

Vancouver Area Calendar of Events

November 3	North Shore Dance Scottish Fall Dance
November 11	Lady Aberdeen Tea Dance
November 23	Dance Around the World - RSCDS Vancouver
November 26	Fort Langley St. Andrew's Dance
November 29	Vancouver Ceilidh - RSCDS Vancouver
November 30	St Andrew's Ball, St Andrew's & Caledonian Soc.
December 14	Glenayre Christmas Dance
December 28	Between & Between - RSCDS Vancouver
January 25	Burns Supper - RSCDS Vancouver
February 22	Love to Dance Workshop & Tea Dance RSCDS Vancouver
March 8	Burnaby Spring Dance
April 12	Glenayre Spring Dance
April 25	Heather Ball - RSCDS Vancouver
May (early)	White Rock Spring Dance
May 25	Fort Langley Whisky Tea Dance
June 20 - 21	ScotFest BC Highland Games - Coquitlam

Times, dates and venues for events and classes are subject to change or cancellation. Check the Branch website Event Calendar or Club for updates. We hope that you will have had all vaccinations available to you. Please do not attend if you are sick.

submissions for the white cockade



As December is always a busy month, it would be appreciated if you could send me your submissions for the January/February issue of the White Cockade by the December 10th deadline or earlier. Thank you.

Mary Ann McDevitt - 604.929.2944 or email mamcdevitt@shaw.ca



the white
cockade



November - December 2024



Photo by Kerry McDevitt

Fran Hillier presenting Stewart Cunningham with a very well deserved RSCDS Vancouver Branch Award at the October 11th AGM.

See page 17 for more Branch Award recipients.

RSCDS Vancouver Branch Board of Directors

Elected at the RSCDS Vancouver Branch AGM on October 11, 2024

Executive Directors

President - Gail Urquhart	604.433.6081
Vice President - Paul Shrimpton	604.469.2433
Corresponding Secretary - Karen Shrimpton	604.469.2433
Recording Secretary - Sue Biddle	604.619.1620
Treasurer - Susan Stensgaard	604.451.1161

Directors-at-Large (with specific responsibilities to be assigned)

Past President - Fran Hillier	778.285.1242
Cathrine Conings	604.299.6447
Roberta Esau	778.317.4125
Margaret Gorham	416.924.4348
Seoris Harrison	604.263.0493
Ally Huang	604.299.0160
John Robertson	604.985.1612

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RSCDS Vancouver - www.rscdsvancouver.org - Scottish Cultural Centre

8886 Hudson Street. Vancouver. BC. V6P 4N2 - 604.263.9911

RSCDS Vancouver Branch Appointments

Betwixt & Between Coordinator - Katherine Shearman	604.671.2480
Burns Supper Chair - Stewart Cunningham	604.261.0162
Dancing Coordinator - Frances Caruth	604.922.6842
Dancing in the Park Coordinator - Alison Moen	604.980.0428
Demonstration Team Director - Kay Sutherland	604.929.2745
Demonstration Team Manager - Katherine Sherman	604.671.2480
Heather Ball Chair - Fran Hillier	778.285.1242
Graphics Consultant - Patsy Jamieson	604.929.4884
Love to Dance Workshop Chairs - Frances Hillier - Sue Biddle	778.285.1242 604.619.1620
Newsletter Editor - Mary Ann McDevitt	604.929.2944
Nominating Committee Chair - Vicki Downey	604.298.9695
Privacy Officer - Peter Richards	604.929.2745
RSCDS Director USCS - Frances Caruth	604.922.6842
RSCDS Representatives SCCS - Fran Hillier - Jennifer Shearman	778.285.1242 604.739.3096
Website Manager - Alison Moen	604.980.0428

Other Representatives

Ceilidh Director - Alison Moen	604.980.0428
TAC Representative - Fran Hillier	778.285.1242

Email Contacts for Board of Directors:

<https://rscdsvancouver.org/about-branch/board-members/>

Click on 'Send Email' under the Director's name

Email Contacts for Branch Board Appointees:

<https://rscdsvancouver.org/about-branch/board-appointments/>

Click on 'Send Email' under the Appointee's name

or for both Directors & Appointees:

<https://rscdsvancouver.org/contact/>

Click on 'Send Email' under the Events or Branch heading

TAC Summer School 2025

SAVE THE DATE
AUGUST 3-10, 2025



**Join us at Bishop's University,
Sherbrooke, Quebec**

TEACHING STAFF

Rebecca Blackhall-Peters, BC Canada

Linda Henderson, California USA

Andrew Nolan, UK

Cecily Selling, Pennsylvania USA

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Gary Thomas, California USA

REGISTRATION OPENS SPRING 2025

For more information and registration
updates check our website

tac-rscds.org



Frae the Presidents

September has come and gone so fast, and now we are almost at our AGM. So many dancing opportunities coming up: AGM, Lady Aberdeen, Dance Around the World, and all the various club activities.



As I write it is still October, but when you read this, it will be November. Meanwhile, an AGM will have come and gone. At that point, the Branch will have a new President, Gail Urquhart, to lead us forward for the next two years.

So, I am reflecting on the past few years, two as Vice-President and two as President. My term as Vice-President included COVID, and I found myself responsible for cancelling activities rather than promoting them. This was not a fun thing to do! My term as President has fortunately allowed me to witness a "rising from the ashes", as we have returned to our usual activities. I feel very fortunate in being a part of that rebirth.

Is being President a busy job? Oh yes! But I've enjoyed my time and have been supported by so many hardworking members of our organization. Many other organizations dwindled and folded during the time of COVID, but we remain strong and interested in moving forward. Maybe some of the ways we do things will change, some in our control, some not. But our Branch is lucky to have so many people willing to step forward and help us organize our activities, both at Branch level and within the clubs. Our strength is our people, and our commitment to Scottish Country Dancing.

Thank you for letting me be a part of this. I feel so confident in handing over the gavel to Gail Urquhart, and wish her all the best for the next two years. Over to you, Gail.

Fran Hillier
Past-President
RSCDS Vancouver Branch

Thank you, Fran...and to the Board Members who have made the last two years serving as vice-president such a pleasure.

I joined the board just as COVID protocols were lifting. When we

resumed booking events, it was with cautious optimism...and now we have dates three and four years into the future!

I am looking forward to continue to serve the Scottish Country Dance community. As Fran said, our strength lies in our people and our commitment to Scottish Country Dancing.

See you on the dance floor!

Gail Urquhart

President

RSCDS Vancouver Branch



New RSCDS Branch Board elected October 11, 2024



Photo by Kerry McDevitt - Left to right:

Ally Huang, Cathrine Conings, Margaret Gorham, Fran Hillier, Seoris Harrison, Susan Stensgaard, Roberta Esau and Gail Urquhart



Directors missing from the above group photo:

Karen & Paul Shrimpton, Sue Biddle, and John Robertson.

Congratulations to our 2024/25 Branch Board!

More RSCDS Vancouver Branch Awards



It was indeed a night for awards and surprises at the RSCDS Vancouver Branch AGM. We were all delighted to see Stewart Cunningham receive a Branch award. Then (I thought), it was my turn to get up and present Alison with her award. That's when Kerry and I were gobsmacked by Cathrine Conings who presented each of us with a Branch award. We are still reeling!

And now it was my turn to surprise Alison and I hope I did her justice with my presentation.

See the Branch website Awards page for full details on the recipients. We are all very honoured!



Photos by Kerry McDevitt & Katherine Shearman

Mary Ann McDevitt presenting Alison Moen with her award & Cathrine Conings presenting Mary Ann & Kerry McDevitt with their awards.

teacher candidates did a great job briefing the dances and kept the walk-throughs to a minimum. And a good time was had by all!



Photos by Kerry McDevitt

Many thanks to everyone who came to the AGM. The renewal of your membership and support for the Vancouver Branch is much needed and appreciated.

And a special thank to your our Board of Directors - both new and out-going. We could not run the Branch without your hard work and dedication.



See the front cover and page 17 for the 2024 Branch Awards recipients.

And page 4 for your new 2024/25 Vancouver Branch Board of Directors.

Congratulations to all!

Notices



James (Jim) Maxwell

Apr 27, 1935 - Sept 25, 2024

Thank you for your kind messages of sympathy.

At Jim's request there will be no service.

Jim and I met 70 years ago 1954 at our local dance hall in Rutherglen. We managed to keep dancing almost all of our wonderful 67 years of marriage.

As a boy of 15, Jim's first job as an apprentice joiner was at Glasgow University. He completed his working life when he retired from the University of B.C. We called him a professor of carpentry.

Our many years of Scottish Country and Old Time Dancing filled our lives with a large circle of wonderful friends and unforgettable memories, many of them saved in my vast photo folder on my computer.

I have a slideshow I made for Jim's 80th birthday and one called 85+. I have included two short videos of the Scotia Dancers, filmed at Delta TV in Ladner - Polharrow Burn and St. George's Day which I devised in the 1980's. My one and only composition. Also two Old Time dances - Mayfair Quickstep and The Delta Mazurka performed at the Victoria Old Time Ball.

I hope you enjoy watching the video.

<https://youtu.be/jlFeVNP6t0g>

Thank you from The Maxwell Family:

Mairi, Our daughters, Lorraine (& Bob), Fiona (& Bruce), Our grandsons Donald and Taylor and our great grandson Wyatt.



Nellie (Nell) Bird

Feb 3, 1920 - Sept 16, 2024

Our beloved Nell Bird passed away on 16 September at the amazing age of 104. She gave us living proof that Scottish country dancers live long, healthy lives. Even after retiring from regular dancing, she led an active life at her seniors' home in Langley.

Nell started life as a Swiss farm girl!

According to her daughter Lynne, Nell was born in Roggwil, Switzerland, in February 1920 and came to Canada via the S.S. Melita in March 1923. She spent her early life on a Prairie farm with her six siblings. After visiting her brother in Vancouver in 1944, Nell moved to the west coast. She discovered Scottish country dancing through her neighbour, the late Frank Tschumi, and began dancing at the old Scottish Auditorium.

In 1980, Nell and her late husband John joined the Burnaby Intermediate class taught by Maggie Misfeldt. Over the years, she also danced with the Delta Borderers, Lady Aberdeen, the North Shore Seniors, and later the Thursday Thistles, and her friendly warmth endeared her to everyone. She performed with the Burnaby Entertainment Team and for years she looked after the catering at Burnaby Club functions. Nell was an expert cook, having worked as a professional baker, and many dancers have been treated to gifts of her delicious scones. The Burnaby Club honoured her with a lifetime membership, and on February 1, 2020, members of the Club travelled to her retirement home in Langley to help her celebrate.

Rosemary Coupe



Top photo courtesy of Jean Wagstaff - then Chair, Ed Wagstaff, presented Nell with flowers on her 90th birthday.

Bottom photos by Kerry McDevitt - Left, Nell at the 2010 Fort Langley Dance - Right, the Burnaby Club celebrating Nell's 100th birthday at her Senior's residence in Langley.

Vancouver Branch AGM & Dance



It was a successful well-attended AGM. Out-going Directors (Barbara Kisilevsky, Tereza Cabral & Hugh Aspinall) were thanked for their years of service. And Past-President, Fran Hillier, was presented with a thank you and flowers by our new President, Gail Urquhart.



Photos by
Kerry McDevitt

After the AGM, we took to the floor to dance to the wonderful music of Kilbirnie Station. It was a fun program and we were delighted to see familiar dances for our first dance of the new season. Our teachers and

Dancing News & Photos



Photos by
Cathrine Conings

The Fort Langley club and I teamed up to put on a display at Douglas Days on Saturday Sept. 21. The club did a demonstration and got visitors up dancing too, under the direction of Louise Murphy. It was a beautiful warm clear day and there was a steady stream of visitors to the fort.

Cathrine Conings



Sir James Douglas, the first governor of British Columbia, was born in Guyana to a Creole mother and a Scottish father, and married a Métis woman, Amelia Connolly. Douglas Day is an event in Fort Langley that marks the day when Sir James Douglas proclaimed British Columbia to be a colony at the fort in 1858. Taking place annually at Fort Langley National Historic Site in autumn, the event is an opportunity to commemorate James Douglas's multicultural legacy and celebrate with a variety of arts, food, music and dance. The event used to be called "Douglas Day". Now, however, it's called James Douglas: A Multicultural Legacy.

Dancing Dates

Sunday, November 3 NORTH SHORE DS FALL DANCE

Highlands United Church 2:00 p.m.
3255 Edgemont Blvd, North Vancouver

\$25



Music by Kilbirnie Station

North Shore Dance Scottish invites you to their inaugural club dance!

Parking is available on both sides of the Church and across the road.

Program

*Brudenell Jig.....J.....Burnell, *2nd Graded BK*
*The Kissing Bridge.....R.....Butterfield, *RSCDS Bk 47*
The Water of Leith.....S.....Wilkinson, *RSCDS Bk 53*
Chased Lovers.....J.....Wilson, *RSCDS Bk 53*
***Pinewoods Reel.....R.....Dickson, *RSCDS Bk 53*
*Balmoral Strathspey.....S.....Charles, *RSCDS Bk 22*
*The Yorkshire Man.....J.....Hargreaves, *Deep Cove Coll.*

Break

The Falls of Rogie.....R.....Attwood, *Alexander 1*
***Farewell to Balfour Road.....J.....Buxton, *RSCDS Bk 52*
*Neidpath Castle.....S.....Haynes, *RSCDS Bk 22*
Father to Son.....R.....Scott, *Coast to Coast*
MacDonald of Keppoch.....M.....Ronald, *RSCDS Bk 49*
Toast to the Mousies.....R.....Gratiot, *RSCDS Bk 53*
*The Laird of Milton's Daughter.....J.....Cragmyle, *RSCDS Bk 22*

Extra

*Deil amang the Tailors.....R.....Unknown, *RSCDS Bk 14*

(* Easier dances *** Must know the dance)

See the Branch website Events Calendar for the Dance Notes & Videos

<https://rscdsvancouver.org/events/nsds-fall-dance-2024/>

Monday, November 11

LADY ABERDEEN TEA DANCE

Scottish Cultural Centre 1:15 p.m.
8886 Hudson Street, Vancouver

\$15 (18 & under \$10)



The White Rock Scottish Country Dance Club
is delighted to be hosting this year's
Lady Aberdeen Tea Dance.

Proceeds from this ever-popular event will be
donated to Honour House in New Westminster.
www.honourhouse.ca

*Tea & Refreshments will be served halfway through the program.
Dancing will be followed by Auld Lang Syne.*

See the September White Cockade for the Program

 The Reel of the 51st Division will be danced by Gentlemen Only 

The Program & Dance Notes are also on the Branch website at:
<https://rscdsvancouver.org/events/lady-aberdeen-2024/>

Friday, November 29

VANCOUVER CEILIDH DANCE

Scottish Cultural Centre
8886 Hudson Street, Vancouver

\$15 (\$10 Students)



Everyone Welcome - Loads of fun!
Dance class starts at 7 p.m.
The dance is from 8 – 10:30 p.m.
No experience or partner required.
We teach you almost everything!!

Live music with our resident Ceilidh Band "Calanais."

Aloha Winter Weekend 2025 - Registration is Open



Aloha Winter Weekend
February 14, 15 & 16, 2025
Honolulu, Hawaii
Guest Instructors:
Bruce Herbold and David Newitt
Music by the Humuhumunukunukuāpua'a and
Strathspey Society Band
<https://rscdshawaii.org/workshop/>



Plan for the Day !
Join us for the the
Love to Dance Workshop
&
Afternoon Tea Dance

Stay tuned to the Branch website Events Calendar for more details,
including teachers, musicians, online registration, tea dance program
and dance notes:

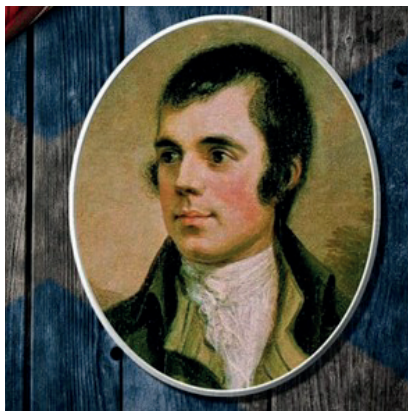
<https://rscdsvancouver.org/events/love-to-dance-2025/>

Tell your friends & register early for this popular event!

Registration forms will also be available soon through your local club.

Saturday, January 25 VANCOUVER BRANCH BURNS SUPPER

Scottish Cultural Centre \$100 for Non-Members or
8886 Hudson Street \$90 for Member Societies
Doors open at 5 p.m. for a 6 p.m. start



This annual celebration of the life and poetry of Robert Burns includes entertainment, a traditional Scottish meal, dancing to the wonderful music of Mary Ross, and a dance program to suit everyone.

There will be three free classes at the Scottish Cultural Centre on Wednesdays, January 8, 15 & 22 from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Member Societies: Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, BC Highland Dance Association, BC Pipers Association, Gaelic Society of Vancouver, Sons of Scotland, and St. Andrews & Caledonian Society of Vancouver.

Tickets will be available November 11th online at
<https://rscdsvancouver.org/events/burns-supper-2025/>

or email burns@rscdsvancouver.org

Program (** for experienced dancers only)

Gay Gordons (Traditional).....M.....	Collins
A Highland Welcome.....R.....	Collins
Mamie's Jig.....J.....	Let's All Dance
Sandy o'er the Lea.....S.....	Miss Milligan's Miscellany
Sandy Butterly.....J.....	Five SCD 1982
The Dashing White Sergeant.....R.....	Collins
St. Bernard's Waltz.....W.....	Collins
Joe MacDiarmid's Jig.....J.....	Five SCD 1982
**Triple Happiness.....S.....	RSCDS Book 52
The Piper and the Penguin.....R.....	RSCDS Leaflets
Burns Night.....J.....	Boston 50
Reel of the Royal Scots.....R.....	RSCDS Leaflets

See the Branch Website Event Calendar for the Dance Notes.

Saturday, November 23 RSCDS 101st BIRTHDAY

Jubilee Church Hall (beside the Church) 2:00 p.m.
7591 Gray Avenue, Burnaby,



LET'S JOIN THIS WORLD-WIDE
DANCING CELEBRATION
& SHOW THE WORLD OUR
VIBRANT DANCING
COMMUNITY!

12 Dances from around the world
starting in NZ and travelling all the
way around to Hawaii.

See the Branch website Event Calendar for more details,
including the Dance Program, Dance Notes and Video Links.

<https://rscdsvancouver.org/events/dance-around-the-world/>

Bring a snack to share & your own water bottle.

Tuesday, November 26 FT. LANGLEY ST. ANDREW'S DANCE

Fort Langley Hall 7:30 p.m. \$15
9167 Glover Rd, Fort Langley

Fort Langley Voyageurs invite you to their St. Andrew's
party. Enjoy the music of the Tartan Players and join us
for a light tea following the dancing.



Program (**more difficult)

St. Andrew's Fair.....J.....	Goldring, 5 SCD's
Let's Have a Ceilidh.....R.....	Campbell, Glasgow Assembly
Double Duty.....S.....	Lang, Capital Collection
The Shetland Shepherdess.....J.....	Wallace, RSCDS Graded 3
Australian Ladies.....R.....	Campbell, Glasgow Assembly
Orchards of Co. Armagh.....S.....	Anderson, RSCDS Book 53
The Morrison Measure.....R.....	Goldring, A Reel for Alice
**Let the Hackles Rise.....J.....	Drewry, Canadian Coll.
Culla Bay.....S.....	Dix, RSCDS Book 41
Scott Meikle.....R.....	McLean, RSCDS Graded 3
A Legacy of Pearl's.....J.....	Hargreaves, Vanc. Ruby Coll.
Reel of the Royal Scots.....R.....	Goldring, RSCDS Leaflets

<https://rscdsvancouver.org/dancing-in-vancouver/event-calendar/>

Saturday, November 30 ST ANDREW'S BALL
 Scottish Cultural Centre 5 p.m. \$110
 8886 Hudson Street, Vancouver



The first St. Andrew's ball in the City of Vancouver was held on November 30, 1887. The St. Andrew's and Caledonian Society carries forward this long-standing tradition annually, and you are cordially invited to the 2024 evening of music and dancing.

Join us in your best formal attire for a dinner reception, music by Celtic folk band Blackthorn, and Scottish Ceilidh dancing led by Alison Moen.

<https://st-andrews-caledonian-society-of-van.square.site/>

Saturday, December 14 GLENAYRE CHRISTMAS DANCE
 St. Laurence Anglican Church Hall 2 p.m. \$20
 825 St. Laurence Street, Coquitlam

The Glenayre SCD Club invites you to join them at their Christmas Dance for an afternoon of social dancing! It's a fun program with something for every level of dancer.



Program

Flowers of Edinburgh.....R.....	RSCDS Book 1
Mrs Stewart's Jig.....J.....	RSCDS Book 35
Muse Cottage.....S.....	Let's All Dance Too
Catch the Wind.....R.....	RSCDS Book 45
Jennifer's Jig.....J.....	RSCDS Book 53
Culla Bay.....S.....	RSCDS Book 41
Falls of Rogie.....R.....	Attwood, Alexander Book 1
Miss Johnstone of Ardrossan.....R.....	Goldring, 30 Popular Dances 2
St. John River.....S.....	Edwards, Centennial Coll.
The White Cockade.....R.....	RSCDS Book 5
McMarley's Cross.....S.....	Rose & Thistle Book
Reel of the Royal Scots.....R.....	Goldring, Leaflets 27

See the Branch website Events Calendar for the Dance Notes

<https://rscdsvancouver.org/dancing-in-vancouver/event-calendar/>

Saturday, December 28 BETWIXT & BETWEEN DANCE
 Scottish Cultural Centre - 7:30 p.m. Free to all RSCDS Members
 8886 Hudson Street, Vancouver Non-members \$15 (Students \$7)



Looking for something fun and festive to do between holiday gatherings? Come dance to the irresistible music of Mary Ross at our annual Betwixt & Between dance, sponsored in part by the Mary Wattum Fund. We hope you will bring a small offering of seasonal fare to share at the the supper table during the intermission.

Program (*Denotes easier dances)

*Lamb Skinnet.....J.....	Book 14
*The Sauchie Haugh.....S.....	TAC Leaflets
Orpington Caledonians.....R.....	RSCDS Book 49
John Cass.....J.....	RSCDS Book 49
West Coast Magic.....S.....	Vancouver Golden Jubilee
*Thornycroft.....R.....	2 nd Book of Graded Dances
*The Duke & Duchess of Edinburgh...J.....	RSCDS Book 39
<i>Intermission</i>	
*A Trip to Glasgow.....J.....	RSCDS Book 40
Ann of Scotia.....S.....	World Wide Weavings
The Tri-Mariner.....R.....	RSCDS Book 38
Quarries' Jig.....J.....	RSCDS Book 36
*Water of Leith.....S.....	RSCDS Book 53
Polharrow Burn.....R.....	Magazine 2005-2009
Trip to Timber Ridge.....R.....	RSCDS Book 52

See the Branch website Events Calendar for the Dance Notes & Links

<https://rscdsvancouver.org/events/betwixt-and-between-2024/>

Please be familiar with the dances there will only be one walk through!