

Newsletter of the Perth & Perthshire Branch of the
Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
Scottish Charity No: SC024464

Issue Number 72

July 2018

Chairman's Remarks

Spring classes are finished and have been enjoyed by all judging by the good support they have had once again this year. Summer dancing is going to take us through to September, and we are lucky have our experienced teachers leading the programmes and nine excellent bands providing the music.

The branch AGM is on 4th September in Kinnoull Church Hall at 7.30.

I hope to see many of you there, and afterwards there will be a programme of popular dances which have been suggested for the next RSCDS book.

We need to fill some spaces on the committee. Hopefully some volunteers will come forward to help keep the Branch vibrant. It is vitally important that the Branch does not take for granted the same few active committee members. (More from the secretary later)

The winter classes have been set up, starting in September, and there are more details of the four branch classes later, as well as information on other local groups.

I know 2019 seems a long way ahead, but our Biennial Ball will be on 12th April in the Station Hotel with Jim Lindsay and his Band.

The Station Hotel has been very helpful and we have negotiated a three course meal which should be delicious, as usual, and light enough not to impair your dancing afterwards. It is a lovely venue with a good floor and the programme, though not yet decided, will be accessible to all grades of dancers, and all the dances will be recapped. Put this date in your diary.

I hope you all survive the heat wave better than my grass, and that I shall see you on a dance floor somewhere in the coming season.

Rod Purcell

Branch AGM

The Branch AGM will be held on Tuesday 4th September at 7.30pm in Kinnoull Church, Perth, followed by dancing.

Any motions should be submitted to Christopher Smith, Branch Secretary, either in writing or emailed to cjs110@yahoo.co.uk no later than 20 August 2018.

Vacancies exist for the Treasurer and three general committee members.

The Committee has received nominations for the office of Chair and Secretary, and any other nominations should be submitted to the Branch Secretary in writing, to be received no later than fourteen days prior to the AGM.

A constitutional through the constitution

The Perth and Perthshire Branch has been fortunate in having a number of talented, and hopefully “willing”, volunteers who have served dutifully on the Branch Committee. This has ensured that the Branch has been well managed and has consistently provided a year-long programme of classes and dances. The Branch Constitution provides the rules upon which the Branch operates so that, whilst the membership of the Branch Committee may change, there is a consistency in how each Committee manages the affairs of the Branch. Occasionally the constitution has to be updated and following the change of the RSCDS into a company limited by guarantee a new model constitution has been issued by HQ. Your current Branch Committee would wish to adopt this model constitution and would seek the support of the members attending the Branch AGM.

What difference will the new draft constitution make? In some respects the changes should not be significant in how you see the Branch functioning and the activities it provides to members. The new constitution would extend term of office of the Chair from two to three years. This length of term is similar to HQ and will reduce the frequency in which the Branch will have to seek a replacement. Should the Branch ever have to disband then the new constitution would require Branch funds to be transferred to HQ for a period of 10 years in order to allow them to be accessed should a new group of dancers wish to revive the Branch. Currently the constitution is silent when it comes to the termination of membership or suspension and the new constitution makes clear what would happen in such circumstances should it ever be required. The constitution also clarifies the position of delegates who are appointed to represent the Branch at the HQ AGM.

These are the main changes but I would ask that you take the opportunity to read the draft as detailed in the Highland Gateway. A copy can also be downloaded from the Branch Website.

If you have any comments you wish to make about the draft then please send them to the Branch Secretary at cjs110@yahoo.co.uk or pass them on in writing to any committee member. Any comments should be sent no later than the 23 August 2018. I hope you find the draft constitution one which you feel you can support and which will ensure that the good governance of the Branch continues.

Christopher J Smith
Branch Secretary

DRAFT Model Constitution for a Local Association of Members of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

Article 1. NAME

The name of the Local Association shall be “The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society – Perth and Perthshire Branch”, (hereinafter called “the Local Association”).

Article 2. ASSOCIATION WITH THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

1. The Local Association is an autonomous body consisting of members of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society (hereinafter called “the Society”).
2. While it has similar objects to and associates with the Society under a formal Licence Agreement, it operates and carries out its administration and management independently of the Society.

Article 3. OBJECTS

The objects of the Local Association shall be to advance the education and engagement of the public in the district/area of Perth and Perthshire and its neighbourhood (hereinafter called “the District”) in traditional Scottish country dancing and in furtherance thereof:-

- (a) to preserve and further the practice of traditional Scottish country dancing;
- (b) to provide or assist in providing education or instruction to Society standards in the practice of Scottish country dancing;
- (c) to promote the enjoyment and appreciation of Scottish country dancing and music by any suitable means;
- (d) generally to do such other things as are or may be considered by the Local Association to further the foregoing objects and those of the Society in the district or area to which it relates, including building working links with other local traditional dance and music initiatives.

Article 4. MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTIONS

1. Membership of the Local Association shall be open only to members of the Society (hereinafter called “Society Members”). A range of Society membership subscriptions is available. Only such Members as have attained the age of 18 shall have the power to vote in matters concerned with the management of the Local Association.
2. Any Society member who pays the Society subscription through another Local Association may also become a member of the Local Association.
3. The rates of local subscription for all classes of members shall be such as may be determined from time to time by the Local Association in General Meeting.

Article 5. OFFICE BEARERS

1. The Office-Bearers of the Local Association, all of whom shall be members of the Local Association who have attained the age of 18, shall consist of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer who shall all be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Local Association in accordance with the Rules of the Local Association.
2. The Chairman shall hold office for up to three years, subject to re-election at the end of each year.

3. The Vice-Chairman shall hold office for up to two years, subject to re-election at the end of each year. Upon relinquishing office, the Vice-Chairman shall be eligible for election to another office or to the Committee of Management.
4. The Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer shall each hold office for one year but shall be eligible for annual re-election to serve a maximum term of five years.
5. The Committee of Management shall have power to appoint an Interim Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Honorary Secretary and/or Honorary Treasurer to fill vacancies in any elected posts occurring between Annual General Meetings but any Office Bearer/officer so appointed shall serve only until the next Annual General Meeting when he/she shall be eligible for election.
6. On completion of his/her term of office or in the case of early resignation an Office Bearer shall not be eligible for re-election to the Committee in any capacity until at least one year has elapsed.
7. Nomination for Office Bearers and members of the Committee will be submitted in writing to the Secretary not later than fourteen days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

Article 6. COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

1. Membership/Meetings

- a. The affairs of the Local Association shall be administered by a Committee of Management, (hereinafter called “the Committee”) composed of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman (if in office), Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, and six ordinary members.
- b. The officers and ordinary members of the Committee shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting of the Local Association.
- c. The Committee shall have the power to fill a vacancy among the ordinary members of Committee by co-option but any member so co-opted will serve only until the next following Annual General Meeting when he/she may stand for election.
- d. All members of the Committee must be Society Members, be members of the Local Association and be at least 18 years old.

2. Powers and Duties of Committee

- a. A Quorum of the Committee shall be majority of members.
- b. The Committee shall have the power to constitute Sub-Committees on an ad hoc basis either from its own membership or by co-opting other Society Members of the Local Association and to entrust them with such duties as it considers necessary for the efficient working of Local Association affairs. Such co-opted members shall not have voting powers.
- c. Committee meetings shall be held at regular intervals for the efficient running of the Local Association.

Article 7. DUTIES OF OFFICE-BEARERS

1. Chairman - The Local Association Chairman is the executive officer of the Local Association. The Chairman shall preside at Local Association Meetings and at meetings of the Committee. In the absence of the Chairman from a meeting the Vice-Chairman (if in post) shall take the chair, failing whom a chairman shall be appointed from among those present. The chairman of any meeting, whether a Local Association or Committee meeting, shall have a casting as well as a deliberative vote.

2. Honorary Secretary - The Honorary Secretary shall see that regular meetings are held and properly recorded and conduct the correspondence of the Local Association. Additionally the Honorary Secretary shall:
 - (a) prepare an annual report of the activities of the Local Association during the preceding year
3. Honorary Treasurer - It shall be the duty of the Honorary Treasurer to receive, bank in the Local Association account, and account for all monies collected by whatever agency from members of the Local Association or from other sources. Additionally the Honorary Treasurer shall:
 - (a) cause proper account books to be kept and ensure that the annual accounts of the Local Association are properly examined or audited as required by law;
 - (b) make the annual Local Association accounts available for inspection at reasonable times and present the accounts for adoption by the Local Association at the Annual General Meeting.

Article 8. LOCAL ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

1. (a) The Annual General Meeting of the members of the Local Association shall be held within six months after the end of its financial year at such place and at such time as may be determined by the Committee.
 - (b) All such members shall be given 14 days written notice of a General Meeting. Every notice shall contain a statement of the business to be discussed at the meeting.
 - (c) Members under the age of 18 years may attend and, with the permission of the Chairman, speak at a General Meeting but may not vote.
2. The order of business at an Annual General Meeting shall, as nearly as may be, be the following:
 - (a) Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting and of Special General Meetings, if any, held in the course of the year;
 - (b) Honorary Secretary's Report on the year's working of the Local Association;
 - (c) Honorary Treasurer's Report and Accounts;
 - (d) Appointment of Office-Bearers and Committee;
 - (e) Appointment of Auditor/Examiner;
 - (f) Motions already advised to the Honorary Secretary;
 - (g) Any other competent business.
3. A Special General Meeting may be called at any time by the Chairman or shall be called on a requisition signed by not less than one-tenth of the Society Members of the Local Association entitled to vote when such membership does not exceed 500. Where the voting membership of the Local Association exceeds 500 a minimum of 50 or one-sixteenth, whichever is the greater, of the members entitled to vote must sign the requisition calling a Special General Meeting.
4. One-quarter of the members entitled to vote or twenty-five members of the Local Association entitled to vote whichever shall be lesser shall constitute a quorum.
5. The Local Association in General Meeting may enact such rules as it may determine for the proper working of the Local Association.

Article 9. FINANCE

1. All monies raised by, or on behalf of, the Local Association shall normally be applied to further the objects of the Local Association and for no other purpose; provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the payment in good faith of reasonable and proper remuneration to any employee of the Local Association and fees to professional and technical advisers; or the repayment to members of reasonable out-of-pocket expenses.
2. The only exception would be in the case of a profit-making function/activity for a specific charity/good cause approved by the Management Committee and clearly advertised as such.

Article 10. SUSPENSION OR TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

1. The Committee may suspend temporarily or terminate the membership of any person whose conduct is in their opinion prejudicial to the interests of the Local Association. Suspension or termination shall not alter other rights or status of the person concerned as a member of the Society.
2. Before suspending or terminating any person's membership, the Committee shall notify in writing the person concerned stating the reasons for the proposed suspension or termination and giving that person the opportunity of replying and of appearing before the Committee, if the member so wishes, to seek revocation of the suspension or termination.
3. The person whose membership has been suspended or terminated shall have the right of appeal at a Local Association General Meeting when a two-thirds majority of those present and entitled to vote shall be necessary to confirm the suspension or termination.
4. Where suspension or termination has occurred or, where appropriate, has been confirmed as in 3 above, the matter, with reasons, shall be notified to the Executive Officer of the Society without delay under 'Confidential - Addressee Only' cover.

Article 11. DISBANDMENT

1. Notice of intention to disband the Local Association shall be given to the Executive Officer of the Society at least two months before the date proposed for such disbandment.
2. The balance of the funds, after all liabilities have been met, may be transferred to the Society to be held in a Local Association suspense account. (This is a designated account for future re-development should there be a demand to form a new Local Association. This has a time limitation of 10 years, thereafter the funds would be utilised at the discretion of the Management Board.)
3. Alternatively the balance shall be transferred to a recognised charitable body or bodies having objects similar to those of the Local Association (excluding geographical limitations) as the members in General Meeting, whom failing, the Committee, shall decide.
4. All property belonging to the Local Association shall be treated in the same way as the balance of funds in Article 11.2 and Article 11.3. Depending on the form of the property its value should be realised and added to the balance or it should be offered to an appropriate archive repository.

Article 12. REPRESENTATION IN THE SOCIETY

1. The Committee of the Local Association shall appoint a number of the members of the Local Association to be delegates in accordance with Articles 6, 12 and 62 of the Society's Articles of Association.
2. The number of delegates to be appointed must be in accordance with the Articles of Association of the Society.

3. A delegate may attend a General Meeting of the Society and vote on motions, or may appoint a proxy to attend and vote in his/her place.

Article 13. ALTERATION OF CONSTITUTION

1. The Constitution of the Local Association shall only be altered by Resolution passed by the Local Association in General Meeting and only after receiving the vote of not less than two-thirds of the members present and entitled to vote.
2. Under the Licence Agreement, the Local Association agrees to notify the Society in writing of any proposed changes to the Constitution of the Local Association two months prior to any such change being approved by the Local Association.
3. No alteration may be made to this Constitution which would result in a contravention of the Licence Agreement, unless approved by the Society through the re-negotiation of the Licence Agreement.

Article 14. GENERAL

The Local Association shall be governed in accordance with the laws of the jurisdiction within which it is situated, this Constitution and with rules made by the Local Association in General Meeting.

June 1918

Branch Scholarships

The Branch is offering scholarships to Branch members who are interested in taking either the teaching certificate Part 1 or Part 2. This will be a contribution towards the costs subject to confirmation that the candidate will be willing to teach and/or MC for the Branch on successful completion of the teaching qualification. To express an interest or to find out more please contact the Secretary Christopher Smith on 01738 443568 or email cjs110@yahoo.co.uk

Primary School Accreditation Programme

This is for primary schools to learn Scottish Country Dances at BRONZE, SILVER and GOLD levels. The scheme can be used in conjunction with '*Jigs & Reels*'; a book of dances which includes 2 CDs and a DVD, and links in directly with the Curriculum for Excellence.

More details are available on the RSCDS website www.rscds.org.uk

Information on classes and submissions to Highland Gateway

Please send any corrections on class information or any articles for HG to Rod Purcell at

Rod.purcell@btopenworld.com . Submissions should be in by first of December 1918

OBITUARY

LAURA JANE RINTOUL 3 October 1950 – March 2018

We note with sadness the death of a character well known in Scottish dancing and music circles.

She was born in Perth where she went to school and learned Scottish Country Dancing under the tutelage of Miss Scrimgeour and Miss Donald, at, what was, the West Church.

After leaving the Academy, and getting a degree in Biochemistry, she worked in NHS laboratories in Glasgow, where she took up an interest in Gaelic and Gaelic music . She learned the accordion, passed her Higher Gaelic and sang in Gaelic choirs.

When her father died she came back to Perth to look after her mother.

She went on to become a Mod Silver Medallist in Gaelic singing. She was noted as a singer of mouth music at RSCDS summer school - an old and rarely heard skill. She was awarded a medal by the Stirling Mod for thirty years of service.

Latterly she was again involved in Gaelic Choirs and told me she had just passed her choir leader qualification.

Laura Jane died peacefully at home.

She made an impression on all who met her.

Branch Autumn Classes

Day	Time	Class	Venue	Teacher	Music	Cost
Tuesdays	4.00-6.00	Children's Class 4 Sep – 4 Dec 18 8 Jan - 26 Mar 19	Oakbank Community Centre. PERTH	Jane Rattray Contact: 01738 828510	CDs	£25 per term or £2.50 per night
Tuesdays	7.30-9.30	General Class 11 Sep - 27 Nov	Tryst Hall PITLOCHRY	Linda Gaul		£2.00 for Branch members and £2.50 for non members
Wednesdays	7.00 7.30-9.30	Beginners/Improvers General Class 12 Sep – 12 Dec 18 9 Jan - 27 March 19	St Leonards' in the Fields Church Hall Marshall Place PERTH	Christian Catto	CDs	£4 for Branch members and £5 for non- members
Thursdays	2.00-3.30	General Class 13 Sep – 13 Dec 18 10 Jan – 28 March 19	St Matthew's Church Hall Tay St PERTH	Rae Farrow	CDs	£3.00 per class
Thursdays	7.30-9.30	Experienced Dancers 20 Sep – 13 Dec 18 10 Jan - 28 March 19	Methodist Church, Scott St PERTH	Rhoda Purcell	CDs	£4 for Branch members and £5 for non- members

Information on any of the Branch classes and activities can be found on the website

www.rscds-perthandperthshire.com

SCD Events in Scotland Diary is now being hosted on the RSCDS Dundee website

<http://www.rscds-dundee.org.uk/index.php/scd-events-scotland>

Useful Information

Bells Sports Injury Clinic

The Branch has again subscribed to the Bells Sports Injury Clinic so if you sustain an injury through dancing then consider attending the clinic where you will get expert help. There is a slight reduction in the fees for RSCDS Branch members

A Book of Perth Dances

The Branch still has a number of copies of this publication and the accompanying CD. These can be obtained from Allana Creighton at a reduced price of £8.00 for the book and CD.

Branch Award Scheme

You are reminded that nominations for Branch awards should be submitted to the Secretary by 30 May. The form can be downloaded from our website.

Administration

Committee 2016/17

Chairman	Rod Purcell	Vice Chairman	Wanda Rodger
Secretary	Christopher Smith	Treasurer	David Carswell
Membership Secretary	Rhoda Purcell	Website	Hazel Ryan
Highland Gateway	Vacant	Youth Co-ordinator	Jane Rattray
Members	Jean Dewar, Susan Black, Sue James, Ethel Keay,		Betty McRae
Contact Details:	Christopher Smith	e-mail:	cjs110@yahoo.co.uk

The objects of the Local Association are:

- To preserve & further the practice of traditional Scottish Country Dancing.
- To provide, or assist in providing, special education or instruction in the practice of Scottish Country Dancing.
- To promote the enjoyment and appreciation of Scottish Country Dancing by any suitable means.
- Generally to do such things as are considered by the Local association to be incidental or conducive to the attainment of objects above stated.

A gentle reminder that membership for the year 2018/ 2019 becomes due on 1st July, when forms will be available at Branch functions, on the website, from a member of the committee or from the membership secretary:

(Rhoda Purcell, 85 David Douglas Ave, Scone, Perth, PH2 6QQ)

Disclaimer

Please note that RSCDS Perth & Perthshire Branch cannot be held responsible for any error in the details provided for forthcoming events or classes. The editor would appreciate being informed of any changes required for future issues of the newsletter.

Other local clubs, classes and groups

Aberfeldy SCD Class

Tuesday from 7.30 to 9.30 pm
Aberfeldy Town Hall
Contact: Betty Kinnear Tel: 01887 820124

Bankfoot SCD Group

Monday from 7.30 to 9.30 pm
Church Hall, Bankfoot.
Contact: Jane Rattray Tel: 01738 828510

Blairgowrie SCD Club

Wednesday from 7.30 to 9.30pm
Town Hall, Blairgowrie
Starts 27 September 2017
Contact: Janice Cameron Tel: 01250 873272

Braco SCD Club

Tuesday from 7.30 to 9.30 pm
Braco Hall
Contact: Charles Robertson Tel: 01786 880208

Comrie SCD Club

Wednesday from 7.30 to 9.30pm
Contact: Wendy Duthie Tel: 01764 679717

Coupar Angus AEA SCD Club

Thursday from 7.00 to 9.00pm
Coupar Angus School
Contact: A McKinlay Tel: 01828 627040

Coupar Angus SCD Club

Thursday from 7.30 to 9.30pm
Coupar Angus Town Hall
Contact: John MacBean Tel: 01738 621124

Craigie Church SCD Club

Monday From 7.30 to 9.30pm
Craigie Church Hall, Perth
Contact: D Amphlett Tel: 01821 641404

Crieff SCD Club

Tuesday from 7.30 pm
British Legion Club Rooms, Perth Rd
Contact Joan Anderson Tel: 01764 653356

Ericht SCD Club

Tuesday
General Class 7.30 to 9.30pm
Blairgowrie Town Hall
Contact Jan McHugh Tel: 01250 870975

Gleneagles SCD Club

Wednesday from 7.30 to 9.30 pm
Gask Church Hall, Findo Gask
Contact: Gordon MacBean 01764 660193

Kinross SCD Club

Wednesday from 7.30 to 9.30 pm
Milnathort Town Hall
Contact: Helen Payne Tel: 01577 861349

Kirkmichael SCD Group

Monday from 7.30 to 9.30 pm
Blackwater Hall
Contact: Pat Simpson Tel: 01250 881403

Moulin SCD Club

2nd, 3rd, 4th Thursdays from 7.30 pm
Moulin Hall, Pitlochry
Contact: June Templeman: Tel 01796 473488

Perth SCD Club

Tuesday at Kinnoull Church Hall
Class 7.30 to 8.15 followed by Social
Dancing 8.30 to 10.00pm Visitors welcome
Contact: Dorothy Reid Tel: 01738 635009

Scone SCD Club

Monday from 7.30 to 9.30pm
Robert Douglas Memorial Institute,
Contact: Helen Flatley : 01738 561676

Scone Churches SCD Club

Thursdays from 7.30 to 9.30pm
Scone New Church Hall
Contact:

St Matthews SCD Class

Wednesday from 7.30 to 9.30pm
St Matthew's Church Hall, Tay St, Perth
Contact:Allana Creighton Tel:01738 551148