

The  
Scottish Country  
Dance Society  
Bulletin.

# The Scottish Country Dance Society Bulletin.

No. 1.

MARCH, 1932.

## Editorial.

The Executive Council have decided that the time has now come when a leaflet or magazine should be issued to members of the Society, so that each one of the 2,500 people who are interested in our old Country Dances may be kept in touch with the activities of our Society.

The first number includes notice of the Summer School, and a form of entry, which should be detached, filled up, and sent in as soon as possible. The School will be held in Edinburgh this year and the free afternoons will allow members an opportunity of visiting places of historical interest.

A number of members have asked for a copy of the letter dated 1802 which was mentioned in the last annual report, and this is included. Directions for dancing 42 dances dated 1805 were sent to the Society from the same source, and the best of these will be published in due course.

The Society has arranged to rent a Stand at the Highland and Agricultural Show this year at Inverness, where books and gramophone records will be sold, and a film of Scottish Country Dances will be shown. As it will be necessary to have a few members on duty the whole of each day of the Show, I shall be glad if anyone who intends going to Inverness at that time and who could devote one or more hours to the S.C.D.S. Stand, would send me their names by 1st May. Please tell your friends to come and visit this Stand.

Applications for Railway Vouchers for cheap fares to Edinburgh for the Summer School must be made to me before 1st July. These Vouchers will only be issued on condition that not less than 120 Members travel to Edinburgh by train, and will be available from 1st to 10th August.

I shall be glad if any members will send me news from their local district, or any queries, etc., which can be answered in the next issue of the magazine—this will probably be published in the Autumn.

March, 1932.

Y. STEWART, *Hon. Secy.*,  
3 Park Circus, Ayr.

### Summer School, 1932.

The Committee have been fortunate in securing three University Hostels, at Edinburgh, from Tuesday, 2nd to Tuesday, 9th August, for the sixth annual Summer School.

An application form is attached on last page, and this should be filled up and sent in as soon as possible. Entries will be dealt with in rotation. The fees will be the same as before—£3 13s. 6d. for the week for residents and £1 1s. 0d. for the week for non-residents. Non-members of the Society will pay an extra fee of 10/- for the Course.

Classes will be held from 9.45 a.m. to 1 o'clock daily. A special class will be held from 5.30 to 6.30, and there will be social dancing in the evenings. The afternoons are free for sight-seeing, expeditions, etc.

The Hostels are built round a grass quadrangle, and are just beyond Newington Station; there is a good tram service to Princes Street.

*Note.*—Please report at Secretary's Office on arrival between 3 and 5 o'clock on Tuesday afternoon, 2nd August.

No application will be considered for less than the week.

In the event of any member being prevented from attending, deposits will be refunded if notice of withdrawal is sent to the Secretary before 17th July.

Washing dresses or Gym. tunics are suitable wear for the classes.

Application for Cheap Fare Vouchers—see page 1.

### Places of Interest in Edinburgh.

War Memorial and Castle.

Palace of Holyrood House.

St. Giles Cathedral.

Scottish American War Memorial (in Princes Street Gardens).

National Gallery.

Royal Scottish Academy.

Royal Scottish Museum.

Museum of Antiquities (Queen Street).

Zoological Gardens.

Botanical Gardens.

Article by the President, reprinted from *The Scots Year Book*, 1931-1932.

To Scotland, and especially to the Highlands of Scotland, must be given the credit of having preserved the dancing of country dances in the ball-room up to the present day.

In the Lowlands and in many parts of England this type of dance was, until recent times, popular at most rural dances, but from the fashionable ball-room it had long since disappeared. It is characteristic of the Scottish temperament that such a democratic form of dance should have persisted until now as a social recreation common to every walk of life.

The Reel has always been considered a national dance, but at a comparatively early period country dances seem to have been equally popular on both sides of the Border. In the "Complaynt of Scotland," written in 1548, several country dances are mentioned, and similar dances were introduced at the Court of James VI., although they were originally folk dances.

By the eighteenth century there was a distinct Scottish variant known as L'Ecossoise; differing from the English equivalent, in that it was danced more energetically to a faster tempo, and to Scottish tunes. Probably owing to a northern influence more attention was paid to the execution of the steps.

The new-fashioned dances of to-day, collectively known as "Jazz," happened to be the only ones available at the moment to satisfy the craze for dancing which set in at the close of the Great War. Hence their popularity. The demobilised soldier knew no other form of dance, the old free-and-easy social spirit vanished, and dancing became a commercialised recreation for exclusive couples. In 1923, as an attempt to get back the old, joyful spirit of social comradeship, the Scottish Country Dance Society came into being. Since its inception it has succeeded beyond expectation, and there are now branches throughout Scotland, in London, and in our Dominions. Not only is the available repertory of Scottish Folk Dances being thoroughly explored, but by the Society's influence country dances are again beginning to take their proper place in the social life of the nation.

Three hundred years ago, at the Court of a Scottish king, folk-dancing was introduced as a revolt against the conventionalism and dullness of the dances of the period. Are there not signs to-day that a reaction is again setting in, and that once more the dance of the people will come into its own?

### Examinations for Teachers Certificate.

This was instituted soon after the formation of the Society, as it was felt that, unless Teachers were instructing their classes according to the same methods there would not be much progress made in raising the standard of country dancing to the level aimed at by the Society.

The examination is open to members only, and there is no entry fee. There are two grades of Certificate. The "A" which is gained by those who have proved that they can *teach* as well as that they know the dances—and "B" which is given to those who know the dances but require practice in teaching. Candidates are examined first in Book I, and when they have passed a test in that Book, then they enter for Book II. As these two Books contain practically all the different types of dances, they have been considered a suitable test for the certificate.

The form of examination is:—

(a) *Practical.* Candidates must be able to dance themselves, and instruct a class in any of the dances in the Book under revision. They must show that they can hold the interest of the class, correcting steps and carriage and explaining the figure of the dance.

(b) *Theoretical.* The candidate must be able to answer questions showing an understanding of the points typical to Scottish country dancing, methods of progression, etc. These questions may be written or oral according to the time at the disposal of the examiners.

There will be two examiners at each test, and a full  $\frac{1}{4}$  of an hour must be allowed for each candidate.

The Executive Council has under consideration the question as to whether the examination should be retaken periodically by those who are unable to attend the Summer or Autumn Schools with a view to ensuring that the improved standard is universal.

No one who has failed to pass the examination may take it again for 3 months.

### Copy of Letter to Mr William Watson, Blantyre.

Dr Sir,

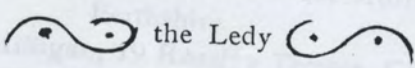
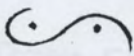
When you Pousette you take your Partner by both hands the 2 Cu. the same and then move round one another, some times ending where begin and some times in 2 Cu. place as it may answer the Musick or according to what may follow.

Promenade.—You put your Left hand behind your back which meets the Ladies Left. She puts her Right hand behind hers, which meets your right, three Cu. generally does this part moveing round till they come to their places.

To Foot it is the same word we use for Seting to it across to Dance over to the Ladies side and turn her round with both hands, Dance back again to your own side and turn the Ledy again.

÷ Signifies the pert Pleyed twice over.

÷ Signifies the pert twice over.

To Cross over one half figure is not so easy explained, an example the Gen.  the Ledy  running both at one time, ending below the 2 Cu.

$\frac{\cdot\cdot}{\cdot\cdot}$  The 2 pert pleid onece over the right and left begins when the 2 pert is to be Plyed the 2 time over.

$\frac{\cdot\cdot\cdot}{\cdot\cdot\cdot}$  Signifies the 2 pert is to be ply<sup>d</sup> Twice over. The figure you have wrote is what they call a Single one that is the Different perts must be Done the time the Tune is pleid onece over. The other Marks are used when the figure is Double that is when the tune is pleyed twice over.

$\frac{\cdot\cdot\cdot}{\cdot\cdot\cdot}$  This mark comes in when the first pert begins in the middle of the Duble figures.

$\frac{\cdot\cdot\cdot}{\cdot\cdot\cdot}$  This belongs to the 2 pert but it is of no use all figures will end with the 2 pert if the are right made. I am afraid it is not so plain as you could wish but as I have a few Lads that attend me the nights I am at home if you will come in on Saturday evening I will perform them all in your

presence, bring any young Lad with you. Come early that you may drink tea with us.

Remember us to Mrs Watson.

I am

Sir

Yours sincerely,

A. SMITH.

Hamilton

25th Janry. 1802.

Names and Addresses of Office Bearers.  
Executive Council.

*Chairman*—Mr J. Hubert Low, Seabourne, Broughty Ferry.

*Vice-Chairman*—Lord James Stewart Murray, Cuil an Duin, Ballinluig, Perthshire.

Miss Jean Milligan, 19 Rosslyn Terrace, Glasgow, W.

Miss Dow, The Training College, Dundee.

Mr I. C. B. Jamieson, Langshaw, Galashiels.

Miss A. Anderson, 16 Warriston Crescent, Edinburgh.

Mr J. Duthie, Burgh Schoolhouse, Galashiels.

Mr Punchard, College of Hygiene, Dunfermline.

*Hon. Secretary*—Mrs Stewart, 3 Park Circus, Ayr.

*Hon. Treasurer*—Mr R. T. Terras, British Linen Bank, Galston, Ayrshire.

And Branch Representatives as given at end of Book 7.

Sub-Committees.

Propaganda.      Publicity.

*Convener*—Mr Ion C. B. Jamieson, Langshaw, Galashiels.

Miss Dow, The Training College, Dundee.

Miss Jean Milligan, 19 Rosslyn Terrace, Glasgow, W.

## Research.

Lord James Stewart Murray, Cuil an Duin, Ballinluig, Perthshire.  
 Mr Jamieson, Langshaw, Galashiels.  
 Mr Herbert Wiseman, 2 Cobden Crescent, Edinburgh.  
 Miss Kirk, 8 Baxter Park Terrace, Dundee.  
 Miss J. Shanks, Denfield House, Arbroath.  
 The Chairman and Secretary, are *ex officio* members of Sub-Committees.

## Terms of Membership of Scottish Country Dance Society.

Ordinary Members, - - - 5/- per annum.  
 Life Membership, - - - £3 3/- or £2 10/- to those  
 who have paid their ordinary  
 subscriptions for 4 years.

The following are the Official S.C.D.S.  
 Gramophone Records.

## FIRST SERIES

(Reissued, Electric Recording).

6085	{ Petronella. The Triumph.	6088	{ Strip the Willow (or Drops of Brandy). Clean Pease Strae (or Broun's Reel).
6086	{ Circassian Circle. The Nut.	6089	{ Rory O'More. Fight about the Fireside (or Glenburnie Rant).
6087	{ Meg Merrilees. The Flowers of Edinburgh.	6090	{ Cumberland Reel. Merry Lads of Ayr.



**SECOND SERIES**

(Reissued, Electric Recording).

- |        |   |        |                                      |
|--------|---|--------|--------------------------------------|
| 6091 { | La Tempete.<br>The Bumpkin.               | 6094 { | Princess Royal.<br>Greig's Pipes.    |
| 6092 { | Glasgow Highlanders.<br>Speed the Plough. | 6095 { | Delvine Side.<br>The Bob o' Dowally. |
| 6093 { | Perth Medley.<br>The Soldier's Joy.       | 6096 { | The Haymakers.<br>Eightsome Reel.    |

**THIRD SERIES**

(Electric Recording).

- |        |  |        |   |
|--------|--|--------|---|
| 6097 { | Scottish Reform Reel.<br>The Dashing White<br>Sergeant Reel. | 6100 { | The Rock and the Wee<br>Pickle Tow.<br>Rachel Rae (Reel). |
| 6098 { | St. Patrick's Day Reel.<br>Hey Jennie.                       | 6101 { | The Duke is Welcome.<br>The Eight Men of Moidart.         |
| 6099 { | Blue Bonnets.<br>The Fairy Dance.                            | 6102 { | Foursome Reel Strathspey.<br>Reel of Tulloch.             |

**FOURTH SERIES**

(Electric Recording).

- |        |   |        |   |
|--------|---|--------|---|
| 6112 { | No. 1. Torryburn Lassies.<br>No. 2. The Merry Dancers.                                    | 6115 { | No. 7. The Foula Reel.<br>No. 8. Waltz, Country Dance<br>(Come o'er the Stream, Charlie). |
| 6113 { | No. 3. Queen's Welcome<br>(Loch Earn).<br>No. 4. Kenmure's on and awa'                    | 6116 { | No. 9. The Highland Laddie<br>(Cairney Mount).<br>No. 10. The Haughs of Cromdale          |
| 6114 { | No. 5. Light and Airy.<br>No. 6. The Ninety-Second or<br>Marquis of Huntly's Highlanders. | 6117 { | No. 11. Falkland Beauty.<br>No. 12. Corn Riggs.   |

All the above are "Beltona" Records.

**BOOK 5.**

- |                                 |                    |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Teviot Bridge<br>The Punch Bowl | } Columbia DB 293. |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|

**BOOK 6.**

- |  |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| Rothsay Country Dance<br>Lord Macdonald's Reel | } Columbia DB 294. |
| Roxburgh Castle<br>Lennox Love to Blantyre     | } Columbia DB 295. |

These can be ordered from your Local Dealer.

Records suitable for Scottish Country Dances in later Books  
are as follows:---

## BOOK 5.

1. Teviot Bridge ... ..	Columbia DB 293
2. Dumbarton Drums ... ..	... Beltona 1528*
3. Jenny's Bawbee ... ..	... Beltona 1530*
4. Round about Hullachan ... ..	see Beltona 6102
5. The Punch Bowl ... ..	Columbia DB 293
6. Linton Ploughman ... ..	... Beltona 1530*
7. Scottish Ramble ... ..	(Lennox Love) Columbia DB 295
8. Duke of Hamilton's Reel ... ..	Columbia DB 294
9. Lady Susan Stewart's Reel ... ..	... Beltona 1531*
10. Culloden's Fancy ... ..	(Petronella) ... Beltona 6085
11. The White Cockade ... ..	... Beltona 1529*
12. Cold and Raw ... ..	(St. Patrick's Day) ... Beltona 6098

## BOOK 6.

1. Roxburgh Castle ... ..	Columbia DB 295
2. Edinburgh Volunteers ... ..	(92nd Highlanders) ... Beltona 6114
3. Rothesay Country Dance ... ..	Columbia DB 294
4. Lennox Love to Blantyre ... ..	Columbia DB 295
5. Oxton Reel ... ..	... Beltona 1529*
6. Threesome Reel ... ..	... Beltona 1735
7. The Bob o' Fettercairn ... ..	... Beltona 1528*
8. Prince of Orange ... ..	... Beltona 1735
9. Lord Macdonald's Reel ... ..	Columbia DB 294
10. I'll mak ye fain to follow me (Rock and wee pickle tow)	Beltona 6100
11. Mrs MacLeod ... ..	Columbia DB 294
12. Sixteensome Reel ... ..	Edison Bell 5426†

\* Played by Mrs Shand.

† Played by Mr John Reid.

## BOOK 7.

1. Ye're welcome Charly Stuart, ... ..	Edison Bell 5426 †
2. Red House. "Punch Bowl" goes well, but is recorded with 32 bars; 40 is required for Red House.	
3. The Priest and his Books	{ Teviot Brig, Hey Jenny, Columbia DB 293
4. Ye'll aye be welcome.	Lennox Love, Beltona 6098
5. Lady Mary Menzies	{ Lord Macdonald, Roxburgh Castle, Columbia DB 295

Book 7.—Continued.

6. Menzies' Rant	{ Lord Macdonald,	Columbia DB 294
	{ Roxburgh Castle,	Columbia DB 295
7. Come Ashore, Jolly Tar, ...	... ..	Edison Bell 5437 †
	(two turns only,	then changes time)
8. Tartan Plaidie	{ Duke is welcome,	Beltona 6101
	{ Lennox Love,	Columbia DB 295
9. Captain Macdonald's Fancy	{ Lord Macdonald,	Columbia DB 294
	{ Roxburgh Castle,	Columbia DB 295
10. Hamilton House	{ Light and Airy,	Beltona 6114
	{ Merry Dancers,	Beltona 6112
11. Mid Lothian, Reels all set with 32 bars ; 40 required.		
12. Braes of Tullymet, ... ..		Beltona 6095

*To be sent to the Secretary by 17th June, 1932.*

To THE SECRETARY, S.C.D.S.,  
3 Park Circus, Ayr.

Please reserve a room for me for the Holiday Course at Edinburgh,  
from 2nd to 9th August.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

I should like a room near.....

I wish to take classes on Books.....

My deposit of 5/- is enclosed.

I shall travel by train to Edinburgh from  
2nd August.

Station, on