

2020 NOMINATIONS FOR MANAGEMENT BOARD



Trevor Clarke MBE

RSCDS North West Craven

Proposer: Sue Porter (*RSCDS Oban and Lorn*)

Seconder: Di Rooney (*RSCDS Cheshire*)

I believe I can make a positive contribution to the Society that will ensure its growth and development.

I spent over 30 years as CEO of a charity responsible for 25 employees and over 100 volunteers. I raised in excess of £50,000 each year for core costs and over £4M for capital projects during my career. I am currently Membership Secretary of the Association of Heads of Outdoor Education Centres. Membership of this organisation has increased during my time in this role after making membership more attractive due to a more effective communication network between members.

I have 12 years active involvement in Scottish Country Dancing in the NW Craven area. I Joined the Branch Committee in 2010, became vice-chairman in 2011 and Chairman in 2012. During my time of influence on our committee, Branch membership has increased by 25%

I am committed to the Society and would like to help put in place strategies to support the Branch structure and increase individual membership.



Neil Copland

RSCDS Perth and Perthshire

Proposer: Jim Healy (*RSCDS Perth and Perthshire*)

Secunder: Jimmie Hill (*RSCDS Dunfermline*)

I want to support the new Chair and Board to drive forward the Business Plan, and to re-establish the RSCDS following the COVID pandemic. The future is going to be very different, and the Society will need to review what it does, and how it does it.

I also want to see the RSCDS reach out and build on existing relationships with musicians to both promote the use of live musicians (where available), and develop plans/training to ensure that dancers of the future have the opportunity to enjoy live music wherever in the world they live.

I was appointed to the Board in November 2019, having previously spent 2 elected terms on the Board (2006-2009 and 2011-2014). I am standing for election now so that I can be part of taking the RSCDS forward post COVID, and as it approaches its centenary year. Through my previous membership of the Finance & Governance Advisory Panel (from 2008-2018), I have extensive knowledge of how the RSCDS operates.

I was a senior local government Finance Manager, thus I have considerable experience in operating within a Committee structure, and dealing with complex financial matters. I am currently a Trustee of 2 Scottish Registered Charities.



Fiona Grant

RSCDS Bristol and RSCDS International

Proposer: Chris Harris (*RSCDS International*)

Seconder: Lydia Hedge (*RSCDS Nova Scotia*)

My main aims:

- To promote communication/support/shared activities between branches and other affiliated and non-affiliated dance groups within local areas.
- To assist the RSCDS at this time of fiscal difficulty.

About me:

I grew up with Scottish music in Aberdeen and danced as a student in Edinburgh, gaining my SCD teaching certificate. I have taught children and adults SCD, and now teach regularly in Bath and Bristol. Always an enthusiastic itinerant dancer, I have taught workshops in Europe, North America and Africa, as well as in Scotland at the St Andrews summer school. I have been treasurer and newsletter editor for RSCDS Bristol; and while treasurer of the International branch, I organised dance workshops in far-flung places.

Professionally, my Biology degree led me to looking after the BBC Natural History film archive. At the same time, my partner and I created a TV production company making science and natural history documentaries. My role as company director extends to being production and finance manager: looking after sizeable budgets, contracts and film schedules.

I am keen to help enable us all to continue to participate in what I believe to be one of the most creative, energetic and sociable recreational activities ever invented!



David Macdonald

RSCDS Aberdeen

Proposer: Isobel McMillan (*RSCDS Aberdeen*)

Seconder: Sheila Bain (*RSCDS Aberdeen*)

I am standing for the Board for three reasons.

First, I want to give something back to the organisation which has given me so much fun and which represents one of the most important cultural strands of my homeland.

Second, I served as a one-year Board member (2017-18) –just enough time to learn the ropes but not enough to make a difference, so I have unfinished business.

Third, I think the RSCDS faces an existential challenge, with declining membership and a global pandemic which threatens the very roots of dancing – no handing, no large gatherings, and the challenge of smiling at the other dancers from behind a mask.

I believe I have the right experience and qualifications to help face this challenge: I spent my career organising and leading geological expeditions to remote parts of the world in circumstance where the unexpected is the norm and you learn to manage crises. I would bring these skills to the Board, developing schemes to expand the reach and depth of Scottish Country Dancing: develop international branches, increase involvement in schools, and hold more ceilidhs. With skill and hard work we will survive – I want to help us do so.



Jane Meikle

RSCDS Dumfries

Proposer: Maureen Rutherford (*RSCDS Perth and Perthshire*)

Seconder: Peter Clark (*RSCDS Dumfries*)

As a member of the Management Board, my aim would be to contribute to the smooth running of the RSCDS as it strives to achieve the strategic aims set out in the Business Plan.

Following the worldwide Covid-19 pandemic and the restriction of social dancing, I feel it's important the Management Board has a full complement of members as the RSCDS recovers from this setback and moves forward towards its Centenary year.

As a previous NHS employee, I was used to working as part of a team and keeping within guidelines and timescales, all of which I see as being beneficial to this role.

Having regularly attended and supported events since joining the RSCDS in 1982 and also having held the positions of Chairman of Dumfries Branch and Secretary of Teachers' Association Scotland, the knowledge and experience I've gained should help me contribute effectively to the Management Board.

2020 NOMINATION FOR MANAGEMENT BOARD FOR 2 YEARS



Joan Nesbitt

RSCDS Oxfordshire

Proposer: Keith Rose (RSCDS Milton Keynes)

Seconder: James Stott (RSCDS Aberdeen)

London born. Mother from Ythan Wells, Aberdeenshire. Highland Dancing with Jack Maconochie in Wembley aged 12 years and SCD in Fetter Lane, London.

Husband in RAF (as myself): Postings to Singapore, UK and Germany, returned to RAF Abingdon in Oxfordshire.

Chartered Secretary/Administrator (Retired). 30 years at Board level as PA and Assistant Company Secretary. Career history includes corporate and business administration covering Board and Management Meetings, pensions, insurances, accounts, HR. Working with directors, employees and professional advisers. Observing and following good working practices and governance. Pre 1987 6 years in solicitors and RAF Services Institute Fund.

International Branch Membership Secretary from November 2016 to November 2020. During 4 years with the IB I travelled and attended events throughout Scotland and Europe, experiencing first hand the interest and enthusiasm in SCD in the UK and around the world. I'm keen to continue my involvement in SCD and play a part in the future of RSCDS by supporting its aims to attract dancers, particularly young dancers, to enjoy SCD. Effective communication and involvement with members in developing ideas to promote, encourage and support their participation.