



WATFORD AND WEST HERTS SCOTTISH SOCIETY

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NEWSLETTER **August 2007** **Number 5**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

As I'd hoped, we did finish our dancing season on a high note, with a good attendance of our own members and dancers from other societies at our Bushey venue. A glass of Pimm's helped us off to a good start; then Chris Oxtoby and Martin Cairns led us in a lively evening's dancing with their music. Strawberries and cream, laid on by Margaret Gunning, rounded off the supper very well.

I hope now that everyone is managing to have an enjoyable and relaxing summer now that, at long last, we seem to be having the hotter than hot summer that was forecast! I look forward to welcoming you all back to our dancing class on September 6th and hopefully we'll all be ready for another term of exercising not only our feet, but our minds as well.

Judy Snook will be leading another walk on August Bank Holiday Monday and I hope that quite a few members will be able to join her then.

My President's evening will again be held, as in recent years in a lovely garden on Saturday 8th September. I look forward to meeting and greeting as many of you as possible.
With all best wishes

Regards, Vera

PRESIDENT'S EVENING on SATURDAY 8th SEPTEMBER

This will again be held in Watford. Members and friends will all be welcome. 5.00 for 5.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.

Charge will be £3.00, to include a light buffet

FUN IN THE SUN on SUNDAY 26th AUGUST

The Society's efforts at the "Watford Celebration" were well received, including a stall where we publicised our activities and laid on some Scottish food, as well as a dance demonstration. An organisation called "Mums in Action" has invited us to participate in a "family fun event", to be held in the grounds of Stanborough Park, Garston. The invitation is both for a Scottish stall and a Scottish Country Dance demonstration. Rod McNamara has already e-mailed most of the members who have e-mail facility, but would like to hear from any other members who might be able to take part or contribute in any other way. Please contact Rod, either by telephone or by e-mail

PRO@WatfordScottish.org.uk

AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY WALK on MONDAY 27th AUGUST

Judy Snook will again lead us on this walk, starting at 10.30 a.m. from the car park at Rickmansworth Aquadrome. Picnic if the weather's fine. Come and meet us at the Aquadrome at lunchtime, if you're not up to the walk. For more info: Walks@WatfordScottish.org.uk

THEATRE VISIT on WEDNESDAY 17th OCTOBER

If there is enough interest, Judy Snook will arrange a Society visit to Watford Palace Theatre to see Cassio Operatic Society's production of 'The Hired Man', which gets a good write-up, though not one of the best known musicals. If you would like to join a party, please let Judy know, either at the Dance Class, or by telephone.

SOCIETY SYLLABUS Copies of the new syllabus were posted with this Newsletter. If you normally receive your Newsletter via the Internet, then your syllabus will be sent separately. It provides a reminder, if you haven't already paid, that you should pay your annual subscription, still £5.00, to Alan Englert, our Treasurer.

OTHER SOCIETIES' FUNCTIONS (further information from John Crowder)

Summer Tuesdays: Weekly from now until mid- Sept; St Columba's, Pont Street; £7.00; Resident Band: Frank Reid; Programmes available from e-mail : info@summertuesdays.co.uk

Beating the Retreat will take place at Hertford Castle on Sunday afternoon, 2nd September. There will be an opportunity to join in massed dancing. The Committee may be able to organise participation by a group from the Society. Contact Stuart if you're interested.

Saturday 15 September; Workshop and Evening Dance - Marian Anderson Band Letchworth SG6 4ET – Details from http://www.streaming-pictures.co.uk/streaming_pictures_events.htm

DANCE CLASSES As reported in the last Newsletter, from September 6th Gillian will be teaching the main dancing class on alternate Thursdays so we have organised a rota of local guest teachers for the evenings when she is not teaching. Bar Martlew will continue to run a beginners/improvers session on Thursdays, with the exception of Social evenings. We'd like to thank all our teachers, especially Gillian, for their hard work and commitment to the Society.

The Beginners' Class will start on Thursday 13th September but if you know of anyone who would like to join the class, please ask them first to ring either Bar Martlew (01442 261525) or Rosemary Kreloff (01923 492475) to confirm that places are still available, since the beginners dance in the small hall at Bushey, which can only cope with a small number of dance learners.

Also, the dance class social evenings will be not held every month, but less frequently, still keeping to the principle that there'll be a good proportion of easier dances so that everyone will be able to take part. The next of these Socials will take place on Thursday 25th October at Bushey as usual. The Christmas Dance/Social will be on 20th December and a Valentine Social on 14th February. On Friday 16th November, there'll be a Beginners/Improvers Social, for members of our own and other beginners' classes, to be held at St Thomas' Church, Watford. More details later.

INDIAN INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY RECEPTION on MONDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER

The Society has been invited to send up to four representatives to an inaugural ceremony of a cross-cultural exhibition of arts, to be held to celebrate the long-established ties between Scotland and India. It will be held at the Nehru centre in Mayfair - part of the Indian High Commission. Lt Col Alistair Bruce of Crionach, a descendent of The Earl of Elgin, a former Viceroy of India,

will be the Guest of Honour and will give a talk about the links between Scotland, his family and India. Gordon Brown, Alex Salmond, "Scottish" MP's and other notables have also been invited. If you're interested in representing the Society at the reception, please let Vera Joyce know a.s.a.p.

NEWS OF MEMBERS:

[some information is not shown in this document]

Nicki Leitch and Rob and Heather Wallace have moved during the summer; we send them all our best wishes in their new homes.

NEXT MAIN COMMITTEE MEETING Tuesday 11 September, Watford, 8.0 p.m.