



# Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust

NEWSLETTER SPRING/SUMMER 1997

## BY THE RIGHT! QUICK ..... DANCE?

Military music and dance form a very significant part of our national heritage. And together they are under considerable threat because of regimental amalgamations and re-organisations. This is why the Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust has lately been in touch with all the Scottish regiments to find out what their current dance practices are and to seek information on these for inclusion in our Dance Information Pack. Gathering this information from the regiments has not been particularly easy. Even in times of relative peace the Scottish regiments find themselves in places as far flung as Kenya and Hong Kong, not to mention Northern Ireland and Colchester!

One of the highlights of our launch last September, and of the Festival of Remembrance in the Albert Hall in November, was the dancing of a team of boys from the Queen Victoria School, Dunblane.

Highland dancing has been part of the curriculum at the school ever since it opened in 1908 and naturally in the intervening years it has developed its own style and forms of Highland Dancing including a unique handhold as demonstrated at our launch in a performance of their version of Broadswords.

The Queen Victoria School was founded to educate the sons of serving soldiers and dancing was originally taught as an army trade.

For 900 years and more Scottish soldiers have gone to war with music and dance. "Before them go jugglers (*jongleurs = musicians*) and dancers, before us the cross of Christ and the relics of the saints", sniffed Norman knight Walter Espec about his Scottish allies at the Battle of the Standard near Northallerton in 1138.

However, it has quickly become clear that the Trust's curiosity about this branch of our native traditions is perfectly justified and that there is also, as we suspected, a great deal of work to be done in collating the history of Scottish regimental dancing.

Each regiment has its own special dance occasions. Each has its own styles and steps. Research may well reveal that variations in these steps and styles are related to dance practices in the regimental recruiting areas.

### **Dancing in Three Forums**

Quotations from some of the letters we have received will give members an idea of the quality of the information that has been sent to us.

From *Major R C Cole-Mackintosh, Pipe President of the 1st Battalion Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment)* - 'Dancing in the Black Watch takes place in three distinct forums. Namely, the Officers' Mess, the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess and thirdly the Pipes and Drums ...

'In the Officer's Mess it is expected that all Officers be able to dance socially to an acceptable standard. Social occasions at which we dance are The Caledonian Ball in London, The Black Watch Ball at Gleneagles, Mess Guest Nights, Mess Reels Parties and as many of the Highland Balls and Dances as we are able to attend.

'Dancing in the Officers' Mess is normally conducted when ladies are present. However, it is not unusual for the officers to dance an Eightsome Reel following a Regimental Guest Night.

'The dances that Officers are expected to be able to manage well are: The Eightsome Reel, Duke of Perth, The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, Hamilton House, The Reel of the 51st Highland Division, The Dashing White Sergeant, The Foursome Reel.

'Dancing in the Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess is not as common as in the Officers' Mess and usually takes place only at the St Andrews' Ball. The dances are usually those listed above. The Warrant Officers' and Sergeants' Mess never dance unless ladies are present. In both Messes the dress for dancing will be Regimental Mess Dress. However, an informal reels party in the Officers' Mess will be conducted in family kilts and jumpers.

'The Pipes and Drums are the only real exponents of Highland Dancing within the Regiment and they all learn to

dance whilst completing their training as machine gunners, pipers and drummers. Unlike a Military Band, the Pipes and Drums are soldiers first and foremost and they are the machine gun platoon. Their musical and dancing skills are very much their secondary employment.

'The Pipes and Drums are able to provide dancers for a variety of dances and the dancers are usually pipers or drummers who have yet to earn a full place in the band.'

### **Steps to Promotion**

Private Brown, one of the present Black Watch dancers, describes their Highland Dances - 'Each member of the platoon in accordance with infantry employment for piper/drummer, must reach a certain standard of Highland dancing. A private soldier must reach pre-set requirements before he can be put forward for promotion. As a Class Three Private he must be able to dance the Highland Fling or Hornpipe/jig. As a Class Two Private he must be able to dance the Foursome Reel and Lochaber Broadswords. All dances are in the style laid down by the Scottish Official Board of Highland Dancing. These are to be achieved alongside his piping or drumming skills.

'Within the Black Watch there are three main dances which are continually used - the Highland Fling, the Solo Swords (Gillie Callum) and the Lochaber Broadswords. These are used within the Regiment and also for public occasions and tours.

'It has been felt by Pipe Majors that these dances show the dexterity and stamina needed for dancing. In the past it was used as a form of entertainment, and also for fitness.'

(cont.)

From the *Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders* we are told that - 'The pipes and drums have 3 dances - Highland Fling (4 or 6 steps), Single Swords (3 Strathspeys, 1 Reel step), Argyll Broadwords (3 Strathspeys, 1 Reel step).

'For the Balaclava Ball, held annually in October for Senior NCOs and Officers, the SNCOs are taught the Eightsome Reel, Dashing White Sergeant, Gay Gordons and Strip the Willow. Officers learn the Eightsome Reel, the Reel of the 51st and the Duke of Perth (sometimes).

'All new recruits are taught to dance and spend 10% of their time learning dances. There are 8 dancers at all times who are able to perform. Usually 4 dancers are taken on tours but 8 dancers are taken if there is a large tour, for example to the USA.'

From *Capt. J Watson, Adjutant of the 1st Battalion The Royal Scots (The Royal Regiment)* comes the information that - 'Within the Regiment we practise The Dashing White Sergeant, the Reel of the 51st Division (Aberdonian), The Duke of Perth, Hamilton House, Eightsome Reel, Foursome Reel, The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh.

'The dances are practised on a weekly basis and enjoyed at the frequent reels parties that the Officers' Mess holds. Additionally the officers also dance after Dinner Nights and they attend the major Scottish Balls.'

## **Applause all the Way!**

From Private Brown, dancer in the Black Watch (Royal Highland Regiment) whom we have already quoted, we also have the detail of a dance demonstration programme as presented by the dancers in his Regiment.

'The first of the dances used in the Pipes and Drums is the Highland Fling. This is danced to the tune "The Marquis of Huntly" at a tempo of 34 bars per minute. The Dance Team usually consists of two Piper Dancers, in the Royal Stuart kilt and two Drummer Dancers in the Black Watch kilt. The Dance Team is marched on with a 6/8 or 4/4 march, till the end of that part of the music where they salute rather than bow.

'The steps used are: 1st - Shedding; 2nd - Back step; 3rd - Toe-Heel; 4th - Last Shedding, ending with a leap.

'At this point, after rapturous applause, the Dancers salute, then march off to another 6/8 or 4/4 march. Once more this is usually during loud applause from enthusiastic audiences.

'The second dance is the Solo Swords or more commonly called the Gillie Callum. Once again the Dance Team is marched on with a 6/8 or 4/4 march. The tune used is the Gillie Callum, 32 bars per minute slow time - ie Strathspey, and 42 bars per minute quick time - ie Reel.

'The dance team march out with swords, they will face up and halt at the end of that part. They all salute with

swords, then place the sword down in the cross, with the hilt at their feet.

'The steps used are (Strathspey): 1st - Addressing the Sword; 2nd - Open Pas de Basque; 3rd - Points; 4th - Toe and Heel. (Reel): 5th - Crossing and Pointing.

'A loud cheer is given on the first two Pas de Basques.

'Once again the Dance Team is marched off to a 6/8 or 4/4 march, after collecting up sword and saluting. This is usually done to an even louder cheer from the audience.

'The third, and probably most enjoyable to dancers and audience is the Lochaber Broadwords. The Dance Team march on together to a 6/8 march with swords, no scabbards. Once they reach their position they salute, move into formation to the slow air "Mist Covered Mountains".

'The tunes used for the dance are:

Slow time (Strathspey): 1st - Because he was a bonny lad; 2nd - Orange and Blue; 3rd and 4th - Gillie Callum.

Quick time (Reel): 5th - Jock Wilson's Ball and The Kilt is My Delight. Quick time (March): 6th - The 42nd.

'This particular dance is done with four dancers, two Piper dancers and two Drummer dancers, dancing round a large cross made from four swords.

'The steps used are: Slow time (Strathspey): 1st - Travel step to the right, all four dancers. 2nd - Travel step to the left, inside sword for Piper dancers. Travel step to the right as 1st step, for Drummer dancers. 3rd - Pas de Basques Closed, clockwise, for all. 4th - Pas de Basques Open, clockwise, for all. Quick time (Reel): 5th - Balance Step, all cheer at start of step. Quick time (March) - Brush step, all cheer at start of step.

At the end of the dance dancers salute, march off to 6/8 to a BIG BIG CHEER.'

It shouldn't be a surprise to members that the Trust has its eye on Private Brown as a future Researcher for the STDT!

## **Calling all Soldier (Sailors and Airmen) Dancers**

There is so much work to be done in this as in other fields. Can you identify for us any former Services' dancers with memories to share? The recent television documentary on the creation of The Reel of the 51st Highland Division triggered off several memories of dancing in prisoner-of-war camps and we are also anxious to record as many of these as we can. If you can help us, please contact the Trust Co-ordinator Jennifer Swanson, telephone 0131-558 8737, or write to STDT, 54 Blackfriars Street, Edinburgh EH1 1NE.

## **ON-LINE DANCING**

If you have an interest in Scottish dancing and have access to a computer with an Internet connection then you might like to know that you can get information at a number of sites on the World Wide Web (WWW).

The best starting point on the WWW is the Strathspey server. It covers mainly Scottish Country dance information but does occasionally look at other Scottish dance styles. To access the Strathspey server point your Web browser at:

<http://www.tm.informatik.uni-frankfurt.de/strathspey/>

and amongst the choices you are given are:

- Information about the Strathspey mailing list.
- Archive of past postings to the Strathspey mailing list.
- Periodicals giving event listings and contact addresses for Scottish country dancing. This includes the Inter-City Scot and Celtic Circle.
- The Scottish Country Dance Database project, hosted in California.
- Other material related to Scottish dancing and music.
- Links to Scottish country dance groups who are on the Web.
- Links to other WWW servers offering relevant information.

At a) you can subscribe to the Strathspey mailing list, a discussion group that distributes E-mail letters to all subscribers, everyone being welcome to contribute their own thoughts. Recent subjects covered have included The McNab dances, hard shoe dancing, the Napier dance index, and a tune index. It can be fascinating at times. The list covers mainly Scottish Country dance but other dance styles do appear from time to time.

Browsing through d) you will find interesting corners such as Peter Hastings' index of dances and associated tunes and Marjorie McLaughlin's Selected Bibliography of sources on the History of Scottish Country Dancing.

Running a search on Scots or Scottish Dance on any of the WWW search facilities will produce a series of interesting (and not so interesting) returns. One in particular that fascinated me was a computer programme for writing labanotation. It can be found at: <http://www.dance.ohio-state.edu/files/LabanWriter/index.html>

Is there anyone out there with the skill to notate one of the step or Highland dances in labanotation? It would make a good abstract drawing to hang on a wall.

Happy browsing!

**BOB BLAIR**

## DANCE COURSES

Perhaps your appetite has been whetted and you want to study more about Scotland's dance traditions. Where can you go? Well, there are a number of courses around Scotland which include aspects of Scottish traditional dancing.

Telford College, Edinburgh: HNC Dance (Community) - aimed at providing the skills needed to move into a career in the Community Dance Sector or Higher Education, and NC Dance and Exercise Studies - providing a foundation for a possible career in the leisure industry or progression to an HNC/HND course; both courses are one year full-time and are based in and around Telford College's new dance studio. The courses are designed to focus on the individual's personal improvement in practical and theoretical elements, which include Performance, Teaching and Choreography Skills, and Dance Production. Interviews/auditions will be held in spring 1997 for the course commencing September 1997. For further information, call the Infoline on 0131-332 2424.

Dundee College: NC Dance Course, one year full-time; run by skilled professionals and based in a modern dance studio. Students receive foundation training for advanced study; opportunities for choreography and performance; a wide range of studies to develop performing, technical and creative skills. Auditions will be held in May 1997 for course commencing September 1997. For further information contact Peter Royston, Theatre Arts & Dance Section, Dundee College, 30 Constitution Road, Dundee DD3 6TB, Tel: 01382 464000 ext. 5268.

Moray House Institute, Edinburgh: MA/Med Dance is a postgraduate course which provides a unique opportunity to study dance in Scotland. The course, which has successfully run for two years, has attracted students from a range of backgrounds and professions including physical education, dance, music, technology, theatre and education. The programme provides a core study in dance with built-in flexibility which we believe serves the professional needs of many, so the dance pathway may be just the thing for you! For further information, contact Diane Gordon, Moray House Institute, Cramond Campus, Cramond Road North, Edinburgh EH4 6JD, telephone 0131-312 6001.

The University of Stirling have a Summer School Programme of Short Courses including Creative Arts, Scottish Culture and Society, Scottish Music and Dance, and Natural Therapies. Week, weekend and day courses will take place throughout June, July and August. For further information contact Margery Stirling, Summer School Office, Airthrey Castle Annex, University of Stirling, Stirling, Scotland FK9 4LA, telephone: (International +44) 01786 467951 or fax (International +44) 01786 463398, email: m.f.stirling@stirling.ac.uk

## THE VIKINGS ARE BACK!!

Well, it is not that bad. I am not here to rob and plunder.

I am a 23-year-young (gentle-)man from Denmark. I am on a work placement at The Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust. I will start by telling a little bit more about myself and what I am doing in Scotland.

I study marketing, economics and language at the International Business Academy in Kolding, Jutland (about the same size as Perth, Scotland). The course includes two trips abroad to an English speaking company. Every trip lasts three and a half months. The main reason for me to be here is to improve my English skills and gain some experience about office work.

But of course I don't study all the time. In my spare time I play football. I love football! I have played since I was 5 years old. I'm not a Brian Laudrup but I know that a football is round. (And in my opinion Brian Laudrup is one of the best football players this world has every seen.)

But why did I choose Scotland and the Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust? I could have chosen exotic places like Australia, Mexico or South Africa.

I have always had a love for Scotland and the Scots but I can't put a finger on what it is I like. It is a lot of small things and when you put all these things together you have one of the most wonderful and beautiful countries in the world - SCOTLAND.

The thing I wanted to achieve personally was to learn more about Scottish history and your rich dance heritage. I thought the best place to find out more about this was to work at The Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust. And I was right!

WANDY RIIS

## HIGHLANDER MUSIC

Highlander Music Ltd was set up by William and Mairi Crawford in 1995 to provide dance music on CD, and to establish a distribution system for the music released by bands on their own labels. We knew that very little Scottish Country dance music for dancers was available on CD, and so we decided to remedy the situation. Our own wide dancing experience combined with recent business research showed that CDs were definitely the format to pursue, giving not only superb durable sound quality, but also instant access to specific tracks - invaluable for teaching or for social dancing.

Our very different introductions to dance enable us to see many facets of the questions which arise on dancing matters. William started dancing at home with his family as a child, enjoying a mixture of what might be termed Scottish Country, Ceilidh and Reelers' dances, whereas Mairi, already ballet trained from the age of three, began Scottish Country Dancing aged eight at formal classes, and progressed through the ISTD medals and certificates, then competitions and demonstration teams, to a Jean Milligan scholarship and RSCDS full certificate for teaching at the tender age of 22! William meantime, with an irresistible blend of enthusiasm and charm, combined with a great memory for dances and a total innocence of footwork, set up and ran a very popular dance club at secondary school, and was only brought up short when, having modestly(!) put himself in the advanced class at RSCDS summer school, he was asked to show his pas-de-basque. His what?!!

## From Ballet to Belly!

At University we danced with the New Scotland demonstration team, and were selected for the Edinburgh RSCDS demonstration team. We have danced in many festivals at home and abroad, and with the current popularity of ceilidhs, William is in great demand as a caller. We've danced not only Scottish Country, but also Highland, National, Irish, English Country, Morris, Clog, Tap, International Folk, Ballroom and Latin-American, and Belly Dancing - yes, studied in Istanbul!! Bizarre experiences have included William attempting to demonstrate the Sailor's Hornpipe on a pitching Scandinavian ferry of which the floor was not at the same level when he landed as when he had leapt; and Mairi instructing a Montenegrin football team, all over seven feet tall, in the basics of the Rumba at the deep end of an empty Olympic-sized swimming pool by a reed-hut village in the north-east of what used to be Yugoslavia!

Getting back to business, our first need was to raise the capital necessary for the production of our own Highlander Music label CDs. This is expensive, but with the positive response from the Bank, Highland Prospect and Ross and Cromarty Enterprise, we were able to start with the production of a set of 5 Scottish Country Dance CDs. The series was compiled for dancing to, and provides seventy complete popular dances, covering many of the more common dance lengths and types. When we approached Sandy Nixon to record for us he was enthusiastic and put us in touch with David Cunningham (Snr.) of Location Masters Studios. Impressed by David's knowledge and professionalism, we decided to use Location Masters for the whole series, and so David and his son worked together to record not only Sandy but also Neil Barron, Ian Holmes, Iain MacPhail ... and David Cunningham (Jnr.)!

The interest displayed by those who heard of the forthcoming CDs gave us the confidence to move our business out of our house and into an Industrial Unit, in Muir of Ord, Ross-shire. The enthusiasm with which the CDs were received encouraged us to bring out an album with Graham Geddes and to begin the Old Masters series, where digital re-mastering brings back to life the great old dance bands. We shall continue to expand our CD series, providing more much-needed music for the other forms of Scottish dance. Our own label CDs are shipped regularly to shops and mail-order customers in Canada, USA, Germany, Australia, and New Zealand as well as outposts of Scottish civilisation in Saudi-Arabia, Japan, Singapore and Hawaii. We also distribute a wide range of Scottish music from other labels.

The future looks fairly rosy for Highlander Music as more and more dancers are realising the benefits of CDs and it's great to be able to combine pleasure with business, knowing that thousands of dancers throughout the world enjoy our CDs as much as we do.

For details of CDs available, contact Highlander Music at Unit 7D, Muir of Ord Industrial Estate, Ross-shire IV6 7UA, Scotland. Telephone: 01463-871422, Fax: 01463-871433. E-mail: highlander.music@zetnet.co.uk

WILLIAM AND MAIRI CRAWFORD

## EVENTS

### Day of Dance on Saturday 26 April at Wallace Hall Academy, Thornhill.

10 am Registration; 10.15 am - 12 noon Old Time Dance - workshop with Jessie Stuart; 1 - 2 pm Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust presentation - an opportunity to see and hear about the history and variety of Scottish dance traditions; 2.15 - 3.15 pm Country Dance with Jessie Stuart or Step Dance with Mairi Campbell; 3.30 - 4.30 pm Old Time Dance with Jessie Stuart; 7.30 - 11 pm Evening Dance with music from Freeland Barbour and Mairi Campbell.

Tickets: £10 for the day or £12.50 for day and evening events; £4 for evening only. For further information contact Dumfries and Galloway Arts Association (DGAA), tel. 01387-260446.

**Ceilidh** - with the Cloud Howe Ceilidh Band on Saturday 26 April 8 pm - midnight in Dobbie Hall, Larbert. Tickets (£8 incl. buffet) available from Gillian Whitelaw, Tel. 01324-554462.

### Northbeat Dances at Mayfest '97

at the Henry Wood Hall, 73 Claremont Street, Glasgow

Tickets are £5 for each dance, or £30 for all 9. Further information from Northbeat, tel. 0141-772 4189.

Friday 2 May, 9 pm - 1 am

Ceilidh with Black Rose.

Friday 9 May, 8 pm - midnight

Scottish Country Dance with Colin Dewar.

Saturday 10 May, 9 pm - 1 am

Highland Night with Fergie Macdonald.

Friday 16 May, 8 pm - midnight

Old Time Dance with John Carmichael.

Saturday 17 May, 8 pm - midnight

Irish Ceili with Inishowen Ceili Band.

Friday 23 May, 10 pm - 2 am

Highland Night with Allan McIntosh.

Saturday 24 May, 8 pm - midnight

Northumbrian and Old Time Dance with Robin Dunn.

Friday 30 May, 8 pm - midnight

Scottish Country Dance with Iain MacPhail.

Saturday 31 May, 9 pm - 1 am

Ceilidh with the Occasionals.

For information about Highland Dance Championships organised by the Scottish Official Board of Highland Dancing, contact SOBHD Director of Administration, Heritage House, 32 Grange Loan, Edinburgh EH9 2NR, telephone 0131-668 3965, fax: 0131-662 0404.

For information about Highland Dance Competitions organised by the Scottish Official Highland Dancing Association, contact Pauline Knox, Secretary, 36 High Street, Dunbar EH42 1JH, telephone: 01368-863027.

### Miles of Scottish Traditional Dancing - The NEXT Macmillan Mile Challenge: 10 - 18 May 1997

Cancer Relief Macmillan Fund is inviting people in Scotland to get on the move and take a few steps towards improving the

care of cancer patients in the NEXT Macmillan Mile Challenge. For one week in May, Macmillan is asking groups and individuals to cover just one mile in any way they wish and raise money at the same time. Why not organise a mile of dancing? Last year 24,000 people in Scotland raised an incredible £168,000 and it is hoped that even more can be raised this year. For more information and a free event pack call 0131-228 9328.

### RSCDS (Delft Branch) 24th Whitsun Course of Scottish Country Dancing, 16-19 May 1997

at Best Western Hotel, Boerhaavelaan, Zoetermeer. Teacher: Mrs Linda Gaul, Pianist: Mr George McLennan. Welcome dance on Friday evening, classes on Saturday, Sunday and Monday, ending with Farewell Lunch on Monday. Saturday afternoon is free followed by an evening Ceilidh and on Sunday evening there will be a Dinner and Ball. The course is open to all dancers with a basic knowledge of steps and formations. For further information and to register, please contact Mrs Anne Goudriaan, Werflaan 68, 2725 DJ, Zoetermeer, The Netherlands, tel. 079-341 92 57.

### Day of Dance, Saturday 31 May 1997 at the Highland Festival

Highland Council Cultural and Leisure Services are hosting a day-long dance event ("for anyone with a heartbeat") at Inverness Sports Centre from 10 am - 11 pm. Whether you're a beginner, improver, wishing to pick up some new steps or try out a new dance form.

The day includes workshops in Scottish Step, Ceilidh and Highland Dance Choreography as well as Indian, Jazz, Salsa Fitness and Egyptian Belly Dance. Wheelchair dancers will be welcome. There will be afternoon demonstrations followed by a Children's Disco in the early evening. After the Western Line Dance there will be an evening Ceilidh Dance for all. Workshop reservations are advised - contact Cultural & Leisure Services on 01463-724224. Tickets available at The Highland Council Service Point at Inverness Sports Centre. For more information contact Adrian Clark, Arts Officer, Tel. 01463-724261. Fax 01463-712850.

### Ceolas: 29 June - 4 July 1997, Daliburgh, South Uist, Outer Hebrides

A unique summer school, based within the Gaelic community of South Uist and featuring classes in the Gaelic traditions of dance, piping, fiddling and song. Emphasis is on reintegrating the music of pipes and fiddle with the natural rhythms of Gaelic language, song and dance. Some of Scotland's finest traditional musicians will tutor the classes and will be matched by the talent of Canada's own Gaels, direct descendants of those islanders who emigrated in the past. Together this makes for a rich experience. Last year was a huge success - this year looks like being even better. For further details or bookings contact Proiseact nan Ealan, telephone: 01851-704493 or Fax: 01851-704734.

## STDT COUNTRY DANCING AND EARLY DANCING SHARE-DAY

At the Trust's Press Launch last September, both the Early Dancers and Country Dancers who performed expressed a desire to learn more about each other's dance styles. Following this suggestion, the Trust is organising a Share-day for Early Dancers and Country Dancers to get together. The day will be held in early September 1997 and will be open to all who are experienced in one or other dance style. The details have yet to be confirmed but if you would like to note your interest, please contact Jennifer Swanson on 0131-558 8737 or write to the Trust at 54 Blackfriars Street, Edinburgh EH1 1NE, and further details will be sent to you when available.

Perhaps dance sharing and exchange is something which dancers from other traditions would like to do? If you have any suggestions, please contact Jennifer Swanson at the above telephone number or address.

## NOTICE BOARD

**AGM - A date for your diary. The first Annual General Meeting of The Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust will be held on Saturday 23 August 1997 at the Albert Hall in Stirling.** The meeting will start at 11.00 am followed by a buffet lunch with guest speakers.

Details of afternoon activities to be announced. If you wish to make your own accommodation arrangements, please contact the Tourist Information Office in Stirling, telephone: 01786-479901.

Stirling Youth Hostel have offered accommodation to the Trust at £12.45 per person per night, bed and breakfast, for a limited number. Any member wishing to avail themselves of this offer must contact Jennifer Swanson at the Trust's office by Monday 14 July.

## SPRING CLEANING?

Have you come across any Scottish dance memorabilia, such as dance programmes, books of steps, etc which help to tell the story of Scotland's dance history? If so, would you be willing to lend this or donate it to the Trust? Our aim is to make all our archival material available to anyone who wishes to use it. All loans and donations will, of course, be acknowledged. We are receiving advice on conservation and storage from the Scottish Museums Council, of which we are Associate Members. We need your help to build the complete picture of all of Scotland's dance traditions. If you would like to discuss making a donation, please contact Jennifer Swanson on 0131-558 8737 or write to 54 Blackfriars Street, Edinburgh EH1 1NE.

The copy date for the next newsletter is 30 May 1997 for publication at the end of June.

Please keep us informed of your news, views and activities.

