# The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society Glasgow Branch

# Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements

# 1 APR 2025 to 31 MAR 2026

## Scottish Charity Number: SC008002

## Charity name: The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society – Glasgow Branch (hereinafter called "the Local Association").

## Charity contact information:

Telephone number: +44 7902 127370

Email address: sec@rscdsglasgow.org

Website: https://www.rscdsglasgow.org/

Facebook: @RSCDSGlasgow

Instagram: @RSCDSGlasgow

## Charity Trustees

- Chair: Ian Johnson (appointed 16/5/2024)
- Chair-elect: Hilary Wood (appointed 16/5/2024)
- Treasurer: Aileen McKenzie (appointed 16/5/2024)
- Secretary: Anne Thorn (appointed 16/5/2024)
- Margaret Sanders (appointed 16/5/2024)
- Les Lambert (appointed 16/5/2024)
- Anne Murray (appointed 18/5/2023)
- Revathy Nayar (appointed 16/5/2024)
- Gale McCallum (appointed 18/5/2023)
- Lyndsey McCrudden (appointed 18/5/2023)
- Cameron Raeburn (appointed 16/5/2024)
- Anne Robertson (appointed 15/5/2025)
- Muriel Bone (appointed 23/10/2025)

Independent Examiner: James Gibson CA (appointed 16/5/2024)

Honorary President: John Johnston (appointed 16/5/2024)

Honorary Vice-President: Fiona McDonald (appointed 16/5/2024)

## Objectives and activities

Glasgow was where the Scottish Country Dance Society was founded. Its inaugural meeting, in the Athenaeum, Glasgow, on 26 November 1923, included five Glasgow-based enthusiasts of Scottish music and/or dancing: Francis Bisset, Michael Diack, Jean Milligan, Lilian Ross and Percy Thomson. They would come to play significant roles in the Society and the Glasgow Branch – the first of many branches.

### RSCDS Glasgow Branch Mission, Vision and Core Values

| | |
|---|---|
| **Mission** | (a) to preserve and further the practice of traditional Scottish country dancing in the Greater Glasgow Area;<br>(b) to provide, or assist in providing, education or instruction to Society standards in the practice of Scottish country dancing;<br>(c) to increase the number of Scottish country dancers in the Greater Glasgow area |
| **Vision** | A thriving Society/Branch with a growing and active membership where generations come together to enjoy regular Scottish country dancing |
| **Core Values** | Strong community spirit<br>Passionate about Scottish country dancing<br>Value and celebrate our Scottish dancing heritage and traditions<br>Providing enjoyment through Scottish country dancing<br>Respect for fellow dancers<br>Uphold and pass-on these core values to the next generations<br>A teaching organisation<br>A learning and adapting organisation |

## Structure, governance and management

### Type of governing document

The Branch is governed in accordance with relevant UK and Scottish laws and regulations and in order of priority:

- The Charity's Constitution and Rules
- Motions passed by the Membership in General Meeting
- Decisions of the Branch Committee

## Trustee recruitment and appointment

Trustees are appointed at the Annual General Meeting of the Members of the Local Association which is held within three months after the end of its financial year at such place and at such time and in such manner as may be determined by the Committee.

## Achievements and performance

Recent years have seen the Branch Committee striving to attract new dancers through a number of initiatives, while also having to devote time and effort to ensuring that Branch policies and procedures comply fully with new legal requirements - in areas like reporting to the Charity Regulator, Privacy and Safeguarding - and keeping a watchful eye on the financial viability of classes and dances. The updating process is (at least for the moment) complete, and the Branch's finances are looking happier, with modest surpluses in both classes and dances.

This has enabled the Committee to develop our Medium-Term Plan, which takes as its starting point the Branch Objects set out in Section 3 of the Branch Constitution:

The objects of the Local Association shall be to advance the education and engagement of the public in the Greater Glasgow area in traditional Scottish country dancing and in furtherance thereof: -

(a) to preserve and further the practice of traditional Scottish country dancing.

(b) to provide or assist in providing education or instruction to Society standards in the practice of Scottish country dancing.

(c) to promote the enjoyment and appreciation of Scottish country dancing and music by any suitable means.

(d) generally, to do such other things as are or may be considered by the Local Association to further the foregoing objects and those of the Society in the Greater Glasgow area, including building working links with other local traditional dance and music initiatives and considers these in the context of all Committee areas of responsibility, including classes, dances, outreach, communication, finance and administration. One development we hope will be significant is creating a Youth sub-committee, to focus on work among the under-35s, and listening to what they have to say.

It is good to be able to look forward with some positivity, but we also recognise that there are challenges facing us in the years ahead:

- despite all attempts to attract new dancers, our membership is decreasing – partly reflecting wider social changes, and partly because many of our younger dancers/ teachers and student friends have to move away in pursuit of employment
- alongside this, the average age of our membership is rising
- it is becoming increasingly difficult to find people able to join the Committee, and in particular to take on the Office-bearer roles. It may be that in the future we will need to revisit the Constitution and consider whether more flexibility is required in term of service.

## Branch Report

This is the 103rd Report for RSCDS Glasgow Branch.

*Membership:* Our current membership stands at 204 (27 Life members, 120 Adult members, 52 Joint members, 4 Young Adult members, 1 Youth member). In addition, we have 16 Associate members and 11 linked groups.

*Classes:* Classes began in September 2025 with six Branch Classes running until March catering for dancers of all abilities from beginners to experienced. As in previous years, Hillpark and Garnethill Beginners had several additional classes in April in preparation for the May "Nice & Easy" Dance. Additionally, four Spring Classes with a "Commonwealth Theme" were held with four different guest teachers. The Branch would like to thank all the musicians and teachers who make our classes possible; it is greatly appreciated.

*Dances:* Eleven dances were held during the last year including the Glasgow 850 Dance in October 2025, the Midwinter Ball in January 2026 and "Nice & Easy" Dances, Branch Dances and a Challenging Dance.

*Glasgow Branch Newsletters:* Three newsletters have been published during the year. We thank our newsletter editor for producing the newsletters with the Committee's and Membership's input. The Newsletters have benefited from interesting and informative contributions from the Newsletter Editor himself. Two Short Newsletters were also produced in June and January.

*RSCDS AGM and Conference Weekend:* This year the Society held its AGM and Autumn Gathering in Glasgow. five delegates attended the AGM, and a full report was published in the Winter Newsletter 2025. Many Branch members were present to take part in evening dances and some of the other enjoyable and informative weekend events.

*Glasgow Music Festival:* The Scottish Country Dancing classes of the Glasgow Music Festival took place on Saturday the 14th of March in the Renfield Centre, Glasgow.

With fewer entries than previously all dancing took place in one extended session. Five enthusiastic primary school aged teams took part. The Marion B Hamilton Certificate was awarded to Comely Park Primary School from the Falkirk area for achieving the highest score of the morning. The Honorary President of GMF was available to present the certificate to the winning team, which was very appropriate as he is also the nephew of Marion B Hamilton.

There were also fewer adult teams participating compared to previous years. The winners of the RSCDS Glasgow Branch Quaich, which is awarded to the team with the highest score of the afternoon, was Glasgow Scottish Country Dancers.

The Branch would like to thank to our adjudicator, scribe and musician, to the school staff, dance instructors and of course the pupils and dancers who all worked so hard, and to all the Glasgow Branch volunteers who acted as stewards on the day. Sincere thanks especially to our Glasgow Music Festival coordinator for all her hard work in making this year's festival a success.

*Primary School Festival - Day of Dance:* This one-day event for Scottish country dancing was once again held in Glasgow City Chambers, hosted by the Lord Provost of Glasgow. 20 Glasgow schools took part however, due to transport issues on the day, a few schools had to call off. There were however over 20 sets dancing at one time.

The Deputy Lord Provost welcomed everyone to the City Chambers. The RSCDS Chair-Elect was in attendance along with Finnie, the 2026 Commonwealth Games mascot.

The Branch would like to thank our MC and to our special five-piece Scottish country dance band for the excellent music. We would like to extend our thanks to our new Day of Dance Coordinator who organised the event in partnership with Glasgow Education. Thanks also to the school teachers, parent chaperones, Glasgow City Council staff and to RSCDS Glasgow Branch members for helping to make this a special day.

*Seniors' Group:* Four meetings took place throughout the year. In June RSCDS Chair Elect gave an informative talk on "Africa - My Africa". One of the organisers of the Seniors' Group lunches was also presented with a bouquet of flowers to thank her for organising the Seniors' Group lunches as she was stepping down from this role. In October our Newsletter Editor gave an excellent presentation on the music and dance connected with the Glasgow 850 celebration. At Christmas, as well as lunch, there was a quiz and in March the Hillpark class and Outreach musician, who is also an RSCDS Management Board Member, entertained attendees.

*Musician's Workshop:* In order increase the pool of musicians who play for our Branch classes, the Branch organised a Musician's Workshop on Sunday 14th September in New Kilpatrick Church Hall. The RSCDS Music Director led the workshop. Instruments consisted of twelve fiddles, one cello, one guitar, one flute, four accordions, one snare drum

and one piano. Everyone who attended enjoyed the experience. Our grateful thanks to the RSCDS Music Director for his expert tuition on the day.

*Outreach:* The Branch has responded to many requests to hold or participate in a wide range of events. We have supplied various teachers, dancers and musicians throughout the year, for a range of activities.

In June the Outreach dancers visited the Memory Lane Dementia Group in St Andrew's Church Barrhead for the first time. In July the dancers made a return visit to the Friendship Group in Giffnock and at the end of July ran a ceilidh session for sixty P1-P7 children attending the FARE Holiday Hunger Programme. In the autumn the dancers were kept busy visiting the Prince and Princess of Wales Hospice in August, the Moments Café in Cathcart Trinity Church and Mearns House Care Home Autumn Fete in September. The Outreach dancers visited the QEUH Stroke Rehabilitation Wards 56/57 in October. A return visit was made to Hawthorn House Care Home in November and to Mearns House Care Home in December.

In November the Branch provided a taster session to students at Caledonian University and a ceilidh dancing session at the Connect Community Trust Community Ceilidh.

A return visit was made to the Prince and Princess of Wales Hospice in January. In February Outreach dancers danced at Kelvinside Manor Care Home for the first time. A return visit was made to the QEUH Stroke Rehabilitation Wards 56/57 in April.

In January our Outreach Convenor was invited to speak at the Symposium on "The Healing Power of Dance" organised by the University of Edinburgh.

*Branch Administration:* This year the Class Convenor vacancy was filled, and another ordinary committee member joined the committee. It still remains challenging to attract Members to serve on the Committee and the Committee is operating with one ordinary committee member vacancy. Committee meetings were split between face-to-face meetings at Sherbrooke Parish Church and over Zoom.

Our webmasters continued to provide valuable and timely support and updating of the Branch Website.

Several sub-committees continued work from previous years: e.g. Classes and Dance Programme sub-committees. The Safeguarding Team met on a number of occasions to revise Branch policies and procedures including incident reports and risk assessment documents.

*Other Notable Events:* Two members of Glasgow Branch were awarded Branch Awards this session for their invaluable services to Scottish country dancing.

Sadly, we lost some branch members and members of our dancing community in the past year.

## Future plans

The Committee has approved a new Medium-Term Plan, based on the Branch Objects in the Branch Constitution:

'The objects of the Local Association shall be to advance the education and engagement of the public in the Greater Glasgow area in traditional Scottish country dancing and in furtherance thereof: -
(a) to preserve and further the practice of traditional Scottish country dancing.
(b) to provide or assist in providing education or instruction to Society standards in the practice of Scottish country dancing.
(c) to promote the enjoyment and appreciation of Scottish country dancing and music by any suitable means.
(d) generally, to do such other things as are or may be considered by the Local Association to further the foregoing objects and those of the Society in the Greater Glasgow area, including building working links with other local traditional dance and music initiatives'

The Plan considers these in the context of our core activities (classes, dances, outreach) and activities that support them (communication, membership, finance and administration).

The Branch finances include a Designated Reserve Fund for 'Development'.

## Financial Review

Trustees' and Treasurer's Report for year ending 31st March 2026 prepared by the Treasurer, Aileen McKenzie.

This year's figures are much better news than last year's. The Branch made a surplus overall. The Branch was able to run a full programme of classes and dances. Dances covered their cost however classes continue to make a loss.

Bank charges this year were less than the interest received but this might not be the case next year. Branch running costs had not been covered by Branch subscriptions but had £7 been collected then Branch running costs would have been covered. Income is still being received from pdf sales of the Centenary Books and from Bandcamp. Overall there is a surplus but is less than last year.

As can be seen from the 2025-2026 annual accounts we are able to meet our financial commitments in Glasgow Branch.

The accounts were examined by James Gibson in the position of Independent Examiner. His report is available on request. All the activities of the Branch throughout the year were consistent with the aims of the Branch as specified in our Branch Constitution.

## Accounts

| RSCDS Glasgow Branch - Accounts for AGM | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | RSCDS Glasgow Branch Receipts & Payments Account | | RSCDS Glasgow Branch Receipts & Payments Account | | | |
| | To 31 March 2026 | | To 31 March 2026 | | | |
| | INCOME | Expenditure | INCOME | Expenditure | surplus/loss | |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | | |
| Class Fees | 12,354.49 | | 11,077.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Class Teaching | | 5,944.89 | 0.00 | 5,024.32 | | |
| Class Music | | 5,244.84 | 0.00 | 3,863.72 | | |
| Class halls | | 3,073.03 | 0.00 | 3,504.80 | | |
| Class expenses | | | 0.00 | 47.48 | | badges |
| Classes Total | 12,354.49 | 14,262.76 | 11,077.00 | 12,440.32 | -1,383.32 | term 2 minimum travel expenses of £5 for teachers and musicians |
| | | | | | | |
| Dance tickets | 8,227.00 | | 9,213.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Dance Catering | | 281.35 | 0.00 | 519.19 | | |
| Dance Printing | | 300.96 | 0.00 | 304.08 | | |
| Dance Bands | | 3,765.63 | 0.00 | 4,040.00 | | |
| Dance Halls | | 1,784.76 | 200.00 | 2,162.90 | | refund of cleaning deposit |
| Midwinter Ball | 2,989.00 | 2493..75 | 2,992.08 | 3,187.20 | | deposit for 2027 paid early |
| Dances Total | 11,216.00 | 8,828.46 | 12,406.08 | 10,213.37 | 2,191.71 | |
| | | | | | | |
| Outreach | | 40.00 | 170.00 | 240.00 | | |
| Festivals | 1,500.00 | 1,198.55 | 750.00 | 1,175.15 | | Glasgow music festival membership, musician(refunded), donation, parking |
| Seniors Lunches | 2,642.35 | 2,108.44 | 2,009.00 | 1,862.06 | | |
| Linked groups | 70.00 | | 56.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Donations | 35.00 | | 501.50 | 0.00 | | |
| Bandcamp (Music) | 458.35 | | 233.32 | 0.00 | | music for centenary book |
| Centenary books | 240.00 | | 45.00 | 0.00 | | pdf of centenary book |
| Glasgow 850 | | | 198.00 | | | This is to be paid to the Lord Provost fund |
| Grant | | | 0.00 | 500.00 | | For a new musician to go to Summer School |
| Barlanark | | | | 152.41 | | repayment of overpayment |
| Activities Total | 4,845.70 | 3,346.99 | 3,962.82 | 3,929.62 | 33.20 | |
| | | | | | | |
| Branch running costs | | 542.39 | 0.00 | 216.16 | | |
| Newsletter | | 64.80 | 0.00 | 194.40 | | |
| Insurance | | 205.00 | 0.00 | 160.00 | | Reduced due to lower membership |
| Safeguarding | | 28.95 | 0.00 | 0.00 | | |
| Hall Lets | | 140.00 | 0.00 | 240.00 | | for committee meetings |
| Expenses | | 560.09 | 0.00 | 406.67 | | paper, envelopes, stamps, printer ink for office bearers duties and first aid kits for classes and dances |
| Branch costs total | 0 | 1,541.23 | 0.00 | 1,217.23 | -1,217.23 | |
| | | | | | | |
| Subscriptions | 6,053.50 | 4,749.00 | 5,948.50 | 4,833.00 | 1,116.50 | This is lower than the branch running costs it is meant to cover. Due to error on form, subs were charged at £6 but should have been £7 |
| | | | | | | |
| Bank charges | | | 22.92 | 69.76 | | charges were refunded one month |
| Interest earned | 347.88 | | 577.58 | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Total | 34,817.67 | 32,649.11 | 33,993.90 | 32,703.30 | 1,290.60 | |
| | | | | | | |
| Surplus/(Loss) for year | 2,388.48 | | 1,290.60 | | | |

RSCDS Glasgow 25-26 Treasurer Report

| 2025-26 Balance sheet for AGM | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 31-Mar 2025 | 31st March 2026 | |
| | £ | £ | |
| **Opening Balance** | 44,362 | 47,808 | |
| **Surplus/(Loss)to date** | 3,446 | 1291 | |
| **Closing Balance** | 47,808 | 49,099 | |
| **Represented by** | | | |
| **Skipton BS** | 0 | 0 | |
| **Charity Bank** | 11,417 | 11,756 | |
| **BoS current account** | 36,351 | 7,064 | |
| **BOS instant access** | | 10003 | |
| **BoS 32 day** | | 10023 | |
| **BoS 95 day** | | 10213 | |
| **Float** | 40 | 40 | |
| | 47,808 | 49,099 | |
| **Note** | | | |
| **Debtors & prepayments** | | | |
| payments future function | | 200 | hall let deposits |
| East Dun overpayment | | 185 | |
| Barlanark | 848 | | |
| | 848 | 385 | |
| **Creditors & Accruals** | | | |
| Overpaid sub | | | |
| payments due | 29 | 54 | underpaid expenses and SNLN guest payment |
| **Glasgow 850** | | 198 | to be paid to Lord Provost fund |
| sub due to HQ | | | |
| Receipts in advance of functions | | | |
| | 29 | 251.83 | |

**Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner**

The charities trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. The society trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the Account Regulation does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the accounts as required under section 44(1)© of the Act and to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**Basis of Independent Examiner's statement**

My examination is carried out in accordance with Regulation 11 of the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeks explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and, consequently I do not express an audit opinion of the accounts.

**Independent examiner's statement**

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirement: to keep accounting records in accordance with section 44(1)(a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the Accounts Regulations, and to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations have not been met, or

2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

James N Gibson
44 Aytoun Road
Glasgow
G41 5HN

Signed *James N Gibson* Date 12/5/2026

## Declaration

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees:

| |
|---|
| *C I W Johnson* |

| | |
|---|---|
| Print name | Colin Ian William Johnson |
| Designation | Chair RSCDS Glasgow Branch |
| Date | 15/5/2026 |