

Secretary's Report for year to 30th June 2023

It is interesting and very encouraging to look back to last year's report, and see that we have, again, come a long way. We are a lot more confident, now regularly have American Suppers and have stopped the requests for COVID tests. We have, however, retained our refunds policy so that anyone who is ill is refunded the ticket price and is not tempted to attend when they shouldn't. This gives greater confidence to everyone when booking or attending. Our policy of financially supporting dances has proved to be a good long-term strategy as the number of attendees at dances and events has increased and they are now generally self-funding.

The first event included in my report is the Summer Fling in July 2022. The dances were recapped by Margaret Chambers, Pat Fish, Maggie Kirkup and Lynn Robinson who took the hot weather into account so that we enjoyed the afternoon's dancing as well as the delicious refreshments.

Due to our 60th Anniversary Ball being in March 2022, we moved our Dawlish weekend to September 2022. We enjoyed David Queen's teaching, including some of his own dances, as we danced to the music of Ian and Judith Muir. We had walkthroughs in advance for both evening dances; these were very well received as it gave newer dancers more confidence and refreshed everyone's memory.

The New Season Dance was held in October with Ian Muir of Prestwick playing and Alan Cottle as MC. 69 intended to attend but there was some illness, and these people were refunded as per our policy. The feedback was good and it was clear why people travel to hear Ian play.

The Day School in November went well, the only downside was that we had to change the morning venue to St Edyth's Church Hall where the floor was rather hard. Gary Coull was teaching and Ewan Galloway playing with Ian Robertson joining him in the evening. The interaction between the two or three of them was terrific and great fun for all. We will certainly be asking the musicians to play for us again.

Judith Muir played for us at the final class of term. We all enjoyed the music as well as the mince pies and mulled wine.

For the Newcomers Dance in February, we welcomed the Ian Robertson duo at St Monica's. It was a happy and enjoyable evening, with a good number of our newer dancers. We also had a 9-year-old join us, she thoroughly enjoyed the evening and seemed at ease joining in a few of the dances.

We returned to our usual March date for another weekend at Dawlish. This time we had a French band and teacher Matthias, who had all travelled from Paris. The six musicians took it in turns to play and dance; they were all young and added extra energy to the weekend.

Andrew Lyon and David Queen played at our Summer Dance; as always we enjoyed their music and the whole evening went well. We had had a Tea Dance/rehearsal the previous Sunday at St Peter's as some of the dances were less familiar. This was also a fun and enjoyable occasion.

We have been very spoilt over many years with George Mickle regularly playing at our last class of the Summer Term. As always, it was a pleasure to dance to his distinctive music.

A group of dancers performed for the St Monica's Coronation celebrations; the display was enjoyed by all who saw it especially as so many different formations were involved.

As the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society has been celebrating its Centenary this year, we were asked to submit dances that were popular locally but had not been published. Schiehallion was chosen for publication and the branch was then asked to submit a video of the dance. You will find the results on Strathspey Server (my.strathspey.org).

Our Membership is 71 Members, made up of 33 adult single, 24 joint, 8 Bristol, 3 Young Adult and 3 Life Members.

I reported last year of the death of Jean Waller who had danced with us of many years, many of our group attended her funeral.

During this year we have also lost our patron, the Late Queen Elizabeth II; we sent condolences to King Charles III and received a card thanking us for our message.

The death of Hugh Ferguson saddened us all – he received the RSCDS Scroll of Honour in September 2021 for his worldwide contribution to Scottish Country Dancing music. We were privileged to have him play for us, he played for royal occasions too and we left his funeral to the music he composed for “The Earl and Countess of Wessex” which was devised by Joan. We think of the family but are pleased to see Hugh's legacy as Joan, Sadie and Jose-Mae continue to join us.

Ruth Davies
November 2023

Royal Scottish Country Dance Society - Bristol
Registered charity number 1059608
Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 30 June 2023
Income and Expenditure account

	Unrestricted funds			Unrestricted funds		
	Year to 30 June 2023			Year to 30 June 2022		
	Income	Expenses	Surplus	Income	Expenses	Surplus
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Membership (see note 1)	126		126	214	0	214
Investment income	34		34	16		16
Beginners summer classes	185	196	-11			
Celebration class (2021)					268	-268
Free classes (autumn 2022)		158	-158			
Autumn term other classes	2104	2053	51	2198	2368	-170
Spring term classes	2242	1890	352	2494	2108	386
Summer term classes	1502	1521	-19	1563	1390	173
Monday classes & demos	300	280	20	160	60	100
Summer Fling	145	176	-31	105	69	36
New Season Dance	840	465	375	525	744	-219
Dancers Day School	1535	1655	-121	1263	1253	10
Newcomers Dance	1022	510	512	624	781	-157
Tea Dance	95	160	-65	235	152	83
Anniversary Ball 2022				3425	4088	-663
Summer Dance	693	549	144	616	710	-94
Book 53 try-out					54	-54
Residential weekend: autumn	15153	14738	415			
Residential weekend: spring	16142	16775	-633			
Administration (see note 2)		775	-775		922	-922
Equipment repairs & replacements		0	0			
Depreciation (see note 3)		63	-63		42	-42
Grand Total	42117	41966	151	13438	15011	-1573

Note 1: RSCDS membership

Membership collected for RSCDS	1270	1270	0	848	848	0
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Note 2: Administration

Printing	25			16		
Computer software	42					
Insurance	90			75		
Subscriptions	10			10		
Publicity	82			357		
Website	102			104		
Zoom	177			173		
Gifts	226			185		
Health & Safety	20					
Misc				2		
Total administration	775			922		

Note 3: Equipment

Value brought forward	64			106		
Purchases	95			0		
Depreciation @ 40%	63			42		
Value carried forward	95			64		

Royal Scottish Country Dance Society - Bristol**Registered charity number 1059608****Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 30 June 2022 (contd)**

Balance sheet at year end	Unrestricted funds 30/6/23	Unrestricted funds 30/6/22
Current assets		
Insurance paid in advance	82	79
Paid for future events	150	1000
Other debtors		6
Cash and cash at bank	10980	10218
Other assets		
Equipment (see note 2)	95	64
Current liabilities		
Creditors	360	570
Total net assets	<u>10947</u>	<u>10796</u>
Unrestricted funds brought forward	10796	12369
Net surplus	151	-1573
Unrestricted funds carried forward	<u>10947</u>	<u>10796</u>

These accounts have been prepared on an accruals basis in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard FRS102 and with the Charities Act 2011. There have not been any changes of accounting policy during this period.

Signed on behalf of all the Trustees:-

Chairman Rosamund Rawlings

Treasurer Alan Pinder

**Independent Examiner's report to the Trustees/Members of
The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society-Bristol. Registered Charity Number 1059608**

On the accounts for the year ended 30" June 2023 set out on page 1 and 2

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 ("the Charities Act").

The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Act and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. 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 seeking 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no material matters have come to my attention which give me cause to believe that, in any material respect:-

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities Act of 2011 and with the methods and principles of Statement of Recommended Practice for the Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

Mr J E Newsom
7 Hyland Grove, Westbury-on-Trym
BRISTOL, BS9 3NR