Chairman’s Remarks
What a wonderful time we had in late April! The trip was splendid – the weather was good, the company excellent and we all know what Devil’s Porridge is. That was quickly followed by the Spring Dance where the Alan Ross Trio played lovely music for the dances.
Sadly we had to cancel the Nice & Easy Dance because the Band was snow-bound and we were experiencing bad weather ourselves.
Looking forward. Our dancing classes continue. Mondays will continue as classes, social dancing and core dances up to the Ball. We will have a Jacobs Join on August 6th to celebrate the end of the season. Wednesdays will have leaders from all round the area to take us through our paces. See the notice-board to see who is taking us when. Once a month leading up to the Ball one of our regular teachers will take the class and it will include some of the dances from the Ball programme which are less familiar to us. Wednesday class continue all over the summer.
Our big event of the year is our Summer Ball where will have Frank Thompson and his band playing. Get out your posh frocks, ladies, and come and dance.
Next year is our 25th anniversary year. We are already planning to make the Ball extra special and the Trip will be 5 days to Fort William with a trip to Skye included. This will be launched at the AGM. If you have any other ideas how we might celebrate our anniversary please let me know and the committee will look at it.
Please make every effort to attend the AGM and the members’ forum on 27th June.
Happy dancing.
Joan

Forthcoming events

Monday classes  The All-Abilities class runs every Monday at Christ Church Hall, Fulwood, at 7.30 p.m., except Bank Holidays. Some experience is beneficial. This class will break for the summer on 6 August, restarting on 17 September. There is no class on 4 June, as the hall is required by the Church for an important Church function.

Wednesday classes  The Intermediate and Social class is on Wednesdays at Goosnargh Village Hall, at 7.30 p.m.

Sunday classes  This dedicated beginners’ class is on Sundays, 2.30 to 4.30 p.m., at Euxton Community Centre. This class has broken for the summer, restarting on 16 September.

Summer Ball, Sat. 11 August 2018, 7 p.m., at St. Martin’s Church Hall, Broadway, Fulwood, music by Frank Thomson.

Autumn Dance, Sat. 20 October 2018, 7.15 p.m., at St. Martin’s Church Hall, Broadway, Fulwood.

Hogmanay Dance, 31 December 2018, 8 p.m., at Samlesbury Memorial Hall. Recorded music will be used.

Ribble Valley RSCDS
AGM
7:30pm
Wednesday
27th June 2018
followed by
Members’ Forum
and dancing

Members’ Forum
This takes place after the AGM on the 27th June. It is your chance to bring forward ideas etc. to the committee and the membership. It deals with matters in a less formal manner than the AGM. If you have something you would like to raise it is helpful if we know about it before the meeting so we can have any facts and figures to hand.

Christmas Party photos:

Hogmanay Party photos:
24th Scottish Spring Weekend, to Troon, 20th - 23rd April 2018, by Janet & Chris Moon

The 20th of April 2018 was the first day of the Ribble Valley RSCDS 24th Scottish Spring Weekend visit to Troon. It was our first trip & we didn't quite know what to expect. We needn't have worried because we thoroughly enjoyed the whole experience.

It was an action packed weekend of interesting visits & dancing from the moment we boarded the Ribble Valley Care Coach driven by our very capable & friendly driver Ben. Throughout the journey we were very well looked after by “Dr. Jill & Dr. Judy” who served us with hot drinks & shortbread biscuits & after our lunchtime stop, cheese & wine! Our minds were kept busy by joining in the quizzes provided by John & Stuart. As a result the journey to Troon seemed to be over in no time.

We stayed at the South Beach Hotel just across the road from the sandy beach. The family hotel was run by very friendly & helpful staff, the rooms were clean & comfortable & the food delicious & plentiful. The weather even managed to be kind to us most of the time. Saturday in particular was a warm & sunny day. Our visits to the Robert Burns Museum, Culzean Castle & the Devils Porridge Museum were very interesting & the guides & the organized lunches much appreciated. Special thanks must be made to our driver Ben who went above & beyond his duty by turning his coach around on a narrow road so that we could fully experience the optical illusion of the Electric Brae where the coach was seemingly rolling backwards up hill!

We both enjoyed the main object of the trip, the Scottish Country Dancing even though we had some anxieties. We were very grateful for the practice dance on the Friday evening run by Joan. The dance with the members of the Ayr Branch of the RSCDS at the local Walker Hall on the Saturday night to the Wardlaw Band was our first dance outside Ribble Valley. The Ayr members were very friendly & helpful & we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. Their homemade shortbread biscuits provided at the interval were delicious. On Sunday the ceilidh night was great fun. We enjoyed dancing to Sandy Nixon & the entertainment provided by our group members.

Having experienced our first Ribble Valley Scottish Trip we are looking forward to the ones in the future!

Branch Trip 2019, 22nd to 26th March 2019

Plans are already in place to make this an extra special event. It will be 4 nights instead of 3 and we will be going to stay at Fort William and will have a day on Skye. The trip will be launched at the Branch AGM. Book your place early.

25th Anniversary

Next year is the Branch’s 25th Anniversary Year. We already have plans in place to make the Ball and the Trip extra special occasions. Is there anything else you would like the committee to consider to make the year special? If so let one of the committee know.

Derek Bainbridge

Sad to say, we lost one of our old-timers earlier this year - Derek Bainbridge was in dancing for many years as a Branch member, but has not danced for some years. His Humanist funeral took place at Accrington Crematorium, attended by several Branch members and other friends from East Lancashire.
Programme:

Pelorus Jack   Follow Me Home
Summer Wooing  The Summer Assembly
Berry Brow     The Minister on the Loch
The Flying Spur The Torridon Cross
Blooms of Bon Accord Lothian Lads
Far North Queensland The Moray Rant
Rodney’s Rant   Jennifer's Jig
Staircase in Styria The Plantation Reel
Foxhill Court   Red Kites over the Black Isle
Deil amang the Tailors Mairi’s Wedding

Extras:
Shiftin’ Bobbins, Cherrybank Gardens, Luckenbooth Brooch

Summer Ball, Sat. 11 August 2018, 7 p.m.
St Martin’s, Broadway, Fulwood, PR5 0UY
Music by Frank Thomson

Summer Classes

Monday Classes: These will continue up to 6th August with the same pattern of classes and social and core dance nights.

Wednesdays: These will continue throughout the summer.
It is great in the summer that we are able to invite people from other clubs to lead our dancing on a Wednesday. Different styles of teaching and different dances are brought along. These are supplemented by our own people who bring a wealth of knowledge to broaden our dancing. Michael, Stephen and I will take one class a month so that some of the more complex dances for the Ball can be mastered. These classes will include other dances of the teacher’s choice.

Autumn Classes

This may seem long time off but I need some help. We introduced social dancing on one Wednesday each month. I am looking for people who would like to lead those sessions. You do not need to be a teacher. You just need to enjoy dancing and share some of your favourite dances – they do not need to be complicated. Perhaps one or two of you would like to get together. May be you would like to do it on a theme. I leave it to you imagination. Please contact Joan about this.

Core Dances

Core dances have now been in use for 2 seasons. They are popular dances which are the mainstay of Scottish Country Dances within our Branch. They are dances that are well known and include easy and more complex dances. Six of the dances appear on the main dance programmes. They are the ones which people do not request on dance practice nights. This makes it difficult for newer dancers to learn them. We hold Core Dances Nights on a Monday once a month.

We have had a request that the list should be published. Sandie has drawn up a form that you can print off. This is accessed from our website, [http://www.freewebs.com/rscdsribblevalley/coredances.xlsx](http://www.freewebs.com/rscdsribblevalley/coredances.xlsx).
All of our dances from our Book are included so that you know all about them.

Editor: Stephen Brown, 17 Lark Avenue, Penwortham, Preston, Lancs, PR1 9RQ.
Articles can be given to me at class, or sent to the above address, or to: stephenbrown07@btinternet.com.