



# SCOTTISH RAMBLE

June 2021



## Newsletter of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society Queensland Branch Incorporated

### VICE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Once upon a time, in 2020, the COVID 19 virus began to have an insidious effect that spread throughout the world and Scottish Country Dancing was not immune. However, we have been relatively fortunate in Australia and this year dancing in Queensland has progressed well, with a variety of activities taking place as the cooler weather approached. A recapping workshop was held at St Philips on Saturday 24 April, facilitated by Heather Heron of behalf of QTSG, prior to the Opening Social. A small number of participants were introduced to, or reminded of, the ins and outs of recapping a dance and had the opportunity to put these skills into practice. The social was well attended, with live music once again being provided by the ever-popular Black Bear Duo, and much enjoyed. Iain and Emma had also accepted a gig at The BUg in New Farm Bowls Club on the following Tuesday night, so Iain kindly offered to play for us on the Monday night, and a mini-social was quickly organised at the Communitify Hall. This was also a great success with a variety of dancers taking part, including those with less experience, and a number of visitors, all appreciating being able to dance to live music. Having grown up near Sherwood Forest, the royal forest in Nottinghamshire, and home of the legendary Robin Hood, Maid Marian and Friar Tuck, one of the highlights for me was dancing Nottingham Lace. A few dancers also had a Goldilocks Moment when they heard the Black Bear Duo play for the third time in four days at The BUg and found that it was not too much or too little, but 'just the right amount'.

On a more serious note, we were all very upset to learn of the death of Desley Butters-Whitehouse on May 9 and an obituary in recognition of her life and accomplishments is found elsewhere in this Ramble. The Gold Coast Scottish Country Dance Club held a social (RSPD) on May 22 which again met the high standard of organisation, provided a supper of delicious comestibles and created a most agreeable ambience, to which we have all become accustomed over the years. This was followed the next day by the Branch Annual General Meeting which means that due to the easing of COVID restrictions we have reverted to our normal AGM schedule. A list of office bearers for the coming year is found elsewhere in this Ramble. The meeting was followed by dancing, with Riders of Rohan being accomplished with a real sense of achievement. Interestingly, for a dance with a name that is taken from Tolkein's Lord of the Rings, the deviser really did not want to end with a circle six hands round and back.

After being postponed from May 2020 due to COVID, and after various changes of plan, the Kingscliff Weekend of Dance was finally held on June 4-6. The theme was **A Right Royal Weekend** with attendees being invited to dress in formal wear, including crowns and tiaras, and perhaps indulge their cosplay fantasies. Caristiona, the teacher whose coming had long been expected, was unable to attend due to the most recent lockdown in Melbourne, and so a team of substitute local teachers was invited to fill the gap for the day-time sessions. A veritable cornucopia of the most regal reels, jigs and strathspeys was also curated for the two evening socials, with music by the Black Bear Duo. According to the unsolicited

feedback, the weekend was much enjoyed and it was particularly good to welcome dancers from as far afield as Coffs Harbour. Thanks are due to all those who worked hard, including those behind the scenes, to make the weekend such a success. After the Saturday evening social a pair of dancing shoes (not just one slipper) was left behind. Now, if only we could find the person who fits those shoes, it would truly be a fairy tale ending.

Yours Aye,  
Kenneth

**YOUR BRANCH COMMITTEE FOR 2021 - 2022**

POSITION	MEMBER	CONTACT	CORRESPONDENCE
Chairman	Judith Howlett	07 3208 1722	Please address all correspondence (other than newsletter items) to:  The Secretary RSCDS QLD Branch PO Box 58, Kenmore, QLD, 4069  Email: <a href="mailto:queensland@rscds.org.au">queensland@rscds.org.au</a>  Website: <a href="http://www.rscds.org.au">www.rscds.org.au</a>  Facebook: Scottish Country Dancing Queensland – RSCDS  “Scottish Ramble” items to  <b>Fran Beusaert</b> <a href="mailto:beusaer@tpg.com.au">beusaer@tpg.com.au</a>  Closing date for the next Ramble is <b>17<sup>th</sup> September 2021</b>
Vice Chairman	Ken Rouse	0431 403 645	
Secretary	Bryan Hacker	07 3374 1468	
Treasurer	Connie Witt	0431 015 269	
Membership Secretary	Mark Dancer	0487 193 819	
Events Coordinator	Cathy McLeod	07 3288 2248	
Committee Members	Fran Beusaert	0411 523 316	
	Diana Pascoe	0428 501 226	
	Isobel Piotrkowski	0413 618 904	
<b>New Memberships &amp; Subscription Renewals to:</b>  <b>Mark Dancer – email: <a href="mailto:memberships@rscds.org.au">memberships@rscds.org.au</a></b>  <b>or: PO Box 58, Kenmore, Qld 4069</b>			
			
Diana Cathy Mark Bryan Isobel Connie Judith Fran Ken			
			

Welcome to  
the new  
2021/2022  
committee!

All reports from the AGM can be found in the attached Appendix 1.  
Please open and enjoy what has been happening in our clubs.

**RSCDS QLD BRANCH and CLUB CALENDAR – 2021**

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Times</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Location</i>
<b>Classes (See details further into this Ramble)</b>			
<i>July</i>			
<b>Saturday</b> 24 <sup>th</sup> July		Tartan Day	<b>CANCELLED</b>
<i>August</i>			
<b>Saturday</b> 14 <sup>th</sup> August	1 for 1:30pm start 5:30 pm finish	Touch of Tartan Tea Dance	Maher Hall, Matilda St, Burleigh Heads
<i>September</i>			
<b>Saturday</b> 18 <sup>th</sup> Sept	9am – 3pm	Intermediate Day of Dance	Lutheran Hall Ropely
<i>October</i>			
<i>November</i>			
<b>Saturday</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	1 for 1:30pm start 5.30 pm finish	Gold Coast Summer Tea Dance	Maher Hall, Matilda St, Burleigh Heads
<b>Saturday</b> 27 <sup>th</sup> Nov	7 for 7:30pm	St Andrews Closing Social	The Newmarket
<i>December</i>			
<b>Sat - Mon</b> 11 <sup>th</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Various times	Tenterfield Gathering	Tenterfield, NSW
<i>January'22</i>			
<i>February</i>			
<i>March</i>			
<b>TBA</b>	<b>TBA</b>	St Andrews Opening Social	<b>TBA</b>
<i>April</i>			
<i>May</i>			
<b>Sunday</b> 29 <sup>th</sup> May	3pm	AGM	Communiy Hall Love St, Spring Hill
<i>June</i>			
<b>Weekend</b> 3 <sup>rd</sup> – 5/6 <sup>th</sup> June		Kingscliff Weekend of Dance	Kingscliff, NSW
<i>July</i>			
<b>TBA</b>	<b>TBA</b>	Tartan Day	Brisbane

**Events further afield.....Please check availability closer to the dates**

<b>21<sup>st</sup> August 2021</b>	Hunter Valley Branch Ball	Coffs Harbour
<b>30<sup>th</sup> Sept – 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2021</b>	“Spring into Scottish” Mini-Winter School 2021	Canberra, ACT
<b>28<sup>th</sup> Dec 2021 – 5<sup>th</sup> Jan 2022</b>	New Zealand Summer School 21/22	Christchurch, NZ
<b>18<sup>th</sup> Feb – 20<sup>th</sup> Feb 2022</b>	Aloha Winter Weekend, Hawaii	Hawaii, USA
<b>25<sup>th</sup> Sept- 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2022</b>	Australian Winter School, Perth	Muresk College, Northam, WA
<b>Postponed until 2024</b>	Australian Winter School, Brisbane	Brisbane, QLD

## Hunter Valley Branch Ball 2021

\* See note on page 36

## 'Spring into Scottish' mini Winter School 2021

\*\* See information and application  
forms on pages 36 & 37



## Please note:

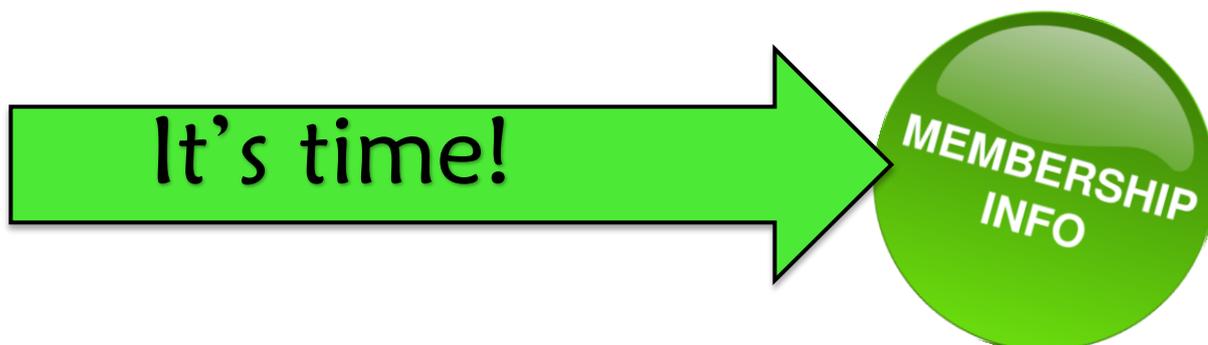
That which was once known as a SOCIAL  
is now known as  
“RECREATIONAL STRUCTURED PARTNER DANCES” (RSPD)  
...until further notice



## CLASSES AND CLUB CONTACT

<b>Club</b>	<b>Night</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Club Contact</b>	<b>Phone</b>
<b>Atherton</b>	Wednesday 7:30pm	St Joseph's Church Hall	Kylie Akers	0417 007 432 pakers@bigpond.net.au
<b>Ballina NSW</b>	Tuesday 4:00 – 6:00pm	Presbyterian Church Hall, Crane Street, Ballina	Elsbeth Lacey	0416 150 150
<b>Bundaberg</b>	Tuesday <i>Ladies Step</i> 6:30 <i>Beginners</i> 7:00 <i>Interm/Adv</i> 8:00	Bundaberg Revival Fellowship Hall, 26 Skyring Street, Bundaberg	Janet Oliver	07 41606157 or Mob 0407 034 241 janet.bundyscd@internode.on.net <a href="http://ja0392.wixsite.com/bundy-scot-dancers">http://ja0392.wixsite.com/bundy-scot-dancers</a>
<b>Cleveland</b>	Friday 7:30pm	St James' Anglican Church Hall, 17 Station St, Wellington Point	Geoff Thompson	0458 208 257 geoffthommo@gmail.com
<b>Gold Coast</b>	Thursday 7:00pm	Maher Hall, Matilda Street, Burleigh Heads	Dot Merriman	07 5578 8497 Mob 0409 285 080
<b>Graceville</b>	Thursday 9:30 – 11:30am Friday 7:30 – 9:30pm	St John's Anglican Church Hall, California Rd, Oxley	Helen Draper	07 3379 7141 helendraper@bigpond.com
<b>Gympie</b>	Wednesday 9 – 11 am	Guides Hall, Shanks Street, Gympie	Kay Callen Ann Johnston	07 5482 9414 Mob 0407 242 677 07 5482 1170
<b>Maleny</b>	Monday 7:00 - 9:00pm	RSL Hall, 1 Bunya St, Maleny	Helen Jackson Linda Scharf	0432 251 606 0429 654 033 lpscharf@tpg.com.au
<b>Nambour</b>	Thursday 7:00pm	QCWA Hall, Short Street, Nambour	Paula O'Shea	0423 559 000
<b>Noosa U3A</b>	Monday 9:00 - 11:0am	Masonic Hall, Moorindil Street, Tewantin	Joanne Kjorstad	0400 116 517
<b>Northside Branch Class</b>	Wednesday 7:30 - 9:30pm (NOT OCTOBER)	Wonargo Revue Scout Hall, Flower St, Northgate	Leslye Buchanan Jim Walters	0413 115 248 07 3204 4444
<b>Pittsworth</b>	Every first & third Wednesday 9:30am -12:00	Masonic Hall 45 Short St, Pittsworth	Margie Bond	0429 700 217
<b>Redlands U3A</b>	Monday 1:00 - 3:00 pm	St James Anglican Church Hall, 17 Station St, Wellington Point	Heather Heron	0402 408 905 hetheron@iinet.net.au
<b>Schiehallion</b>	Monday 7:00 - 9:00pm	Uniting Church, Pope St, Tarragindi	Paul Smith Denise Smith	0410 588 281 0439 270 191
<b>St Philips</b>	Tuesday 7:30pm	St Philips Hall, Emperor Street, Buranda	Connie Witt	0431 015 269
<b>The Gap</b>	Thursday 7:30-10:00pm	Memorial Hall, Glory St, Ashgrove West	Christine Warner	0415 856 532 cywarner@gmail.com
<b>The Glen Caboolture U3A</b>	Tuesday 6:30 - 8:30pm (School Terms)	U3A Cottage Short St, Caboolture	Bev Melville	0410 293 466
<b>Toowoomba</b>	Friday 7:30pm	Drayton Memorial Hall, Brisbane St, Drayton	Margaret Connell	07 4614 0423 margaret_c@netspace.net.au
<b>Townsville</b>	Monday General Class 7 till 9:00 pm Daytime Class 10:30am till 12:00pm (2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> Fridays) Sunday Class 3:45-5:15pm (2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sundays)	The Upstairs Hall Suburban Bowling Club 5 Carr Street Hermit Park	Margaret Silke	07-4771 6115 Mob: 0431434579

Dates	Times	Event	Location
<b>Branch Classes</b>			
<b>Monday</b> * <i>Branch Technique Class</i>	6:00 - 8:30pm	* <b>Beginners,</b> * <b>Intermediate</b> * <b>Advanced</b>  Branch member \$8/wk Non-member \$10/wk	Communiy Hall, 10 Love St, Spring Hill Contact <a href="mailto:queensland@rscds.org.au">queensland@rscds.org.au</a>
<b>Wednesday</b>	7.30 - 9.30pm	<b>Branch Northside Class</b> Branch member \$8/wk Non-member \$10/wk	Wonargo Revue Scout Hall, Flower St, Northgate, Leslye Buchanan 0413 115 248 or Jim Walters 3204 4444



Have you remembered that the RSCDS Qld branch added three **FREE** months to your last year's membership period to make up (in a small way) for the loss of dancing due to Covid-19?

Most of us are all back to dancing now and the future is looking up! Our membership fees for the new 2021-22 period ...at less than \$5/month, are due on 1 July 2021 and will end on 30 June 2022. (Form attached on the last page of this Ramble)

There are many benefits in joining our Qld branch of the RSCDS and supporting our favourite dance form here and all around the world. Check out the benefits on the next page. You won't want to miss out!



Covid 19 has reared its ugly head for us in Brisbane once more so we are having a (hopefully short) break from dancing, and will resume when the Queensland Government says we are allowed to dance, and that we don't have to wear masks indoors.

# Joining the branch is a great idea! Just look at these benefits!

By joining the branch

- 1) you become part of a worldwide organisation that provides support for teachers, music and instruction for dancers, so that you can travel **anywhere** in the world and do the same dances with the same steps and the same music!
- 2) you receive monetary benefits ... some branch functions are even **free** with discounts at others, discounts when shopping on the RSCDS website and discounts on Summer/Winter School registration fees
- 3) membership is only \$55/year (that's less than \$5/month!!!)
- 4) you receive the quarterly '*Scottish Ramble*' newsletter...packed with great club/overseas news
- 5) you receive *The Scottish Country Dancer* magazine (Scotland) - twice/year
- 6) you feel a sense of belonging
- 7) your membership supports the RSCDS which maintains the website which has a wealth of information on all kinds of things! Click on the link and see for yourself: <https://www.rscds.org>
- 8) this year and last year, because of Covid-19 restrictions, Headquarters has been publishing a weekly online newsletter, containing interesting articles, music, puzzles, and even an online class!

Your Queensland Branch also offers a technique class (@\$10...Cheaper if you are a member @\$8 on Mondays, at Love Street Spring Hill.

The Queensland Branch would like to encourage more people to become branch members, so if you have friends who are **not** branch members, why not copy a few pages of this Ramble and share it with them, so they can see what they're missing out on! The more members that belong to the branch, the more resources are available to RSCDS in Scotland, who provides for all members.

You will find the application and renewal form on the last page of this Ramble.

**Easy!**



Perfect  
for all  
of us!!

# What's New?

**Download the Check In Qld app**



Download the app from

GET IT ON **Google Play** Download on the **App Store**

**You're going to need this app!**

From 1am Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July, the Check in Qld app will be mandatory in all facilities where we dance, and we will all be required to check in when we arrive.

**Please use it to keep us all safe!**

**A wee ramble**

Keep an eye out for this new publication delivered to your email inbox! It's a wee ramble to keep you in the loop between editions of The Scottish Ramble.

*A wee ramble...* May/June 2021

A wee note to keep you in the loop... RSCDS Qld



**Date Claimer**  
Day of Dance in the Country  
18<sup>th</sup> September 2021  
Ropely (Near Gatton)

**AGM news 2021**

The RSCDS QLD AGM was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2021, with the following members elected to the following positions:

- **Chairman:** Judith Howlett
- **Vice Chairman:** Ken Rouse
- **Treasurer:** Connie Witt
- **Secretary:** Bryan Hacker
- **Membership Secretary:** Mark Dancer
- **Events Coordinator:** Cathy McLeod
- **Members:** Isobel Piotrkowski Diana Pascoe Fran Beusaert

**St Andrew's Closing Social**

27<sup>th</sup> November 2021  
at the Newmarket  
7:30pm

**Cost:** Members \$20  
Non-Members \$30

**Musicians:** Black Bear Duo

**Kingscliff Weekend**

3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> June 2022

**Note: New Date**

**Intermediate Day of Dance in Ropely** (near Gatton)

Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> Sept 2021

Look for details on pages 20 & 21

# IN LOVING Memory

## Remembering Stella Phillips



Former president, committee member and dedicated Gold Coast club member Stella Phillips, passed away at the age of almost 99 on April 29th.

Stella was born on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1922 in the small town of Capella in the Central Highlands of Queensland, the eldest of four daughters.

From primary school at Capella, Stella went to boarding school and then Teachers Training College in Brisbane.

Stella met then married Bob who was in the Air Force. They honeymooned in the Gold Coast hinterland after which they moved from Brisbane to Melbourne and then Darwin for his career in physical education training. Stella resumed her teaching career during this time.

Darwin was where they were introduced to Scottish Country dancing so on retiring to the Gold Coast in 1980, they joined the Burleigh Heads club.

The very hospitable Phillips duo hosted our club's annual Christmas party poolside at their home in the early years. There was always a theme for us to dress to.

When we outgrew their outdoor area and moved to licensed premises, Stella made and iced a Christmas cake, which was cut it into small portions. These were individually wrapped so each dancer could take one or two pieces home.

Stella's love of decorating and costumes were also on display each year at our Day of Dance. For many years she held working bees at her home creating many of the decorations.

Stella had an abiding love of social occasions. Her 70<sup>th</sup>, 80<sup>th</sup> and 90<sup>th</sup> birthdays were celebrated in great style with our dancing group as were Bob and Stella's 50<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversaries.

During the late 1990s, when there were four Scottish Country Dance groups on the Gold Coast, Stella attended classes at each group, keeping the lines of communication open. She enjoyed teaching at the Gold Coast when there was a fifth Thursday in a month, which enabled the visiting teachers at the time to have a break.

Stella kept detailed records of our club social events and dance programs.

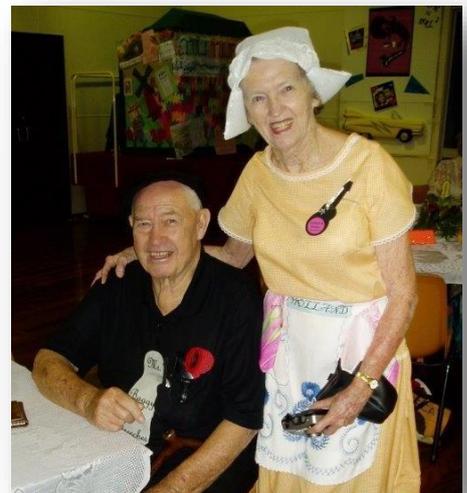
The records for each year were filed in a red hard cover A5 folder and from these, the first 20 years of club history was published in booklet form.

All proceeds from the sale of the booklets went into the club's coffers.

Stella was a Branch member for over 25 years, retaining her membership when unable to dance. She was a true advocate of Scottish Country Dancing and our club in particular.

The curtain closed gently for Stella at 7pm on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> April, just as our class was starting. Farewell dear friend.

Dot Merriman





## Remembering Flora Powell

Flora joined the Gold Coast Club in the early 1980s and being a true Scots lassie, loved the music and remembered all the dances. She was first to help the beginners and enjoyed doing so.

Flora was a regular attendee at the Presbyterian Church in Florence Street Tweed Heads and as such, was a strict teetotaler and did not gamble. Flora never purchased any raffle tickets.

Flora's sister travelled from the UK for a long visit every two years which was always a highlight. Flora attended Winter School every year, making craft items such as crocheted coat hangers to raise money to fund the travel.

She had a serious fall one year, injuring her ankle which never fully recovered. Flora didn't let that stop her and continued to attend Winter School and socials, dancing only strathspeys.

Flora always enjoyed wearing fancy dress and created some imaginative and original costumes to fit the various themes at our Days of Dance and Christmas parties.

Flora had married later in life welcoming one son who she raised as a single parent after her husband died when Andrew was young.

Andrew and wife Kerrie lived for some time in Tweed Heads when first married and Kerrie would drive Flora to Thursday night class.

As a four year old, Brodie the oldest granddaughter would also come to class and enjoyed twirling about on the dance floor.

We celebrated Flora's 80<sup>th</sup> birthday at Laguna Park in Palm Beach on a very hot Saturday afternoon.

Andrew assisted in cutting the very large cake.

A short time after this, Flora sold her home at Kirra Beach Holiday Park and moved to Manly West to live with Andrew and family.

Kerrie continued to drive Flora to the Gold Coast on the first Saturday in November so she could attend the Day of Dance dinner - in costume of course!

We always looked forward to having a chat with Flora at Branch socials, until she inevitably called time on going out and our long and valued association came to an end.

Dot Merriman



*Note:* After Flora left the Gold Coast, she continued to dance at Cleveland, Northside, and at socials, although in later years she only danced strathspeys, due to her failing eyesight. She celebrated her 90th birthday at Northside, and although by then she did a lot more sitting than dancing, she always enjoyed the music, and certainly loved a chat!" (Ed)

## News from the Gold Coast

Only one class has been cancelled this year due to a Covid scare, on the Thursday before Easter. Thankfully we were able to resume the following Thursday when cases had not increased.

We were sad to read in the paper late in March that Flora Powell, a club member in the 1980s and early 1990s had passed away in Brisbane at the age of 96.

Flora moved to Manly West to live with family but continued to attend the fancy dress social for our Day of Dancing in November each year.

Further sad news was received at the end of April when Stella Phillips, a club stalwart for nearly 40 years, passed away, aged almost 99.

A large contingent of club members attended Stella's funeral service on Friday May 7th.

We welcomed regular visitors from Tasmania, Sue and Bob Lucas to class for the first two weeks in May. When I say regular –except for the Covid closed 2020 of course. Sue and Bob said they resumed dancing in July last year as they were classed as a “sporting activity”.

The Gold Coast's first social for 2021 was on 22nd May commencing at 7pm.

We were blessed with great support from Brisbane and Ballina dancers.

We also welcomed two visitors from Melbourne. It was especially pleasing to acknowledge the reopening of Elspeth Lacey's Ballina class this year.

Ian Aitken piped the Grand Parade from the stage, to begin a relaxed and enjoyable evening with much laughter.

Our next social event is “A Touch of Tartan Tea Dance” commencing at 1.30pm on Saturday August 14.

The program has been devised by Sandra Bell. Traffic flow during the day from Brisbane to the Gold Coast is still affected by the continuing road works, so please allow plenty of time to travel. Our favourite musicians, Iain Mckenzie and Emma Nixon have been booked for the occasion.

The Tea Dance program is listed

Please mark the date in your diary.

Dot Merriman

## Gold Coast Scottish Country Dance Club

### A Touch of Tartan Tea Dance

Saturday 14 August 2021  
1pm for 1:30pm start

Maher Hall, Matilda Street, Burleigh Heads

**Musicians: The Black Bear Duo**

**Iain Mckenzie and Emma Nixon**

**Dancers \$20.00; non dancers \$10.00**

#### PROGRAMME

- |                             |        |                             |
|-----------------------------|--------|-----------------------------|
| 1. New Year Jig             | J8x32  | RSCDS 51                    |
| 2. The Flowers of Edinburgh | R8x32  | RSCDS 1                     |
| 3. The Silver Tassie        | S8x32  | John Drewry<br>Bon Accord   |
| 4. Cutty Sark               | J8x32  | RSCDS 40                    |
| 5. The Kangaroo Paw         | R8x32  | J Brenchley<br>Kangaroo Paw |
| 6. Gang the Same Gate       | S8x32  | RSCDS 36                    |
| 7. The Piper & The Penguin  | R88 Sq | R.Goldring<br>Scotia Suite  |
| 8. The Irish Rover          | R8x32  | 30 Pop DancesV2             |
| 9. Cherrybank Gardens       | S3x32  | 30 Pop DancesV2             |
| 10. Shiftin' Bobbins        | R8x32  | 30 Pop DancesV2             |

#### HIGH TEA

- |                           |       |                 |
|---------------------------|-------|-----------------|
| 11. Pelorus Jack          | J8x32 | 30 Pop DancesV2 |
| 12. Delvine Side          | S8x32 | 30 Pop DancesV2 |
| 13. Orpington Caledonians | R8x32 | RSCDS 49        |
| 14. Minister on the Loch  | S3x32 | 30 Pop DancesV2 |
| 15. The De'il Amang the   | R8x32 | RSCDS 14        |

Tailors

*Auld Lang Syne*



## Phyllis South celebrates a milestone!

Phyllis South, with her husband Jim, were instrumental in establishing the South-East Queensland Branch (now the Queensland Branch) of the RSCDS. She recently celebrated a milestone birthday – lunch with a small group of friends. However, her daughter Helen had other ideas. So as Phyllis walked in to lunch with four close friends, what a surprise she got to discover forty of us waiting to wish her a Happy 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday! Most of us were dancing friends, but ten were from the Bayside Divas, a singing group that Phyllis belongs to. When the Divas stood and sang “You’ll Never Walk Alone”, there wasn’t a dry eye in the house.

After Phyllis had overcome her complete surprise, she spent the afternoon catching up with so many of us whom she hadn’t seen for quite a while. One person who was missing that day was her son David, who was supposed to be bringing his family up from Melbourne to complete the surprise. However, Melbourne was suddenly put into lockdown, and they couldn’t make it, much to everyone’s disappointment.

Helen thought that it would be nice for her mother to do a dance or two, but David had warned me that his mother probably wouldn’t join in, as she hadn’t danced for years. But David hadn’t reckoned on his mother’s determination. When it came time to dance, up she got, and said “Come on, we don’t need a walk through, a recap will be fine”, and then proceeded to give the recap herself! She danced *Machine Without Horses* and *Silver Tassie* without missing a beat, admittedly only 4 times through. We danced to David’s music, recorded by him the day before and downloaded by us from the Internet. He was determined that she should dance to his playing.

Then she joined with the Bayside Divas and entertained us with a couple of their numbers – song and dance, of course!

This wasn’t Phyllis’s first surprise party. In 1984, when she had been dancing for 25 years, Jim gave her a surprise party, so Helen was really just following in her father’s footsteps. Jim had to resort to a lot of subterfuge to make sure it was a total surprise, and without mobile phones and the Internet, he had quite a job. Helen simply had to steal her mother’s address book and phone (without her knowledge, of course) to get some contact numbers. And then she just waited for the Scottish country dancing grapevine to get to work, and suddenly the party was full! Phyllis had wondered why things seemed to move around her granny flat when she was out. She also suspected that Helen had a secret admirer, because Helen would often hang up the phone as soon as Phyllis walked in. Little did she know!

Phyllis certainly enjoyed lunch with her unexpected guests, and had a good time looking at old photos, catching up with old friends, and even doing a bit of dancing – still with toes pointed and perfect 3<sup>rd</sup> position!!

Cathy McLeod



Phyllis with daughter Helen and granddaughter Zara





## Desley Butters-Whitehouse

Born February 9, 1940; Died May 9, 2021

A large number of family, friends from the Scottish Country Dancing community, and elsewhere, were able to attend Desley's funeral on May 13 at Holy Trinity, Woolloongabba, where she had been baptised and her parents married. As an only child she soon realised that while genuine friendship is important, it doesn't always come easily, and then went on to make many friends over her lifetime. Several people spoke about the contribution that she had made in the many and varied aspects of her life. Kay Lane from the Order of St John, of which Desley was a member, spoke about her philanthropic work as well as her travel exploits, including those on a nuclear-powered Russian ice-breaker to St Petersburg, and being one of a very select group of people who have visited the North Pole. Jan Thorne spoke about Desley's work with the WRAAC and her continued commitment to the ideals and ethos of the RSL, which was celebrated with poppies gathered from the congregation, being placed on the coffin.

Representing Desley's family, Danielle Grinev spoke of her qualities as a strong, successful, and sometimes challenging, woman and of her surprising culinary delights, as well as her involvement in dance and music. Many dancers will remember the St Valentine's Day Ceilidh in 2020 where we celebrated Desley and Michael's **'170 years of love, laughter and living'** with music, dancing and performances. Joanne McDiamid from Holy Trinity described her involvement in bellringing, singing in the choir as well as acting as a research assistant to Michael in research and publications. Although not always serene or patient, her kindness, generous and willing heart, and positive approach to life will be much missed.

Brother Donald, who officiated at their wedding at St Philips, recalled that it was a most joyous occasion, particularly after she had been the maid of honour for many friends who agreed that, for her, it was 'about time'. We were reminded that it was also particularly appropriate to celebrate the life of a woman of faith on Ascension Day, and that the end of life is not the end of living.

After they bought their holiday home in Deepwater, Desley also become very involved in another local community, at local race meetings, organising ceilidhs and as a writer for the Glen Innes newspaper. Those dancers who went to Tenterfield last December, and were able to visit Desley and Michael in their railway crossing keeper's cottage in Deepwater, remember that, and many other similar occasions, with much pleasure.

Family and friends, including lines of dancers bedecked in their tartan finery, were able to form a guard of honour as she departed on her final journey.

Ken



*I really liked Desley and have known her since the 90s. I admired her warmth, down to earth attitude, generosity, good humour and positivity, amongst her many other qualities.*

*I am so grateful that I got to see Desley and Michael in Deepwater last December, during our Tenterfield travels. They welcomed a group of about 12 Scottish Country Dancers into their small wooden cottage and were right in their element, handing out cups of tea and cake, enjoying the company and lots of hilarity, as we crowded into their small parlour. It was such a happy afternoon and that is my last memory of Desley.*

Diana

# Vale

## Dame Desley Butters-Whitehouse DSJ



Dame Desley passed away after a long illness on 9th May this year. Her funeral was held at the Holy Trinity Church, Woolloongabba, on Thursday, 13th May, the church where not only was she a parishioner, but the same parish where her parents were married, and also where she was baptized.

In a packed congregation there was a strong presence of the Order of Saint John. Her red robe was draped over the coffin, the Grand Priory Standard was displayed, and many Knights and Dames attended, forming a Guard of Honour at the end of the service. Brisbane Commander Dame Leanne O'Shea read the lesson, Dame Dr Kay Lane presented one of the three eulogies, and Prior Charles Clark was the organist. As well as Members of the Order, the Guard of Honour was made up of members of the WRAAC and of the Scottish Dancers, all of which included Desley as a member. The traditional Poppy Ceremony for Service Personnel with sounding of the Last Post was included.

In her working life Desley was a court reporter. Her skills were put to good use as Minute Secretary of the Queensland Priory Administrative Council, a position she held for many years, producing meticulously correct minutes. Desley met and married Chevalier Michael Whitehouse at Scottish dancing; and together they attended most functions of the Order. As Michael was a widower, she took on the role of mother and grandmother in the family and kept them together. She was very active, in army service with the WRAAC, then in world travel, Scottish dancing, U3A recorder group, and U3A Committee, and the Anglican Help Society operating Defence Force holiday suites at Coolangatta, as well as regular church attendance.

Three short eulogies were presented, one highlighting Desley's family and private life, one her extensive travel, and one mainly her Christian church life, from which much of the above information was derived. The editor is grateful for the presenters' willingness for their material to be used here.

Our sympathies are extended to Chevalier Michael and the many members of the family.

May Desley now rest in peace and rise in glory. ☩

### *Graceville SCD performing "The Deepwater Reel" in Desley's honour.*



*Scottish Country Dancers, Contra Dancers and all Friends*

are invited to

## *Desley's Farewell Solstice Party*

To be held at

St Philip's Church Hall  
Cnr Cornwall & Emperor Streets, Annerley

On the

Sunday 27th June 2021, 1.20 pm for 2 pm



Our host  
Michael Whitehouse

Dance Callers  
Connie Witt  
Anna Luszczyk  
Mary Davidson

Master of Ceremonies  
Robyn Craig

Music  
Emma Nixon & Friends  
Brisbane Contra Band



## Desley's Farewell Solstice Party

This party, hosted by husband Michael Whitehouse, was held at St Philip's Church Hall on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> June. It was so fortunate that it was not a few days later, when covid restrictions would have made it necessary to cancel the event. There must have been well over 60 people present to wish a fond farewell to Desley, who had passed away on 9<sup>th</sup> May. It was such a pity that Desley could not have been present and joined in the fun.

It was very much a Ceilidh, not just a Scottish Country Dancing event, but also with demonstrations by Morris Dancers, contra dancing, and a trio dancing a Sailor's Hornpipe. Live music kept dancers on their feet through most of the afternoon and – just for listening - a harp trio played some memorable music too. One Scottish County Dance which had been written just for Desley and Michael by Francis Walduck, was The Deepwater Reel, named after their second home in northern NSW.

Scottish Country Dancing filled the last hour of the evening, with a range of simple dances enjoyed by experienced and less- experienced dancers alike. One dance, devised especially for the occasion by Mary Davidson, was Desley Butters Whitehouse's Delight. It was a Medley, a Medley being a form of dance which Desley has especially liked.

Bryan Hacker

With thanks to Margaret Clancy for the photos





## Townsville Tartan Weekend

June 11 & 12, 2021

For the past seven years the Townsville Scottish Community has organised a Tartan Weekend. It previously consisted of a Clansmen's Ceilidh on Saturday night and then a morning of Scottish events at Cotter's Market: massed pipe bands, a parade of clan and tartan banners, kirking of the tartan, highland and SC dancing and some heavy lifting events run by a local gym. The Black Bear Duo and Brian Bisset have been for the last few of years to add to festivities.

Up till this year TSCD has been part of the Ceilidh, also danced in the morning at Cotter's Market and participated in the march. This year it was decided that TSCD would also have our own social. It came about because Covid restrictions at the Clansmen's Ceilidh venue stipulated that only twelve dancers were permitted on the dance floor at any one time. This was really special as it is the first TSCD event that has had live music in the past ten years. For a number of dancers it was the first time they danced to live music.

We had thirty keen dancers turn out to dance for two hours on Saturday afternoon before we headed out to the Clansmen's Ceilidh. The numbers at the Ceilidh were half those in previous years but everyone enjoyed the meal and entertainment. We danced *Spiffin* as a display dance in our newly acquired Queensland sashes and royal blue t-shirts for the ladies and the men resplendent in kilts. We all looked very spiffy and got many favourable comments on the performance.

The next day at Cotter's Market we performed *Spiffin* then two sets of *De'il Amang the Tailors* for the SCD dancers present. The audience participation dances were a big success with the *Prince of Orange* and four sets for *Charlestown Chaser*. From this we have had a new dancer come along to class. We had the most dancers we have ever had in the march and many had their own clan banners. We even got an extra clap when people recognised us from the dancing earlier in the morning.

All in all Tartan Weekend was very successful for TSCD and the dancers are still talking about how much they enjoyed the weekend.





### Two Socials in one weekend!

The fourth weekend in April 2021 was a long weekend to remember, with the Branch's Opening Social on the Saturday afternoon and what was promoted as a 'Mini-Social' on Monday evening. Both Socials complied with COVID regulations, with our style of dancing being termed 'Recreational Structured Partner Dancing'.

The Opening Social was held in St Philip's Hall, Buranda. About 35 dancers attended, and it was great to welcome a group from the Gold Coast. The program included 16 dances, many well-known but also including *Edina's Pride*, new to many of us. The ever-popular *Irish Rover* was also included, and for the final dance, *Mairi's Wedding*. Dancing was to the wonderful music of Black Bear Duo, Iain McKenzie and Emma Nixon. Mid-program a high tea was served, again remembering COVID safe practices.

Monday evenings at Love Street usually include Beginners', Intermediate and Advanced Classes but, on learning that Iain McKenzie was staying a few more days in Brisbane, the suggestion was made that he play for a 'Mini-Social' on the Monday and he kindly agreed. Much to everybody's surprise, about 45 people turned up, with good numbers of less-experienced dancers and up to five sets dancing. The 12 dance program included alternating simpler dances, denoted by an asterisk, such as *Kingston Flyer*, and more complex dances, such as *Nottingham Lace*. Everyone we have met since said what a great evening it was - clearly, we should hold 'Mini-Socials' more often! The live music made all the difference to the evening – thank you Iain.

Bryan & Jenny Hacker



# A Right Royal Weekend

Kingscliff 2021

## Weekend of Dance at Kingscliff – Thoughts from a Novice

As a relative newcomer to the world of Scottish Country Dancing, the Kingscliff Weekend of Dance was my first experience of intensive dancing away from my Monday evening class at Love Street.

Arriving at Kingscliff on Friday afternoon, I was delighted with the absolute beach front panorama from the Cabin – glistening ocean, clear blue sky and the soothing sounds of gently rolling surf. What a perfect location for relaxation – and better still for a leisurely stroll along the coastal path to the community hall for dancing.

The Friday evening Social was a happy and lively dance, as well as a great opportunity to meet other enthusiastic dancers from south east Queensland and northern New South Wales. Classes on Saturday morning and afternoon and Sunday morning were lots of fun and - for me - a very steep learning curve as I tried to negotiate the intricacies of the dances. Just as well I had the patient and generous support of experienced dancers to lead me in the right direction and offer friendly smiles of encouragement.

How amazing to see the splendid gowns and tiaras for the “Royal” Social on Saturday evening. And to be uplifted by the stirring music of the Black Bear Duo.

In between the dancing sessions there were morning teas, afternoon teas, lunches and suppers (we were very well-nourished!), and relaxing times for spirited discussion to identify the marriage photos of Royal couples that adorned the walls.

A fabulous weekend! And, yes, the dates for Kingscliff in 2022 are already in my diary! Thank you to all the organisers of this happy dancing event.

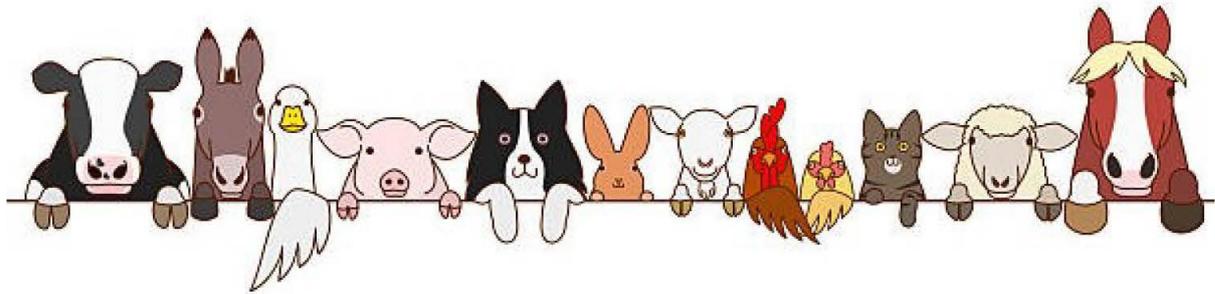
Carol Masel





*Thank you for a wonderful weekend*

# *Intermediate Day of Dance in the Countryside*



*You're invited by RSCDS Qld Branch*

*TIME: Saturday 18th September 2021,  
9:30am – 3.15pm*

*PLACE: Immanuel Lutheran Church hall, 400 Ropeley Rockside Rd, Ropeley  
(15 mins South of Gatton, 90 minutes from Brisbane city)*

*COST: All day – \$25, Afternoon social only – \$10*

## *More details:*

- Morning class (Elementary – Intermediate standard) 9.30am – midday.  
Teacher – Heather Heron*
- Afternoon social (Elementary – Intermediate standard) 1:15pm – 3:15pm.  
Music by Bruce Mitchell & Calum Marquis*
- Although the whole day is aimed at beginner-intermediate dancers, ALL DANCERS WELCOME!*
- The Lutheran Church hall at Ropeley has a lovely country atmosphere, but, most importantly, a great floor to dance on – wooden and not slippery at all! There is bush all around, cows in the paddock next door, and as with all church halls in the country, a lovely big kitchen.*
- What to bring: Your morning and afternoon tea, drink bottle, dancing shoes, a hat and a smile! A group photo will be taken on the day.*
- Coffee and tea provided (and a cuppa with your lunch)*
- **BBQ lunch included***

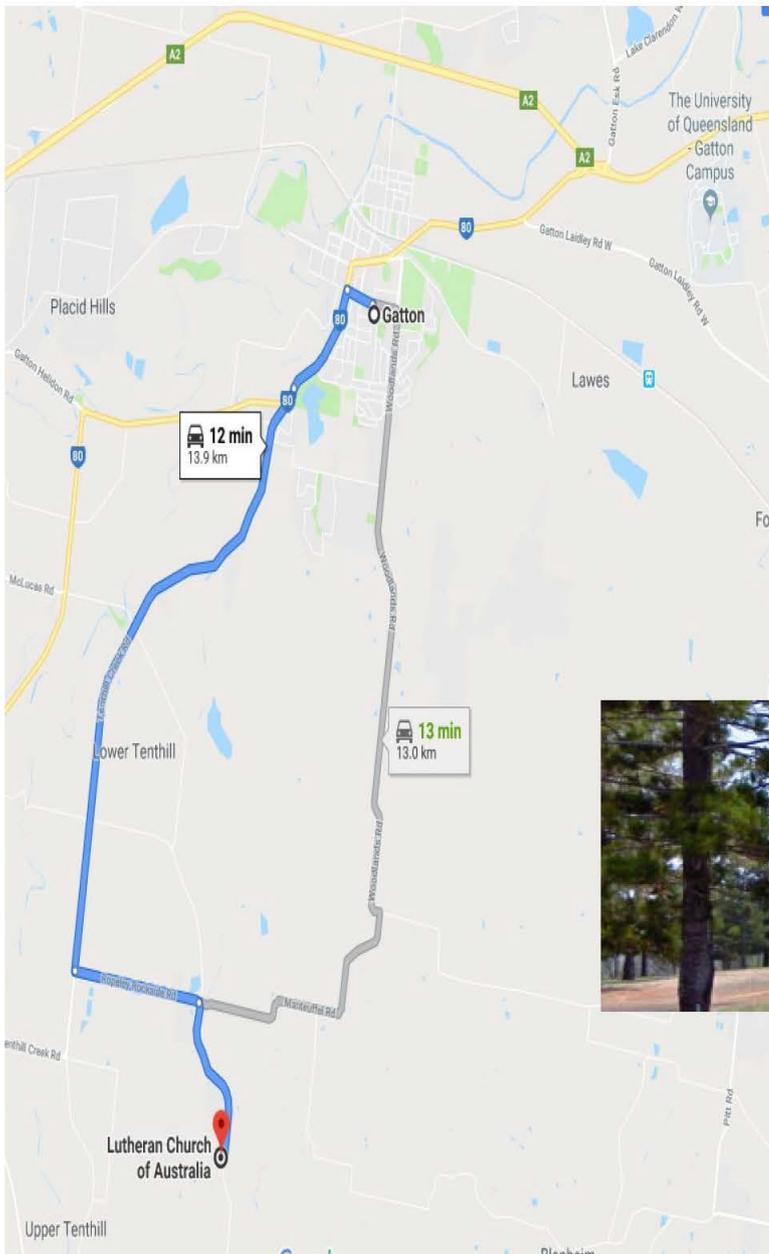
Enquiries for the day, and for car-pooling:



Cathy McLeod (Brisbane) 3288 2248



Margaret Connell (Toowoomba) 4614 0423



**Directions from Brisbane to Ropeley Lutheran church:**

- Drive to Gatton. Turn left at the lights onto Railway St.
- After 1.7km (past the Apex Park), veer left towards Mt Sylvia onto Tenthill Creek Rd. Travel on this for 8km.
- Turn left onto Ropeley Rockside Rd. After 4km, the Immanuel Lutheran Church and hall are on your right.

Immanuel Lutheran Church,  
Ropeley



**Afternoon social**

Elementary – Intermediate standard  
1:15pm – 3:15pm.

Music: Bruce Mitchell & Calum Marquis

1.	<a href="#">New Year Jig</a>	(J8x32)	3C (4C set)	RSCDS Bk 51
2.	<a href="#">Catch the Wind</a>	(R8x32)	3C (4C set)	RSCDS Bk 45
3.	<a href="#">Save the Children</a>	(S8x32)	3C (4C set)	RSCDS Book 51
4.	<a href="#">Well Done Jack</a>	(J8x32)	3C (4C set)	RSCDS Bk 29
5.	<a href="#">Trip to Bavaria</a>	(R4x32)	4C set	Collins/J MacGregor-Brown
6.	<a href="#">Cherrybank Gardens</a>	(S 3x32)	3C set	30 Popular Dances Bk 2
7.	<a href="#">Barton Barbecue</a>	(R4x32)	4C set	S Petyt Tartan Rainbow
8.	<a href="#">Machine Without Horses</a>	(J 8x32)	3C (4C set)	RSCDS Bk 12
9.	<a href="#">Jenny's Bawbee</a>	(S6x24)	2C (3C set)	RSCDS Bk 5
10.	<a href="#">The De'il Among the Tailors</a>	(R8x32)	3C (4C set)	RSCDS Bk 14

# FLASHBACK



RSL House Brookfield 1986  
Back Row: ..... Isabel Grieg, Helen Auld, Kay Lane, Irene Scott  
Front Row: Desley Butters, Rebecca McCrae

... to 1986  
A bevy of  
beautiful  
belles



# FEEDBACK

To the amazing Cathy, leader of her creative and hardworking team, Congratulations on the excellent Kingscliff Right Royal Weekend. A very successful and happy event. The months of planning and hard work is much appreciated and must not be underestimated. People were full of praise and enthusiasm. Please forward our thanks to all your team. Many thanks and kind regards from Helen and Ossie

Hi Cathy  
Could you pass on a thank you to all the QLD and Northern NSW dancers for their appreciation of the music over the Kingscliff weekend. It was nice to receive the Thank You card and gift voucher from everyone (it'll definitely be translated into a good malt whisky).

It was clear that the weekend was enjoyed by all, and everyone responded to the circumstances late in the day in the run up to the weekend. What a team!! It was great to see that we can all adapt to the times we're living in, and how readily the dancers acknowledged and accepted any changes to the plans.

And thanks for your continued support of live music for these events.  
Cheers, Iain  
Iain Mckenzie

I had the best time and this was because the whole weekend was so well put together. I would attend anything you put together Cathy. x Definitely attending next year and by that time I will have more dancers my way to come (hopefully Simone and Rich) I know I'm a little slower to catch on, however, all were soooo patient and kind to prompt my memory. Looking forward to your day of dance in Gatton. Best wishes and a big thank you. Sharna x

Thank you Cathy, for a most enjoyable weekend. The list of dances taught at the weekend was most appreciated.

Looking forward to another happy weekend with you all next year.  
Jean, from your southern state!

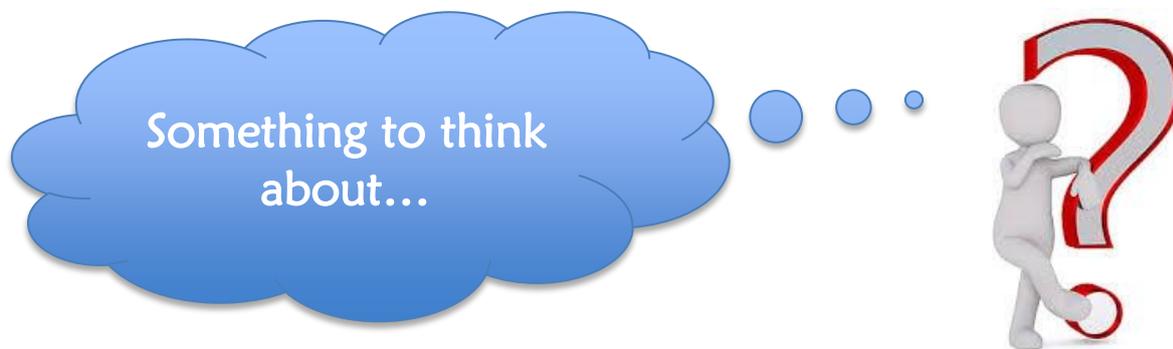
Thank you and your enthusiastic team of teachers and organisers for this dancing opportunity. It was a wonderful weekend. And the 2022 dates are already in my diary! Carol

Just wanted to say a very big thanks to you and your team for a very enjoyable weekend of dancing. Connie, in particular, seemed to work non-stop. I really enjoyed the variety of teachers. I wish to highlight Ken. What a great job he did. Magnificent voice and thus presentation...Thanks again - a really enjoyable weekend. Regards, Garry

Thanks and congratulations to the 2021/2022 Queensland Branch committee. Thank you for stepping up and making sure that SCD in Queensland continues, Kind regards Margaret

Thanks Cathy...your team did a marvellous job! Well done! Geoff

Dear people behind the Wee Ramble  
It is wonderful to have the latest news quickly and especially in the colourful and easy to read format. Many thanks,  
Helen and Ossie



## The Fine Art of Standing Still

As dancers, we appreciate the experience of dancing our "turn" as first couple; then we step down to the bottom of the set to stand still. We can rest... perhaps admire our colleagues or partner, prepare for our next turn, or just listen to our fine musicians while the dancing continues. Standing still does not mean standing idle. Standing still is an integral part of the dance, whether you are an active dancer or a supporting dancer awaiting your turn. Technically, one stands in 1st position at the ready, arms by the side, with correct posture, smiling (of course), eyes watching, ready to dance. The standing couple, whether at the top or foot of the set, also has the important function of maintaining the set size (width & length). Maintaining a balance of dancing and standing is a challenge to devisors.

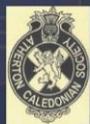
Think about dancing a three-couple dance in a four-couple set. Poor 4s...their job is to stand for 32 bars while the three other couples enjoy dancing. Or are they? In many traditional dances (e.g., *The Duke of Perth*), as the 1s are busy dancing for all 32 bars the first time through, the 2s and 3s dance only 14 bars. In the ever-popular *De'il Amang the Tailors*, 1s dance 32 bars, 2s dance 24 bars, 3s 8 bars, and 4s zero bars. In *Mairi's Wedding*, 1s dance 40 bars, 2s and 3s for 24 bars, as 4s wait, standing still for 40 bars. Sometimes a dance instructs us to stand still even when we're one of the active couples. In *Minister on the Loch*, the 1s and 3s dance double figures of 8 around the 2s who stand still, elegantly one hopes, in the centre of the action.

Such periods of great activity followed by periods of inactivity, are also reflected in the origins of Scottish country dance. Years (and years) ago, the Druids danced, but then dancing seemingly disappeared, for a variety of reasons, including strong Scottish church disapproval of dancing, associated as they imagined with witchcraft. Then, Mary Queen of Scots introduced French dances at her court, and round the room dances became all the rage. Flows and ebbs. Country dancing developed in the early 18th century, as dancing masters and families passed along dances by word of mouth, and many events, like ceilidhs or "harvest-home" celebrations were enjoyed. Queen Victoria, as noted in a previous S&L article, indulged in dancing with great zeal. Dancing continued, especially in Scotland, until about the First World War. Then again, dance rested and waited. Scottish country dance was reawakened when Miss Milligan and Mrs Stewart formed the SCD Society in 1923, and we continue to enjoy the benefits of their work today.

In this time of pandemic, we are asked to "stand still" and to stand apart. Understanding how standing still is a necessary part of the dance's design as we stand at the ready helps us prepare for our inevitable return to dance. We are still standing still, waiting and "reely" ready for our next turn. Wait, did I just hear a chord?

...**Teresa Lockhart RSCDS Toronto via Denise Smith**

# THE ATHERTON TABLELAND CALEDONIAN SOCIETY



INVITES YOU TO JOIN US IN  
CELEBRATING THE



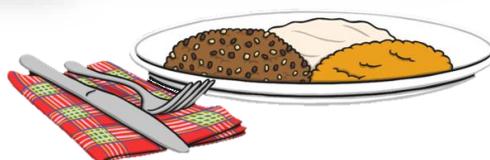
## Year of Scotland in Australia



with a

### "BRAW SCOTS DINNER & CEILIDH"

- The Pipes & Drums of the United Tablelands Pipe Band
- Highland Dancing
- Music by The Black Bear duo - Iain McKenzie (accordion) & Emma Nixon (fiddle)
- Sing along to your favourite Scottish tunes with the Scottish bass-baritone Brian Bissett
- Delicious 2 course meal (including haggis)
- Lots of ceilidh dancing
- Online tickets : <https://www.trybooking.com/eventlist/athertontablelandcaledoniansociety>  
\$50 Adults \$10 School Children
- Venue: PCYC Mareeba (Shire Hall) 136 Walsh Street, Mareeba
- Date: Saturday 31st July Any enquiries: Norma 0417 541 126



**Note:** In Coff's Harbour so S.E.Qld AND NSW dancers can easily attend

## HUNTER VALLEY BRANCH BALL 2021

Saturday 21<sup>th</sup> August

Cavanbah Hall at 191 Harbour Drive, Coffs Harbour

Music by Iain Mackenzie and Emma Nixon

Tickets \$50 early bird discount, \$60 after 15th August

Drinks & Nibbles at 6pm and Dancing from 6:30pm

Programme Devisor: Jan McCudden

Dress: Evening Attire

### GRAND MARCH

1. Black Donald	J32	2c/3c set	D. Haynes Carnforth 2
2. Bohemian Reflections	R32	3c/4c set	RSCDS Bk 51
3. Bridge of Nairn	S32	3c/4c set	RSCDS Bk 13
4. Follow Me Home	J32	3c/4c set	RSCDS Bk 38
5. The Reverend John MacFarlane	R32	4c/4c set	RSCDS Bk 37
6. Mist O'er the Loch	S32	3c/4c set	Queen's Diamond Jubilee
~Dinner~			
7. Christine M Phillips	J32	3c/4c set	RSCDS Bk 46
8. The Golden Wedding Strathspey	S40	4c/4c set	RSCDS Bk 33
9. Shiftin' Bobbins	R32	3c/4c set	Roy Clowes Ormskirk 6
10. John Cass	J32	5c/5c set	RSCDS Bk 49
11. Trip to the Vineyards	R32	3c/4c set	Heinz DUEWELL Hunter Valley Bk
12. A Summer Meeting	S32	3c/3c set	RSCDS Bk 48
~ Dessert ~			
13. Milltimber Jig	J32	2c/3c set	RSCDS Bk 41
14. Clutha	R48	4c Sq set	RSCDS Bk 31
15. Bob Campbell	S32	3c/4c set	John Drewry Canadian Bk
16. Anniversary Reel	R32	4c/4c set	RSCDS Bk 36
17. The Silver Grey	S32	3c/3c set	Roy Goldring Graded & Social 2
18. The Dancing Man	R32	3c/4c set	RSCDS 2 <sup>nd</sup> Graded Bk

### AULD LANG SYNE

Enquiries: Allyn Douglass at [hvrs cds@gmail.com](mailto:hvrs cds@gmail.com) or phone 0422747965

If you are interested in purchasing tickets, please contact Heather Heron  
...[hetheron@iinet.net.au](mailto:hetheron@iinet.net.au)

## Registration form

Name: .....

Address: .....

Post code: ..... **Mobile Phone** .....

Email: .....

Age: Under 25 on 30 September? Yes  No

Branch/Club: .....

RSCDS Member No: .....

Dance Class preference: Developing/Intermediate

Advanced Low Impact

Advanced High impact

Not registering for dance

Ask your teacher for advice. Final class allocation will be at the discretion of organisers.

Musicians' workshop Yes  No

Do you have any dietary requirements or allergies? .....

Registrations open on 1 July and close on 7 September.

Online registration is preferred and will be available from 1 July via the Branch website at [www.rscds-canberra.org/](http://www.rscds-canberra.org/) or complete this form and scan to [minischoolcanberra@gmail.com](mailto:minischoolcanberra@gmail.com)

Payment by EFT preferred. You will be sent bank details for EFT after you register.

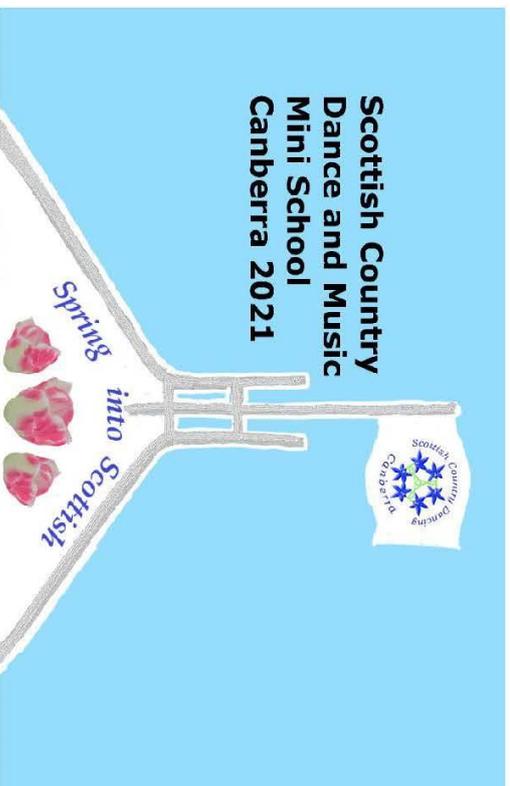
I require transport from: Canberra Airport

Canberra Train station

Canberra bus station

None required

Please email registrar with flight or service details and arrival time.



### Presented by RSCDS Canberra & District Branch

Join us in Canberra, the capital city of Australia for a wonderful Mini-School this Spring.

Starts at 12.30pm for dancers and 3pm for musicians Thursday 30 September and finishes after Brunch Sunday 3 October.

Covid-19 has unfortunately curtailed many activities, including dancing, over the past year and our Winter School could not go ahead as planned.

We hope that this boutique event will inspire you to join us at our new dancing and music event. Due to the ongoing challenges of planning while we still live with Covid, we are not providing accommodation or meals, apart from supper at our evening dance events and brunch on Sunday.



## What attendees can expect at our mini-school

**For dancers:** Three dance classes, welcome social, a fun social night of "bring your own dinner", walk through of Ball dances, Ball with Chris Duncan and Catherine Strutt at the Albert Hall, brunch on Sunday. Our wonderful talented dance teachers are Diana Hastie, Frances Wallace and Kira Dowling.

**For musicians:** Three classes with Chris Duncan, who needs no introduction, a fun social night of "bring your own dinner", brunch on Sunday, the option of attending dancing events (Ball, Social). Alternatively sign up for both dancing and music classes.

**Free time** to explore Canberra's springtime and national offerings such as Floriade, National Gallery of Australia, National Botanic Gardens, Museum of Australia etc.

**School Musicians:** Playing for our classes and evening events we have a fantastic line-up of musicians: Chris Duncan, Catherine Strutt, Bob McInnes, Jane Ellis, and Iain McKenzie.

### Disclaimer

People attending this school will do so at their own risk. Every reasonable effort will be made to make the school a safe and enjoyable event. RSCDS Canberra and District Branch disclaim liability for personal injury or any loss or damage to property during the school. All attendees must comply with the ACT Covid rules in place at the time of the event and the Canberra Branch covid safety plan. The Branch reserves the right to refuse entry to any registrant coming from a Government-declared hotspot or otherwise presenting a risk of covid transmission.

### Dance Classes

#### Three classes in each of the following levels

- **Developing/intermediate:** This class is designed for those with some experience in Scottish Country Dancing, who are still developing their skills around the intermediate level. Join in this class to polish and refine common formations and steps, while also dancing socially with others and having lots of fun!
- **Advanced low impact:** The emphasis in this class will be on the overall execution of dances. Participants must be competent dancers with a good grasp of steps & formations & the conventions of Scottish Country Dancing, who do not want, or cannot sustain, high intensity technique practice. However, dancers must be prepared for low impact practice & revision (& 'memory jogging').
- **Advanced high impact:** This class is aimed at those who are capable of dancing all steps and formations with good technique. The aims are to improve steps with the option of personal critique, work on some of the more advanced formations and enjoy a few high energy dances.

## Music workshops

Three sessions with Chris Duncan, "How to play for a dance", "How to play for a class" and "Putting it into practice".

### Cost details

Dance classes	Non-member	RSCDS Member
Musicians' workshops only	\$210	\$190
Both dance classes and music workshops	\$90	\$70
	\$260	\$220

If you are under 25 at the time of the Mini-school, the fees will be 50% of the above stated rates.

Venues are the Church of St Andrews and Wesley Uniting Church in Forrest for classes and The Albert Hall for the Ball.

### Cancellation Policy

If you cancel before the 7 September, you will receive a full refund. Refunds after this time will incur an administration fee.

If we cancel due to Covid restrictions you will receive a full refund, or if we decide that you cannot attend at short notice due to being in a Covid hotspot, you will receive a full refund.

### Contacts/enquiries

Convenor: Toni Watson

[minischoolcanberra@gmail.com](mailto:minischoolcanberra@gmail.com)

Registrar: Glensys Bishop

[minischoolcanberra@gmail.com](mailto:minischoolcanberra@gmail.com)





12 months later than planned ...

# 50th Anniversary Weekend

3RD - 5TH SEPTEMBER 2021

MUSICIAN FOR THE WEEKEND IAIN MCKENZIE

**Friday 3rd Sept at Government House, Hobart**  
*celebrating Scottish Heritage & Tascal's Formation*

Formal reception @ 6.00 pm, bookings essential, limited spaces

**Saturday 4th Sept at Hellenic House**  
*celebrating Tascal's 50 years*

Celebratory Luncheon together 1.00 for 1.15 pm

Evening Ball 7.00 for 7.30 p.m.

Note - walk through of dances 10.00 a.m. - 12.00 noon  
(Costs ... Luncheon = \$45; Ball = \$25; Both = \$65)

**Sunday 5th Sept; celebration of old and new;**

morning tea, social dancing & light lunch

10.30 am - 3.30 pm @ \$10.00

Bookings - URL code (on left) or ...

<https://www.trybooking.com/BPGNL>

Enquiries to Denice Walter

email: [derekwalter@bigpond.com](mailto:derekwalter@bigpond.com)

ph: (03) 6224 1105





RSCDS-Hawaii announces  
Aloha Winter Weekend 2022

**Save the Dates! February 18, 19 and 20, 2022  
Honolulu, Hawaii  
for the  
Aloha Winter Weekend Scottish Country Dance workshop.**

Our guest instructor is Jeanne Moody, from San Diego, CA,

Live music provided by  
The Humuhumunukuukuapua'a and  
Strathspey Society band from the San Francisco  
Bay area.



*Learn more about the weekend at  
[RSCDSHawaii.org](http://RSCDSHawaii.org). Contact [Bruce McEwan](#)  
or [Melissa Lindsay](#) with questions or hopes to attend.*

