



Royal Scottish Country Dance Society Dunfermline Branch

Registered Scottish Charity, Number SC027501



Photo: RSCDS Dunfermline Branch Annual Ball (December 2023)

Trustees' Annual Report

Financial Year: 2023 – 2024

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This report has been prepared on behalf of the Trustees and is an accurate record of the activities of the charity during the named financial year.



Trish Paton

Secretary, Royal Scottish Country Dance Society Dunfermline Branch

Introduction

This Report covers the financial year from June 2023 to June 2024

Although a relatively small branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, RSCDS Dunfermline Branch is a very friendly and active group. This report is designed to give the reader an idea of the types of activity undertaken by the Branch over the course of the year.

The constitutional aim of RSCDS Dunfermline Branch is to advance the education of the public in and around Dunfermline in traditional Scottish Country Dancing. To do this, the Branch undertakes to:

- a) preserve and further the practice of traditional Scottish Country Dancing
- b) provide or assist in providing instruction in dancing of Scottish Country Dances
- c) promote the enjoyment and appreciation of Scottish Country Dancing and Music by any suitable means, and
- d) generally, do such other lawful things as are or may be considered by the Local Association to further the foregoing objects of the Society in the district or area to which it relates.

Charity Trustees during the Financial Year

| Role | Name | Applicable Dates from | Applicable Dates until |
|------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Chair | Alison Austin | AGM 2023-24 | |
| Chair Elect | Christine MacRae | AGM 2023-24 | 2024 |
| Secretary | Trish Paton | December 22 (OM 21) | Annual review |
| Treasurer | James Laird | | Annual review |
| Ordinary Members | Sheena Bedborough | Dec 21 | AGM 2024-25 |
| | Melvyn Greig | 2020 | AGM 2024 |
| | Linda MacDougal | 2023 | AGM 2026 |
| | Diane Brown | 2023 | 2026 |

The Teaching of Scottish Country Dancing

RSCDS Dunfermline Branch provides a range of classes to encourage the learning of Scottish Country Dancing (SCD) and its dances. Each class is taught by a fully qualified RSCDS teacher. In some instances, a trainee teacher may teach a class while supervised by a qualified teacher, as part of the Branch commitment to providing opportunities to the SCD teachers of the future.

Beginners / Improvers Class (September – May)

We had some new people attending this class, the difficulty has been retaining them and encouraging previous beginners to move to the general class. A survey of beginners highlighted some issues that we hope to address in 2024 to 2025. These include a welcome letter, a rotation of teachers, and the block booking of classes.

General Class (September – May)



Photo-Phil Jones – our new class musician.

The Branch General Class numbers have suffered since Covid. The age of members and the retirement of our class Musician were, we think, contributing factors.

We were sad to see Iain Gent (previous class musician) retire but after a term using CDs we enthusiastically welcomed Phil Jones to the position in January. This was in response to the vote for live music of an overwhelming majority of members at the AGM.

To increase our members we aim to increase our advertising for new members. Lapsed members are also being encouraged to return to class to learn new dances and enjoy old favourites.

Advanced Class (September – February)



Photo: Dancers enjoying an advanced class night with guest teacher Janet Johnston

The Advanced Class, aimed at more experienced dancers, provided expert tuition from a range of external qualified teachers from the East and Central Scotland area, listed below. Five (monthly) classes were held during this financial year, with a gradual increase in numbers attending.

*Guest teachers were
September: Heather Cowan
October: June Templeman
November: Fiona Mackie
January: Janet Johnston
February: Andrew Nolan*

Young people's class

RSCDS Dunfermline Branch provides financial support towards the running of a Children's Class. The older girls were going on to other things so, in an effort to encourage new members, three volunteers from the Branch helped class schoolteachers teach country dancing during the Autumn Term. The children seemed to enjoy themselves, but no new members resulted. Facebook adverts of classes did however generate some interest this year, and regular attendees went on to achieve medals in their various test levels.



Photo- Young people's class after exams were over!

BOOK 53 Teach-in

The RSCDS produced a large new book compiled of new and old dances that Dunfermline Branch Committee thought warranted an afternoon of teaching.

It was another successful event. Mo Rutherford on the far right of picture provided wonderful music for our afternoon Teach-in session for the new (2023) RSCDS book. A fun afternoon with complicated dances taught to us by Margo Priestley, Amy Drysdale and Alison Austin.



Photo - BOOK 53 Teach-in

RSCDS Dunfermline Branch – At Home and Further Afield

Promoting the Enjoyment of Scottish Country Dancing and Music



Photo: - Summer Dancing in Dunfermline 2023

A successful series of three events was organised by Dunfermline Branch during the summer months with visitors attending from all over the world.

Later in the year the Branch again hosted their Annual Ball in December 2023, in the Glen Pavilion, pictured at start. The meal was delicious, the dance programme and music provided by Ewan Galloway was great – a successful event enjoyed by all who attended, from across Scotland and beyond.

Though a small Branch, members attend a range of events outside Dunfermline. Alison Austin teaches a variety of well-known and unusual dances on programmes for nearby dance events (e.g. Edinburgh or Stirling or Perth). This means Dunfermline dancers are kept up to date with the latest favourites, and allows the Branch to advertise its events, personally to other clubs.

Ongoing Projects to Further the Objects of the Branch

Trustee (Branch Committee) Meetings

The Branch Committee meet two-monthly, scheduled throughout the financial year. Some were held virtually when one or two members succumbed to Covid again.

Data Protection

The Branch continues to remain compliant with the DPA2018, and data protection remains a standing item on Branch Committee agendas.

Safeguarding and Child Protection

All regular children's class teachers and assistants are PVG-checked in line with Disclosure Scotland guidance, and the Safeguarding policy with associated procedures is promoted on the Branch website.

Advertising

Advertising takes place through a range of media, including newsletters, newspapers, social media and posters in the local area.

Branch E-Newsletter, and E-mail

The Branch produces an electronic newsletter for members and friends, highlighting what events are happening in Dunfermline and news items of interest.

In line with the Data Protection Act 2018, the Branch has always implemented an 'opt-in' approach to its general enewsletter distribution, requiring specific consent from all recipients prior to sending.

In addition, a separate email is sent only to Branch members, when it is appropriate, which includes information essential to their ongoing membership of the Branch.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society Dunfermline

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 30 June 2024 which are set out on pages 3 and 4

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The charity trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1) (c) of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

1. In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention:
 - which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements: to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations

have not been met, or

2. To which in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Matters Arising

None

Name : Christine Tuffy CPFA

Address : 69 Dover Drive,
Dunfermline
Fife
KY11 8HQ

Date : 20/09/24

Signed :

Christine Tuffy

Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
Dunfermline

Receipts and Payments Account for the year ended 30 June 2024

| | 2024/23 | 2022/23 |
|---|------------------|-------------------|
| Receipts | £ | £ |
| RSCDS Subscriptions | 727.00 | 905.00 |
| Class Fees | 3,880.50 | 3,317.00 |
| Fundraising Events | 5,416.00 | 6,740.00 |
| Other Income | 318.00 | 1,025.00 |
| Total Receipts | 10,341.50 | 11,987.00 |
| | | |
| Payments | | |
| Fundraising Expenses | | |
| Bands, Catering, Halls | 4,785.52 | 7,605.56 |
| | 4,785.52 | 7,605.56 |
| | | |
| Payments for Charitable Activities | | |
| Teachers, Musicians & Halls | 4,333.10 | 3,307.80 |
| RSCDS Subscriptions Paid | 727.00 | 905.00 |
| Seat Dedication | | 500.00 |
| Equipment | | 515.90 |
| Gifts | 8.50 | 124.30 |
| Postage, Stationery, Insurance | 138.98 | 201.55 |
| Total Payments for Charitable Activities | 5,207.58 | 5,554.55 |
| | | |
| Governance Costs | | |
| Room Hire for Meetings & AGM | | |
| Gift for Independent Examiner | 40.00 | 40.00 |
| Total Governance Costs | 40.00 | 40.00 |
| | | |
| Total Payments | 10,033.10 | 13,200.11 |
| | | |
| Surplus / (Defecit) for year | 308.40 | (1,213.11) |

Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
Dunfermline

Statement of Balances as at 30 June 2024

| | 2023/24 | 2022/23 |
|------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Bank and Cash in Hand | | |
| Opening Balances | 10,032.48 | 11,245.59 |
| Surplus / (Deficit) for year | 308.40 | (1,213.11) |
| Closing Balances | 10,340.88 | 10,032.48 |
| Reserves | | |
| General Reserves | 10,340.88 | 10,032.48 |
| Closing Balances | 10,340.88 | 10,032.48 |

All funds are unrestricted

Approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf



James Laird, Treasurer

OSCR

Scottish Charity Regulator

www.oscr.org.uk

Registered Charity

SC027501