

11a, Cavendish Road,
Leeds, 1.

March 6th, 1955.

Ans^d. April 29th.

Dear Dr. Flett,

Miss Felicity Blake attended a dance in Liverpool recently, at which your dancing team gave a demonstration. She was exceedingly impressed by the dances and costumes of your team, and when she told me about them, and also something of your ideas, I was really delighted to find an active body who were outside the bounds of the R.S.C.D.S., and who feel that some of the standards are too highly stylised.

I myself teach two Scottish Dance Groups in this district, and of course, as I am an 'engaged instructor' I have to conform to the R.S.C.D.S. standard more or less..though I myself am not a certificated teacher of theirs.

In July another body, the Leeds Scottish Country Dance Club, are holding a Festival of Scottish Dance, and each of the groups I teach would like to enter a team. I am already teaching one of them the "New Petronella", the instructions I obtained from Liverpool University S.C.D.S., but I wondered if you could give me the full instructions....if I may so impose upon your time and generosity...as I feel that in the written instructions passed on to me, there is insufficient detail. While I do not wish to plagiarize, I wondered, too, if you might know of any dances not yet appropriated by the R.S.C.D.S., (reels or jigs, preferably), which I might teach to the second group, in order for them to demonstrate one of them at the Festival in July. Miss Blake

mentioned "La Clutha", and if you could let me have instructions for this and/or any others which you might think would make good demonstration dances, I would be indeed grateful. It would be a pleasure to put-on some dances which most of the other clubs do not know, simply because they seek no further than the R.S.C.D.S. booklets and leaflets.

If, by any chance, you prefer to keep the dances you have collected for the exclusive use of your own team, I shall of course, understand, and I hope you will forgive me for troubling you in this event.

I do not know if you have any printed leaflets or books of the dances you use, but if so, I would be very glad to purchase them, if you could give me details.

Miss Blake also mentioned "The Cockfight" as she said it was a lovely dance beautifully performed, and as this would appeal to our University group...who are a good deal more advanced dancers than the two groups I have already mentioned, are details available of this also, please? I mentioned reels and jigs in connection with the festival, as the demonstrations will probably be done on grass, and as the two groups are doing demos. for the first time, I thought they would probably find a strathspey somewhat difficult under the conditions. If you do have any books or leaflets of strathspeys, I shall of course, be delighted to know of them, and I can assure you that should you be willing to allow these dances to be taught to a considerable number of people, I would be ~~delighted~~ very grateful to have the opportunity of using them.

With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

B.P. Archer

(C.P. ARCHER).