

540/119

The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE YOUTH COMMITTEE HELD ON SUNDAY 16
JANUARY 2000 AT 10.30HRS AT 12 COATES CRESCENT, EDINBURGH

Present

Mrs Fiona Turnbull (Convenor), Mrs Linda Gaul (Chairman), Mr Alan Mair (Vice Chairman), Mr Andrew Kellett, Miss Lorna Ogilvie, Mrs Marilyn Watson

Miss Irene Bennett, and Miss Diane Bleakley had attended from the YSDA Sub Committee during the morning session.

In Attendance

Mrs June Dick

YC00/1 WELCOME

Mrs Turnbull welcomed everyone to the first meeting of this Committee and, she hoped it would be enjoyable, productive and informative.

She went on to say that members of the YSDA had been invited to attend the morning session to advise the Committee of the work of the YSDA, and to inform them of the projects that will be ongoing.

YC00/2 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Anne Grant and Anne MacKenzie-Smyth, YSDA members.

YC00/3 REMIT

The Convenor reminded the Committee of their remit, as detailed in the Strategic Plan.

"To Encourage Children and Young People to participate in Scottish Country Dancing".

Mrs Turnbull said that the first step had now been achieved, the creation of a Youth Committee, and that the rest of the objectives would be addressed in due time.

Mr Mair brought up the question of how old is a youth. It is hoped that the over 16's would be fairly easily integrated into Branch membership and activities. But it was more difficult in respect of the under 16's as each age group required different agendas.

It had also been noted that although the age for those wishing to take the Preliminary Test had been lowered to 18 years, there appeared to be little relevance within that test to teaching children.

The point was noted and will be discussed again at a later meeting.

YC00/4 BACKGROUND OF YSDA

Mrs Turnbull highlighted some of the events that the YSDA had been responsible for and these included:

- High profile events Dance Scottish UK and Dance Scottish World-wide.
17,000 children danced in Dance UK and 40,000 in Dance Scottish World-wide.
- Set of teaching tapes and dance programmes with booklets.
- Pilot scheme of resource material for Teaching SCD in schools to fit 5-14 curriculum in Scotland
45 schools had volunteered to pilot the scheme and had agreed to return evaluation forms, these would be available in March 2000.
- Preliminary set of instructions for Pack Two prepared.
- Pen-pal scheme in operation.
Scottish children are talking to Canadian, American, New Zealand and Australian children.
- Newsletter circulated to all YSDA members.
- Stickers with logo available to members.

The Committee members identified many branches that had been involved with YSDA and many very successful events that had been organised for children during 1999. It had been pointed out that the Society had been represented at many of these.

YC00/5/ ONGOING PROJECT

YC005/1 Pilot Pack

The Committee agreed that we needed to promote the Pilot pack and in this respect Miss

Lorna Ogilvie volunteered to contact the Scottish Office with a view to sending the pack to interested parties. The Committee agreed that the Society should be lobbying for SCD to be included in the 5-14 curriculum.

Mrs Turnbull indicated that any comments or amendments from the Committee would be welcome before the Pilot pack is finalised.

The Committee agreed that Pack 1 might be presented in a ring binder, separate sheets that could be laminated would be protected in the classroom situation.

Any future recordings should be on CD format.

CY00/5/2 Pack 2

Pack 2 is designed to be a progression of Pack 1 (Pilot pack), and is aimed at children between 9-10 years, it will take the same format as Pack 1 and also be offered as a Pilot pack initially

The following had been suggested for Pack 2. Mrs Turnbull asked that the Committee consider these items and bring any comments to the next meeting.

Dances:

- 1 Circle Dance (Waltz)
- 2 Joe MacDiarmid's Jig
- 3 Square set, The Highlandman's Umbrella
- 4 Gay Gordons
- 5 Highland Fair
- 6 Lady C Bruce's Reel
- 7 Dashing White Sergeant
- 8 Strip the Willow

Mrs Turnbull and Mrs Watson will consider any alternatives to the above dances.

New ideas for activities within Pack 2
Drama and Art - Miss Diane Bleakley volunteered her services.

Ms Joyce McIver is to be approached and asked to provide music.

Miss Lorna Ogilvie - Environmental Studies

Miss Diane Bleakley - Language

Miss Lorna Ogilvie - Religious and Moral content.

The Committee agreed that all dances should be accompanied by recorded music.

Mrs Turnbull thanked the members of the YSDA sub committee for attending the meeting and for their help and input.

YC00/6 FUTURE ACTIONS

It was agreed to contact all education authorities with a view to taking part in their staff development days and participating in the In service training. *in Scotland*

The Committee agreed that a questionnaire would be distributed to all Branch and Affiliated Group Secretaries to assess their current Youth participation and also asking them to identify someone who may be willing to act as liaison within Branch and Youth Committee.

The Committee discussed the need to produce a Best Practice Guide.

An award/certificate for the completion of each Youth Pack was discussed and the Committee will bear this in mind for the future.

Mr Kellett asked whether the Committee would consider an examination for children. He was advised that the Examinations Committee had remitted the suggestion of liaising with IDTA about the logistics of holding examinations for children.

The Committee discussed this in detail and agreed that if this were to go ahead the whole examination syllabus would need to be rewritten. Ideally the Committee would like all dance bodies to have the ~~same~~ interchangeable examination syllabi.

The committee asked that copies of the current IDTA syllabus be made available for the next meeting.

It was suggested that the Web page should be updated to give current information about the Youth Committee and its projects. The Committee had been asked to bring their ideas to the next meeting.

YC00/7 PUBLICITY/LOGO

The Committee discussed this briefly and agreed to consider the matter at a future meeting.

YC00/8 CHILDREN'S ACT

The Committee discussed this issue and agreed that any future plans have to be considered in conjunction with the Children's Act. The matter is somewhat complex however because the ~~rules~~ change depending on the geography of each Local Authority.

interpretation may.

Miss Ogilvie and Mr Kellett agreed to research the legislation for Scotland and England respectively.

YC00/9 BUDGET

Mrs Turnbull advised the Committee that the Finance Committee had requested budget proposals for the forthcoming year

YC00/910 CO-OPTING

The Committee agreed that in order to assess the needs of young people, it made sense to have their input.

Therefore the Committee will invite 5 young people to Headquarters for lunch during the meeting in June.

It was also agreed that the expertise of people working in the education sector was extremely helpful and therefore the Committee will invite Miss Irene Bennett, Mrs Anne MacKenzie-Smyth and Miss Diane Bleakley to attend the next meeting.

Mr Alan Mair advised the Committee that he would only attend the Youth Committee meetings if Mrs Gaul was unable to do so.

YC00/11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr Kellett suggested the idea of a prestigious Youth Display team. The team would be drawn from all over the world to tour festivals, and other events in Scotland.

The Committee agreed that this was an excellent idea and would be considered in more detail at a future meeting along with the possibility of a residential school.

YC00/12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting will be held on Saturday 4th March 2000 at 10.30hrs.

The meeting on 15 April has now been cancelled and rescheduled for 17 June 2000.

Lina M M Turnbull.

The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE YOUTH COMMITTEE
HELD ON SATURDAY 4 MARCH 2000 AT 10.30HRS
AT 12 COATES CRESCENT, EDINBURGH

PRESENT

Mrs Fiona Turnbull (Convenor), Mrs Linda Gaul (Chairman), Mr Andrew Kellett, Miss Lorna Ogilvie, Mrs Marilyn Watson.

Miss Irene Bennett and Mrs Diane Bleakley had been invited to attend the morning session.

IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs June Dick (Assistant Secretary)

Mrs Turnbull welcomed everyone to the meeting.

YCOO/13 APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

YCOO/14 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 16 JANUARY 2000

The following amendments had been recommended:

YCOO/6 (para 1) Should now read:
"It was agreed to contact all education authorities in *Scotland*

YCOO/6 (para 6) "Ideally the Committee would like all dance bodies to have (delete) *the same* interchangeable examination syllabi.

YC00/7 (para 1) The matter is somewhat complex however because *interpretation may change*.....

The Committee agreed the Minutes after the amendments.

YCOO/15 BUSINESS ARISING

YCOO/6

The Committee were advised that a questionnaire had gone to branches requesting information on youth involvement.

YC00/5/1

Miss Ogilvie had been in contact with the Scottish Consultative Council for the Curriculum (SCCC) and had submitted a report of the meeting.

This initial meeting had gone well and the SCCC were keen to be involved in getting children dancing in Scottish Schools. They agreed that they would provide a development officer who would help us position the product correctly within the curriculum.

Regarding marketing and sponsorship, SCCC is willing to do "joint badging", ie they will allow their logo to go alongside ours, and as such should aid getting sponsorship. This official backing would help to promote the packs to schools.

The Assistant Secretary will contact SCCC to arrange a meeting with Mrs Turnbull, Miss Ogilvie and Mrs Gaul at Headquarters.

Miss Ogilvie was thanked for all her work.

It was suggested that all UK Schools should be included, but as this is a pilot scheme we need to get in right in Scotland first.

YC00/6

Miss Irene Bennett had contacted Mr B Kirkaldy of the Fife Education Council with a view to organising a day for teachers.

Fife Education Authority were in favour of this project and would include it in their In-Service brochure. The Committee agreed that it should be arranged for Thursday 14 September.

The Committee suggested that the Society supply a teacher and musician.

It was agreed that if this is successful, it can then be offered to other Education Authorities.

YC00/16

YC00/1 Pack 1

The Committee agreed to await the outcome of the discussions between the SCCC and members of the Committee before making any final plans for Pack 1.

YC00/2 Pack 2

The Committee have now amended the order of the dances and they should now read as follows:

- 1 Circle Dance
- 2 Highland Fair
- 3 The Highlandman's Umbrella
- 4 The Gay Gordons
- 5 Lady Catherine Bruce's Reel
- 6 Espie McNabb
- 7 The Dashing White Sergeant
- 8 Strip The Willow

Mrs Watson agreed to check that the dance instructions were in a form suitable for classroom teaching.

The pilot scheme for Pack 2 would be similar to that of the Pack 1 Pilot ie a folder containing instructions for the dances, background information, a glossary of terms and cassettes with music and voice over instructions.

The packs are to be available at the start of the autumn term and offered to the same teachers who piloted Pack 1 and any other interested schools.

YC00/17 CHILDREN'S ACT

Mr Kellett had been in touch with other organisations involved with children and is now of the opinion that we need a simple common-sense approach to this subject.

The Committee asked Miss Ogilvie to prepare a draft Code of Practice, in conjunction with Mr Kellett in time for the Executive Meeting.

It was agreed that the Society should adopt a Code of Practice. It was further agreed that our recommendation should be printed in the Bulletin and be available for Branches.

YC00/18 ACTION FOR YOUNG ADULTS

YC00/18/1 It was suggested that the Society should consider having a regular presence at the Intervarsity Folk Dance Festival, whose next event will be held in Cambridge and then at Manchester in 2002.

The Committee agreed that Mr Kellett should liaise with the event organisers advising them that we are keen to be involved and to offer our assistance.

The Assistant Secretary will write to Cambridge Branch asking them if they would be willing to run a RSCDS stand during the weekend.

YC00/18/2 Scholarships

The Committee also agreed to recommend to General Purposes Committee that a scholarship be awarded to students involved in SCD at university and attending Summer School for the first time.

The scholarship would be available for 2 university students annually to the value of half of one week's residential fee commencing in 2001.

YC00/18/3 The Committee agreed to invite several young Society members to the meeting in September. The Committee would like to hear their suggestions about encouraging and involving young dancers in the Society.

YC00/18/4

The Committee discussed ways of encouraging teenage dancers (13-16) to take a more active interest in the Society.

The Youth Co-ordinator in each Branch will be asked to recommend experienced young dancers who could form part of a regional Youth Team. Branches may also be able to suggest events where such a team might be included.

YC00/19 BUDGET

The budget for 2000/01 was discussed.

YC/00/20 PUBLICITY

YC00/20/1 Website

The Committee agreed that the website should have pages specifically aimed at young children, teenagers and young adults.

Mr Healy advised that the website should be up and running towards the end of April.

YC00/20/2 Newsletter

The Committee agreed to the idea of a newsletter for teachers of children's classes. This would include an update of events and a page for children.

YCC00/21 EXAMINATIONS

Discussion on an examination syllabus for children was deferred to a later date.

Meanwhile, Mr Kellett agreed to talk with various examination bodies with a view to integrating the exam process and also the possibility of a round table discussion with all those involved.

YC00/22 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Mr Kellett asked if it would be possible to produce a report for the Executive Council rather than have the Council have to take the time to go through all the minutes.

He was advised that the Executive Council agreed that all Committees should make their Minutes available. Mrs Turnbull will however prepare a summary condensing all the work that has been done.

The Committee will be advised of the text for approval.

YC00/23 CORRESPONDENCE

YC00/23/1 Kirkcudbright Branch

A letter had been received requesting information about the Children's Act. The Branch will be advised that the committee is prepared a Code of Practice, which each Branch may adopt. For more immediate assistance they should contact their local Council.

YC00/24 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting will be on Saturday 17 June 2000 at 10.45hrs.

Fiona M M Turnbull

17 June 2000

The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE YOUTH COMMITTEE
HELD ON SATURDAY 17 JUNE 2000, AT 10.45HRS
AT 12 COATES CRESCENT, EDINBURGH

PRESENT

Mrs Fiona Turnbull (Director), Mrs Linda Gaul (Chairman), Miss Lorna Ogilvie, Mrs Marilyn Watson.

Miss Irene Bennett who had been invited to attend the morning session.

IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs Linda Bates

YC00/25 APOLOGIES

Mr Andrew Kellett

**YC00/26 MINUTES OF MEETING OF
4 MARCH 2000**

The minutes had been approved at the Executive Meeting in May and were duly signed.

YC00/27 MATTERS ARISING

YC00/27.1 Executive Council Meeting.
Due to the length of the meeting the Convener did not make her report until after 5pm but as a summary had been distributed to all Executive Representatives at the meeting everything was passed by the Council with two minor changes to the Code of Practice.

YC00/27.2 Budget

The Finance Committee had approved the budget for 2000 - 2001.

YC00/27.3 Badges

The millennium badges are now available and appear in the new price list. A note would be put in with the July Secretaries' output informing them about the new badges with the suggestion that they would be "ideal for children's events". The badges are £3 for 20.

YC00/27.4 Code of Practice

Mrs Turnbull had thanked Mr Kellett for his help with questions on this matter before and during the Executive meeting. Point 2 was removed. Point 3 had been changed to include musicians and Point 9 had "... if preferred, to the RSCDS Chairman or Youth Director, ..." added. The full Code of Practice will be included in the next Newsbrief and a statement for the Bulletin was agreed.

**YC00/27.5 Intersarsity Folk Dance
Festival**

Mr Kellett has been invited to the Festival in Cambridge in February next year. Cambridge branch is to be reminded of our request to sell Society goods at this event. In 2002 the Intersarsity Festival will be held in Manchester and this would be discussed further at the September meeting.

YC00/27.6 Scholarship

The General Purposes Committee has approved a scholarship for 2 University students to attend summer school. It will cover the cost of one week's fee to be shared by the students plus the cost of individual membership of the Society if necessary (two memberships). The students will not have attended Summer School before and will attend on the same week. General Purposes Committee would be advised that it was an ongoing annual scholarship.

YC00/28 QUESTIONNAIRES

There had been a reasonable response to the questionnaire with more coming in each day. Replies had been received from 62 branches and 76 affiliated groups. 39 branches have youth co-ordinators and half of the branches run classes. A note will be placed in the July Secretaries' output asking for any outstanding questionnaires to be sent in as soon as possible.

Mrs Turnbull reported that she had received emails and letters from all over the world with support and requests for further information and advice. An article from New Zealand branch had been submitted for the Bulletin and Mrs Turnbull would add to this with quotes and information sent in by various youth groups.

YC00/29 SCHOOLS PROJECT

YC00/29.1 Book of Dances

Mrs Gaul had prepared an introduction to the RSCDS and Mrs Turnbull had produced notes for teaching children. Miss Ogilvie had prepared an introductory statement on the curriculum for the pack but the SCCC had intimated that they would produce this. Funding for the project is included in the approved budget. All the other committees are to be kept informed and wherever possible, their advice and expertise requested.

Mrs Turnbull proceeded to go through the dances that were to be included in the pack and a discussion took place regarding the order of the dances and the suggested alternatives to be included. Once the changes have been made, Mrs Turnbull will send them to the Committee members for checking. These should be returned with any comments by mid August before being forwarded to SCCC for their approval. The next meeting with SCCC will be in October. Miss Bennett offered to find suitable pictures and quotes from the YSDA records as illustrations for the book.

It was also agreed that a request be made to the Publications Committee for Mrs Barbara Gibbons to proof read this.

YC00/29.2 Video

The video is intended as an aid to teachers and will illustrate methods of teaching dancing to classes of various ages. An offer had been received from Mr Bruce Frazer to help with the video. Miss Angela Young is to be approached for advice about producing a story-board for the video. It was suggested that the teacher of the Fife In-Service day be asked if she/he could be filmed. SCCC recommended an educational video company. Costs could be kept down if it could be filmed in one day and at one location, preferably in the central belt.

Several teachers were suggested for the video and they will be approached over the summer. Some possible schools and groups of children were also identified and they will be asked to take part in the filming. The venue might be at one of these schools. The filming should take place before the end of this year to allow time for editing etc.

YC00/29.3 CD

It was agreed that as many of the dances are already recorded for the Collins CD, Mr Colin Dewar would be asked to record the additional dances. Mr David Cunningham would be approached for a production quotation for this. The Publications committee to be asked for assistance with this.

YC00/29.4 Design and Marketing

The costs for design, printing and packaging had been included in the budget. The package would be launched to schools in May 2001. It was suggested that there should be various events to help launch the project including offering more In-Service Development days. A press conference was

suggested and flyers should be prepared ready for May 2001.

A price of £25 for the pack was suggested, with 1000 being produced and these would also be available for sale through the Society.

YC00/29.5 Pilot Packs

Those who had received the pilot packs would be advised of the new pack being developed but meanwhile no further packs would be sent out. The comments received from the pilot scheme had proved most useful in compiling the final package.

YC00/30 IN-SERVICE TRAINING DAY

Miss I Bennett reported that the In-Service brochure for the Fife Schools was not yet ready. She offered to prepare a flyer to be sent out to the Fife schools before the end of term.

The date for the Inservice day is Tuesday 19 September from 9.30 until 3.30. It was agreed that a teacher from Fife be asked to take part and that Mr David Cunningham be asked to play.

The brief would be that it should be fun and that accuracy in steps and technique should not be emphasised. The draft pack can be used. Mr David Cunningham could advise on use of music and the speed of the music. £250 had been requested from the Region to cover costs and it was agreed that if a minimum number was not reached, the In-Service day would not go ahead.

The Committee agreed that up to £50 for expenses would be paid.

The Director would contact the teacher and musician.

YC00/31 NEWSLETTER

A newsletter would go out to Youth Coordinators, teachers, branch secretaries and those affiliated groups that had expressed an interest. October and April were agreed as suitable times. To save on postage it was suggested that the newsletter could go with branch or affiliated group mailings in separate envelopes addressed to the appropriate person for the local Secretary to pass on.

The plans and projects of the Committee were to be included in the newsletter as well as the Code of Practice, an advert for the badges and the scholarship for summer school. There

would be a small part of the Newsletter for children with a crossword or wordsearch or similar (with answers in the next Newsletter). A request for a new logo and name, a letters section and pen pals could also be included. Dates of events could be requested and these could go on the Website.

Ms Catherine Livsey would be approached for help with this. It was suggested that an A3 folded sheet would be the size of the Newsletter and 400 - 500 would be required. Any ideas for the newsletter should be sent to the Youth Director.

YC00/32 SEPTEMBER MEETING

Of the five young people asked to the September meeting, three had accepted, one was not sure and one had not replied. Mrs Turnbull would contact the Glasgow Branch Secretary for someone from that area. The Newcastle University group were sending a representative.

They had been asked to attend between 11.30 and 2.30 and to join the committee for a light lunch. Expenses would be paid in the normal way.

The format of the discussion was agreed and their opinions to be sought on how to encourage others into dancing and how to maintain their interest.

At this point the Director advised that a letter from Mr John Carswell had been received regarding strathspeys and children. It was agreed that Mrs Turnbull would reply that the Committee was in broad agreement with his views and it would be discussed with the young people at the meeting in September.

YC00/33 FUTURE ACTIONS

It was suggested that the Newsletter could be put on the Website along with photographs of the committee. Details of festivals/days of dance, etc should go on the Website including information about requests for young dancers to attend international festivals with a view to providing a list of events available for young people.

Mr Kellett was investigating the exam systems and would report at the next meeting. The question of certificates would be considered at a later date.

YC00/34 CONTACT WITH OTHER YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

The National Foundation for Youth Music is receiving funding from the Arts Council in

England to promote the playing of music by young people. As yet there was no funding in Scotland. Mrs Turnbull would make contact with them. Courses for dancing could include music tuition and funding could be requested.

Plockton High School was now offering a residential course for young musicians with 10 places available and may ask the RSCDS for assistance in the future.

With regard to the Intervarsity festivals, Mrs Turnbull would enquire whether there was a separate Scottish University festival

It was suggested that an article on the new school pack should be sent to the Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust for inclusion in their magazine.

YO00/35 AOB

Mrs Watson and Miss Ogilvie commented on how much had been done and how much progress had been made by the Committee in such a short time.

It was decided to wait until the package for the schools project was near completion before approaching any companies or organisations regarding sponsorship.

YO00/36 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting will be Saturday 16 September 2000 at 10.45 am.

With a vote of thanks to the Director the meeting closed at 3pm.

Lore W. Turnbull

The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE YOUTH COMMITTEE
HELD ON SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2000 AT 10.45HRS
AT 12 COATES CRESCENT, EDINBURGH

PRESENT

Mrs Fiona Turnbull (Director), Mr Andrew Kellett, Mr Alan Mair (Vice Chairman), Miss Lorna Ogilvie, Mrs Marilyn Watson.

IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs L Bates

**YC00/37 MINUTES OF MEETING
OF 17 JUNE 2000**

The minutes were approved and signed.

YC00/38 MATTERS ARISING

YC00/38.1 BADGES

To date 900 badges had been sold and Mrs Turnbull asked for these to be promoted at every opportunity.

YC00/38.2 IN-SERVICE DAY

The In-Service Day in Fife had been cancelled as only 10 had applied and 16 were required to cover costs. Elizabeth Gardiner and David Cunningham had agreed to take part. The cost of sending the flyers out to the schools had been paid by St Andrews Branch and a letter had been received from them requesting reimbursement. A letter of explanation regarding these costs would be sent with the cheque.

It was agreed to offer In-Service days for 2001 to the other Scottish regions.

YC00/38.3 INTERVARSITY

A letter had been received from Cambridge Branch confirming they would run a stall providing the organisers agreed. Mr Andrew Kellett agreed to contact them regarding this and also to investigate the possibility of organising a workshop and/or an evening dance.

YC00/39 SCHOOLS PROJECT

YC00/39.1 BOOK

Mrs Turnbull thanked the committee for their reactions to the initial teaching pack. It had also been sent to Wendy Dignan who agreed that pictures and diagrams should be used to break up the text. She thought that the teaching section was too dense and suggested different sections on listening and moving, steps and social skills. The video, book and CD are to be sold as a complete entity. It was agreed that the dances were OK and that the book be spiral bound using the right-hand page for the dance instructions and the left-hand pages for reference, extra information and space for teachers' own notes. Mrs Turnbull would contact LATS (formerly SCCC) with regard to the design of the book before doing a final draft. Miss Lorna Ogilvie suggested using symbols as cross-references on the book and this idea was accepted.

At this point, the committee was joined by Douglas Burke, Anne Tennant, Morag Gent, Lynne & Alaina Armour, Claire Friel and James Gray and a lively discussion continued through lunch.

YC00/39.2 VIDEO

To keep the budget low it was agreed to use the firm suggested by the LATS for the video as they had experience in producing educational material. The plan is to use 2 cameras in 1 school for one day. Various schools were approached with a view to appearing in/or using the schools for the video and six schools had responded. Mrs Turnbull had visited four of these schools and 2 in the Glasgow area and 1 in the Edinburgh area were suitable and the staff enthusiastic. It was

agreed that she would contact the Video Company to assist in choosing the best location for the video. It was agreed that time would have to be allocated for preparation with the children before the actual filming.

YC0039.3 DESIGN

Mrs Turnbull will meet again with Ian Barr of LATS re the design of the pack. It was noted that LATS had asked Wendy Dignan to prepare the introduction to the book in line with education policy.

YC00/39.4 MUSIC

David Cunningham of Thane Multimedia had been approached regarding the recording of a CD for the music. If all 20 tracks were to be used a double CD would be required at a cost of approximately £4,000 for 1000. Seven dances would need to be recorded and, after discussion, it was agreed that practice music for teaching could be included.

YC00/39.5 SPONSORSHIP

Mrs Turnbull agreed to ask Mrs Gaul to contact various firms re sponsorship. The following companies were suggested - Wiseman Dairy, Stagecoach, Highland Spring, Walkers Shortbread, The Scotsman, Highlander Crisps and Bank of Scotland.

YC00/40 QUESTIONNAIRES

Returns had been received from 92 branches and 130 affiliated groups. Names of youth co-ordinators had been given by 44 branches and 47 groups along with names of other teachers of children's classes. It appeared that many branches and groups had tried in the past to set up children's classes with mixed success. Mr Andrew Kellett was thanked for the work he had put in to the Branch questionnaires and the compilation of contact names and addresses. It was agreed to set up a database of names of co-ordinators and teachers so that the Youth newsletter

can be sent out. It was suggested that a section be added to the branch report to HQ for the name of the Branch youth co-ordinator and that secretaries be reminded to inform HQ when they appoint one.

YC00/41 NEWSLETTER

It was agreed that a report on the work so far of the Youth Committee be included in the newsletter but there would be no children's page this time. The next output to Branch secretaries would be early in October and Mrs Turnbull and Mr Kellett would try to have the newsletter ready for this output.

YC00/42 MEETING WITH YOUNG ADULTS

Various points had arisen during the discussions. They felt that more links are required with university groups as many students are not sure how to continue with their dancing once they leave university - many of the student dancers are from overseas. At some universities there is little contact with the local branch or the Society as a whole. They felt that more flexibility regarding dress codes could encourage more young people to attend RSCDS functions and were concerned over negative actions and remarks made to some young people by older members of the Society. A student membership covering people in full time education up to the age of 25 was suggested.

A proposal was made for an Easter Youth School which would be in April and of five days duration. Accommodation would be in a youth hostel with classes at a nearby school. There could be a choice of 3 or 4 different classes each morning with afternoons free and dancing in the evenings. Live music would be an important feature. It would be self-funding with the costs of teachers and musicians coming from the fees. Costings had been done and the course (if taken up by 100 participants) could

be as little as £125. The students would be involved in the organising of this although some administrative work would be required from HQ. This proposal met with enthusiastic approval of both the Committee and the young people at the meeting.

James Gray was thanked for the excellent proposal he had prepared.

The committee agreed to the school in principle and it was agreed that a remit would go to the Executive Council regarding this. It was envisaged that the first school would be in Easter 2002.

YC00/43 AOB

YC00/43.1 CHILDREN'S TESTS

An outline proposal was put to the committee by Mr Kellett that the RSCDS should organise its own graded tests for children.

The benefits of this are that it could encourage children to become more involved in the Society. The IDTA already have an RSCDS syllabus and the intention would be to use this as a base for tests. The tests would be self-financing, as a fee would be charged for each test.

The Committee agreed to look into this proposal in greater detail at the next meeting and it was also agreed that the Examinations Committee be asked for one of its members to liaise and advise the Youth Committee in this matter.

YC00/43.2 NATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR YOUTH MUSIC

Grants from £7,500 to £30,000 are available (lottery/government initiative) for young musicians up to the age of 18. As many young dancers are also musicians, this could be a possible idea for a future course/day school.

YC00/43.3 EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

It was agreed that a written report on the actions of the Youth Committee would be prepared for the Executive Council in November.

YC00/43.4 DATES FOR 2001

The following dates were agreed for meetings:

24 February 2001

21 April 2001

15 September 2001

YO00/44 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting will be Saturday 24 February 2001 at 10.45 a.m.

With a vote of thanks to the Director, the meeting closed at 5 p.m.

The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE YOUTH COMMITTEE
HELD ON SATURDAY 21 APRIL 2001 AT 10.30 HRS
AT 12 COATES CRESCENT, EDINBURGH

PRESENT

Mrs F Turnbull (Director), Mr A Kellett, Mrs M Watson, Miss L Ogilvie, Mr A Mair (Chairman), Mrs L Gaul (Past Chairman), Miss A Armour and Miss M Gent. In attendance Mrs L Bates.

Mrs Turnbull welcomed to the meeting Miss Armour and Miss Gent who had agreed to be co-opted on to the Committee.

APOLOGIES

Mrs J Martin (Vice Chairman)

YC01/1 MINUTES

The minutes of the September 2000 meeting had been ratified by the Executive Council. As February's scheduled meeting had to be cancelled because there was not a quorum, communication with committee members had been by letter and email.

YC01/2 MATTERS ARISING

YC01/2.1 FESTIVALS

Many children's dancing festivals had taken place over the winter. It was agreed that it was important to have a RSCDS presence at these festivals whenever possible and also to take an active part in the dancing.

YC01/2.2 STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP

One scholarship for Summer School had been awarded to Elizabeth Drummond from Oxford. The other scholarship was still available.

YC01/2.3 BADGES

Millennium badges had been produced rather late in the year and had been slow to sell at first. The decision was made by the Finance Committee to give them away before the end of the Millennium year. There was then a great demand for badges.

YC01/3 BUDGET

The outline budget proposals were discussed and agreed.

YC01/4 TEACHING RESOURCE PACK

YC01.4.1 PROGRESS REPORT

The "Dance Scottish" pack was in the final stages of production. 4,000 flyers had been printed ready to be sent out to Scottish Primary Schools and P.Ed. Departments in Secondary Schools. Various "mock-ups" from the pack were shown to the committee and parts of the original unedited version of the video were viewed during lunch. The book, CD and video are all cross-referenced to help inexperienced teachers.

It was hoped that all the components would be ready by the end of May to be collated into their packs. It was noted at this point that no sponsorship had been received toward the cost of this pack. The cost of the pack was being financed by JMMF and the Society at a cost of £15,000 for 1000. The selling price had been agreed at £30 a pack. Discussion then took place regarding potential sales of the pack and it was noted that interest had been received from Northern Ireland and USA.

The committee were delighted with the samples of the pack and Mrs Turnbull was commended for the hard work she had put in to this project.

Mrs Turnbull and Mrs Watson have agreed to do a presentation on the project at Summer School.

The "dance Scottish" pack should be available from HQ in June at a cost of £30.00.

YC01/4.2 TIMETABLE

The flyers would be into the schools in two weeks time. After discussion it was agreed that the launch could be in August at the beginning of the autumn term. The Marketing sub-committee might advise. Suggestions were made that the launch

could be combined with a Day of Dance and/or might be promoted by the "Cultural Champions" initiative of the Scottish Executive. Mr Mair agreed to look into this.

YC01.4.3

It was agreed that we could offer to provide training and expertise to teachers as part of their in-service programme from spring 2002.

It was decided that after the launch a letter would be sent offering this service.

YC01/5 YOUNG ADULTS

YC01/5.1 IVFDF REPORT

There was positive feedback from the Inter-Varsity Folk Dance Festival which was held in Cambridge in March. Four Scottish dance classes took place as well as an evening dance. The 2002 Festival will be in St Andrews and Mr Kellett had contacted the organisers who would welcome RSCDS sponsorship. The event will be in Sheffield in 2003 and Exeter in the following year.

It was agreed that Miss Armour and Miss Gent should be the representatives of the Youth Committee at the 2002 Festival.

YC01/5.2 UNIVERSITIES

Communications with Universities were discussed. It was felt that there was a need for details of groups world-wide to be available to students both on leaflets and on the Web. This would be useful both for Freshers week and for graduates leaving university.

Miss Armour and Miss Gent agreed to produce some ideas for a leaflet specifically promoting dancing to young people and also to check the Web links.

YC01/5.3 EASTER SCHOOL

After discussion it was agreed that the school should run for approximately 3 days. Venues discussed included Stirling and Inverness. It was thought that Stirling would be more accessible than Inverness and it could have the necessary halls near the youth hostel. The School should aim to be self-financing and, after discussion,

it was agreed that the teachers and musicians should be paid.

It was hoped to hold the event in April 2002 during the week after Easter and it would be open to all dancers aged between 18 and 30 years.

It was agreed that a Sub Committee should be formed. After discussion it was agreed that James Gray be asked to be the Director of the Easter School with Miss Armour, Miss Gent and Mrs Gaul forming the committee. They should liaise with the Summer School Committee and Headquarters staff would be asked to deal with the paperwork involved. It would be an opportunity to use younger teachers and musicians.

YC01/6

RECOGNISING ACHIEVEMENT

YC01/6.1 CERTIFICATES AND BADGES

It was felt that a certificate of attendance/participation should be made available for branches and festivals. Examples from two branches were displayed. The purchase of badges will be discussed again at the September meeting following the launch of the pack.

YC01/6.2 TESTS

A comprehensive proposal prepared by Mr Kellett for the introduction of RSCDS dancing tests for children was discussed.

At present, graded tests of Scottish Country Dancing are carried out by other organisations (i.e. IDTA, BATD, UKA, ISTD) who are getting the credit and the money for these exams which are often organised and examined by RSCDS members.

After discussion, it was agreed that Mr Kellett would meet with IDTA initially to discuss the proposal that RSCDS run their own examinations for children. These might start at a more basic level than the IDTA exams and be designed to lead to the new adult Dancing Proficiency test. A reciprocal recognition of exam qualifications would be the most satisfactory arrangement.

The initial costs of setting up certificates and medals would be recouped by exam fees over the subsequent years.

YC01/7 TEACHER TRAINING

The suggestion of having a tutorial day for teachers of children's leisure classes was discussed.

It was agreed to put together a package that could be used world wide to advise leaders of teacher training workshops. It was also felt that such workshops should include experienced/current/potential teachers of children's classes. Mrs Watson agreed to prepare ideas for this.

It was considered that discussion groups for teachers could be useful – perhaps at AGMs and Summer School.

YC01/8 CHILDREN'S ACT

The original Code of Practice issued last year was discussed. It was agreed that this be reviewed and the revised code will be distributed in due course. (Paper apart).

YC01/9 SPECIAL EVENT

A few ideas for this were discussed and it was agreed to investigate the possibility of co-ordinating dancing events throughout the society to raise funds for "Save the Children Fund", of which The Princess Royal is the patron, or alternatively some other children's charity.

It was agreed that this might be held during the Save the Children week or during Easter holidays in spring 2003 or 2004.

YC01/10 NEWSLETTER 2001

This was written for teachers and the youth co-ordinators last year and it was agreed to continue this but a page of activities/puzzles for children might be included. Various ideas were discussed. Mr Kellett agreed to edit the Newsletter which would be published in the autumn. Miss Armour and Miss Gent were asked for contributions.

YC01/11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

YC01/11.1 WEBSITE

Discussion took place regarding more Youth information on the society website. Mrs Turnbull would contact Mr I Brockbank regarding this.

YC01/11.2 UPDATE

It was agreed that Mrs Turnbull would prepare an update for the Executive Meeting on 12 May, when the minutes of this meeting would be tabled.

YC01/12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on 15 September 2001 at 10.45 a.m.

With thanks to the Director, the meeting closed at 3.10 p.m.

RSCDS YOUTH COMMITTEE - UPDATE

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING - 12 MAY 2001

Actions Taken

1. **Co-option** - two students now co-opted onto committee - Alaina Armour and Morag Gent.
2. **Dance Scottish** - Teaching Resource Pack - in final stages of production. The pack including CD, Video and Book are ready for duplication. Should be on sale by middle of June. 4000 Leaflets advertising "Dance Scottish" were distributed to all Scottish Primary schools and all Secondary P.E. departments by Learning and Teaching Scotland.
3. **Easter School 2002** - Working party set up to plan Easter School 2002. The Director is James Gray. This residential school is to be open to all young people between the ages of 18 - 30 years.
4. **Code of Practice** - The code of practice is being reviewed.
5. **Days of Dance and Festivals** - The committee is pleased to hear about these events and where ever possible would like a RSCDS presence and participation in these events. Details of these are now to be added to Youth web page and regularly up-dated
6. **Tests** - The committee continue to explore the proposal to bring children's examinations "in house" to raise the profile of RSCDS among young people and to encourage teenagers to continue dancing. The certificates would start at a very simple level and be graded through to the adult Dancing Proficiency Test. Dialogue with other examination boards is being pursued and, where possible, reciprocal recognition of qualifications sought.
7. **IYDFE** - Inter-Varsity Folk Dance Festival at Cambridge 2001 - funding and expertise offered and accepted. Have already made contact for 2002 Festival to be held in St Andrews.
8. **Student Information** - Information leaflets and information on the web for students and recent graduates about world wide opportunities to dance being prepared
9. **Co-ordinators** - Encourage more branches to appoint Youth Co-ordinators and to provide resources to fund classes and events for children.
10. **Scholarship** - One student scholarship (one half week) for Summer School still unclaimed.

Proposed Actions

- ♦ **Launch** - The launch of the "Dance Scottish" project in September 2001- the Marketing sub-committee to be consulted.
- ♦ **Badges** - Badges for children based on the "Dance Scottish" design to be purchased following launch
- ♦ **Teacher Training** - Discussion groups and workshops for teachers and potential teachers of children's leisure classes to be planned. Inset training days to be offered following the launch of "Dance Scottish" Pack.
- ♦ **Certificates** - RSCDS certificates of attendance and /or achievement to be offered to schools and festivals.
- ♦ **Newsletter** - This will again give information for youth co-ordinators - to be distributed in the autumn.
- ♦ **Special Event 2003/4** - The committee intends to co-ordinate a special event in 2003/4. Ideas are being considered. Suggestions for society wide involvement welcomed.



The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

Minutes of Meeting of the Youth Committee held on Saturday 15 September 2001 at 10.45am at 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh

PRESENT: Mrs Fiona Turnbull (Director), Mr Andrew Kellett, Mrs Marilyn Watson, Miss Lorna Ogilvie, Miss Alaina Armour (co-opted), Mrs Linda Gaul (Past Chairman), Mrs Jean Martin (Vice Chairman)

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs Linda Bates

APOLOGIES: Miss Morag Gent (co-opted)

YC01/13 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING
The Minutes of the meeting of 21 April 2001 were ratified at the Executive Council meeting in May.

YC01/14 MATTERS ARISING
YC01/14.1 Student Scholarship
The two scholarships were taken up by Elizabeth Drummond and Seonaid Gent. It was agreed to offer the two scholarships – half of the residential fee for the second week of summer school 2002 (21-28 July) - to full time students attending for the first time. Forms would be sent out to all branches at the next HQ distribution.

YC01/15 DANCE SCOTTISH PACK
YC01/15.1 Pack
The completed pack was shown to the committee. Thanks were due to Rosemary Gordon-Harvey for proof reading the book and also from the committee to Fiona Turnbull for the effort and time she had put into this pack. The committee agreed that it was a good product and had been completed in a very short space of time. Total sales to date were 108 of which 26 were sold at Summer School. Ten complimentary packs have also been handed out.

YC01/15.2 Presentations
During all four weeks at Summer School, a presentation of the "dance Scottish" pack was given by Fiona Turnbull (weeks 1 & 2), Muriel Bone (week 3) and Marilyn Watson (week 4) and these were well received.

YC01/15.3 Selling Price
The packs are selling to schools for £30 (plus £3 postage) and to all others at £35 (less any discounts applicable). The committee expressed surprise that educational material was subject to VAT.

YC01/15.4 Final Costs
The final cost for 1020 copies (plus 20 promotional videos) was £19,399.49.

YC01/15.5 Plans
Fiona Turnbull is to do a presentation at Glasgow Branch's children's day of dance. Children's festivals were suggested as good promotional events. There are several taking place in November. A copy of the pack was to be given to the Scottish Arts Council before their discussion day on "Dance" on 24 September. Jean Martin agreed to approach the "Take the Floor" programme. Lorna Ogilvie would prepare a draft letter that could be sent out to private/prep schools. It was suggested that an article and photograph be prepared for the Times Educational Supplement (Jean Martin to draft). It may be necessary to pay for advertising – e.g. in Folk Directory (Andrew Kellett agreed to draft this). The Marketing sub-committee to be consulted.

YC01/15.6 Distribution of Flyers
It was agreed to have a further 3000 flyers printed and sent to all the branches and youth co-ordinators. Quotes to be sought. It was felt that a direct approach from branches to the schools in their area would be the ideal selling situation. The Director to draft a suitable letter to go with the distribution of the flyers.
It was agreed that a letter be sent along with a flyer to PE advisers in schools to advise of the pack and also offer support. It was also decided to send this letter to the PE colleges and include a list of Scottish branches. Jean Martin agreed to source a list of the Resource Centres to which this offer could also be made.

YC01/16 TEACHER TRAINING

YC01/16.1 In Service Training

After discussion it was agreed that, with the dance pack now being available, in-service training days would not be required this year.

YC01/16.2 Recreational Classes

It was agreed to send a remit to GP and Summer School Committees requesting a discussion group at the 2002 AGM and also during summer school 2002. This would provide an opportunity for an exchange of ideas on methods of teaching children.

Marilyn Watson had prepared a paper to initiate such discussion and the committee were asked to submit comments and additional suggestions.

YC01/16 YOUNG ADULTS

At this point James Gray, Easter School Director, was welcomed to the meeting.

YC01/16.1 Easter School

This will take place in Stirling from 3 - 7 April 2002. Accommodation has been arranged on a bed and breakfast basis in Stirling Youth Hostel. The cost would be £115 for members and £120 for non-members. Four teachers and three musicians have accepted invitations to teach/play at the school. There will be three morning classes and an optional Highland class in the afternoon. A welcome ceilidh will be held on the first evening, with dances on the next two, and a ball with buffet on the last evening.

Application forms were ready in time for summer school and there was a good take up of these. More forms will go out with the next HQ distribution. Posters and forms will be sent out to University Groups. The application form and details should appear on the web site soon.

Further details regarding numbers and costs were discussed. It was agreed that the HQ email address and phone/fax numbers would be the initial point of contact for all enquires, but, if appropriate, some could be passed on to Alaina Armour and Morag Gent.

James Gray was thanked for all the work he had put into this project.

YC01/16.2 IVDFD

The Inter-Varsity Folk Dance Festival will take place in St Andrews on 1 - 3 March 2002.

Andrew Kellett had passed on Alaina Armour's email address but as yet she had not been contacted. As last year, an offer had been made to pay up to £150 for a teacher/musician for a Scottish Country dance class.

YC01/16.3 University Publicity

Alaina Armour and Morag Gent would liaise to get information for universities to go on our web site.

YC01/17 TESTS

YC01/17.1 Syllabus etc

Andrew Kellett was thanked for the work he had put in to preparing a suggested syllabus. It was agreed that IDTA be asked to put in writing their agreement that RSCDS could use their syllabus (copyright issue).

After discussion, it was felt that the first few tests could be "examined" by Assessors. These Assessors would need to have an affinity with children, be from a geographical (worldwide) spread, and be experienced teachers. It was agreed that the suggestion of assessors be put forward to the Examinations Committee.

Transition arrangements would need to be made with IDTA.

It was agreed to send a remit to the Examinations Committee for their permission to approach various interested people to get some feedback on the proposed tests.

YC01/17.2 Scottish Higher Syllabus

Jean Martin had received revised specifications from the SQA regarding the content. She had advised the SQA that more detail of what was expected was required both by the teachers and the pupils. Once the writer of the unit had submitted his revised document to SQA, it would be forwarded to Jean Martin for comment. Jean Martin had also suggested to SQA that Johan MacLean might be prepared to comment on the suite of units covering all various forms of dance. It was agreed that this would need to be compared with our proposed levels of tests.

YC01/18 STRATEGIC PLAN

Each item on the plan was discussed and suggestions made for inclusion. The Director would complete this and copies would be sent to members.

YC01/19 NEWSLETTER

It is proposed that the content would include a letter from the Director; a section on students/scholarship; Easter School information, the proposed tests; code of practice; notice of website for updates; and a review of "dance Scottish" by Fiona Grant. Andrew Kellett agreed to put the newsletter together. It was hoped that this could be included in an October HQ branch distribution as well as to the youth co-ordinators on the database.

YC01/20 CODE OF PRACTICE

The draft Code of Practice as agreed at the last meeting was circulated together with Version 2 which was based on input from other sources. A letter had also been received from SportsScotland offering assistance in producing a Statement, Plan and Policy for the RSCDS. A meeting should take place in October.

The new draft was discussed and, after various changes had been made, it was agreed that the revised Code of Practice be sent out to all branches.

YC01/21 CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES DURING SUMMER SCHOOL

The PE department of the University ran children's activity courses this summer. There are various activities for children from ages 3 to 14 and a class on Scottish country dancing could be offered. Although the times do not quite coincide with the Summer School classes they are willing to consider changes for one particular week.

Summer School students who wish to enrol their children on these courses would need to be non-resident and arrangements for accommodation and booking of children's courses would be entirely their responsibility. Information can be sent out from Headquarters with the application forms.

The suggestion would be that a "family" week be available on only one week and it was thought that week 3 or 4 might be appropriate. Fiona Turnbull will liaise with Johan MacLean.

YC01/22 EVENT FOR 2003/4

Various ideas were discussed and it was agreed that sponsored dancing be the theme for this worldwide event. It was also suggested that branches/youth co-ordinators could organise events and monies raised be sent to the local Save the Children Fund. A main event was also

discussed and that The Bell Centre in Perth would be a suitable venue.

A date of late April/early May 2003 was suggested to coincide with "Save the Children" week. It was agreed to contact The Princess Royal's Secretary to find out if she would be in Scotland at this time, and any suitable dates.

YC01/23 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

YC01/23.1 Sponsor for Scroll

A request had been received for the Youth Committee to submit a nomination for the Society Scroll of Honour. After considerable discussion the Committee declined.

YC01/23.2 A letter of congratulations on the dance pack had been received from Irene Bennett.

YC01/24 Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting is 23 February 2002 at 10.45a.m.

With thanks to the Director, the meeting closed at 4 p.m.





The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

Minutes of Meeting of the YOUTH Committee held on Saturday 23 February 2002 at 10.45am at 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh

PRESENT: Mrs Fiona Turnbull (Director), Mr Andrew Kellett, Mrs Sue Porter, Mrs Jean Martin (Vice Chairman) and Miss Morag Gent (co-opted), Mr James Gray (Easter School Director) [part meeting]

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs Linda Bates

APOLOGIES: Miss Lorna Ogilvie, Miss Alaina Armour (co-opted)

Mrs Turnbull welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologised for the delay at the start due to the Easter School sub committee meeting at 9.30. She welcomed Mrs Sue Porter to her first Youth committee meeting.

YC02/1 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Executive ratified the minutes of the last meeting in November 2001.

YC02/2 MATTERS ARISING

YC02/2.1 Strategic Plan

The Committee wants to be sure that their responsibility to children is recognised. Mrs Martin explained that there are new proposals for teachers training in Scotland and discussions are on going to have our teaching qualifications recognised by the University of Edinburgh.

YC02/2.2 Youth Newsletter

The newsletter had been distributed. After considerable delay it is now online. Members were asked to bring ideas for the next Newsletter to the April meeting.

YC02/3 TEACHING RESOURCES

YC02/3.1 Sales of dance Scottish

Sales to date were 378 with a total sales value of £9697. The packs had been very well received and some glowing compliments had been given.

YC02/3.2 Marketing etc

Everyone was delighted with the review in TES and permission was being sought to use the review in the next Bulletin. A suggestion from the Marketing Committee that the copy be sent with a press release to other newspapers could not be done due to copyright issues. A media launch

of the pack was discussed. HQ was felt to be unsuitable due to the lack of space. It was agreed that Mrs Martin would speak to Aberdeen branch to see if some event could be organised when the Scottish Parliament is meeting in Aberdeen. Mr Kellett will write an article for EFDSS and would use photos from the book. An advert was being prepared for advertising initially in Folkworks newsletter. Mrs Turnbull will attend the Folkworks School Teachers and Folk Artists Conference in Durham at the end of March.

The Traditional Arts Officer at Edinburgh Council had been in contact with HQ asking for information.

Mrs Turnbull had given a short presentation at the Exercise and Dance Initiative Conference organised by CCPR and Sport England in London in January. She suggested that, in order to introduce and expand knowledge of Scottish country dancing to more dance teachers in the UK, membership of the NDTA be explored.

Mrs Turnbull pointed out that she received many enquiries from all over the world for help and advice about starting up classes and teaching children. It was noted that EFDSS employ a full time Teacher Training Manager and STDT have a development officer on a short-term contract. With outside funding this may be a future way ahead for the Society.

ISTD have an excellent website for kids and something on similar lines should be considered for our website.

It was noted that there were no children's badges available at present. A design for a "dance Scottish" badge was available but a more Scottish image would be popular, particularly outside Scotland. Production costs would be investigated.

YC02/3.3 SQA Update

Mrs Jean Martin had been involved in the final edit of SQA units in Scottish dance which would form part of the new Higher in Dance Practice. The references include dance Scottish pack, the manual and the website. Strathspey steps had been included in the Higher level. When Mrs Martin received the final version, she would forward a copy to Miss Ogilvie and Mrs Turnbull.

YC02/4 SUMMER SCHOOL

YC02/4.1

Scholarships

No requests for the Youth scholarship awards had been received but as a large number of scholarship applications had been received this year, it was thought that some of these would meet the Youth requirements and could be allocated.

YC02/4.2

Discussion Groups

Mrs MacLean was happy to include discussion groups into the Summer School timetable. Ideas for a structured discussion group would be put together. A request had been forwarded to Aberdeen branch to have a discussion group at the AGM.

YC02/4.3

Kids Courses

The PE department at St Andrews University are happy to provide classes to fit in with the Summer School timetable for one week during summer 2003. Students would have to be non-resident and book their children's classes with the University's PE department themselves. The age groups in these courses are for 3-11s. Adventure courses for 11-14 year olds are also offered. A flyer with details would be available during 2002 Summer School. Mrs Turnbull had also offered to suggest a suitable teacher for a children's Scottish country dance class at the Sports Centre.

YC02/5 YOUNG ADULTS

YC02/5.1

IVFDF

Miss Morag Gent indicated that the St Andrews IVFDF had requested their sponsorship of £150. Miss Gent would take the promotional Easter School postcards and stress that places were still available and she would also take flyers for the Ball. A request had been received for sponsorship for the 2003 event in Sheffield and the committee agreed to the same sponsorship of up to £150 to pay the expenses for a teacher and musician for a Scottish country dance workshop.

YC02/5.2

Easter School

Mr James Gray (Easter School Director) reported that 29 students had paid their full fees and another 2 applications had just been received. Miss Gent had visited 21 restaurants/cafes to request discounts for students. Mrs Turnbull agreed to act as a "taxi service" from the station to the Hostel. Mrs Pia Walker had offered to run a shop at Easter School and further details to be arranged with her.

A donation had been received from Duncan Brown and Laura Gracie which they requested should be used specifically for youth. It was

agreed to use the money towards another musician for the ball at Easter School.

A request had been received from the Examinations Committee to hold a Dancing Proficiency Test at Easter School but it was agreed that there was not sufficient time available this year. It was agreed that the demand for such a test should come from the students.

The Youth Committee was advised that normal procedure for setting fees for courses was to liaise with the Finance committee. The Summer School committee had sent a remit to the Finance Committee regarding the setting of the fees and queried the payment of staff at Easter School. As young people were being asked to give up their time to play/teach, it had originally been agreed that generous expenses had to be offered. With the reduction in numbers two local teachers were being used to save on accommodation charges. The two musicians attending would also be playing at the evening dances thus no bands would be hired.

Mrs Turnbull had received a request from Victoria in Canada for advice in running a school similar to our Easter School in May 2003. They had already been offered support from TAC Outreach and Victoria and Vancouver Branches. It was agreed to give them advice after Easter School was over.

[Mr James Gray left the meeting at 11.30 am].

YC02/6 CHILDREN'S TEST PROPOSALS

Tests are to be optional. It was noted that Australia and New Zealand already have their own system. The aims were to recognise achievement and to encourage children to dance - to be motivated by reward.

YC02/6.1

Feedback Comments

Currently the exams are run by the IDTA who have the services and the administration in place. These tests were set up for the IDTA by the RSCDS who also provide the examiners. If the RSCDS were to undertake an exam scheme then we would have the records available to promote and encourage the children towards the Dancing Proficiency Test and PT and TC certificates. It was agreed to prepare a paper in more detail to discuss with the Examinations Committee and the Education and Training Committee when in place. It was agreed that, if possible, assessors should be General Teaching Council Registered or equivalent. The method of testing and marking could be similar to that already being done (IDTA, UKA etc) and the Youth Committee would liaise with the Examinations Committee regarding this.

YC02/6.2

Syllabus

It was agreed that the general structure of the IDTA syllabus was good. It was suggested that a list of dances be used together with a footer that any other dance which covers the formations could be used. It was suggested that, where possible, the dances and alternative dances contained in "dance Scottish" pack be included.

Mrs Sue Porter agreed to put some suggestions together for discussion at the next meeting.

Mr Andrew Kellett would prepare a note for the May Executive stating the objects of the tests/reasons/objects.

No specific date at the moment could be set for starting these tests as the project could take up to 18 months.

YC02/7

EVENT 2003

YC02/7.1 **Name, Date and Time for Event**

After discussion it was agreed on a working title "dance Scottish for Children (Save the Children)".

HRH the Princess Royal had been approached and a reply had been received that the HRH would be unable to attend a weekend event. Her schedule for 2003 is not set until November 2002 and we could ask again then. Alternative suggestions were Ewan MacGregor and JK Rowling.

It was agreed that the Bell Centre in Perth would be a suitable venue and costs were to be sought. A weekday would enable school children to attend and a provisional date of Thursday 27 March was set.

It was also decided that branches/groups/schools should be encouraged to run their own events during the month from 27 March until "Save the Children" week at the end of April.

YC02/7.2

Programme

There would be a set programme and children could be sponsored per dance. Further details of the programme to be discussed later.

YC02/7.3

Organisation

It was agreed that University Students and/or Secondary pupils be approached to help on the day. A band would also need to be booked.

YC02/7.4

Sponsor and Sponsorship

Forms with RSCDS/Save the Children logos (and any sponsors) would be made available from HQ. It was agreed that various firms with connection with children could be approached – Barrs (Irn Bru), Wiseman's Dairies, Highland Spring and Stagecoach were suggested. It was agreed to approach the Marketing Committee for suggestions of sponsors, as the setting up costs could not be borne by the participants.

Participating groups could make their donations locally, nationally or via HQ. Mrs Turnbull is meeting with the Save the Children Fund Scottish Regional Manager before the next Youth Committee meeting.

YC02/8

CHILD PROTECTION ISSUES

Mr Taylor of the Wirral Branch had written regarding insurance cover for branch members and had been assured by Edinburgh Risk Management that any branch member teaching a class was covered.

Mrs Turnbull had received information regarding the new provision of police checks in Scotland and it was agreed that the Society would register with Disclosure Scotland and could then apply for standard disclosures free of charge. There were questions regarding the status of branches; if they had to register or could apply through HQ and if there would be a registration fee. Meantime there would be no change to the Code of Practice.

YC02/9

FUTURE PLANS

YC02/9.1

Website

Information is now available on the web listing children's festivals and days of dance. Branches are to be encouraged to send in regular information.

YC02/9.2

Handouts/Advice for Teachers

The committee felt there was a need to provide information and assistance for non-teachers wishing to teach children in out-of-school classes. We now have the dance pack, but simple one-day courses would also be useful and an accreditation could be given.

YC02/9.3

Junior Membership

Further discussion on this topic was postponed to a later date.

YC02/10

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter had been received from Mrs Flora MacGregor praising the dance pack but asking for sheet music for the book. It was suggested that copies of music for the dances could be prepared (similar to those for the TC) and a small charge made.

There had been a request for the CD from the dance Scottish pack to be available on its own. There would be no extra production costs other than for an insert.

Publications committee would be asked for their views on both of these request.

Mrs Turnbull had written to congratulate David Bell on his appointment as Chief Inspector for Schools in England and as he was a Scottish

country dancer had also enclosed a copy of the flyer. A reply had been received.

YC02/11
YC02/11.1

AOB
Budgets

A request from the Finance committee had been received regarding budgets for 2002/3/4/5 and was due in one week before the next committee meeting. These were discussed and Mrs Turnbull would put together figures and email the committee for their approval before this date.

YC02/12

Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 20 April 2002 and with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the meeting closed at 3.45pm.



The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

Minutes of Meeting of the Youth Committee held on Saturday 20 April 2002 at 10.45am at 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh.

PRESENT: Mrs Fiona Turnbull (Director), Mr Alan Mair (Chairman), Mrs Jean Martin (Vice Chairman), Mr Andrew Kellett, Miss Lorna Ogilvie, Mrs Sue Porter, Miss Morag Gent (co-opted), Miss Alaina Armour (co-opted) and Mr James Gray (Easter School Director) (part meeting).

IN ATTENDANCE: Mrs Linda Bates.

YC02/13 MINUTES OF LAST MEETING
The minutes of the meeting of 23 February 2002 were approved.

YC02/14 MATTERS ARISING **YC02/14.1 IVFDF**

It was noted that the Society had been approached by IVFDF for financial support for 2002 festival and that General Purposes had approved the sum of £350 from JMMF. At a previous Youth Committee meeting funding to the sum of £150 had already been agreed. As a different committee runs IVFDF each year, it was decided to send suggested guidelines for future sponsorship by the Society to the IVFDF Information Point Contact. It was suggested that any future requests should come to the Youth Director who would then apply for JMMF funding.

YC02/14.2 Scholarships

The Schools Committee had awarded the Youth Committee's scholarships. Both of the recipients had attended Easter School and it was also noted that at least one other Easter School student had since applied for Summer School.

YC02/14.3 dance Scottish

The Council in the Lorne Argyll area had agreed to grant funds for every primary school (and one secondary) to buy a "dance Scottish" pack in preparation for a forthcoming dance festival. It was suggested that other groups/branches could also apply to their Local Education Authorities for funds for this.

Information on Scottish country dancing and the "dance Scottish" pack had been sent out for a

seminar on Out of School Hours Activities (OSHA) run by Local Authorities in Scotland who have Lottery money available.

421 packs had been sold with an income of just over £10,000. There is now a black and white copy of the leaflet available that can be photocopied and will be used for advertising. It was suggested that an advert be taken out in the Times Educational Supplement both north and south of the border. An article on dance Scottish would be appearing in the next issue of English Dance and Song magazine and a pack had been sold to Folkworks based in the NE of England.

YC02/14.4 Badges

A sample of a badge was shown to the Committee and it was agreed to go ahead and order these to replace the outdated children's badges that were now out of stock. It is based on the dance Scottish design and should be in stock by June.

YC02/15 EASTER SCHOOL **YC02/15.1 Report**

James Gray, the Easter School Director, reported that the Easter School had been very successful. 37 students had 3 days of dancing with Scottish country dance classes in the morning and Highland classes in the afternoon. Anita Mackenzie and Gillin Anderson were the teachers. James Gray and Phill Jones were the course musicians and, joined by Pete Clark, also formed the band for the Ball in the Golden Lion Hotel. There was some sponsorship in the form of reduced costs for meals at certain local restaurants/cafes and this was much appreciated by the students.

A copy of the income and expenditure for the school was handed out and showed a small surplus. The returned questionnaires indicated that the students would like another School next year. Mr Mair indicated that although the Executive Council had approved the plans for Easter School they had not appreciated that the

teachers and musicians would receive payment in the form of expenses for their services. Only bed and breakfast accommodation had been provided in the Youth Hostel, not full board as at Summer School. The committee was advised that at Summer and Winter Schools, non-resident teachers/musicians are allocated a proportion of the residential costs as expenses and both teachers had been non-resident. Included in the musician's expenses was the cost of the band for the Ball. It was also noted that Easter School is trying to attract younger teachers and musicians who may have to give up paid employment to attend the school.

YC02/15.2 **Future Plans**
James Gray agreed to be the Director of the school for 2003 with the same sub-committee. Several students had volunteered to help and they would all be contacted. It was hoped to have the school in Stirling again for 2003, and that details would be ready in time for this year's Summer School. Alternative venues would be investigated for future schools.

The committee was advised that some of the students at Easter School had expressed their wish to form a Youth Demonstration team and this would be discussed at the next meeting.

It was suggested that branches might consider sponsoring a student's fee and/or travelling expenses to Easter School and this should be mentioned in the Bulletin and Newsbriefs.

The sub-committee of James Gray, Morag Gent, Alaina Armour and Linda Gaul were thanked for all their time spent organising the course and thanks also went to Linda Bates for the administration of the School.

In consultation with the Youth Director, a similar Young Adults School is being planned on the West Coast of America.

(Mr James Gray thanked the committee for their support and left the meeting).

YC02/16 **CHILDREN'S TESTS**
YC02/16.1 **Syllabus**
Mrs Sue Porter had prepared detailed information comparing existing children's tests and these were considered carefully. It was agreed that we would include a Junior Award and 5 other grades. The content of each grade was discussed and will be detailed at the next meeting.

The age range suggested was from 7-16 years and there followed discussion on general conditions for the running of the tests. Further details will be discussed at the next meeting.

YC02/16.2 **Future plans**
Mrs Jean Martin agreed to look into the assessment system, Mr Andrew Kellett the certificates and awards and Miss Lorna Ogilvie the general statements and conditions.

YC02/17 **DISCUSSION GROUPS**
YC02/17.1 **St Andrews & Aberdeen**
Both the Summer School committee and Aberdeen Branch had agreed to our request to hold discussion groups.

YC02/17.2 **Aims**
The aims are to provide an opportunity for experienced and would-be teachers to exchange and share information on running classes for children.

YC02/17.3 **Leaders**
Mrs Fiona Turnbull would lead the first course session and Mrs Sue Porter the second course session at Summer School. Mr Andrew Kellett agreed to lead the discussion group at the AGM in Aberdeen.

YC02/18 **SPECIAL EVENT 2003**
YC02/18.1 **Report**
Mrs Fiona Turnbull had met with the area manager from Save the Children Fund who was very enthusiastic about the idea. Both SCF and RSCDS would check with legal departments on one charity fundraising for another. SCF have sponsor forms and our logo could be added to these. They can also advise on sponsorship contacts and celebrity appearances.

YC02/18.2 **General arrangements**
It was agreed that more time would be required to organise the funding necessary for the distribution of the information packs and the administration of a world-wide event. It was therefore suggested that sponsored dancing might start in November 2003 to be completed by the Save the Children week in April 2004. Discussion on the special Day of Dance in Central Scotland will recommence when adequate sponsorship has been obtained.

YC02/19 **NEWSLETTER**
YC02/19.1 **Articles**
Information and articles to be included in the next Newsletter were agreed.

YC02/19.2

Editor

Mr Andrew Kellett agreed to edit the Newsletter again this year.

YC02/20

AOB

YC02/20.1

Website

Costing had been received from one company for the setting up of an interactive children's website. It was agreed to make a request for funding from JMMF for this proposed site and that further quotations would be sought. It would be an excellent way to promote the Society to young people in the 21st century.

YC02/20.2

Youth Director

Mrs Turnbull reminded the committee that she had only one further year as Youth Director and a Director Designate would be required.

YC02/21

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting would be 12 October 2002 and with thanks to Mrs Turnbull the meeting closed at 3.45pm.



The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

Minutes of the Youth Committee Meeting held on Saturday 12 October 2002 at 10.30 a.m. at 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh

PRESENT

Mrs Fiona Turnbull (Director), Mrs Jean Martin (Vice-Chairman), Mr Andrew Kellett, Mrs Sue Porter, Miss Morag Gent, Miss Alaina Armour.

Mr James Gray attended for part of the meeting.

APOLOGIES: Miss Lorna Ogilvie.

IN ATTENDANCE: Miss Suzanne Pilley

YC02/22 MATTERS ARISING

YC02/22.1 (YC02/14.3) Dance Scottish
An advert appeared in the TES in September and it was noted that after the placement of the advert the number of queries regarding the pack had increased.

YC02/22.2 (YC02/14.4) Badges
The Committee had been advised that there had been a very good response to the new badge.

YC02/22.3 (YC02/15.2) Youth Weekend West
The committee commended the young people and Vancouver Branch for organising a Youth School to take place in May 2003.

YC02/22.4 (YC02/14.1) IVFDF
No reply had been received from the IVFDF Information Contact.

YC02/22.5 (YC02/19) Youth Newsletter
It was confirmed to the Committee that the Newsletter had been sent to Youth Co-ordinators and Branches. Mr Andrew Kellett was thanked for his editorial work. He commented on the poor quality of reproduction of the Newsletter. It was noted that there are limited printing facilities at Headquarters.

It was also noted that the list of dances on the CD in the Dance Scottish pack could be found in the Newsletter.

Mrs Turnbull commented that she would like to have the option of sending the Newsletter electronically to Youth Co-ordinators in future.

YC02/22.6 (YC02/20) JMMF Applications
The Youth Committee had submitted two applications for funding from the Jean Milligan Memorial Fund.

The proposal for an inter-active website for young dancers had been favourably received but more information was requested. The committee agreed to seek detailed quotations from professional firms and also to consider applying for outside funding.

The JMMF had agreed to underwrite the costs of providing one teacher and one hall for Easter School.

The suggestion of requesting all U.K. Branches to consider funding at least one young person to attend Easter School is already highlighted in both the Bulletin and the Youth Newsletter.

YC02/23 EASTER SCHOOL
YC02/23.1 Organisation
Mr James Gray (Director) reported the following:

- Two classes are planned to run concurrently using halls in the Tolbooth and the Boys' Club.
- Fees have been held below £100 but this requires a minimum of 51 participants.
- David Queen and Shona Harper have agreed to teach at Easter School.
- James Gray and Andrew Lyon have agreed to be the musicians.
- Following a meal in the Youth Hostel, the Saturday evening Ball will be held in the Tolbooth Auditorium.
- Publicity will include a poster designed by Alaina Armour and postcards organised by Alastair and James Gray.

- Local eating-places will again be contacted regarding possible discount to participants.
- The website is almost ready.

YC02/23.2 **Future Schools**

A generous offer had been received regarding sponsorship for a school to be held in Cambridge in 2004. The Committee agreed that there was no reason why a Youth school should not be held in England although it was to be stipulated that it should return to Scotland again.

There were terms attached to the sponsorship and the Committee agreed that this should be forwarded to the Education & Training Committee.

The Committee had been advised that a second offer of sponsorship had been received. The sponsorship terms were that the Youth School should be held in Loch Lomond Youth Hostel in January 2004.

The Committee discussed this and agreed that the offer should be gratefully acknowledged but because of university examination timetables it seemed unlikely that this could be taken up unless it could be moved to a more suitable date.

(At this point James Gray left the meeting)

YC02/24 **CHILDREN'S TESTS**

YC02/24.1 **Syllabus**

Mrs Sue Porter had prepared a draft syllabus and the final choice of dances and formations to be included in the syllabus was discussed and agreed.

YC02/24.2 **Assessment System**

Mrs Jean Martin had produced an assessment form and the Committee discussed this in detail and agreed the format following minor changes about the classification of the pass grades. Dancers were to have the option to start at any suitable level.

A panel of regional examiners/assessors will be required and a system for maintaining standards approved. The criteria for this require further discussion

The Committee agreed to approach Mr Alex Gray regarding the qualifications required by such assessors.

YC02/24.3 **Statements and Conditions**

Minor changes to these have still to be agreed.

YC02/24.4 **Certificate and Awards**
Medals and/or certificates should be awarded to children who successfully complete the test. Mr Kellett produced a detailed breakdown of the costs involved in the purchase of medals and for the running of the tests.

After discussion the Committee agreed that the Secretary would be approached regarding the administration of this project.

Mrs Turnbull thanked Mr Kellett for the work he had done on this project.

The final proposals will be put before the Education and Training Committee.

YC02/25 **CHILD PROTECTION DISCUSSION ON POLICE CHECKS**

The Committee discussed this in detail and it was pointed out that although some UK Branches already have access to some form of check, it might be preferable if it was centrally organised with Headquarters as an Umbrella Body for obtaining the necessary Disclosures.

The issue requires further investigation and, in the meantime, it was agreed that Miss Pilley would investigate how the Guide Association handled this.

YC02/26 **DANCE IN SCHOOLS**

YC02/26.1 **Conference Report**

Mrs Porter had attended a conference in June in Musselburgh on 'Lets Dance in Schools'. She reported that the discussion implied that there was very little SCD done in either primary or secondary schools. The emphasis appeared to be mostly on contemporary dance. The Committee discussed this and hoped that the Dance Scottish pack would encourage more schools to include this in their curriculum.

YC02/26.2 **Follow up from CCPR**

Mrs Turnbull and Mr Kellett had attended a conference in January this year. Mrs Turnbull's presentation was to be circulated to all delegates and dance organisations who attended. The RSCDS was invited to assist in compiling a dance resource for schools in England.

YC02/26.3

Mrs Martin had attended a conference in September in which it was stated that most P.E. teachers find the teaching of dance difficult.

YC02/27 DISCUSSION GROUPS

YC02/27.1 Reports from Summer School
Four sessions – one each week – had taken place during Summer School led by Mrs Turnbull and Mrs Porter. Both experienced and potential children's teachers attended. There had been a most useful exchange of views and ideas and the opportunity to discuss common problems was welcomed.

There were requests for the Youth Committee to provide advice and information on procedures for setting up children's classes and also to compile a list of suitable dances for use by new teachers.

It was agreed that this had been a very successful project and the requested information should be prepared.

YC02/27.2 Preparations for AGM
Mr Kellett will lead a similar discussion at the AGM weekend.

YC02/28 SPONSORED EVENT
Save the Children Fund agreed that if the event is big enough they are willing to be involved. SCF agreed that any money raised would stay in the country or region in which it was raised and also that a percentage should be retained by the RSCDS within that country or region.

Further action on this project depends on receiving a positive response from Branches and Youth Co-ordinators as detailed in the Newsletter.

YC02/29 PROGRESS-STRATEGIC PLAN
The strategic plan was considered and new projects added. Mrs Turnbull reported that many of the targets had been met and others were ongoing and would continue under the new management.

YC02/30 CORRESPONDENCE
YC02/30.1 Glasgow Branch
Mrs Porter had attended another successful Children's Day of Dance organised by Glasgow Branch.

YC02/30.2 Lorn Day of Dance
Mrs Sue Porter had organised a Day of Dance for 196 school children to introduce the Dance Scottish packs which are now in all of the region's primary schools. Mr Alan Mair had attended this event. It had been very successful and had also been reported in the local media.

YC02/30.3 Fife Festival
Details have been received of the Fife Schools' Scottish Country Dance Festival in November. This year it will run for eight days in seven venues with a total of 30 sessions. Representatives from the RSCDS will attend several of these sessions.

This follows a most successful and enthusiastic recording session of school children from all corners of Fife dancing for BBC Radio Scotland's "Take the Floor"

YC02/31 ANY OTHER BUSINESS
YC02/31.1 Sport Scotland/Young Scot
Sport Scotland has a website discussion page that could be used to highlight Scottish Country Dancing, as also has "Young Scot" a new Arts information agency.

YC02/31.2 National Dance Teachers' Association
It was agreed that we should pay a subscription to NDTA and their magazine "Dance Matters" where our Dance Scottish pack and other resources could be listed.

As this was the final meeting of the Youth Committee in this form Mrs Turnbull expressed her thanks to every member of the Committee for all their support and work during the year.

Mrs Martin gave special thanks to Mrs Turnbull for the great amount of time and energy she had given to get the Youth Committee up and running and to the many projects undertaken since its inception.

The meeting finished at 3.50 p.m.

The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

MINUTES OF MEETING OF UNDER 16'S SUB-COMMITTEE
HELD ON SUNDAY 10 JANUARY 1999 AT 11.00 HRS
AT 12 COATES CRESCENT, EDINBURGH

PRESENT:

Mr A Mair (Convener), Mr S Barbour, Mrs J. Blair, Mrs M Watson, Mrs S. McCraw.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs L Bates (Minute Secretary)

1. CONVENOR'S REMARKS:

Mr Mair welcomed everyone to the meeting. He thought this would not be a simple exercise and explained that any decisions taken were to go before the General Purposes Committee and then on the Executive Council and then the AGM. Although what was being discussed was confidential, members were to feel free to discuss and ask opinions from others.

2. INTRODUCTION TO COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Jennifer Blair:

Although she did not have a children's class, she was concerned with young dancers in Scotland - "we were the youth of Scottish Country Dancing, with no one coming on behind us". She would like to see Scottish Country Dancing introduced into the school curriculum in Scotland.

Sinclair Barbour:

Does take children's classes but finds Primary School pupils keen on Country Dancing but not so in Secondary Schools. Finds that, as many teachers are older, children don't connect with them.

Stella McCraw:

Although a lawyer, Charity not her speciality. Supports the motion but aware some element of a good workable compromise would be ideal.

Marilyn Watson:

Teacher/Chairman of RSCDS Bourmemouth Branch and runs classes for children. Sees children coming to dancing as a hobby first (like ballet) and her children pay a small fee for classes. Junior members of branch receive pocket books and sees no particular need for special books for children.

Suggest children enhance dancing and are not trying to infiltrate branches/ dances - anything adults can do youngsters should

do. In practise older ones go to Summer School.

Alan Mair:

Thanked all those who agreed to join the committee.

Feels all members are committed to young people dancing. Is aware of a different approach in England to Scotland in that in England, as in other parts of the world, branch activities are often the only opportunity for anyone to enjoy Scottish Country Dancing.

3. COMMITTEE REMIT:

The discussion concentrated on membership: The Motion was that membership be open to all persons interested in the Society. It was noted that the mandate did not give a time limit. It was noted that the proposals made by this committee would be restricted to matters concerning the membership of the Society of Under 16's but that discussion of the implication of any proposal should be full and wide ranging.

4. PROPOSED TIMETABLE:

Report to General Purposes meeting on 6th February. Finalised proposals to go before GP committee on 10 April and then to Executive on 8 May.

5. SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED:

Southport Branch comments were noted. Noted that age of 16 is not an issue with Inland Revenue in that they could be present at meetings, provided that they did not vote. After discussion it was suggested that under 16's could make their opinions heard through a delegate. A choice could be given to young people as to whether or not they wished to join the Society. The Committee felt it would be difficult to integrate under 16's at summer school in its present format.

London Branch points were discussed. It was agreed that all points mentioned could already be done without under 16's being Society members. What can branches do for children if they were members that they can't do now? Strategic Planning: suggestions were noted. It was felt that short courses for school teachers/guide leaders could be looked at.

Richmond Branch: Comments were noted and discussed. Noted suggestion that ability not age be the criteria for attending branch classes.

Berks./Hants/Surrey Border Branch: comments noted.

St Andrews Branch: In favour of local membership and classes but not under 16 Society membership.

6. TERMS OF MEMBERSHIP:

6.1: Membership Rights :-

After discussion the following was suggested:

- a. Speaking and voting rights at branch AGM from age 16
- b. Hold Office or be on Committee: from age 16.
- c. Under 16's could receive subscription copy, bulletin and accounts – this could be reviewed at a later date depending on numbers.
- d. Summer School – suggested that age limit remain at 16
- e. Under 16's could attend member only branch events – each branch to decide at their discretion.
- f. Under 16's could not sit the Preliminary/Teachers certificate – age limit is 20.

6.2: Responsibilities:

- a. Pay annual subscription – a discussion took place regarding promoting young members and the fact that members could not be given charity from our Society but if they were not members perhaps they could be helped with scholarships etc.
- b. Further aims and objective of Society – a discussion took place regarding the age this point would be able to be understood.

6.3 Subscriptions:

Discussion had taken place regarding what young members would receive for their subscription and it was decided that a top limit of £5 be proposed – this would cover cost of subscription copy/bulletin.

Age: Much discussion had taken place at the meeting with regard to age, and at this point it was suggested that the minimum

age could be 10 but this was to be discussed further at the next meeting.

7 LEGAL MATTERS:

7.1 Inland Revenue: Decision would be put to Inland Revenue for approval. It was noted that any amendments of the Society Constitution would have to be approved by the Inland Revenue. (Any amendments to the model constitution for Local Associations in England would have to be approved by the Charity Commission).

7.2 Children's Act: Concern was expressed at possible future implications of children attending summer school unaccompanied by parents. This could be discussed further if perhaps a children's summer school were proposed.

8. FURTHER ACTION:

Alan Mair said he would reply to the branches who had submitted ideas and ask for feedback from them. He would speak to the Finance, Examinations and Summer School committees also.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no further business.

10. DATE OF FUTURE MEETING:

The date of the next meeting was set for Sunday 28 February at 10.30 a.m.

The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

MINUTES OF MEETING OF UNDER 16'S SUB-COMMITTEE HELD ON SUNDAY 28 FEBRUARY 1999 AT 10.30 HRS AT 12 COATES CRESCENT, EDINBURGH

PRESENT

Mr A Mair (Convener), Mr S Barbour, Mrs J. Blair, Mrs M Watson.

IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs L Gaul (Chairman) Mrs L Bates (Minute Secretary)

1. CONVENER'S REMARKS:

Mr Mair welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked Mrs Gaul for being able to attend. The objective today was to draw up terms and conditions to be put forward to the General Purposes Committee and Executive Council.

2. APOLOGIES

Mrs S McCraw

3. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 10 JANUARY 1999 were approved.

4. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising not listed elsewhere.

5. SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED

Aberdeen branch. It was noted that the branch already had junior associates and that aged 14+ they could attend Branch functions at a reduced cost. The branch felt that introducing a fee to join the Society would reduce class numbers.

Their recommendations were that those under 16 continue to be Junior Associates and that each branch promoted dancing for the under 16's.

Duns & District branch had suggested a comparison between youth cricketers and young dancers. The cricketers were given certificates and badges as "rewards", but the committee agreed that this was not the way forward for Scottish country dancing.

Ron Taylor advised that Police clearance of people supervising under 16's would be necessary, and this was noted.

Dorothy Carr (Sacramento branch) had suggested reducing the age for Preliminary examination candidates to 18. After some

discussion Mrs M Watson agreed to contact the Highland Dance Board, Imperial Society and IDTA as to the minimum ages for sitting their teaching exams and report back at the next meeting.

IDTA had written with guidelines and Local Authority regulations for working with children. These were noted by the Committee.

6. QUESTIONNAIRES

A Questionnaire had been sent out to everyone who had made a submission to the sub-committee.

London branch -The branch suggested that under 16's should receive all literature and be able to attend summer school and branch only events. Their suggestion of using membership as a reward was noted.

Aberdeen branch agreed with having customised badges and literature from age 7+ and suggested a residential school for ages 11+ and youngsters of 14+ could attend branch events.

Bournemouth branch suggested age 7+ for customised literature and badges and suggested 14 years and over for attending Summer School and a lower limit of 8 on an under 16's school. The branch also suggested a reduction to 18 for the minimum age to sit the teachers certificate. The suggestion of allowing under 16's into Branch AGMs and to give their point of view was noted.

Richmond branch agreed that 13 would be a suitable age to receive literature and badges and also to attend an under 16's school and branch events and suggested that summer school age be reduced to 15.

Berks/Hants/Surrey Border branch suggested that young people be more involved in branch organisation and suggested age 11 to speak and vote at branch AGMs and age 14 to hold office as a young people's representative. They suggested a 50% reduction in fee to HQ.

3. It was noted that the charity regulations meant that voting was only permitted for those members over the age of 18. This included voting at AGM, Executive Council and Committee Meetings.

Mr Mair introduced a memorandum summarising the points that had been raised from the questionnaires and a short discussion took place.

7. REPORT FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

Examinations:

It was reported that the Examinations Committee was not in favour of lowering the age for candidates sitting the Preliminary or Teachers Certificate Examinations.

Finance:

The Finance Committee had agreed that there was no reason why a particular group of members could not be charged a different subscription rate, although any specific proposals for subscription amounts should be submitted to them for further consideration.

Summer School:

The current application form for Summer School stated that the School was open to members of the Society over the age of 16. The Committee was not in favour of reducing the age limit for those attending the School.

General Purposes:

This Committee felt that the Under 16's committee should make changes to the constitution, and then the implementation of the decisions could be dealt with by the various other committees concerned.

8. TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF MEMBERSHIP – PROPOSALS

After considerable discussion, it was unanimously agreed that it was impossible to find the need or reason for Under 16's to be Society members. However changes could be made at branch level to encourage more Junior Associate members to join.

It was suggested that the Model Constitutions which formed part of the appendices of the Society Constitution could be amended.

i.e.

IV 1. To be deleted and replaced with "IV 1. Membership of the Local Association shall be open to all persons interested in the objects of the Local Association. Every person who is a member of the Local Association and

is over the age of 16 must be a member of the Society."

IV 2. To be deleted

XII 1, 2, and 3 to be deleted and replaced with the following

"1. The Local Association, in General Meeting shall appoint one of its members, who shall have attained the age of 18, to represent the Local Association on the Executive Council of the Society. Notification of such appointment shall be given to the Secretary of the Society at least eight weeks in advance of the Society's Annual General Meeting. In the event of the nominated representative being unable to attend any meeting of the Executive Council of the Society, an accredited substitute shall be allowed.

3. The Local Association, in General Meeting, may nominate one of its members, who shall have attained the age of 18, for election as one of the six Members of the Executive Council of the Society who are elected annually by the Society in general meeting. Any such nomination shall comply with the requirements for nomination contained in the constitution of the Society and shall be submitted to the Secretary of the Society at least eight weeks in advance of the Society's General Meeting.

3. Subject to any restrictions on numbers and any procedures contained in the Society's constitution, the Local Association in General Meeting, (which failing, the Committee), may appoint a delegate or delegates, all of whom shall have attained the age of 18 years, to attend a general meeting of the Society and represent the Local Association at such meeting. In the event of a appointed delegate being unable to attend such meeting, an accredited substitute shall be allowed."

It was suggested that Guidelines should be drawn up to provide examples of good practice to encourage young dancers. It was recognised however that different approaches may be required in different areas. These Guidelines should be made available to all branches.

It was agreed that the Convenor would present the sub-committee findings, giving the proposals and the reasons for the decisions reached, at the next Executive Council. It was to be stressed that these were made by a

committee who were committed to encouraging young dancers in the Society.

9. FURTHER ACTIONS

Jerry Reinstein, Convener of the Strategic Planning Committee would also be informed of the suggestions.

As the Committee wanted to give a full explanation of how they had arrived at their conclusions, the Convener asked the members to list their reasons and send them in as soon as possible to be collated before the next meeting.

Committee members should bring to the next meeting any examples of good practice in encouraging youngsters to dance and proposals for changes to the rules and practices within the Society, which might be included in the recommendations of the Committee.

Committee members should have read the Society Constitution and its appendices thoroughly in order to be aware of any alterations which might have to be considered.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no further business

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Sunday 28 March 1999 at 10.30 and it was noted that Marilyn Watson would be unable to attend.

The Convener thanked Linda Gaul for attending the meeting - her input was greatly appreciated.

YOUNG SCOTTISH DANCERS ASSOCIATION

Notes of meeting held on 16 November 1996 at Learmonth Hotel, Edinburgh

Present - Mr A Aitkenhead, Miss C Traynor, Mrs F Turnbull, Miss I Bennett and Mrs C Munro

Mr Aitkenhead reported that membership now totalled 150 groups - approx 125 schools and 25 others.

The booklet for Volume I was to be reprinted in the same mode as the subsequent booklets.

All Education Authorities had been contacted - only Ayrshire and Larnarkshire had replied. However, it was noted that several authorities were actively promoting Scottish Country Dancing through other channels (days of dance, festivals etc)

Having produced the resource, where do we go now? - particularly in 1998.

Having reviewed what happened in Dance Scottish in Schools in 1991 ie -

- every local education authority was contacted and all but Aberdeen and Fife responded
- each school within an authority received a copy of the information
- 410 schools bought the tape
- 220 schools danced at some time during the week

a suggestion was made that we start in November 1997 and lead into the celebratory year thus being seen to be doing something in 1997 as well as in 1998.

Our aim being to make a contribution to 1998 celebrations it was decided that we promote **Dance Scottish in the UK** during the last week in **November 1997** followed by **Dance Scottish Worldwide** during the period **27 November-30 November 1998** either by groups organising their own functions or as part of any "birthday" dance already organised.

It was also noted that the UK wide charity appeal organised by the BBC, "Children in Need", usually runs about this time in November and that a link to this could be beneficial.

YSDA - (Young Scottish Dancers Association)

INFORMATION

- (A) There are over **150 groups** in membership of the **YSDA - Schools, Youth Groups, Branch Classes**
- (B) There are **3 teaching tapes** with associated **instructional booklets** - volumes I-III
- (C) Volume IV is a **taped Dance Programme** with a **Country Dance Band** and an **MC recapping 15 easy and familiar dances** including those in Vols I-III.
- (D) The idea of forming a **YSDA** came from the outstanding success of **"Dance Scottish in Schools"** in 1991 when over 10,000 young dancers in Scottish schools took part during one day - **St Andrew's Day**.
- (E) It is a development of that project which we hope to produce on **30 November 1997** with **young dancers around the UK**.
- (F) As well as other Branch activities in 1998 it is planned to hold an **International event in November 1998**.

LET'S MAKE A DATE AND CELEBRATE IN 1998

YOUNG SCOTTISH DANCERS ASSOCIATION

Meeting Held in St Andrews on Wednesday 23 July 1997 at 2.00 p.m.

Present:- A Aitkenhead, I Bennett, L Gaul, C Munro, F Turnbull.

UPDATE

Due to confusion and delays in Headquarters the letters to schools had not been prepared in time for distribution before June and to so to avoid possible loss during end of term activities they were now to be mailed early August to arrive before the beginning of the new session. It was agreed that similar information would be dispatched to YSDA members and all interested branches and affiliated groups at the same time.

A general letter had been sent to all branches along with other mailings. Seven Arran schools had received the letter from A A. The North Ayrshire schools have the tapes and are running an event. 20 - 26 schools may be taking part. It seems unlikely that the Perth Schools Festival will take place unless the Branch undertake to run it.

All members of the Summer School had received a flyer about Dance Scottish in the UK and a poster had been prepared to be sent out to all prospective participants and in the branch mailings. There was some discussion about the use of the words branch/local association. It was generally felt that everyone was more comfortable with the word Branch.

COSTS

The Thomson Trust did not give the grant requested as it was not primarily for local (Perth) children. In any future bid for funding it may be advantageous to offer to match the figure requested pound for pound. Although there is no minute recorded, A Aitkenhead had a promise from G P committee of a budget of £3750. It would be useful to have some breakdown of costs so far if HQ can provide. It is important to have an agreed cost for each item. At present the cassette IV is offered at £5.50. This leaves a balance of £3.50 for the rest of the package i.e. book, stickers and information sheets. It was suggested that any request for a specific book of instructions should be available at £2.50. Alternatively they could be offered the graded book.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letters had been sent to Robbie Shepherd following an initial phone call to Ken Mutch. No reply yet.

Ailsa McKee re video

Adjudicators

Children in Need and Blue Peter

Letters of encouragement were to be sent to branches holding Annual Childrens events inviting them to be associated with Dance Scottish and offering them stickers etc. Letter prepared by AA, list of branches FT.

FORWARD PLANNING

Summer School 1998; the question about children attending summer school had been thoroughly aired and it was agreed not to involve children in any capacity next year.

Stirling Castle President's reception; the 75th Anniversary committee would be offered a display by 4 sets of YSDA children. Letter L Gaul. Garden Party; again a display by children could be offered. It was suggested that a competition could be proposed to branches to provide mixed teams of boys and girls aged 14 - 18. The teams selected would be coached for the performance.. Dances selected were :- The Duke of Athol's Reel (x3), Monymusk(x3) and The Round Reel of Eight. Letter to branches to be prepared by AA.

Younger Hall 1998: The hall is booked for Monday 30 November from 2.00 p.m. - 5.00.p.m. charge £205. I Bennet to book a band. Try for sponsorship and publicity from St Andrews and Fife tourist boards. Teams would not be charged entry as they have to organise their own transport.

Next meeting-" Lets celebrate in '98" Prepare a programme for the Younger Hall. Application form to be prepared by C Munro. The present poster can be adapted for use in '98. Prepare a flyer for the AGM. Discuss badges for next year. Adults may join Juniors in "Dance Scottish Worldwide"

Next meeting 12 Coates Crescent, Tuesday October 7th at 10.30 a.m.

24 FEB 1998

YSDA

Meeting held at Coates Crescent, Edinburgh at 10.30 a.m. on Friday 13th February.

Present; A Aitkenhead, I Bennett, L Gaul, C Munro, F Turnbull,

In attendance; C Marcussen

Report on 1997 Event

1. The members of the working party and office staff were congratulated on their achievements in Dance Scottish in the UK. Everyone had worked hard and the event had been a great success. Videos, photos, letters and drawings had been received. I Bennett displayed an excellent collection from the schools in her area. A folder of examples is to be prepared and available on display at the May Executive Meeting, Summer School and other gatherings of dancers. The Archivist will be asked to co-operate in this. (A Aitkenhead to compile folder)
2. A letter had been sent to all participating groups in December. A special letter of thanks is to be sent to Mr Maiden P.E Advisor in Fife for his efforts. Over 17,000 dancers are thought to have taken part. Response in Fife was particularly excellent (10,000). 89% of Primary children in Ayrshire took part and ever single child in Arran. Stagecoach transported the children to and from their schools free. Lochaber area also held a large combined schools event. It should be suggested in future that local sponsorship might be sought. Nearly 3,000 dancers outside Scotland was more than expected.

Forward Planning to November 1998

An information sheet is to be sent to all Branches, Affiliated Groups both UK and overseas, YSDA members and all schools and groups which took part in '97 asking them to register interest by mid-May. Information to be dispatched by end of April in next mailing to Affiliated Groups. Branch mailing just out!

Three categories were to be suggested

- a) young dancers up to age 16
- b) adult dancers - members and non-members
- c) all ages- a combination of a & b

Branches and groups may choose at least one event from the three categories. Further details will be sent to all who return the pro-forma. The programme is to be eight dances from volume IV plus the four core dances. It was agreed that Galloway House and Mrs MacLeod will be replaced by Joe McDiarmid's Jig and the Reel of the 51st

There was some discussion on whether a new recording was required. It was decided that interested parties could be told which RSCDS recordings contain the core dances.

Stirling Castle

The programme of events is arranged and no children will be involved.

Queen's Visit

The Queen may meet RSCDS members at the City Chambers on 2nd July. The YSDA working party suggest contacting P.E. students in Scottish Colleges and University Student Dancing Clubs to provide either individual competent dancers

or a complete team to perform a lively demonstration for the Queen. This could bring YSDA into contact with potential school teachers of dance.

Immediate Action

Budget- Since October: Postage has been approx. £200, stocks of cassettes and books are acceptable, there is no information available on sales and more stickers are to be ordered (£250) Still within 1997 budget.

Request £3500 for 1998 budget. As communication will be worldwide this will add to expenses.

It was agreed to order 10,000 metal badges 45 mm in size, showing the logo and "I Danced" in black and white on blue background. Cost = £600 (6p each) to be offered for sale to YSDA dancers at 10/20p.

The poster is to be revamped slightly to improve its impact(L Gaul)

There was no national response from either Blue Peter or Children in Need.

Glasgow raised £600 for Children in Need and got local coverage.

This year is also the 75th Birthday for the B.B.C. Contact to be made.

An article from the local paper about the St Andrew's week celebrations holds promise of media coverage for high profile events. The Younger Hall Dance should be such an event. Up to 250 children can be accommodated. St A. branch will provide soft drinks. Information was in the Bulletin. Forms will be sent to Scottish branches along with the other letters in April. Closing date - end of September- after which reminders can be dispatched and schools can be invited.

Future Plans

A discussion sheet of suggestions for the future of YSDA had been prepared and will be submitted to Strategic Planning Committee. The next target date for a special event should be the year 2000. The age group should not be limited to primary children. A future project may be to prepare a guide for branches on how to involve juniors and teenagers.

The meeting finished with a short viewing of the video from the Fife Schools.

Next meeting:- Monday 15th June at 5.30 p.m. in Flat 2F2, 62 Balcarres Street, Edinburgh (Easiest to find by leaving Western Bypass at A702, turning left at Clock junction at top of Morningside Road)

YSDA

Notes from an emergency meeting held at Coates Crescent on Monday 19th October 1998

Present: L Gaul, I Bennet, F Turnbull

St Andrews Day Dance

The response has been most disappointing. There had only been a few replies to the invitation to the dance at the Younger Hall; 3 from Lochaber, 3 from Aberdeen & 1 from Helensburgh. At most this would mean only 80 junior dancers attending. It was considered that we had become victims of our own success! Fife, Tayside and Lanark were all holding large festivals and the children were unlikely to get permission from school to attend two similar events in the same fortnight. In the circumstances it was decided that the best course was to cancel the dance before incurring any more costs. I. Bennett will contact the band and the Younger Hall. It is hoped that there will be no cancellation fee for the hall. F Turnbull would prepare a letter for the teams who were to attend. It was agreed to send an appropriate number of badges for the dancers as a small compensation.

It was also decided that a letter should go to the Scottish Branches expressing our disappointment in the response. The lack of support is particularly frustrating considering the importance of attracting and encouraging young dancers. These letters can be distributed at the AGM and will include a reminder to purchase the special anniversary badges.

Badges

Over 145 replies have been received from groups intending to take part in Dance Scottish Worldwide. Approximately a thousand badges have been purchased to date.

They must be sold this year as they are dated 1998. I. Bennett offered to make up packs of 20 badges which hopefully would make them easier to sell at the AGM. Irene and Fiona will promote these during the Open Forum and sell them at the Society stall. Help would be appreciated. A poster is to be prepared.

Other business

Cassette tapes from Dance Scottish in Schools (1991) were to be disposed of and it was suggested that members of the committee might know of suitable teachers or groups who would welcome them. The groups from overseas who had sent for items for "Dance Scottish Worldwide" were to be given a tape. So far, this involves La Paz in Bolivia, Oregon, Grande Prairie and Richmond, Vancouver.

An enthusiastic letter had been received from Marie D who teaches dancing to multicultural pupils in Grade 7 in three schools in Vancouver. They would like to correspond with young dancers from the U.K. F Turnbull will enquire about the age of the pupils. It is hoped that a notice might be included in the January newsletter requesting suitable pen friends.

Copies of these notes to L. Gaul, I. Bennett, F. Turnbull, A. Aitkenhead, C. Munro.

On YSDA blue paper.

03 FEB 1999

YSDA

Meeting held at 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh at 2.00 pm on Tuesday 5 January 1999.

Present: F Turnbull (in chair), L Gaul, I Bennett, C Munro, A MacKenzie Smyth.
Diane (A MacKenzie Smyth's daughter and a new entrant to the teaching profession, teaching primaries 3/4) was invited to join the meeting.

Update on Dance Scottish World Wide: Reports and final numbers participating still awaited (holidays and Christmas mail reason for hold-up?). However, all badges had been sold and a communication to the 145 groups who had expressed interest in joining in to be prepared seeking updated information.

Media coverage of the event featured the Society Chairman, Mrs Gaul, being interviewed for "Good Morning, Scotland" (BBC Radio), the Immediate Past Chairman, Mr Clement, appearing on "Reporting Scotland" on BBC TV and Robbie Shepherd had mentioned it on one of his Radio Scotland programmes. A media breakthrough? (We can but hope and keep on trying.)

On looking at following up Dance Scottish Worldwide, it was acknowledged that many children found the big events with large numbers participating rather intimidating and also that funding for smaller events is not always easy to acquire. Overcoming such difficulties was a taxing problem which we could not solve.

Next Project: Diane reported on a pilot project she had undertaken with a group of 7-8 year olds in the primary school she worked in. Initially, the group had consisted of 45 children with 2 teachers in attendance. The children had one dancing session per week but after a short time, the group was split in 2 with dancing sessions being fortnightly and on the alternate week another associated activity eg art work on tartan patterns was followed. The dances being taught had been arranged in a pack by A MacKenzie Smyth which consisted of instructions and appropriate music on short length tapes (one dance per tape). It was envisaged that there would be 4 packs in total covering primaries 4-7. Neither of the teachers involved regularly took part in scottish country dancing (although Diane had now enrolled for a regular class in Edinburgh). Further suggestions for associated activities such as History, Drama, Music, Language were made which would tie in with the 5-14 programme in Scottish schools.

The English Folk Dance and Song Society had produced material in book form (dances, music/songs, other activities) as part of the National Curriculum. It was thought that many of the ideas presented could be adapted for use in Scottish schools but it certainly seemed that at the moment, the lead had to come from the Society.

For example the Society could -

- provide classes for teachers who were non-dancers
- provide videos of dances
- appoint a liaison person who could be available to schools to assist with setting up
- offer inservice courses for teachers
- be a source of materials (pre-prepared packs, short length tapes etc)
- be a source of expertise eg tempo of music

As an initial step funding (£750) is to be sought from JMMF (General Purposes Committee 6 February 1999) to cover development costs of producing 20 packages to be piloted in various areas of the country (hopefully session 1999-2000). It was also thought that expertise/specific skills should be co-opted as necessary with Anne Grant of Fochabers to be approached by A M-S.

Other ideas for future: Pen-pals - A letter had been received at HQ from a group of 12/13 year olds in the Vancouver area requesting pen-pals. An article was to appear in NewsBrief on this topic and it was thought that YSDA could co-ordinate any responses.

Inservice training for school teachers - Consideration to be given to recruiting and training RSCDS teachers (approximately 30?) to be trainers for the school teachers. How such inservice courses would be delivered (eg as one day courses, as ongoing weekly classes) would depend on area education authorities and how they publicised/offered such courses to their staff. More time needed to investigate, therefore, it was felt that we should be aiming for session 2000-2001.

Booklet/Newsletter - A one-off newsletter (A5 size) reporting on Dance Scottish Worldwide would be a way of acknowledging participation and maintaining interest. It could also be used to publish a simple dance. Funding for publication to sought from JMMF.

Millenium - A suggestion was made that we aim to get a million children dancing the same dance, at the same time, on the same day (St Andrews Day?) in the year 2000. It was further suggested that perhaps we could persuade Radio Scotland to broadcast the music. One problem we would need to overcome would be getting the information out to schools etc as we had no way of knowing whether schools actually received the information sent out via the education authority network.

Next Meeting: Thursday 8 April 1999 at 10.00 am at 12 Coates Crescent, Edinburgh.

YSDA - 8.4.1999.

NOTES

Thursday 8 April at 10.00am

- 1) There were no apologies.
- 2) Dance Scottish World-wide
36 groups had replied (1/5th of the number who stated they would be taking part).
Fiona had made up a file of replies, photographs, etc.
Approx. 40,000 young dancers had participated throughout the world.
The teachers enjoyed the balance of the programme.
Children all had a wonderful time. Lots of favourable comments.
All in all a great success.
Fiona to write 1000 words plus pictures and poem for bulletin/secretary update.
- 3) Initial report on Pack 1 to be completed quite soon by Diane. She provided cross-curriculum suggestions on history and dance.
- 4) There is to be a glossary at the beginning of each book.
It was agreed to record on CD rather than cassette in the final version.
Anne Smyth to attend to layout of booklets.
Anne Moore to be asked to attend next meeting for advice.
The pilot scheme is to go out to 30-50 teachers with varying experience.
Christine to report at next Executive Council meeting.
An evaluation form to be included in pack 1 (Christine to design).
It was agreed not to approach the directors of education at this time.
Fiona and Anne to communicate re packs.
All committee have copies of report by Diane - come back with comments.
Childrens drawings to be used in newsletter.
Include a suggested programme.
- 5) There is to be a newsletter/booklet produced for the end of May.
- 6) Pen-friends. 26 requests from overseas (ages 7-16).
10 from Scotland.
Fiona to deal with. Would like some more replies.
- 7) Sponsorship The following are to be contacted:-
Wiseman Milk
Highland Spring Water
Barrs Im-bru.
- 8) Pack 1 to be issued free of charge - additional packs to be charged for.
Further packs to be charged.
Pilot Pack September 1999
Pack 1 2001
Pack 2 2002

Pack 4 2004.

The following are to be contacted re producing a video:-

Perth College

Moray House

Jordanhill

Dundee College

Glenrothes College

Telford College

Linda & Christine to attend to.

Irene to produce bibliography.

2000 booklets to be produced.

It was agreed not to do anything for the Millennium apart from a newsletter.

9) Anne Grant also to be asked to attend the next meeting.

10) Date of next meeting: Monday 5 July at 10am.

YSDA

NOTES

Monday 5 July 1999

- 1) Apologies were received from Miss Irene Bennett and Mr Sinclair Barbour.
- 2) Fiona read out a letter from Alastair Aitkenhead advising a dance had been held on Arran with 220 children attending (96% of Primary School pupils).

A letter had been sent to Anne Grant and Sinclair Barbour inviting them to join the Sub-Committee. Fiona welcomed Anne Grant to the meeting.
- 3) Christine Munro and Jean Black were thanked for producing the Newsletter so quickly (should have gone to P & R first). The final cost for 2000 copies was £420.08, which was well within budget. Copies to be made available at Summer School.

It was agreed that the next Newsletter would be more professional. Catherine Livsey (a member and graphic designer) had agreed to help with layout etc. New ideas to be put forward by the end of April 2000, issued to schools in September and Branches in October.

A report was received from Kathleen McAdam re the Canadian childrens ball. Rowena Love (journalist) has also offered to help where possible.
- 4) Pen-pal scheme – Fiona reported she had received 26 requests from overseas and 22 from Scotland. The ages ranged from 7 – 16 years. All but two have been matched up. Scotland with USA, Canada, Australia and France. So far there has not been any feedback. It was agreed to continue to promote in the Newsletters.
- 5) There had been 21 replies to the Pilot Scheme, the experience was very varied but it was agreed we require more inexperienced dancers to participate. Diane (Edinburgh) and Anne Grant (Banff/Moray) Christine (Perth) to help. Linda agreed to contact Jessie Harper re Argyll. Feedback required by 18 August, if possible.
- 6) Diane gave her report describing the art and music ideas she had tried with her class. Most important points – always include rhythm and make it fun at all times.
- 7) Anne Mackenzie/Smyth had produced a series of cassette (side 1 – music, side 2 – instructions and dance over. The cassettes were sent to Downsoft Ltd. They had quoted for a minimum of 50 copies of 7 cassettes a price of £315 approx. Fiona to contact Irene Bennett & Bruce Frazer pointing out this is a pilot scheme to 30 schools only. David Cunningham to be contacted with regard to MCPS. At the end of the pilot scheme it was agreed to advise the schools that to comply with copyright all cassettes must be returned to Headquarters. Catherine Livsay to produce labels for the cassettes stating this is a Pilot Scheme, Dancing in Schools, Pack 1, copyright RSCDS. Side A – name of dance and Side B – instruction and voiceover.
The agreed dances for Pack 1 are as follows:-
Grand March
Suzuki Circle

Virginia Reel
Canadian Barn Dance
A Highland Welcome
St Bernard's Waltz
Flying Scotsman

A bibliography will be included.

Evaluation sheets to be sent out with packs.

Guidelines on dancing etiquette will be included in future packs.

Proof copies to be sent to all members of this Committee.

The RSCDS logo to be used.

At foot each page the statement "produced in association with the RSCDS".

- 8) Christine to prepare evaluation form, send to Fiona who will forward it to Catherine. This form should include the local Branch contact and space for any comments. Forms to be returned to Headquarters for evaluation by 30 March 2000.
- 9) It was agreed to discuss sponsorship at the next meeting. A copy of Pack 1 (Dancing in Schools) would be sent with each request.
- 10) Linda Gaul proposed and Christine Munro seconded that Fiona Turnbull should stand for the position of Youth Director.
- 11) Ideas for the future –
 - A working party should put packs together for the September mailing to the pilot schools.
 - A progress report is required by the General Purposes Committee by mid September.
 - Encourage schools to organise their own events with neighbouring schools using dances from the teaching packs.
- 12) It was agreed not to re-order any YSDA cassettes at present. There are no copies of volume IV in stock.
- 13) Date of next meeting – Fiona to contact everyone.