

RSCDS Leeds Branch

Registered Charity no 1072452

Trustees' Annual Report (1st August 2021- July 31st 2022)

Continued Impact of Coronavirus

Sadly, Covid-19 is still with us and impacted particularly on how we ran our classes and social dances during the 21-22 season. We continued to prioritise venues with good ventilation, successfully encouraged dancers in the regular use of disinfectant hand gel whilst dancing and self testing with the free Lateral Flow Tests prior to social dances and larger events. Until the summer term we kept contact lists, as required by the venues and our own Risk Assessment. In addition, those attending each class, social dance and venue were given a leaflet, which they had to acknowledge, explaining the rationale behind this guidance for returning to social dancing.

Anniversary Year

Calendar year 2022 is our 60th Anniversary year. Special versions of the annual events planned for this year celebrate that event and also offer opportunities for publicising our activities more widely.

Charitable Aims

Our aims are to support and develop the practice and teaching of Scottish Country Dance and Music in and around Leeds through affordable classes and events. Opportunities for meeting in person were limited during lockdowns when social dancing and 'contact sports', such as SCD were unacceptable. But the time was put to good use with planning new ventures aimed at new dancers and musicians, and events in celebration of our 60th Anniversary. To keep in touch with members and dancing friends throughout Covid we continued the new monthly eUpdate newsletter and introduced online ceilidhs.

The Chair had outlined three targets for this year post-Covid:

- return to a full programme of activities as soon as possible
- to offer a taster class and more ceilidhs, hoping to bring the pleasure of Scottish Country Dancing to more people in the Leeds area
- to have more teachers and instructors.

all three of which had been addressed.

Membership

Despite many dancers still not having returned to dancing due to Covid-19, we slightly increased our membership in 2021-22 after a dip to 79 last year. We totalled 81 members, of which 4 were new members, and 8 are life members. However, none of these were Youth or Young Adult members. In the coming year we aim to equal - or improve on - our 2019-20 (pre-Covid) membership of 88.

Class fees and social dance ticket prices remained unchanged in this period and we offered additional discounts for new dancers in the ceilidh classes and the now usual £5 voucher for the Branch Shop on joining the Branch. In this way we fulfilled our charitable aim of affordable classes and events whilst also supporting the Society (RSCDS) through their membership levy.

Classes

The return to dancing was gentle, with the introduction of a series of weekly summer classes, commencing in August. These classes amalgamated the two Thursday evening classes and were aimed at ensuring that after many months of solitary dancing - or no dancing - we would be fit enough for the September Day School and evening dance. The resulting class which was held at West Park URC, now our main venue, was very successful, drawing dancers from outside the immediate Leeds area. It was voted to become a regular feature on our programme, with the teachers from the two previous classes combining to share the teaching throughout the year.

Ceilidh classes

A new venture, a 6-week ceilidh course at a new venue, OPAL in Cookridge, was aimed at new dancers and also started in August. It was felt that ceilidh dancing would be more attractive to newcomers and a separate, structured beginners' course would increase confidence and progress. It was a well planned and successful innovation that attracted new dancers. The venue itself was welcoming and enabled us to reach the community in a new area of Leeds.

The venue and timing was that of the regular Tuesday class, which was also moved to OPAL, and provided an easy progression for the ceilidh class dancers at the end of their course. Each class was team taught by volunteers from amongst experienced dancers and supported by other Branch members who joined the group to partner the new dancers. As planned, several new dancers continued at the end of the course. A further 6-week course ran as a lunchtime class at OPAL in the spring term, and was so successful it was extended until Easter.

Other classes

Our other classes resumed in September at West Park URC and St Margaret's, Ilkley on Monday and Thursday afternoons respectively and the advanced class in Calverley on Monday evenings.

September Day School 2021

This event, which marks the start of our autumn term, although still followed by the usual evening dance, was reduced to a half Day School, in acknowledgement of our reduced dancing stamina following Covid. An unexpected essential work trip abroad by David Queen, the tutor engaged for the half Day School, meant a negative PCR test was required on their return and so a local tutor was on stand-by in case of need. Fortunately all went well and the afternoon was successful, albeit with a smaller number of participants than customary. The evening social dance was well attended, despite restrictions.

Social Dances

The Leeds SCD Club was folding after 70 years, and it was agreed for the 21-22 season that our monthly social dances would merge with those of the Club, with only one dance each month, alternately hosted by the RSCDS Leeds Branch and the Club. This culminated in the final Club dance which took place at St Chad's in June. There was a good turnout with many dancing and non-dancing friends from neighbouring SCD Clubs and Branches helping to make their final event a memorable one.

Alan Fox had agreed to take over from Alan Horsfall and booked the bands for both Branch and Club dances; he is continuing to book our bands. The Branch has now

settled at St Chad's, Far Headingley, as our main venue for social dancing, after one last foray to the Queen's Hall in Harrogate Road in May.

Day and Weekend Schools:

Teaching Workshop

Our need for more qualified teachers has been an issue for some time. The success of the volunteers team-teaching in the ceilidh class and recent changes the Society has made to their teaching qualifications, prompted us to invite Malcolm Brown, based in York and lately the Society's Education and Training Convenor, to run a Workshop in October 2021 for teaching helpers and volunteers. Hopefully this will encourage one or two to proceed to a formal teaching certification at some stage, as well as providing a pool of assistant teachers and substitute teachers for emergencies.

Malhamdale 2021

This residential weekend event returned in November 2021 after a year's break, and was, as usual, fully booked well in advance. Music was provided by Ian Muir (Prestwick) and the tutor was Janet Johnstone.

Musicians' Day School

This took place in February 2022 and was taught by Sandy Nixon. He also conducted the band formed by the day's participants at the evening dance which followed. It was a huge success, despite Storm Eunice; not only was Sandy delayed in his journey from Scotland, but MC Don Andrews was snowed in in Keighley. Fortunately, as the music for the day had been distributed well in advance, some of the more experienced musicians were able to lead the first hour of the workshop until Sandy arrived.

White Rose Festival 2022

After a two year gap due to Covid restrictions we returned to Gateways School, Harewood, for this acclaimed outdoor festival in our 60th Anniversary year. The music was again provided by Susan MacFadyen and her Band. We were very pleased to welcome Alistair Mason from Banff, an old friend of the Branch and the White Rose Festival, to open the afternoon. The weather was hot and sunny and the Festival was well attended for both the massed dancing in the afternoon, which included three junior teams, and the evening dance.

Family Events

We have still not resumed the Family Ceilidhs partly because of continuing issues with Covid Safety for these events. However, the success of the Ceilidh classes aimed specifically at adult beginners has proven to be a useful alternative.

Publicity, Website & Newsletters

Alan Fox has written a 3 part history of the Leeds SCD Club, founded in 1951, a decade before our Branch in 1962. This is appearing in the eUpdate Newsletter, which is circulated monthly to our mailing list and available on our website. Meanwhile a final

edition of the Branch's Dancers' Newsletter is planned for distribution at the Anniversary Ball in November. The Branch Facebook page also continues to publicise our events and provide an online contact point, while our own website and our page on the Society's website give additional online information and contact facilities.

Branch Shop

While sales had not yet returned to pre-pandemic levels, there was an improvement on the previous year. The shop continues to provide a popular service to Branches, teachers and musicians and dancers, and to help subsidise our classes and events. Most of the items stocked are CDs, books and, of course, dance shoes.

Committee and AGM 2021

The Committee, formally elected at the AGM in October 2021, together with two more volunteers, Jane Walford and Lesley Tompkins, who were co-opted shortly thereafter, is for the first time in many years at its full complement. They have worked hard this past year to ensure not only a smooth and safe return to dancing after Covid, but also to ensure events in 2022 are special in celebration of our 60th Anniversary. Plans are well in hand for the Ball at the Riley-Smith Hall in Tadcaster and the final print Dancers' Newsletter.

Our Delegates to the Society's AGM and Autumn Gathering 2021 in Perth were Marion Walbank, the Chair and John Pugh, Assistant Treasurer. We were honoured to be asked to provide the programme for the ball at this year's Autumn Gathering in Glasgow in acknowledgement of our 60th anniversary.

Much thought and effort has also gone into sharing out more non-statutory, but essential, jobs amongst the Committee, and establishing a file of administrative procedures to facilitate the transfer of responsibilities in future.

Evelyn Davidson

October 2022

**Trustee & Honorary Secretary
RSCDS Leeds Branch**

Accounts for RSCDS Leeds Branch 2021 - 2022

Royal Scottish Country Dance Society - Leeds Branch

Profit and Loss

1st August 2021 to 31st July 2022

Ordinary Income/Expense Income

White Rose Festival	Income	3272
Shop	Sales	15662
Malhamdale	Malhamdale Bookings	9890
Pre-Paid Ticket Fund	Pre-Paid Ticket Fund Receipts	5018
Income from Activities	Dance Admissions	2319
	Bookings	796
	Class Fees	8292
	Other Payments	505
Subscriptions and Donations	Donations	35
	RSCDS Subs Recvd	2438
Sundry Income	Sundry Income	20
Total Income		48247

Expense

White Rose Festival	Expenditure	2635
Shop	Purchases	7917
	Cost of Sales	-2854
	Shop Expenses	7310
Malhamdale	Malhamdale Hotel Costs	8616
	Malhamdale Sundry Costs	906
Pre-Paid Ticket Fund	Pre-Paid Ticket Fund - Out	5208
Subscriptions and Donations	RSCDS Sub Paid to HO	1194
	Hall/Catering Deposits - Other	150
	Hall Costs	7282
	Musician Costs	2135
	Teachers Costs	2436
Card Costs	Card Fee	77
	Other Costs	456

	Previous Year Adjustments	-7
Total Expense		43462
Net Ordinary Income		4784
Other Expense		
	Insurances	179
	Publicity and Advertising	127
Profit for the Year		4478

Royal Scottish Country Dance Society - Leeds Branch

Balance Sheet

1st August 202121 - 31st July 2022

ASSETS

Fixed Assets

Acc Depreciation -107

Equipment 533

Total Fixed Assets 426

Current Assets

Other Current Assets

Debtors and Prepayments 5492

Shop Stock 6739

Total Other Current Assets 12231

Cash at bank and in hand

Current Account 2034

Co-op Second Account 18177

Petty Cash 929

Shop Current Account 21674

Shop Loan Account -9273

White Rose Account 3565

Total Cash at bank and in hand 37104

Total Current Assets 49335

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable

A/P -175

Total Accounts Payable -175

Other Current Liabilities

Teacher's Donations 170

Creditors and Accruals 4686

Total Other Current Liabilities 4856

Total Current Liabilities 4681

NET CURRENT ASSETS 44654

TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES 45081

NET ASSETS 45081

Capital and Reserves

Charity Funds 38091

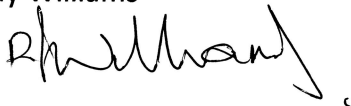
Retained Earnings 2511

Profit for the Year 4478

Shareholder funds 45081

Accounts prepared by

Name : Ray Williams

Signed : 

Honorary Treasurer

Date : 14/10/22

Accounts examined by

Name : R D MANSFIELD

Signed 

Date : 2/12/22



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

RSCDS Leeds Branch – Shop and White Rose Festival Accounts

On accounts for the year
ended

31st July 2022

Charity no
(if any)

1072452

Set out on pages

1-2

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/07/2021

Responsibilities and
basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives 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 (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

** Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.*

Signed:

Date: 11/04/2022

Name: Ray Williams

Address: 4 Mill Way, Otley LS21 1FE

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

I have examined the Accounts of the Branch Shop and The White Rose Festival using electronic data and some hard copies but no face to face contact with those who actively use the Accounts due to Covid restrictions. From the data that I have seen I am happy that the Accounts are free from any material matters of concern.



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Signed:

Date:

2/12/22

Name:

RD MANSFIELD

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

FCA

Address:

MEADOW BANK FARM, BRAMHOPE
LEEDS

Section B

Disclosure

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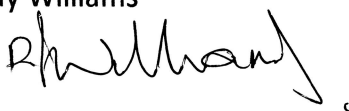
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