



Kiwi News

RSCDS NZ Branch Inc.

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

2016 is now well underway and I hope you are all refreshed from your break over the Festive Season.

Summer School in Auckland was very successful and as usual it was great to meet up with old friends, as well as making new ones. Summer School 2016/17 will be held in Christchurch and an advert is in this issue of the Kiwi News.

Frances & I will be in the North Island in May and June. While we will not be able to visit all the clubs there, we hope to visit a good number. We look forward to meeting up with you on your club night.

I hope your club has managed to gain some new dancers this year. The branch is offering an incentive to clubs to assist in the Dance Scottish event in June. Start looking for new and exciting ways to encourage people into the family that is Scottish Country Dancing.

Looking forward to meeting you on the dance floor.

RSCDS NZ BRANCH 50th ANNIVERSARY BOOK OF DANCES

In 1993 a collection of five dances called "Silver Threads" was published to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the NZ Branch. The 50th Anniversary of the NZ Branch will be celebrated in 2018 and the Branch Management Committee proposes publishing a collection of dances to celebrate the occasion.

All current members of the NZ Branch are invited to submit a dance for consideration. Dances will be trialled before a final selection is made.

Guidelines:

- The dance should not have been published elsewhere.
- The dance should be suitable for general club dancing.
- The deviser must be a current member of NZ Branch.
- Suitable music should be recommended.
- Submissions to be received by the NZ Branch Secretary no later than 30 September 2016.

YOUTH REPORT

At Summer School in Auckland this year I was pleased to be able to distribute a JAM Medal Test double CD to all JAM groups. The CD contains all the music required for medal tests, now eliminating the need for the JAM Committee to send out music for Region medal tests.

JAM Forum at Summer School was very well attended and I was pleased that many people were keen to contribute to the discussion. Other JAM Committee members present were Amy Luxton-Esler (membership) and Philip Oliver (Youth Representative). It was helpful that the Webmaster and members of the Management Committee were also able to attend and answer any questions relating to their areas.

The main topic of discussion was about the JAM pages on the New Zealand Branch Website and the JAM Facebook page which is managed by Philip Oliver. There were helpful suggestions made about possible changes to the JAM pages. I am endeavouring to put these into action, but as I am technologically challenged, it will take time.

The Jigs & More issues have already been updated during some training I received (thanks Michael), although the latest issue, which is available to JAM members, only goes on the website for general access when the next issue is produced. Please feel free to make suggestions for the JAM pages – good ideas are always welcome (especially from the young people) but please be patient whilst the work is in progress.

At the Branch AGM on New Year's Day the remit to reduce the amount paid to the Branch for Medal Tests was successful. This means that from this year the cost of medal tests will be \$7.50 plus any extra costs incurred by the Region/Club holding the medal test. The JAM Committee is here to help; please contact us if you feel we can be of assistance.

SLIP STOP – A HAZARD TO SOME DANCERS

At a recent dance it came to my notice that there are dancers out there who are allergic to the product "Slip Stop". I know we often need it to prevent us slipping, as some floors can be dangerously slippery. However we need to remember that some dancers have difficulty breathing when it is around them.

Please keep this in mind the next time you go to use it. Some dancers are fine with it kept in a corner of the room but not when it is scattered liberally on the floor. Others cannot breathe even when it is in the corner of the room and need it to be outside the door. Once dancers know this, they are very happy to oblige and use it safely with consideration to others.

So please before you use the "Slip Stop", ask your fellow dancers if they are fine with wherever you place it. Remember too, that you only need a small amount for it to be effective. And, if you are the one with the allergy, please let the teacher know - I'm sure they will be happy to place it out of your harms way.

An Update from Norway...

Many of you met Lynetta and Malcolm Taylor Hansen and their Mum, Christine Taylor, at Summer School in Auckland.

Christine sent this lovely photo and wrote:

"We have talked lots about our good time in New Zealand and how much we all enjoyed summer school. I do hope we make it back some day. We arrived back to extreme freezing conditions for several weeks, so I warmed myself with my memories of lovely sunny days and gorgeous summer flowers."



*Lynetta and Malcolm Taylor Hansen, at Auckland Summer School.
Photo by Miriam Laidlaw.*

Editor's note:

The wonderful photos published in the centre pages of the 2016 NZ Scottish Country Dancer magazine, are courtesy of Miriam Laidlaw (page 21) and Frances Williamson (page 22)

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Scholarships to Summer School

Closing date 30 June will be here before we know it – everyone who has attended a SS and those who have not should be applying – all SS class and accommodation costs are covered – contact me if you need more information – education@dancescottish.org.nz or check out the web page on the NZ Branch website under Scholarships.

For new dancers with less than 3 years dancing experience and for those dancers with more than 3 years dancing experience, Summer School is an experience that you will not forget; dancing every day, wonderful musicians and teachers and all meals taken care of – bliss!

Don't forget - a scholarship for Musicians is available each year – a chance to play music and learn from local and overseas musicians, who are always willing to share information. Summer School is the perfect place to spend extended time developing new skills – and showing the dancers the results.

The Jam Scholarships come under Youth – email youth@dancescottish.org.nz for more information.

Teacher Training Scholarship has a closing date of 30 November, so more about that later.

Good luck, get those applications filled in before 30 June and sent to Liz and see you at SS Ilam Christchurch December 2016/January 2017.

~ Gail Schofield

Kiwi Fiddlers in the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo!

By Anne-Marie Forsyth

It all passed in much of a blur. The call came late last year for fiddlers to join a contingent from the Shetland Islands to perform at the Edinburgh Tattoo in Wellington. Nine members of the Auckland Scottish Fiddle Club responded - Anne-Marie Forsyth, Heather Laird, Lynn Pettit, Margaret Peace, Ruth Budden, Lorraine Bruce, Charlotte Naden, Kai Liu and Kathy McDonald. Kai, a student from China, had been playing the violin for less than a year and couldn't read music, but was completely focussed on her goal and stunned us all with her progress!

Rehearsals had to fit around Summer School, summer camps, youth dances and the revamped Auckland Folk Festival. Lorraine practiced alone at her current base in the Shetland Islands, only joining her fellow Kiwis right at the last minute. There were uniforms to buy, flights to book, spare fiddles to find in case of wet weather, musicians' ear plugs to source and billets to organise - all at our own expense. Music arrived late and in impossibly dizzy ranges, so it all had to be adapted to fiddlers' fingers and then memorised, note for note.

We practiced coordinating our marching and doing reels of three on the side while playing!

Meanwhile an equally stalwart band of musicians rehearsed in Wellington, drawn from Lynne Scott's group "Ceol Alba", as well as local sessions and even classical musicians with no previous fiddle experience at all. Lynne and Mary McDonald are already well known within the SCD community, but the group also included the two youngest players (Josh and Cassandra, both still at school) and the two eldest players (Ian Smith and Mike Curran). Under the guidance of Liz Auchinvole, the Wellington group coped admirably with an ever-changing array of fellow musicians, as people's commitments changed from week to week. And of course we must not forget Margaret Bruce, the lone fiddler from Palmerston North!

Suddenly we were all together at last in Wellington and straight into rehearsals at the Westpac Stadium. We counted off around 30,000 steps per day, rain and shine, by walking around the vast stadium between the dressing rooms (corporate boxes), dining rooms (cricket nets) and parade ground (rugby pitch). We met other performers, liaison people, stadium staff and finally the Shetlanders themselves. Uniforms were handed out and pinned to best effect. Then suddenly, on only the second day there, we were ready for a full dress rehearsal. Our fellow performers included the combined bands of the Royal New Zealand Navy, Army and Air Force, Police and pipe bands from all around NZ and Australia and Kapa Haka groups. Exotic touches were added by the Top Secret Drum Corps from Switzerland, His Majesty's Guards from Norway and groups from Fiji and Tonga.

Amongst such disciplined and varied groups, we straightened our shoulders and did our best to stand to attention, but the powers that be clearly noticed that we had absolutely no idea how to march together. A Warrant Officer from the Scots Guards duly appeared to put us through our paces. Well, we must have been naturals, because after only 20 minutes we had completely mastered the concept (!) and the next night our lines and marching were vastly improved! In fact, Brigadier David Allfrey, producer of all Edinburgh Tattoos, was heard to remark on the much-improved discipline of the fiddlers and to ask whether we were on drugs (steroids)!

We stood hidden behind the castle - a vast, looming, impressive frontage backed by scaffolding and held down by water drums and concrete blocks - awaiting our cues. There were four in all. We had to run on from each corner to the centre of the pitch to get the party started, march across the main drawbridge for our own fiddle item, enter from the drawbridge again for a solemn version of Hector the Hero and finally march in from the two top corners for the massed cast finale. Timing was vital. We could hear the crowd response to other items, but were unable to peer around the edges to see for ourselves what was going on. Once on the field it was eyes straight ahead and do not look around, particularly when the fiddles started countermarching back through the massed pipes and drums!

Then suddenly, it was all over. A week of rehearsals and four performances and we were all done, handing in our uniforms

and heading downstairs for snacks and a drink or two. All I can say is that the Edinburgh Tattoo in Wellington was an incredible team-building experience, and one I will remember for a lifetime. Just don't ask me what it looked like from the audience! See it for yourself on YouTube. Search: tattoo violaannie9 (watch out for the two a's!). The fiddlers are in blue coats.

News from Around the Regions ...

North Shore Tartan Day Tattoo

Sunday 3rd July 2016
North Shore Events Centre

Would you like to dance in a mass display?

Dancers in New Zealand are invited to join the Auckland Region for a mass display on July 3rd. Dancers go away for weekends for all kinds of SCD – so why not take part in a mass display? You can come along on your own, in pairs or small groups or even bring a whole set.

What's going on?

Every year we aim to do something a bit different at the North Shore Tartan Day Tattoo. This year we are aiming for a mass display of SCD as well as some choreographed or advanced dancing. This will be a one-off – we are not aiming for a mass display every year. The aim is to fill the arena with 12 – 16 sets. The mass display will follow the choreographed or advanced dancing and will be:

A medley of jig, strathspey and reel:

- Cumberland Reel (once through)
- 12 Coates Crescent (once through)
- Eric's Jubilee (once through)

A medley of:

- The Flowers of Edinburgh (twice through)
- The De'il Amang the Tailors (twice through)

The arrangement of sets in the arena will provide a spectacular sight (they won't all be facing the same direction). As much as possible people who want to dance together will dance in the same set. However sets will be made up to provide a co-ordinated look.

When is it happening?

- Sunday July 3rd:
Practice of our dancing in the arena 10.30am
Briefing and practice of opening/closing 11.15am
Performance programme starts 1.30pm

Dancers are encouraged to stay until the closing ceremony at 3.30pm – but it is not essential. At this stage the programme is not firm enough to say when the SCD display would be.

There will be a practice the week before (Sunday June 26th) for dancers in Auckland and close enough to travel to it.

For out of town dancers, a practice of some sort in your local area would be needed. Information about what to practice will be available and discussed with you. Billets or accommodation can be arranged for out of town dancers.

During the performance there will be opportunity to watch other acts including the dancing of Scottish National Highland Company – some of whom will be travelling from all parts of New Zealand (before taking their performance to France).

I am be looking for initial numbers in May, with confirmed numbers in June. Indications of interest prior to this would be great.

If you have any queries, please feel free to contact me (09) 294-7551 or kath@runciman.net.nz. ~ Katharine Hoskyn

HAURAKI THAMES SCDC

The year has begun very well with four new people arriving for our beginners' session on Thursdays. Tuesday afternoon dancing in St. James Hall, Pahau Street, Thames (3:30-5:30pm) continues with good attendance, as does our Thursday evening Club Night (6:30-8:30pm) in Thames Citizens' Band Room, Queen Street, so we feel we are in 'good spirit'. Some members enjoyed joining in with other clubs for dancing at the Paeroa Highland Games - a fun day out.

We appear to have become a "permanent item" for the Robbie Burns night at the local retirement village, where once again, we were invited to join celebrations for dinner and welcoming the Haggis before dancing for them - something they all seem to enjoy, with some very happy to be invited to 'have a go'.

Thames has a weekly Saturday Market, so it is intended to "dance on the green" in the market area (Pollen Street north/Pahau Street) which could attract a few more members, or at least give folk an idea of what Scottish Country Dancing is all about.



Burns Night dancers

IN EVERY CORNER OF THE WORLD!



From Edinburgh to Cape Town, London to New York, Sweden to New Zealand, there are Scottish Country Dancing clubs. Thirty-six different countries have clubs that are affiliated to RSCDS - and there are probably many more informal groups where Scottish Country Dancing is enjoyed!

So this year, Opotiki Scottish Country dancing club has decided to celebrate how widespread the enjoyment of Scottish Country Dancing is. We are taking people "Around the World in 18 Dances" for our social on May 21st.

Despite the earlier date for our social this year, we have decided to stick with an afternoon tea dance, so people from other areas can get home easily - or stay locally and join us for a meal in Opotiki in the evening.

We would love to see you there: 1.30pm at the Waitotahi Hall on SH2, Opotiki on Saturday May 21st

JOHNSONVILLE CLUB CELEBRATES 50 GOLDEN YEARS

This year is a special year of celebration for Johnsonville Scottish Country Dance Club. Fifty years ago we began our association with the RSCDS. What started as a church based fellowship group in 1955, became a community dance group and then an affiliated club, part of the worldwide network of RSCDS dancers.

Past Johnsonville club secretary, Pat Reesby, has pieced together some of the club's early history, and it would seem:

- the club began as a branch of St Columba's Church Friendship Club, dancing in what was the Sunday School hall, Haumia St, Raroa
- there were 10 foundation members – all women
- the first tutor was a Mr McLellan
- St Columba's and St Aidan's (now Linden club) groups visited each other monthly, prior to becoming separate clubs
- Jenny Gubbins (now Chisholm) tutored in the early 1960s, followed by Gary King in 1967
- Glenys Mills, during her time as secretary, was responsible for the club becoming associated with the RSCDS

- Glenys went on to become club tutor in 1968, continuing for many years
- The club's first formal dance held in 1968 - 130 dancers attended
- 1970 - the club moved to Johnsonville school hall, where we still dance today

There are gaps in our records. If you have memories you would like to share with us, we would love to hear from you. Please get in touch with Johnsonville club secretary John Munro Johnsonville@dancescottish.org.nz or president Kristin Downey kristinmacdonalddowney@gmail.com

Our celebrations will be ongoing throughout the year as we keep on dancing, listening to good music and finding out more about ourselves. We are celebrating our past, our present, and our future. We celebrate our tutors, our committee members, our club members and the musicians who give us the gift of music.

In this celebration of who we are, we are asking our members to write about how/when/where/why Scottish country dancing at Johnsonville club plays a part in their lives. This snapshot of the club as it is 50 years on, will become part of our historical record for the club in the future. Past members are also very welcome to contribute.

Our formal celebration of 50 Golden Years will take place at our Annual Dance on 20th August, at Karori Recreation Centre. It will be a great night with fine music by Peter Elmes, Don McKay, Lynne Scott and Aileen Logie, MC'd by Rod Downey, in his 20th year as club tutor. Put on your glad rags and join us on this special night - we'd love to share it with you. 130 people on the floor could be something to aim for.



A glimpse into the past... 1968 (more on last page)

PALMERSTON SCD Club recently danced at our local A & P Show, including the four young girls who belong to the Club.



Most of our members travel good distances from a large rural area, to dance in our small town club each week.



Since the Show outing, our tutor Daphne Taylor has started teaching the young ones earlier on Club nights, as we now have more girls wanting to give it a go.



CANTERBURY REGION

The season has started off with many people returning to dancing refreshed after a summer break. Friendships have been rekindled and new friends are being made with several new dancers coming along to various clubs.

The calendar of open nights for the region has been published and the Scottish Society hosted the first open night of the season on Saturday 2 April 2016.

TAM O'SHANTER club began their year with a pre-season picnic at the Groyne. They also hosted the Scottish Society one Tuesday evening while their hall was out of action and on another evening they welcomed some American visitors for an enjoyable evening of dancing.

The **CANTERBURY CALEDONIAN SCOTTISH SOCIETY** Club is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year, marking the occasion with an evening of drinks, nibbles and dancing on Saturday 7 May. (See flyer on page 8)

The region had the privilege of having Margaret McMurtry teach a group of beginners over a five-week period at the Burnside Primary School hall. These people have all received benefit from Margaret's excellent tuition. Several people have returned a second time to reinforce their learning.

Linda Glavin is working with the JAMs on Saturday mornings and has a loyal group of children who regularly attend these sessions. We truly appreciate Linda's commitment to this and her investment in time to keep Scottish Country Dancing alive and well with our children.

Graeme Plank and Hazel Fish are working towards their teacher's certificate and the region is helping to support them with this by having a dance mid May.

Apart from open nights throughout the year, the region also intends to host a mid-winter Christmas ball at the end of July; a day school early August; a quiz night later in August; a Halloween Dance late October and of course a dance to mark St Andrew's Day at the end of November.

HOON HAY SCD CLUB



During the holidays, a special dance was organised to celebrate two significant birthdays, for two dancers from Hoon Hay Club.

Charmayne Forster celebrated her 60th and Betty Scull celebrated her up-coming 90th birthday. Again on Wednesday 30 March, dancers at Hoon Hay Club celebrated Betty's very important birthday at their party night.

Betty, a long -time member of our club, was presented with Life Membership of the club and celebrated her birthday with us by choosing her favourite dances for the evening. Betty is also a member of the Caledonian Club and on Monday 4th April, her official birthday, she will celebrate once more among her dancing friends. As she says, "The Queen will no doubt have multiple celebrations and so can I."

Betty still attends dancing twice a week and very rarely sits out a dance.



Betty Scull

CANTERBURY EASTER SCHOOL KAIKOURA 2016

Over Easter weekend this year, 60 dancers, musicians and teachers, as well as visiting dancers at the evening dances, plus non-dancing partners, travelled to that magical place Kaikoura on the East Coast of the mainland to enjoy a great week-end of Scottish Country Dancing.

Not only was the weekend superbly organised by Lorraine Whaley, Jenny Tubb and myself, but the weather was too. Beautiful days followed by evenings with a cloudless sky, let the moon shine down right outside our hall, making the sea shimmer in the moonlight.



We had excellent teachers; Maureen Robson, Doug Mills and Diane Bradshaw did a wonderful job in their classes. Lynne Scott and Alan Burn played the music for the Low Impact class and General class, giving dancers that bit extra added to their lesson, and Scotch Measure with Lynne played for all the evening dances and the combined class on the Monday. We also had a guest fiddler on the Saturday evening dance, Margaret Peace, who had come to dance and then joined in with the band. They played magnificently!

Fifty four of these dancers and partners attended a superb roast dinner at Donegal House who purposely changed their background video of Irish singing and dancing to Scottish singing and dancing – a lovely touch! And all credit is due to the cook and waitresses for bringing out 54 meals after only a half hour wait, which of course flew by with the sound of laughter and chatter.



There was only one sad moment during the weekend and that was when Alan Burn announced that his band, Scotch Measure, was finishing after 9 years of playing SCD music for the enjoyment of dancers in New Zealand. Alan has found that some of the band members can no longer commit to the amount of practice needed because of other personal commitments.

Lynne Scott, musical advisor was pleased to be with them at their final performance, as she has supported the group from the beginning. Well done Scotch Measure and thank you for all your performances over the past nine years.

~ Frances Williamson – Organiser



Making up numbers in the children's class.... yes, it is your illustrious President, dancing with his teddy bear!!

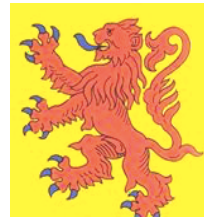
FUTURE SUMMER SCHOOLS

Unfortunately, owing to unforeseen circumstances, the Nelson/Marlborough Region is now unable to host the 2018/2019 Summer School. NZ Branch Management Committee would like to hear from any Region, in either island, interested in hosting future summer schools, especially in 2018/2019.

At present the 60th Summer School will be held in Ilam, Christchurch, this year (2016/2017). The following year (2017/2018) it will be in Masterton, Wairarapa.

As the NZ Branch will be celebrating it's 50th Anniversary in 2018, it would be a pity if that were to be the last summer school. Interested?

Contact NZ Branch Secretary, Liz Lusher



60th Anniversary

***The Canterbury Caledonian Scottish Country Dance Club
requests the pleasure of your company
at a special evening to celebrate 60 years of dancing***

**Saturday 7 May 2016
Canterbury Caledonian Society Hall
5 Michelle Road Christchurch 8042**



**The evening will commence at 6pm with drinks and nibbles
and dancing will begin at 7.30 pm**

Cost: \$10 per person



RECORD SHOP



NEW RELEASE

- **Colin Dewar - "The Tullich Collection"** for book of dances devised by Rob Sargent \$33

15 tracks: 7 – 3x32S, 1x32Jig, 1 - 4 x 48 Jig, 4 – 4x48R; 1 – 4x40R, 1 – 4x32R NB: There are *no tracks for 8x32 dances*; this is deliberate – Rob thinks that SCD is attracting many older people who prefer the 3x and 4x form (i.e. one turn as dancing couple rather than two). Most of the lead tunes are new compositions by Colin Dewar. I do not hold stock but if you would like a copy of this CD please send your name & address and I will place an order. The current CD + Matching Book of Dances is \$50 + P&P.

NB: As from 1 April 2016 Britain's postal charges will be raised. Also, NZ postal rates will rise yet again in the near future. This could have an effect on the cost of CDs.

Releases at Auck Summer School:

* **Andy Imbrie & Reel of 7 - "Gotta Dance"** \$25
(last few at this special reduced price)

* **Luke Brady - "Take Your Partners for... Vol. 5"** \$30

Recommended:

Jim Lindsay's "Music for Book 49", also earlier **"Reel of the Puffins"** & his rather unique **"Scottish Christmas Dance Party"** \$30ea

Advance Notice: The Branch Record Shop will be closed for the month of July 2016

~ Dorothy Wilson

PO Box 612, Blenheim 7240

Ph: 03 578 3766

recordshop@dancescottish.org.nz

BOOKSHOP BITZ



RECENT ARRIVALS

- Southern Skies (new NZ Branch book)
- Book 49
- Books 25 to 30, in A5 format
- Leaflet Dances 1964-1998, in A5 format
- Dances to Song Tunes by Hugh Foss
- RSCDS Edinburgh Branch 90th Anniversary book
- Graded Book 3
- MacNab Dances combined Vols 1&2
- Imperial Book Vols 1-3
- Unit 2 Teaching Certificate Dances
- New Manual of Scottish Country Dancing

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY WEEKEND SCHOOL

The Bookshop will be available in Cambridge. If you aren't able to be there you are welcome to email me with your requirements.

CLEARANCE SALE

Original RSCDS Books 1 to Book 30 - existing stock only. If you need to fill a gap in your collection now is your chance to grab a bargain. Only \$5 each

Contact Sue Pearson:

- E: Bookshop@dancescottish.org.nz
- NZ Branch Website
- Snailmail C/- 21 Stafford Street Wanganui 4501

Loch Sheil - Glenfinnan



Photo: Isabel Jackson

First-time Summer School Stories ...

"My name is Maggie Adam and I would like to share my experience as a first-timer at Summer School.

I started my journey of SCD February 9th 2015, and loved it from the start. I took the train to Auckland and was met at Sylvia Park by Helen, one of the "gophers" and part time nun! After registration it was all organised; great not having to cook or think, just had to enjoy. Tough life I know, but I had no idea what I was letting myself in for.

Waipuna Hotel was pretty luxurious, with lovely outlook of the tidal lagoon, created by a volcanic explosion thousands of years ago. It was a very nice 45 minute walk round trip around the lagoon. Some interesting birds: a couple of kingfishers and Of course my favourite - dogs. Only saw one doggy pooh not picked up in the two weeks I was in Auckland - puts Eastbourne to shame.

Several times we had members of the band play at our dance classes; how good was that! At one of the evening functions the band "Reel Of Seven" performed a concert and that alone was worth going to Auckland for. Chris asked me if I had been to any of the after-match parties and was taken aback when I answered no. I had to pace myself! Maybe next time?

I must say the men looked fabulous at the evening balls; seeing a man in a kilt is like hearing the bagpipes – it makes me all goosy!

I could not get over how many people from Wellington were there, especially at Hogmanay... a bit of an invasion. Dear Kathryn Deroles did a great job with our class of eleven. But this SC dancing does not happen overnight. However, I am told it will happen!

Lots of funny things happened. For example, I was all ready for one of the functions and was asked if I was changing. I said I had changed! And she said, was I going like that? And here is me thinking I looked quite fetching! Another time, while eating my meal this woman could not believe my appetite. I told her I had a very healthy one. And she said that I had the appetite of a horse. I love honest people – it makes life interesting. Also, I could not understand why my key could not open my hotel room - oops right number but wrong floor!

All in all I had a fabulous holiday - dancing, music, lots of fun and yes I certainly can say I loved every minute. Many thanks to all involved in making this happen."

~ Maggie Adam (Lower Hutt SCD Club)



Image: Isabel Jackson

"I went with no idea of what to expect, and came back with new knowledge, new friends - and sore feet! I would not, however, have been able to experience any of this without the wonderful support of my club in Kaitaia. Gladys Farrant and Wendy McPherson sent me off to summer school with a skip in my step. I am so grateful to Wendy McPherson, with whom I shared a room, for taking me the long journey, watching out for me, and altogether being a wonderful companion for my first time at Summer School.

A highlight for me was getting to see the devisers of dances, like Kamo Karousel and Pelorus Jack, at the opening social. And of course dancing to the lively music of Reel of Seven throughout the week - I've never Scottish country danced to a drum break before. For the first couple of days, being a newbie with an in-crowd at class was quite difficult But meeting so many different personalities and with the help of the wonderful summer school committee, I felt increasingly comfortable throughout the week.

Before attending Summer School, I never really liked strathspey dances or the step. But with the help of my class teacher, Wayne McConnell, my classmates, and Diane Bradshaw pausing a posh dinner to go through an all-round-poussette in the hall, I improved my strathspey step and I quite enjoy the slower dances now.

There were several other exciting highlights that I took home to chatter on about, to my ever so patient family: Hogmanay was a very special night for me. I'd never experienced anything like a real Scottish new year and I had tears in my eyes as the clock struck midnight. I also got to dance a 32-some reel that night, which was very exciting if nerve-wracking; I'm glad I went to the earlier walk-through to learn it. As I wrote when I applied for the scholarship to summer school, I wanted to have the opportunity to dance with people my own age. I was not disappointed when I got to dance with handsome young men in kilts (a rare happening up north), as well as defying gravity with my newly made friend Hannah, dancing a Poussette in the pool (you have a lot more spring underwater!).

Upon learning a dance that an older member of my class devised, I was surprised and pleased to discover that anyone can devise a Scottish Country dance. I had figured there were special Scottish Country dance devisers. Having gone out into the world of Scottish Country dancing, I am pleased to say that I can bring inspiration and enthusiasm back to my club. I hope to brief some of the dances I learned, especially "The Magic of Summer School" devised by Helen Wyeth.

I want to send special thanks to the committee behind the scenes, who brought me to summer school on a scholarship, and my club who sent me with support and enthusiasm. Here's to many more years of dancing!

~ Bethany Jones (Kaitaia SCD Club)

LEVIN SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB

60TH ANNIVERSARY DANCE

Saturday 9 July 2016 at 7.30pm
at St Mary's Church Hall
cnr Cambridge and Manchester Streets, LEVIN



Admission: Adults \$15.00
RSCDS members \$12.00
Juniors and Non-Dancers \$5.00

Music by Roaring Jelly
Programme

The Grand March

Lady Catherine Bruce's Reel	J	RSCDS 1 st Graded
The Reel of the 51 st Division	R	Book 13
The Byron Strathspey	S	Drewry-Deeside 2
Fergus McIvor/Fugal Fergus	J	Book 15/Magazine Dances
Trip to Bavaria	R	McGregor
Lady Auckland's Reel	S	Book 18
Rory O'More	J	Book 1

Cut the Cake

The Glasgow Highlanders	S	Book 2
Cadgers in the Canongate	R	Book 9

Maxina and Supper

Shiftin' Bobbins	R	Ormskirk
The Garry Strathspey	S	Cosh
The Bees of Maggie Knockater	J	Drewry-Canadian
The Montgomeries' Rant	R	Book 10
John McAlpin	S	Magazine Dances
Best Set in the Hall	J	Book 46
The Minister on the Loch	S	Magazine Dances
Beach Dancer	J	E West
The Australian Ladies	R	Glasgow Assembly

JOHNSONVILLE.—Last year saw several new faces, all feminine, and our two regular male members remained much in demand as partners. There was, however, a steady decline in junior membership due to scholastic ties.

A feature event of the year was the marriage of our instructor, Mr Gary King, to Gladys Sutters of the Wellington Club. Here's wishing health, wealth, happiness and many more dancing years to the happy couple. Unfortunately, Gary is unable to instruct us this year but we thank him sincerely for managing to fit the coaching of our Club into an already full dancing schedule during the 1968 season.

This year we are to run our first dance, to be held on July 20 in the Onslow Hall.

Any visitor to the Onslow, Newlands or Johnsonville areas will be very welcome at our Monday evening meetings in the St. Columba Hall, Earp Street, Johnsonville.

From Johnsonville SCD Club's Archives: article in NZ Scottish Country Dancer 1968 (the first Johnsonville article published in NZSC Dancer) –promoting Johnsonville's first club dance!



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For more information contact: **The Organiser: David Williamson**
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