



Royal Scottish Country Dance Society New Zealand Branch Inc.

MAC News

(Management and Co-ordinator News)

Issue 2014/1 February

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PRESIDENT

My first MAC News after being appointed president. A quiet start to the year and like the Christchurch clubs you are all either started or just about to start your dancing year. Getting new members will be one of your top priorities and other clubs are always looking for ideas in that department. Has anything worked well for you? If so let us know and we will pass it on.

At the small but successful Waikato/BoP Summer School, (well done Wayne and his team), a new group of teachers passed their final unit 5 exams. Congratulations to the students and their tutors Doug Mills and Jeanette Watson.

I attended the Basic Teaching Skills weekend in Waimate recently. A total of 14 dancers attended with Janet Favel as their teacher. Most of those attending were looking after a club but have had no formal training. Two of those attending will be sitting their units 2 & 3 at this year's Summer School while others, it is hoped, will start the journey to become tutors.

Enjoy your dancing, and remember to give the Branch your good news and success stories as items for the Kiwi News.

SECRETARY

Minutes of Management Committee meetings held at Cambridge Summer School have been sent to Region Secretaries. If you would like a copy please contact your Region Secretary or the Branch Secretary.

Motion for RSCDS AGM: Members will receive a voting form with the February mail out about a proposed motion for the RSCDS AGM in November. Any such motion must be supported by members. Club secretaries please encourage members to complete and return their forms by 31st March.

CO-ORDINATORS' REPORTS

COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLICITY

Promotion: Since the end of 2013 there has been a steady flow of publicity material to clubs and regions for use in membership drives. Early reports indicate that many groups have welcomed a significant number of new dancers.

We keep a supply of these promotional items on hand, so if you need additional copies they are available, at no cost, from: communication@dancescottish.org.nz

Two online articles of interest to dancers: *The Scotsman* recently published two articles that you might like to share with your members;

Scottish dancing can help keep old age at bay

<http://bit.ly/1fSVtEp>

Teach Scottish country dancing to children - MSP

<http://bit.ly/NwsXBu>

EDUCATION & TRAINING

This year the Branch will be running a Unit 1 course by email correspondence, culminating in an exam in October – this course will be the first to be conducted under the new Manual. There will also be a Unit 2 & 3 course run at Dunedin Summer School and a partial Unit 2 course will be run within the Regions. If you are interested in becoming an RSCDS teacher then please contact either:

Doug Mills: exam@dancescottish.org.nz

Debbie Roxburgh: Unit1@dancescottish.org.nz

Gail Schofield: education@dancescottish.org.nz

The NZ Branch Teachers' Register is soon to be part of the RSCDS new web system, linking all who are teaching SCD around the world and enabling direct communication and access to information relevant to teaching.

MEMBERSHIP

New dancers: since the start of 2014 I have been talking to a number of members who have reported one, two and even three sets of new dancers at their clubs. Well done, what a great effort! Now our job is to look after these new dancers and encourage them to dance regularly and become RSCDS members.

Updated RSCDS website: over the last week most of you will have received an email from the RSCDS advising of changes to their website and your membership number. Unfortunately this change means the number on your current membership card differs from the one allocated by Headquarters. When membership renewal occurs in August and new membership cards are issued they will have your new RSCDS membership number. This number will then be yours for life. Please follow the instructions in the email to update your login and password for the RSCDS website and visit "my account" to check that all your details are correct.

YOUTH

We welcome Kerridwen Russ and Amy Luxton-Esler to the JAM Committee. Kerridwen is the Youth Rep, and Amy is starting to learn about JAM membership. She will take over from Sandra, who's done a fabulous job in the last 3 years.

The Management Committee is just finalising the Youth Fund application process and 'rules' - watch this space!

The JAM Forum at Summer School generated a lot of discussion and debate. A summary will be published in the next Jigs And More, with a more detailed report on the website Youth page - soon.

Next mail out due:

31st March - Jigs And More

30th April - Kiwi News and MAC News