



Cheshire Chat

February 2021



## *Dear Members*

A belated Happy New Year! I hope that you are all keeping well and that by the time you receive this Newsletter many of you will have had at least their first Covid-19 vaccination. Although we are still not dancing there seems to be considerable activity going on behind the scenes, hence another edition of Cheshire Chat.

### **2021 Events**

- Sadly, the decision has been made to cancel the **Wyche Ball** (scheduled for 28th March). The Committee met on 13th January and it has been decided that Nantwich should continue with their plans for the 2022 Ball (26.3.22) and that the Cheshire Branch will organise the 2023 Ball (25.3.23).
- **Cheshire Branch Ceilidh** – This virtual event is now planned to take place on Wednesday, 24th March at 20.00 and a link to the event is printed below. We are still looking for acts to include and if any of you have hidden talents please let me know! We hope that as many of you as possible will join us for a light hearted evening of entertainment.

Click the link below to join the meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86007703586?pwd=S1RDZUxvTEdHakV2SXdaZWZlI3UT09>

If you need them, here are the meeting ID and password:

Meeting ID: 860 0770 3586

Passcode: 400216

- We have agreed a provisional date for a **Nice & Easy Dance** on the 17th July. We sincerely hope that we will be in a position to dance again by June and that this will be a gentle reintroduction to dancing.

### **Branch Fees**

And now for some good news! Since you all paid Branch Fees last year and there has not been any dancing, our Treasurer proposed to the Committee that members should, next season, only pay their RSCDS Subscription and Class Fees, when we return to dancing, and that the Branch Subscription should be waved. This was unanimously agreed by the Committee.

The Treasurer and Secretary will also be communicating with members regarding the return of Advanced Class Payments made last year.

### **AGM**

It has been decided to, once again, defer the AGM until the autumn and the date agreed is Wednesday, 29th September, when, hopefully, we will be able to meet in the hall. We aim to return to a May AGM in 2022.

We do need some new Committee members and would urge you to consider this role. Please do come and discuss it with me if you would like to know more about what is involved.

## **Tarporley Community Centre (TCC)**

The Secretary attended the TCC AGM on the 25th January. As one of the main users of the hall we have been invited to have a representative as one of their User Group Trustees and Andrew has kindly agreed to take on this role

## **RSCDS News**

### **A Message from the Chairman**

It is a very real pleasure to take on the role of RSCDS Chairman. An exciting two years lie ahead, linked to a growing optimism in the last two weeks that we will return to the dance floor in the near future. Undoubtedly this will happen at different times in our branches around the world, and in both hemispheres. The uncertainty, linked to social distancing restrictions led to the decision to cancel Winter School in Pitlochry in February and Spring Fling in Aberdeen in April. We are now planning virtual events to share the unique atmosphere, and fun, of each gathering. Importantly, perhaps we can now dare to dream of a start to the planning for Summer School in St Andrews in seven months' time.

Communications with members, Branches and Affiliated Groups, will be an important part of Board discussions in the coming months, as will progressing targets from the RSCDS Business Plan, especially those linked to supporting the return to dancing.

None of us will forget the year 2020 and it has never been more important to look forward to a New Year, and a time when we can enjoy the fun and friendship of Scottish country dancing, and socialise together at last in the activity we all love.

I thank all Branch committees for keeping spirits up over the last nine months through contact with members and innovative use of online communications.

My very best wishes to you all for Christmas and in 2021.

Lorna Ogilvie

*(Unfortunately the above message was just too late for the last edition of Cheshire Chat. Since writing her message the RSCDS have now made the decision to cancel Summer School once again this summer. However, there is to be a **virtual Winter Evening event on the 27th February** – details to be announced).*

## **Donations**

The RSCDS has celebrated and promoted the enjoyment of Scottish Country Dancing and traditional music for nearly 100 years. The Covid-19 Pandemic has, however, had a significant financial impact. Cancellation of Summer School, the Autumn Gathering and Winter School, as well as temporary closure of the shop, have left a large hole in the budget.

In order to help to maintain their current level of services to Scottish Country Dancing the RSCDS have created a '[Donations Page](#)' where individuals can donate to the Society. All contributions will go to support the future of Scottish country dancing. At their recent meeting your Committee decided that we should donate the sum of £200.00. Individuals are, of course, able to make their own donations by following the above link.

*With Best Wishes to you all and fingers crossed for a return to dancing before too much longer*

C. Anne MacDonald – Chairperson, 2020-2021

*Anne MacDonald*