

Carnoustie Scottish Country Dance Club

NEWSLETTER

Dear Member,

Welcome to Newsletter No. 1 of 2008.

~~ Belated New Years greetings ~~

FUND RAISING

Hall Floor Appeal - Update

The offer from Holyrood Church to participate in their Christmas Fayre 17 November was taken up with thanks, and £59.50p was raised by selling 'Planks' and quizzes. Thanks are due to Marian Scott and Isabel Roy for their enthusiastic support, especially to Isabel who knew lots of people and wasn't shy to 'persuade' them to part with their money!

The coffee morning held on 24th November was a great success with £447 being raised. I was amazed at the support given by members both in providing items for sale but also for all the help given on the day - every one just 'mucked in' and in no time the stalls & tables were set-up, and the Coffee Morning was going with a swing.

The Christmas cake was won by Karen (she must have been practicing at guessing weights before she came!), and the two jars of sweets were won by Mrs Peebles (Broughty Ferry) and Mrs M. Cook (Carnoustie).

The 'Purchase-a-Plank' scheme is due to end on 29th January, so would anyone with planks forms not yet returned please pass them back to Marian, June or myself by that date.

The second quiz (June's) raised a very impressive total of £90.

The proceeds from the raffle at the Winter Dance was allocated to the Hall Fund, with £113.50p being raised.

Members will be aware that it was agreed to donate the profits from the three annual Charity Dances to the hall floor appeal. The first of these was held on 18th January. Profit from the dance amounted to £187.

Although the money for the "Purchase a Plank" is still coming in, the estimated **total** amount raised to end January, including the donation from RSCDS Dundee, is approximately £1552.

With this amount, the proceeds from the next two planned Charity Dances and a contribution from Club fund (if necessary); we are now in a position to re-apply for the grant. As the Council budget for 2007/08 has been already allocated, a new application for the grant will have to be submitted for the 2008/09 budget. This will be done as soon as all of the necessary information is assembled.

I am still waiting for a response to my last letter to Holyrood Church Vestry Committee concerning a guarantee on the continued use of hall. I will let members know of the outcome in due course.

Donations or even short-term loan pledges from club members would, of course, be very much appreciated.

Should you have comments or questions, please contact a member of the committee.

Tom Wilson

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### CLUB HISTORY

As mentioned in the last Newsletter I expressed interest in trying to put together a history of the Club. I since learned that the Club founder was Douglas Keiller and Isabel Roy kindly provided me with his address and phone number. I contacted him and was delighted to be invited to meet him at his home in Carnoustie.

He was very happy to tell me about how the Club was set-up and he also passed on to me the Club scrap book which contains lots of information, mainly press cuttings & photographs. However, it only goes up to 1986, so there is a big gap to fill to bring it up to date.

I haven't yet had time to digest it fully or cross-check the story with other members, but here is an initial résumé of the Clubs' early history as told by Douglas Keiller.

~ ~ ~

The Club was founded in 1975 by Douglas after the Carnoustie RSCDS teaching class folded. It was set-up as an independent Scottish County Dancing Club with its own constitution.

# Carnoustie Scottish Country Dance Club

## NEWSLETTER

The original committee, as reported in the press, was:

Chairman: Douglas Keiller  
Vice-chairman Mr Sisken  
Secretary/Treasurer: Mrs B.H. Cranshaw  
Committee: Mrs L. Boswell, Mrs Duthie, Mrs Dunbar, Mrs McDougall, Mrs Nicoll, Miss McCrae

As far as he could remember, the Club first met in British Legion Hall in Park Avenue (now an Indian restaurant), but since then has used a number of other venues, including the Panmure Centre (Kinloch Street), the Brax Hotel (no longer exists), the Bruce Hotel and then the Holyrood Church Hall.

The many press cutting show that the Club was very active in promoting local dances and events, as well as donating substantial amounts to various charities. Of particular note is that the Carnoustie Club took over the running of the Summer Dances in 1976 (in the original Beach Hall?) after the Carnoustie Town Council had to 'chop' the Dance from their summer programme due to financial cut-backs.

The Club was very active in promoting SCD both in the area and also abroad. They forged the strong link with the St Andrews Summer school which continues today.

It was interesting to note that the Maple Leaf Band have been associated with the Club from virtually the start (1977, I think).

The last entry in the scrap book is a press photograph taken at the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations.

I would be delighted to let interested Club members see the scrap book and to gather any snippets of information to fill-out the gaps. If you have any other bits of relevant memorabilia I would be interested in taking a copy of them for the scrapbook.

Tom Wilson

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FROM THE TEACHER.....

I would just like to comment on how much I am enjoying teaching you the dances.

It is challenging, sometimes frustrating (when you're not paying attention) but very rewarding when it all goes right.

I try to give you a varied programme of dances each week and I hope this is enjoyable for you.

Tom has suggested a "Dance of the Month", a more difficult dance that we would do each week for a month 'til we master it.

We'll start next month and see how it goes. Any comments welcome

June

2007 CHRISTMAS PARTY

The club held its Christmas party on Thursday 20th December in the Philip Hall.

In the decorated hall, a happy throng gathered to dance and get into the festive mood. Sprinkled throughout the dance programme were prize dances, a fast and competitive game of pass the parcel (s) and an enthusiastic rendition of The Twelve Days of Christmas. Supper was superb and the music was in the capable hands of the Maple Leaf Band.

Thanks must go to all who contributed to make it a very successful evening.

Lyn Doig

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### Charity Dance

Thanks to Ruth Nicholl for the following report

Our first charity dance of the year was held on Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> January in the Philip Hall.

There was a very good turn-out and we all had a very happy evening dancing to the Maple Leaf Band.

Once again we were delighted to have Muriel recapping the dances for us - absolutely fantastic, especially for people like me who find dance programmes a bit of a challenge!

# Carnoustie Scottish Country Dance Club

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With June's expert tuition behind us, even "Dancing Bees" and "Whiteadder Jig" didn't confuse us (too much!). Coping with that old devil the "Dancing Master" was a bit of a shock to the system, but Lyn and I managed to cope manfully (or "masterfully" perhaps?) with a little bit of help from our friends, needless to say!

We're not quite 'White Heather Club' material yet - but who knows what the future might bring --?!

The supper was excellent and, as usual, the committee made a great job of organising such an enjoyable event. A big 'thank you' from all of the Club members.

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BURNS' NIGHT

The Club celebrated Burns' night on Thursday 24th January, the closest we could get to the exact date.

June gave wonderful renditions of pertinent verse and story. The programme she had devised was an enjoyably good mix with something to challenge most of us.

Music was provided by The Maple Leaf Band with Muriel and Jimmy doing an excellent job as usual.

This year there were musical interludes provided by Andrew. His guitar playing and vocal rendition of well known songs were expertly performed and club members showed off their singing talent whilst getting a break from the dancing.

The traditional supper was served by Committee members with more dancing following.

Thanks goes to all those who put in the effort to make this year as successful as previous times.

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### CONGRATULATIONS

To Monica on the occasion of your 60<sup>th</sup> birthday and best wishes for a fantastically busy retirement just pleasing yourself!

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Poetry Corner

Thanks to **Catherine Livingston** for the following poem which was penned by an "experienced" dancer;

DANCING THROUGH

When I was one and twenty
I thought I'd take a chance
And go to evening classes
For Scottish Country Dance

When I was one and thirty
I felt I knew it all -
The complicated dances
Didn't bother me at all

When I was one and forty
I knew I was the cream
For I was made a member
Of the demonstration team

When I was one and fifty
I went on the committee
A lot less carefree dancing
A lot more nitty-gritty

When I was one and sixty
I knew without a doubt
I was dancing rather gently
And sometimes sat one out

Now I am one and seventy
And I'm still having fun
But I wonder how the feet will cope
When I am eighty one.

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# Carnoustie Scottish Country Dance Club

## NEWSLETTER

Finally, we would like to hear from you.

Do you like the idea of receiving a regular newsletter like this?

What would you like to see included?

Do you have a dance you would like to learn a bit better or one you really like?

Feel free to jot down you thoughts, ideas or experiences and give them to one of the committee members at any time.

For those technically minded you can e mail items for the newsletter, your ideas or thoughts on any aspect of the club to:

[scottishcountrydancing@yahoo.com](mailto:scottishcountrydancing@yahoo.com)

Share your knowledge we'd love to hear from you

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COMMITTEE 2007/08

Chair - Tom Wilson
Vice Chair - Marian Scott
Treasurer - June Smith
Members - Maureen Bremner
Fay Cargill
Lyn Carnegie
Lyn Doig
Muriel Petrie

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# Carnoustie Scottish Country Dance Club

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### DANCES DIARY

#### FEBRUARY 2008

##### **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> February**

Social Dance

St. Andrews Church Hall

DUNDEE

Jimmy Boal 01382 509103

##### **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> February**

Maple Leaf Charity Dance

St. Andrews Church Hall

DUNDEE

Muriel Boal 01382 509103

##### **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February**

Social Dance

St. Andrews Church Hall

DUNDEE

Jimmy Boal 01382 509103

##### **Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> February**

Dundee University Day School and Evening  
Dance (ticket required)

Morgan Academy, DUNDEE

Luke Brady 01382 665722

##### **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February**

Social Dance

St. Andrews Church Hall

DUNDEE

Jimmy Boal 01382 509103

##### **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> February**

Carnoustie SCD Club Charity Dance

Philip Hall

7.30 - 10.30

programmes available from June

##### **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> February**

RSCDS Master Class (ticket required)

Balgay Church Hall

DUNDEE

Mary Foster 01382 456330

##### **Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February**

Annual Dance - Ceres SCD Club

Corn Exchange, CUPAR

Band - David Cunningham

John S. Sturrock 01334 477764

##### **Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February**

Social Dance

St. Andrews Church Hall

DUNDEE

Jimmy Boal 01382 509103

##### **Friday 29<sup>th</sup> February**

Carnoustie SCD Club Charity Dance

Philip Hall

7.30 - 10.30

programmes available from June

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### MARCH 2008

#### **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March**

RSCDS Kirkcaldy 78<sup>th</sup> Ball (ticket required)

Roths Halls, GLENROTHES

Band J Lindsay

Karen Carratt 01592 745160

#### **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March**

Blairgowrie SCD Club Annual Dance

Town Hall, BLAIRGOWRIE

Band J Lindsay

M Archibald 01250 873341

#### **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March**

Social Dance

St. Andrews Church Hall

DUNDEE

Jimmy Boal 01382 509103

#### **Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> March**

RSCDS Master Class (ticket required)

Balgay Church Hall

DUNDEE

Mary Foster 01382 456330

#### **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**

RSCDS Festival Dance

Morgan Academy DUNDEE

Band D Cunningham

George Watt 01382 642131

#### **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**

Social Dance

St. Andrews Church Hall

DUNDEE

Jimmy Boal 01382 509103

#### **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March**

St. Andrews Annual Ball

No Further Details Available at present time.

#### **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March**

Coronary Thrombosis Charity Dance

Reid Hall, FORFAR

Band I Cruikshanks

Mark Noble 01674 840142

#### **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> March**

Social Dance

St. Andrews Church Hall

DUNDEE

Jimmy Boal 01382 509103