

The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
GLASGOW BRANCH
Registered Charity No SC008002

Minutes of the 93rd Annual General Meeting of the Glasgow Branch of The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society held on Thursday 19 May 2016 in Partick Burgh Hall, Glasgow

Chairman Fiona McDonald

31 members attended.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Hamish Gibb, Meg Barrowman, Daphne Davidson, Maureen McCrudden, Sandra Tuffill, Pat McBride, Archie & Elizabeth Mitchell, Ina Cameron, Wendy Petrie, Katherine Morrison, Chris & Eve Gilmore, Iain Hutchison, Vivienne Imrie O'Duffy, Helen Murray.

2. Chairman's Remarks

It has been another busy year for the Branch as you will hear from Margaret Sanders, our Branch Secretary, who will give you all the details in her Report.

The Branch continues to offer a range of classes from beginners to advanced. All the classes now have live music. We are very fortunate to have so many excellent teachers and musicians. My thanks to them all for their enthusiasm, the time spent preparing for classes and for sharing their knowledge and expertise.

Over the year the Branch has lost three long-standing members; Rita Knox, Dr Alastair MacFadyen and Flora Frame. Every one of them worked to support the Branch and its activities over many years.

My thanks to everyone who has helped at the many events which have taken place over the past year especially the Primary Schools Festival and the Tribute & Dance held in memory of Dr Alastair MacFadyen.

The internet, email and social media are being used more and more to inform members and communicate news. Those of you who have access to the internet may have noticed HQ is looking for help from members by asking them to complete a survey regarding Mission, Strategic Aims and main improvements. The most recent HQ Newsletter and updates sent out in April has the link if you wish to take part.

Also on HQ website is the April Branch Mailing with information regarding the Society's AGM in November. This year there are no fewer than 14 vacancies, some on the Management Board and others on various committees. If you have time and feel you would like to be involved in the decision-making process please give this serious consideration. The closing date for applications is 9th September – so you have time to think about it!!

Looking ahead, the Branch is planning to run a Tutor Training course over two weekends in September. The course, to be led by Johan Maclean, is aimed at qualified teachers with a wide range of experience. The intention in the longer term will be to run teacher training certificate classes in Glasgow and we are working with Carol-Ann Knox and Caroline Holmes who are both very involved with the Glasgow University SCD Group and Alba SC Dancers. I hope that the Branch and Linked Groups will support this venture by giving the student teachers the opportunity to come and teach at some of their classes – the more experience the better.

Finally, as I come to the end of my term of office I want to say a huge thank you to Meg Barrowman for editing the three Branch Newsletters produced each year; to all the members of the sub-committee led by Pat McBride, who continue to look for ways to increase numbers at classes and to publicise the classes; and to the Branch Committee for their support and hard work. I would especially like to thank Margaret who, after we lost Flora, took on the extra duties of Social Convenor. I offer my best wishes to the new Committee.

3. Minutes of the AGM held on 14 May 2015

Proposed by Mary Webster

Seconded by Marilyn Mowbray

4. Matters arising

Under item 12: £7000 was moved to the Reserve Account.

5. Branch Report

This is the 93rd Report for the Glasgow Branch.

Membership: Our current membership stands at 304 of whom 72 are Life Members. In addition we have 19 Secondary Members.

Classes: In August/September 2015, two additional classes were held to teach the dances from Book 49. Our seven Branch Classes over the autumn and winter cater for dancers of all abilities from beginners to experienced dancers. This year, the Beginners' Class on the south side of the city moved to Shawlands Academy, a more convenient location. This has proved to be a good decision. After Easter, three of our classes have continued to the middle of May. In addition, the Branch runs four Spring Classes, usually with a theme, in April/May.

Glasgow Branch would like to thank all the Teachers and Musicians who make our classes possible; it is much appreciated.

Dances: The fourteen dances held during last year catered for a variety of experience from the 'Nice & Easy' Dances to Branch Dances and finally to a 'Challenging Dance'. In September 2015, the last of our three Summer Dances, incorporated a visit from Lorraine Kelly as part of her 24-hour Ceilidh Challenge in aid of STV's Children's Appeal. The Alba Dolphins danced 'Kelly's Kaper' perfectly. After their demonstration, Lorraine and her friend Maxine Jones joined in. This time, it was highly entertaining, but perhaps not perfectly executed. It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Sadly, Flora Frame, our Social Events Convenor, who had organised the evening so well, died on 17 October 2015.

On Friday 4 March 2016, our normal Branch Dance became a Tribute & Dance in memory of Dr Alastair MacFadyen. It was a fantastic evening with tributes from around the world plus dancing from two demonstration groups, the RSCDS Youth Team and dancers from RSCDS Glasgow Branch. The love, affection and high esteem that Dr Alastair MacFadyen was held in was truly reflected that night. Full report and photographs in the Spring Newsletter.

RSCDS AGM: Seven delegates attended the AGM in Perth. A full report was in the Winter Newsletter.

Glasgow Music Festival: This is now in its 104th year. This year there was an encouraging number of entries from both schools and other organisations. The Alpha Dolphins won the Marion B Hamilton Certificate.

The 11th Primary Schools Festival: This was held on Wednesday 7 March 2016 in Bellahouston Sports Hall and was highly successful. Twenty-one schools took part with the standard of dancing higher than in previous years. John Carmichael's Band treated everyone to excellent music – a joy for all dancers.

Spring Fling: This was held in Milngavie Town Hall on Saturday 12 March 2016. Fourteen different groups took part demonstrating a dance/dances of their choice, interspersed by dances for everyone. Martainn Skene provided excellent accompanying music. A fun afternoon enjoyed by all who took part.

In conclusion this last year has been very busy and hopefully all our dancers have enjoyed the events laid on by RSCDS Glasgow Branch.

Branch Administration

The Committee originally had 13 members. After October, with the death of the Social Events Convenor it had 12 members. The Secretary, who had previously held the position of Social Events Convenor, also became the Interim Social Events Convenor. Nine Committee Meetings were held over the year.

Three newsletters produced by Meg Barrowman have been sent out.

The Seniors' Group met four times this year.

Sadly, Dr Alastair MacFadyen, Glasgow Branch member, past Chairman, past Vice President and past President of the Society died on 20 July 2015. Flora Frame, our Social Events Convenor, died on 17 October 2015. Glasgow Branch also lost a long standing member, Rita Knox.

This is my first Report as Secretary. I would like to thank the Committee on behalf of Glasgow Branch for all the hard work they have put in over the last year.

6. Financial Report, including the Trustee's Report

Walter Proven queried why the cost of the halls in 2016 was so much more expensive than in 2015. Some of the invoices for 2015 came in late. Those payments are included in the halls expenditure for 2016. Gift Aid has not been claimed as yet. It can be claimed in retrospect. Gift Aid is only available on donations and not on subscriptions as the Branch gives Members a reduced rate for classes.

Maureen Daniel asked how many copies of the Glasgow 90th Anniversary Book were left. There are eleven copies. It was also queried if the Branch had a pdf copy of the Book. Helen Kelly has the pdf. HQ also has a copy in the Archives.

Maureen Daniel queried what the legacy had been used for. Donations during the past year are as follows:

2 October 2015	£300 to Bearsden Primary Schools Scottish Country Dance Festival
5 March 2016	£200 to Glasgow Music Festival

Balance now stands at £3866.60

The Accounts were proposed by Walter Proven and seconded by Carol-Ann Knox

11. Election of Delegates to RSCDS AGM in November 2016

Muriel Bone	as Chairman]	
Walter Proven	as Vice Chairman]	All proposed by Fiona McDonald
Catherine Raeburn	as Treasurer]	Seconded by Elaine Hutchison
Margaret Sanders	as Secretary]	
Susan Ewington	Proposed by Fiona McDonald		Seconded by Ruth Beattie
Mary Webster	Proposed by Chris Sanders		Seconded by Catherine Raeburn
Fiona Fairlie	Proposed by Muriel Bone		Seconded by Alistair Raeburn

All of the Delegates were duly elected. It was mentioned that becoming a Delegate also meant becoming a Trustee with a limited liability of £1 in the event of the Society becoming insolvent.

12. Appointment of the Archivist

Chris Sanders was proposed by Jim Ferguson and seconded by Fiona Fairlie and was duly elected.

13. A.O.C.B.

Some RSCDS books are available for a donation.

Carol-Ann Knox on behalf of Alpha Dolphins and GUCDC wanted to thank Fiona McDonald especially for building links with the children and the students.

Walter Proven thanked the Branch for their contribution to the Bearsden Primary Schools Scottish Country Dance Festival.

Robert McColl asked if the decisions with regard to Motions at the Society's AGM were decided at Branch Committee Meetings. On the whole, this is the case, but occasionally the Committee leaves it up to the Delegates to listen to the arguments at the AGM and to then come to a unanimous decision.

Chris Sanders wondered if there should be some form of 'entertainment' after the AGM to attract more members to attend, as achieving a quorum had looked doubtful to begin with this evening.

Patrick Murray had brought along a video of past events.

The Chairman thanked everyone for coming. The meeting closed at 8.35pm. Tea/Coffee and Biscuits were then served.

Signed:

Date: