

DUBLIN SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB

NEWSLETTER

14th May 1998

No. 4.

I was rather horrified to realise that I had not produced a Newsletter during the winter session that is now almost over. I know that many of you said to me that you would like me to continue to issue the Newsletter, so apologies for my failure to produce one over the winter. As I write this we are about to undertake three demonstrations and general dancing events, which are detailed under the 'Diary' section later. With our Thursday outings our next club night on 28th May is the last of the season, and I hope as many of you as possible will manage to come along and enjoy the party.

On the Road to Recovery

This winter has seen a number of our members out of action with illness and injury. (I can now empathise with football managers.) I won't go through the list for fear of missing someone out, but perhaps I can just say that it was good to have the support of non-dancers Dierdre, Irene and Eric at our 75th Anniversary Dance (see report later). We trust that the new season will see you back on the dance floor.

RSDCS 75th Anniversary Dance

On 19th April we celebrated the 75th Anniversary of the founding of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society by holding the first ever Dance in Dublin to which we invited members from the other Branches and Clubs on the island of Ireland. I had been a bit late in confirming the event so our numbers were not as big as we might have hoped, but everyone seems to have enjoyed it and is looking forward to it becoming an annual event. I had excellent feedback when I visited Portrush weekend school, and the following letter from Cork sums up what has been said:

Cork Scottish Dance Society

May 11th '98.

Dear John,

Please pass on our appreciation for all the hard work put in to your Scottish Dance in April. The Cork Branch really enjoyed it all, the Mansion House in the afternoon, and the Royal Hospital in the evening - and a subdued drive back to Cork on Sunday!

We look forward to meeting you all again soon.

Yours sincerely,

Janet Nairn

May I add my thanks to all to helped organise the event and make it such an enjoyable occasion - John.

Dates for the Diary

- ☛ Thursday, 14th May, 1998: Dancing for the Dalkey Ladies' Club.
- ☛ Saturday, 16th May, 1998: Dancing for the Zion Parish, Church of Ireland, Senior Citizens' Afternoon.
- ☛ Thursday, 21st May, 1998: Dancing for the ICA, Artane.
- ☛ Thursday, 28th May, 1998: 'End-of-term' Party.
Dancing to begin at 8 o'clock sharp!
- ☛ Sunday, 21st June, 1998: Dancing with Dublin City Morris Men at Dun Laoghaire Ferry Terminal. Time will be announced on 28th May.
- ☛ Thursday, 24th September, 1998: New Season begins.

RSCDS Membership

The Club is affiliated to the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, and the Club pays an affiliation fee of Stg£20 each year. Our name and my details appear in the Society's yearbook which enables visitors to Ireland (or new residents) to make contact and when possible join us for dancing. Individual membership is also available, and is necessary if you wish to attend the Summer School in St. Andrews. Membership can either be through a

Branch or direct with Headquarters. Because we are not associated with a Branch, I have joined on a direct basis, which currently costs Stg£11. This covers the year 1st July - 30th June. As a member you will receive copies of the Society's yearbook and news bulletins, as well as 'The Subscription Copy' of a book of dances - usually that which the Society is publishing that year.

If anyone is interested in supporting the Society in this way please let me know so that I can include you in the Club's returns.

Summer School - St. Andrews

This year the Club will be well represented at the Summer School held in St. Andrews over the last fortnight in July and the first fortnight in August. Aad and Kaoru are regular attenders at the second fortnight (i.e. first two weeks in August) which is when I shall be attending and undergoing the course for the Teacher's Certificate. Hazel and

Maedhbh are going for one of the weeks of the first fortnight. I would recommend going as it is great fun, as well as being very instructive. If you are not quite sure, why not try one of the weekend schools, either in Northern Ireland or in Scotland, as a starter. Details can be found in the Society's yearbook or in Aad's EuroNews Bulletin.

Phone Numbers

Barnes, John & Judy	497 8341	Goodchild, Jan & Mel	846 1566
Beaney, Helen	628 6971	Halliday, Florrie & Blair	288 8328
Boode, Aad & Kaoru	660 4726	Kelly, Sheila	296 1310
Convery, Hazel & Liam	269 7107	Lippok, Gillean & Andy	278 2827
Corsini, Alan	298 5068	McEvoy, Maedhbh	288 1837
Coulson, June & Eric	451 6905	Murphy, Phyllis	285 6043
Dundas, Dierdre & Tom	295 3061	Phelan, Anne	295 3825
Flynn, Dierdre	295 0388	Rowe, Veronica & David	295 6502
Fraser, Christine	269 7579	Seager, Susan	831 1823
Gibson, Irene	287 7520	Sothorn, Phoebe	289 4694

Poem

I know this feature has been popular, so here is another of *Pat's Party Pieces* by Pat Batt of Barnet, Hertfordshire, who publishes them in aid of the North London Hospice, which has benefited to the extent of almost £2,000 from their sale.

THE LADIES MAN

by *Pat Batt*.

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 bit.

John Gibson.