockater J	4C	32	Canadia
Strathspey	S	3C	32	RSCDS 31-3	Belle of Bon Accord S	4C	32	Deeside 2
Major Ian Stewart	J	3C	32	RSCDS 35-4	Blooms of Bon Accord R	4C	32	Deeside 2
INTERMISSION					ex: Mary Hamilton S	4C	32	Canadian

Dining and dancing  
are serious business  
at Drewry Night..



# Our New Manhattan Venues

*Come dance with us at "The Branch"...*

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF ST. BART'S

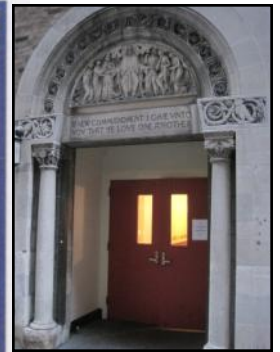
St. Bartholomew's Church at 109 E. 50th St., commonly called "St. Bart's", is a historic Episcopal parish founded in 1835.

The current church was erected in 1916-17. The original freely handled and simplified Byzantine design by Bertram Goodhue was called "a jewel in a monumental setting" by Christine Smith in 1988. The portal was paid for by the family of Cornelius Vanderbilt II as a memorial. The magnificent bronze doors, with bas-reliefs in panels depicting episodes from the Old and New Testaments, were carried out by some of New York's established sculptors.

St. Bartholomew's is noted for its pipe organ, the largest in New York and one of the ten largest in the world. One of the church's former choir-directors was the famous conductor Leopold Stokowski, who was brought from Europe by St. Bart's.

Saint Bartholomew's Church and Community House was designated a landmark by the New York Landmarks Preservation Commission in 1967. For long one of New York's wealthiest parishes, St. Bart's is known for a wide range of programs, and now welcomes *Scottish Country Dancing!*

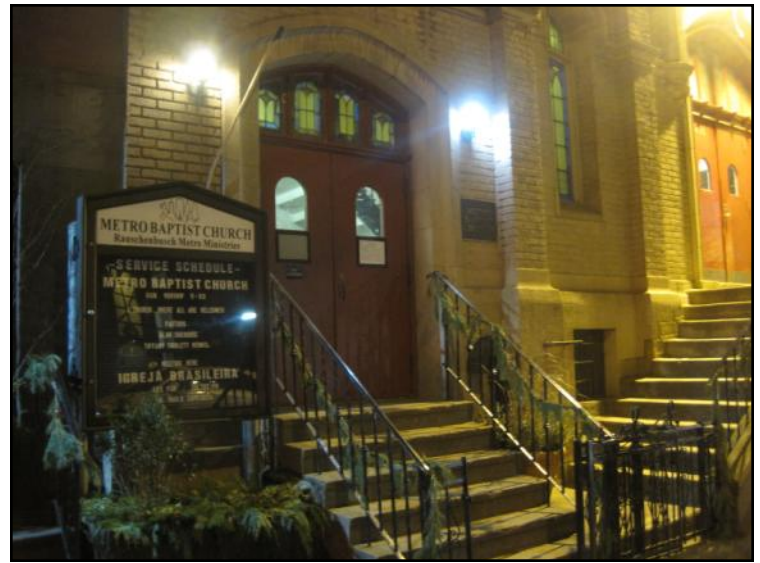
[from Wikipedia]



Ed Abdill teaching a class



... and at Scotia!



### A BRIEF HISTORY OF METRO BAPTIST CHURCH

At the beginning of the year, due to the sale of the building where we danced for many years, we moved from Madison Avenue Baptist Church to **Metro Baptist Church** at 410 W. 40th St.

Built at the turn of the 20th Century, our building originally housed St. Clemens Polish-Catholic Church. Like other churches built in Hell's Kitchen at that time, the church served a largely immigrant population living in the neighborhood's many tenement buildings. A grand and ornate structure, the building originally functioned as both a church and a parochial school. These days the church building maintains many of its beautiful historic features including the ceiling murals and windows of its Polish-Catholic origin.

Metro Baptist Church was born in 1974, as a small group of people began to pray and imagine a new church in Manhattan. They found a home in the middle of Hell's Kitchen. At the time, Hell's Kitchen had a reputation as one of Manhattan's seedier neighborhoods (A Metro pamphlet published in the 80s reads: "Homeless people down the block. Prostitutes on the corner. Crack dealers across the street. What a great place for a church.") A growing social ministry program developed, providing food, clothing and educational services to the community. Scotia Dancers have contributed to the food drive and are pleased to be an extension of Metro's continuing vitality.



Donations to the food pantry



Jack Cole briefing a dance



A great time was had by all at the  
**51st Annual "Dawling" Weekend**

Our three outstanding teachers were:  
**Antoine Rousseau**, of Paris, France;  
**Elaine Brunken**, of Laurel, Maryland; and  
**Martin Mulligan** of St. John's, Newfoundland.  
The exciting music was provided by **Scotch Mist**  
with guest artist **Calum Pasqua**, and our own  
**Jim Stevenson-Mathews**. May 16-18, 2014



*We love your new kilt, Ross!*



*Tom Marshall in action!*



*Herb Plevor*

*Sally Clayton*



*Dancers in motion!*

Dawling...



...is it the other left foot, or the other right foot..?

...I'm ready for a Belhaven...

Looking for John McAlpin

Did you take my spurtle?!

Wensleydale

Say Cheese!

Shelby made her beautiful gown!!!

Wendy Pally, Elizabeth Buonomo, Francis DuBois, Maureen Ocasio, Fen-Lan Bohan

Shelby Peak and Ross Parker

# My First Pawling

by Maureen Ann Ocasio

When I started Scottish Dancing, I heard about Pawling Weekend. How much fun it is. How there are workshops to develop your dancing skills. May 2012 was too soon for me to consider going. I had started Scottish Dancing in March. May 2013, I considered going but I had a prior engagement that weekend. This year I decided to attend!

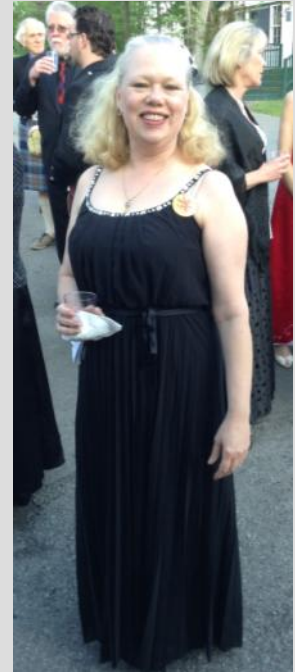
I was advised to bring warm pajamas, as it gets cool in the evenings. I did not need to bring blankets, towels or linens. I was told to check the hot water and the blinds. Both functioned. There was a basin in the room. Toilets were at the back inside the cabin. Two of them.

Pawling Weekend takes place in Hopewell Junction (not in Pawling), on the campgrounds of Circle Lodge. I stayed in a cabin with three lovely ladies from New England. Chris, Betty and Holly have been dancing for several years. Lorrie & Shelby, who were in the cabin to our right, came by to give me a walking tour of the grounds. Theresa, who graciously drove me in and back home, gave a brief tour in the car on the way to our cabins. The important sites are: the Dining Hall, Social Hall, Canteen (under the Dining Hall) and the Bazaar. We ended at the Bazaar. I donated two books, which sold. We met up with Tom and Sabrina, who gave us gin & tonics. The week end had begun!



Dining Hall

The schedule was quite full. Friday, after settling in, started with dinner at 6pm, dancing at 8pm, and after-party at 11pm. Saturday's schedule, for me, was breakfast at 8am, class (Basic with Martin) at 9am, another class (Basic with Antoine) at 10:45am, lunch at 12:30pm, Ball walk-through at 2pm, change for Ball, Sherry Party at 5:30pm, dinner at 6:30pm, Highland Ball with Grand March at 8pm, Ceildh at 12am. The Highland Ball is formal. The ladies gowns were lovely. There were many good performances at the Ceildh but my favorite was the recitation of "Mud, Glorious Mud". Sue Ferguson's "Lady Hippo" was inspired! Sunday's schedule was breakfast at 9:30am (I almost missed it!), class (Basic with Elaine) at 10am, lunch 12:15pm and Champagne Dance at 2pm. There were no cribs for the Champagne Dance. Each teacher selected a dance and taught it to the group with walk-throughs.



all here but I would like to express my gratitude to Sally Clayton, Sabrina Kirkpatrick, Wendy Pally and our out-going President, Tom Marshall.

The teachers were all good but my favorite was Elaine. I think everyone had a crush on Antoine. (It wouldn't be camp without one little crush.) Martin was very good too. The musicians, Scotch Mist with guest artist Calum Pasqua, were outstanding. I liked the music so much that I bought their album "Coast to Coast" (Theresa and I listened to it on the drive to the Bronx. The last tune ended just as we arrived at my door.) Special thanks to Jim for playing piano for the Basic classes.

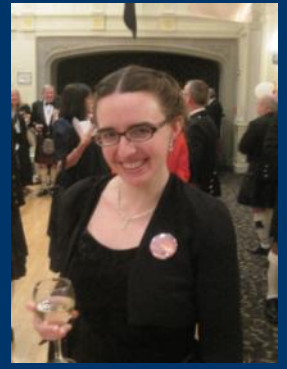
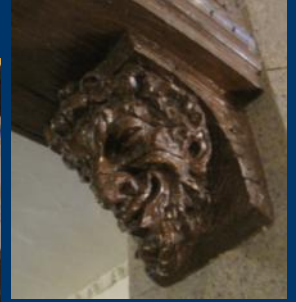
The food was good, varied and plentiful. The lake was gorgeous. The setting serene. The only thing that I'd do differently is bring ace bandages. Saturday evening I had to sit out a couple of dances as my ankles were rebelling and I did want to do the last dance.

There were several of our NY Branch/Scotia dancers present as well as several whom I have met at the Jeannie Carmichael Ball, Westchester Ball & Drewry Night. There were also some who were new to me, like Marie, who also has been Scottish dancing for two years. Most attendees are from the tri-state (NY, NJ, & CT) but some came from MA and VT (like my cabin mates), VA, PA, FL, LA and Ontario!

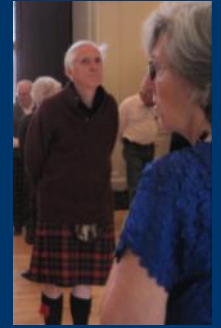
If you have never gone to Pawling, please consider attending in 2015. The dates will be May 15-17<sup>th</sup> (Friday to Sunday). Applications will be available in January from [www.rscdsnewyork.org](http://www.rscdsnewyork.org).



# Scenes from the 2013 Jeannie Carmichael Ball



*Parcel of Rogues* Susie Petrov, Calum Pasqua and Dan Houghton



more JC Ball...



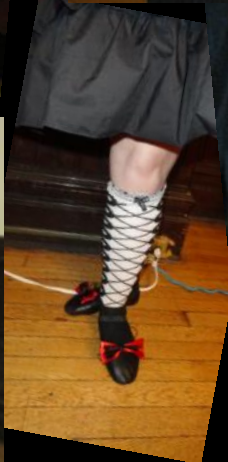
# Trick or Treat!



Ann Hankins and Jack Cole



Ruby Chen



Yonina Gordon, Ann and Ruby



# BURNS NIGHT 2014



# Keeping up with Lorrie, Agatha, Christopher, Kachina & Orion

Lorrie Rosario, Agatha Guzman, and Christopher Willock, all travelled to Thailand this past year!

The highlight of their respective adventures was visiting the Allen/Rafalovitch family.



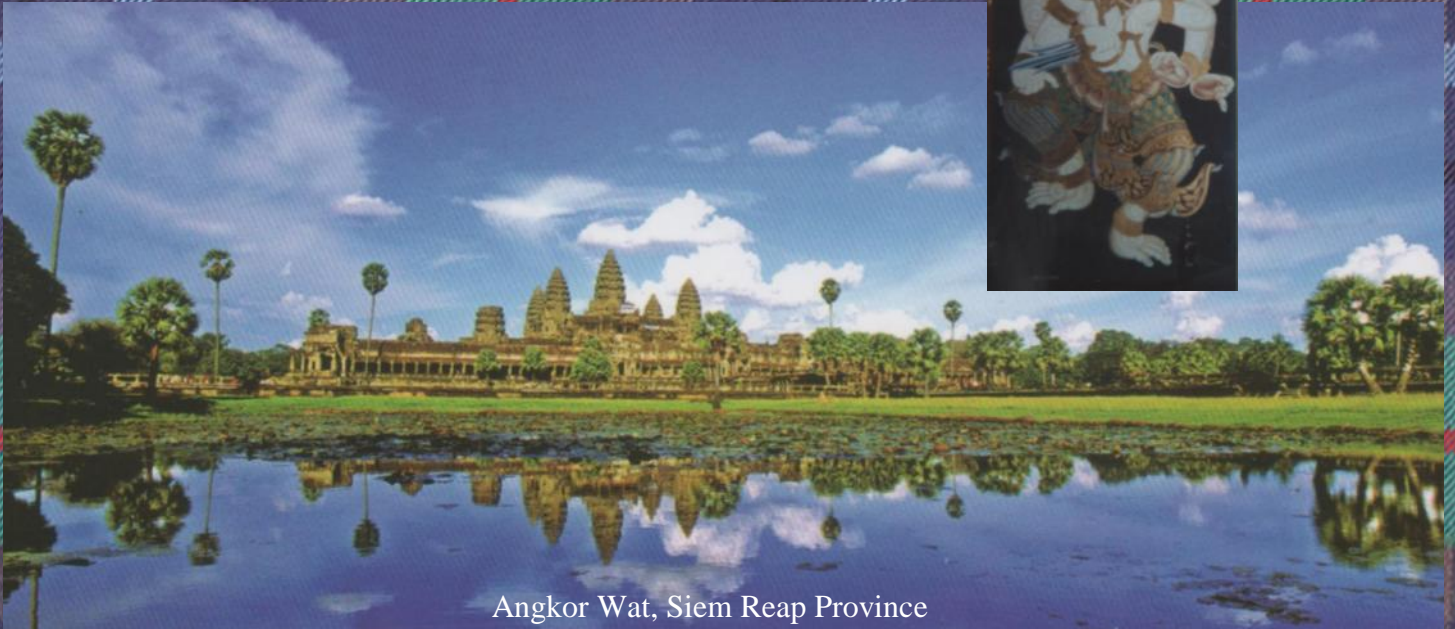
Agatha, Kachina and Lorrie



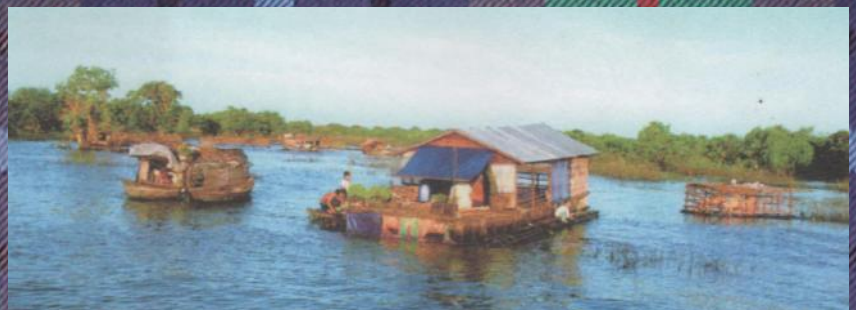
Kachina, Orion and Christopher



...in Thailand!!!



Angkor Wat, Siem Reap Province



Condom Cottages!?!?



Orion and Kachina with Margaret Leversha in Melbourne

# A Connecticut Barn Dance!



You never know who will turn up where! Sue Trapp and William Ogburn were sighted at a barn dance hosted by the *Mystic Scottish Country Dancers*. The event took place at Peter and Jane Liebert's farm in the lovely little town of Preston.



Photos by Bob Scent

# Dancing in London

by Joanna D'Angelo

It was a hot and steamy July in London with temperatures well into the high 80s, with no breeze and no air conditioning! In spite of the heat, I wanted to see what SCD would be like in a different city, and through easy links I was connected to the RSCDS/London-sponsored *Summer Tuesdays* held at St. Columba's church in Knightsbridge.

So, having a firm destination at hand, I made the 30 minute tube trip from Hampstead to Knightsbridge. Turning the corner from the Brompton Road onto Beauchamp Place, I could see in the distance on Pont Street this imposing and stark looking contemporary structure that certainly did not look welcoming, but was somewhat spurred on when I saw the Scottish flag billowing atop the church. When I entered, the church was completely empty and a bit eerie, but once I found the stairs to the basement, I began to hear live music that crescendoed with every step.

The basement was a huge, cavernous space with more dancers than I had ever seen before. It was overwhelming, and my first instinct was to turn around and leave, just not knowing how to break into such a large group. However, I had made 'the pilgrimage' and it would have been a shame to back out now. So, putting my braver foot forward, I decided to embrace the crowd and to track down the organizers of the event, thinking that maybe I even had some clout coming from The Branch in New York! It worked(!) I was introduced to the organizers of the event, Graham and Caroline Hamilton, who it turned out are the pillars of several SCD activities in London and elsewhere in the UK. Graham emcees *Summer Tuesdays*, except when the George Meikle band is playing, as he is the drummer for that band.

The Craigevar Band



There were 120 dancers at that evening's event, but apparently that was fewer than usual, as quite a few regulars were away attending Summer School at St. Andrew's. What struck me the most about this large group was the diversity in age, ranging from young teenagers to great grandparents, and once introduced,

I found there were many welcoming members. I particularly enjoyed meeting the Craigevar Band (made up of mostly academicians in their everyday lives) and their manager. It was also interesting to note that several people were walking around in the intermission with "booking sheets" so that partners were identified for every

dance during the second half of the evening. This was particularly good for me as it meant that the regular scramble for partners could be avoided!

Lastly, I was thrilled that quite a few of the dances were ones we had been taught, and it certainly is a good feeling to be trained in SCD in New York and to be able to reap the benefits of that training all over the world.

P.S. Unfortunately because of technical difficulties, the photograph of me with the Craigevar Band and visitors from other parts of the world, didn't come out. So instead, I'm attaching a photograph from our son Mark's wedding that took place just before leaving for London.



Happy parents Joe and Joanna with their son Mark and his bride Sarah

# Around and About

## at the New Haven Ball ...

Hats were de rigueur in keeping the memory of Miss Milligan alive!



James Betts  
Lois Goldberg Cynthia Arenson



William Ogburn and Isabelle Smith



Sylvia Plever Wendy Katt Lynn Hanover

# at the Round Hill Games...



A familiar voice was heard echoing over the entire grounds— It could be none other than... Fergie!



Master of Ceremonies Jim Ferguson with a member of his fan club



James Fraser Susan Ferguson



Bonnie Greene Caroline Bennett Sue Trapp



Tug o' War



Michael Reid holding up the tent



in *Brooklyn* with extra special visitor **Sunshine** Sally Freedman...



L to R: Sylvia Plever, James Betts, Herb Plever, Helen Chzhou, Dave Goldberg, Sally Freedman, Lois Goldberg, Ana Karimova and Ella Shneyderman

at a dance celebrating the marriage of Barbra Link and Ken Way...



Sue Trapp, Elizabeth Buonomo, PeterPrice, Deborah Leary, Barbra Link, Ken Way, Lois Goldberg, Dave Goldberg, Theresa Forbes



here in the city...

Lunch with Sheila Wilson and Katie Rule



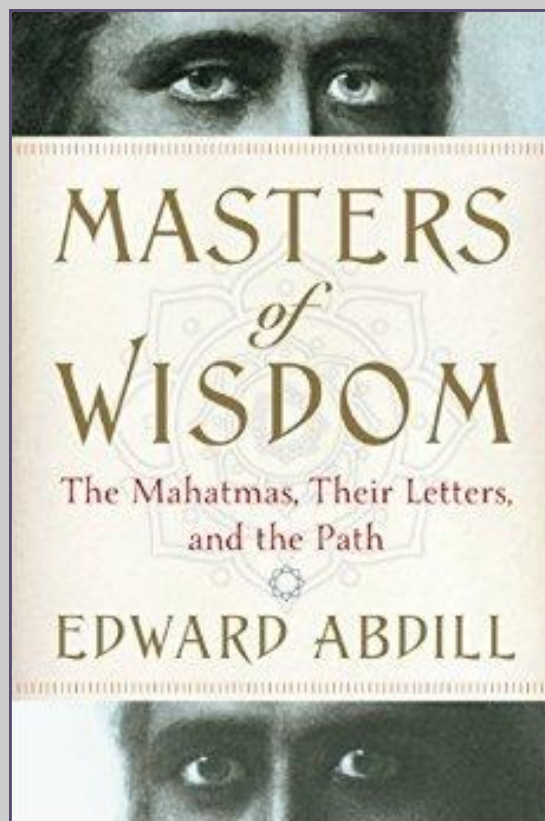
*Hot off the press!*

### Special Guests...

Dr Paul Kelly and his wife Jenny danced with us for a few classes before their return to Canberra, Australia to rejoin their local Branch. Their visit is a testament to the reach and camaraderie of the RSCDS worldwide.



**MASTERS OF WISDOM:  
THE MAHATMAS, THEIR  
LETTERS, AND THE PATH**  
by [Edward Abdill](#) (Author)



# In Memoriam

*John Drewry*

We lost our friend, **John Drewry**.

When John recently passed away, we all felt a loss for an outstanding dance deviser, but I also lost a friend. For more than 20 years during his trips to New York, John stayed with my family. I drove him to his many appearances in the New York area. Lois and I stayed at his home in Aberdeen after the RSCDS summer school in 1996. He was a guest at our daughter's wedding in western Scotland a few years later.

A couple of stories:

I was driving him home from one of his appearances in New York City one winter evening, and it was snowing to beat the band. My defroster wasn't working very well and I had to stop every mile or so to clean the windshield. During our drive to his house in Aberdeen years later, he told us that he was going to buy a car, probably one with a heater! I said that all American cars have heaters, to which he immediately replied, "All but one."



John Drewry and Freddy Sverdlow

We both have a fondness for puns and jokes. I wrote in the New York newsletter one year that John deserved a "D" for his teaching at Pawling, and I quickly explained that the Dee is a river through Aberdeen. He trumped my pun by entitling a dance *A Pawling Reel* (or *Appalling Reel*). I never could get the better of him!

John dedicated four dances to my family:

*Back to Bach* he subtitled *The Goldberg Variation*. It is a five-couple adaptation of *Bratach Bana*, my favorite dance.

He wrote *Woodmere Wedding* for Lois and me, and *Dignity and Grace*, subtitled *Ileana's Strathspey*, in memory of my first wife.

His *Kilchurn Romance* was in honor of our daughter's wedding at Kilchurn Castle. He danced three dances with us that weekend to show our relatives what Scottish dancing is like, despite his protestation that "I am not a demonstration dancer." I assured him that he was a demonstration dancer for this crowd of Americans.

The staff at the resort on Loch Fyne were almost as honored as we to have him with us on that occasion.

*Dave Goldberg*

**Scottish Country Dancing Pioneer.** Born: July 14, 1923; Died: June 18, 2014.

**John Drewry**, who has died aged 91, was arguably the greatest innovator in Scottish country dancing since the foundation of the *Royal Scottish Country Dance Society* by Jean Milligan and Ysobel Stewart in 1923, the year, coincidentally, of Mr Drewry's birth.

In collaboration with other enthusiasts, Miss Milligan collected old dances which, in some cases, she amended, publishing them in a regular series of instruction books. The formations and steps of these dances were limited, and it was not until Mr Drewry appeared on the dance floor that new and challenging forms and dances were devised.

Born in Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, in a 15th century thatched cottage, Mr Drewry first took up Scottish country dancing in Cumbria as a member of a ramblers group. He joined the RSCDS Carlisle branch and was awarded the society's teaching certificate.

It was Hugh Foss, another distinguished dance deviser, who encouraged him to begin to create dances during his sojourn in Cumbria.

His appointment to the biochemistry department of the University of Aberdeen in the mid-1960s brought him to the national heartland of Scottish country dancing and inspired him to devote more and more of his leisure time to devising dances of subtlety and distinction.

The first of his dances to be published by the RSCDS was *The Silver Tassie*, with its new figure the rondel. Miss Milligan, a hard lady to please, bestowed on Mr Drewry the affectionate title Mr Rondel when he attended her classes at summer school in St Andrews. In 1999, when he was awarded an RSCDS scroll for his contribution to Scottish country dancing, nine of his dances had appeared in RSCDS books, and since then the society has published four more, not to mention dances using the formations for which he is the creator: the rondel; set and rotate; corners pass and turn; and petronella in tandem.

To watch these figures being executed with skill and pleasure at a dance in the Younger Hall, St Andrews, during the annual RSCDS international summer school, must have given their deviser, sitting up on the balcony in his later, frailer years, much satisfaction.

Jean Martin, a former chairman of the RSCDS, recalls: "When devising a dance it was usually the pattern of the dance which came first, though occasionally it was a tune, a place or a particular situation which prompted John to put pen to paper.

"Along with gardening and photography, another of John's leisure interests was hillwalking, and he often found his inspiration in the Scottish mountains. That is how the reel *Bratach Bana* came about. John was camping at Strontian beside Loch Sunart, listening to a Scottish country dance programme on Radio Scotland, when the tune *Bratach Bana* was played. He told me: 'I like the tune very much indeed and as I listened I worked out the shape of the dance, walking it out on the shore.'"

Mr Drewry has left a legacy of more than 800 dances, including more recently devised ones such as *Thomas Glover's Reel*, written in 1998 to recognise the Scottish Samurai and for a visit to Japan; also *Out of Africa*, to celebrate the golden wedding of a couple, now living in Ban-chory, who spent many years in Africa.

This courteous modest man is remembered with affection and admiration wherever the dedicated lace up their pumps to take to the floor. His creations will continue to appear on dance programmes from Tayport to Tokyo.



# In Memoriam

## Frieda (Freddy) Sverdllove

**Freddy Sverdllove**, who was one of the four original New York Branch certificated teachers, passed away on Sunday, January 19, 2014, on her 98<sup>th</sup> birthday. She taught Scottish country dancing until she was 90, the last years in Florida, until her health no longer permitted. Freddy had a gentle, quiet, patient approach that was quite effective in producing good dancing, and she briefed dances with outstanding clarity.

Freddy served the Branch as a member of the Board and of course on the Teacher's Committee. Her long service was rewarded with a Scroll of Honor by the RSCDS. She attended summer schools in Saint Andrews for many years.

Among her hundreds of students were many successful teacher candidates. Those most probably known to present Branch members are Vivian Anapol, Ann Hankins, Nancy Scott Pryce, and Ann Smith. The many teachers mentored by Freddy's teachers are also in her debt. Freddy



taught in Brooklyn, and when her classes became large enough, she encouraged Ann Smith to teach on Long Island, starting with her students from Long Island.

For many years, Freddy held out of town weekend workshops to further the enjoyment and skill of her students. She also taught Scottish country dancing at the Institute for Retired Professionals and Educators at Brooklyn College of the City University of New York.

Freddy was a close friend of John Drewry, who regularly stayed with her and her husband Harry on his many visits to New York until she moved out of the city. She initiated Brooklyn's annual "**John Drewry Night**" to introduce dancers from the New York area to his marvelous dances. Attendees in recent years include many dancers from Massachusetts and Connecticut as well as New Jersey and New York.

Dave and Lois Goldberg

Anne Lowenthal writes:

I had a very enjoyable correspondence with Freddy when she was still in Florida. Here is an excerpt from a letter she wrote me on June 8, 2008:

"I decided to start a S.C.D. class for beginners, and I've had one class. Most of the people in Century Village have never heard of this kind of dancing, and they are all older folk, like me. But I'm going to try to make it enjoyable for them.

I did enjoy the Newsletter and I enjoyed your column "Auld Lang Syne." I have to add a bit about that wonderful Dancer and Teacher Bobby Watson. He spent a weekend teaching at the Branch and then he said he would answer questions. One dancer asked "How did you get to do such beautiful pas-de-basques?" Bobby answered quickly, "I get a good night's sleep and when I wake up in the morning, I slip into my ghillies and do 50 pas-de-basques. My dancing shoes are always at my bedside so I can practice!"

Freddy with Calum Pasqua



**It was Freddy who brought me into Scottish Country Dancing.** I was at the time an active folk dancer. I had gone to a folk dance weekend because they were supposed to have an Israeli dance guest teacher. They also were to have a Scottish dance teacher, but that didn't interest me at all. Having arrived, I discovered that the Israeli teacher had had a death in his family and had flown back to Israel. I had a choice of trying Scottish or going home. With the attitude that engendered, I walked into that first class. I discovered a truly wonderful, patient, and caring teacher. I found I loved pattern dancing, Scottish music, and the sense of cooperation set dancing engenders.

Freddy introduced me to the Branch. Eventually I also danced at Scotia and even traipsed weekly out to Brooklyn to dance at Freddy's class there. For a long time if I needed to take off a night it was Scotia I skipped—never Brooklyn. I loved her class that much! I stopped going regularly to Brooklyn (a 90 minute subway ride each way) when my son, Robert, began nursery school and I had to get up early to get him ready before I left for work.

I always looked forward to going to the fall weekends run by Freddy along with Enid Kuperman, Joan Treble and for quite a few years Ann Smith. My first was only weeks after I started dancing, but Freddy urged me to come nevertheless and I had a great time, although it was very challenging.

Freddy urged me to consider teaching dancing and, of course, provided me, as she had others, chances to practice out in Brooklyn as I was learning. Freddy came to the Branch Thursdays, and when I started teaching she was very helpful and supportive.

Freddy had been a special education teacher until she retired from teaching, and that gave us another link. Over the years since she left New York, I have spoken of her often, not just because she was a superb teacher or even because she was the one who brought me into Scottish country dancing, but because she was a mentor and friend to so many of us who have taught and who are still teaching in New York!



Ann Hankins, Nancy Pryce, Freddy, and Vivian Anapol 1986

*Vivian Anapol*

*A Remembrance of Freddy Sverdlove*

*A note to Freddy's family*

*Freddy was such a big part of my life! I fell in love with Scottish Country Dancing after coming to this country, and I met Freddy at the New York Branch in 1966. In 1973 she prepared me for my first teaching certificate, and in 1975 for my second one. I started teaching on Long Island at that time, and I never looked back. In 1988, I joined Freddy as the second teacher at her annual dance workshop weekend at Solways near Woodstock, NY. In 2001, the last year of her workshops, we moved to the Catskills' Nevele Grande. Freddy was a wonderful teacher and my mentor, and I will remember her always.*

*Ann Smith*



Freddy with Ann Smith

# In Memoriam

*Mary McDicken*

**Mary McDicken** passed away on October 22, 2013, after a long illness. Mary started dancing with Ann Smith in the 1980s and she enjoyed many years of dancing with the Nassau group. She was a stalwart with the demonstration team.

Her husband, Andrew, the leader of the Clan McDuff pipe band, was the regular piper at Pawling for years. Mary was also quite active with the Clan. She was very involved in the running of their annual Scottish Games at Westbury Gardens and, for at least a decade, she and Andrew regularly hosted a party after the Games for family, friends, the demo team, and other Scottish dancers.

She was a beautiful dancer and a beautiful person, with a marvelous personality. She will be missed greatly.

Dave and Lois Goldberg



# COOKING CORNER

## To bake a Chickin Pie

*To bake a Chickin Pie after you have trust your Chickins, broken their legges and breast bones; and raised your crust of the best past, you shall lay them in the coffin close together with their bodies full of butter: Then lay upon them and underneath them currants, great raysons, prunes, cinamon, sugar, whole mace and salt: Then cover all with great store of butter and so bake it, after powre into it the same liquor you did in your marrow bone Pie, with the yelkes of 2 or 3 egges beaten amongst it: And so serve it forth.*

*Elizabethan recipe*

1 pound skinned and boned chicken  
2 tablespoons butter, melted  
1/4 cup raisins  
1/4 cup currants  
8 prunes, chopped  
1 tablespoon sugar  
1/2 teaspoon mace  
2 teaspoons salt  
1 teaspoon cinnamon  
1/2 cup sweet white wine  
1/2 teaspoon rosewater  
1/4 cup broth  
2 eggs, slightly beaten  
pastry for a 9-inch, two crust pie



"Delicious! Make again. I used cranberries instead of raisins. Try with dark meat." Sue

Place the chicken in a saucepan and cover with water. Simmer for 15 minutes, or until just barely tender. In the meantime, combine the butter, raisins, currants, prunes, sugar, mace, salt, cinnamon, wine and rosewater in a large bowl and allow the fruit to marinate until the chicken is done. Drain the chicken, reserving 1/4 cup of the broth. Dice the meat and add it with the reserved broth to the fruit mixture. Add the eggs and mix well. Spread the mixture in the unbaked pastry shell, cover with the second crust and seal the edges. Prick the crust to allow steam to escape. Bake in a pre-heated 375degree oven for about 40 minutes or until the crust is brown. Delicious either hot or cold.

*Serves 4-6*

Recipe from: [Sallets, Humbles & Shrewsbury Cakes: A Collection of Elizabethan Recipes Adapted for the Modern Kitchen](#) by Ruth Anne Beebe



*Scottish mercenaries, assumed to be men of Mackay's Regiment landing in the Baltic port of Stettin in 1630 or 1631. This print is regarded as the earliest surviving depiction of Highland dress. The original caption states, "They are a strong and hardy people who survive on little food. If they have no bread, they eat roots [turnips may be intended]. When necessary, they can cover more than 20 German miles in a day's forced march. [1 German mile = 1 3/4 English miles!]" Besides muskets, they carry bows, quivers and long swords."*

212-849-8282



In the event of any changes in the dancing  
for Thursday evenings  
due to inclement weather  
or  
other happenings

please call the New York Branch

**Hotline**

for up-to-date messages



### The Ladies Man

*I'm a two sex Scottish Dancer  
And may seem rather dim  
But I never spend one evening  
As a full time her or him*

*I change my sex from dance to dance,  
My corners always alter-  
It's really not surprising I  
Occasionally falter.*

*The old and simple dances  
I can manage very nicely,  
And I can learn a new dance  
And do it most precisely-*

*But when it comes to next week,  
I don't know if I can,  
For I learnt it as a woman  
And dance it as a man.*

*And so, you men who have the luck,  
To stay always the same,  
When female gentlemen go wrong  
Be sparing with your blame.*

*I'll add a postscript to this tale-  
One comfort I have got-  
When both the women change their sex  
It doesn't show a lot.*

By Pat Batt

RSCDS London



WHA'S LIKE US

DAM FEW AND THEY'RE A' DEID

An Englishman enjoys his breakfast of toast and MARMALADE invented by Mrs. Keiller of Dundee, Scotland - reaches for his RAINCOAT patented by Charles MacIntosh from Glasgow, Scotland to dash to the station on his BICYCLE invented by Kirkpatrick MacMillan, blacksmith, of Dumfries, Scotland whose TYRES, invented by John Boyd Dunlop of Dreghorn, Scotland run on a TARMAK road by John MacAdam, of Ayr, Scotland.

The journey by train whose STEAM engine was invented by James Watt of Greenock, Scotland takes him to work at the BANK OF ENGLAND founded by William Paterson of Dumfries, Scotland. While opening his mail with its ADHESIVE STAMPS invented by James Chalmers of Dundee, Scotland he puffs on a cigarette first manufactured by Robert Gloag of Perth, Scotland.

He later calls his wife on a TELEPHONE invented by Alexander Graham Bell born in Edinburgh, Scotland. She tells him dinner will be his favourite traditional ROAST BEEF from Aberdeen Angus cattle raised in Aberdeenshire, Scotland.

He arrives home to find his daughter watching on TELEVISION, invented by John Logie Baird of Helensburgh, Scotland a programme on the U.S. NAVY founded by John Paul Jones of Kirkbean, Scotland and his son reading TREASURE ISLAND by Robert Louis Stevenson of Edinburgh, Scotland and on lifting his BIBLE he finds the first name mentioned is again a Scot--King James VI who authorised its translation.

The Englishman is unable to turn from the ingenuity of the Scots. He could turn to WHISKEY but Scotland supplies the best, or to end it all he might put his head in a gas oven--COAL GAS was discovered by William Murdoch of Ayr, Scotland. He could shoot himself, but his BREACH LOADING RIFLE was invented by Captain Pat Ferguson of Pitfours, Scotland. If unsuccessful he could be injected with PENICILLIN discovered by Alexander Fleming of Darvel, Scotland or given an ANAESTHETIC discovered by James Young Simpson of Bathgate, Scotland.

His last hope a transfusion of Scots Blood, then he could ask

WHA'S LIKE US  
DAM FEW AND THEY'RE A' DEID

Contributed by Sheila Wilson

P. S. New addition Andy Murray, Wimbledon Champion 2014



## Cary Grant Dance Clip

From **Indiscreet** (1958) “The Eightsome Reel” Hollywood Style! 54 year old Cary Grant acts up while Ingrid Bergman looks on in mock disgust. [Play Video](#)



## Caption Contest

Think up a caption for this picture and you will be the winner! Send your submission to the editor.



## NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA DANCE GROUPS

[www.rscdsnewyork.org](http://www.rscdsnewyork.org)

[www.scotiadancers.org](http://www.scotiadancers.org)

	<i>Location</i>	<i>Day and Time</i>	<i>Contact</i>	<i>email</i>
<b>New York City</b>  <div style="background-color: yellow; padding: 5px;"> <b>Notice!</b>   <b>New Locations!!!</b> </div>	<b>RSCDS New York Branch</b> The Community Center at St.Bartholomew's Church (St.Bart's) 109 E. 50th St. between Park and Lex. Manhattan	Thursdays, 7:20 - 10:00 PM	Ken Donnelly 203-947-6609 Sheila Wilson 212-744-1470 Susan, Jim Ferguson 914-273-4197	info@rscdsnewyork.org
	<b>Scotia Dancers</b> Metro Baptist Church 410 W. 40th St. between 9th and 10th Manhattan	Mondays, 7:00 - 10:00PM	Ann Hankins 212-354-8500	ahnyc2@aol.com
<b>Brooklyn</b>	<b>Brooklyn Scottish Country Dancers</b> Homecrest Presbyterian Church Avenue T & E. 15th Street Brooklyn, NY	Tuesdays, 7:30 PM	Dave Goldberg 516-295-2327	grebdlog64@yahoo.com
<b>New Jersey</b>  <a href="http://www.rscds-nj.org/">http://www.rscds-nj.org/</a>	<b>Hightstown</b> Meadow Lakes Retirement Community, 300 Meadow Lakes East Windsor, NJ 08520  <b>Tenafly</b> Church of the Atonement 97 Highwood Ave. Tenafly, NJ 07670  <b>Fanwood</b> Fanwood Presbyterian Church, 74 S. Martine Ave. (at LaGrande Ave) Fanwood, NJ 07023	Mondays, 7:30 - 9:30PM  Tuesdays 8:00 - 10:00PM  Tuesdays 7:30 - 10:00PM	Bart Jackson 609-936-0891  Elaine Enger 201-567-8727  Loretta Holz 732-356-3923	bjackson2@comcast.net
<b>Westchester</b>	<b>The Westchester Scottish Country Dance Society</b> Elmsford Community Center 10 North Stone Ave. Elmsford, NY 10523	Wednesdays 8:00 - 10:30PM	Jane Bridges 914-271-3502 Lynn Hanover 914-762-1173 Karen McCabe 914-699-6150	jbridges1@sprintmail.com lynnabby@hotmail.com nyhoo@aol.com





*Sunset at Heart Lake in the Adirondacks*

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In order to get the RSCDS magazine "SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCER" from the headquarters of the RSCDS in Edinburgh, you must pay your RSCDS membership by the end of September. You will get two issues for the year, one of which will contain dances.

Contact Wendy Pally, the membership secretary at: [membership@rscdsnewyork.org](mailto:membership@rscdsnewyork.org)

Correspondence should be sent to the editor, Sue Trapp: [suetrapp@msn.com](mailto:suetrapp@msn.com), or via snail mail above.

