



WATFORD AND WEST HERTS SCOTTISH SOCIETY

Editor: John Crowder

e-mail: Secretary@WatfordScottish.org.uk
<http://WatfordScottish.org.uk>

NEWSLETTER

March 2008

Number 2

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

February has been a unhappy month for our Society. We were very sad to learn of the death of Mary Robb, and also of Gillian Collis, who had been our dance teacher for 18 years. We celebrated St Valentine's Day with a dance that was already arranged, but which we turned into a tribute to Gillian as it was her birthday on that day. At short notice a demonstration was arranged of Wembley's GEM, a new dance which Pat Hamilton had written especially for Gillian. In the demo team, we had dancers from all three societies where she taught, namely Wembley, Harrow and Watford. A lovely tribute to Gillian.

Our thanks to Liz Binney for her excellent talk last week on her trip to Ecuador and the Galapagos. We enjoyed it and found it very interesting.

Our Caledonian Ball takes place later this month and I hope that many of you will be able to attend, especially our Beginners/Improvers. Frank Reid is playing for us this year - his band is great to dance to! - so come and enjoy the evening.

Best wishes to everyone.

Vera

CALEDONIAN BALL SATURDAY 5th APRIL 2008 7.30 – 11.30 p.m.

Parmiter's School. High Elms Lane, Garston WD25 0UU

The Frank Reid Scottish Dance Band

Tickets £16.00 (non-dancers £6.00), including supper, from John Crowder on

Tickets@WatfordScottish.org.uk

No bar; bring your own drinks if you wish

Tickets for this year's ball are already selling well, so members are advised not to leave it too late before buying tickets. We shall probably limit the number of tickets sold. However, non-dancers are encouraged to attend and enjoy an evening of Scottish country dance music.

Programme:

Note – Wembley's GEM has replaced The Glasgow Highlanders

Bees of Magglenockater, Mrs MacPherson of Inveran, The Wind on Loch Fyne, Bratach Bana,

Spiffin', The Gentleman, Father Connelly's Jig, The Reel of the 51st Division, **Wembley's GEM**, Polharrow Burn, The Irish Rover, Grand March leading in to Culla Bay, J B Milne, The Machine without Horses, Iona Cross, Napier's Index, Ladies' Fancy, Falls of Bracklinn, Mairi's Wedding, The Dream Catcher, Quarries' Jig, Montgomeries' Rant.
Extras: Belle of Bon Accord, Ray Milbourne, A Trip to Bavaria

Crib is available at <http://WatfordScottish.org.uk/Cribs-Memb-Contacts.html>
and via e-mail by request to: Secretary@WatfordScottish.org.uk

On the last two Thursdays before the Ball, viz 27 March and 3 April, the whole programme of the Dance Class will be made up of dances in the Ball programme. Also, after our Ball, there will be some concentration on the dances in the West MACS programme (see below).

FUTURE PLANS

2009 will be the Society's 90th year and also the 250th Anniversary of Robert Burns. We intend to celebrate both these events and the Committee is already giving much thought to next year's programme. Among other considerations is the choice of venues for some of our events. The Committee will be glad to learn of local halls that might be used for our functions. We are especially interested finding a hall that would be suitable and big enough to hold our Caledonian Ball which can take up to 100/120 dancers. This should be within easy reach of the M25 and have sufficient parking and a dance floor suitable for Scottish dancing on a Saturday evening.

WEST MACS CHARITY BALL

Saturday 26 April 7.30 - 11.30 p.m.

North London Collegiate School, Edgware, HA8 7RJ

The Craigellachie Band Tickets £16.00, including supper No bar

Programme: The Sailor, Jennifer's Jig, Margaret Parker's Strathspey, Cramond Bridge, The Weathercock, The Dream Catcher, John of Bon Accord, Midsummer Madness, Neidpath Castle, Roselath Cross, The Plantation Reel, Miss Johnstone of Ardrossan, The Hazel Tree, The Cashmere Shawl, The Piper and the Penguin, Father Connelly's Jig, The Gentleman, Ray Milbourne, Pelorus Jack, The Flower of the Quern, The Irish Rover, Ian Powrie's Farewell to Auchterarder.

Extras: The White Heather Jig, The Earl of Mansfield, Autumn in Appin.

BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY WALK

MONDAY 5th MAY

Details Later

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome to the Society:

Mrs Heather Ballard

OTHER SOCIETIES' FUNCTIONS (further information from John Crowder)

Sat 8 Mar: Milton Keynes Ann Ball; Lovat Hall; Newport Pagnell; Geo Meikle; £14.50

http://www.vcsmk.org.uk/clubs_RenderPage.asp?clubid=19739&pageid=4684

Fri 14 Mar: Hayes Social, Viking Community Centre;

<http://www.hayesscottish.org.uk/Forthcoming.htm>

Sat 15 Mar: Harrow Spring Dance; St Andrew's URC Hall; Eastcote; K Sandeman; £11.00

Epping Forest Laddies' Night, Woodford Green, Craigevar; £8.50

Sat 29 Mar: Shepperton Spring Dance; Chertsey; Craigellachie; £14.00

Sat 10 May: Welwyn Gdn City Ann Dance; Woolmer Green; Robert Whitehead; £10.00/£11.00

Sat 17 May: Berkhamsted Spring Dance, Boxmoor; Martlew/Robertson; £7.50

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING THURSDAY 22nd MAY

The Bushey Centre, High Street Bushey, WD23 1TT 8.00 p.m.

As in previous years, the Secretary will not send out any preliminary reminder of this year's AGM but, to save on postage, he will send out only a formal notice of the meeting. This notice will be sent out together with an Agenda and a copy of the Accounts within two weeks of the meeting. Members are reminded that at the AGM, the following are due to be elected: PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT, HON SECRETARY, HON TREASURER and at least four COMMITTEE MEMBERS. Nominations in writing to be with the Hon Secretary, Stuart Kreloff, early in May. If there is time after the meeting, there will be an opportunity for some Country Dancing.

THE SOCIETY'S WEB SITE

We will be happy to receive any photographs or other items of interest to the Society, for incorporation in the Society's website. Email WebAdmin@WatfordScottish.org.uk

NEWS OF MEMBERS:

[some information is not shown in this document]

Please send your news to John Crowder or Greetings@WatfordScottish.org.uk

In her message, the President has already mentioned the deaths of Mary Robb and of Gillian Collis and we have conveyed our sympathy to Jack Robb and to Peter Collis. Many members attended a service of celebration for Mary's life. Gillian's funeral was to be a quiet affair, but there may be a service of commemoration later in the year.

Congratulations to Rosemary Kreloff who was recently awarded an Open University degree in linguistic studies, with first class honours.

NEXT MAIN COMMITTEE MEETING Wednesday 16 April 2008, Watford, 8.0 p.m.