

## 2023 NOMINATIONS FOR MANAGEMENT BOARD



**Heather Cowan**

*RSCDS Glasgow Branch*

**Proposer:** Margo Priestley (RSCDS Edinburgh)

**Seconder:** Elma McCausland (RSCDS Belfast)

As a dancer, mother of a dancer, dance teacher, collaborator with musicians, I wish to volunteer to help lead the Society for current and future generations.

My goal is to help drive the strategic aims of the society ensuring that dancing is accessible to all ages, abilities and localities thereby promoting happiness and health and wellbeing benefits. I have previously volunteered on affiliated groups, at branch level and through the running of Spring Fling. I have also benefited from the support the Society gives through my teaching qualification, tutoring course and having the opportunity to teach at St. Andrew's Summer School. I wish to use these positive experiences to support the RSCDS, the staff, members worldwide and other volunteers through the various committees and running of the society.

Alongside my passion and commitment for SCD I bring professional experience of strategic roles within the Scottish Government. I provide leadership, manage teams, assimilate information to provide advice and support decision making. My work also provides me with a wide policy background to support the work of Society.

At all times I will act with the same behaviours you would expect of a Board Member including integrity and diplomacy.



**Clare Grycuk**

*RSCDS Aberdeen Branch*

**Proposer:** Jean Martin (RSCDS Aberdeen)

**Seconder:** James Stott (*RSCDS Aberdeen*)

First and foremost, dancing has brought great joy to my life, starting at the age of 4 years with Irish dancing and returning to Scottish Country Dancing after University, career, marriage and children. I have been Chairman of the Aberdeen Branch, danced in festivals and helped organise Spring Fling. I am a grass roots dancer attending dances most weeks and feel it is important to bring the views and suggestions of regular dancers to the Board. I would also like to ensure that we have practical, workable plans in place to encourage and welcome dancers of all ages and abilities to the RSCDS.



**Evelyn Redmond**

*RSCDS Belfast Branch*

**Proposer:** Aileen Paterson (*RSCDS Belfast*)

**Seconder:** Elizabeth Cameron (*RSCDS Belfast*)

Born in Scotland, I have lived most of my life in Northern Ireland, where I was delighted to discover I could continue my love of Scottish country dancing. A member of Belfast Branch, I have been a qualified teacher for over 30 years and have taught at all levels, Basic/Intermediate, General, Advanced, Demonstration and DAA. I have also taught at Summer School and am now a CTI trainer.

I have served on the Branch Committee for over ten years, among other things leading the Events Sub-committee and recently completed a four-year term as Chairman of the Branch which runs eight classes.

In my professional life I was a Manager in the Civil Service, then in Banking, where I gained valuable experience in administration and finance, team management and communication skills. In my spare time, I work in a local hospital as a volunteer for a major Cancer Charity, where listening and communication skills are key.

I believe that anything worth doing is worth doing well and that is my approach to SCD. I hope that my life/work experience enables me to make a positive contribution to the Management Board in support of the strategic aims of the Society.



**Eileen Yates**

*RSCDS Carolinas Branch*

**Proposer:** Luke Brady (*RSCDS St Andrews*)

**Second:** Linda Henderson (*RSCDS San Francisco*)

I live in North Carolina but was born and raised in Scotland. I received my teaching certificate in 1991 and have led groups ever since. I have taught workshops all over the United States and have attended Thistle School, TAC (where I took the Medal Assessor Course), RSCDS Summer School, as well as Winter School in Pitlochry. I was a cofounder of the Carolinas Branch in 2006 and have served in many capacities including being awarded the Branch award.

For many years I was the Director of Scottish Country Dancing at both Loch Norman and Grandfather Mountain Highland Games. Just recently I was a founder member and vicechair of the new Blue Ridge Scottish Dance School in NC.

Being retired I have time to attend meetings as required.

I would like to help achieve an organization where RSCDS feels more inclusive to Branches with different cultures that are far removed geographically from Scotland. I feel I can make a contribution with my international experience that would provide a good perspective from the point of view of overseas branches to promote the joys and benefits of Scottish Country Dancing.