

### Afternoon of Challenging Dances.

On Sunday September 15th around 30 experienced dancers met Mervyn Short in the Rawson Hall, Bolney, Mid Sussex to be challenged by nine tricky Scottish Country Dances. Some of the Dances had won the Jack MacConachie Sword in an Imperial Dance Competition from last century! Some of us remembered practicing these dances and competing. All the dances have just been published by the RSCDS in the Imperial Book of Scottish Country Dances Vol. 2. It was the intention of the competition to introduce a different formation or movement that was interesting. We had to concentrate hard as all the dances were different but enjoyable. Great fun.

We learnt one dance devised by Mervyn, *King Edwards Jig*. The other competition winners covered were *Touch Me Not* by Michelle Williams, *When in Doubt*, *dance Petronelle* by Janet Cook and *Morgan Lundi* by Pam Johnston. Two other dances were derived from music recorded on Sunday Class Recorded Highlights Volume 1 by Jim Linday and his Band. I expect some of the dances will be introduced to groups in the southeast and may even make it onto some dance programmes.

Following the success of the afternoon Mervyn has agreed to do two further sessions on Sunday February 2<sup>nd</sup> and Sunday May 3<sup>rd</sup>. They will be from 2pm to 5pm and again in the Rawson Hall Bolney,.

Please put these dates in your diary if interested in attending these similar events and pass the information on to fellow dancers.

Fran Bramham.