



RSCDS Wirral Branch Classes

Prenton - Tuesday evenings

St Stephen's Church Hall, Prenton Lane,
Birkenhead, CH42 8LA

Social Class: 7.00 - 9.00 pm

West Kirby - Wednesday evenings

West Kirby United Reformed Church Hall,
Meols Drive, West Kirby (near to Aldi),
CH48 5DA

Beginners' Class: 7.00 - 8.00 pm

Intermediate Class: 8.00 - 8.30 pm

General Class 8.00 - 9.45pm

Class Dates

Summer Term 2025 (10 weeks)

Start: Tuesday 29th April 2025

Wednesday 30th April 2025

NO CLASSES 27th & 28th MAY

End: Tuesday 8th July 2025

Wednesday 9th July 2025

Class/Team

Teachers

All classes at both venues

Hilary Letts &
Helen Trattles

Class Fees & Subscriptions

Fees for the Summer Term will be:

Beginners & Intermediate Class: £20

General OR Social Class: £40.00

Each additional class per week: £ 3.00

Occasional visitors: £5.00 per class (maximum three classes per term), no maximum for the summer term, as other societies do not dance then.

To ensure financial stability, it is vital that Branch Membership and class fees are paid promptly, in advance, or at the first class of the term.

Members can pay by cheque - made payable to RSCDS Wirral Branch or by bank transfer to The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society RSCDS - WIRRAL BRANCH

Sort Code 20-50-36; Account No 10768391

Catch Up on 20th May

AGM at St Stephen's, Prenton

Please do come along to the Branch 2025 AGM on Tuesday 20th May. It starts at 7pm and tends not to take more than an hour so there is time for dancing afterwards.

The AGM is the opportunity to hear what has happened over the last year and think about new ideas and directions for the Branch. It also shows the Committee that you appreciate what they do behind the scenes to keep classes, events and communications happening.

If you would like to join us on the Committee for the next year have a word with me or another Committee member to find out more. I look forward to seeing you on the 20th. Hilary

The Mayor of Wirral's Charity Burns Night

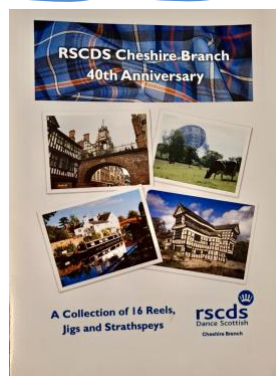
On Friday 24th January a group of seven dancers from the Branch led the dancing at Wallasey Town Hall. The event was a Burns Night Celebration to raise money for the Mayor of Wirral's chosen charities. This was the first time a Burns Night had been held by the Mayor of Wirral. Being arranged for the day before actual Burns Night meant the Mayors of Chester and Southport were also able to attend.

The evening followed the usual format with plenty of time allowed for dancing. The floor filled up quickly for the first dance which was the Britannia two step. The dancing went down well with the floor filled for each dance. The evening raised over £3,000 for local charities which far exceeded expectations. Hopefully the success of the evening might lead to it becoming a permanent fixture in the Mayor of Wirral's calendar.

<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/1BCPmYWkcZ/>



On Wednesday 26th March, we celebrated one of the Branch's founding members, *Liz Farquhar*. We enjoyed many of her favourite dances, some tea and cake. We were delighted to welcome a former member, *Carine Grandguillothe*, who had travelled from France to be with Liz for her 90th birthday.



A new addition to the Branch Library

On Saturday 1st February Diana and I attended a workshop with Cheshire RSCDS in Tarporley to celebrate the launch of their book of dances.

The idea was to offer teachers and dancers the opportunity to spend an afternoon working through the dances in the book. We both enjoyed the session and the chance to focus on a set of new dances. We were led through the mix of strathspeys, reels and jigs of differing levels of difficulty by Di Rooney.

The book has now been added to the Branch Library which is looked after by Hilary. If you would like to have a look at books of dances in more detail than the useful cribs produced, ask Hilary.

Summer and Strawberries Dance

Saturday afternoon June 7th is a date for your diary. This year we are updating the format of our Summer Dance. The dance will be in the afternoon from **2 until 5pm**. We are holding it at St Stephen's Church in Prenton where we have held many successful events in the past. There will be a break in the dancing for cups of tea or coffee and strawberries and cream. The tickets will be £5, a bargain for a summer Saturday afternoon of dancing. As usual the teachers will make sure the dances on the programme will have been covered in the weeks leading up to the dance.

It will be lovely if as many members as possible can support this event.

A DANCING LIFE - Celebrating Liz Farquhar's 90th Birthday

Liz has been involved in some form of dance activity for the best part of 80 years. In her younger days, Liz was a dancer with a company performing stage shows touring around the country. Later she worked for a dance and sportswear shop in Liscard, Wallasey. Much of her time involved making leotards - she even made leotards for the wrestler, "Big Daddy", famous on TV in the 1970s and beyond. It was in the shop that she met Anne Kenyon, who wished to buy dance pumps, having just joined a night school Scottish Country Dancing class. This was run by Ron Taylor in Egerton Grove school hall. Liz joined the class in 1979.

In 1983 the night school class became RSCDS Wirral Branch, with Liz being amongst the founder members.



As a member of the newly formed branch demonstration team, Liz took part in so many events, both locally and further afield, in Germany for an International Folkdance Festival, Marburg (1987) and Deutsches Trachtenfest (1996)

Liz was also a member of the "Eglais a Chnoc" group in Ormskirk run by Roy Clowes and performed with the group on many occasions, especially at Europeade, a five day celebration for 5,000 dancers, musicians and singers, held in a different country each year.

Summer School at St Andrews was attended several times where, as well as the Country Dancing classes and evening dances, Liz joined the Ladies' Step Dance classes. She went on to teach some of the branch members various step dance routines.



Liz has been a stalwart of the Branch for so many years - congratulations and we wish her many more years of dance.

Gill & Dave Haynes

P.S. One "bonus" from Liz's time working in the shop in Wallasey was gathering up the off-cuts from leotard making and producing the "blue bands" we still wear at class to signify "dancing as man".