



# Kiwi News

RSCDS NZ Branch Inc.

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

From reports I have received, it seems that 2017 has started well in many areas where numbers of new dancers are attending classes for beginners. Locally, we started our dancing year in late January, with an Introductory Course for eight weeks and club members enjoying four weeks of dancing socially in club members' gardens.

Summer school in Christchurch was very enjoyable and I certainly returned to club rejuvenated, having enjoyed both the challenges our teacher set us in class and the social interaction with other dancers on the dance floor.

I am hoping to visit clubs around New Zealand during the 2017 season and will certainly enjoy meeting dancers in Invercargill in May, when I join members of the St Andrews Club to celebrate their 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. I will also join dancers in Auckland at their ball in July, to celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of their Region. Summer school 2017/2018 is in the Wairarapa. On 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018 the RSCDS NZ Branch will be celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Thank you to those groups of dancers who are busy evaluating dances submitted for inclusion in the NZ Branch 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Collection.

There will be a number of vacancies on the Management Committee at the end of 2017 – Secretary, Vice-President, IT Co-ordinator, Communications & Publicity/Membership Co-ordinator and Youth Co-ordinator. Please give these positions serious consideration. If you are interested and would like further information, please contact either Liz our secretary, or myself.

*Elaine*

## HOON HAY SCDC

(The Hoons of Hay)  
cordially invites all past members  
and interested dancers to join with us  
at our Annual Dance  
"30 Years On!"

Saturday 17 June 2017  
Dancing will start at 7.30pm

Hoon Hay Primary School Hall  
Sparks Rd. Hoon Hay, Christchurch

A luncheon will be held on Sunday 18  
June. All welcome. Please reply to:  
[f.williamson@orcon.net.nz](mailto:f.williamson@orcon.net.nz)  
if coming to the lunch

## A date for the diary...

**11 November 2017, 7.30pm**

because all the way from Scotland -

**Marion Anderson & Max Ketchin**

playing at a dance hosted by the Rangitikei Region  
College Street Normal School Hall, 402 College St,  
Palmerston North

All welcome!!

Watch out for the programme later in the year!

**DANCE DATABASE**  
**Something for everyone!**  
*my.strathspey.org/dd*

This Scottish Country Dance database contains a wealth of inter-related information in a format that's easy to use. It holds information on dances, formations, devisors, musicians, bands, publications, recordings and tunes. You can easily flow from one element to a related one. There's something for everyone in here!

Looking for information on a dance? Enter a dance name (or part of it) in the "Quick Search" bar. You'll get a list of all the dances with that phrase in their title (but be careful to get any punctuation correct!) Click on the name, and you'll be able to check out and download the instructions (written and diagrams), find out about any recordings, maybe view a video, find publication details and see who has included it in their programmes.

Formations – what dances use a particular formation? Very handy for finding that dance to teach one of the more unusual formations!

Recordings – who has recorded a dance, on what album, track duration, pace of the dance; often you can listen to a 15-second clip from the start of a track, which is great for auditioning a recording before you buy it.

Interested in a band? Click on its name and you'll be able to see what albums they have recorded, what dances are on them, and what tunes they've used.

Tunes – this is a great tool for musicians! Who has recorded a particular tune, and what other tunes did they put with it? Or, what other tunes has this composer written? And where are they published? There's also a link to a search engine for tunes in ABC format.

Devisors – what dances has this person devised, and where are they published? And for those who like a game, there's an activity which provides practice in distinguishing between a jig and a reel ☺

I've really only scratched the surface. I encourage you all to look up this resource; it really is comprehensive, well organised and extremely useful.

A word of warning though: you can spend hours diving deeper and deeper into its depths. Any questions? Feel free to contact me on [music@dancescottish.org.nz](mailto:music@dancescottish.org.nz)

Lynne Scott 🎵  
Branch Music Adviser

**Scottish Country Dancing**  
**Alive and well in the South Canterbury area**

The end of December 2016 and start of January 2017 was a busy and successful time for dancers in our area. Summer School was in Christchurch and there were young dancers who took advantage of the JAM medal tests taking place there.

Ten dancers from the Waimate Club plus two from Strathallan Club in Timaru, aged 10 to 16 years, took their medal tests under the watchful eyes of examiners Katharine Hoskyn and Janet Favel.



*L to R: Amanda, Jonathon, Sonny, Alex, Catherine, Kayla, Edward, Margaret, Peter, Jolene*

The Strathallan dancers were Caitlin and Alyssa Bentley, and the dancers from Waimate were Edward, Peter and Jonathan Fish, Alex, Amanda and Sonny Kuti, Catherine and Margaret Nichol, Jolene Brady and Kayla Briggs.

Also at Summer School, Waimate club's tutor, Hazel Fish, after an intensive four years of study and preparation, was examined for unit 5 of her RSCDS Teaching Certificate, and is delighted now to be a fully certificated teacher. Hazel and the children have recently been presented with their certificates and look forward to more dancing together in the year ahead.



*Hazel Fish and Caitlin and Alyssa Bentley are presented with their certificates by Strathallan Club tutor and former President of NZ Branch, David Draffin.*

## Auckland Region 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary 2017



### Anniversary afternoon April 8th:

The Auckland Region held an anniversary afternoon tea on April 8<sup>th</sup> followed by an informal dance. The afternoon tea was at Fisher House, formerly home of Ra Ora Stud and homestead of the Fisher family. An afternoon of reminiscing, attended by over 100 past and present dancers, with the Branch President and region life members as guests. Reminiscing continued into the early evening dancing event at Edgewater College (a venue familiar to attendees of the Auckland Summer School).

### Formal 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Region Ball: July 22nd

Saturday July 22nd  
St Cuthbert's College, Epsom  
With the Matt Robertson/David South  
Scottish Dance Band

### Other events in the anniversary year:

- ❖ **Intermediate day class**  
Saturday May 13th
- ❖ **New dancers' day class**  
Saturday May 13th
- ❖ **Advanced Class with Damon Collin**  
Saturday August 12th
- ❖ **Very Advanced Class with Damon Collin**  
Sunday August 13th
- ❖ **Spring Dance for new dancers**  
Saturday September 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Afternoon class followed by a 5.30pm dance  
(can attend either or both events)
- ❖ **Labour Weekend School**  
October 20 - 22

Visiting Auckland – do join us for any of the above.

Details on:  
[aucklandscd.org.nz](http://aucklandscd.org.nz) or [northlandscd.org.nz](http://northlandscd.org.nz)

Or contact us on [anniversary@aucklandscd.org.nz](mailto:anniversary@aucklandscd.org.nz)

*\* Sadly, just over a week after the Auckland Anniversary Afternoon, Colin Laing passed away following a stroke. Colin had very much enjoyed the afternoon where he had cut the cake and shared 60 years of memories and reminisces. A full obituary will be given in the 2018 Dancer magazine.*



## Bookshop Bitz

### Recent arrivals

- Book 50
- Southern Skies (new NZ Branch book)
- Sharlene's Reprise
- Belfast Platinum Anniversary Book

The shop will be available at  
**Queen's Birthday Weekend in Rotorua**

### Advance Notice

The bookshop will be closed for three months from the middle of June 2017. However advance orders are welcome for Book 51, Compilations of Books 31 to 38 and the Index to Formations, which are being released this year.



Contact Sue Pearson:

- ~ email [Bookshop@dancescottish.org.nz](mailto:Bookshop@dancescottish.org.nz)
- ~ NZ Branch Web site
- ~ Snailmail C/- 21 Stafford Street, Wanganui 4501



**OPOTIKI SCD CLUB**  
Invites you to their 15<sup>th</sup> Birthday



← Pam joined us  
for our 10<sup>th</sup>  
birthday

Cutting the 5<sup>th</sup>  
birthday cake →



Dancing to live music is always fun!



**O**n a Thursday in 2002

**P**am Perkins gave the first Scottish Country Dancing class in

**O**potiki and

**T**o her delight

**I**t was a popular class. Some people

**K**new nothing, and some had danced before.

**I**n 2007 we had a 5<sup>th</sup> birthday party - and a social, "By the

**S**ea" - with live music, and in 2009 hosted the Queen's

**B**irthday Weekend School.

**I**n 2010 Pam went to live in Whangarei. She was hard to

**R**eplace, but Jean and Jan

**T**ook on the role of teaching our class. We

**H**ad "The Rose and Thistle" play for our 10<sup>th</sup> birthday.

**D**ancing, Friendship and Fun

**A**re still filling our Thursday evenings.

**Y**ippee- We've made it to 15! Come celebrate with us!

We'd love you to join us on May 20<sup>th</sup> at 1.30 at the Waiotahi Hall. 'Rose and Thistle' are playing again for us.



## GLENDARROCH SCD CLUB

### Looking for a way to attract new club members?

Following the success of dancing at the market for World Day of Dance in 2016, the Glendarroch Scottish Country Dance Club repeated this event at the start of 2017 as a way of attracting new members. We were delighted when spectators wanted to have a go, and as a result our last dance turned into a participation event. We have already welcomed two new children to our classes due to this exposure and we would recommend all other clubs try dancing at their local market!



*Helen sweeping the way for the dancers*



*Bonnie and Nicole dance at the market*

## KEN WEEKS - SCOTTISH IMPORTS

### HEATHERGEMS and ART PEWTER SILVER – JEWELLERY

All traditional Celtic patterns

### BROOCHES – LUCKENBOOTH and HIGHLAND

Many suitable for wearing with the sash

### CLAN CRESTS – Have your clan crest as a BADGE or WALL SHIELD or on your

KILT PIN – KEY FOB – PENDANT – LAPEL PIN – CUFF LINKS – SKEAN DUBH  
FRIDGE MAGNETS – PAPER WEIGHTS – COASTERS – WHISKEY MINIATURES

From **LOCHCARRON OF SCOTLAND** – TARTAN SASHES – TARTAN ( by the metre)

LADIES KILTED SKIRTS – SPORRANS – GHILLIE BROGUES – TIES

All items of HIGHLAND APPAREL and more

From **THE HOUSE OF EDGAR – RSCDS Tartan** – available in Wool or Wool/Silk mixture

Imported by the metre – SASHES – TIES – SHOE BAGS

Also available – **DANCING PUMPS** – Ghillie and Ballet styles (various colours)



Email: [kenweeksscotimps@xtra.co.nz](mailto:kenweeksscotimps@xtra.co.nz)

Ken Weeks 3 Dunvegan Place  
Dinsdale, Hamilton 320  
Ph: (07) 847 427



## Youth Leadership Award in Scottish Country Dancing

The RSCDS Youth Leadership Award is for young dancers aged 12 and upward through the teenage years. Those interested will need to talk to their teacher first. Below are the requirements for achieving this award.

### Social and Ceilidh Dances

Learn dances often included in a Party Programme

### Communication Skills

Assist the teacher with practical aspects of a class of younger dancers, while getting to know the children

### Teaching/Leadership

Help with technique, formations and dances in a class of younger dancers

### Music

Understand the difference between jigs, reels and strathspeys; be able to count and clap in time; choose appropriate music for the devised dance

### Creativity

Devise a dance of 32 bars, independently or with others, using well-known steps and basic formations; choose the number of dancers and shape of the set

### Participation

Attend an adult class occasionally, to appreciate the social benefits to dancers of all ages

### Diary

Each participant is required to keep a record of details of participation and responses over a one year period, including evidence such as photos and dance programmes. Further details and a copy of the dance diary to download can be found at [rscds.org](http://rscds.org)

Click on **Courses** at the top of the page and choose **Youth Leadership Award**. All the necessary information is on links near the bottom of the page, including **Guidelines for teachers taking part in the programme**.

### New JAM bibs for Wellington Region

At the recent Wellington Region Meeting, Diane Bradshaw (Branch Youth Co-ordinator) had the pleasure of presenting the Region President Melva Waite and Region Youth Co-ordinator Elaine Lethbridge, with a new set of bibs to be used in medal tests. The set of bibs consists of eight small and eight large, to accommodate all sizes of JAMs, who can range in age from 8 to 25. They are numbered 1- 4 in blue and 1- 4 in red (front & back) and are worn by all candidates taking medal tests, to assist the examiners in identifying each candidate during the test. They have been in the planning for some time - trying to find the right material, and they were made by a Lower Hutt Club member Judith Baxter. The iron-on numbers were supplied by Andrew Henderson of Cartridge World in Upper Hutt. The bibs were funded by the NZ Branch and gifted to the Wellington Region.

The first use for the bibs will be at the upcoming JAM Camp which is due to be held in Masterton in April.



From left: Diane Bradshaw, Melva Waite (Wellington Region President) and Elaine Lethbridge (Wellington Region Youth Co-ordinator)

### JAM Scholarship for Summer School

All JAMs who have not previously received a scholarship are eligible to apply for a JAM Scholarship to attend Summer School, which this year is being held in Masterton. The Scholarship applications must be received by the 30th June and as these are usually popular, late applications cannot be accepted. The successful applicants are selected by draw at the earliest opportunity after the 30th June and all applicants will be notified of the results by the end of July. If you are a JAM, you haven't received a Scholarship before and you are planning to attend Summer School in 2017-18 then now is the time to apply. The application form is available on the website - go to 'Youth/JAMs' and either 'JAMs at Summer School' or select 'Summer School Scholarship' under 'Forms' near the bottom of the blue column. The application form includes information about what is, and what is not, included in the scholarship.

### Youth Fund

Grants from the Branch Youth Fund are offered six monthly, to provide funding for events, activities or resources that encourage or facilitate youth Scottish Country Dancing in New Zealand. Preference will be given to applications from RSCDS NZ Branch members (which includes registered JAMs) but non-members may also apply.

The criteria for applications and other terms of the grant are set out in the Statement of Purpose and Terms on the Branch website. Please read this document before applying, so you know what we can fund and what you will need to do if you receive a grant. Applications close on **1 June** and **1 December**.



## SUMMER SCHOOL WAIRARAPA 2017/2018

As you should all be well aware, Summer School 2017/2018 will be held in Masterton. By now Branch Members should have received a Brochure and Registration form with the first 2017 Branch mail out. Posters have been sent to all clubs – if you haven't seen it, ask your club secretary where it is.

Those who attended the last Summer School at Masterton in 2011, will be pleased to know that arrangements are much the same this time – except that we will not have the Town Hall as a venue because it is closed for earthquake strengthening; however we have an excellent alternative venue at St Matthew's Collegiate College.

Information, and registration details (including online registration) are available on the Branch website <http://summerschool.dancescottish.org.nz> as well as Summer School Newsletters - named "SQUAWK!" to tie in with our dancing Pukeko logo. We also have a Facebook page "RSCDS NZ Branch - Summer School".

We have a great lineup of teachers including very experienced and more recently qualified and younger teachers. Fred DeMarse, a very popular and experienced teacher, is coming from San Francisco.

Music will be provided by Ian and Judith Muir of Craigellachie Band fame from the UK, and by the Balmoral Band from Australia / New Zealand.

1 January 2018 marks the **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** of the NZ Scottish Country Dance Society becoming a Branch of the RSCDS, so we have plans to celebrate this in several ways – think "Gold".



Opotiki Scottish Country Dance Club

15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

"Favourites, Old and New"

Sat 20 May 2017 at 1.30pm  
Waiotahi Hall, Main Road to Opotiki  
Dancers \$15  
Live band ~ The Rose and Thistle

## PICTON SCD CLUB

This year it is Picton Club's turn to host the St Andrews Dance. It is extra special this year, as we will have Marian Anderson and Max Ketchin playing for us. Plans are well underway and we are grateful to the Nelson/Marlborough Region for their help in making this possible for us.

Please see below for further details. If you have attended a dance before, where Marian and Max have been playing, then you will know it's a night not to be missed.

**St Andrew's Ball**  
with  
**Marian Anderson**

When: 25 November 2017  
Where: Picton School, 5 Buller St  
Time: 7.00 for nibbles  
7.30 for dance  
Cost: \$25 for dancers  
\$10 for spectators and children

## Notice Board



### CHANGE OF VENUE

**New Plymouth** Scottish Country Dance Club will dance at Knox Presbyterian Church Hall on Devon Street, Fitzroy, New Plymouth for the next few months, while renovations are carried out at Welbourn School. Time (7.30pm) and day of week (Tuesday) are unchanged.



### FOR SALE – Offers please

Denon CD Player, amplifier and two speakers.  
Email Sue Lindsay: [wee\\_davy@xtra.co.nz](mailto:wee_davy@xtra.co.nz) or  
David Williamson; [d.williamson@orcon.net.nz](mailto:d.williamson@orcon.net.nz)



### FOR SALE – Offers please

Woman's Kilt - Size 14-16 - Made in Scotland  
Gunn Tartan (Blue/Green)  
Email Barbara: [ljbacantwell@gmail.com](mailto:ljbacantwell@gmail.com)  
or Isabel: [isabeltaylorjackson@gmail.com](mailto:isabeltaylorjackson@gmail.com)





### JAM CAMP 2017

Friday 21st April saw 68 very excited young Scottish Country Dancers from all over New Zealand, make their way to Masterton along with their teachers, parents and grandparents in tow. The Wellington Region was hosting a JAM Camp – 'Thistle be Fun'. And it was fun.

The weekend started with thirty of the children taking medal tests over all six levels, followed by an evening ceilidh, delightfully MC'd by Damon Collin.

Saturday morning was filled with classes where the children were split into four different classes, taught by Kathryn Derolles, Nicole Trewavas, Linda Glavin and Elaine Laidlaw.

The activity on Saturday afternoon was a short journey into Masterton for three hours of ten-pin bowling and bumper cars, and then it was back to get ready for the purple-and-green-themed ball. Many of the children and adults had made a real effort to get dressed in the colours purple and green, but the real winners were the gorgeous paper thistle dancers decorating the stage.

Live music from Iain Matcham, Rebecca Bourne and Aileen Logie set the scene for a wonderful dance in an enormous hall, wonderfully MC'd by Debbie Roxburgh.

Sunday morning was more classes, then a Combined Class after lunch, before it was time to pack up and make our way home - the furthest north to Auckland and the furthest south to Waimate.

Many thanks to the organising committee and all who contributed to creating this amazing fun experience for our young dancers.



### OTAGO REGION EASTER SCHOOL 2017

Otago Region's Easter School was held in Cromwell and nearby Bannockburn from 14 - 17 April. Nearly 60 dancers registered for the weekend, including seventeen in the Beginners/Intermediate class. This class was taught by Hazel Fish (Waimate) and was held in the newly refurbished Bannockburn Hall.



The General class met in the Cromwell Memorial Hall and was taught by Janet Favel (Dunedin), Gail Schofield (Auckland) and David Williamson (Christchurch). They were replacements for the advertised teacher, Ann Corry, who was forced to pull out, when her husband Richard was hospitalised.



There were over 60 dancers at the Friday evening function at the Bannockburn Hall and at the Saturday and Sunday evening dances, in the Cromwell Memorial Hall. The Sunday function was preceded by dinner at the Bannockburn Hotel. Central Otago's fine autumn weather and magnificent scenery helped considerably but of course the enthusiasm of the teachers and dancers was what contributed most to the success of the weekend.