

WATFORD AND WEST HERTS SCOTTISH SOCIETY

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<http://WatfordScottish.org.uk>

NEWSLETTER

October 2008

Number 6

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

You will see below that we are celebrating St Andrew's day with a special dance class evening on November 27th when we will have cake and some Scottish nibbles. Some of the dances will be chosen for their connection with the Scottish patron saint. We are not holding a St Andrews dinner dance this year.

For Burns night on January 23rd 2009 we have chosen a very nice venue and a superior standard of catering - see details below. I would like to add that you do not need partner as you will be seated with other friendly members. You can bring family or friends, the more the merrier, and people do not need to know how to dance. The raffle this year is in aid of Help for Heroes, to help wounded servicemen and women. I'm sure we all feel for those returning wounded from the current conflicts, whatever we may think about the conflicts themselves.

Meanwhile we have the Autumn Social this week, bring a small plate of food to share. We have live music so it will be well worth the price of £6. Don't panic if you don't know the dances, just listen to the MC. It will be fun.

After that we will be thinking about the dance for less experienced dancers, on November 28th, all are very welcome as it is in a large hall. Then the next dance is our Christmas dance, with more live music, on December 18th. All this exercise is better for us than spending money we haven't got on Christmas presents people don't really want.

Yours sincerely

Judy Snook.

DANCE SCOTTISH WEEK (12th thru 20th SEPTEMBER)

CEILIDH – THURSDAY 18th SEPTEMBER

Our contribution to the RSCDS promotion of Scottish Country dancing during this week was a **CEILIDH** evening during which there were some regular dances and a short Demo. We give our thanks to Ken Martlew for providing the live music and Debbie McLachlan for enthusiastically guiding and encouraging the large number of Members and visitors who attended. During the evening 11 newcomers expressed an interest in coming to our classes. A photographer and a reporter, from the Watford Observer, attended and this resulted in a half-page article in the edition on 26th September. If you missed this you can still see it on:-
http://www.watfordobserver.co.uk/news/localnews/3706604.Dance_group_meet_for_a_Highland_fling/

DANCE AIMED AT LESS EXPERIENCED DANCERS

SATURDAY 22nd NOVEMBER

St Andrew's Dance - London Branch - Pont Street - from 7.00 - 10.30 p.m. Music by Ian Robertson and His Band.

For this dance aimed at less experienced dancers our committee thought that this might be an evening that we can attend with our beginners / improvers / everyone. The programme will include some of the traditional dances of Scotland,

such as the Eightsome Reel and Strip the Willow, plus Ceilidh waltzes, two-steps and polkas and some straightforward country dances like Good Hearted Glasgow, The Highland Rambler and Posties' Jig. To help us decide if we should attempt to get a group to attend please let Rose Kreloff know through email:

Dancing@WatfordScottish.org.uk or Tel: 01923 492475.

ST ANDREWS THEMED DANCE EVENING

THURSDAY 27th NOVEMBER

As stated in the previous newsletter, we plan to mark St Andrews at the dance class of 27th November with a themed dance programme, a cake and other traditional Scottish food. Our MC will be Andy Weiner and the programme will give dancers a chance to prepare for the dance for less experienced dancers on Friday 28th November.

DANCE FOR LESS EXPERIENCED DANCERS

FRIDAY 28th NOVEMBER

This is a joint venture for Watford & West Herts Scottish Society & Berkhamsted SRC and will be held at Queens School, Aldenham Road, Bushey, WD23 2TY with live music by Ken Martlew & Barbara Manning from 7:45 to 10:45pm. If you want a chance to recap the dances you can come to St Andrews themed dance evening on Thursday 27th November.

Bring a plate of food to share. Soft drinks provided. Tickets (£6) and further details from Barbara Martlew 01442 261525 – Email:- barmartlew@aol.com or Jane Rose 01923 261167 – Email:- jsrose@ntlworld.com

CHRISTMAS SOCIAL DANCE

THURSDAY 18th DECEMBER

This end of term Social is to be held at our normal dance class venue with live music by Ken Martlew & Barbara Manning from 8:00 to 10:30pm. Bring a plate of food to share. Soft drinks provided. The programme and cribs will be on our web site in early November.

NEW YEAR PARTY

SATURDAY 3rd JANUARY 2009

This extravaganza of party games, music and some dancing will be held in Nascot Wood Junior School 2:30 for 3:00 to 5:30 pm. We especially welcome our children and grandchildren to this event.

BURNS' DINNER

FRIDAY 23rd JANUARY 2009

Our 250th Anniversary Burns' Dinner – 23 January 2009 – Batchworth Park Golf Club – 7.30 for 8 pm to midnight will be a special, formal black tie Burns evening at a cost of £33. The menu is Cockaleekie soup ; Haggis with neaps and tatties (starter portion) ; Chicken breast in rich chasseur sauce or vegetarian option ; Fruit crumble or cheese & biscuits ; coffee or tea. More details will be forthcoming in future newsletters but please make a note of the date for your 2009 diary and order your tickets from Mrs Margaret Ingram – Tel: 01923 227710 ; email:- MgtIngram@aol.com.

DANCE for GILLIAN

VALENTINE'S DAY - SATURDAY 14th FEBRUARY 2009

Peter Collis would like to invite all Gillian's many friends to a dance on Saturday 14th February 2009 to be held at St Luke's RC Hall, Love Lane, Pinner. The band is still to be confirmed but Peter is keen that people put this date in their diaries as soon as possible. It will be a 'bring and share' supper. Peter would like this to become an annual event as near as possible to Valentine's Day. For more details email:

Caroline@Craigellachie.demon.co.uk

CALEDONIAN BALL

SATURDAY 21st MARCH 2009

2009 will also be the 90th anniversary of the founding of the Society and we will be holding a special celebratory Caledonian Ball, with Strathallan, on Saturday, 21 March 2009. More details will be forthcoming in future newsletters but please make a note of the date for your 2009 diary.

OTHER SOCIETIES' FUNCTIONS:

Oxford RSCDS Annual Ball – 25 October 2008 with Ian Muir and the Craigellachie Band at Headington School, Oxford. £15 – Tickets from Trisha Rawlings 01869-340830 or email Trish@Rawlings50cc.plus.com or visit <http://www.rscdsxfordshire.org.uk/>

Hayes Ball on 1st November. The cost is £16. Tickets are available from Jan Alsop on 07762079083 or email: Tickets@WatfordScottish.org.uk).

South East Herts Scottish Dance Society 50th Annual Ball - 15 November 2008 with Robert Whitehead and the Danelaw Band at Castle Hall, Hertford SG14 1PS – details from SEHSCDS@hotmail.com or visit <http://www.sehscds.netfirms.com/events.htm>

SCOTSCARE – The charity for Scots in London – are holding a Festival Dinner on Friday 28th November in Celebration of St Andrews Day. £50 including 3 course meal, drinks and entertainment. Further information www.scotscare.com

Weston Turville Charity Dance – Annual event in memory of Ruth Simpson. SUNDAY, 28 December 2008 - Weston Turville Village Hall HP22 5RW - Music by Ian Robertson, £6 - bring and share, further details from Valerie Cambridge:- CharityDance@WatfordScottish.org.uk.

Harrow & District Caledonian Society Annual Ball, Friday 2nd January 2009, 7:45 until 11:45 pm Allum Hall, 2 Allum Lane, Elstree, Herts, WD6 3PJ, Dancing to The Craigellachie Band. Tickets: £16.50 including refreshments (juniors and non-dancers £8.50) available from Jim Henderson – telephone: 020 8954 2586, e-mail: jimhendersonuk@aol.com

RSCDS Oxfordshire Burns Night, Saturday, 17 January 2009, 7.00 – 11.30 p.m. Benson Parish Hall OX10 6LZ, Music by Chris Oxtoby & The Strathallan Scottish Country Dance Band, Ticket price: £14. Tickets from: Trisha Rawlings, 29 Frances Road, Middle Barton, Oxon OX7 7ET. Tel: 01869 340830. Email: trish@rawlings50cc.plus.com

NEWS OF MEMBERS

[some information is not shown in this document]

We wish members who have had recent surgical procedures a speedy recovery.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome Hugh and Diana as Associate Members.

THE SOCIETY'S WEB SITE

The webmaster 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

NEXT MAIN COMMITTEE MEETING: - Tuesday 2nd December 2008