



AFFILIATED TO THE
rscds

NANTWICH & DISTRICT SCOTTISH SOCIETY

Founded September 1958

Newsletter – January, 2014



DANCE SCOTTISH – more popular than ever and healthier too!

NEW MEMBERS welcomed – **LONG TERM** members celebrated.



"Highlights of Japan", November 2013



Japanese food, prepared by our catering committee,
November 2013



The "First Prize" Hamper, won by Noreen & Charles,
Christmas 2013

Looking back – looking forward. What a time we had in 2013 and more of the same to come in 2014, please. The season started with a wonderful dance night at Woore Victory Hall in celebration of 50 years together for Noreen and Charles. It was a noisy night as people met after the summer break, and some of the dances reflected the influence of the Scottish Borders as that weekend saw the 500th anniversary of the battle of Flodden.

We all enjoy our Monday nights – such energetic and pleasurable dancing at the Memorial Hall. Numbers remain strong and our committee remains steadfast in planning events for the rest of the season. At our September Party Night we danced to old and new dances, in recognition of the time exactly 55 years ago when the Society was founded.

As an experiment this season our **President's and Visitors' Night** was brought forward and held on 28th October, as usual at Nantwich Civic Hall. This proved a good change as we had a great turnout of members who enjoyed dancing alongside Presidents, Partners and visitors from other societies in the Lancashire & Cheshire Federation, augmented with a strong North Wales contingent.

In November Peter thrilled us all with a fine evening reflecting on his Scottish Dance experiences in Japan with wonderful music and authentic Japanese food prepared by the catering committee. The evening raised £200 for St. Luke's Hospice.

In early December the Ten-Pin Bowling Cup was won by Roger's team after a hard fought evening at the Lakeside Bowl in Crewe.

We ended 2013 with an outstanding Christmas Party Night on the last Monday meeting before the holidays with the Hamper Raffle raising a record amount of money for local good causes. We are grateful for all the effort put in by the performers, and to our catering committee for the festive food.

So keep dancing, singing and playing – to further our shared interest of Scottish Culture throughout the year.

Forthcoming events: Our Season continues from Monday 6th January 2014 at 7.30 p.m. with a New Year Ceilidh to include items from our members. There is no theme other than everyone coming and enjoying themselves - men wear the kilt if they wish, and ladies whatever takes your fancy. Wrapped raffle prizes and a plate of food will be welcome from members for that event.

Regular Monday evening sessions with Step and Formation practice are held from 7:00 to 7:30 p.m. at the Wistaston Memorial Hall, and General Dancing from 7:30 to 10:00 p.m. with a tea break at 8:45 as usual.

Classes continue every Monday until 19th May except for an Easter break on 21st April and May Day on 5th May.

Our **Burns' Night Dinner Dance** at the Masonic Hall is on the actual Burns' Night this year - Saturday 25th January, and Liz will be helping us through the dances on Mondays beforehand, supporting our newer dancers. Tickets are still available.

Our **55th Anniversary Ball** is at the Civic Hall in Nantwich on Saturday 22nd March, dancing to Luke Brady and his band from 7:00 to 11:30 p.m.

All dances will be practised beforehand on Mondays so don't hesitate about coming.

The Ball is always a splendid occasion when dancers from other societies join us to enjoy a lively band and the Civic Hall's sensationally sprung floor. This is a star event for the Society and is all the better for a full turn-out of our own members. Do come and join the traditional rousing celebrations at special events such as these.



President's Night, October 2013



The Chieftain with all the Presidents at Nantwich President's Night, Oct 2013



*Countryside walk, Oct 2013
Some walkers at the start - no rain!*

We have another walk in the country for two hours or so planned for Tuesday 15th April - we expect the rain to keep us company as usual so come prepared. We gather at 10:00 for a 10:15 start from the venue, returning for a light lunch two hours or so later. Please sign up from 6th January and come and walk with us, whatever the weather.

Our **AGM and Dancing** is on Monday 28th April from 7:00 p.m. with the **End of Season Party** for all members in the Wistaston Memorial Hall from 7:00 p.m. on Monday 19th May.

Some further dates for your diary

A number of members will be attending the **Harrogate Weekend School** last weekend of January, and the **Duns Weekend** over 16-18 May is always attended by a committed few of us dancers – why not more? If you are interested have a word. And also the wonderful **Summer School at St Andrews** - we have members attending in Weeks 3 and 4. Many members will take part in the **WHITE ROSE FESTIVAL** near Leeds on Saturday 12th July either as part of the Cheshire Branch of the RSCDS or Crewe & Nantwich U3A Groups.

Finally, the **History Group** has met, and interviewed life members Jack Owen, Maurice Robinson and Stuart Ross about their recollections of the early days of our Society. Committee members Stuart, Liz, Bernice and Jean met Willie Crawford in November to look over his old photos and letters. He told the group how his parents (who founded N&DSS) and two sons, then aged 13 and 15, travelled from Newton Stewart by train with their herd of Ayrshire cattle, two horses and four farm workers to set up at Crewe Hall Farm.

Watch out for further details of displays and collections from our Archives.

All the best for 2014

Charles



A happy ending to the walk - members enjoyed a meal at the Farmer's Arms, Ravensmoor