

## 2021 NOMINATIONS FOR MANAGEMENT BOARD



**Andrew Nolan**

*RSCDS London*

**Proposer:** Robert Mackay (*RSCDS Edinburgh*)

**Seconder:** Rachel Shankland (*RSCDS Youth*)

I would like to support the Management Board in achieving the Society's strategic goals, particularly after COVID has had such an impact and as it moves towards its centenary year. I would like to be an advocate for live music within the Society, Branches and Affiliated Groups, and to find new ways of supporting musicians to play for SCD.

Most of the new dancer recruitment is carried out locally through Branches so I'd also like to support continued close dialogue between Branches, dance groups, the Board and HQ; to share ways recruitment is already being carried out efficiently and effectively and to explore ways to support and deliver future campaigns.

I have previously served on the Education & Training Committee (2009-12) and have taught, played and most recently tutored at Summer School. Professionally, I am a data analyst for a bank and would bring with me a logic-driven approach to problem solving, a keen eye for innovation and a desire for fiscal stability.

I am keen that younger members are represented at Board level and look forward to contributing ideas to help continue and enhance the good work that the RSCDS does.



**Chris Ronald**

*RSCDS International, Leicester, New York and New Jersey*

**Proposer:** Mel Briscoe (*RSCDS Boston*)

**Seconder:** Anne Robertson (*RSCDS Oban & Lorn*)

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought huge challenges. But where there are challenges there are also opportunities. I would like to support the RSCDS in seeking out and grasping the opportunities. Scottish country dancing is exceptional in offering something to everyone, from 8 to 80, and beyond. Younger people may lap up high energy, precise movements; others may specially appreciate the mental challenge; and all enjoy the sociability and exercise. I believe there could be substantial growth in SCD if we can satisfy the needs of different class settings around the world.

I have been a teacher for the last 20 years, and with my wife have tutored over 20 candidates in the New York area for the RSCDS certificate examinations. Besides being a tutor, I am a DAA Assessor and a Trainer in the newly-created Core Training for Instructors (CTI) scheme. I have served on the Membership Services Committee and the Education and Training Committee.

I am now living in the UK, but spent my career with the United Nations, holding management positions in UN offices in Africa, Asia, Europe and UN Headquarters in New York.



**Helen McGinley**

*RSCDS International and Belfast*

**Proposer:** Linda Gaul (*RSCDS Perth & Perthshire*)

**Seconder:** Lucy Mulholland (*RSCDS Belfast*)

I began Scottish country dancing at school in the 1980s and was quickly hooked. I have danced in several different countries, been on various dance club committees, and currently share the planning and instruction at Dublin SCD Club, an affiliated group. I have a good knowledge of the workings of the RSCDS, having served two terms on the Membership Services Committee, where I was involved with the production of Books 46-50 and some of the revised, combined books, and now being in my second term on the Scottish Country Dancer Editorial Board.

My day job in a library reinforces my organisational and communications skills. I am committed to sharing the joy and health benefits of SCD with as wide an audience as possible, and particularly to establishing greater engagement of affiliated groups and individual dancers with the RSCDS community.

The forthcoming centenary of our Society is a great cause for celebration and I would be proud to be involved with the planning of events which will see it thriving in the future.



**Muriel Bone**

*RSCDS Glasgow*

**Proposer:** Ruth Beattie (*RSCDS Glasgow*)

**Seconder:** Anne Taylor (*RSCDS Banffshire*)

As a member of the RSCDS for most of my life, I am committed to preserving the strengths of the Society as we adapt to the challenges of the “new normal” in the run-up to our Centenary. I have particular interest in how the Board can help Branches promote Scottish dancing, including when appropriate, a range of styles. Worldwide, our Branches need support to cope with the current unprecedented situations. Communication is vital and organisers could benefit from help with marketing, more formalised channels for sharing good practice and encouragement to co-operate regionally.

I have now completed three years on the Education & Training Committee and I was part of the sub-group which worked collaboratively to develop the Core Training for Instructors. During my time as Chairman of Glasgow Branch, I led the team which delivered a successful Spring Fringe in 2018. As a fully certificated SCD teacher, I have taught a range of classes. Meeting dancers from other places is one of the joys of being part of the RSCDS and I have attended Summer and Winter School and danced overseas.

My professional background is secondary school teaching, where I managed a subject department.



**Simon Wales**

*RSCDS London*

**Proposer:** Angela Young (*RSCDS Aberdeen*)

**Seconder:** Andrew Kellett (*RSCDS London*)

I am standing for the Management Board after 35 years of membership of the RSCDS, most of them spent on the London Branch committee, with the last 20 as Branch treasurer. I have been Chair, (and almost every other role!) am currently editing *The Reel* and am on the sub-committee working to relaunch the Branch ready to attract younger dancers for the society centenary.

I have many years of experience as a trustee of various voluntary and not for profit organisations – currently Vice Chair of the Croydonplus Credit Union, and on the board of Croydon Action for Young Single Homeless. I also chair the local Dementia Friendly Community. As a former deputy leader and lead member for resources of a London Borough Council, I am well versed in the relationship between members and officers in a member led organisation, as well as finding innovative solutions to funding problems. It has also given me extensive committee experience.

I believe that the two main challenges facing the Society are dwindling membership and dwindling finances and it needs to take effective action to address both issues before it is too late. I would bring the skills, ideas and experience to help do this.