SCOTIA CENTENARY 2002-2004

Patrons:
HRH The Princess Royal
HSH Prince Albert of Monaco

The Scotia Suite
of
Scottish
Country Dances

SCOTIA

THE SCOTIA SUITE OF SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCES

honouring the achievements of

WILLIAM SPEIRS BRUCE

and commemorating

THE VOYAGE OF THE SCOTIA

The research vessel of

THE SCOTTISH NATIONAL ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION
1902-1904

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Dances devised by
ROY GOLDRING

Music composed and arranged by
MURIEL JOHNSTONE

for

THE SCOTIA CENTENARY PROGRAMME

of the

ROYAL SCOTTISH GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

in collaboration with the

ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

rscds
Dance Scottish

WILLIAM SPEIRS BRUCE AND THE SCOTIA EXPEDITION

Antarctica Bound from Troon in November 1902, William Speirs Bruce was revisiting an area he first encountered in 1892 as a ship's surgeon and naturalist.

This Scottish National Antarctic Expedition was making for the **Scotia Sea**, whose island groups lent themselves to significant oceanographic, meteorological, glaciological and biological research. Heading for The **Ice Cap** of the south pole, Bruce contributed the major geographical discovery of 150 miles of previously uncharted coastline on the Antarctic continent. He named the coast **Coats Land**, after the main sponsors of his expedition – James and Andrew Coats of Paisley. Aboard the ship, Scotia, **Bruce's Men**, a band of experienced officers and crew from the, by then, largely redundant Scottish Arctic whaling fleet, and scientists who were the product of Scotland's academic traditions, lived and worked, sometimes totally icebound. Having completed their work, there was some time for relaxation, and one particular occasion provided a memorable photograph of **The Piper and the Penguin**, which has been taken up as the logo for current celebrations. Their safe return to Scotland in 1904 heralded the major, if largely unsung, contribution to our understanding of the Antarctic region, and surely made William **Speirs Bruce** truly a **Pole Star**.

CONTENTS