

Important Dates

Our new Committee of Management met on July 2. The following dates were chosen for the Fall Session of 2008-2009.

Classes

Time and Location	Dates	Teacher(s)
Basic Class Mondays 7:45-10:00 p.m. Gower Street United Church, Gower Street entrance	First class: September 15, 2008 Last class: December 8, 2008	Penny Gillies and Kathy Simonsen
Social Class Mondays 7:45-10:00 p.m. Gower Street United Church, Gower Street entrance	First class: September 15, 2008 Last class: December 8, 2008	Martin Mulligan
Technique Class Thursdays, 8:00-10:30 p.m. St. David's Church, Elizabeth Avenue	First class: September 18, 2008 Last class: December 4, 2008 (to be confirmed)	Bill Scott e-mail: wscott@geoscott.nf.ca

AGM

April 27, 2009

Socials

Fall Social	September 27, 2008 (Program from cancelled May social)
Beginner's Social	November 15, 2008
Twelfth Night Social	January 17, 2009
Spring Social	April 4, 2008



Royal Scottish Country Dance Society St. John's (Newfoundland) Branch

NEWSLETTER

September 2008

President's Message

Welcome back to Scottish Country Dancing!

Summer is almost over and hopefully the fall will provide us with some good berry-picking weather and put us in the mood to dance, dance, dance. Some of us have tried to stay in shape with the Monday night summer sessions at St. David's church and had a lot of fun going there. Many thanks to the ladies who picked out the dances and the music to make it so interesting.

For the newcomers, welcome, you will find the music, the dances and the people are all a lot of fun to be with. You will laugh. You will laugh when you get a figure just right and you will laugh when you get it all wrong. You will hear a lot of laughter coming from the more "experienced" group in the other hall. Enjoy yourselves.

I am just a "young" dancer, having been with the group for three years, but have enough grey hair to know that the job of chairperson can only be done with the help of the members. I have found that help is always there; whether it be for decorating the hall or finding your way up or down the line of the dance. We will have a good year and hopefully lots of young dancers will join us.

Let's start the music...

Ken. Galbraith, Chair,
RSCDS, St. John's Branch

AGM and Potluck Supper

At our Annual General Meeting on April 21, we elected our new Committee of Management. Many thanks to everyone who participated.

Elected Positions

President	Ken Galbraith kgalb@nf.sympatico.ca	(709) 722-5787
Past President	Brenda Burness e-mail: bburness@nl.rogers.com	(709) 895-2712
Secretary	Louise Beaton e-mail: lbeaton@nl.rogers.com	(709) 726-0205
Treasurer	Eileen Collins e-mail: ecollins@mun.ca	(709) 726-7236
Member@Large	Cheryl Perkins e-mail: cperkins@mun.ca	(709) 754-5201
Member@Large	Kathy Simonsen e-mail: kathryns@mun.ca	(709) 722-6339
Member@Large	Denise Sharpe	(709) 895-2992

Non-elected Positions

Archivist	Noreen MacLennan e-mail: normac@nl.rogers.com	(709) 722-6393
Newsletter editor	Cheryl Perkins e-mail: cperkins@mun.ca	(709) 754-5201
Webmaster	Mary Bridson e-mail: mbridson@mun.ca	(709) 895-2425

Website: <http://www.sji.ca/rscds>

Summer 2008

Last summer was full of opportunities for Scottish county dancing. The highlights included our own Summer Dancing, the North American Fiddle Convention, and the Folk Festival.

Summer Dancing

Summer dancing began June 16 and ran until August 25 at St. David's church hall on Elizabeth Avenue. In spite of the busy vacation season, we had enough dancers every evening to have at least one set, and welcomed visitors from California and British Columbia. Janet's daughter and grand-daughters also joined the fun while they were in town.

We would all like to thank the participants, especially those who helped choose and organize the dances, as well as those who brought snacks.

North Atlantic Fiddle Convention 2008 – Crossing Over

Some of our members attended workshops and concerts at the Fiddle Convention, which brought so many excellent musicians to St. John's last summer. Aside from the workshops and concerts, the Convention held a traditional dance with live music after each evening concert during the week. The Scottish Country Dance contingent were the first dancers to arrive at the ceilidh on August 6, and at first, Gushue Hall looked rather empty. But it soon filled up with other dancers, the musicians began to play, and the dancing began.

The 32nd Annual Newfoundland & Labrador Folk Festival

Saturday, August 9th was wet (as so much of this summer has been!) but the Folk Festival dancing sessions went ahead anyway on a rather bouncy stage protected by an awning. Scottish Country Dancing began at 11 a.m. with Penny Gillies and Bill Scott leading and music provided by Stewart Gillies (violin), Phil Graham (accordion) and Tara Bryan (guitar). The audience was small, but as many dancers as could squeeze on the stage participated, and everyone enjoyed themselves.

A New Arrival

Congratulations to Bill and Sue Scott on the birth of their grandson. Benjamin, the son of Jessica and Pete Salah, arrived on September 6.