

Reel Time

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

Autumn 2004

Class Schedules

Greater Hartford Scottish Country Dance Class
Grace Episcopal Church on the Green, Windsor CT.
Tuesday 7:00 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 7:00 to 9:30 pm.
Contact Joyce Chase 203-238-0694 or Lucile Blanchard 860-347-0278.

Mystic Scottish Country Dancers
St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, 310 Fort Hill Road, Groton, CT. Friday 7:30 to 9:30 pm. Contact Linda Scent 860-464-9081 or Everett Munro 860-442-7283.

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 or Peter Price 203-675-9587.

New Haven Branch Scottish Country Dance Class
New Haven Medical Society, 364 Whitney Ave., New Haven CT. Tuesday 7:30 to 10:00 pm. Contact Dick Platt 203-878-6094 or George Thomson 203-230-8553.

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 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Contact Doreen Johnstone 203-393-3189 or Donna Ives 203-393-3713.

In addition, be sure to check out some special classes such as *Peter Price's class*, held on the second Thursday of the month, 8:00 PM, the New Haven Friends Meeting House, 225 East Grand Avenue, New Haven. (Call 203-675-9587 for more information.) Or the series of *Challenge Classes* and the *New Haven Sunday Socials* (see below).

Upcoming Events

Challenge Class Thursday, November 18, 7:15-9:30 pm, \$8.00, First Church, 190 Court Street, Middletown, Leslie Kearney, teacher. Call Lucile Blanchard 860-347-0278 or Joyce Chase 203-238-0694 for more information.

Tea Party and Sale of MacAuslan "Stuff" Sunday, Dec. 5, 2:00- 6:00 pm. 668 Old Toll Rd., Madison. Suggested donation, \$5.00. The "stuff" is imported Scottish woollens and yarn. This is a fund-raiser for the New Haven Branch. Contact Catriona MacAuslan, 860-421-4060 for more information.

Middletown Holiday Party Wednesday, Dec. 29, 7:30-10:00 pm, \$8.00. First Church, 190 Court Street, Middletown. Music by Norb Spencer and friends. Call Lucile Blanchard 860-347-0278 or Joyce Chase 203-238-0694 for more information.

New Haven Sunday Social Sunday, Jan. 31, 2005, from 2:00-5:00 pm, New Haven Medical Society, 364 Whitney Ave., New Haven, CT. All dancers welcome.

New Haven Branch New Year's Eve Party Friday, Dec. 31, New Haven Medical Society, 364 Whitney Ave., New Haven. Potluck dinner at 7:00 pm with a toast to New Year's in Scotland. Dancing after with music by CD. Contact Barbara Austen 203-630-9749 or <mailto:beausten@att.net>.

Robert Burns Supper Saturday, Jan. 22, 2005 6:00 pm, \$18.00. Trinity Episcopal Church, 91 Churst St., Seymour, CT. For reservations call 203-393-3189 or email <mailto:jjohnstone8160@sbcglobalnet>.

Robert Burns Dinner and Dance Saturday, Feb. 12, 2005. 5:30 pm to midnight, Groton Inn & Suites. \$45.00, \$20 for child 16 & under. Call Ruth Walsh, 860-536-6265 or check <http://www.mysticsscottishdancers.com> for more information.

New Haven Branch Highland Ball Saturday, March 5, 2005, West Hartford Community Center, South Main St., West Hartford. 5:00 pm to midnight. Music by *Spence Sound*.

Sunday Brunch, March 6, New Haven Medical Association Building, 362 Whitney Ave., New Haven.

11:00 am.

Ball Workshop, Sunday, January 16, 2005 2:00-5:00 pm. New Haven Medical Association Building, 362 Whitney Ave., New Haven.

Ball Workshop, Saturday, February 19, 2005 2:00-5:30 pm, First Church of Christ Congregational, 190 Court St., Middletown.

Watch for flyers.

For information on similar events, check www.intercityscot.org.

Welcome to Mystic!

The Mystic class has become an affiliate of the New Haven Branch. Welcome! This class has an interesting history, going back 20 years to when some Scottish women who married Americans and moved to the Mystic area felt the need to socialize and do a little Scottish country dancing on the side. As more people joined the group and dancing became more earnest, the focus shifted away from the socializing and toward the dancing. With faithful men filling the ranks, the classes, taught by Linda Scent, grew more serious and the group even fielded a demo team. They dance in Groton on Friday nights. Most Connecticut dancers have attended Mystic holiday dances and ceilidhs, not to mention the hugely successful Burns Night every February. We are very pleased to add this class to the official New Haven Branch roster.

RSCDS Membership

Ed Davis worked hard to encourage members to send in their fees and forms before the end of October, and has produced the Member Directory earlier in the year than usual. Teachers and board members find it particularly useful. If you have not joined the New Haven Branch or renewed your membership, you can still do so. Membership forms are available in all classes.

It is important for us to support the Branch financially. Part of our dues go directly to Scotland. In return, they keep our teachers informed of the latest dances with detailed explanations for the complex ones. Since the teachers are not paid to spend their evenings reminding us which is our right foot, anything that helps them is welcome. By joining the Branch, you are helping your teacher.

Where Did All the Dancers Go?

Personal participation in dancing such as modern, folk and tap (excluding ballet) was surveyed by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Census Bureau in 2002, the 5th national Survey of Public Participation in the Arts (SPPA) in the past 20 years. The survey has varied over the years, but personal participation was also measured in 1992. The comparison, not surprisingly, shows a significant decline in "Other dancing" for those who performed or participated for personal enjoyment. Of the disciplines

surveyed, "Other Dancing" ranked second in popularity behind "Singing in a chorale, choir, glee club or other vocal group." But ... The number of people participating declined from 15 million adults in 1992 to 8.6 million adults in 2002, the "largest absolute decrease of any of the performing arts." We dancers are not alone. Most of the other disciplines surveyed also show a decline in those who participate (to perform or for pleasure). Audiences, on the other hand, have held steady. The full report is available at www.nea.gov.

Is it hopeless or can we use the results of this study to help us reach and retain new members? A challenge.

Ingrid Davis

On a Personal Note

Don Wills had knee replacement surgery late in October and is recovering well. The first week was very painful but Marge reports that he is doing better every day. His doctor said he had one of the worst arthritic knees he'd ever seen. We are all happy that Don will be back to marching and dancing soon.

Thank You Note

To all of you who made my birthday so special I want to say a great big thank you. Sorry this note is so late but time just seemed to fly by this summer and I never got to it. This doesn't mean that I didn't appreciate the special party that you all did for me. I was so overwhelmed that it took me several dances to get myself together.

I know several of you had key parts to play in bringing off the whole event and you did such an amazing job, I had no idea what was going on. I was so oblivious to the whole thing that even when some of you did slip, I still had no idea of what was going on. It was wonderful to have so many people there, and from out of state too. I am truly blessed with the best friends anyone could have. Thank you so much.

Sincerely, Joyce Chase

A First Visit to Hillsboro Highlands

It was a hot and steamy August day when I set off with Lucile Blanchard for my first visit to Hillsboro Highlands, a Scottish Country Dance weekend in New Hampshire. Lucile had told me that quarters at the camp were rustic, and indeed they were. We opted for an area motel, complete with indoor plumbing, hot and cold running water, and double beds, all amenities I had grown used to in the 45 years since I last did any real camping. But there was nothing at all primitive about the quality of the music, the dancing or the workshops. It was marvelous to have live music both for the classes and the dances, and the musicians worked up as much of a sweat as the dancers did during that hot, humid weekend.

Folks were very friendly and helpful and I managed to get through most dances without disgracing myself, although I had been concerned at the outset about my ability level. Best of all, I found the workshops

immensely helpful – full of great practice, good tips about posture, covering, and all the behavior that makes Scottish dancing so lovely, as well as new ways to think about how to do the basic steps. I enjoyed the teachers and was especially impressed by Howard Lasnik, who was able to get us moving and learning new dances in spite of the heat, humidity, and an abundant lunch. Food was plentiful, hearty, and tasty, and we were all impressed by the efforts of the kitchen crew who had to have been even more overheated than the dancers. And there were always alternatives for vegetarians, which I appreciated.

Would I go again? You bet, although next year I hope it's not so hot and sticky. I had expected that it would be cooler than Connecticut in the hills of New Hampshire. It definitely was not.

Ann Penfield

October Challenge Class

Peter Price took the label for these classes to heart when he planned his challenge class, held on October 7 in Middletown. He led our group of eleven dancers from one challenge to the next. *Gypsy Dreams* by Terry Glasspool, from his book *Itch to Dance*, had us combining strathspey steps in very unusual ways. This dance will be on the Kilts and Ghillies Ball program next spring, so many of you will be introduced to the concept of setting in a square. This is called the Gypsy Poussette. Don't ask. You have to see it to believe it. *Mrs. Stuart Linnell*, from *Imperial Book*, Vol. 3, played around with half reels of four in the most vigorous way. *Skip D'Arcy's Reel* drew groans from us over its unusual configurations, but once we learned it, we liked it very much. A few other dances thrown in and we ended the evening with a joyous romp through *Scottish Reform*. It was all well worth our time and effort. Why not check out the next special class when Leslie Kearney will challenge us in Middletown on November 18th.

Lucile Blanchard

Food Booth At NOMAD

The quantity, quality and choice of home baked goods prepared by our members created a wonderful two-table display that drew many compliments from those attending the NOMAD Festival in New Haven. The baked goods sold very well and coffee sales were wonderful along with tea, sandwiches, juice and cider. Marge Wills and Jill Hughes get special mention for the large amount of cookies, cakes and pies they contributed. Jill actually drove from Massachusetts to personally deliver her wonderful pies. They were a big success. The amount of help during both days was gratifying and the booth was never short of friendly efficient helpers. Barbara Austen, Steve Rice and Catriona MacAuslan worked from early morning to late evening both days and deserve a special thanks for all the time spent, the goods brought (dozens of scones from Steve; lemon curd, clotted cream and meringues

from Catriona), and other personal donations. Everett Munro and Jane Leibert also deserve a special thanks; they came to New Haven from Mystic early Saturday morning and stayed until late afternoon. Special thanks to Ed Davis for his help at the booth and for staying late Saturday night after we left, to serve coffee to the late night entertainers. And to others who came to give the volunteers relief and rest – truly a very cooperative group.

Then it was a case of going to the "Counting House" to work out the bottom line. Higher than anticipated, as we had never done a baked goods-only sale. (No hot prepared foods as in the past.) After expenses, we have a clear profit of \$1,140.00, certainly a nice boost to the Branch coffers. To all of you who contributed and helped, you made the two days a great success and we thank you very much.

Dick Baxter, President, Ena Baxter, Secretary

Mystic Fall Ceilidh

The Mystic Scottish Country Dancers hosted a festive Ceilidh on October 29th at the Groton Inn & Suites. Though Ceilidhs of old took place in barns and granaries in Scotland, Mary Ruddlesden and her committee planned a rollicking night of merriment at the modern Inn. Guests arrived to the melodic strains of Celtic music played by harpist Joanne Brown with her young daughter on the violin. For many this was their first ceilidh. A sumptuous array of hors d'oeuvres helped us enjoy the evening of song and dance with Bob Scent as Master of Ceremonies. The desserts served later added a special touch. The Stirling Highland Dance Company, led by Nadine Trudeau, danced with precision and skill. Two of them are daughters of our own – Cassie Fagan, daughter of Sarah and Hugh Fagan, and Nicola Able, daughter of Maureen and Bill Able. There was also a skilled wee girl of ten, Katie Wilcox, who performed a sword dance with grace. Becky Corbett on the fife and Paul Hemenway on the accordion provided toe-tapping rhythms including *Harvest Home Hornpipe*, *Clumsy Lover* and *Flowers of Edinburgh*.

The Mystic Highland Pipe Band treated us to fine music from *Scotland the Brave* to a stirring *Military Set*. There were riddles and jokes ... many true groaners! ... plus poems recited and songs we sang in unison. Ted Vaughn held us spellbound with Robert Burns' famous poem *To A Mouse* and we could imagine that "cowrin, tim'rous" wee beastie as "the best-laid schemes o' mice an' men" often went awry!

Jordan Cannady from Rhode Island sang great Scottish folk songs as he played the guitar – from *Wild Mountain Thyme* and *Comin' Through the Rye* to *My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean* and *The Skye Boat Song*. Lil' Rhody Group's Paul Hemenway taught us an innovative Scottish country dance – straight the first time around, but the second time through the dancers had aluminum pie plates under their feet! Scottish country dancers performed with great humor and spirit, and then joined the guests in social dancing. Peter Leibert played

the concertina and the button accordion. His *Gay Gordons* became a great mixer. 120 guests participated in a truly fine night of foot-stomping Scottish music and dancing. We were urged to do it again next year and so we shall!

Ruth Holland Walsh

Trip to Scotland – September 3-12, 2004

Seventeen of us left our cars in Catriona MacAuslan's yard, sprinkling red pepper on the engine blocks to discourage the local squirrels from nesting there in our absence. Then off to Newark airport where two more dancers joined us. After the usual semi-sleepless overnight flight to Glasgow, we got five rental cars on the road with drivers who valiantly stayed on the left, and headed for the shores of Loch Lomond. After lunch, Dick Baxter was unfortunately attacked by a yellow jack and had to be taken to a hospital. After making sure he was all right, we found our way without Mother Ducky (Catriona stayed with Dick and Ena until he was released) to the mansion Drumkilbo in the village of Meikle. It was a wonderful place, even grander than we expected with beautifully landscaped grounds. Just being there was a treat.

From Drumkilbo, we drove every day to dance with a group or to sightsee. Catriona had even found a teacher to come teach us the Book 44 dances at Drumkilbo, giving us a welcome boost when we went to Stirling to try these dances with 60 Scottish dancers. We danced with the Glen Orrin dancers in Beaully who treated us to a great dinner afterward, then in Edinburgh where their amazing demo team showed how it could be done if you started in kindergarten. The Helensburgh group, who threw a formal dance party for us on our final night, was so friendly, we hated to leave. Our group held its own in these settings. The Scots were far from perfect and they enjoyed breaking various RSCDS rules in one way or another. The most hair-raising time was in Beaully when the announcer asked if anyone needed a talk-through for *Mairri's Wedding* and before we could say *Yes*, the music started. We have danced this one often, but don't carry it in our heads. We did manage not to embarrass ourselves but it was close. In Edinburgh, after the demo team demonstrated the next dance, there was no talk-through and the music started. Those of us too blown away by their beautiful dancing to note the figures they used were immediately in trouble.

In between all the dancing, we managed to see a lot of sights – Culloden Moor, Glamis Castle, Stirling Castle, the Royal Yacht Britannia. Some of us saw Blair Atholl Castle, others happened on a wedding in Edinburgh Castle or shopped in St. Andrews. We had a musical evening at a pub in Glenfarg, examined a Crannog dwelling on Loch Tay, shopped in Pitlochery. Some of us climbed Kinpurney, a hill with a crenellated tower on top and a splendid view of Scotland. The weather was amazingly kind all week; at times it was even hot. Best of all, we enjoyed each

other's company. And none of us will forget the late night swims in the heated pool, or those kitchen parties. Half of us flew back to the States at the end of our stay, the others went on to see more of Scotland while Dick and Ena left for Spain.

We can't thank Catriona enough for arranging it all, down to making sure a restaurant would be open to serve us early on days when we had to be dancing somewhere. We got so used to following her that she won't be surprised to look in her rearview mirror and find a tail of cars behind her even now.

Lucile Blanchard

Trip to Scotland – Take 1

I guess we bonded from the very beginning as the entire crew accompanied Dick Baxter to the Vale of Leven Hospital. How many bee sting victims get 18 people in the ER waiting room, all anxiously awaiting the outcome? From there on it was beautiful weather and smooth sailing. Drumkilbo House was huge and elegant, yet very homey, with tons of interesting books and pictures. We saw a lot of Scotland and met with warm and welcoming dance groups in Beaully, Dunblane, Edinburgh and Helensburgh. Several people described their visits to the States and mentioned that of course they'd been to Lincoln. No need to specify New Hampshire or the Highland Games - just "Lincoln." We were particularly impressed with the beauty of the countryside, the sparseness of the population, and how well the land seemed to support that population. We found the Scots to be a polite and orderly people. The months and months of work that Catriona put into organizing this trip certainly resulted in a perfectly wonderful experience.

Jim and Andrea Macnab

Trip to Scotland – Take 2

I've wanted to visit Scotland ever since I took a trip to England four years ago. Having danced for the past five years with people from Scotland, and having heard them speak with love and longing about the country made me want to go even more, to find out what it is about this small corner of the earth that inspires such deep feelings in those who either grew up there or who have spent considerable time there in the past. This trip provided the perfect opportunity to see the country with people who know and love it. What a fabulous experience. We danced, we ate, we drank, we danced, we told jokes, we composed limericks (There was a young woman from Meikle...), we danced, we met charming people, we saw spectacular sights, and we danced some more. Scotland is extraordinary. From the bleak beauty of the heather-covered highlands, from the flower bedecked streets of tiny ancient towns, from the lush green hillsides dotted with white sheep, comes an unknown force that reaches deep down to your inner being and catches hold of your soul. If you listen to Scottish music and feel it tugging at your heart you'll have some small sense of what the country can do to you. I shall return. Catriona, when's the next trip?



Trip to Scotland – Take 3

Memories:

Dashing through the countryside, following Mother Duck (Catriona) in our 5-vehicle caravan.

Watching Highland cows mow the lawn at Glamis Castle.

Learning the Book 44 dances with our own RSCDS dance teacher at Drumkilbo.

Watching the Edinburgh demo team demonstrate dances. WOW!

Popping in at 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh.

Celebrating Peggy's birthday (Catriona's mother) at the Pub in Dunblane.

The wonderful dance and dinner with our friends from Beauly.

Hiking in the Highlands with Billy, the resident sheep dog at Kinlochleven.

Meeting "road sheep" while touring the Isle of Skye.

Playing golf at St. Andrews.

Those hearty Scottish breakfasts!

Cheri & Tony Kalbfus



Trip to Scotland – Take 4

Harmony and laughter seemed to be the order of every day and the group melded into one big happy family. The sightseeing trips were varied and spectacular, picturesque villages and quiet pubs were everywhere and we enjoyed the best weather of the

whole Scottish summer. The residence of Drumkilbo where we stayed for most of the visit is a truly classic mansion – full of antiques and the loveliest of grounds and gardens. Needless to say I spent a lot of time envying the owner and the gardener. A heated outdoor pool was also part of the grounds and we enjoyed a couple of evening swims. One day Ena and I decided to forego the sightseeing and enjoyed an afternoon at the pool.

We traveled most of the time in a five-car caravan with Catriona leading the way. Cell phones were part of the package so if anyone took a wrong turn, Catriona quickly brought the lost sheep back to the herd. It was through these drives that we got to know each other. We had some roadside incidents (Everett, you know what I mean) with small talk, jokes and stories. Most importantly, the dancing was a complete joy everywhere we went. Our hosts were most gracious and we hope to return the hospitality, especially to the Glen Orrin dancers. At all the classes we were surprised to find so many people there to welcome us.

I would recommend a trip to Scotland to all dancers if they have the opportunity. There is so much to see and do – historic buildings, castles, battlegrounds, century-old churches and of course the scenery, different at every turn – rivers, lochs, hills and braes full of heather and sheep. The whole trip was a great success thanks to Catriona's hard work contacting teachers, dancers, places to stay, and just putting it together and making it run so smoothly.

Dick Baxter



Trip to Scotland by the One Who Made it Happen

It seems only fitting that my communication to *Reel Time* is via e-mail. That was the name of the game for communication to everyone for the trip to Scotland. I am the e-mail queen! We had a glorious day to travel to Newark Airport in a HUGE bus from Connecticut Limousine, a small incident with wasps preceding our boarding, a portent of things to come. More on that later! After an uneventful flight, we landed at Glasgow Airport to mildly drizzling weather, the last of that kind of precipitation for the week. After a hilarious introduction to our 5 cell phones, calling each other across the table in

Starbucks to see who had what number, and then driving around and around Glasgow airport to stretch our left side of the road driving abilities, with me almost being arrested by a very snippy female police officer as I held up traffic waiting for the wagon train of other vehicles, we set off for Loch Lomond.

The skies began to clear as we pulled into a side road to view Loch Lomond, then off to Helensburgh to pick up rations, i.e. wine, beer, scotch, etc. From there to Luss for lunch and then our EPISODE – reminding you of the wasp reference! Dick Baxter was stung by a yellow jacket and began to have symptoms none of us wanted to ignore. Soooo, I raced out of the parking lot with Dick and Ena in the back seat and flew to the Vale of Leven Hospital emergency room about 7 miles down the road, leaving the other 4 cars in the dust! The cell phones proved invaluable for the rest of the group to find us and the receptionist at the hospital was flabbergasted at the number of "family" Dick had as we paraded past her to the waiting room. The wait for his release took longer than we had hoped so I stayed with Dick and Ena while the rest found their way to Drumkilbo, our home away from home. Dick, Ena and I were awakened from our nap by the doctor who resembled many punk rockers I have seen and sent on our way. It was great to get to our final destination!

Sunday was a long trip to Inverness, but the weather was stupendous – you could see for miles. I think I sounded like a broken record: "You have no idea how lucky we are with the weather!" over and over. We took a break to stretch on the way up, to the amazement of some folks having a picnic. The video says it all. Everett in his kilt trying to kiss his knees, Ellie showing us moves to stretch both sides of our brain. Don't ask! We made a stop at Culloden Moor to absorb the melancholy history and pay tribute to the fallen Scots. A great time dancing in Beaully (near Inverness) with the Glen Orrin dancers who then treated us all to dinner! They absolutely refused to accept any financial help. So very gracious. The bottle of single malt whiskey they gave us vanished when we finally got home that night. Come to think of it, many bottles of many things vanished in the late hours, accompanied by varied snacks. Amazing how we revive when food and drink appear! Monday was a slightly more restful day with some folks going to Glamis Castle, some to Blair Atholl, others playing lord and lady of the manor and just staying home. That evening several of us went to Glenfarg for dinner and a musical event. Peter Leibert gave the Scots a small concert with his squeezebox. He done us proud!

Tuesday – some climbed hills, some stayed by the pool, viewed standing stones at the local museum, croquet on the lawn, and then we had a RSCDS teacher come to our country home to give us a briefing on Book 44 and have dinner with us. We thoroughly enjoyed John Wilkinson, his wife Ruby, and Eileen Watts from the Edinburgh RSCDS office! They are very friendly folks and wonderful dancers. John will be

teaching at Pawling next spring so try to go, he is great! Wednesday was an Aberfoyle (Scottish Lake District) and Stirling Castle day, with dinner in Dunblane before dancing with the Stirling RSCDS group. My mother celebrated her 89th birthday along with a dear friend of hers who was also traveling in Scotland, aged 86 or so! The Stirling dance was fun. The floor was great, almost a wooden trampoline, it was so springy. Thursday, Edinburgh, taken there by bus, a relief to all drivers. A glorious blue sky day, again! Various sightseeing by all. The Royal Yacht Britannia, the New Parliament (ugly as sin), Edinburgh Castle complete with a wedding and piper, the Royal Mile. After a tasty restaurant dinner, off to dance with the folks from the Edinburgh RSCDS. The Edinburgh group planned a very nice program, sprinkled with a demo or two by their demo team, fresh from performing for the Edinburgh Festival. They were a treat to watch. No reflection on our own teacher's attempts to beat us into the correct dancing form, but various of the higher ups from the RSCDS office did their share of birling and twirling! We will try to behave at home!



Friday, some of us went to the Crannog Centre on Loch Tay to view a reconstruction of lake dwellings from 2600 years ago, then explored a field of standing stones on our way home. Some went back to Blair Atholl for an antiques fair; some played golf in St. Andrews. But all returned to Drumkilbo for our Grand March on the lawn, piped by a lovely young lady from the Dundee Pipe Band, followed by a delicious meal prepared by Drumkilbo's chef, with much wine and merriment, and coffee in the drawing room after. Saturday saw us out the door, signing the guest book with our thanks and hopes to return. We traveled to Drymen and had lunch, during which time Ena Baxter managed to be stung by a yellow jacket! Now husband and wife are bookends in the wasp department! We finally arrived at our last night's destination, the Inverbeg Inn on the shores of Loch Lomond. Fabulous location right on the water and the slight sprinkle of rain was followed by a rainbow. After a brief rest, we had a light snack at Cameron House prior to going to Helensburgh for our last night of dancing. The Helensburgh dance had given us the most worry about our performance, but the organizer and briefer, Anne Thorn, was reassuring about talk-throughs and the

