



TARTAN TRACK

Newsletter of
RSCDS Pretoria Branch



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN FOR 2009

It was a great honour for me to be chairman of the RSCDS Pretoria Branch for 2009.

We had two dems in 2009. Some dems were requested and unfortunately cancelled on short notice after the dem team had practiced several times. During the year there was a steady stream of newcomers and we had a beginners class most of the time. We advertised in two newspapers and on radio stations. Our signboard still attracts newcomers.

Our members were really committed and not once were we not able to manage forming at least one set. On most evenings we had two or more sets for dancing.

To promote RSCDS membership, the committee introduced a discount for RSCDS members when attending day schools, branch events, etc. We currently have seventeen RSCDS members and ten branch-only members. Without the RSCDS there would be no setting of standards for steps and teaching and dancing. Scottish Country Dancing as we know it would disintegrate into smaller splinter groups with their own style and technique. The uniformity in branches would disappear and very soon Scottish Country Dancing will suffer the same fate as other forms of country dancing did. Taking up RSCDS membership is paramount to the survival of Scottish Country Dancing. If people stop paying and only take up branch membership, the RSCDS as we know it will cease to exist. Please consider taking up RSCDS membership in 2010, not just branch-only membership. It is really a small price to pay and you can pay it off monthly.

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Throughout the year there was good interaction between our branch and the 51st club and the Midrand group. We attended each others socials and events and this bodes well for SCD in Gauteng.

Early in the year we introduced a membership application form. It has helped us to update our records and we are able to monitor membership fees. We also created an information brochure, which answers all the frequently asked questions posed by newcomers.

Every year two different branches are requested to submit a dancing programme for the Friday or Saturday night ball of the annual RSCDS AGM weekend held in Scotland. In 2009 the RSCDS Pretoria Branch was asked to submit the dancing programme for the Friday night. Quite a few of our members suggested dances and from that Wouter Joubert, our branch teacher, compiled a dancing programme consisting of five South African dances and nineteen other dances that most of us enjoy dancing here in Pretoria. According to Elspeth Gray, the secretary at RSCDS headquarters, the delegates at the AGM thoroughly enjoyed our dancing programme. This was truly a great honour for RSCDS Pretoria Branch.

The committee decided to have shirts and golf shirts made, displaying our branch's logo. A number of members ordered these shirts and golf shirts and only a few are still available. As the supplier already has our branch's logo, shirts and golf shirts can be ordered any time and any quantity necessary.

We held a very successful Day School in June 2009 and the teachers were Norma Craven of the 51st Club and Margo Monteith, retired RSCDS teacher and examiner. Norma took the step / technique class while Margo taught the intermediate class. In the evening we had a lovely dancing social.

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Newsletter of the
RSCDS Pretoria Branch

Editor: Ryan Nelson

The editor of the Tartan Track managed to bring out two editions and would like to thank everyone that contributed articles and were prepared to take part in the interviews.

On a sad note, we mourn the loss of our dear friend, Jenni-Marie Davidson. She was a life member of the RSCDS Pretoria branch for almost thirty years. A number of our members attended her memorial service.

As chairman, I would like to thank the committee for keeping our branch running smoothly. I would also like to thank Wouter Joubert for teaching us, as our only permanent teacher at RSCDS Pretoria Branch; and Norma Craven, Martyn Nickless and Judy Sephton who have also helped out with teaching during the year.

To all our members, a big thank you for coming to dancing on a regular basis, for attending functions and doing tea during the course of the year. Thank you also for your friendliness and making visitors feel welcome.

May 2010 be a great year for the RSCDS Pretoria Branch!
Compiled by: Ryan Nelson - Chairman 2009

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Articles published in the Tartan Track are not necessarily the views of RSCDS Pretoria Branch or the RSCDS.

RSCDS Pretoria Branch

Teacher

Wouter Joubert

RSCDS Pretoria Branch Committee

Chairman: Ryan Nelson
Secretary: Anna-Marie Arnold
Treasurer and Dems: Gill Wocke
Tea and refreshments: Charlie Gaffney
Announcements: Miles Arnold



Ryan



Anna-Marie



Gill



Charlie



Miles



Wouter

Our Branch's website

www.rscdspretoria.za.org

Hosted by:



Tel. 0860 378 278

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AGM Dancing Programme

In 2009 the RSCDS Pretoria Branch was asked to submit the dancing programme for the Friday night. As requested, below are the dances that were danced at the AGM ball held in Scotland.

Homecoming Dance	A. Thorne	Reel 4 x 32 bar four couples in a four couple set
Wild Geese	Traditional	Jig 8 x 32 bar three couples in a four couple set
Miss Gibson's Strathspey	Derek Haynes	Strathspey 8 x 32 bar three couples in a four couple set
Reel of the Royal Scots	Roy Goldring	Reel 8 x 32 bar three couples in a four couple set
Joie de Vivre	Irene van Maarseveen	Jig 8 x 32 bar three couples in a four couple set
The Dream Catcher	E. Orr	Strathspey 1 x 96 bar four couples in a square set
Reel for St. Columba's Church	Wouter Joubert	Reel 8 x 32 bar three couples in a four couple set
The Chequered Court	Duncan Brown	Jig 8 x 32 bar three couples in a four couple set
The Braes of Breadalbane	Skillern	Strathspey 8 x 32 bar three couples in a four couple set
Pelorus Jack	B. Skelton	Jig 8 x 32 bar three couples in a four couple set
Swiss Lassie	R. Betsche	Reel 8 x 32 bar three couples in a four couple set
Silver Tassie	John Drewry	Strathspey 8 x 32 bar three couples in a four couple set
James Gray	Ronella Burrows	Jig 4 x 32 bar four couples in a four couple set
Deil amang the tailors	Traditional	Reel 8 x 32 bar three couples in a four couple set
The Gentleman	R. S Huxley	Strathspey 8 x 32 bar three couples in a four couple set
The Summer Assembly	Roy Goldring	Reel 1 x 88 bar four couples in a square set
Knotwork	Wouter Joubert	Jig 8 x 32 bar three couples in a four couple set
Here's a hand	Jill Ackerly	Medley 4 x 32 bar four couples in a four couple set
Miss Johnstone of Ardrossan	Roy Goldring	Reel 5 x 32 bar five couples in a five couple set
Gothenburg's Welcome	B. Munro	Jig 8 x 32 bar three couples in a four couple set
Machine without horses	Rutherford	Jig 8 x 32 bar three couples in a four couple set
Autumn in Appin	John Drewry	Strathspey 4 x 32 bar four couples in a four couple set
Reel of the 51 st Division	Atkinson	Reel 8 x 32 bar three couples in a four couple set

IRENE'S WEDDING

By Ryan Nelson

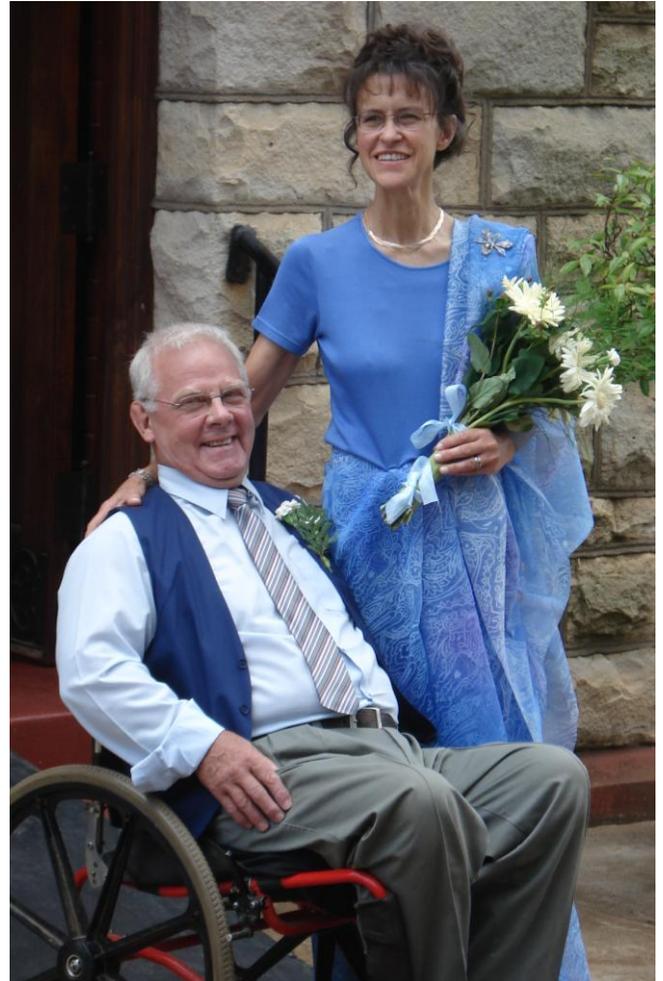
On Saturday morning, January the 16th 2010, Irene van Maarseveen (a previous teacher at RSCDS Pretoria Branch) married Sidney Jones.

The service was held in the local Dutch Reformed (NG) Church in Belfast, Mpumalanga. Wouter Joubert and Tobie Muller sang a duet. The service was conducted by the local minister and was rounded off by the lovely song Lord of the Dance.

A garden reception was held at the house of their friends. There was lamb on the spit and other delicious eats.

The demonstration team of RSCDS Pretoria branch danced a dance called "The Highveld Wedding" – devised by Wouter Joubert. Liebet Joubert also played the recorder, accompanied by Wouter Joubert on the keyboard.

Everybody enjoyed the jolly company and the informality of the "platteland" made for a memorable occasion.



Bride and groom both looking dashing in their wedding garments.



Some of the RSCDS Pretoria Branch members as wedding guests



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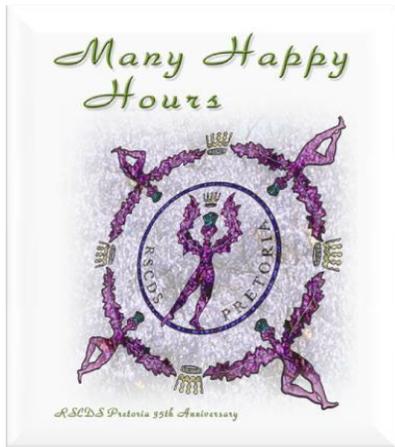


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We invite you to purchase a copy of RSCDS Pretoria's 35th anniversary book of dances. It is illustrated and contains 39 dances, each with music arranged for piano. Most of the tunes are original. Some of the dances were devised by the late Roy Goldring, Iain Boyd, Malcolm Brown and Duncan Brown. Muriel Johnstone and Ken Martlew composed some of the tunes. PRICE: R 70 (excl. postage)

NEWS FROM RSCDS HEADQUARTERS

This year there are a number of exciting developments taking place:

- The launch of the new RSCDS website
- A new RSCDS shop with online payment system
- An RSCDS management system
- Links to Branch pages / websites and social networking sites
- The RSCDS Strategic Plan (2010 – 2013) has been published online

Dance Scottish Week is now a firm feature of our Scottish Dance calendar worldwide. It has had a positive impact for Scottish Country Dancing throughout the RSCDS world and takes place from Friday 17th to Saturday 25th September. There will be a colouring competition for children and we invite your children to take part in this fun activity.

The Midrand Club Valentine's Dance at The River Cabin

By Charmaine Chaplog

What an excellent venue! I arrived well after dark, will tell you more about that later, so really enjoyed the hanging lanterns along the garden path which after a hectic day promised absolute tranquility. So charmed was I by this sight that I did not spare a moment's thought to what snakes (or ugly things that bite) could be lurking in their very grassy car park!

The first impression of the house is the veranda which has been furnished with lovely settees and dinner tables. This overlooks the garden and being close enough to the river, you get to enjoy the sound of running water and night life while having dinner or just chatting with friends. The French doors give you ample view of the wooden dance floor...if you were just resigned to sit and not participate this is definitely not the venue for you. The place lends itself to a glorious night of dancing and revelling!

I must say I arrived in a huff because the directions we were sent, forgot to start with... put your car in reverse and then proceed! I had just sat me down when the first dance started...so a quick shoe swap and right into *The Borrowdale Exchange* with Olive. As with the 51st Club's Christmas function, I found that everyone was very patient with my beginner status and really made an effort to explain the dances and help me along. Something that I really enjoy about Scottish country dancing is the sense of community. It's more important for everyone in the group to get through the formations than one individual to reach perfection.

Dinner reminded me of how much effort entertaining requires. Martyn made a delicious sesame seed and mustard seed preserve that was served with freshly baked olive bread. I cannot remember which market they sell it at but I recommend it highly. They also had a range of dishes to accommodate culinary preferences and which were homemade by club members. So I suppose it is goodbye to Woollies when we have our Christmas in July later this year? Well better take out the recipe book and start practicing!

As usual we ended the night with Auld Lang Syne and at the risk of repeating something that you all already know, this song's origin is a strathspey called *The Miller's Wedding or The Miller's Daughter*. My own memories of this song are New Year's Eve when English friends who reside in SA become nostalgic (especially after a couple of bottles of red wine) and sing the first verse and chorus of this song. The rest of the lyrics are heart moving and I hope there is space enough for Ryan to include it in this issue.

Request granted, Charmaine – Ed.

Auld Lang Syne... (Scots pronunciation guide)

Shid ald akwentans bee firgot,
an nivir brocht ti mynd?
Shid ald akwentans bee firgot,
an ald lang syn?

CHORUS:

Fir ald lang syn, ma jo,
fir ald lang syn,
wil tak a cup o kyndnes yet,
fir ald lang syn.

An sheerly yil bee yur pynt-staup!
an sheerly al bee myn!
An will tak a cup o kyndnes yet,
fir ald lang syn.

CHORUS

We twa hay rin aboot the braes,
an pood the gowans fyn;
Bit weev wandert monae a weery fet,
sin ald lang syn.

CHORUS

We twa hay pedilt in the burn,
fray mornin sun til dyn;
But seas between us bred hay roard
sin ald lang syn.

CHORUS

An thers a han, my trustee feer!
an gees a han o thyn!
And we'll tak a richt gude-willie-
waucht,
fir ald lang syn.

CHORUS

Should Old Acquaintance be forgot,
and never thought upon;
The flames of Love extinguished,
and fully past and gone:
Is thy sweet Heart now grown so
cold,
that loving Breast of thine;
That thou canst never once reflect
on Old long syne.

CHORUS:

On Old long syne my Jo,
in Old long syne,
That thou canst never once
reflect,
on Old long syne.

My Heart is ravisht with delight,
when thee I think upon;
All Grief and Sorrow takes the
flight,
and speedily is gone;
The bright resemblance of thy Face,
so fills this, Heart of mine;
That Force nor Fate can me
displease,
for Old long syne.

CHORUS

Since thoughts of thee doth banish
grief,
when from thee I am gone;
will not thy presence yield relief,
to this sad Heart of mine:
Why doth thy presence me defeat,
with excellence divine?
Especially when I reflect
on Old long syne

CHORUS

The Cape Argus Cycle Race, Cape Peninsula, March 2010

By Miles Arnold

The race around the Cape Peninsula – one hundred and ten kilometres - was another opportunity for me to visit Cape Town (where I grew up) and see my sister, brother-in-law and daughter and son-in-law again. However, with my sister, Shelley, having told me the weekend before already that forty knot winds (74km/hr) were predicted for the race, I wondered what I was letting myself in for, especially as I'd done less training (only about fifty kilometres in the last two weeks before the race) than I had ever done before.

I drove down with my son, Roland, for company and as co-driver as he also needed a break after some heavy weeks of computer programming behind him. We overnighted at Beaufort West on the Thursday before the race and arrived in Cape Town on the Friday after lunch with very little wind around. The only hassles we had were near Laingsburg, getting a fine for the bicycle obscuring the cars's rear number plate and my son discovering that his driver's licence had expired twenty days before (so yet another fine!).

The race starts on the Heerengracht, and the tall palms around the start were quite strongly blown, but did not really give one an idea of what was to come. I left

amongst the last of the thirty five thousand riders at about 9:45, heading up Eastern Boulevard, with a stiff cross wind.

The down hill section, in front of Devil's peak on Hospital Bend is always exhilarating. The first section of the race, going past UCT, along de Waal Drive and then through the southern suburbs on to Wynberg Hill was relatively protected from the wind, but going along the Blue Route section it was gusty again, but not at its worst. The crowd support along the route is always amazing, even where you would not expect it.

Boyes Drive was a new addition for me in the race – due to construction work being done on the main road - and it added some hills but gave some lovely views over False Bay. Going past Fish Hoek beach was a new experience in being sand blasted on one's cheek, with the sand coming off the beach due to a howling cross wind.

I reached Simon's Town at about 12:00, stopping to "refuel", and so on, having only done forty kilometres of the race and wondering how I was going to survive the rest of the route, with a daunting seventy kilometres still to go. I thought the rest of the route down along the coast would be "protected", but it was tough going through Smitswinkel Bay.

The next section "overland" to Scarborough, through Ocean View, past Kommetjie and via Noordhoek back to the coast and Chapman's Peak was a bit less windy, but still heavy going. Chapman's Peak has quite a long climb (two kilometres), exacerbated by the wind. At one time I battled to make headway going down hill! But the magnificent views out to sea and over Hout Bay always inspire me.

My left knee was beginning to feel as if I'd need a cartilage op soon, but I persevered up Suikerbossie one and two (the last real hills), feeling surprised that my daughter and son-in-law had not passed me yet. I only had a three minute start over them. The last section back to Green Point is relatively flat, but at this stage I was really flagging, having been going for five and a half hours. I could not even manage a sprint at the end, but got in at 16:06, finished!! My time was about six hours twenty minutes.

I discovered that my daughter and son-in-law had been cut off just before Chapman's Peak, as they'd taken too long over the first section and needed massaging for cramps at Simon's Town. It looks as if youth doesn't always make it easier for one.

Well done Miles, you made it
– Ed.

WORD SEARCH

v	s	d	c	s	r	z	b	o	u	r	r	e	l
p	r	o	m	e	n	a	d	e	b	c	d	e	g
h	e	w	u	k	s	r	v	l	y	a	h	d	m
c	t	e	s	r	o	n	d	e	l	l	z	o	m
e	i	m	e	d	k	l	p	v	n	l	t	s	e
j	r	g	a	l	r	s	x	i	n	e	u	i	c
q	e	e	z	e	h	i	a	p	a	m	r	d	n
s	j	h	n	t	b	h	m	e	p	a	n	o	a
a	k	r	a	a	c	w	t	j	o	n	p	i	v
x	o	r	u	d	s	t	v	a	k	d	y	r	d
c	t	o	n	p	e	t	r	o	n	e	l	l	a
s	q	a	b	s	r	e	s	b	m	j	f	m	o
i	r	u	s	c	q	h	i	a	j	p	a	s	s
g	i	u	c	i	r	c	l	e	c	o	h	e	t
f	o	r	g	s	e	t	a	n	d	l	i	n	k
p	e	n	i	l	n	i	e	c	n	a	l	a	b

The words below are hidden in the blocks above. See how many you can find. Some are back to front, up, down or at an angle.

Pousette
Bourrel
Jig
Allemande
RSCDS
Advance
Pass

Retire
Petronella
Set-and-link
Strathspey
Reel
Promenade
Circle

Cast
Balance-in-line
Dosido
Rondel
Grand Chain
Corner
Turn

JP Morgan Chase Corporate Challenge

By Rainer Küsel

The world's largest corporate road race circuit, which is hosted in twelve cities in six countries on five continents, occurred on 4 March 2010 at the Wanderers Club in Johannesburg. Nearly thirteen thousand corporate employees, from four hundred and five companies, turned out for the JP Morgan Chase Corporate Challenge on a rainy, cold Thursday evening. I was part of the KPMG team, which entered three hundred and forty seven entrants, to complete the 5.6 km as quickly as walking and crowds would allow it.

We all got together on the Wanderers Cricket Stadium; here most of the companies had tents, where drinks were served before and after the race. The race was split into three main groups; the people participating in the Corporate Challenge, therefore the "die-hard" runners who attempted to set new records, the runners who would finish before the walkers, and then the rest of the crowd that came to enjoy the scenic, uphill and downhill route.

At around 18:20 almost all the walkers were ready and then the rain started, resulting in us being drenched before we even started the race. Approximately one hour and twelve minutes after 18:30, and surviving a 5.6km walk along a guy pushing a trolley filled with alcohol and who had verbal diarrhoea, we arrived at the finish line on the Wanderers Cricket Stadium.

Each participant received a pull-string bag with a finishers' medal and t-shirt. The overarching theme was, without a doubt, "*Teaming Up For A Greener Tomorrow®*" as recycling bins, sponsored by EnviroServ Waste Management, were available everywhere along with the theme portrayed on the finishers' t-shirts.

Jesse Clegg provided entertainment for the crowds, and after a quick dinner we completed the evening with a steady two kilometre walk back to our cars. I completed my evening with slow traffic around road works at 21:00 at night on the M1 North, just passed the Glenhove off-ramp. The evening was a lot of fun with my colleagues, but I would like to run the race next year, instead of walking it.

Thank you Rainer for sharing your experience with us – Ed.

Dates to remember

RSCDS Pretoria Branch:

Day School and evening social Saturday 5th June

51st Club:

Open Day Saturday 17th April

RSCDS Cape Town Branch:

Diamond Jubilee celebration Saturday 8th May

Miles & Anna-Marie Arnold's barge / cycling tour through Burgundy, France in July 2009

By Miles and Anna-Marie Arnold

After having a very busy start to 2009 (with arrangements for the public transport in Tshwane for the FIFA Confederations Cup 2009, amongst other things, behind us) Anna-Marie & I decided to have a break out of SA in July 2009. We had a very special holiday in two hundred and fifty kilometres over a week with fifteen other people, a couple from Cape Town (a school & student friend of mine, David, & his wife, Jane) included.

As the cycling was leisurely - Miles and I only did about 45km /day, we had lots of time to enjoy the local sights and enjoy the wines of the region. We were a mixed bunch of people on the tour being six Belgians (three couples), four South Africans, a British couple, a Swiss / German couple, an Italian couple and a Scottish lady. Our skipper, his wife (the chef), her assistant and our tour leader were all Dutch.

There were very few hills on the trip and we got to know the relatively flat Burgundy countryside - lovely agricultural land - where we were half surprised to find apart from vineyards, fields of sweet corn and sunflowers.

We then visited some friends of long standing in Basel, Switzerland for two days, before returning to Pretoria (I got to know him in Cape Town in 1970 while doing holiday work for an engineering firm). A few photos give an idea of the trip.



Dance Scottish Week



17 to 25 September 2010

In the pipeline for RSCDS Pretoria Branch during Dance Scottish Week...

- Picnic and social Scottish Country Dancing at Pretoria Botanical Gardens on Friday 24 September 2010 - it is a public holiday (Heritage Day)
- Dem at a mall on a Saturday morning (18 or 25 September 2010)
- An Open Day event on a Saturday morning (18 or 25 September 2010)

Please give us your input and watch this space for more info.

come along • be involved • have fun



www.rscds.org