

Victoria English Country Dance



Hands Across The Water — 2022

An English Country Dance Weekend  September 9–11

Victoria Edelweiss Club, 108 Niagara Street, Victoria BC

Dance Leader — **Brad Foster**

Musicians — **The Dancehall Players & Friends**



Brad Foster (Shutesbury, Massachusetts) is widely known for sharing his love of dance through teaching, calling, and training callers for English Country Dance—as well as American contras, squares, and Morris & Sword. He’s been dancing and teaching for some 40 years now, travelling for dance camps and weekend workshops throughout the US, Canada, and Europe. He also performs (concertina) with a number of dance bands

Brad’s stellar career started with country dancing while still in his teens in Southern California; he began teaching folk dance in his early twenties while at UC Santa Cruz (which he says “quickly turned into an English Country Dance”). He went on to found the *Bay Area Country Dance Society* (which organizes *Hey Days*, an annual English dance and music week); he also co-founded the Mendocino *English and American* dance weeks.

In 2015, Brad was awarded the CDSS Lifetime Contribution Award, having served as both Executive and Artistic Director of the Society for 28 years (now Emeritus), and as Program Director for CDSS “English Week” for 10 seasons.



The Dancehall Players (Victoria, BC) have been playing together in since 2001—when Ann Schau and Dan Page first began to play regularly for the local English Country dances. They are now a six-member English Country Dance ensemble (piano, violin, flute, recorder, guitar, banjo, mandolin, cello, and percussion), and are often called upon to play for dances in Victoria, Vancouver, and the BC Gulf Islands.

Over the past 12 years, this ensemble of musicians and composers has recorded six albums of original and traditional dance music — featuring collaborations with international dance callers. Links to their music can be

found at <https://www.thedancehallplayers.com/>

HANDS ACROSS THE WATER 2022

VECDS is an affiliate of the Country Dance & Song Society: <http://www.cdss.org>

NOTE: All workshops and dances are *fragrance free*. There will be vegetarian and gluten-free options available for *lunch*. If you have additional dietary concerns please make adequate provision for yourself.

PROGRAM

FRIDAY EVENING

7:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m. DANCE WITH ROSEMARY LACH AND BRAD FOSTER

SATURDAY MORNING

9:30 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. RECONSTRUCTIONS FROM SHARP TO SHAW

Covering the full range of reconstructions from the early 20th century (Cecil Sharp) to more recent contributions (Andrew Shaw). This workshop will include some dances with complex patterns.

11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. MODERN COMPOSITIONS

Covering modern English country dances from the great explosion in new compositions in the 1970s to the present day, with dances from both sides of the Pond—including Gary Roodman, Colin Hume, and others. Focus will be on techniques to make the dancing more enjoyable for all.

LUNCH 12:30- 1:30 “BAG LUNCH”

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. COUNTRY DANCE FAVOURITES OLD AND NEW

Covering a selection of favourite English country dances from classical 20th century reconstructions to modern compositions, from the occasional traditional dance to the contemporary lush and lyrical. Dances will be chosen for their joyous movement, wonderful tunes, and not-too complex patterns.

SATURDAY EVENING

7:30 p.m. – 10:30 p.m. EVENING DANCE

SUNDAY

10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. BRAD’S CHOICE

A selection of old dances and new, reconstructions and modern, chosen for their combination of beautiful tunes, figures and transitions.

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. DANCERS’ CHOICE

You’ll have the opportunity to submit a favourite dance of your choice, either from this weekend, or from your personal all-time favourites. Brad will make a final selection in consultation with The Dancehall Players.

REGISTRATION & WAIVER: Please return this form to our Registrar

REGISTRATION FEE: Workshop, Evening dances, and Saturday lunch included: \$120 Canadian and \$95 US. There will be a \$10 **cancellation** fee after August 15th.

Please mail cheques made out to VECDS:

c/o Claudia Haagen, 2583 Thompson Avenue, Victoria BC, Canada V8R 3L2

NOTE: Payments in Canada can also be made via Interac e-Transfer to **VECDS.helpers@gmail.com**.

BURSARIES to offset registration fees are available. Apply to our Education Committee via the VECDS registrar: Claudia Haagen chaagen@telus.net

Name(s): _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ Province/State: _____

Phone: _____ e-mail _____

Our dancers are pleased to offer (non-smoking) accommodation where possible. However, space is limited and matching is done on a first-come, first-served basis, according to the date of mailing.

Do you need housing? no yes for _____ people. Will you have your own car? yes no

Do you have any allergies? no yes to _____

LUNCH (a bag lunch will be made available). Please indicate your preferences:

Omnivore Gluten-Free Vegetarian

FEE for # of people _____ Total \$ _____ CHEQUE IS ENCLOSED will send E-Transfer

2022 WAIVER

The Victoria English Country Dance Society (VECDS) requires participants in weekly dances and special events to sign this waiver. The waiver will be kept on file for all events in 2022.

The Victoria English Country Dance Society (VECDS) is comprised of individuals who practice, teach, share, and enjoy English Country Dancing. The Society hosts weekly dances and occasional special events that may include workshops, dances, and related social activities.

In consideration of my participation in VECDS activities and special events, I hereby release and discharge the Victoria English Country Dance Society (jointly or severally), and its representatives, successors, and assigns, from any and all liability arising from accident, injury or illness such as Covid-19, that I may suffer as a result of my (our) participation in these activities.

Name (please print): _____

Mailing Address _____

City/Town _____ Province/State _____ Postal/Zip Code _____

Telephone: (_____) _____ Mobile: (_____) _____

Email: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Name (2nd dancer if at same address): _____

Email: _____

Signature: (2nd dancer): _____ Date: _____