



# **The Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust**

Researching, conserving, fostering and promoting all of Scotland's dance traditions.

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## **ANGUS PROJECT 1998-2000**

Information on 'Dancies', Dancers and Musicians active in Angus from  
various media sources as of Thursday, 31 August 2000

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**‘DANCIES’ – the DANCING MASTERS (& Musicians)**

## A

### **THE ABBEY DANCING CLUB, ARBROATH**

- *AH 5.12.1889*

### **ABERBROTHOCK STRING BAND**

- Dan Lowe conductor, Arbroath (*AH 6.6.1889*)

### **ADAMS, KATE P., (ROBERTSON), Brechin/Laurencekirk**

- Highland Dancer, Teacher and Adjudicator.

### **ADDISON (FREEMAN), ROBINA**

- Gordon School of Dancing, Montrose
- Pupil of Dave Beattie Brechin.

### **ALLAN, ARCHIBALD, Musician, Forfar [1794 - 1831]**

- Pianofortes tuned and violin taught, Forfar.
- Studied violin in Edinburgh. (*MA&B Review 23/10/1813*)
- Teacher of violin, composer and piano tuner.
- Pupil of Barclay Dun and Sandy Murray of Edinburgh.
- He studied piano tuning under Mr Drummond, Edinburgh).
- He played in Nathaniel Gow's band.
- He composed that fine slow air 'Miss Gray of Carse' & 'Captain George Hunter' [*S&RPoA - MM*]
- Died after being maltreated, by farm servants, going home from a Ball aged 37.

### **ALLAN, JAMES, Forfar [b. 17/10/1800 – d. 18/8/1877]**

- Notable violinist and composer.
- Oldest son of George Allan.
- Cousin and pupil of Archie Allan, also Niel Gow.
- Son, James Steel Allan also excellent solo player.
- Jamie taught John Allardyce of Arbroath.
- Jamie's fiddle, which he bought from a farmer in Newtyle, was called "the shoe" because of its ugliness. It was supposedly made by Perry of Dublin.
- He was a great storyteller and had a 'genial and thoroughly unselfish disposition' (*Forfar Herald 26.3.1915*)
- Story of his life = *Forfar Herald 26/3/1915*
- A Concert was held in the Kinnaird Hall, Dundee in May 1869 and on that occasion several of his friends took part in the programme. His son James Steel Allan played a Solo that night which was greatly admired. He had another son Robert B Allan who was a grand player and was a teacher of the Violin in Glasgow. Jamie composed 'Miss Emily Smith'. [*S&RPoA - MM*]

- Quotes about Jamie Allan abound: *'Look at that man Allan – he's sending his bow across strings like a flail.'*
- His grave stone in Newmonthill Cemetery was erected *'by a few friends and admirers in recognition of his genial sociality and his rare musical genius.'* His ashes are interred below.

#### **ALLAN GEORGE, Forfar [b. 1770 – d. 1811]**

- Violinist and composer.
- Father of the Famous Jamie Allan.
- He was an expert in Jig playing and composed: The Cross of Forfar; The Loch of Forfar; Grange Mill; Letham Hall; Miss Webster Maryhillocks; Edinburgh Castle Hornpipe. [S&RPoA - MM]

#### **ALLAN, THOMAS, [b. 1807 – d. 1851 (Dysart)]**

- Forfar. Dancie (?) Violinist & composer.
- Went to Alex Hay (Snr) Fife, Anstruther.
- Brother of Archie Allan.
- Composer.
- Found dead at a dyke-side, Dysart.
- He composed: Robert Scott Junior; Milldens; The Souters of Guthrie; Miss Don of Balownie; The Inch Cape Bell Quadrilles. [S&RPoA - MM]

#### **ALLAN, WILLIAM, Forfar**

- Violinist and composer.
- Thought to be Thomas Allan's father.
- Composed R Scott Senior, Milldens, and also Mrs Scott, Milldens.

#### **J. ALEXANDER'S ORCHESTRA**

- Playing for dancing Kingsmuir 1921 (FH 30/12/1921)

#### **ALEXANDER, JOHN, Forfar**

- Violinist and composer.
- Known as "Blind Jock".
- Contemporary and rival of Jamie Allan.
- Published 10 New Tunes composed and dedicated to Miss Ogilvy of Clova.

#### **ALEXANDER, Mr ROBERT [d. 1865]**

- Dancing and Deportment.
- Son of David Alexander and Ann Low (daughter of John Low, Brechin)
- Taught in Brechin and Montrose circa 1855/56.
- Address given as 2 Springbank, Aberdeen (1855).
- Music conductor for his own dance assemblies.
- Cousin of Messrs Lowe of Dundee and Arbroath (*Brechin Advertiser* 5/6/1855).
- Sometimes assisted by a Mr Guthrie, Broughty Ferry (*Brechin Advertiser* 5/6/1855).

#### **ALLARDICE, JOHN, Arbroath [b. 1838 – d. ?]**

- Born 1838 (Guthrie)
- Violinist with widespread reputation throughout the north-east.
- Mr Allardice's String Band, Arbroath 1889 (5/9/1889 AH)

**ANDERSON, David, [b. 1852 – d. 3/12/1907]**

- Dancing Master, Dundee.
- Brought up at Liff, where he was instigated into the art of dancing.
- Champion Highland Dancer
- Died in the Dundee Royal Infirmary, 3.12.1907.
- Obituary *Dundee Advertiser* 4/12/1907.
- Classes, Volunteer Hall, with Misses Anderson (*Broughty Ferry Guide* 8/1/1892).

**ANDERSON, Mr.**

- Mr Anderson's ball in the Mason Hall, Laurencekirk (*MA&B Rev.* 9/11/1831).

**ANDERSON, Peem, Forfar**

- Clarinet player. Leader of Glamis Volunteer Band.

**ARTHUR, Mattie,**

- Highland Dance teacher, Dundee.
- Forfar Highland Games July 1901 – Martha Arthur, Dundee got 3<sup>rd</sup> in Highland Fling (girls under 14) (*FH* 26/7/1901)
- Started as a teacher of Ballroom dancing for a Mr Blair in Dundee.
- Opened her own school at Cutler's Hall in Murraygate (building now gone).
- Classes grew and a branch school was set up in Broughty Ferry.
- Won a Cakewalk competition at People's Palace (later Theatre Royal) instigated by two American dancers performing at the time. 'Arthur and Hall' won the final. This is early 1900s.
- All info above from undated and partial newspaper cut.
- Her partner for the Cake Walk for many years was Tommy Elder. (*AH* 13/12/1976)
- She was the big name in Dundee in the 1920s.

# B

## **BALFOUR, WILLIAM.**

- Dancing master of Montrose.
- Practising under Mr Corbyn of Aberdeen (one of the first professional gentlemen in Scotland) (*MA&B Rev 11/11/1824*).
- Every branch of fashionable dancing (*MA&B Rev 11/11/1824*).
- Classes, Trades-Hall, Montrose – new figures, Mazourkas, Gallopades, Continental dances, elegant Ballet. (*MA&B Rev 26/8/1831*)
- Classes – Dancing, Callisthenics, and Deportment, Guild Hall, Arbroath, 1834 [Dancing Academy, Peterhead] (*MA&B Review 28/3/1834*)

## **BALFOUR, G.**

- Dancing master of Montrose. (1821)
- Also taught in Peterhead, Arbroath Stonehaven and Bervie 1822/23.
- Opened school in Brechin 1821.
- Relationship between W. and G. not clear. Adverts do not state which one is which (MP).
- 1828 Teaching Laurencekirk.
- 1829 – teaching *Angel's Sword Dance* and Quadrilles.

## **BALFOUR'S BAND**

- Dance Band 1945, Forfar (?)

## **Messrs BARRIE'S BAND**

- Messrs Barrie's band played in Kirriemuir (Mr Milne's Hall) at social evening/dancing (*Brechin Adv. 16/1/1855*)

## **Forfar BAXTER Band**

- (*Forfar Herald 10/6/1904*)

## **BAYNE, CHARLES.**

- Teacher of Dancing, Dundee.
- Born 9/4/1782 and baptised as Charles BEAN on 11 April 1782 in Perth. [*Betty Soloff 12/4/1999*]
- Composer, published sheet music 1) 'The following tunes are most resp. ded. to Maj.-Gen. McDonald by [C.B.]'. (1802); 2) 'Five new tunes composed by [C.B.]'; 3) Five tunes composed by ... [C.B.] (1815); 4) 'Six Fav. Scottish Dances ...' (1819). [*A MacFadyen 03/99*].
- Dundee, Perth and Cupar Advertiser – class notices and Balls in Dundee and Arbroath on the following dates – 21/3/1806; 24/4/1807; 4/9/1807; 23/9/1808; 3/3/1816 (Mr Bayne) [*A MacFadyen 03/99*].
- Classes and Balls advertised in Montrose Review 26/6/1812; 7/12/1821; 14/11/1822 [*A MacFadyen 03/99*].
- Dance classes in Montrose 1812 (*Forfar & Kincardineshire Adv. 2/10/1812*)
- Dance classes in Montrose (activity recorded 1811-23) In Forfar 1813. (*Montrose Review 26/3/1813; 2/4/1813; 9/9/1814; 8/12/1820; 21/1/1820; 7/12/1821/9/1/1823*)
- Father John Bayne d. 3/3/1808 (47) a gardener; mother Jean McLeish 4/12/1809 (49).



- Charles father, fathers father and mother father (Duncan McLeish, Perth) were all gardeners. [*Betty Soloff 12/4/1999*]
- Charles Bayne (name shown as Charles BYNE) married Susan Kyd, in the Canongate, Edinburgh, April 1806, they moved to Dundee where all their children were born [*Betty Soloff 13/2/1999*]
- Name included in Dundee Directory for 1809-1818. [*Betty Soloff 13/2/1999*]
- Dundee papers advertise him 2/9/1807; 6/10/1809; 27/4/1810; 27/4/1819; 28/4/1820; 22/9/1820 [*Betty Soloff 13/2/1999*]
- Daughter Isabella died 16/1/1816 aged 6.

#### **BEATTIE, Violet**

- Dave Beattie's sister
- Brechin & Arbroath

#### **BEATTIE, Dave [b. 1905 - d. 1965]**

- Dancing Teacher in the Brechin area.
- Daughter Maude Beattie Young, Brechin

#### **BEATTIE YOUNG, Maude**

- Beattie School of Dancing, Brechin

#### **BIRSE, J Stuart**

- Dancing master
- Classes, Arbroath, Victoria Hall. (*AH 21.11.1889*)
- Arbroath (1891)
- Forfar (address in Arbroath) (1892).
- Dancing Department, Masonic Hall, Forfar ... waltzing a *speciality* (*FR 17/1/1896*)
- Teaching dance in Arbroath (*AYB 1893, 1895, 1896, 1900 [34 Hill St]*)

#### **BIRSE's BAND**

- Dance Band 1940s

#### **BLACK, Mr DAVID [1840 – 1904]**

- Musician in Forfar Baxter Band and in the Forfar & Kirriemuir Militia (*obituary FH 10/6/1904*)

#### **Mr Wm. BLACK**

- Leader of dance band, Airlie Arms Hall (*FH 2/2/1886*)

#### **BLAIR, Miss ELLA**

- Dance teacher, assistant of Mr D G MacLennan, Forfar 1920. (*FR 16/1/20*)

#### **BLAIR, Mr**

- Dance teacher
- Mr Blair's ball .. Mason Lodge, Laurencekirk. .. Mr John Low conducted the music department.. (*Montrose Review 6/5/1831*)

#### **BLUE, JIMMY.**

- Born Newton Mearns 3/9/1929 and died in Perth 7/12/1999 aged 70.
- Accordionist and bandleader.

- Obituary, *Scotsman* 8/12/1999.

#### **THE BLUEBELL Accordion Band**

- Dance Band 1950s

#### **BOWMAN, Mr**

- Mr Bowman's Balls reported in Montrose & Edzell circa 1831-33. [*Montrose Review* 4/3/1831; 25/11/1833]

#### **BROUNEAU, Monsieur**

- Dancing Department, Calithenics and Court Presentation, Dundee and Neighbourhood. Address: Rivoli House, Belfast, 1888 [*Mitchelson Collection*]

#### **BRYSON, EDMUND.**

- Dancing Master – Arbroath Classes (*AH 9.3.1893*)
- AYB 1895, teaching Arbroath 1896

#### **BUICK, T (Ted),**

- Dance teacher [*AYB 1926, 1930-31, 1932-33, 1936-37*]
- Lochlands Street, Arbroath.

#### **BUCHAN'S BAND (Arbroath)**

- Dance Band 1950s

#### **Johnny BURNETT's BAND**

- Dance Band 1940s.

# C

## **CAMERON, ANGUS (b. 1936 – d. April 1998)**

- Leading exponent of Scottish fiddle music from Kirriemuir.
- Formerly a mathematics teacher, played violin from the age of 8
- Angus Cameron Broadcasting Band
- Founded the Angus Strathspey and Reel Society in 1963
- Obituary *FD* 9/4/1989.

## **CAMERON GEORGE, Kirriemuir**

- Violinist, younger brother of Will Cameron.
- In great demand to play at dances.

## **CAMERON, JIM, Kirriemuir ( - d. 10/1974)**

- Violinist, brother of Will and George.
- Very popular player for dances.

## **CAMERON, WILLIAM, Kirriemuir**

- Violinist of excellence. Won many prizes at Alyth. This entitled a recording with Edison Bell Co.

## **CARGILL, TONY**

- Highland Dancer, Arbroath.
- 1998 SOBHD Juvenile World Champion.
- 1999 SOBHD Junior World Champion.

## **CARNEGIE, Dancie,**

- Mearns

## **CARMICHAEL, BESSIE**

- Highland Dance teacher, Dundee (*Courier* 4/9/1980)

## **CATHCART, Mr. R.**

- Violin teacher, Coupar Angus. Took over classes formerly held by Adam Rennie (*Blairgowrie Adv.* 28/8/1931)

## **CHAPMAN, Jas.,**

- Arbroath, 31 Chapman Square. Dance Teacher. [*AYB* 1925, 1926, 1930-31, 1932-33]

## **CHRISTISON, J.S.**

- Professor of Dancing, in Arbroath 1889-1900
- Classes, latest and most fashionable dances – waltzing, waltz cotillions. All the latest and most graceful children's dances – elastic band, maypole, and latest French and Old Scotch Minuets and other Graceful dances. / Lancers, Waltzes and Quadrilles. (*AH* 26.12.1889)

## **CLULOW, Miss,**

- Arbroath – High School. Dance teacher.
- *AYB* 1925.



**CORBYN, Mr, (Aberdeen)**

- “one of 1<sup>st</sup> professional gentlemen in Scotland.” [*Montrose Review 11/11/ 1824*]

**CRAIG, Miss,**

- Arbroath. Dance teacher [*AYB 1920*]

**CRAMB, Tam, [b. – d. 22 March 1896]**

- Wolfhill. Dancing master and violinist in Strathmore, Carse of Gowrie and Stormont areas.

**CROMB, John,**

- Dancing master. Kinclaven.

**CUMMING, FRANK. (& F.)**

- Dancing Masters. Arbroath
- 51 Sidney Street/33 Dishland Street, (*AYB 1895, 1900, 1907, 1909, 1912, 1916, 1920*).
- Classes, White Hart Hall, Ball-room dancing (*AH 5.9.1889*)
- Classes, New Public Hall (*AH 21.11.1889*)

**CUTHBERTSON, R.**

- Highland Dancer (Blair Adv 30/8/35)

**CUTHILL, D.**

- Arbroath, 1 Hayswell Road. Dance Teacher [*AYB 1939-40, 1948-49, 1950-51, 1955-56*]

# D

## **DALGET(T)Y, William**

- Dancing master
- Teaching Brechin City Hall in 1875.
- Mentions 'Jacky Tar' in assembly report (*BA 21/12/1875*).
- Volunteer Ball – 'Newcastle Hornpipe' (*BA 2/3/1875*)

## **DARGIE, Dancie**

- Perth

## **DINGWALL, Wilma**

- Highland Dance teacher, Dundee.
- Daughter of Mattie Arthur.

## **DONALDSON, Dancey**

- Murthly

## **DRURY W A, Arbroath [b. 1862 - ?]**

- Son-in-law of John Allardyce, Arbroath.
- Great solo player on violin.

## **DUFF, Archibald, [b (?) Aberdeen about 1770]**

- Dancing master and composer of dance music.

## **DUFF, Charles, Dundee [b. 1760 (Dundee) – d. 1822]**

- Partner of Duff and Chalmers, Music Sellers, Dundee.
- Good teacher of music and published a few reels and jigs.

## **DUFF, Charles [Aberdeen?]**

- Dancing teacher- Forfar, Brechin, Montrose & Arbroath, also piano tuner (*circa 1811 – 1833 Montrose Review*).
- Published Reels & Strathspey and CDs dedicated to Miss Russell of Blackball (*MR 24/12/1811*).
- Mr Duff's Band (*MA&B Rev 19/9/1834*)

## **IAN DUNCAN'S BAND**

- Dance Band late 1950s

## **TOMMY DUNCAN'S BAND**

- Dance Band 1940s-50s

# F

## **FETTES Jun., GEORGE**

- Died at Dundee 16/2/1833. Late of the Dancing and Gymnastics Academy, Queen Street, Aberdeen (Montrose Review 7/3/1833). (*A MacFadyen, 03/99*)
- Probably the son of Joseph Fettes and Elizabeth (betty) Smith, c. Benholm, Kincardineshire, 15/5/1809. (*A MacFadyen, 03/99*)
- Dancing, Gymnastic and Broad Sword Exercises, Mr Fettes, jun. .. open classes .. Forfar in June, Montrose, August – Stonehaven, October. Address, Arbroath. (*MA&B Rev 1/4/1831*)

## **FETTES, JOSEPH**

- Teacher of Dancing, Dundee. (*A MacFadyen, 03/99*)
- Father possibly George Fettes Jun. (*A MacFadyen, 03/99*)
- 1833, by Joseph Fettes, Professor of Dancing, Dundee imo. w Eliz Smith 15/10/1832 53, da Ann 9/2/1815 8y, s Jas 26.5.1817 2y – The Howff, Angus Monumental Inscriptions (*A MacFadyen, 03/99*)

## **FETTES, JOHN.**

- Professor of Dancing.
- Fettercairn Monumental Inscription – 1871 by John Fettes, Professor of Dancing imo. gmo. Janet Ley 1836 81, gfa. George Fettes 17.4.1839 63, fa Francis Fettes who was celebrated for viloin, strathspey and reel playing d. 1.3.1851 48, mo. Mary Smith 27.4.1884 79. (*A MacFadyen, 03/99*)

## **FETTES, Mr F?**

- Dancing Master at Edzell
- Just started profession in 1850 (*Brechin Advertiser 19/11/1850*)
- Mr F. Fettes well known as 'Niel Gow of the Mearns'. (*Brechin Advertiser 19/11/1850*)
- Also teaching Laurencekirk. (*Brechin Advertiser 19/11/1850*).

## **FETTES, Mr ?**

- Classes Laurencekirk and Fettercairn / studied in Edinburgh / classes Montrose August / Address Trades Hall, Arbroath (*MA&B Rev 28/3/1834*)
- Messrs & Miss Fettes. Dance classes, Thistle Hall, Bridge Street, Montrose 1842 – (*MA&B Rev 19/8/1842*)

## **FENTON, ERNEST, Turin, by Forfar**

- Violinist. Good slow air player. Played at many dances in the district.

## **FITCHET, ANGUS (1910 – 15/5/1998 Dundee)**

- Fiddler and composer. Obituary: (*Scotsman 26/5/1998; Courier 05/1998*)

## **FITCHET, ANDREW, Dundee**

- Violinist, brother of Angus. Won many prizes for his playing.

## **FORFAR BAXTER BAND**

- Late 1800s band Forfar. A body of musicians instituted by Mr E. Baxter M.P. (*FH 10/6/1904*)

### **FOX, ALICE**

- Highland Dance teacher in Dundee.

### **FULLERTON'S FORFAR BAND**

- Dance band early 1920s (*FH 8/4/1921*)

### **FYFE, Mr James**

- Dancing master - teaching minuets and gavottes – very fashionable in Paris & London, in Royal Hotel Hall, Forfar 1883. Address Exchange Hall, Perth. (*FR 31/3/1883*)
- Classes Brechin (*BA 20/3/1866*).
- Classes, Assembly Hall (1 Hill St., Arbroath) (*AH 15.8.1889*)
- Arbroath (*AH 17.8.1893*)

# G

## **GIBSON, INA S.,**

- Recent dancing teacher in Forfar
- Taught by Dancie Kydd
- Advert – Dancing & Deportment, West End Reid Hall, address, 56 West High St. (*FR* 30/8/1934)

## **THE GIE GORDONS**

- Dance Band 1950s.

## **GOVE, Mr, Brechin**

- Dancing master – Drumlithie, Bervie, Montrose, Marykirk, and Scotston of Kirkside, Arbroath. [*MA&B Rev* 1838-1843]
- Dancing and Deportment, Trades Hall, Arbroath. (*MA&B Rev* 10/11/1843)
- Published Pocket Companion of dances.
- Fashionable French and Scotch dances. Fancy figures, Quadrilles, Waltzing, Galloping – Trades Hall, Montrose (*MA&B Rev* 19/8/1842)

## **GRANT, NICOLA**

- Highland Dancer, Kirriemuir. Taught by Wilma Tolmie. 1987 SOBHD World Juvenile Champion.

## **GUILD, Alexander, Forfar. [b. July 1852 – d. 21 April 1889]**

- Teacher of dancing and taught classes in Dundee, Brechin, Montrose, Carnoustie, Lochee and Forfar during his 20 year career. Died from a severe liver complaint, aged 37, at his grandmothers house at Chapelpark, Forfar, leaving a family of nine children. Wife predeceased him. (*Forfar Herald* 22/4/1889)
- Death notice of Mr A Guild, in his 37<sup>th</sup> year. His wife had died earlier. They left 9 orphans. (*FH* 26/4/1889)
- Mr A Guild will resume dance classes, City Hall on Tuesday. [At the bottom of this notice address is Buckie.] (*Brechin Advertiser* 19/10/1880 p1)
- Pupils Dancing assembly, Reid Hall (*FH* 18/4/1884)
- Bachelor's Ball, Mr Guild's Quadrille Ball, Town Hall
- Mr A Guild's Juvenile Assembly will be held in the Reid hall, on Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> May and the Adult Assembly on Friday 17<sup>th</sup>, the former at 7.30 p.m. and the latter at 8.30 p.m.. Tickets 1/- each. (*FH* 10/5/1889)
- Mr & Miss Guild, teachers of dancing will resume classes carried on by their late father about the beginning of March. In addition to former clases a Private one for Children will be formed. (27 Victoria Road, Dundee) (*FH* 20/12/1889/1/1)

## **GUILD, Norman Craik, Forfar [b. – d. 30 Oct 1947].**

- Dancing master and violin teacher
- Dance class assemblies were held in his name in the Reid Hall, Forfar on 17 May 1889 (*Forfar Herald* 10/5/1889)
- Classes – Mr & Miss Guild – resume (*FH* 20/12/1889)
- Guild's Juvenile Finishing Assembly (*FH* 16/4/1890)
- Classes Norman Guild and his sister Mrs Neill, Reid Hall (*FH* 9/3/1894)

- Teacher of Music Norman C Guild (*FR 10/8/1917; 24/8/1917*)
- Victory Dance in Forfar (*FH 3/1/1919*)
- Music Education & Dancing and Deportment (*FD 9/1/1919*)
- Dance Classes - Higher Grade Modern Dancing, Waltz Movements, Glides, Two-steps, Fox Trot, Belgian Whirl, Special steps for Eightsome and Highland Reels (*FH 17/1/1919*)
- Grand Exhibition of Dancing (*FD 04/1919*)
- Applied Education Authorities for permission to hold dance classes. Oathlaw & Tannadice – granted. [*Forfar Herald 6.6.1919 p2 col5*]
- Pupils perform solo dancing, hornpipes, Highland Fling, Sword Dance, Blue Bonnets, Sheantrews, Spanish Gavotte etc (*FH 9/1/1921*)
- Dance Exhibition (*FH 8/4/1921*)
- Mr Guild's Dancing classes – report on exhibition (*FH 22/4/1921*)
- 'The Balmoral Troupe' = exhibition team. (*FR 13/1/1922*)
- Death of violin teacher 30.10.1947 [*Kirriemuir Observer 30.10.1947 p3 col 5*]
- Mr Guild had a dance troupe that went to Flower shows to perform [*Ina Nairn 22.12.1998*]

### **GRAY, Dancie**

- Name mentioned in '*Muirside Memories*' by A Nicol Simpson, Arbroath, 1890. Chapter X – The Dancing School.
- Evening Assembly, Assembly Rooms, Perth Road, Dundee 1888 [*Mitchelson Collection*]

# H

## **HADDON, MR**

- Dance teacher / Montrose Standard (ff1872-1874)

## **HALL, Miss C,**

- Arbroath. Dance teacher. [*AYB 1925, 1926*]

## **HAWTHORN (Broadcasting) BAND / HAWTHORN ACCORDION BAND**

- Dance Band 1940-50s

## **The BOBBY HAYNES BAND**

- Dance Band late 1950s

## **The HEATHER DANCE BAND**

## **HENDRY, JAMES, Colliston, Arbroath**

- Violinist. Won first prize at Arbroath when Scott Skinner a judge.

## **HERR IFF'S Band**

- Dance Band c. 1905 (*FH 22/9/1905*)

## **Messrs J & H HOLLINGSWORTH ORCHESTRA**

- Dance Band 1910s. 1920s, Brechin.

## **HOOD, Peter [1830-1911]**

- Fiddler who was in great demand at Dunninald, Montrose and Brechin for dances.

## **The HOOD ORCHESTRA, Edzell**

## **Mr HOWE**

- Leader of String Band (*FH 5/3/1886*)

## **HUBAND, JOHN (b. 1942 – 22/3/2000)**

- Accordionist par excellence.
- Obituary *Courier 23/2/2000*.



# I

## **IRVINE, Miss AMBA, Edinburgh**

- Salon de Danse and School of Dancing, Forfar 1924. Ballet, Classical, Character, Highland and Ballroom dancing (*Forfar Herald 19/9/1924*)

# J

## **JACKSON, David W.**

- Piano, Fiddle and Dance teacher, brought up by Dancie W. W. (Dancie) Williamson.
- Brought up in Arbroath by Dancie Williamson together with his brothers John and William.
- Died in Arbroath Infirmary 22<sup>nd</sup> August, 1966 aged 85.
- Played the violin, piano, cello, bass and organ and was well known dancing teacher.
- Got his grounding in music at the hands of his uncle 'Dancie' Williamson
- Started playing professionally at the age of 12
- Was an organist for 70 years and as such played in churches in Arbroath, Inverkeilor, Carnoustie, and Montrose
- Much sought after to play at weddings at which he estimated he had attended in the region of 1000. It was his distinction, also, to play again at golden weddings of couples he attended 50 years earlier.
- During the First World War he served in Royal Naval Air Service.
- In 1926 he joined the Arbroath Special Constabulary and remained on the active list for 25 years, gaining the long service medal with two bars.
- Arbroath, 272 High Street.
- *AYB 1909-10, 1915, 1916, 1920, 1925, 1930-31, 1935-36, 1939-40*
- Article *People's Journal* 13/4/1957.

## **JACKSON, William W,**

- Arbroath, 1 Carnegie Street/George St.
- Fiddle and dance teacher.
- Brought up by Dancie Williamson.
- Member BATD
- Published Ball-room Guide with Wm Williamson
- *AYB 1915, 1916, 1920, 1925*

## **JEFFREY**

- Violin teacher
- Ex pupil of MR W H Cole
- Classes in Arbroath (*AH 31.8.1893*)

## **JOHNSTONE, Mr. ALBERT**

- Broughty Ferry. Name included as teacher with Mr Anderson, Dundee. [*B'Ferry Guide 1892*]
- Dancing Academy, Buchan's Assembly Rooms, 24 Bank Street, Dundee, 1892 [*Mitchelson Collection*]
- Taught Sword Dance, Highland Fling, Seann Trubhais, Hieland Laddie, Reel Steps, Sailor's Hornpipe, Irish Jig, Variety Hornpipe; also Minuettes for Ladies. Tambourine & arch & Drill, musical exercises, French Gavotte, Scotch Minuettes. [*Mitchelson Collection*]

# K

## KING, JOHN

- Dance classes Dundee (*Dundee, Perth & Cupar Advertiser* 6/10/1809)

## KINNEAR'S QUADRILLE BAND

- (*Broughty Ferry Guide* ?/1892)

## KYDD, David Ireland, Forfar [b. 1874 - d. 23/7/1950 (aged 76)]

- Professor of Dancing and violin teacher.
- A tailor to trade, business in Forfar for some years.
- Member of UKAPTD
- Travelled on his bike, motor or pedal with his fiddle strapped to his back (*FD* 3.8.1950)
- Dance judge at Forfar Games for many years.
- Modern Fashionable dances – clogs, jigs, hornpipes, American sand and highland dances. Step dances. Waltzing a speciality. Only qualified teacher in Forfar and district. Supply pupils to perform at concerts etc. (*FH* 11/10/1907)
- Sword dances, hornpipes, wreath dance, skipping rope dance, cake walk, Scotch steps and Highland reels (*FR* 9/1/1920)
- Mr Kydd performed step-dancing (*FR* 13/8/1920)
- Pupils performed Highland Fling, Delvinside, sword dance, Irish Jig, ladies' hornpipe, cake walk. Special request Mr Kydd danced a sailors' Hornpipe and a clog dance. (*FH* 10/5/1921)
- Mr Kydd performed Sailors' Hornpipe (*FR* 18/7/1924)
- Leading 'The Serenaders' Orchestra' in the 1920s (*Forfar Directory*)
- Instructed children and parties at Cortachy Castle, Glamis Castle, Guthrie Castle, Finavon Castle, Gardyne Castle, Lour House, Middleton House, Meikleour House, Glenogil House, &c. (*FD* 08/1934)
- Dances performed at Grand Dance Exhibition, Forfar 13/12/1918:
  - Gallopage
  - Scotch Steps
  - My Love she's but a Lassie
  - Highland Laddie
  - Roy's Wife
  - Ladies' Hornpipe
  - Circassian Circle
  - Sailor's Hornpipe
  - Blue Bonnets
  - Skipping Rope
  - Highland Fling
  - Sheantrews
  - Clog Dance
  - Marine Movement
  - Sword Dance
  - L'Allemande
  - Reel of Hoolichan
  - Irish Jig
  - Skirt Dance

Jockey's Hornpipe

Irish Character

Military Lancers

Delvinside

Cake Walk

Allies Movement (The Allied Dance – an exhibition representing all the Brave Allies)

Exhibition Reel (Scotch)

Wreath Dance

# L

## **LAING, Mr J, Brechin**

- Dancing & Callisthenics.
- Dance classes, Marykirk, March 1843 – his address is Guild Hall, Stirling. (*MA&B Rev 31/3/1843*)
- Teaching “La Schottische” and new changes to Quadrilles. Farmers’ Hall, Brechin (*Brechin Adv. 13/3/1849*)
- Engaged by Lady John Russell to teach Premier’s children. While residing at Braemar. (*Brechin Adv 24/9/1850*).
- Classes met in the Guild Hall, Arbroath circa mid-1800’s, balls in The Trades Hall.
- Jamie Allan played with an Edinburgh fiddler, McKenzie, at one of Laing’s Balls (*Reminiscences of Arbroath & St Andrews, D S Salmond 1905*).
- Also judge at Braemar Gathering (dance) (*Brechin Adv 24/9/1850*).

## **Mr LAMB**

- Bandmaster, Volunteer Ball, Kirriemuir (*FH 9/1/1885*)

## **LAW, Dancie, Forfar**

- Dancing master.
- His fiddle was called “Black Meg”

## **LAW, JAMES, Montrose [b. 1820 – d.?]**

- Violinist of considerable ability.

## **LAWSON, Miss Jean (Edinburgh)**

- Dancing teacher - classes Forfar 1919 (*FD 01/1919*)

## **NEIL LEIGHTON’s BAND**

- Dance Band 1945

## **LOGAN, DAVID**

- Dance teacher / Montrose Standard (ff1873-1878)

## **LOW, ELIZABETH, Forfar**

- Dancing Teacher in Forfar, Angus.

## **LOW, DAVID, Brechin**

- Violinist of the old school.

### **Mr John Low, Teacher of Dancing, Brechin [c. 1765 – c. 1830]**

- He was the son of a Freeman of the Burgh of Brechin and was admitted as a Master Shoemaker to the Incorporated Craft of Shoemaking in Brechin on 9<sup>th</sup> September 1785. In addition to his shoemaking trade, he was also a teacher of dancing. As was usual with other dancing teachers of the period, he probably provided his own music for his instruction by playing the fiddle and according to his son, Joseph Lowe, he was the composer of the well-known dance tune 'Rachel Rae.' [*A MacFadyen, 1991*]
- John Low married Ann Clark, also of Brechin, on 29<sup>th</sup> December 1786, and they took had a family of twelve children, all born in Brechin. [*A MacFadyen, 1991*]
- It was John Low's sons who added the 'e' in the spelling of their surname. [*A MacFadyen, 1991*]
- Known as Dancing Master of Marykirk. Violinist and composer of considerable repute. [*Musical Scotland, p.104*]

#### *Some of John Lowe's Children;*

1. Ann Low, b. 1787 – d. 1859
2. Robert Lowe, b. 1791 – d.1853
3. John Lowe, b. 1793 – d. 1839
4. Joseph Lowe, b. 1796 – d. 1866
5. James S. Lowe, b. 1798 – d. 1867
6. Euphemia Lowe, b. 1800 – d. 1872

### **Ann Low, [b. 1787 – d. 1859]**

- Born in Brechin in 1787, she was the eldest child of John and Ann Low
- Married David Alexander 1818 – Brechin.
- Their son Robert Alexander (1818- 1865) and granddaughters, Sophia Jane and Ellen Euphemia Alexander, teachers of dancing in Aberdeen, Brechin and Montrose.
- Her son, Robert, had a Dancing Academy in Diamond Street, Aberdeen, from about 1845; his wife, Sophia, assisted him at the Academy. Following the death of his uncle, Robert Lowe, in 1853, Robert Alexander took over the summer season of teaching in Brechin and Montrose and the Misses Alexander continued with this teaching after the death of their father in March 1865.
- Their daughter Ann, teacher of music in Brechin. [*A MacFadyen, 1991 & 2000*]

### **Robert Lowe, [b. 1791 – d.1853]**

- He was the eldest son, born in 1791. His obituary at the time of his death in June 1853 stated that he had been a teacher of dancing for the 'long period of six and forty years' and described him as a 'consummate teacher of his art.'
- He taught in Glasgow and undertook an annual summer season of teaching in the towns of Brechin, Arbroath, Montrose, and Forfar. He had an additional interest and skill in landscape painting.
- Robert Lowe married a widow, Jane Taylor (nee Scott), in 1832 and they had one son and three daughters. Robert died in Glasgow in June 1853 and his wife in March 1855; they were buried in Sighthill Cemetery, Glasgow.
- His daughter Ann, teacher of dancing in Glasgow, Edinburgh and Inverness, married in 1851 her cousin George Lowe. [*A MacFadyen, 1991 & 2000*]

### **John Lowe, [b. 1793 – d. 1839]**

- Composer and teacher of dancing in Elgin, Perth and Arbroath.

- He was the second son of John and Ann Low, born in 1793, and was a teacher of dancing in Methven Street, Perth, from about 1820.
- He married Jane Duff of Arbroath, (daughter of Archibald Duff, composer, publisher and teacher of dancing in Montrose and Aberdeen) in September 1821 and they had a family of eight children, the last one born in 1836.
- According to an interview given in 1908, James Neill (1834-1920), a teacher of dancing in Forfar, stated that he had received instruction from John Lowe in Perth.
- Their sons John Charles, Robert and Alexander Duff Lowe, were teachers of dancing in Perth, Dundee, Liverpool, Birkenhead, York and Richmond.
- John and Jane Lowe were assisted at their Perth dancing Academy for a time by Thomas R Allan, brother of Archibald Allan, of Forfar, both celebrated composers and violin players in their day.

#### **Robert Lowe, [b. 1828 – d. 1895]**

- John and Jane Lowe's eldest son, Robert, born 1828, also became a professional teacher of dancing, first in Perth and later in Dundee. Robert married Margaret Sherriff of Kirkcaldy in 1859 and they had seven children. Their youngest child, Isabella, continued to teach dancing in Dundee after her father's death in 1895 and was still teaching there at the outbreak of the First World War. [*A MacFadyen, 1991 & 2000*]

#### **Joseph Lowe, [b. 1796 – d. 1866]**

- Joseph was the third son of John and Ann Low, born 18<sup>th</sup> December 1796. It is probable that Joseph taught dancing with his brother Robert in Glasgow from about 1821 to 1825; their classes were held in the Assembly Rooms, then located in Ingram Street, but now demolished. In 1822 the two brothers published in Glasgow the second edition of 'The Ball-Conductor.'
- From about 1825, Joseph Lowe had a Dancing Academy in Hanover Street, in New Town of Edinburgh. In 1839, he and his wife, who assisted him with the teaching, transferred their Academy to 52 Frederick Street, where for the 'accommodation and comfort of their Pupils, they had built Large and Well-Ventilated CLASSROOMS, with comfortable DRESSING ROOMS.'
- For almost forty years, Joseph Lowe visited Inverness each summer to teach dancing.
- He taught in Glasgow, Inverness, Edinburgh, Balmoral and Windsor.
- Published collections:
  1. Lowe's Collection of Reels, Strathspeys and Jigs (1844).
  2. Lowe's Selection of Popular Country Dances (1853)
  3. Lowe's Royal Collection of Reels, Strathspeys and Jigs (1860).
- Joseph Lowe was a renowned and accomplished fisherman. It is said he composed a number of fishing songs.
- Joseph Lowe died suddenly at North Berwick on 12<sup>th</sup> July 1866 at the age of sixty-nine, his wife having predeceased him at some time between 1841 and 1851.
- He married:
  1. 1821, Jean Stewart, Montrose.
  2. 1827, Jane McLachlan, Forres.
- 1831, Charlotte Coe Eagar (1803-1845), London teacher of dancing in Norwich, Great Yarmouth and Edinburgh and daughter of John Eagar. [See Euphemia Lowe]. [*A MacFadyen, 1991 & 2000*]
- His obituary said: "...those who have ever enjoyed a day on the river side with this keen angler and genial companion will never forget his merry laugh, his quaint stories, and his



indomitable buoyancy of spirit. Mr. Lowe will be long remembered and regretted by a very wide circle of friends." [A MacFadyen, 1991 & 2000]

- *Musical Scotland states*: '... that he originally apprenticed to a saddler, then joined his elder brother, Robert, as dancing teacher in Brechin. From thence he went to Inverness and met with much success there, being employed to give lessons by many of the gentry resident of that quarter. He was proficient, too, in wrestling and boxing, and also an enthusiastic salmon-fisher, and these accomplishments greatly helped to increase his popularity among the lairds, who would wager upon his head against some of their gillies on the one hand, and ask for some of his nicely-dressed flies on the other. When he went to Edinburgh an entire stranger he had much difficulty in obtaining a hall on account of having no security to give for the payment of rent; but Mr. R. Paterson (of Paterson & Roy) liking his appearance, generously became his security, and so enabled him to start in business. [It may be added that one of his sons, Mr R. Roy Paterson, afterwards married a daughter of Mr Lowe (see Euphemia Hannah Lowe)]. [*Musical Scotland, Baptie, 1894*].
- The following of Lowe's compositions are, in the opinion of Mr. Alexander Troup (Ballater) among his best [*Musical Scotland, Baptie, 1894*]:

Strathspeys:

Mr Eagar's  
Mrs. Mackenzie's, Applecross  
The Waverley Ball  
The Bridge of Brechin  
The Queen's Welcome to Deeside  
Mrs. M'Inroy's Lude

Reels:

Miss Mackenzie's Applecross  
The Waverley Ball  
Put on the Steam  
Mrs Mackenzie's, Cludea  
Tam's Gray Mare

- His collection of reels, strathspeys ,etc., occupied six books, and was published at Edinburgh (1844-45). In his collection, however, he sometimes falls into mistakes with Captain S. Fraser, to whom he ascribes six pieces which Fraser does not claim, viz. – 'Inveraray Castle,' 'Urquhart Castle,' 'Darling Annie' (reel), 'The Scolding Wives of Abertarff' (reel), and two strathspeys, 'North of the Grampians.' And 'The Highlands of Banffshire.' [*Musical Scotland, Baptie, 1894*].

*Some of Joseph Lowe's family:*

### **1. George Lowe, [1822-1883]**

- He was Joseph Lowe's eldest son born in Glasgow in 1822 to his first marriage. George Lowe's death certificate identifies Joseph as his father, but does not name his mother.
- Taught dancing in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Forfar and Inverness.
- On 25<sup>th</sup> December 1851, George Lowe married his cousin Anne, the daughter of Robert and Jane Lowe, in Glasgow and in that city they were professional teachers of dancing until about 1861 when they removed to the capital city. For many years their Dancing Academy was at 83 George Street, Edinburgh.
- Their son George William and daughter Annie Eliza Lowe, teachers of dancing in Edinburgh and Inverness.
- George Lowe died in 1883 and his wife in 1881. [A MacFadyen, 1991 & 2000]

**George William Lowe [ -1909]**

George William, the eldest son of George and Anne Lowe, continued the Dancing Academy at 83 George Street, but in about 1891 moved to Atholl Place, Edinburgh. His wife, Isabella Taylor Lowe, assisted him with the teaching. George William Lowe died in Edinburgh in 1909 and his wife in 1954 at the age of 93. [*A MacFadyen, 1991 & 2000*]

George William and Isabella Lowe had a daughter **Eva** (Mrs. William Matheson Pearson) who also taught dancing and she died in Edinburgh in 1971. [*A MacFadyen, 1991 & 2000*]

**2. Charlotte Ann Lowe [1833-1894]**

Teacher of dancing in Edinburgh, Windsor and Balmoral. Married in 1867 to Frederick Hope Robson (Surgeon). Their son, Charles Hope Robson (1879-1927), Managing Director, Patersons 7 Co. Ltd. (Music Publishers) Edinburgh. He managed the Patersons Orchestral Concerts and was a founder of the Scottish Musical Magazine in 1919.

**3. Euphemia Hannah Lowe [1834-1900]**

Married in 1857 to Robert Roy Paterson (Paterson & Sons, Music Publishers). Their son R. E. Stirling Paterson (d. 1940) carried on the music publishing business.

**4. Elizabeth Lowe [1835-1873]**

Teacher of dancing in Edinburgh, Balmoral and Windsor.

**5. Joseph Eagar Lowe [1836-?]**

Teacher of dancing in Edinburgh, Dunedin and Melbourne.

Married in 1858 to Mary Ann Grant, Inverness. Their son Joseph Eagar Lowe and daughter Charlotte (1862-1950) teachers of dancing in Christchurch (NZ).

**6. Isabella Lowe, b. 1838**

**7. Mary Martin Lowe, b. 1839**

**8. Robert Whittington Lowe, b. 1841**

**9. John Clark Lowe, b. 1843**

**James S. Lowe, [b. 1798 – d. 1867]**

- He was the fourth son of John and Ann Low, born in 1798. Little is known about him. About 1830 he was living in the Nethergate, Dundee, and taught dancing in the Caledonian Hall, Thistle Street. Also taught in Fife. [*A MacFadyen, 1991 & 2000*]

**Euphemia Lowe, [b. 1800 – d. 1872]**

- Teacher of music in Edinburgh. Married in 1839 to John Eagar, teacher of music, dancing and fencing in Norwich and Great Yarmouth and teacher of music in Edinburgh from 1833.
- John Eagar's grandson was Frederick W. Bridgman (1833-1892), teacher of music in Edinburgh and a celebrated concert pianist and accompanist in Edinburgh and Glasgow.

**[Note that all information given above regarding the Lowe's come from Dr A. MacFadyen]**

**LOWE, Dan,**

- Brother of Mr Lowe Sen., Garden St, Arbroath.
- Classes Victoria Halls (*AH 31.8.1893*)
- Assembly – exhibition of Highland Dancing, Victoria Hall (*AH 19.10.1893*)
- Teaching in Arbroath
- Arbroath Year Book 1896, 1900, 1901.

**LOWE, Bert,**

- Arbroath (brother of George B.), 8 Hayswell Road, Arbroath
- *AYB 1936-37.*

**LOWE, George Black (G.B.), R.V.O. (b. 1903 – d. Arbroath 14/3/1991)**

- Arbroath, 27 Duke Street/33 Elliot Street. Champion dancer and dancing judge, singer and diddler. Editor of the Arbroath Herald. He gave the annual speech to the Queen at the Braemar Games until in his 70's.
- *AYB 1907, 1909, 1912, 1916, 1920, 1926.*
- Managing director of Herald Press, Arbroath
- Companion of 44 years of Arbroath Herald.
- Founder of 'Book of the Braemar Gathering' in 1924
- Great friend of Dame Marie Rambert founder of the famous 'Rambert' ballet company. G.B. took ballet lessons from her.
- Braemar Gathering – competitor, innovator, commentator and dancing judge for over 60 years. Honoured in 1982 by the Queen for his 60 years association. (*Arbroath Herald 15/3/1991*)

**LOWDEN, Mr C. M.**

- Dancing & Deportment, Forfar (*FD 18/5/1933 & 6/9/1934*)

**Mr LOWSON'S Quadrille Band**

- Forfar Volunteer Ball (*FH 14/2/1902*)

**LYON John, Forfar**

- Bass Violinist

# M

## **McDONALD, Dancey,**

- Braes o' Balquidder. Dancing Master- held classes in Forneth, Butterstone and Stormont etc.

## **MacDONALD, DAVID, Dundee [b. 1813 – d. 1856]**

- Violinist and teacher.
- Son William, great player and teacher of music in Glasgow.
- When Forfar Burns Club held violin Competition, David was the only one who had competed 30 years before.

## **McDOUGALL, Nita**

- Long-term RSCDS teacher in Carnoustie area

## **MacFARLANE, Dancie,**

- Forfar/Kirriemuir. Great-grandfather of Jimmy Doig.

## **MacGREGOR, Mr**

- Taught dancing in Meigle before Dancie Neill.
- Thought to come from the Ardlar area. [Ref.: *Our Meigle Book 1932, p141*]

## **McKAY, SHEILA**

- Highland Dance teacher. Article (*Courier 30/3/1992*)

## **McKENZIE, ALEX, Montrose [b. 1819 – d. 1857 (Edinburgh)]**

- Violinist and composer.
- Leader at the theatre Royal, Edinburgh.
- Published The Dance Music of Scotland, 100 Scotch airs for the Violin and a few Scotch Songs.

## **McKENZIE, Dancey,**

- Stormont

## **McKENZIE, J. L., (James)**

- Dancing teacher. Started dancing at Turriff, moved to Aberdeen.

## **McLAGAN, Mr.**

- Dance teacher, Dundee, Coupar Angus, 1820s-40s
- Worked with Archibald Allan. [*Mitchelson Collection*]

## **MacLELLAN, Mrs**

- SCD teacher Friockheim 1950s

## **M'LENNAN, Mr DAVID**

- Highland Dancer from Dundee. 62 years of age in 1935, still competing and has attended gatherings as a competitor for 45 years. (*Blair. Adv. 30/8/35*) (*People's Journal 31/8/35*)
- Real name David Gellatly. (*AH 13/12/1976*)

**MANN, JOHN, Forfar [b. 1810 – d. 1889]**

- Violinist and violin maker. Good Solo player. Settled in Glasgow where he made fiddles.

**MARSHALL, JAMES SCOTT [1829]**

- Great violinist and musicographer.
- Learned the violin under Donald Mackintosh, Gavin Melvin Archie Menzies and James Allan.
- President of Dundee Scottish Musical Society.

**MARTIN, Mr**

- Dancing teacher
- Ball, Trades Hall, Arbroath 27<sup>th</sup> June, 1834. (*MA&B Rev 20/6/1834*)

**MASSIE, A.R.**

- Highland Dancer, Clydebank (*Blair. Adv. 30/8/35*)

**MASSON, Mr**

- Taught dancing in Kirriemuir.
- Also teacher of music [1840-1842]
- Address in Slateford (April 29, 1840) (*MA&B Rev 8/5/1840*)

**MAXWELL, G. S. Arbroath,**

- Woodville Feus. Dancing Master. [*AYB 1895, 1896, 1900, 1901, 1905, 1909, 1912*]

**MEARNS, Mr Wm. S.**

- Noted Highland dancer, honoured by Forfar Games Committee. Famed for his Hornpipe and Jig dancing. 25 years competing at Forfar! (*FR 24/9/1915*)

**MELVIN, G. J.**

- Highland Dancer, Arbroath. Father of George S.
- He came from Aberdeen and the same school as Johnnie Pirie. . (*AH 13/12/1976*)
- Danced before Queen Victoria at Balmoral Castle with his son G.S. (*AH 13/12/1976*)
- 

**MELVIN, GEORGE S.**

- Highland Dancer, Arbroath ? 1880s.
- Son of G.J. Melvin

**METHVEN, W, Dundee**

- Of Methven and Simpson & Co, Dundee,
- Established in 1851 and was assisted later by Mr Simpson who after Mr Methven's death, acquired the whole business. Mr Simpson also acquired Purdie's business in 1887 (founded 1804), the oldest of that description in Edinburgh. In 1856 Mr Methven received a Warrant of Royal Appointment constituting him music seller to the Queen.

**MOIR, JOHN, Forfar**

- Keen violinist, played much Skinner music. Good Hornpipe player. Won 1<sup>st</sup> prize at Broughty Ferry.

**The MICHIE BAND, Glen Esk**

- Played regularly in Glen Esk around 1900.

### **MILL, CHARLIE, Dundee**

- Taught by Wilma Dingwall, Dundee and Bobby Cuthbertson, Glasgow.
- Teacher's certificate at age 15
- 1965 – dancer in White Heather Club – for 7 years
- Worked with Callum Kennedy, Jimmy Shand, Lulu, Frankie Vaughan, Jimmy Tarbuck, Moira Anderson and Kenneth MacKellar
- Braemar Champion 17 times
- Plays the bagpipes, taught by dance-teacher Lena Millar's nephew. Also plays drums and guitar.

### **MILLAR, T.**

- Highland Dancer, Dundee (*Blair. Adv. 30/8/35*)

### **MILLAR, LENA**

- Highland Dance teacher, Dundee (*Courier 4/9/1980*)

### **MITCHELSON**

- Sons and daughter of Wilma Tolmie.

#### **Gareth Mitchelson, Monifieth**

- Adult SOBHD Highland Dancing World Champion, 1985, 1987, 1988, 1989
- SOBHD Champion of Champions, 1987

#### **Deryck Mitchelson, Monifieth**

- SOBHD World Juvenile Champion, 1985 and 1986
- SOBHD World Junior Champion, 1988
- SOBHD World Adult Champion, 1991, 1994, 1995
- SOBHD Champion of Champions, 1987

#### **Ailsa Mitchelson, Monifieth**

- SOBHD Champion of Champions, 1989

### **MORRISON, George 'Dancie'**

- (North East)

# N

## **NAIRN, Miss Ina,**

- Recent dance teacher in Forfar. SCD in Forfar since 1934

## **NEILL, James, Forfar [b.1834 - d 18/3/1920]**

- Dancing master and violinist.
- Studied dancing under John Lowe and taught violin by John Lowe's brother.
- Started teaching dance in Auchterarder & Forgandenny, later moved to Fife for 2 years, then returned to Forfar until he died.
- String Band / Quadrille Band
- Taught the nobel families of Strathmore, Airlie and Atholl.
- Visiting dancing master at Kinnaird Castle, Drumkilbo, Cardean, Tannadice, Camperdown, Logie, Kinnordie, Lendertis, Banff (Alyth), Balnaboth, Maulesden & Clockbriggs & many more.
- Annual Finishing Ball held in the Reid Hall.
- His own hall was in Castle Street and could hold some 300 people.
- New Square Dance – The Hussars / New Round Dance – The Berlin Polka / most fashionable and modern styles of dancing (*FR 17/1/1896*).
- Classes – Mr Neill, assisted by Mr D Wilkie Neill – all the novelties in ball-room dancing etc. (*FH 3/1/1902*)
- Wife – Barbara M'Gregor, d. 9/4/1918 (*FH 18/3/1921*)

## **NEW AMBASSADORS' BAND**

- Dance Band 1940s

## **NICOLL**

- Dance Teacher, Arbroath
- Classes, New Public Hall (*AH 29.8.1889*)
- Classes (*AH 5.1.1893*)

## **NOSEMAN, Herr AEGIDIUS**

- German dancing master, Dundee, 1740s. (*Dundonian 16/2/1991*)

## **NOTTMAN,**

- Step-dancer. 'Some 40 years ago the best step-dancer of the day' (approx. 1863).



# O P

## **OGILVIE, Miss Nan,**

- Arbroath, 10 Hillend Road. Dance teacher. [AYB 1930-31, 1932-33]

## **PATON, James,**

- Murthly. 'One of the best all-round athletes and dancers ever seen'.

## **PEACOCK, Francis, [b.1723 - d 26 Jun 1807]**

- Dancing Master in Aberdeen. Around 60 years of teaching dance.

## **PETER, David McGregor**

- Violinist and Dancing master around Esk area. Careston/Tannadice area.
- Taught mainly in Brechin in 1828-1833.
- Fashionable dancing advertised Montrose Review 1830 (June/July) – Mazurkas, Gallopades, Circassian Circles etc
- A teacher of dancing, historian and heraldist was reputedly a Careston man but Tannadice was a favourite rendezvous.
- He reputedly traversed Angus by the banks of the Esk for around 50 years. Many remembered him as a man of measured step, always deep in thought. His black suit was well weathered and he carried a blue cotton umbrella under one arm and his fiddle under the other.
- Mr Peter was renowned for his diligence in literary and antiquarian research and in seeking out ballads, legends and ghost stories throughout Forfarshire and the Glens.
- He published a book called *Baronage of Angus and Mearns* (printed 1851).
- Mr Peter reputedly continued to teach dancing even when he was unable to take the floor and tried to teach from a chair, shuffling his feet on the floor.
- Mr Peters begs to announce.....inhabitants of Brechin....will re-open his School in Gardener's Lodge, on Monday 12 May at 12 noon. (MA&B Rev. 2/5/1828)
- Re-opening his School for two months in the Mason Lodge on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> June at 5 p.m. he teaches Mazurkas, Gallopades, Circassian Circles etc. (#) (MA&B Rev. 18/6/1830)
- Postponing the re-opening of his classes till Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup>.....in Mason Lodge, for two months. Mr Peter's New Music will be published speedily. (#) (MA&B Rev. 23/6/1830)
- Mr Peter's ball, at Ballownie, Brechin, on Thursday was a lively exhibition of mirth blended with instruction.....the music was performed by Messrs Allan and Navie of Forfar.....the ball concluded to the entire satisfaction of Mr P's numerous employers in this quarter. (#)(MA&B Rev. 2/12/1831)
- Mr D. M Peters ball took place in the Town Hall on Tuesday last.".....pupils performed their tasks uncommonly well" (MA&B Rev. 29/3/1833)

## **PETRIE Robert, Kirkmichael, Perthshire [b. 1767 – d. 1830]**

- Violinist, teacher, composer.
- Much patronised by nobility of N. E. Scotland
- Assisted by John Fleming (cello) also from Kirkmichael, he played at many concerts and balls.

## **PIRIE, Johnnie, [b. 1875 - d. 1947]**

- Aberdeen. Highland Dance teacher

**W. PROPHET AND HIS BAND**

- Dance Band 1930s (*FD 20/7/1933*)

# R

## **REELMAKER'S BAND**

- Dance Band, 1942 (Forfar) (*FH*)

## **REID, John, [b. Auchteralyth, 1869 – d. 24 Oct 1942 (73)]**

- Dancing master.
- Born Auchteralyth Farm, Alyth.
- Ploughman but started teaching dance at the age of 18.
- Attended Ruthven School.
- His dance teacher was Dancie Neill.
- Taught the fiddle by William Jack, inspector of poor, Ewnie, Glamis.
- Learned bowing for strathspeys by James Hill, Alyth and for reels by James Moncur, Nevay.
- Settled in Newtyle in 1894.
- Had 2 sons and 2 daughters who became his orchestra.
- Judged Glenisla and Braemar Games dancing.
- 1937 presented a team of dancers before the King and Queen at the Braemar Games.
- His orchestra travelled as far as Liverpool and London.
- Taught dancing at the St Andrew's Summer School
- He died at a dance in the Airlie Arms at Kirriemuir.
- *Obituary [Blairgowrie Advertiser 30/10/1942 & People's Journal 31/10/1942 & 7/11/1942]*

## **REID, Mr,**

- Dancing Master, Inverbervie.
- Ball at Townhead of Arbuthnott 1831. (*MA&B Rev 15/7/1831*)

## **REID, Miss A,**

- Arbroath, Towerbank House, George St. Dance Teacher [*AYB 1925, 1926, 1930-31, 1932-33, 1936-37, 1939-40, 1948-49, 1950-51, 1953-54, 1955-56*]

## **REID, ALLAN STEWART BELL, F.E.I.S. [b. 1853]**

- Composer and teacher. Raised in Forfar.
- Later precentor at Carnoustie Free Church, then Barclay Church, Edinburgh.

## **RENNIE, Adam (b. 1897 – d. )**

- Fiddle player, Coupar Angus
- Newsagent, Coupar Angus.
- Served with the Gordon Highlanders during WWI; as a result of being wounded and taken prisoner, he lost a leg above the knee (*Courier 4/2/1949*)
- Adam Rennie's Broadcasting Scottish Dance Band – 1950s

## **RENNIE'S GLAMIS ORCHESTRA**

- Band 1930s (*FD 23/3/1933*)

## **RITCHIE'S BAND**

- Dance Band 1940s

**ROBERTSON, Mr George,**

- Arbroath, Viewfield Road (SCDS). Dance Teacher [*AYB 1939-40, 1948-49, 1953-54*]
- Mrs George Robertson (*AYB 1955-56*)

**ROBERTSON, Mr,**

- Dancing master, Brechin.
- Classes (*BA 12/12/1865 & 6/2/1866*).

**NEIL ROBERTSON'S BAND**

- Dance Band, Forfar 1945

**ROBERTSON, William,**

- Brechin. Teaching in Brechin about 1905.

**ROSS, Mr, Brechin**

- Dance Teacher. (*Brechin Advertiser 1834 and 26/3/1850*).

**ROSS, LINDSAY (1932 - 08/1980)**

- Accordionist and band leader from Friockheim.

# S

## **Mrs ANNAN ST. CLAIR**

- Dancing, Calisthenics, Forfar Masonic Hall (*FH 10/1/1880*)

## **SCOTT, Misses,**

- Arbroath, Greenbank, Lillies Wynd. Dance Teachers [*AYB 1920*]
- Scott & Cuthill (*AYB 1925*)

## **SCOTT, ROBERT [b. 1844 – d. 25?/9/1901]**

- Born Rescobie parish. Pupil of the famous Jas Allan.
- Fiddler, whose fiddle was named 'Black Mysie.'
- Stalwart of the Angus Occasionals
- In 1883 friends presented him with his portrait in oil, his Cremona fiddle, dated 1680, lying on his knee.
- Extensive collection of Strathspeys and Reels.
- Died in Forfar (*obituary FH 27/9/1901*)

## **SCOTT, ROBERT B. ( - d. 04/1966)**

- Member of Angus Occasionals for 20 years.
- Fiddle named 'Mysie.' (*FD 28/4/1966*)

## **JIMMY SCOTT and his Band**

- Dance Band late 1950s

## **SELMA FOUR BAND, FORFAR**

- Dance band 1930s (*FD 1/6/1933*)

## **SHARPE, JAMES F., Dundee [b. 1844]**

- Violinist, composer and teacher.
- Choirmaster Trinity College Parish Church 1870-1876 and Memorial Church Grange 1876-1885.
- Teacher of violin to George Watson's Ladies College, Edinburgh

## **SHERRIFF, Mr**

- Leader of orchestra providing dance music, Kingoldrum (*FH 22/1/1886*)

## **SID (SYD) CHALMERS BAND**

- Dance Band 1940s

## **SILVER STAR BAND**

- Dance Band 1950s

## **SINCLAIR, Mr. Alfred D.**

- Studied under Mr Lowe and Mons Dupuis of Great Assembly Rooms, Glasgow [*MA&B Rev 2/4 & 23/7/1830 and 29/7/1831*].
- Dancing master - teaching Reid Hall [*FH 9/1/1885*]

- Classes, 'Dancing Tuition – Rifle Squad Drill', South Tay Street, Dundee 1880, Address Bath Street, Glasgow; Mr Sinclair assisted by Miss Bella Sinclair. [*Mitchelson Collection*]

**SKINNER, William [b. – d. 1844]**

- Dancing master and player.
- Father of J Scott Skinner.

**SKINNER, J. Scott, [b. 5 Aug 1843 – d. 1927]**

- Banchory. Violinist, composer and dancing master.
- Article (*FH* 2/2/1917)

**SKINNER, Manson [b. 1879 - ]**

- Dancer (son of J Scott Skinner)

**SKY, J, Edinburgh**

- Dancing master who visited Arbroath [*MA&B Rev* 16/3 & 20/7/1821 & 5/6/1823].

**SMIETON, John More, Dundee [b. 1857]**

**SMITH, Mrs June, Carnoustie**

- Current dance teacher in Carnoustie

**STARK, GEORGE, Dundee**

- Blind Geordie was a great Strathspey and Reel player as well as Hornpipes.

**SMITH, ROBERT**

- Dancing Master, Kirriemuir
- Robert Smith, Dancing Master, Kirriemuir, assaulted labourer in Smith's house at Southmuir, Kirriemuir. (*BA* 7/11/1865)

**STEVEN, John, Forfar**

- Violinist. Won 2<sup>nd</sup> prize Reid hall, slow air.
- Played at many dances in district.

**STEVENSON Robert M, Dundee [b.1846]**

- Violinist and piano tuner. Appeared often in leading concerts in Dundee

**STEWART, Mr**

- Dancing master in Brechin around 1850 (*Ref. Brechin Advertiser*)

**STEWART, Mrs G.W.,**

- Arbroath, Sidney Street. Dance Teacher. [*AYB* 1915, 1916, 1920]
- Dance classes in Forfar 1920 (*FR* 27/8/20 & 7/1/21)
- UATD member.

**STEWART, William, Forfar**

- Nickname "Caups". One of Forfar's most brilliant fiddlers.

**STORMONT, JAMES, Forfar**

- Violinist with wide range of old tunes.

**Mr J. V. STRACHAN'S QUADRILLE BAND**

- Forester's Ball, Letham (*FH 12/3/1886*)

**STURROCK'S BAND**

- Dance Band 1940s

**STURROCK, Mr,**

- Dance Teacher, Brechin.
- Ball in Watterston's Hall [*Brechin Advertiser 19 /11/1850*]



# T

## **TAYLOR'S QUADRILLE BAND**

- Montrose Standard 1872/2/9

## **THISTLE BAND**

- Dance Band late 1950s.

## **THOMSON, June,**

- Currently Teaches in Carnoustie

## **TOLMIE, Wilma, (Mrs Mitchelson)**

- Monifieth, Current Dance Teacher, Monifieth, Carnoustie, Arbroath, Dundee
- Adult SOBHD World Champion 1965.

## **TOSH, D., jun.,**

- Dancing Master, Arbroath, Lochlands Street. [*AYB 1893*]

# U W

## **URQUHART, Mr,**

- Fort Street, Broughty Ferry. [*B'Ferry Guide 1892 in Clark's hall*]

## **WADDELL, Rita, Forfar**

- Recent dance teacher

## **WALKER, ALEX, Forfar [b. 1837]**

- Excellent violinist and composer.
- Pupil of the famous Jas Allan. In 1866 he published a Collection of Strathspeys and Reels.

## **WALLACE, Alex, Dundee**

- Precentor in Dundee a Master to 6 Volunteer bands.
- Son Alex went to Tasmania, won Australian Challenge Trophy.

## **BILL WILKIE and his Accordion Orchestra**

- Dance Band late 1950s

## **WILLIAMSON, W. [b. 1845 - d. 1941 (aged 97)]**

- William Young Williamson
- Born at Chapelton of Boysack, Parish of Inverkeilor 19 July 1845. Died 9.45 am on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 1941 aged 97.
- Married Ann Jack Williamson. Born at March of Lunan. Parish of Inverkeilor, 19<sup>th</sup> February 1840. Died 21<sup>st</sup> February 1936, aged 96.
- Arbroath, 1 Carnegie Street. 'Dancie' in Arbroath.
- AYB 1895, 1896, 1900, 1901, 1905, 1909-10 last with Jackson
- Classes, Panmure Hall, Hill Street – twenty night, modern waltzing, &c (*AH 15.8.1889*)
- Classes Masonic Hall (*AH 17.8.1893*)

## **WINDSOR BAND**

- Dance Band 1940s (Forfar Palais)

## **Mrs. WISEMAN'S QUADRILLE BAND**

- Montrose Standard (Feb 1877)

## **WRIGHT, Sandra**

- Sandra Wright School of Dancing, Glamis

# Y

## **YOUNG, Alex, Forfar**

- Fine flute player, no match in Forfarshire at Strathspey and Reels on the flute. Much in demand at concerts, operas and dances.
- Played in St James Orchestra.

## **YOUNG, A, Glamis**

- Violinist. Greatly request to play at dances.
- Has won many prizes for his playing.

## **YOUNG, James, Montrose**

- Violinist and composer, Leader of the Theatre Royal, Aberdeen.
- Brother John was a maker of fiddles.

## **YOUNG, Charles, Forfar [b. 1854]**

- Violinist. Played at many dances.

## **YOUNG, Miss MIMA**

- SCD teacher Forfar, Tannadice, Inverarity, Kinnettles. Qualified SCDA teacher (Arbroath). Piper. (*Courier* 4/2/1949)