

2019-2020 VSCD report

TEACHERS' REPORT

The VSCD weekly classes started in the middle of September 2019 and continued, with a break during December through the middle of March, when the covid-19 virus interrupted us. We followed the pattern from earlier years of starting all together with a warm-up and one dance, splitting into novice and intermediate for half an hour, ending by all coming together for the last few dances. Teachers included Maggie and Duncan Keppie, Rob Raeside, occasionally with Sue van Horne.

During the fall (11 classes) , we concentrated on learning the dances for our Christmas/New Year Dance:

2019 December 29th: DANCE

St. James Anglican Church Hall (upstairs), 18 Prospect Ave, Kentville, NS B4N 2K7
2 pm DANCE, 5 pm POTLUCK dinner (bring your own crockery and cutlery)

WARM-UP DANCE: couple facing couple around the room

- 1-16 Set & Link, then Advance & retire, REPEAT
- 17-32 Right & Lefts, THEN Pousette

MAXWELL'S RANT (R8x32) 3C (4C set) David Rutherford RSCDS Book 18

- 1- 8 CROSS-OVER MIRROR REELS OF 3: 1s cross down to dance mirror reels of 3 on opposite sides
- 9-16 CROSS-OVER MIRROR REELS OF 3: 1s cross down to dance mirror reels of 3 on own sides
- 17-24 CROSS, CAST & 1/2 FIGURE OF 8: 1s cross RH, cast to 2nd place & dance ½ Fig of 8 round 2s
- 25-32 CAST DOWN AROUND 3RDS & ALL TURN RIGHT HAND: 1s dance down between the 3s, cast up to 2nd place and 2s+1s+3s turn partners RH. <https://www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/video/maxwells-rant.html>

FAIR DONALD (S8x32) 3C (4C set) RSCDS Book 29

- 1- 8 DANCE ROUND 2NDS THEN ROUND 3RDS: 1s dance down 1 place and cast up on own side to places, dance down 2 places and cast up on own side and face 1st corners
- 9-16 REEL OF 4 WITH 1ST CORNERS: 1s dance full diagonal Reel of 4 with 1st corners and pass partner LSh to face 2nd corners
- 17-24 REEL OF 4 WITH 2ND CORNERS 1s dance full diagonal Reel of 4 with 2nd corners and end in centre facing up between 2s
- 25-32 CAST DOWN, ALL SET & TURN: 1s cast to 2nd place and 2s+1s+3s set, 2s+1s+3s turn partners 2H. <https://www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/video/fair-donald.html>

EH3 7AF (J8x32) 3C (4C set) Roy Goldring RSCDS Book 40

- 1- 8 DOWN MIDDLE & BACK: 1s lead down the middle and back to top
- 9-16 3-COUPLE PROMENADE: 1s+2s+3s Promenade ending with 1s casting to 2nd place
- 17-24 1s pass by the right & turn 1st corners RH, 1s pass by the right & turn 2nd corners RH & HOLD ON,
- 25-32 3-HAND WHEELS & FISHHOOK: 1M dances RH across with 2s & 1L with 3s, & dance FISHHOOK. <https://www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/video/eh37af.html>

THE SAILOR 8x32R longways set

- 1-8 1s cross into Double Triangles (2s step up), Set, dance around 1st corner, & Set
- 9-16 REEL OF 3: Reel of 3 across (start passing 1K by the right), end in 2nd place on opposite side,
- 17-24 DOWN, UP, CROSS & CAST: 1s lead down (2), lead up, cross & cast to 2nd place,
- 25-32 RIGHTS & LEFTS: 1s & 2s Rights & Lefts. <https://www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/video/sailor.html>

SPARK O' WATER S6x32 Longways set

- 1-8 CIRCLE & TURN: 1s & 2s circle left, & turn partner with both hands 1+1/4 into line along the middle,
- 9-16 REEL OF 4: 1s & 2s dance reel of 4,
- 17-24 PETRONELLA, SET & TURN: 1s & 2s Petronella to own side, set & turn partner by the right,
- 25-32 ALLEMANDE: 1s & 2s dance Allemande.

GOOD HEARTED GLASGOW (J8x32) 3C (4C set) Peter Knapman Guide To SCD (ex-Collins)

- 1- 8 TURN RH, CAST & TURN LH: 1s turn RH and cast to 2nd place, turn partner LH 1¼ times
9-16 3-HAND WHEELS: 1s dance RH across (Lady with 2s & Man with 3s); 1s pass RSh & dance LH across with other couple
17-24 DOWN MIDDLE & BACK: 1s lead down the middle and back to 2nd place own side
25-32 CIRCLE & BACK: 2s+1s+3s circle 6H round and back.

<https://www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/video/good-hearted-glasgow.html>

THE KISSING BRIDGE (R8x32) 3C (4C set) Romaine Butterfield RSCDS Book 47

- 1- 8 DOWN & BACK: 1s cast & dance behind lines to bottom & turn outwards to dance back to top
9-16 MIRROR REELS OF 3: 1s cross down to dance reels of 3 on opposite sides to end in partner's place
17-24 DOWN MIDDLE, TURN UNDER & BACK: 1s lead down middle, cross under, & back,
25-32 1s+2s dance Poussette.

<https://www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/video/kissing-bridge.html>

MRS HAMILTON OF EAGLEMOUNT (S3x40) 3C set Jean Noble Golden Ghillies

- 1- 16 SET, LINK & RH WHEEL: 1s+2s Set&Link and dance RH across, REPEAT with 3s
17-24 SET, UP & CAST TO 1ST CORNERS: 1s set and dance up to top, 1s cast to face 1st corners
25-32 SET, TURN PARTNER, SET, TURN PARTNER: 1s set to 1st corners, pull back RSh and turn partner RH to face 2nd corners, set to 2nd corners and turn partner RH to face out own side
33-40 REEL OF 3 PROGRESSING: 1s dance reels of 3 on own sides giving RSh to 3rd corners (Man up, Lady down) and end changing places with 3s (Men LH, Ladies RH)

<https://www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/video/mrs-hamilton-of-eaglemount.html>

THE DEIL AMANG THE TAILORS (R8x32) 3C (4C set) RSCDS Book 14

- 1- 8 SET & 1/2 WHEELS: 1s+2s set & dance RH across ½ way, set & dance LH across ½ way back
9-16 DOWN MIDDLE & BACK: 1s lead down the middle and back to top
17-24 ALLEMANDE: 1s+2s dance Allemande
25-32 CIRCLE & BACK: 2s+1s+3s circle 6H round and back.

<https://www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/video/deil-amang-the-tailors.html>

ROTHESAY RANT (J4x32) Sq.Set Anna C Holden SCDs

- 1- 8 CHANGE RH, BALANCE, CHANGE LH, BALANCE: All ½ turn partners RH, retain hold and give LH to next person and all set (M facing out), ½ turn next person LH and all set end Ladies turning inwards
9-16 SIDE COUPLES 1/2 LADIES CHAIN & 1/2 R&L: 1s+3s (in 2nd and 4th places) dance ½ Ladies' Chain and ½ R&L
17-24 HEAD COUPLES 1/2 LADIES CHAIN & 1/2 R&L 2s+4s dance ½ Ladies' Chain & ½ R&L
25-32 All circle 8H round and back.

<https://www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/video/rothesay-rant.html>

In January, 2020, the class stayed together to learn the dances for Burns Night:.

2020 Burns Night dance programme

GRAND MARCH

THE OCEAN LINER

THE ONE LINER

CEILIDH

Highland Dance – Lily Matheson Wood

Fiddle duet - Ben and Ainslie Symons

CEILIDH GAY GORDONS

ARM IN ARM

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM WALLACE

CEILIDH

TRIO: Mark Hodder, Elsa & Caleb Allred

BAGPIPE TRIO: Suzanne & Stuart Bythe, Sandy McMillan

GLASGOW HIGHLANDERS (for those who know the dance)

RIVERSIDE JIG

DASHING WHITE SARGENT

NORTHUMBERLAND SQUARE EIGHT
 THE RUBY WALTZ
 RABBIES' RANT
 TRENCHER BOY
 EIGHTSOME REEL
AULD LAND SYNE

MACADIANS

Clara Whitman: fiddle
 Maggie Keppie: caller & percussion
 Fraser Keppie: bass
 Duncan Keppie: accordion
 Sandy McMillan: small pipes
GUEST MUSICIAN: William Keppie: fiddle

A volunteer group performed at two events: (1) the Festival of Cultures in the Grand Pre Park, and (2) Rivierside Court:

FESTIVAL OF CULTURES

6:30-7:30 pm. Friday, 19th July, Grand Pre Park (Whole show 6-9 pm, includes Mikmaw and Acadian dancers)

Meet at 5:00 pm. for barbeque and walk through.

PRACTICES:

4 pm. 29th June Bishop Hall; 3.30 pm. 6th July Grand Pre Park; 3.30 pm. 13th July Grand Pre Park

Outline program

5 min. MUSIC: Piper – Stuart Blythe
 1 min WELCOME: Maggie
 VSCDS: Double Circle dances – (men backs to centre)

1 1/2 min **PLEASED TO MEET YOU (4x16 R)** **4 M + 4 W**
 1-8 Over the Heather RH w P, same back
 9-16 All promenade 1/2 way (4), honour P(2), W progress (2)

1 1/2 min **BLOOMIN' HEATHER (4X16 J)** **4M + other 4 W**
 1-8 All turn P w RH once round, then over the heather to change places and move on slightly to meet new person
 9-16 All turn new person w LH once round, then over the heather to change places and move on to position 1/4 way round from beginning position

3 min **FESTIVAL INTERCELTIQUE (4x40R)** - adapted **4 M & all 8 W**
 Lines of 3, each forming side of a "square" to make a circle:
 1-8 all circle and back in one large circle.
 Keep hands joined in groups of 3 at end.
 9-16 all RW dance round centre man CCL thru L Arch (4), then all LW dance round centre man Cl thru R Arch (4) (each time centre M follows thru arch, turning on the spot)
 17-24 all in large circle advance and retire twice
 25-32 all M turn RP w RH, then LP w LH, turning a little further to pick up next RW on his R, to join hands in a new line of 3 heading CCL and
 33-40 dance 3/4 way round the set from where the man was last positioned. NB. LW stay with their orig. centre all the way.

5 min
 * Highland dance (J.L. McKenzie – 6 steps to Skye Boat Song) – Lily

VSCDS: Longways ladies sets –

2 1/2 min **LADY GLASGOW (4x32S) variant** **All the Ladies**
 1-8 All set + cross over R, repeat back to place
 9-16 Chase CL (4) then reverse chase CCL back home
 17-24 Top couple set (2) and cast (4) and turn BH once round
 25-32 All circle and back

2 1/2 min **WEEL DANCED LUCKY HARE (4X32J Newfie Set)** **All 8 W**
 1-8 Top cpl dance Fig of 8 between 2s

9-16 Top cpl join both hands and slip down and up
17-24 All couples turn P w BH, then tops go down under arches
25-32 All circle and back

5 min MUSIC: accordion solo

5 min Highland Dances (Sean Trhuibhas 6 stpes & Hielan Laddie 4 steps) – Lily

*

3 1/2 min VSCDS: Couple facing couple (**Medley: 2X32S+2X32J**) **Two couples only**
Ron – Maggie and Rajeev – Sue

BORDER MEETING NB. Orientation shifts 90 degrees each repetition!

1-16 both W adv/ret + turn R; both M adv/ret + turn L

17-24 Ladies Chain, end facing P

25-32 Set to P, Diag., Opp, and pass R Sh to new P at 90 degrees

3 min MUSIC: Dave and Martha

5 min Highland Dance (Blue Bonnets 4 steps & Earl of Erroll) 4 steps – Lily

3 1/2 min MUSIC: Songs - Maggie

5 min MUSIC: Piper – Stuart Blythe

2 min THANKS (to Duncan, Stuart and Lily + all Country Dancers) and FINALE - Maggie

6 min VSCDS: **NEW STRATHSPEY (4x32S)** **Everyone Lines of 3 facing Lines of 3**

1-8 All set+cross R twice;

9-16 All circle and back;

17-24 Each line does R Sh Reel of 3 (centre passes R Sh to R P);

25-32 All adv 1, ret 1 then pass thru, *or turn around* (2) twice;

DASHING WHITE SERGEANT (3x32R) **Lines of 3 facing Lines of 3**

1-8 All circle and back;

9-16 All set to R P and elbow turn R, set to L P and elbow turn L

17-24 All dance R Sh Reels of 3, centres give R Sh to R P to begin

25-32 All join hands to adv+ret+ pass thru

MEN - Ron Anderson, Rajeev Chowdray, Adrian Walsh, Dave Hild.... **kilts + long sl. white shirts**

WOMEN – Jane Hynes, Martha Hild, Diana Walsh, June Jain, **to be decided**

Sue van Horne, Nancy Armstrong, Debbie Harris, Maggie Keppie

LINE-UPS:

Pleased to Meet You Ron+Martha, Dave+Jane, Adrian+Maggie, Rajeev+Diana

Bloomin' Heather Ron+Sue, Dave+Nancy, Adrian+Debbie, Rajeev+June

Festival Interceltique Martha/Ron/Sue, Jane/Dave/Nancy, Maggie/Adrian/Debbie, Diana/Rajeev/June

Lady Glasgow

and

Sue+Nancy, Jane+Martha, Maggie+Diana, Debbie+June

Weel Danced Lucky Hare

Border Meeting Ron+Maggie, Rajeev+Sue (alternate partners every repetition)

New Strathspey

and

Martha/Ron/Sue, Jane/Dave/Nancy, Maggie/Adrian/Debbie, Diana/Rajeev/June

Dashing White Sergeant

Kings-Riverside Court Burns' Ceilidh January 23, 2020

gather at 1:30 (in sunroom at Riverside) for 2:00 p.m. show start

Dress: Ladies – Black top and bottom with tartan sash

Men – kilts with long-sleeved white shirt, etc.

Program:

2:00 Welcome – Paulin, then Maggie

2:05 LILLY – Highland Dance Solo (**DUNCAN**)

2:08 Dashing White Sergeant – (**SANDY & DUNCAN**)

9 ladies (3 lines of 3), all facing 'center' (i.e. like a triangular set)

3X32R Debbie/Martha/Jane D. Nellie/Sue/Edna Maggie/Jane H./Diana

1-8 All 9 ladies dance 'circle and back' in one big circle together.

9-16 Centre person in each line sets and turns Right-hand Partner, then Left-hand Partner, as usual.

- 17-24 Each line of 3 dances a Reel of 3, as usual.
 25-32 All 9 join hands in big circle to dance forward (toward center) and back, then
 'progress' by **center ladies only dance to the next line on their right**, & petronella turn into the new place.
- 2:10 **DUNCAN and SANDY** – instrumental duo
 2:13 **Spark o' Water** – (**SANDY & DUNCAN**) 2 couple set Sue + Crawford, Martha + Dave
2X32S 1-32 Circle **left only**, then turn P w BH into line of 4; Full reel of 4; Pet+Set+ R turn; Allemande
 2:16 NELLIE – flute solo (Burns' Song)
 2:18 MARTHA + DAVE – instrumental duo
 2:21 LILLY – Highland Dance (**DUNCAN**)
 2:23 **Miss Nancy Arnott** (variant: circle ending) – danced to Mouth Music by Gaelic Choir
2X32S-MM 3 facing 3: Martha/Crawford/Nellie Sue/Dave/Jane D.
 1-8 Both lines adv. and ret., then men petronella to right to reform lines across
 9-16 Repeat – i.e., lines adv.&ret., then men petronella to right (men now on opposite sides)
 17-24 All 4 ladies petronella to right and *set diagonally*, petronella again and *all set in lines*
 25-32 All circle left and back, ready to begin again from these new positions.
- <https://www.scottish-country-dancing-dictionary.com/video/miss-nancy-arnott.html> (Bars 25-32 modified)
- 2:26 GAELIC CHOIR – Cearcall a' cuin
 2:30 **SANDY** – small pipes solo
 2:32 SUE – Ladies' Highland Solo Dance (**SANDY & DUNCAN**)
 2:34 MAGGIE + MARTHA – song collected by Burns, 'Ye ha'e lien wrang, lassie'
 2:37 SUE + DEBBIE – ukulele/song duo
 2:40 **DUNCAN** – accordion solo
 2:44 FINALE – Gaelic Choir and dancers: **Waltz** to song "Morag of Dunvegan" (**SANDY & DUNCAN**)
 Sue/Crawford/Jane D. Martha/Dave/Nellie (simple choreography, based on *Ruby Waltz*)

VSCD ADVANCED CLASS

8 classes were held with between 1 and 2 sets each time

Exactly 2 sets were present in March and April.

Square and 4-couple dances were done:

Robertson'e Rant, Sixteensome Reel, Back Forty, Buchan Eightsome, Shades of Cape Breton (modified), Bees of Maggieknockatur, Scott Meikle

The November class had 5-couple sets

5-couple dances included:

Galloway Tensome, Lades of Treasure, Balgeddie Reel, Mountains of the Moon, As the Moon turns

Formations learn't included Diagonal Right and Lefts, Hello-Goodbye setting, Contrary corners, Snake, Tandem Reels of 3, Hand-in-Hand reels of 3, Pickup Tandem Reels of 3, Handem Reels of 3, High Gates

Other **popular dances** were done, e.g.

Figure it out, Bridge over the Atlantic, Holden Lane, John Duncanson, Dance of Hoochs, Rose of the North, John of Bon Accord, Napiers Index, The Green Man, Crossing the Brook, Linnea's Strathspey.

**Financial Report for the Valley Scottish Country Dancers
May 19, 2018 - May 27, 2019**

Balance forward			\$3,458.36
	Income	Expenses	
Regular Classes			
Class fees	\$3,072.00		
Instruction		\$1,400.00	
Room rental		\$500.00	
Total	\$3,072.00	\$1,900.00	
Advanced classes			
Class fees	\$390.00		
Instruction		\$320.00	
Room rental		\$156.00	
Total	\$390.00	\$476.00	
Burns Supper	\$6,428.00	\$5,597.89	
Socials		\$65.00	
Administration			
Joint Stock Registry		\$31.15	
Insurance		\$104.83	
AGM - room rental		\$25.00	
Bank fees		\$33.75	
Total		\$194.73	
Miscellaneous			
Instructor bonuses 2019+20		\$1,400.00	
Gratuity	\$1,000.00		
Gifts, donation		\$610.00	
Total	\$1,000.00	\$2,010.00	
Total	\$10,890.00	\$10,243.62	
Increase in equity			\$646.38
Current balance			\$4,104.74

Janet Whitman, Treasurer
September 13, 2020

WEBSITE: Rob Raeside

The website (<http://vscd.info>) was kept updated through the year, providing details about regular classes, advanced classes, the Burns night, special dances, and other events, as well as links to relevant suppliers and other Scottish Country Dancing websites. Currently it carries the message from the Board of Directors about the cancellation of classes and the Burns night 2021. The website continues as a resource to all members if people want to post relevant information. Duncan Keppie and the current president have been provided with full information on how to access the site.

Ron Anderson set up a VSCD Facebook page (www.facebook.com/VSCD.NS), but that has not been active this year. It remains as a resource if/when it is needed.

Burns Supper Report 2020

Our 45th Annual Burns Supper and Dance was held on January 25th 2020, the 261st anniversary of his birth.

This year we had a sellout of 200 tickets. We feel the Louis Millett Community Complex served us very well again and have no hesitation in recommending that location for future events.

The organising committee consisted of Keith Austin, Marvin Ladouceur and Deb Harris. Martha Hickman Hild and Dave Hild successfully took over the huge task of ticket sales from Rob and Wendy Raeside. This was the first year that we were able to sell tickets through email and e-transfers. And, for the first time, every ticket holder was provided with a reserved seat. It was a learning curve for us all.

Hall and foyer decorations were under the artistic direction of Sue Van Horne and June Jain respectively.

Pat Loughnane again did an excellent job preparing the meal. He also provided friendly and efficient table servers who did a very good job of getting hot meals to the guests in a timely manner. A gift certificate was presented to Pat on behalf of all VSCDS members.

We extend our grateful thanks to the haggis makers Edna Maclean, Wendy Raeside, June Jain, Sue Van Horne, Debbie Ladouceur, Gail Gordon, Rachael Robertson, Beth Irvine and Dorothy Hynes.

Rob Raeside did a stellar job as Toast Master as well as his annual recitation of Address to a Haggis.

Our excellent roster of speakers consisted of: Dr. Stuart Blythe, Immortal Memory; Dr. David MacKinnon, Tae the Lassies; Cindy Giffen, Reply Frae the Lassies; Rev. Don Sellsted, Tae Canada and Cheryl Sellsted, Tae Scotland.

In the first-time absence of Ken and Murdina MacRae, Jane Hynes did a fine job of saying the After Grace, which she presented in Gaelic and English.

The MACADIANS gave us only what we expected -- top class music for another successful evening of dance.

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The 2020 Ceilidh provided a variety of entertainments. They included a three couple set dance demonstration of Miss Nancy Arnott with mouth music from members of the Gaelic Choir; a fiddle duet from siblings Ben and Ainslie Symons; Hodder and the Allreds – a guitar and fiddle trio - and a bagpipe trio with Susanne and Stuart Blythe and Sandy Macmillan. Special thanks to Deb Harris for securing and arranging the Ceilidh performances.

As VSCDS President, Rajeev Chowdhury gave his remarks of appreciation for everyone involved in hosting another successful event.

In addition, we were pleased to acknowledge long time VSCDS member Inge Mair's birthday, the date shared with Robert Burns, with a gift of flowers and the singing of Happy Birthday.

Flower arrangements were also delivered to Dorothy Walker Robbins and Murdina and Ken MacRae at their respective homes and were greatly appreciated.

This Committee is grateful to all who contributed their time and talent to making this another successful VSCDS Burns Supper and Dance.

Respectfully submitted.

Keith Austin, Chair

2020 Organizing Committee.