



Cheshire Chat

January 2023



Dear Members

Happy New Year to you all! This time last year we were still not fully back to dancing and wondering if our New Year Dance would go ahead. Fast forward to 2023 and we are now taking a break after a very busy autumn/winter term.

In October several members enjoyed the experience of attending a Scottish Step Day School, taught at TCC by Kate Gentles. This was followed the next weekend by our own Nice and Easy Dance, which as always was a happy and relaxing evening, with a superb supper!

In November the combination of David Queen and John Browne attracted just the right number to attend our Improvers Day School. Another highly successful event with messages from attendees to say they hope we will offer a similar Day School in 2023.

In recent weeks, I have attended President & Visitors Nights and Christmas Dances in the Wirral, Chester, Nantwich, Wrexham and Northwich, as well as the annual St Andrew's Day Dinner & Dance in Sandbach. All of these were great evenings, although it was with some sadness that we noted, due to falling numbers, the dance in Deeside was to be their last function.

The 2022 RSCDS Autumn Gathering Weekend was held in the Kelvin Hall, Glasgow, from the 4th – 6th November. Two excellent evenings of dancing to popular bands, and, of course, the AGM on the Saturday afternoon. William Williamson took over the role of Chairman, and Gary Coull (Banffshire Branch) was elected as the Chairman Elect. Scrolls of Honour were awarded to: June Dey, Fred Moyes, Keith Rose, Maureen Rutherford and Anne Taylor.

On the Saturday morning we attended a Launch of the RSCDS Centenary Year, at which William Williamson outlined the proposed key events planned for 2023. All of these are listed on the [RSCDS website](#), as is a full report of the AGM.



No sooner were we home from Glasgow, than we had to concentrate on dancing the Flying Scotsman at the Crewe Heritage Centre on 16th November. As most of you will know this was an initiative organised by the RSCDS to link our own Centenary Year with that of the famous locomotive. Ably recorded by Christine, we hope that our demonstration will be included in the final RSCDS video!

A Press Release was sent to local newspapers and also to a magazine for retired Railway Staff

A big thank you to those of you who contributed with a pledge towards the crowdfunding for the cost of cavity wall insulation and double glazing at the Tarporley Community Centre. The total pledges have secured a grant of £12,437, 75% of the total cost, from CWaC Council. This will ensure the work is carried out early in 2023.

Diary Dates for 2023

- 14th January – RSCDS Cheshire Branch New Year Dance
- 19th to 24th February – Winter School – Atholl Palace Hotel, Pitlochry
- 25th March – RSCDS Centenary Ball Edinburgh – several Branch members are planning to attend.
- 22nd April – Wyche Ball – this year being organised by the Cheshire Branch, with Susan MacFadyen Scottish Dance Band
- 16th July – 13th August – RSCDS Summer School, St Andrews. Early Bird booking remains open until 31st January, so if you haven't been to Summer School, why not consider coming along this year?

And finally, here is a message from our new Chairman, William Williamson



Happy Dancing!

Anne MacDonald

C. Anne MacDonald – Chairperson, 2022-2023