



The Town Crier

Village Green English Country Dancers

English Country Dancing is Friendship Set to Music



March 2013

Visit our website at <http://www.villagegreenenglishcountrydancing.org>

Hello, Everyone:

In the early 70's John Trevenen went to Pinewoods dance camp on Cape Cod in Massachusetts with David Williams discovering English Country Dance and Morris and they were enthralled. The seeds of Village Green English Country Dancers and the Village Green Morris Men were sown when John and David returned to Winnipeg. Many long-term VG members remember John as vibrant, enthusiastic, and full of life. Because of John, we have the Village Green community—we are so fortunate!

John was also involved in the development of Manitoba International Folk Dance Association (MIFDA). He was a school teacher by day with varied interests by night: he was involved with and he sang with me in the madrigal group Buxton Consort for a number of years.

Each year in March we commemorate John's contribution with a dance evening. The earliest dance evenings were held with the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society (RSCDS) as John loved both Scottish and English dance. In recent years, Village Green has been the sole sponsor of this event.

This year's John Trevenen workshop and evening dance were a great success. Jeannie Gilbert taught wonderful dances in the afternoon emphasizing how women's restrictive corsets influenced dance style. Thanks to Jeannie, Bob Butler, and the other members for the displays of costumes (and what was worn under them)—very illuminating and providing the perfect ambiance for the event.

The two events sandwiched a Farewell Tea for Caroline McDowell. Fifty people visited while enjoying tea, sandwiches, cakes, cookies, and scones with a teapot, whipped cream, and jam at each table in the most civilized English manner. Many thanks to the many people who made the tea possible and successful. We are very sad to have Caroline leave us for British Columbia this spring.

President's Podium



In April Wednesday nights will be devoted to practicing dances for the Spring Ball. It's coming soon! April 20th! You can get tickets from Sandra Johnston. After the Ball our season closes with the last class on April 24th and a May Day celebration on May 1st with a maypole and other entertainment. Mark your calendar now. At the AGM, on Wednesday, May 8th, we invite your participation and input—and there will be dancing!

Cheers,

Katherine Himmelblau

The ALL BALL Issue!
Find pictures from
Caroline's Farewell Tea
too.

What's Inside

Upcoming Events

Ado About Something Spring Ball

AGM May 8th 7:00 p.m. at Harrow

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Danceophile's Corner

Fun and Fashion in Shakespeare's Time

Fashion

During Shakespeare's time, fashion was elaborate and highly stylized, characterized by intricate trim, bright colours, and sumptuous fabrics. People demonstrated their wealth and social class through their clothing. Lower social classes used less expensive materials to achieve the same look, such as linen instead of silk and glass beads instead of gemstones.

Shakespeare's own fashion demonstrates the trends of the day for men. Button-down shirts called "jerkins" were worn over loose, knee-length pants. Silk stockings of any colour rose to meet them. Velvet or silk hats were popular, as were caps adorned with feathers. Cloaks fastened beneath the chin protected men from the weather. Men used padding anywhere they felt it improved their shape, such as in the front of their pants or on their calves.

Fashion for women included elaborate gowns with fitted bodices, ruffled sleeves, and intricate embroidery. Large skirts were held out by multiple layers of underskirts. Women covered their hair with hairnets called "snoods", which were gathered fabric bags that sometimes matched their gown. Around the neck women, like men, wore stiff ruffs, which were starched collars of many layers of linen. Both men and women wore wigs to achieve elaborate styles.

Cosmetics were also popular means to lighten women's faces, add blush to their cheeks and enhance eyes and lips. Jewelry was used by both men and women and included earrings, chain necklaces, bracelets and watches, rings, broaches, hat and shoe buckles.

Elizabethan Entertainment

Entertainment was very important to people of this era. Lives were hard, the mortality rate was high due to frequent outbreaks of the plague and life expectation was low. Entertainment was popular whenever there was anything to celebrate: a betrothal, wedding, victories or festivals.

Court entertainment was regular, often a nightly occurrence combined with feasts, jousts, and banquets often accompanied by music and dancing. The poorer people enjoyed entertainment from acting troupes, tournaments, dancing, trained animals, mummers, mystery plays, jugglers and strolling minstrels. Tournaments, games, sports, gaming, and gambling also played an important part in Elizabethan times.

Sandra Johnston,

based on www.reference.com/motif/history/fashion-in-shakespeare's-time



Ado About Something Dance Program
 Geud Man of Ballangigh
 Round the Corner
 Terpsicourante
 Another Nancy's Fancy
 Fenterlarick
 Freeford Gardens
 Cockle Shells
 The Masterful Potter
 Five-Acre Wood
 Jerzy and Margaret's Jubilee Dance
 Trip to Paris
 Mr. Isaac's Maggot
 We'll Wed and We'll Bed (Dublin Bay)
 Elizabeth's Garden
 Gold for the Mahieus
 Never Love Thee More

A CD with the dance tunes will be available for sale (\$5.00). Dance instructions will be posted on the web site.



Ado About Something Menu

Soup
Roasted Butter Nut

Salad
Mixed Greens Tossed with Julienne of Vegetables, Pumpkin Seeds, Tomato, Feta Cheese, and Fresh Dill

Entrees
Grilled Chicken Breast in Wild Mushroom Sauce

or
Rice Tofu with White Bean Stir Fry Topped with Cheese and Tomato Sauce

Chef's Choice of Vegetables

Dessert
Warm Apple Tart with Caramel Crust Garnished with Chocolate and Strawberry
Coffee and Tea Service

Created by Chef Craig, owner of Urban Prairie Cuisine and chef at the Winter Club.

**VG Event Calendar
2012-2013 Season**

Apr. 20 th	Spring Ball
Khartum Shrine	"Ado About Something"
Centre, 1155 Wilkes	Last Class
April 24 th	
May 1	May Day Celebration
May 8	VG AGM

Challenge Class Schedule

Apr. 7

Wind Up April 28 5:30 – 9:30 pm

2013/2014 Season

Sept. 11, 2013	First class
Oct. 26	Saturday Dance evening
Nov. 13	Tea Night
Dec. 4	Last class
Dec. 7	Christmas Dance
Jan. 8, 2014	First class
Feb. 19	Tea Night
Mar. 8	John Trevenen Dance
April TBC	Weekend Workshop
April 30	Last class
May 7	Annual General Meeting

Watch the Town Crier for any changes.



Photos Credit For Farewell Tea Iris Moehring.

ADO ABOUT SOMETHING



BRUSH UP YOUR SHAKESPEARE!

It's Village Green's Shakespearean Spring Ball!

SATURDAY, 20 APRIL 2013

KHARTUM SHRINE CENTRE, 1155 WILKES AVENUE

BAR OPENS 5:30,

DINNER 6:00,

DANCING 7:30

Elizabethan Entertainment During Intermissions!



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Payment is on a sliding scale so that as many as possible can attend.
The estimated cost per person is \$55; the suggested scale is \$45 to \$60.
Cost for dancing without dinner is \$25. The bar is a cash bar.

Make cheques payable to Village Green ECD.

Give to Sandra at class or mail to:

S. Johnston, 825 Cathcart St., Winnipeg MB R3R 3C1.

Ticket sales end on Wednesday, April 10th.

Name..... Address.....

Phone/E-mail.....

No. of tickets Amount Paid..... Chicken entrée Vegetarian entrée