

Reel Time

Newsletter of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, New Haven Branch

Fall 2003

Class Schedules

Greater Hartford Scottish Country Dance Class
Grace Episcopal Church on the Green, Windsor CT.
Tuesday 7 to 9:45 PM. Contact Barbara Austen (203) 630-9749 or Karen Pestana (860) 298-8311.

Middletown Scottish Country Dancers
First Church of Christ Congregational, 190 Court Street, Middletown CT. Wednesday 7 to 9:30 PM.
Contact Joyce Chase (203) 238-0694 or Lucile Blanchard (860) 347-0278.

New Canaan Kilts & Ghillies Scottish Country Dancers
Millennium School of Irish Dance, 12 Old Mill Road, Georgetown, CT. Tuesday 7:30 to 9:30 PM. Contact Angela Montague (203) 762-9892.

New Haven Branch Scottish Country Dance Class
New Haven Medical Society, 364 Whitney Ave., New Haven CT. Tuesday 7:30 to 10 PM. Contact Dick Platt (203) 878-6094.

Newtown Scottish Country Dancers
St. James Episcopal Church, 25 West St., Danbury, CT. Monday 7:30 to 9:00 PM. Contact Ernie Harrington (203) 938-2881 or ech105@snet.net.

Bethany-Woodbridge Scottish Country Dancers
First Church of Christ, Congregational Parish House, Meetinghouse Lane, Woodbridge CT. Friday 7 to 9 PM. Contact Jack & Doreen Johnstone (203) 393-3189.

Upcoming Events

***A New Monthly Series** of Scottish Country Dancing. Begins December 11, 2003 and continues on the 2nd Thursday of each month. New Haven Friends Meeting House, 225 East Grand Ave., New Haven. Teacher, Peter Price. Start time and cost to be determined.

***Windsor Holiday Party.** Tuesday, December 16, 2003. 7:30-10:00 pm. Grace Episcopal Church on the Green, Windsor CT. Music by Norb Spencer and friends. Refreshments. Cost \$10.00. Contact Karen Pestana (860) 298-8311.

***Middletown Holiday Party.** Sunday, December 28, 2:30 - 6:00 PM. First Church, 190 Court Street, Middletown. Music by Norb Spencer and friends. Cost \$8.00. A Scottish tea will be served during break. Call Lucile Blanchard (860-347-0278) or Joyce Chase (203-238-0694) for more information.
Note the change in date and time.

***New Haven Branch New Year's Eve Party.** December 31, 2003. New Haven Medical Society, 364 Whitney Ave., New Haven CT. Dinner at 7:00 p.m. Dancing whenever we feel like it! Program flyers will be out soon. Contact Barbara Austen, 203-630-9749 or <mailto:beausten@worldnet.att.net>.

Hogmanay in Westchester. December 31, 2003. Church in the Highlands, Bryant Ave., White Plains, NY. 9:00 pm. Music by Celtic Knot. Plus activities for non-dancing spouse or companion. Contact Judy Zingher at 914-592-5862 or Naomi Lasher at 914-941-7358.

***Robert Burns Supper in Seymour**
The Robert Burns Supper will be held Saturday, January 24, 2004 at the Trinity Episcopal Church in Seymour. (same place as last year. Time is 6.30 pm. Tickets \$20.00. For reservations call Doreen Johnstone at 203-393-3189. Menu: Shepherds Pie or Stuffed Chicken Breast, Haggis, Green Salad, Bashed Neeps (mashed turnip) Rolls, shortbread, cake, coffee or tea. Entertainment will include musicians, singers, dancers, and special readings of Burns's poems.

***Robert Burns Dinner and Dance.** Saturday, January 31, 2004. Sponsored by the Mystic Scottish Country Dancers. The 245th celebration of the birth of Robert Burns will be held from 6:00 p.m. to midnight. Mystic Marriott Hotel and Spa, Exit 88 from Route 95. More information on the web site, <http://www.99main.com/~lees/BurnsNight/>.

***New Haven Branch Highland Ball**
It is not too early to save the date for the Branch's "fancy dress" ball, Saturday, March 6, 2004. West Hartford Community Center, South Main Street, West Hartford CT. 5:00 pm to midnight. Music by *Millbrae* with guests David Knight and Matt Petrie. Sunday Brunch, March 7, 2004. New Haven Medical Association Building, 362 Whitney Ave New Haven, CT. Brunch begins at 11:00 am.
Ball tickets:

Weekend \$50.00
Saturday dinner only \$22.00
Ball w/o Brunch \$45.00
Full time student \$27.00

Ball workshops:

January 18, 2004 2:00pm. New Haven Medical Association Building, 362 Whitney Ave., New Haven, CT. Joyce Chase teacher.

February 21, 2004. 2:00 –5:30pm. First Church of Christ Congregational, 190 Court Street, Middletown CT. Ken Way teacher.

The first hour of each Ball workshop will be devoted to waltz practice and/or instruction. Gay Gordons , St. Bernards Waltz, etc. Lynn Bishel teacher. Watch for flyers.

New York Branch Spring Workshop for Current and Prospective Teachers. March 20, 2004 at Holy Cross School. A spring dance for all dancers follows the workshop. Teacher Ron Wallace. Contact Chris Ronald at 212-317-9347 or <mailto:Cronald878@aol.com>.

Island Fling. Nassau Scottish Country Dancers. Saturday, April 17, 2004 at the Irish-American Hall in Mineola. Music by Waverly (Liz Donaldson, David Knight, Ralph Gordon. Contact Ann Smith at 631-271-5740.

***The Kilts and Ghillies Ball.** Saturday, April 24, 2004 at the South Britain Congregational Church hall. Hopefully Norb Spencer and friends will play for us but that has not been confirmed at present. In the meantime save that date for a good night at the Kilts and Ghillies Ball.

Rerr Terr. RSCDS New Jersey Branch Ball. Saturday April 24, 2004 at Christ Church, Ridgewood, NJ. Music by Highland Whiskey. Contact Cindy Carlone at 908-771-9400 x343 or Cindycarlone@msn.com.

Correction

The poem published in last winter's newsletter created quite a stir. Even the Burns scholars got into the act. Evidently, "To a Plooman" was definitely not a work by Robert Burns, but by a retired school master by the name of James T. Douglas of Perth, Scotland. Our apologies to the author for the error. The mistake was totally innocent.

Last call for Membership

Please note that this is the last issue of Reel Time you will receive until your membership is renewed. A membership form is attached at the end of this newsletter. Don't miss special announcements, bits of trivia and class news by not receiving Reel Time.

On a Personal Note

Congratulations to Chris and Sue Ronald on the November 1, 2003 birth of a new grandson, Benjamin Ronald Kreiswirth, son of their daughter Lorna.

Over the years, the New Haven class has had many dancers with connections to Yale University. Yale students who have danced in New Haven have come to class with great enthusiasm and young feet full of spring and bounce. The downside to this comes at graduation, when many move on to the working world or to graduate school elsewhere.

While browsing in Barnes and Noble recently, *Richard Lewis* came across The Winter Price, a fantasy/historical novel written by Elizabeth E. Wein, who danced in New Haven in the 1980s while studying at Yale. According to the author profile, Elizabeth earned a PhD from the University of Pennsylvania after graduating from Yale. She is the author of other published novels and lives in Scotland with her husband and two children. (Thanks to Richard for pointing out this famous SCDancer!)

Peter Price has written dances in honor of two New Haven Branch dancers who have passed away in the last few years. He would like to share them with the rest of the Branch. At the time he submitted these, the dance for Platt Brightwell had not yet been titled, and is presented as such here.

Dick Morrison's Reel 32 Reel 3C

- 1-8 1C lead down the middle for 2, take 2 bars to turn as a couple (1W under arch as 1M dances below); 1C lead up, cast off to 2nd place, opposite sides.
- 9-12 Half reels of 3 across the dance, 1M 2M and 1W 3W pass left shoulders to begin. 1C finish 2nd place own sides.
- 13-16 Half reels of 3 on the sides, 1M 3W and 1W 2M pass right shoulders to begin. 1C finish in the middle ready to give LH to 1st corner dancers (in partner's 1st corner positions).

- 17-18 1C turn 1st corners LH
 19-20 1C turn RH to face 2nd corners (in partner's 2nd corner positions);
 21-24 1C turn 2nd corners LH and partner RH to finish in 2nd place on opposites sides.
 25-32 3C, 1C, 2C set and link for three, twice.

Devised July 25, 2003. Copyright Peter Price, 2003. Published with permission.

Strathspey for Platt Brightwell 32 Strathspey 3C

- 1-8 2C followed by 1C lead down the middle for 3, turn as couples on bar 4 (women dance under arches as men dance below partners); 1C followed by 2C lead up the middle for 3 and, keeping right hands joined, change places with partners on bar 8 by dancing up diagonally, the men to their left and the women to their right to finish ready for allemande.
 9-16 1C 2C allemande—on bars 7 and 8 1C dance a petronella turn to finish in lines of 3 across the dance—1M between 3C and 1W between 2C.
 17-20 1C, 2C, 3C set twice. On bar 20, 1C turn by the right to the sides between corners;
 21-24 2C, 1C, 3C set twice.
 25-28 2C, 1C, 3C circle 6 hands round to the left. On bars 27 and 28, 1C giving RH cross the circle to re-enter the circle 1W between 2W 3W, and 1M between 2M 3M;
 29-32 2C 1C 3C circle back to the right to progressed places.

Devised August 4, 2003. Copyright Peter Price, 2003. Published with permission.

Travel “Feeler”

Hi Everyone!

For several years now I (Catriona MacAuslan) have been asked by folks to put together a trip to Scotland for dancers. Soooooo, I need to see if there is really an interest for enough people to make it not burdensome price wise and more interesting dance wise.

At the moment I am holding 17 seats on *Continental Airlines* nonstop from Newark to Glasgow Sept. 3 and back on Sept. 12, 2004, also nonstop from Glasgow. I am also tentatively (stress **tentatively** as it requires deposit fairly soon), holding room space for 17 persons at Drumkilbo House in Meigle, Perthshire. Check their Web site at <http://www.Drumkilbo.com>.

The present house incorporates the remains of a fortified tower dating from the 13th century. Indeed,

the first recorded owner of Drumkilbo was King Robert the Bruce.

Quote from the agent I am working with:

“As an update on Drumkilbo House, I have been discussing the dancing requirements in more detail with the administrator on site. It seems that the preferred option for a dancing venue for all guests who hire Drumkilbo House is the wood paneled Carriage House, which is between Braveheart Cottage and the main house. It has a wooden floor and apparently is ideal for this purpose and has proved to be very popular in the past. The distance between Meigle and Pitlochry is 33 miles.”

This property is located well for access to many tourist locations such as Blair Castle, Glamis Castle, Scone Palace, The Trossachs, etc., etc. and close to Pitlochry which has much to offer in the dance vein. The price I mention does NOT include food as they offer self catering facilities. They can offer Dinner and Bed and Breakfast, but at a much higher rate. I am presently waiting for a quote with just breakfast.

We would hire a 17 pax minibus OR 2-3 station wagons for transportation to and from Glasgow Airport and during the trip for sightseeing, traveling to dancing etc. We would be driving ourselves, doing without the cost of a driver who usually has a daily rate PLUS accommodation and meals.

We would have the last night at Glasgow Airport prior to our flight home as Drumkilbo is a Saturday to Saturday lease. We would be the ONLY tenants.

I have been emailing several dance contacts in Scotland. One, the Glen Orrin dancers who came to the US and danced with us in Seymour, and the other in Helensburgh, where I have a friend who teaches SCD and has a substantial group, are very interested in meeting/dancing with us.

The above combo so far--air, rooms, minibus or similar, last night at Glasgow-- comes to approximately \$1500 per person.

I WOULD NEED TO MAKE A DEPOSIT TO DRUMKILBO VERY SOON.

Due mid December i.e. 11th, 12th

10 pax \$150 per person

12 pax \$125 per person

15 pax \$100 per person

17 pax \$88 per person.

The more who commit to the trip, the lower the deposit amount.

So, if you think you might be interested, *seriously* interested, please contact me at my office as soon as

possible in order for me to decide if this is really something we can do. I must have at least 17 travelers to make the price stay reasonable, and REMEMBER, the above price DOES NOT include food, sightseeing, gas, possible live music, trinkets etc. I would have to make the deposit by the middle of December, so I would need to know a.s.a.p.

Catriona MacAuslan

Join the Mystic Highland Pipe Band in Bermuda!

The Mystic Highland Pipe Band is planning to go on a one week cruise to Bermuda on May 22, 2004 to be there and participate in the celebration of Bermuda's annual event called Bermuda Day. Others can join with the Band for this cruise and participate in the Band's Group Rate. It looks like the Group Rate will be about \$800 per person for the cruise and about \$150 for Port Charges. The ship will be one of the Celebrity Cruise Line ships. Anyone interested can contact Don Wills at (860) 536-1981 or dmwills1@juno.com

Middletown Holiday Party Program

Dec. 28, 2003

Lamb Skinet	32J3	14/12
Jimmy's Fancy	32S3	14/11
Wedderburn's Reel	32R3	Gr/18
Muirland Willie	32J3	21/9
Capetown Wedding	32S3	39/4
The Dancing Man	32R3	Goldring
The Bawk	32J3	30/4
Asilomar Romantic (Ball)	32S3	San
	Francisco Collection Vol 2	
Clutha (Ball)	3248R4S	31/2
The Express (Ball)	40J3	20/11
Wisp of Thistle	32S3	32/4
Pease Strae	32R3	1/8

Eileen Donan Castle for Sale

The New Haven Branch has been the beneficiary of Bob Byrnie's artistic talent. He has been kind enough to let the Branch use his painting of Eileen Donan Castle (displayed at the New Haven Ball) and produce it in photo format as the front portion of a fold over letter/note card. Bob has also written a very interesting background story on the Castle and reparation of the picture and has it printed on the

back of the card.

Each picture has been personally autographed by Bob and the Branch is planning to sell them in "six pack" lots for eight dollars per package. This is an effort by the Board members to create a source of income for the Branch to increase the overall dollar assets and supplement the lower income from the NOMAD weekend bake Sale. We encourage you to "Look and Buy," and support this worthy effort.

Catriona MacAuslan

Mystic Scottish Dancers' Third Annual Festive Dance

Saturday, the 8th of November dawned bright and clear, albeit on the chilly side! The third annual Festive Dance hosted by the Mystic Scottish Country Dancers was to take place at Christ Church Parish Hall in Westerly, RI—and it was with happiness that we noted there were no heating problems, for memories of last year's "think warm" Festive event still danced in our heads! Though we were prepared to have a fire in the fireplace, we were assured that all was well and that this year the fireplace would only be needed to add to the atmosphere of good cheer for the participants. An extra-added dividend was to witness the progress of the total lunar eclipse that began shortly before 7 p.m. and concluded after 9:30 p.m. Our dancers also became moon-gazers extraordinaire as the eclipse progressed so spectacularly in the crystal clear evening skies. We danced and then would dash out to see the progress. Moon/star gazers from the Middletown group included Joyce and Skip Chase, Mary and Bob Byrnie, Catriona MacAuslan, Marge and Don Wills, Lucile Blanchard, Susan Wall and Ann Case.

Master of Ceremonies Don Wills guided us through the Grand March, with Bob Scent on the bagpipes. Then, in what is becoming a tradition for us, we all sang *God Bless America* in tribute to the men and women who perished in the September 11th disaster three years ago. Don introduced Norb Spencer and Friends—whose superb group of musicians provided spirited and toe tapping music as we danced our way through several social dances, as well as 12 country dances—from graceful strathspeys and reels to lively jigs and even a 32-bar hornpipe entitled Catch the Wind. We were delighted to welcome Susie Petrov back to Connecticut and she did indeed "tickle the keyboard" most beautifully. The evening was a fun one as we danced away, enjoyed refreshments aplenty and were warmed by joyous dancing and a true feeling of camaraderie for those in attendance. And now we are planning in earnest for the Robert

Burns Dinner scheduled for Saturday the 31st of January 2004 at the Mystic Marriott Hotel. Be on the lookout for flyers or check out our web-site, www.99main.com/~lees/BurnsNight.

The Saga of NOMAD

As many of you know, the Branch was “squeezed” out of the kitchen in the last minute planning for this year’s NOMAD Festival. However, our presence was still tangible as two SCD classes, a demonstration and a dance party were among the offerings at the new site at Hill High School in New Haven. The high school was impressive, although the class rooms were a bit small and in my case had tile over concrete floors. I know my legs were sore after getting 16 children and their assorted parents and grandparents through four dances in “Scottish Dancing for Families”. As Ed Davis remarked, and I paraphrase, some regular classes don’t get two four couple sets, so why complain!

Barbara Austen

Tape Player and Recorder for Sale

Woodbridge dancers, have a *Califone* Dual Cassette player and recorder for sale. It is in very good condition - if anyone is interested they may contact Jack Johnstone at 203-393-3189.

Changes to the RSCDS Headquarters Web Site

Just to alert you to the fact that a number of things were updated on the website yesterday: please check the News and Changes sections. Items added:

- World Day of Dance report
- notification of change to the "SCD Events in Scotland" website
- confirmation of Summer School 2004 dates
- Management Board (6 September 2003) report

The major change is that the whole of the "Shop" section has been updated - log on and have a look!

Kind regards,
Elspeth Gray
Secretary/Administrator, RSCDS

Prague Workshop with Ron Wallace and Muriel Johnstone, Czech Republic, 9 August –21 August 2003

The Lufthansa flight to Frankfurt was resplendent with beer, wine and excellent meals. The remaining short hop to Prague was uneventful. After passing through Customs and finding our luggage, we engaged a CEDAZ Mini-bus, which provided a trip to the door of the Hotel Pyramida for 375Kč. (About \$13.50) The trip was exceedingly rapid.

The Hotel Pyramida is more or less pyramidal in shape and has a nice small pyramid in the courtyard. The lobby and the hallways are air conditioned, but the rooms are not. The local temperatures were in the high 80s, but much drier than the rain forest we had left. Check-in went smoothly for the hotel and for DVORANA, the group that arranged the workshop.

In the evening, the group was bussed to the river Vltava, boarding a tour boat for a capsule view of the city. A fine buffet dinner was provided as the boat proceeded upstream. Shortly after passing under Karlův most (Charles Bridge) we passed through a lock with a half-dozen other boats, a fifteen or twenty-minute operation. After dinner, we went to the upper deck to view the scenery, including many beautiful bridges, churches, buildings and fortifications. On the return trip we were treated to a beautiful panoramic view of Prague Castle and St. Vitus Cathedral lit up spectacularly across the horizon. The air had cooled to about 60° and was delightful for the rest of the evening.

Dance classes were held at a nearby athletic club every morning Monday through Saturday, and a few afternoons. The class included dancers from France, England, Canada, The Netherlands, Spain, Japan, Austria, Germany, Guernsey and the U.S. Classes began and ended with typical Ron Wallace warm-ups, stretches and cool-downs. Dances done were primarily from the new book of Dunsmuir Dances, with a couple from The Whiteadder Collection, one from Book 43, and one or two from unpublished leaflets. All of the dances chosen were excellent and fun to do. Much attention was given to the concepts of phrasing and covering, eye contact, and the social aspects of dancing in general. There was some work on individual figures, for example reminding that in the three couple knot the final turn begins on bar six rather than bar five.

After a few classes, part of the time was spent learning the Česká Beseda, a Czech Quadrille devised in the mid 19th century by Karel Link, by combining several Czech folk dance steps and moves. It has four distinct parts, each with several sections. The most difficult aspect of the dance for a Scottish country dancer is that each section has a different tempo, and sometimes the tempi change within a section. It takes some getting used to. It is a

very graceful dance, yet full of fun and very enjoyable to do.

In the evenings and the free afternoons, DVORANA arranged many events and tours, including an excellent chamber concert at the Strahov Monastery, dinner in a 13th century wine cellar, an afternoon guided walking tour from the Prague Castle to the Town Hall square via Charles Bridge, an evening of Scottish and Irish dancing with local enthusiasts, a trip by private train to visit Castle Okoř dating from the 13th century, and a visit to a farm, during which we were presented with a series of Czech folk dances by the local Kovářovan folk dancers. Prague has an enormous film-making business, as almost any type of architecture may be found, and costs are low. While walking to one of the restaurants, we passed a square on which a scene had just been shot for a future movie. Sean Connery was also in town for a premier.

We sometimes traveled by tram or metro. The Metro is very impressive for its speed and the tickets are fully transferable from Metro to tram to bus for one hour.

One free evening we went to see a presentation of a professional Czech folklore ensemble, involving music and dance. The costumes were very good, the dances were energetic and the music was excellent. The band included a čymbolum. One interesting characteristic of the Czech dancing is the high pitched squeal periodically let out by one or more of the women, similar in placement to the Scottish hooch, but in a whole different register. There is also a fair amount of aerial activity, with women leaping up to the men's hips. The folk dances were all of the genre of girls meet boys, look them over and make a selection.

Finally, on Saturday evening we sat down to a very classy dinner at the hotel, followed by the ball, held in a large ballroom downstairs. For the quick-time dances, the musicians were local except for a Shetland accordionist. Unfortunately, they had neglected to bring any Strathspey music, so Muriel had to play all the strathspeys. Their sense of meter was also brisk, but Muriel eventually got them under control. Following the dancing, the usual Auld Lang Syne was sung, some conversational groupings persisted for a while, and it was up the elevator for the final night's sleep at the Pyramida.

The next Prague SCD workshop is planned for 2005, and well worth consideration. If that's too long to wait, workshops in Czech dancing and Vintage dancing will be held next summer. DVORANA's

workshops may be explored at <mailto:dvorana@mbox.vol.cz>.

Ken Way

Doings of Dancers (or, the Amazing Dick Platt)

Before the Yale-Cornell football, I was walking away from a gate at The Bowl while the Yale Band was filing in through the gate. I heard, "Hi, Bob" and there was Dick Platt, Yale '55, in blue blazer and white trousers with a big horn. He walked in. I was walking away because for some reason the gate-keepers said I needed a ticket.

When the Yale Band took the field, its ever so precisely enunciating announcer in a slightly stentorian voice, "The Yale PREE - CISION Marching Band" A guest was announced and the unmistakable voice of Arnold Schwarzenegger offered homilies and observations as the band played appropriate musical selections integrated into the voiced banter and scrambled a bit getting into formations.

One must love a band that kept playing selections from Wagner's "Flying Dutchman" at a Yale-Navy game. Spontaneous outbursts of a few measures from "Pictures at an Exhibition - The Great Gate of Kiev" are practically a hallmark of the band.

Dick keeps showing up in television clips inspecting gravestones, talking about historical aspects of Milford, etc. Dick and Jane are the Clan Gunn tent at all the Scottish Games and exhibitions. They are a veritable fountain of genealogical information. Did you know that Clan Gunn were the first visitors to North America?

About a year ago I was nominated by the Town of Woodbridge to receive a Public Service Award from the Secretary of State. I had initiated and led the movement to buy land to be held as open space after a hiatus of more the 20 years during which all proposed land purchases were rejected. I have bargained for and obtained eight parcels of land in the last seven years.

I was also cited for writing and getting adopted by the Legislature and Governor a law protecting Land Trusts from losing land by claims of adverse possession. I managed to do it in four months whereas the Nature Conservancy had been trying unsuccessfully for years.

There on the stage for the Town of Milford was Dick Platt. He had done in Milford many of the things I was trying to do in Woodbridge. He is a force in historic preservation and has seen a "sea change" in the Town Plan and Zoning Commission's attitude in the last few years. He has a good relationship to this important town agency. It takes skill and tenacity to save historic sites and buildings.

Dick is the Town Historian. The Platt's were there at the founding of Milford in 1639. He is of the 11th generation of Platt's to live in Milford. He lives, of course, on Platt Lane.

Dick dances regularly in Woodbridge and in New Haven and attends all of the balls and many of the class and branch parties.

Robert A. Gregg

A Wee Bit of Scottish Humor

Windows Recall

It has come to our attention that a few copies of the Scotland version of Windows XP may have accidentally been shipped outside Scotland.

If you have one of the Scotland editions you may need some help understanding the commands. The Scotland edition may be recognized by looking at the opening screen. It reads WINDAES XP, with a background picture of William Wallace superimposed on a St. Andrews Cross. It is shipped with a Mel Gibson screen saver.

Also note the Recycle Bin is called 'The Bucket.' My Computer is called 'Thon Computer Thingie.' Dialup Networking is called 'Phone the Bhoys.' Control Panel is known as 'the Dashboard.' Hard Drive is referred to as 'the tractor.' Floppies are referred to as 'thae wee plastic disc things.'

Other features:

- Instead of an error message you get a windae covered with a picture of a neep.
- OK - 'ats fine'
- cancel - na na ma loon
- reset - Och ye'd be as weel startin again
- yes - Och aye
- no - nae chunce mon
- find - if ye'd bothered to pit it past in a safe place, ye widnae need to look for it noo
- go to - go'n ower 'ere
- back - back the wye
- help - geese a haun'
- stop - pack it in
- start - com on 'en

- settings - sittins
- programs - stuff whit daes stuff
- documents - stuff I hive done afore

Also note that Windaes XP does not recognise capital letters or punctuation marks.

Some programs that are exclusive to Windaes XP:

- Pencil an paper.....A word processor
- Colourin book.....a Graphics program
- Addin machine.....calculator
- Andrex.....notepad
- Jukebox.....CD player
- Photies.....A graphics viewer
- Tax records.....usually an empty file

We regret any inconvenience it may have caused if you received a copy of the Scotland edition. You may return it to Microsoft for a replacement version.

Submitted by Richard Platt

Burns' vision for the world

By Murray Scougall for *The Sunday Post*

THE VISION of Rabbie Burns is to be the focal point of a special United Nations speech on the state of the world by Kofi Annan.

The UN Secretary General will give the Inaugural Robert Burns Memorial Lecture at a charity event in New York.

His Excellency will link the Bard's view of earth more than 200 years ago to how the world operates just now.

It's a major boost for Scotland and its heritage as the charity dinner will be attended by 300 senior figures from around the world and will be held in the Delegates Restaurant of the UN on January 13.

The dinner is the brainchild of Iain McConnell, the Scottish director of the British Executive Service Overseas, a charity that sends volunteers from professions such as doctors and lawyers on short-term assignments to developing countries. Money made from the event will go towards financing more volunteers.

Iain, who used to work for the BBC, is a Burns expert and he had the idea of creating a new event based on the poet's work and thoughts.

He explained, "Recently, I've felt that Rabbie Burns' vision of the brotherhood of man was more appropriate today than ever before and that an annual

event could be staged to bring even more credit to our national bard.

“I based the idea of the speech on the State of the Union Address in the USA and sounded out former UN Ambassador to the UK, Sir Jeremy Greenstock, who really got behind the idea.

No excess baggage

“There were three people I felt could give such a speech without any excess baggage — Kofi Annan, Nelson Mandela and Mary Robinson. Annan has agreed to it. It was all set to happen in January 2002 but then September 11 happened and I postponed it.”

Iain will provide Kofi Annan with notes on Burns’ work, thoughts and visions, and Mr. Annan will then write a speech relating the world today back to the vision of the bard.

Sir Jeremy Greenstock added, “The Robert Burns Memorial Lecture is a very appropriate way of marking the vision of a man whose message is still so very relevant. I’m delighted the Secretary General is able to accept our invitation.”

There will also be renditions of *The Selkirk Grace* and, of course, *Auld Lang Syne*, and the unfurling of the 44 nations’ flags where Scottish BESO volunteers have served in the past few years.

Just added to the bill are Tartan Army favourites, Caledon — The Three Tenors, who were invited just minutes before they embarked on their first North American tour.

Jamie McDougall from The Three Tenors said, “We’re thrilled to be a part of an event like this. First and foremost it’s for charity, but to be involved in this prestigious occasion is an honour.”

A UN spokeswoman for Kofi Annan said they couldn’t comment on the Secretary General’s engagements until immediately before an event. Iain McConnell hopes to stage the dinner, which has the backing of the Scottish Executive, *visitscotland* and the sponsorship of ScottishPower, on home ground in 2005.

RSCDS New Haven Branch Officers:

President	Dick Baxter (203) 735-5079
Secretary	Ena Baxter (203) 735-5079
Treasurer	Brian Haeckler (203) 732-1017
Branch Class	George Thomson (203) 230-8551
Teacher Comm.	Ken Way (860) 653-5258
Intergroup	Don Wills (860) 434-0415
At Large	Mary Byrnie (860) 635-4056 Bob Byrnie (860) 635-4056 Catriona MacAuslan (203) 421-4060
Membership	Ed Davis (203) 264-0870
Newsletter	Barbara Austen (203) 630-9749 beausten@worldnet.att.net until December 1, 2003.

Editor's Note

This is my last newsletter for the foreseeable future. Lucile Blanchard will take on the duties of Newsletter editor beginning with the February issue, and I know she will do a fantastic job.

I resign with great reluctance, but the pressures of work, teaching and other activities make it necessary. I want to thank *everyone* who submitted reports, articles, and neat things found on the internet and elsewhere. *You* truly made the newsletter great. I know you will continue to support Lucile in the same manner.

Deadline for the next newsletter is **February 15** for publication toward the end of the month. Please get your stories (class and personal tidbits), and calendar listings to Lucile by then. If you don’t see your class mentioned in the newsletter, maybe you should volunteer to be class reporter! Lucile’s home address is 1061 Millbrook Rd., Middletown, CT 06457 and her email address is lblanchard@wesleyan.edu.