

Branch Family Ceilidh: Saturday 15th February 2020

The ceilidh was organized to promote and encourage Country Dancing. The evening was enjoyed by approximately 50 dancers, including children. An excellent two piece band provided the music. Little did we know that a month later all dancing would be cancelled due to an outbreak of Coronavirus and our good intentions to encourage these dancers to our classes were lost.



RSCDS Headquarters have been extremely good producing classes by ZOOM and Dance Scottish at Home (DSAH). I hope all members are receiving notifications by email, if not please contact RSCDS Headquarters and ask to be included.

We have been asked to encourage dancers to maintain their membership of RSCDS and the Branch. It would appear that members have been responding favourably to this request and although numbers are down slightly most of our members have rejoined this year. The Committee is extremely grateful for your continued support.

Branch AGM

Our Branch Annual General Meeting took place on 19th September via ZOOM due to the continued restrictions in place due to COVID19.

The following were elected as Office Bearers and Committee for 2020-2021:

Chairman:	Frances Gilmour	
Secretary:	Diana Mallinson	
Treasurer:	Anne Kyle	
Committee:	Yvonne Evans	Margaret Gamble
	Marjorie Lironi	Irene Mathieson
	Myra Plenderleith	Arthur Reilly

Marie Hélène Murtagh was re-appointed as webmaster.

The Chairman paid thanks to Jeanette Boyd who had decided to stand down after many years of stalwart service to the Branch both as a Committee member and a period as Secretary. Marjory Lironi and Myra Plenderleith were welcomed as full members of the Committee.

Due to the unprecedented circumstances and as no members had stepped forward to fill the posts of Secretary and Treasurer, Diana Mallinson and Anne Kyle agreed to continue in their respective roles for another year.

Message from the new Chairman

I am delighted to have been elected as your new Chairman. For those who do not know me, I am from Larkhall and have been Country Dancing for a good number of years. I attend the classes on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and, once the Coronavirus restrictions are over and dancing resumes, I will introduce myself to you. Like all of you I miss the dancing and the associated friendship and fellowship of the classes.

Pitlochry Weekend: 9th to 11th October 2020



We had prepared for the Annual Pitlochry Dance Weekend at the Atholl Palace Hotel as usual but as restrictions were still in place this had to be cancelled. However, the ladies from Ayrshire and Thurso asked if they could still go to the hotel for the weekend despite there not being any dancing. This was arranged and nineteen (including nine from Hamilton) enjoyed a very pleasant break in rural Perthshire. The evenings were spent solving quizzes which had been devised by Anne Kyle and Anne Gillion. Drinks had to be consumed outside but everyone “wrapped up” and braved the cold to enjoy a glass of wine and “fizz” prior to dinner.

RSCDS Annual General Meeting: Saturday 7th November 2020

Frances Gilmour and Diana Mallinson represented the Branch at the virtual AGM held via ZOOM. The meeting was recorded and can be viewed on YouTube

<https://www.rscds.org/events/rscds-agm-2020>

Because of the changed format, voting for places on the Headquarters Boards and Committees took place electronically in advance of the meeting.

The following were elected:

Management Board

Trevor Clark, Neil Copland and Fiona Grant.

Each to serve for three years.

Jane Meikle, Joan Nesbit and David Macdonald.

Each to serve for two years.

Education and Training Committee

Oluf Olufsen and Rachel Shankland

Each to serve for three years.

Lorna Ogilvie was appointed as Chairman and she spoke very well after taking over the reins from Andrew Kellet.

Scrolls of Honour were awarded to:

Jim Healy

Marjorie McLaughlin

Fiona Miller

Ian Muir

Ron Wallace

Marilyn Watson

Ruby Wilkinson

Angela Young

Branch delegates voted to retain the annual fees at the current level and William Williamson was appointed as Chairman-elect.

Other news

It is with much sadness that we have to report the deaths of Liz Wilson (Alison Robertson's sister), Roy Gamble (Margaret's husband), Jim Green (husband of Thelma, past members who moved south several years ago) and Janie Thain, a more recent past member.

We live in hope that life will return to normal in 2021 and that dancing will resume. Until then look after yourselves.



The Committee of the Hamilton & Clydesdale Branch of RSCDS wishes all
our members

*A Peaceful and Joyful Christmas
and a Happy and Healthy 2021*