

NEWSLETTER



Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, Wirral Branch

Registered Charity 1063531

Class Dates

Autumn Term 2010

Start Tuesday 7th September 2010
 Wednesday 8th September 2010

End Tuesday 7th December 2010
 Wednesday 8th December 2010
 (14 weeks)

Spring Term 2011

Start Tuesday 4th January 2011
 Wednesday 5th January 2011

End Tuesday 12th April 2011
 Wednesday 13th April 2011
 (15 weeks)

Summer Term 2011

Start Tuesday 3rd May 2011
 Wednesday 4th May 2011

End Tuesday 5th July 2011
 Wednesday 6th July 2011
 (10 weeks)

Class Fees & Subscriptions

Fees are calculated on the basis of £2.75 per week (1 class per week) plus an additional £1 for a second class (payable on the night). Fees for the Autumn Term will be:

Tuesday OR Wednesday Class £38.00
 Each additional class per week £1.00

For the Children's Class, Margaret Kay will indicate the amount due based on the rate of £2.00 per class.

Wirral Branch Membership is £5 for the year 2010 - 2011.

To ensure financial stability, it is vital that Branch Membership and class fees are paid promptly, in advance, or at the first class of the Term. Cheques should be made payable to "RSCDS Wirral Branch"

RSCDS Membership Fees

RSCDS Wirral Branch membership is only open to those who hold current RSCDS membership. The membership fees for 2010-2011 are as shown in the list below.

Category	Subscription	Benefits
Adult Single (25+)	£15	Membership card and magazines
Adult Single (25+) half year	£7.50 - new members only (from January)	Membership card and magazines
Adult Joint (both 25+)	£24	Membership cards and 1 copy of magazines per household
Youth (12-17)	£7.50	Membership card and magazines
Young Adult (18-24)	£12	Membership card and magazines

RSCDS Wirral Branch Classes

Class/Team	Teacher
Tuesday General Class Beginners Class	Dave & Gill Haynes
Children's Class	Margaret Kay
Social Dancing (Wallasey)	Margaret Kay
Demonstration Team	Gill & Dave Haynes

Class Venues and Times

Prenton:

St Stephen's Church Hall, Prenton Lane

Beginners Class 7.00 - 8.00 pm

General Class 8.00 - 10.00 pm

1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month (commencing 21st September 2010)

All other weeks:

General Class 7.30 - 10.00 pm

Beginners are welcome to attend this class although some dances may be unsuitable for their participation (particularly after the "tea break"). A handy postcard size timetable showing General and Beginners Class nights will be available to all members at the start of the Autumn Term or from the Branch website (www.rscds-wirral.org.uk)

Wallasey:

All Saints Church Hall, Hose Side Road

Children's Class 6.30 - 7.45 pm

Social Dancing Class 8.00 - 10.00 pm

Social Dances

Christmas Dance 2010

Saturday, 4th December 2010

7.30 - 11.00 pm

Claremount Methodist Church Hall, Wallasey

Tickets £6 (Children £3) including supper

Hogmanay Ceilidh

Friday, 31st December 2010

8.30pm - 12.30 am

"Faith Supper" please bring a plate of food to share

St Stephen's Church Hall, Prenton

Tickets £5

Annual Ball 2011

Saturday, 19th March 2011

7.30 - 11.30 pm

Music by *Kenny Thomson & The Wardlaw Band*

Bromborough Civic Centre

Allport Lane Precinct

Bromborough

Tickets £18 (Children £9) including supper

Summer Dance

Saturday, 4th June 2011

7.30 - 11.00 pm

dancing to the music of *Luke Brady*

Claremount Methodist Church Hall, Wallasey

Tickets £8 (Children £4) including supper

Details of the dance programmes will be published after the summer break.

Tickets for all RSCDS Wirral Branch Functions are available from the Ticket Secretary:

Mrs Margaret Kay

9 Woodland Road

West Kirby

CH48 6ER

Phone: 0151 625 5468

Email: ticket-sec@rscds-wirral.org.uk

Minuted Minutiae

At our AGM on 18th May, we managed to elect a new committee. As in recent years we did not have many "volunteers" before the night so were somewhat relieved to achieve a full complement.

It was explained that we have all agreed to share the role of Chairman and encourage others to volunteer to represent the branch at other group's events. Jean Robb and I will share the role of Secretary with me taking on the electronic side. This is mainly due to the fact that RSCDS headquarters now prefer to communicate to branches by email.

We were pleased to welcome Herbie back as Treasurer, he'd obviously missed us during his year off, and Margaret Kay who had been co-opted previously. Kath Roche and Brenda Jones also volunteered to come on board alongside Beryl Henderson and Bill Baines who are continuing.

Although not on the committee, David Haynes has agreed to continue his duties as webmaster, publisher extraordinaire and teacher alongside Gill and Margaret.

The Branch cannot run without a committee and although it is not onerous, there's a lot to do at different times of the year to ensure that we can all enjoy our dancing. I would urge you all to consider some time on the committee to support the Branch and appreciate what is done.

At our first meeting on 4th June we spent much of our time planning for the year ahead and you will see the term dates and events elsewhere in the newsletter. We were so delighted with the success and praise received for the Summer Dance that we

have invited Luke Brady and his band to come next year.

You will notice that our terms appear to be longer this year, particularly with the late Easter in 2011. We also agreed to purchase some new SCD DVDs to help those wishing to improve their skills to see some excellent examples. Jean will manage these on a loan basis with a refundable deposit of £5. We will publicise these when we have them.

If you have any queries, comments or ideas to further our enjoyment please talk to any of the committee.

Maxine Slade

Children's Class

This term has been rather disappointing in having only five children on the register. Whilst they are all full of energy and enthusiasm, it is difficult to plan interesting and challenging programmes. My three 'right-hand' ladies, Liz, Beryl and Helen, have been invaluable in helping to keep the class going and I thank them all for this support.

The class has now been running for 10 years. We are planning some more advertising during the summer and hope that the start of the autumn term will bring in some new members. It is a pity that we have insufficient to make up a team for the White Rose Festival at Leeds on July 10th. This is particularly so as we will have an adult team participating for the first time in many years. Having driven the minibus last year, John Brierley suggested that the adults would enjoy the event and we look forward to a lovely day.

At the beginning of this term, Hilary gave me information about a world-wide children's SCD event to celebrate the 150th birthday of James M Barrie, author of Peter Pan. Rob Sargent had devised a dance 'Sir J.M. Barrie of Thrums' which is a fictitious name of Kirriemuir, his birthplace, and planned that children should dance at 12 noon on 7th May. The dance was also included in the programme for a ball in Kirriemuir on 8th May with music from Ian Cruikshank and his SCD Band who had composed the music. Fortunately I had the correct music so the children learned the dance and performed it on 5th May in appropriate costume!



Margaret Kay

Spring Fling

The weekend of 26th March, I went on an absolutely amazing Youth SCD "holiday" in Newcastle. The weekend ran from Friday night, which went off with a bang with a ceilidh, to Sunday midday.

The Reel to Reel Band played on Friday and their music was so uplifting that you could only dance to it, no one was sitting out, although with the amount of energy needed for each dance (which were variations of Riverdance and barn dancing) I am surprised everyone had not collapsed by the end!

After a hearty breakfast the Saturday classes taught by Deb Lees and Graham Donald aimed to improve technique and appearance when dancing, focussing much on footwork in strathspey.

Once back at the youth hostel it was a quick change, posh frock on, hair done and then off to the ball. The venue was spectacular with high ceilings and a wonderfully springy floor. The dances were extremely energetic and for most of the jigs everyone was burling at any opportunity they had, never mind putting spins into most of the diagonal reels of four. Despite being tired by the end of the first dance, the music from the Ceol na h'Alba Band added character to every dance so each had its own theme and could not be missed.

Back at the youth hostel we all stayed up playing pool and chatting into the early hours. After all the hard work on Saturday we ended the weekend with a fun SCD quiz. I was apprehensive about what this would entail but our team actually came second.

Musical statues while dancing, attempting the Robertson's Rant to the wrong bar phrasing to try and catch us out, the shortbread challenge and a guess the person game saw the end to what was a really beneficial and exciting weekend. I have met lots of new people, many of which I still keep in contact with and I would like to thank the branch very much for funding this trip, it was an excellent dancing experience!

Faye Mather

DANCING IN THE GARDEN 15th August starting at 3.30pm



Come and share what I hope will be an enjoyable Sunday afternoon in my garden at 9 Woodland Road (off Frankby Road) Newton, West Kirby.

Non dancers are very welcome. Please bring a contribution of food towards the shared refreshments, but I will provide soft drinks.

Please bring a garden chair and if the weather is doubtful, phone me during the morning to see if we're going to hold it – 625 5468.

Margaret Kay

Summer Dance

The Committee bravely decided to risk financial problems and have live music for the Summer dance this year. Luke and Adam Brady from Dundee were chosen to play for us and what an excellent choice they were. Hearing their playing on CD is one thing, but nothing can compare with the wonderful

atmosphere generated by their outstanding playing "in the flesh"! The evening was a huge success and accordingly Luke and Adam have been invited to play for our Summer Dance 2011. Make a note of the date (4th June 2011) and be certain not to miss a real dancing and listening treat.

