

Östadt

Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust

summer 2006



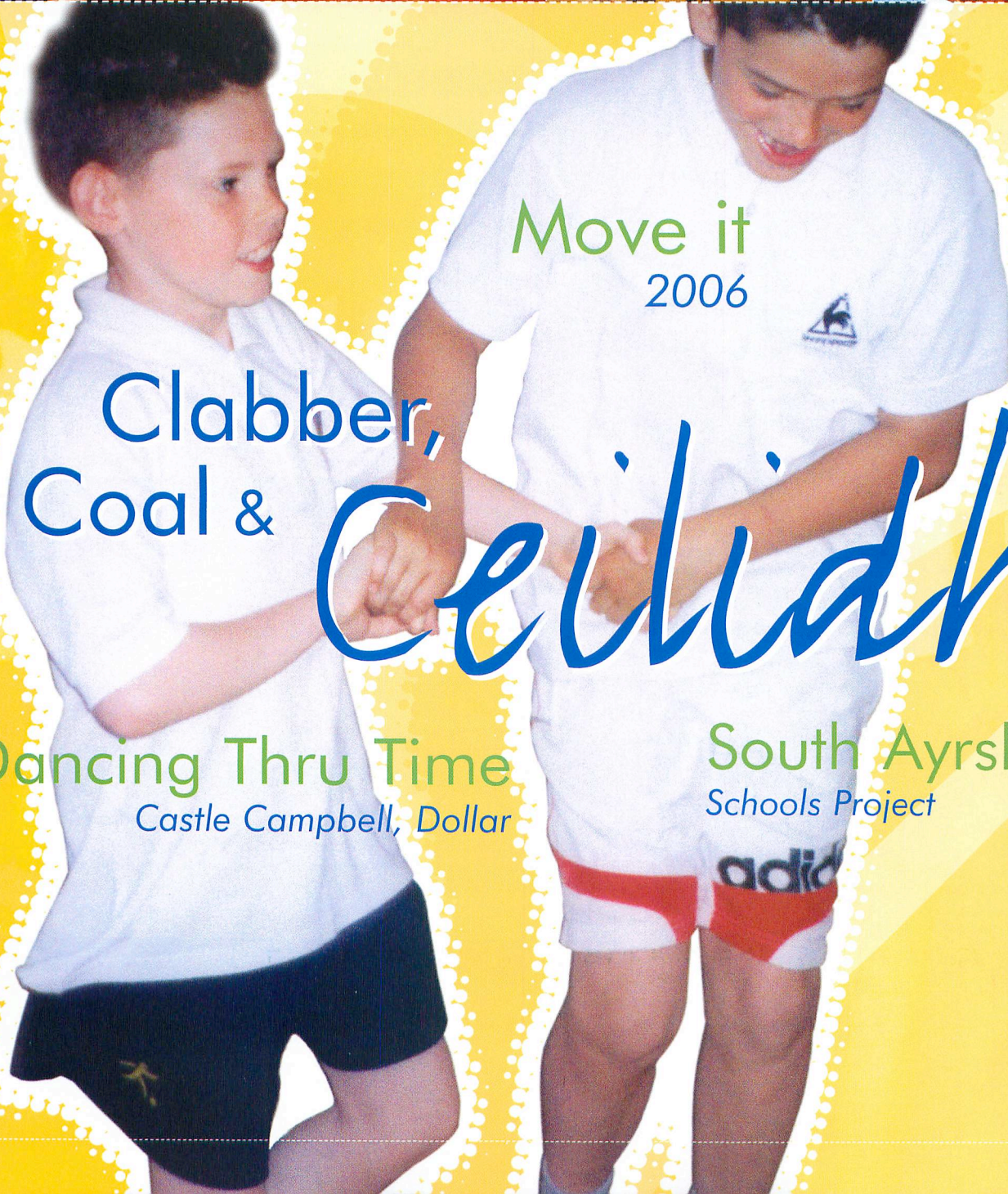
Move it
2006

Clabber,
Coal &

Ceilidh

Dancing Thru Time
Castle Campbell, Dollar

South Ayrshire
Schools Project



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THE STDT TEAM

Left to right:

Angela
Dreyer-Larsen,
Diane Dixon,
Carolyn Konrad



On Saturday 11th March, groups of dancers from young children to adults, gathered in the Albert Halls, Stirling for a day of choreography competitions in a variety of traditional dance styles.

Welcome from all at STDT

Hi there

First of all, I am delighted to announce that STDT have been allocated flexible funding by The Scottish Arts Council from 2006 to 2009. We are classified as a Traditional Participation organisation that supports and enables people to enjoy the benefits of participation in the arts. This is really the best result we could have expected from the Funding Review and enables STDT to develop its strategic three year plan. A major part of that plan is to establish a National Archive & Resource Centre for Scottish Dance in the Central belt of Scotland. The 1st phase of this is going well and we hope to have a catalogue of our Archive by the end of the year. I am currently in negotiations with potential partners for this exciting project.

Since the last newsletter, we have been very busy on many fronts from in-service sessions for teachers in South Lanarkshire through to raising awareness of Scottish Dance to thousands at Olympia through exhibiting at "Move-it" London. The interest in traditional Scottish Dance is very high south of the border and we received many requests for classes of all sorts throughout England & Wales.

Again this year the "Clabber Coal & Ceilidh" project at the Scottish Mining Museum was a huge success as were workshops for the local community in Castle Campbell in Dollar. Throughout May/June, we delivered 58 workshops to P6 & 7 in the South Ayrshire area. The second part of this project will be to continue to work with these same pupils in S1 at Girvan and Carrick Academy. Lots also happening in Renfrewshire & Linlithgow Scotch Hop had a good year with very good weather. The Traditional Dance Artists in Aberdeen City, Clackmannanshire and in Fife have continued to develop activities within their communities.

In September we embark on a year long project here at the Top of the Town in Stirling. This is being funded from the Scottish Executive Cities Growth Fund and will involve members of the Community Dancing thru Time in the TOTT Experience.

I am continually thrilled at the commitment of our very small team here and the Tutors that we now employ on a very regular basis. We, and the Tutors work very hard at keeping traditional dance alive, not only keeping it alive but Kicking! From April to the end of July STDT has involved over 11,000 people in traditional dance activity. I am very proud of that!

Please encourage Your Friends to become Our Friends.

Angela

Angela Dreyer-Larsen Director STDT

STDT Freestyle Choreography Competition

The day began with our own competition which aims to encourage dancers from a wide range of the traditions to produce a new piece of work which can include one dance style or fuse many different styles together, including non-traditional and contemporary. This competition is also designed to promote creativity and imagination: there is no limit to the possibilities.

This year the format was changed to include a section especially for young choreographers 17 years or under aimed at developing young talent.

There were 3 entries in this section, and the winners were:

| Name of Group | Title of Entry | Result |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| The Shimmy Jiggers | "Highland Pick & Mix" | 1st |
| The Lornshill Dancers | "Fusion" | Joint 2nd |
| ALLStar Dancers | "H.B.H.S." | Joint 2nd |

The section for choreographers aged 18 years and over had 4 entries:

| Name of Group | Title of Entry | Result |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|--------|
| Aberdour Step Dancers | "Unity" | 1st |
| McKechnie Dance Co | "Welcome to Scotland" | 2nd |
| St Bride's All Stars | "The Steamie" | |
| New Scotland Country Dancers | "The European Kickstep" | |

The competition judges: Anita Clark (SAC); Andy Howitt (YDance) and Jennifer Paterson (dancer & choreographer) considered the entries to be of a very high quality and had particular praise for the young dancers and choreographers. Each choreographer was given the opportunity to speak to the judges about their work, their inspiration and how they had developed their idea.

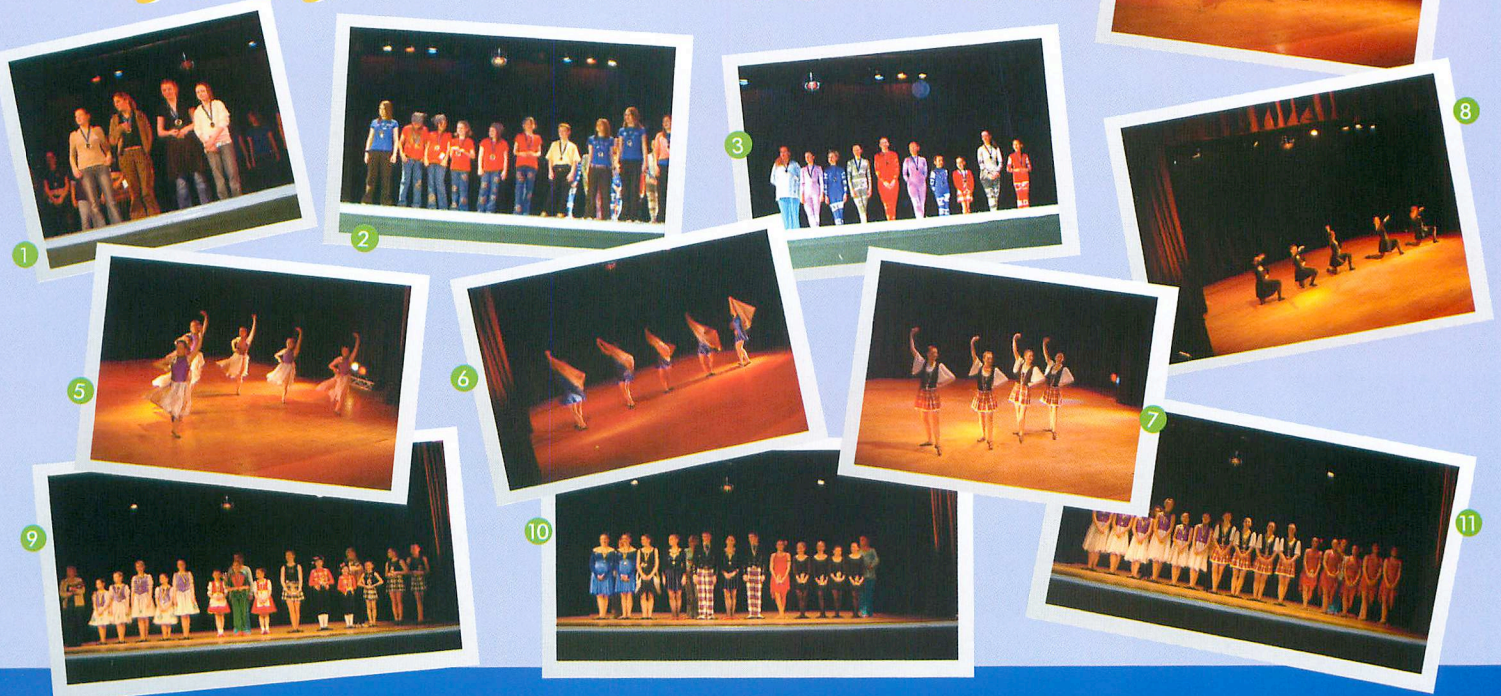
SOHDA Highland Team Choreography Competition

Unfortunately, this competition had a very poor turn-out which seems to have been due to a number of reasons. It is hoped that the number of entries will improve next year.

| Name of Group | Title of Entry | Result |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------|
| Keltika Dancers(B) | "Keltik Elektrik" | 1st |
| Keltika Dancers(A) | "Bass Drone Blitz" | 2nd |

Dance Festival 2006

Review & Results



1. The Shimmy Jiggers 2. Aberdour Step Dancers 3. McKechnie Dance Co 4. "Highland Senoritas" 5. "The Thistles of Scotland" 6. "The Spirits of Scotland" 7. "Changing Traditions" 8. "Black Magic" 9. SOBHD U13 Winning Teams 10. SOBHD U17 Winning Teams 11. SOBHD 17+ Winning Teams

SOBHD Highland Team Choreography Competition

As in previous years, this competition proved very popular with a good number of entries in each section. The winning teams in each section were as follows:

Section 1 – 12 years and under

| Name of Group | Title of Entry | Result |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|--------|
| Roblyn School | "Hopscotch" | 1st |
| McKechnie School | "Don't Steal my Irish Gold" | 2nd |
| Aileen Robertson School | "Highland Rock" | 3rd |

Section 2 – 16 years and under

| Name of Group | Title of Entry | Result |
|-------------------------|------------------|--------|
| McKechnie School | "Black Magic" | 1st |
| Sandra Lees School | "Shades of Blue" | 2nd |
| Frances Paterson School | Untitled | 3rd |

Section 3 – 17 years and over

| Name of Group | Title of Entry | Result |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|--------|
| McKechnie School | "Highland Senoritas" | 1st |
| Aileen Robertson School | "Changing Traditions" | 2nd |
| Grant/Low School | "The Thistles of Scotland" | 3rd |

STDT would like to thank all the dancers, choreographers and teachers in all the competitions who produced some excellent work and fantastic entertainment and to all the parents and friends who came along to support them.

"Have-a-go" Sessions

The taster sessions started off in the morning with Marion Robson's Family Ceilidh, which allowed young families to learn some simple dances and join in the fun. This was followed by two consecutive sessions from Maria Leask, teaching the dance of her native Shetland and Orkney Dance respectively. The Step Dance & Fiddle with Tutor Alison MacLeod encouraged people to come along and learn Step dance to live music or bring along their own fiddle and join in. For the last session of the day, the tempo was raised with Fusion Dance. The Tutor Lisa Dunlop specialises in the fusion of Scottish traditional with other dance styles such as African and Salsa to produce an eclectic mix of dance and music to stir the soul.

Ceilidh with the Cutting Edge Ceilidh Band

This proved to be a great night, with great entertainment from the excellent Cutting Edge. Among those present was a large group of foreign students who experienced Scottish culture at its best. It was a surprise to all, however, to step out afterwards into steadily deepening snow! Two of our Dance Tutors who had stayed overnight in Stirling had to be dug out of their Bed & Breakfast before they could begin their arduous journey home. In fact, between the snow conditions and cancelled ferry crossings, Maria Leask took around 3 days to reach her home in Shetland!

Looking forward to 2007...

Next year, the Choreography Competitions will be held in the Albert Halls, Stirling on Saturday 10th March. Will it be Dancing Heaven, 2007? We haven't decided on a "theme" for next year yet. Suggestions on a postcard to the STDT office...

STDT at...

Move It!

Dance Exhibition, London in April 2006

And *Move It* we did. In more ways than one...



The Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust were the only Scottish representative at Britain's only dedicated dance exhibition at Olympia in April.



Over the three days there were up to 100 exhibitors, 60 free performances, 80 free talks, taster classes and demonstrations. Every style of dance you could think of was represented. On the first two days alone, over six thousand people came through the doors.

The STDT stand was a visual feast. We had taken hundreds of STDT information leaflets, T-Shirts, STDT exhibition materials, etc - all we would possibly need to make the presence of STDT known. And believe me it was. Only a small amount of the publicity material made the return journey.

This was such a wonderful opportunity for STDT to reach thousands of people; to let them know how active the Trust is and to

find out how many people would embrace traditional dance throughout the country.

The response to the Scottish stand was fantastic. Literally hundreds of people asked when workshops were starting in London!

Lisa Dunlop, our Dance Artist in Residence, Clackmannanshire was there to attend classes as part of her personal development. There is no doubt that the dance demonstrations, classes and performances were making everyone feel fantastic, including Lisa, who took part in most of the taster sessions. She certainly did "Move It", constantly for three days. She said it was fabulous and would be able to incorporate so many ideas into her work for STDT in Clackmannanshire.

The atmosphere in and around the huge venue was infectious. There are so many memorable images from "Move It 2006", far too many to mention. However, one which stands out was the view of the entire bottom floor of Olympia as a sea of dancers. It was an amazing sight.

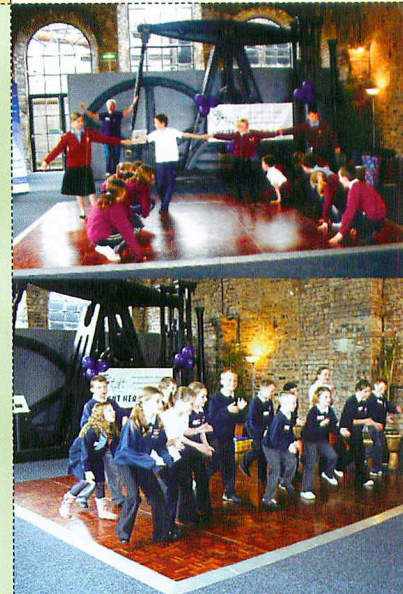
As we left Olympia, it was wonderful to see groups of dancers running down the street all wearing STDT T-Shirts. There was no doubt that the Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust was in London!

The Trust will have a stand again at "Move It 2007", where we are hoping to introduce some taster sessions in Scottish traditional dance.

Carolyn Konrad

> Photo: Laban centre dancers, sporting their STDT t-shirts at ballet class following "Move It!"

“Clabber Coal & Ceilidh”



A participative arts project set in the **Scottish Mining Museum**, Newtongrange

Following on from a successful project last year, 5 tutors arrived for a 4-day event at the Museum on 15th May. Over 172 primary school children and support staff from 4 local primary schools attended over the 4 days to take part in workshops based on the theme of the life, work and play of a miner at the time the mine at Newtongrange was active. The children were split into 3 groups which then rotated around the workshops as follows:

Poetry & Drama

The children enacted scenes from a poem written about a particular aspect of a miner's life from conditions underground to what he ate in his piece! All songs and poetry were taken from a CD "Songs of Mining Life" which were created as part of a project in Fife schools in 2004 by Gifford Lind.

Song & Percussion

Each group learned a different song based on mining life and enjoyed reproducing "mining sounds" using percussion instruments, such as the marching of the miners' boots as they arrived for work and the beating of the picks on the coal seam. They also participated in some "clabber dancing" as the miners would have done in their hob-nailed boots!

Ceilidh Dance

Finally, the children learned a variety of ceilidh dances, one of which they chose as their "performance piece" and one common dance in which everyone participated as a grand finale.

At the end of each day, the 3 groups performed for their peers. Each group had learned a different poem, song and ceilidh dance to perform to the rest of their colleagues, therefore each audience was treated to a new "show" every time.

The feedback from the children and teachers has been tremendous. They learned so much and packed a lot of activities into the short time available. STDT would like to thank Cheryl Keenan, Cultural Co-ordinator, Midlothian Council and Alison Shepherd, Education Officer, Scottish Mining Museum for inviting us to deliver the project and for helping to make it happen.

Councillor Peter Boyes, Midlothian Council said: "This is a great way to teach young people about their heritage and the feedback from the pupils has been positive".

Some quotes from the children:

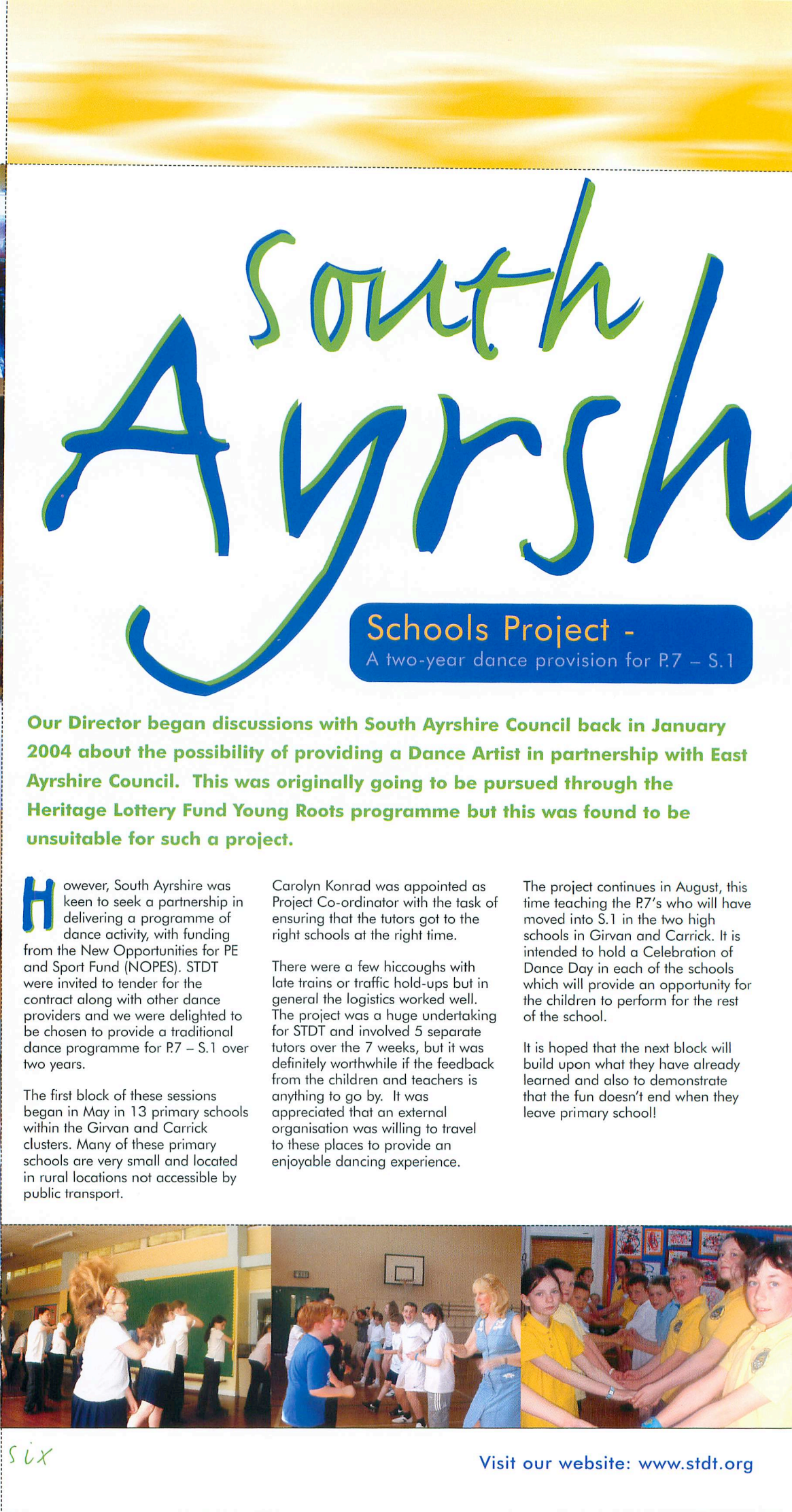
"My favourite part of the day was the performance because it was fun to show everybody what you had done"

"My favourite part of the day has to be the Ceilidh Dancing because it was fun learning how to dance"

"My favourite part of the day was everything except going home"

"Thank you for a wonderful day. It was the best trip ever"

"I enjoyed performing the clabber dance because I made a lot of noise"



South Ayrshire

Schools Project -
A two-year dance provision for P.7 – S.1

Our Director began discussions with South Ayrshire Council back in January 2004 about the possibility of providing a Dance Artist in partnership with East Ayrshire Council. This was originally going to be pursued through the Heritage Lottery Fund Young Roots programme but this was found to be unsuitable for such a project.

However, South Ayrshire was keen to seek a partnership in delivering a programme of dance activity, with funding from the New Opportunities for PE and Sport Fund (NOPES). STDT were invited to tender for the contract along with other dance providers and we were delighted to be chosen to provide a traditional dance programme for P.7 – S.1 over two years.

The first block of these sessions began in May in 13 primary schools within the Girvan and Carrick clusters. Many of these primary schools are very small and located in rural locations not accessible by public transport.

Carolyn Konrad was appointed as Project Co-ordinator with the task of ensuring that the tutors got to the right schools at the right time.

There were a few hiccoughs with late trains or traffic hold-ups but in general the logistics worked well. The project was a huge undertaking for STDT and involved 5 separate tutors over the 7 weeks, but it was definitely worthwhile if the feedback from the children and teachers is anything to go by. It was appreciated that an external organisation was willing to travel to these places to provide an enjoyable dancing experience.

The project continues in August, this time teaching the P.7's who will have moved into S.1 in the two high schools in Girvan and Carrick. It is intended to hold a Celebration of Dance Day in each of the schools which will provide an opportunity for the children to perform for the rest of the school.

It is hoped that the next block will build upon what they have already learned and also to demonstrate that the fun doesn't end when they leave primary school!



ire

From around 300 evaluation forms which were completed,

89% rated the workshops as "Great" or "Good".

When asked if they had learned something new a few of the responses were:

- “ I learned how to dance,
I learned brilliant traditional and hip-hop dance moves,
How to do the Gay Gordons better,
That you can have fun while you're exercising ”

The STDT Dance Archive

Development Gets Underway



in London and we have been provided with a unique code number for our catalogue.

Three months on and Jenny has uncovered a huge amount of material ranging from paper items to oral history tapes and performance videos. She has also been to visit one of our founding Board members, Joan Henderson, who had retained some of the collection in her own at home, until such time as a proper archive was created.

After a successful application to the "Your Heritage" Fund last year, we were able to appoint a professional Archivist to sort and catalogue the dance-related material accumulated by STDT over the years as a result of various research projects and donations.

On 3rd April, Jennifer Duffy began her 12-month task of sorting this material, and producing a catalogue using professional archive software. It is intended that this catalogue will facilitate the official recognition of the STDT archive and that this will be the first stepping stone on the road to a National Archive & Resource Centre for Scottish Traditional Dance. STDT has already been registered with ARCON, the National Archive

The archive will be catalogued by collection, eg Borders, Angus and then by category, eg books, videos etc. There will be cross-referencing where an item could relate to more than one subject or collection. Also to be included will be much of the ongoing work of STDT over the years: this year's active files will become tomorrow's archive.

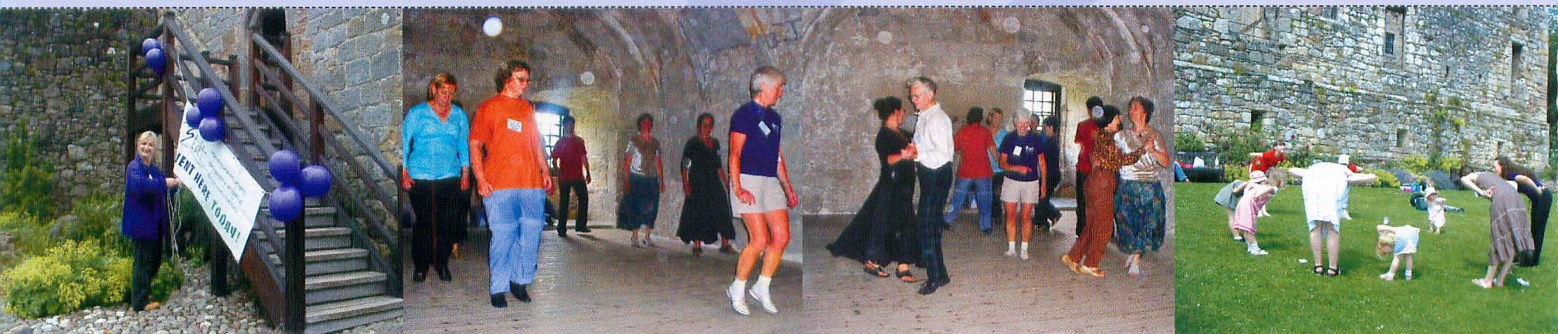
A Volunteer Advisory Group is providing assistance and advice to Jenny in her task based on their knowledge of the material and past STDT project work: Evelyn Hood, Alastair MacFadyen and Joan Henderson. We are grateful to them for giving of their valuable time to contribute to the success of this project.

If you have any dance memorabilia or any type of dance-related material lurking in your attic or rotting in your basement, why not consider donating to the STDT archive? You can be assured that it will be properly stored and will form part of a larger national archive in the future.



Dancing Thru Time

Castle Campbell, Dollar
4th - 7th July 2006



Castle Campbell is dramatically situated above Dollar Glen. The castle was the lowland stronghold of the senior branch of the powerful Campbell clan who were seldom far from the major political and religious events of 15th, 16th & 17th century Scotland.

This was the stunning venue for 4 days of dance activity offered free of charge to community groups within Clackmannanshire in partnership with Clackmannanshire Council and Historic Scotland.

Participants could "dance through time" from Historic and Step Dance to Ceilidh and Fusion or they could choose to visit for a morning or an afternoon only. It was completely flexible. The weather was fantastic which allowed the Ceilidh & Fusion dancing to take place outside in the rose garden with a breathtaking view of the valley below. Many thanks to tutor Robert Lambie for the use of his extra-long electrical extension

cable which permitted us to have music outside!

The Historic and Step dance classes took place in one of the upper rooms reached by an ancient spiral staircase. This room had a stone floor which accommodated the stepping and shuffling, but which also provided a great atmosphere for these styles of dance.

Many bemused visitors to the Castle joined in, including an elderly couple from Canada who were delighted to learn the Military Two-Step!

Many thanks to our tutors: Robert Lambie (Historic); Sheila McCutcheon (Step); Morag Johnston (Step); and Lisa Dunlop (Ceilidh & Fusion) for their enthusiasm and skill in teaching a diverse range of participants from young children to elderly.

It is hoped that a similar event will take place in Castle Campbell next year.

Report from Joyce Anderson

Traditional Dance Artist, Fife



School Sessions

106 Dance Workshops were held in 27 Schools including nurseries and Departments of Special Education, as part of the curriculum, After School Clubs, Health & fitness weeks, and during Easter Workshops with over 3000 children participating in various styles of dance.

Pupils from 19 of the schools joined forces for three Ceilidh Dance days held in Anstruther in the East Neuk, St. Andrews in North Fife, and Glenrothes in the Central Area and Dunfermline in West Fife.

Nine of the schools held their own Scottish days and Ceilidh evenings as fundraisers during which pupils provided demonstrations which were very much appreciated by all.

Keep Fit with Traditional Dance!

Whilst promoting Health and Fitness with traditional dance and calculating steps on pedometers, pupils and teachers have been amazed at the amount of steps gained, as it is usually 2500 - 3000 steps in one hour more than half of what is expected from a child in one day, therefore the motto in Fife is

KEEP FIT WITH TRADITIONAL DANCE!

This has encouraged more young people to join local dance groups and participate in dance events.

Inter-cultural Activities

Ceilidhs which have been organised for those from the English Speaking Of Languages groups in Fife have also proved ever-popular. Pupils from local dance schools have provided demonstrations, along with dancers from the Chinese & Asian Groups bringing various cultures together.

A very successful term of dancing with workshops and demonstrations in constant demand!

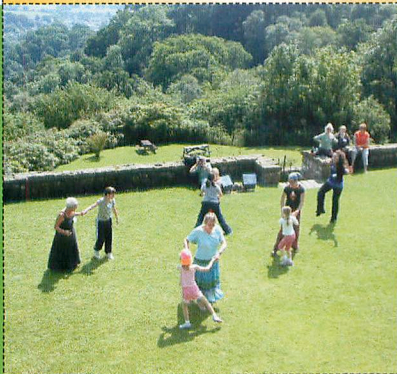
"Arty Party" in Renfrewshire! June 2006

During her time as Traditional Dance Artist in Glasgow, Katie Coull provided some Storytelling workshops, involving dance, percussion and storytelling for young children.

When Renfrewshire Council decided to host its first "Arty Party" mini festival for pupils in primaries 1 - 3, this type of activity was seen as an ideal part of such an arts project. Many different types of art forms were covered from dance to drama.

Katie had been a full-time mum following the birth of Hannah in March 2004, but has gradually been coming back into the world of dance in recent months, and she was happy to take on this task in Renfrewshire which is now her home territory. Together with percussion musician Kenny Johnstone, they covered 5 workshops in 3 separate primary schools.

Lisa Dunlop has continued her seemingly non-stop programme of dance classes, after-school sessions and other dance activities. Here is a brief review to date:



Report from Lisa Dunlop

Traditional Dance Artist, Clackmannanshire

School Sessions

Lisa has targeted more primary schools in her area to offer blocks of classes in traditional dance, ceilidh and fusion, including helping to produce many performances for end of term events. Lisa has worked closely with the PE teachers in many schools to promote fitness through dance.

The Lornshill Academy Fusion Dancers, a small group of keen dancers with whom Lisa works with on a weekly basis to produce original dance pieces, have

already performed at a number of local events. She has been choreographing and teaching a new dance with this group "The Spring Clean Ceilidh", with its debut at a family fun day outdoor performance in Alloa on June 24th.

Nursery Schools

Lisa is due to start a 4-week block of sessions at Clackmannan Nursery teaching Ceilidh routines, specially devised for under-5's. The staff at all Clackmannanshire nurseries will be including dance teaching in the curriculum this year, and this will begin a trial run of the

routines they will teach. She will be teaching the staff during August before the dance block begins.

Community

Lisa takes classes in local community centres for adults and those with special needs. A particular example is the weekly workout in the Whins Centre, Alloa which tries new forms of Fusion such as Bollywood-inspired traditional Scottish routines!

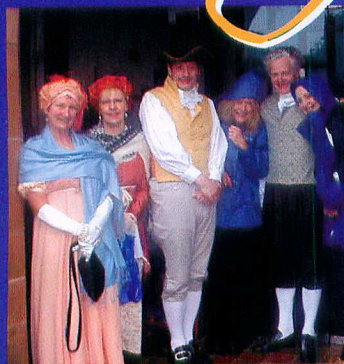
Personal Development

Lisa's post is funded through the

SAC pARTners Programme which allows personal development time for the artist involved. She has already attended "Move It 2006" at Olympia, London where she enjoyed many taster sessions in different dance styles. Lisa embarked on a week's programme of artistic development when she visited the famous Rambert Dance Company in London w/c 26th June to study the choreographic process. She also spent a week with Scottish Dance Theatre in July and is planning to spend some time with "Celtic Spirit" as they begin their process of creating a new performance.

Holy Fair MAUCHLINE

Part of the Burns an' a' That Festival



The Scottish Traditions of Dance Trust were once again delighted to be providing some of the entertainment for the Holy Fair at Mauchline on Saturday 28th May. Unfortunately for the third year running, rain jackets were out and umbrellas poised. However, while the atmosphere of the Holy Fair was slightly dampened, this didn't take away from the enjoyment of the day.

The Edinburgh Early Dancers caused quite a stir when they performed in front of the local library. Each dance was beautifully elegant and the only breaks in the performance coincided with very large black clouds. Then they mingled with the crowds, weaving in and around the numerous arts and craft stalls. That was no easy journey due to the number of people who attended on the day.

Later, the Aileen Robertson Highland Dancers, Step Dancer Donal Brown and the Edinburgh Early Dancers performed in the local church.

Each group gave the audience some background into the dances they were about to perform, and the audience was very appreciative.



Looking forward to

Autumn...

“Dancing Thru Time” –

A Year in the Life of Scotland’s Dances

Top of the Town Community Experience

A year-long project begins in Stirling’s Top of the Town (TOTT) community in September 2006. Saturday 2nd September is the launch date of the 1st stage of the project in the local Darnley Park from 1-4pm.

The afternoon will provide demonstrations and have-a-go sessions in Historic, Step, Ceilidh, Old Time, Highland and Fusion dance aimed at every age group from 3 to 103 years within the local community.

Thanks to financial support from the Scottish Executive Cities Growth Fund, the project aims to get the local community involved in

traditional dance, but also doing some dance research; local schoolchildren will be asked to “interview granny” or their elderly neighbours about dance in their day. There will also be opportunities for people to take photographs of the activities or to produce a video of a workshop, all of which will be collated for a final exhibition.

Many local venues and community groups will be encouraged to get involved: the nursery & primary schools, church, Lunch Club, Boys Club, and the local sheltered housing complex. There will be “Dance Days” held throughout September for the benefit of community groups as well as some

evening dance classes in different styles where locals can drop in and try something new.

The experience is for the benefit of the community who live, work and play at the Top of the Town and all activities will be free of charge to local residents and community groups. We are hoping to get as many people involved as possible, with the experience continuing in February & April 2007.

Report from Pat Ballantyne

Traditional Dance Artist,
Aberdeen City

Workshops

A 3rd series of 6-week sessions has now been completed in local primary schools. There were also Health Week workshops and a lively dance afternoon.

Networking

Discussions have taken place with Brian Morgan, Active Schools Manager, Aberdeen City Council to find out how this government-funded project may be able to provide some tutors to take traditional dance into all primary schools in Aberdeen.

Pat is a member of the North Atlantic Fiddle Convention Steering Committee. The convention is a celebration of fiddle and dance traditions from countries around the North Atlantic and takes place in Aberdeen 26-30 July 2006.

Future Events

There will be a 3rd Share Day in the Beach Ballroom, Aberdeen on 21st June with 7 primary schools taking part.

Pat will be providing step dance workshops, performing in the opening concert and delivering a paper at the conference of the North Atlantic Fiddle Convention, University of Aberdeen.

A visit is planned to the Gordon Highlanders Museum to research regimental dances and assess the possibility of learning and teaching to schools or other areas of the wider community.

From an initial idea from Grampian Television, Pat is looking into setting up a record-breaking dance event, eg longest “Riverside Jig”! Publicity is assured with local radio and local press involvement and the event has possibilities for further promotion. This could be a community-wide event with the initial emphasis on schools.

Footnote

Unfortunately, Pat has now resigned from the post due to family commitments and we are currently seeking a new Dance Artist to complete the final year of the residency. STDT would like to thank Pat for all her work over the past year and wish her well in her new endeavours.

STDT EVENTS AT NATIONAL MUSEUMS OF SCOTLAND

HAWTHORNDEN COURT,
CHAMBER ST, EDINBURGH

ALL DROP-IN EVENTS,
FREE OF CHARGE,
AT 1.45PM & 2.45PM

Sunday 3 September

We introduce the Stirling Highland Dancers, a very experienced group who dance Highland, National and Irish to live pipe music with a brief explanation of the themes behind the dances.

Sunday 1st October

Artist to be confirmed.

Sunday 5 November

Artist to be confirmed.

Sunday 3 December

Edinburgh RSCDS display team take you through some classic Scottish country dances.

STEP DANCE CLASSES
TOLBOOTH, STIRLING
with Donal Brown

Wed 18 Oct - 6 Dec

7.45 – 9.15pm

£42 (£36 conc)

Enquires at 01786 274000

Remember to check our website
for an updated events calendar:

www.stdt.org



Autumn Events

alp scotsmusicgroup

ALP SCOTS MUSIC GROUP EVENTS 2006

September

5th Open Night – St George's West, Shandwick Place, Edinburgh

6th Open Day – St Colm's, Dalry Road, Edinburgh

20th Beginners ceilidh dance class starts

21st Beginners and Intermediate Scottish step dance classes start

22nd Scots Music Group Ceilidh with Da Hooley, St Bride's Centre, Orwell Terrace, near Haymarket, Edinburgh

8pm -midnight, £8/£5, Food available at all.

SMG ceilidhs are lively, friendly and fun and you'll be made welcome whether you come on your own or with a crowd! There's no need to know the dances a 'caller' will explain the dances and show you what to do.

October

20th Scots Music Group Ceilidh – The Belle Star Band (Details above)

November

24th Scots Music Group Ceilidh – The Robert Fish Band (Details above)

ALP Scots Music Group's new Programme of classes in Scots music, song and dance starts on Tuesday 19 September. As well as dance classes we have classes in accordion, fiddle, mandolin, whistle, moothie, bodhran, Scottish small-pipes, Highland bagpipes from absolute beginners to advanced levels. New this year are classes in cello and clarsach.

Scottish Step Dance

This traditional hard-shoe dancing can be danced solo or in small sets.

Absolute Beginners
Thursdays 6.30 – 7.30
Bruntsfield Primary School,
Edinburgh

Whether you've never step danced before or want to refresh your memory, this class will start from the basics and take you through to learning steps and rhythms along with the music.

Wear hard soled shoes.

Intermediate
Thursdays 7.30 – 9.30
Bruntsfield Primary School,
Edinburgh

This class will focus on developing existing skills and becoming more

creative with steps, working on improvisation and exploring the relationship between music and dance rhythms

Tutor: Alison MacLeod

Beginners Ceilidh Dance

Wednesdays 7pm -9pm,
Bruntsfield Primary School,
Edinburgh, This is a drop-in class.

Relaxing, fun and a great way to keep fit. There is an informal approach to the class and the emphasis is on learning the basics in a fun and safe way, whilst retaining the spirit of the dance. No partner necessary.

Wear flat comfortable shoes.

Tutor: Adele Gold, has been a caller for 10 years with Da Hooley Ceilidh Band.

Playing for Ceilidh Dancing

Using well known tunes, the focus will be on getting a feel for the rhythms, rather than learning tunes. There will be opportunities through the term for the class to play for the dancers in the ceilidh dance class. All instruments welcome

Tutor: Sarah Northcott

For more information and enrolment contact 0131 555 7668 or our website:
www.alpscotsmusic.org

Sheila Capewell