

# SCOTCH CIRCLE

Vol 30 No 3

August 2010

RSCDS Canberra and District Branch Incorporated  
GPO Box 1795, CANBERRA ACT 2601

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## Chair's Message

Greetings. This issue contains important information about the Branch Annual General Meeting. Please note that all positions on the executive (office bearers and committee members) become vacant. If you think you might be able to commit some time to help run the affairs of the Branch, please consider the possibility of nominating for a position, in whatever capacity you may wish. Talk to a current committee member if you are interested or have any questions.

Inside, you will find details of some recent SCD events. A good roll-up to the Pot Luck Tea Dance and a fine program of dancing, in which experienced dancers helped the newer ones, contributed to the great success of that event. Dancers from Canberra & District, who travelled to Adelaide for the Winter School, enhanced their SCD skills in a social setting. And, at the special Branch class, visiting overseas teacher, Elinor Vandegrift, so infused the dancers with her enthusiasm and skilful teaching, that we saw some very good dancing and many happy dancers.

Also included in this issue are details of several upcoming events. Firstly, if you are thinking of attending the Canberra Ball on 21 August but have not yet purchased your ticket, you will need to do so soon. Tickets are still available but, for catering purposes, we need to advise University House soon of the number of attendees. Secondly, we are looking for dancers to perform in a display at Floriade on Sunday, 19 September. If you are interested see inside for further information. Another event to take note of is the Bermagui weekend, 8-10 October. This promises to be another good one, so check out the details inside. We have also included information about the Southern Highlands SCD Annual Social, 4 September, and the Meringo SCD Annual Social, 18 September.

Happy dancing and please mark the date of the AGM (15 September) in your diary.

Jack Arthur

## Annual General Meeting

The Branch Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 15 September 2010 at St Andrew's Church Hall starting at 7.30 pm. The AGM provides an opportunity for you as members to ask questions about the Branch's general and financial health and to raise any matters that may be of concern. At the conclusion of the meeting there will be a class of social dancing followed by supper. You are all urged to attend the AGM and are cordially invited to stay on afterwards.

A quorum for the meeting is one quarter of the annual fee paying members who are financial or twenty five members, whichever is the lesser number.

The Treasurer, Mary Gellatly, will be pleased to accept membership fees for the 2010/11 financial year from any members who have not already renewed.

All executive positions become vacant. A form for nomination of office bearers and committee members and for proxy voting is at the back of this issue of Scotch Circle.

**THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY  
CANBERRA AND DISTRICT BRANCH INC.  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2010, 7.30 PM  
ST ANDREWS CHURCH HALL FORREST**

**AGENDA**

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2009
3. Business arising
4. Annual Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Election of office bearers and committee
7. Appointment of auditor
8. Appointment of editor of Scotch Circle
9. E-mail newsletter/website manager
10. Any other business

## LAST CHANCE

21 August 2010

**The Canberra Ball**  
**In the Great Hall of University House**  
**Australian National University, Balmain Cr., Acton**  
**Music by Strathmannan**  
**Visitors are especially welcome.**  
**Drinks 7pm Grand March 7.30pm**

**Tickets (\$40) still available**  
**But for catering purposes sales must close soon**

Contacts:

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**Recap sheet available at:**

<http://www.rscds-canberra.org/texts/BALL-2010-RECAPS.doc>

**Poster available at:**

<http://www.rscds-canberra.org/texts/Ball-poster-2010.jpg>

## RECENT EVENTS

### **POT LUCK TEA DANCE A GREAT SUCCESS**

On Saturday afternoon, 22 May, more than fifty dancers gathered at St Andrews Church Hall for an afternoon of Scottish country dancing. The programme, compiled by Sandra Carroll with input from Elizabeth Low, catered for both newer and more experienced dancers. At the conclusion of the dancing, most dancers stayed on to share the food that they had brought along in a pot luck tea. All in all, it was a great afternoon.

### **DANCING THE HEYSEN TRAIL WITH FUNI AND WANG WANG**

**From roving reporter Elaine Arthur**

Among the nine dancers from Canberra and District who danced the Heysen Trail at the 35<sup>th</sup> Australian Winter School in Adelaide, were two of our newer dancers, Madeleine Johnson and Cathy Jones. For Georgina Kingston, a junior dancer from Adaminaby, Adelaide 2010 was her 6<sup>th</sup> Australian Winter School.

The two overseas teachers were Elinor Vandegrift, Seattle, USA (see also next item), and Jim Rae, Lockerbie, Scotland. Barbara Hamlyn and Noriel Tarca, Adelaide, and Cathy McLeod, Queensland, completed the teaching staff. Personnel from the well known UK band Craigellachie and the Balmoral Band of Queensland/New Zealand origin provided the music for classes and socials.

Class teaching was of a high standard, leaving dancers tired but "enthused". Dancing at the socials was energetic and fun-filled. Canberra & District was represented at the Ceilidh: Alan McCulloch sang to the

accompaniment of Madeleine Johnson. Madeleine also performed in the ladies' step dance display, her first attempt at ladies' step – well done Madeleine. Georgina assisted that perennial performer from Melbourne, Pam Jones, in her tap dancing routine – Georgina may have stolen the show on this item.

On the free day, many dancers visited the pandas, Funi and Wang Wang. We don't know if anyone actually ventured onto the Heysen Trail, the 1,200 kilometre-long walking-trail named after Sir Hans Heysen, the German Australian artist famous for his watercolours of the South Australian bush. An exhibition of his works was recently on display at the Australian National Gallery here in Canberra.

Congratulations are extended to the Adelaide Winter School Committee led by Andrew and Mechthild Timmins and Jill and Neville Pope. The 2011 Winter School will be conducted by the Hunter Valley Branch at Nelson Bay on beautiful Port Stephens, just north of Newcastle, from 9-16 July. Further information is available at <http://www.scottishwinterschool.com>

### **VISITING OVERSEAS TEACHER**

On 21 July, Canberra dancers were treated to a most enjoyable lesson from visiting overseas teacher Elinor Vandegrift, at a special class organised by the Branch. Elinor, born in Scotland but resident for many years in Seattle, USA, was visiting Australia with her husband Dave, primarily to teach at her second Australian Winter School, her first one having been at the 25<sup>th</sup> in Canberra in Y2K.

The evening started with Elinor leading some brisk warm-up movements to reel-time music followed by exercises to waltz-time music. Then followed a warm-up dance, *The Bramble Circle*, from the US publication *Let's All Dance*, danced in a circle. This dance starts with all facing the centre of the circle, men with their partners on their right. Elinor next took the class through an instructive session of step practice to stimulate body and mind. The two central dances, *The Spirit of the Dance* and *The Music and the Dance*, combined novel formations (e.g. set and rotate for three couples) with more well-known movements, and the precise tuition yielded pleasing results. The supporting dances, *The Compleat Gardener* and *Summer Wooing*, completed what was a very fine class.

### **CONTINUING BRANCH CLASSES**

#### **Occasional Class and Floriade Display**

The Occasional Class resumed on Monday, 2 August, at St Andrew's Church Hall from 6.00 to 7.00 pm.

The Branch has also been asked to provide a display at Floriade on Sunday 19 September at 3.30 pm. Unfortunately, the Marengo Social is to be held on Saturday 18 September but it is hoped that dancers wishing to be part of the display who are also planning to attend Marengo will be able to be back in Canberra in time to take part in the display. If you would like to participate in this display contact Elaine Arthur [elaine.arthur@apex.net.au](mailto:elaine.arthur@apex.net.au) or phone (6254 7879). The dances chosen for the display will be well known dances.

We plan to have three practices for the Floriade display and these will also be held at St Andrew's Church Hall on Monday evening from 6.00 to 7.00 pm. The hall has been booked for the following dates:

**Occasional classes:** 2 and 16 August

**Floriade practices:** 30 August, 6 and 13 September

**Occasional classes:** 27 September, 11 and 25 October

#### **Follow-up Classes for Beginners: August and September**

The Branch will be conducting a follow-up course of classes for beginners during August and September. The course aims to build on the skills learned at the beginner courses taken earlier this year (March/April and June/July). It is open to any dancer who attended either of these courses or who otherwise has some elementary knowledge of Scottish country dancing. The class will meet at St Andrews Church Hall, Forrest on Wednesday evenings from 6.15pm to 7.30pm. Cost: \$5 per class.

The Branch **General Class** continues to meet on Wednesday evenings from 7.30pm and the **Gentle Class for Gentle Dancers** on Friday afternoons from 2pm. Both classes are held at St Andrews Church Hall, Forrest.

**BELCONNEN SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS  
ADVANCED SOCIAL CLASSES  
8pm, Macquarie Primary School, Bennelong Cres, Macquarie**

**Friday, 6 August (N.B. BROUGHT FORWARD from 13 August)**, Led by Peggy and Glenys. Dances to be selected from: 1 The Golden Apple Jig J3C 8x40 Ronald, 12 Scottish Country Dances, New York Branch; 2 Sphagnum Moss S3C 3x32 Drewry Summer; 3 Nottingham Lace R4C 1x96 J.Bradley; 4 Asilomar Romantic S3C 8x32 Cuthbertson, San Francisco Collection vol 2; 5 Y2K J4C 4x32 Drewry, Greenburn; 6 What's New Pussycat R3C 8x32 Drewry, Stoneywood ; 7 Ayers Rock S4C 4x32 Drewry, Bankhead I; 8 Get Yoursel' a Toyboy J3C 8x32 Drewry, Stoneywood; 9 Dancing Girls J3C 8x32 Brenchley, Kangaroo Paw; 10 The Muckle Fiddle Plucker J3C 8x32 Drewry 1979.

**Friday, 24 September**, led by David and Jill

**Friday, 29 October**, all teachers from earlier classes presenting their favourite dance.

Contact Elaine Arthur: 6254 7879 or [elaine.arthur@apex.net.au](mailto:elaine.arthur@apex.net.au)

**OTHER FORTHCOMING EVENTS**

**4 September 2010**

**SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS  
ANNUAL SOCIAL**

Will be held at St John's Anglican Church Hall, Browley St, Moss Vale, from 7.30pm

Music is by Stringfiddle and the cost is \$10, including supper. Billets are available.

For further information contact:

Margaret O'Farrell 4869 3898 or Helen Wales 4861 6471 or [eilidhmarg@hotmail.com](mailto:eilidhmarg@hotmail.com)

Programme: Hooper's Jig; Irish Rover; Macdonald of the Isles; Bees of Maggieknockater; Polharrow Burn; Belle of Bon Accord; Pelorus Jack; Trip to Bavaria; Southern Highlands Anniversary Strathspey; Shiftin' Bobbins; Wild Geese; Culla Bay; Miss Johnstone of Ardrossan; Joie de Vivre; Wind on Loch Fyne; Seton's Ceilidh Band; Kilkenny Castle; Mairi's Wedding.

**4 September 2010**

**THE MONARO FOLK SOCIETY  
ANNUAL COLONIAL BALL**

Will be held at the Albert Hall, Canberra. Music will be by Wongawilli with a pre-ball welcome drink from 7:30pm and dancing from 8pm to 12am, including a fully catered supper. Scottish dancing folks are offered the special price of \$50 if you come as a group and mention Scottish dancing. Tickets may be purchased by PayPal, at paid-entry MFS events or by mail. Ticket sales will cease on 30th August, or earlier if sold out (places are limited). There will also be a pre-ball dance class on 7 August, 1.30pm - 4.30pm in All Saint's Church Hall, Cowper Street Ainslie, Cost \$4 - to be taught by Gwen and Norm Burke the callers at the Colonial Ball. Tea and coffee are available. For more information: Ph. Barbara Court on (02)6161 2426

**18 September 2010**

**MARENGO SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS  
ANNUAL SOCIAL  
Murringo Hall, 7.30pm**

Contacts Maurice Harcombe 63 846 222 and Jean Williams 63 827 918

Programme: Catch the Wind R 8x32 Book 45; Napier's Index J 8x40 Book 45; Monymusk S 8x32 Book 11; The Wild Geese J 8x32 Book 24; Hooper's Jig J 8x32 MMM 2; The Minister on the Loch S 3x32 Goldring 24 G&S; A Trip to Bavaria R 4x32 MacGregor-Brown; Shiftin' Bobbins R 8x32 Clowes Ormskirk 6; Drumelzier S 4x32 Blair 2 SCDs; Pelorus Jack J 8x32 Book 41; The Last of the Lairds J 8x32 Book 22; Sugar Candie S 8x32 Book 26; The Irish Rover R 8x32 Cosh 22 SCDs; Polharrow Burn R 5x32 Foss Glendarroch; The Byron Strathspey S 3x32 Drewry Deeside 2; Muirland Willie J 8x32 Book 21; The Sailor R 8x32 Book 24; Mairi's Wedding R 8x40 Cosh 22 SCDs

Details available at: <http://www.rscds-canberra.org/texts/Marengo%202010.pdf>

Recaps available at: <http://www.rscds-canberra.org/texts/Marengo%202010%20Recaps.doc>

**8-10 October 2010**

**FAR SOUTH COAST SCD GROUP  
BERMAGUI WEEKEND**

Friday 8.00pm get-together, including a Thirtytwosome Reel and light supper, Saturday 10.00am workshop to walk through dances with experienced teachers, Saturday evening Social at 7.30pm, with music by Bob McInnes and Rhonda Langford, and supper (all in the Bermagui Community Hall), and Sunday morning Breakfast in the Park from 9.00am. Cost - \$40 for the weekend. (Fri. \$10, Sat. \$20, Sun. \$10). Please let Sheelagh Brunton (02-6493 6538) or Trish MacDonald (02-6493 6350) know if you are coming. For further details see:-

Flyer: <http://www.rscds-canberra.org/texts/Bermagui2010flyer.doc>

Recap sheet: <http://www.rscds-canberra.org/texts/Bermagui2010recaps.doc>

Programme:

The Highland Rambler; Tribute to the Borders; Miss Gibson's Strathspey; Portnacraig; Napier's Index; Jean Martin of Aberdeen; Waverley; The Immigrant Lass; The Banks of Clyde; The Reel of the 51<sup>st</sup> Division; Spiffin'; The Saltire Society Reel; The Dean Bridge of Edinburgh; Inverneill House; Miss Allie Anderson; Drumtochty Glen; Mrs Macleod; Culla Bay; The De'il Amang the Tailors.

**Royal Scottish Country Dance Society**

**Canberra and District Branch Inc**  
**Election of Office Bearers and Committee Members**  
**NOMINATION**

We, being persons qualified to vote at an election of the above Branch, NOMINATE:

.....  
(Name in BLOCK LETTERS)

Who is a member of the above Branch, for election to office as (circle one below):

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY

TREASURER

COMMITTEE MEMBER

.....  
(Name in BLOCK LETTERS of person making the nomination)

.....  
(Signature of person making the nomination and date of nomination)

0-0-0

I, .....CONSENT to this nomination  
(Name of person nominated BLOCK LETTERS)

.....  
(Signature of person nominated and date)

**Royal Scottish Country Dance Society  
Canberra and District Branch Inc  
FORM OF APPOINTMENT AS PROXY**

I,.....  
(Name)

Of.....  
(Address)

Being a member of the above Branch, hereby APPOINT

.....  
(Name of proxy)

.....  
(Address of proxy)

Being a member of the above Branch, as my proxy to vote for me on my behalf at the Annual General meeting of the above Branch to be held on Wednesday 16 September 2009, and at any adjournment of these meetings.

.....  
(Signature of member appointing proxy and date)

*Scotch Circle is published by RSCDS (Canberra & District) and the Committee reserves rights of editorial control*

*Closing date for next Scotch Circle – Friday, 29 October 2010*

*Contributions and requests for electronic version to June Browne at [ceilidh@bigpond.com.au](mailto:ceilidh@bigpond.com.au)*