

Dear Branch Secretary / Delegate

4 October 2007

Subscription Fee Increase

In my column in issue No 4 of our magazine, *Scottish Country Dancer*, I indicated that a proposal would be presented to you in the near future of an increase in our subscription fee. This letter should not, therefore, come as a surprise.

Scottish country dancing, as we know it today, would not be available to us without the structure and organisation of the RSCDS. We are extremely grateful to the twenty-seven people who attended a meeting held by Mrs Stewart and Miss Milligan in 1923. They laid the foundations of our organisation and it is our duty to ensure we invest in it for future generations.

Much of the work of the Society is funded by membership subscriptions. The current subscription is no longer adequate to support a worldwide organisation in the 21st century. Members expect new initiatives and new services and these cost money. The Management Board is proposing to increase the subscription by £5. This is not the first time this size of increase has been proposed. At the thirty-eighth Annual General Meeting, held on the 28 October 1967 in Oban, the subscription was increased to 7s6d. It had previously been 5/-.

The RSCDS made Scottish country dancing popular. Dancers throughout the world have benefited. People who dance have an amazing social network; wherever you go you can connect with someone who either dances or knows a dancer. How important is it to you that our country dancing family endures for many more generations?

I urge you to consider how much an extra £5 per year is – approximately 10p per week. When I speak to people who are members of other organisations, they are amazed at how little it costs to belong to the RSCDS, especially with its worldwide status.

Please think carefully about the future of our Society. Do you value its existence? Do you wish it to continue? If the answer to both questions is positive then now is the time to show your support for the Management Board's proposal.

Yours sincerely



Chairman

The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society

12 Coates Crescent **Tel:** +44 (0)131 225 3854
Edinburgh **Fax:** +44 (0)131 225 7783
Scotland **Email:** info@rscds.org
EH3 7AF **Web:** www.rscds.org