



New Waikanae Juniors getting in the swing

The Waikanae Junior Group has a firm group of eight younger children. The juniors joined Waikanae adults for part of their annual Saturday social dance and thoroughly enjoyed the experience.



Four of them attended the JAM afternoon organised by the Wellington Region and liked mixing with other children.

On Waikanae Club's birthday night and from now on they will be joining in with the adults for the first couple of dances at club nights.

Summer School JAM Scholarships

Two Summer School Scholarships were drawn at Upper Hutt's annual dance on 27 July 2014, supervised by JAM Committee member, Diane Bradshaw. The lucky recipients are:

Claire Wyeth of Ellerslie Juniors; and
Alex Plank of Christchurch.

The Scholarship pays the full cost of a JAM resident at the New Zealand Summer School (any travel costs are extra). Applications close on **15 July** each year and are drawn soon after. The award is by ballot only - there is no grading - so start thinking about getting your application in for next year!! See the application form on the NZ Branch website Youth page, or talk to your Club Tutor for further details.

Medal Test Results

(take a deep breath....)

Cambridge 4 October 2014

Bronze

Hinuera: Caitlyn Alexander Kassia Alexander Samantha George Olivia Kneebone	Lochiel: Natalie Garcia Gil Breana Nobilo
Tokoroa: Robyn Paige Pascoe	Ellerslie: Saskia de Graaf

Bronze Bar

Tokoroa: Erike Hancock Jade Larsen Hendrik Verhaegh	Lochiel: Petronella Verhaegh
Ellerslie: Saskia de Graaf	

Silver Bar

Tokoroa: Anna Verhargh	Lochiel: Xavia Fraser
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Auckland 11 & 12 October 2014

Bronze

Milford: Alexandra Deady Sophie Hollingsworth Jenny Howe Maya Caitlyn Russell	Lochiel: Holly Webb Hannah Zhang
Ellerslie: Charles Adams	

Bronze Bar

Milford: Emilia Burton Abigail Mitchell Kiara Nuttney Zoe Penlington Natasha Skuljan Dasha Spiridonova	Lochiel: Grace Stapleton Judy Zhang Anan Zhao
Ellerslie: Caitlin Eeles Megan Spittle	

Silver

Milford: Christopher Burton	Lochiel: Sophia Burton Juliette Lyons
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Silver Bar

Milford:	Lochiel: Iona Grigor
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Gold

Milford: Cailin Carmichael Isaac Clancy	Lochiel: Chelsea Herbert Jessica MacGee Michelle McEwan
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Gold Bar

Ellerslie: Marion McGettigan Claire Wyeth	Royal Oak: Helen Wyeth
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Wellington 18 October 2014

Silver

Newtown: Emma Loader	Lochiel: Miro Macdonald
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Gold

Newtown: Liam Beaumont	Lochiel: Helen Oliver Philip Oliver
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Wellington 1 November 2014

Gold Bar	Lochiel: Rebecca Bourne, Lower Hutt
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Congratulations to all, and a huge thank you to stooges, organisers, examiners & parents!

Upcoming Medal Tests

Summer School 2014/15

1.30pm (tbc), 30 Dec 2014, Dunedin

Applications to Diane Bradshaw

48 Tennyson Street, Trentham, Upper Hutt

Closing date for applications is **16 November**.

\$\$\$ available

The first grant from the **Branch Youth Fund** was made in July - see Hannah's report.

Grants are available twice a year. The next funding 'round' is in December - applications must be received by **1 December**. See website Youth page for application form.

Summer School 2014-15

28 December 2014 - 5 January 2015

Knox College, Dunedin

Junior JAM class offered, Senior JAMs will dance in relevant adult classes

Contact janet.favel@dancescottish.org.nz or PO Box 8163, Dunedin 9041

Hoppit JAM Camp 2015

Waikato 10-12 July 2015

Start fundraising now - aim for everyone in your group being able to go!

See your name in print!

Jigs And More is for you - email

jigsandmore@dancescottish.org.nz

by **28 February 2015** with your story or photo.

AWEsome Weekend

Hannah Roxburgh explains what she did with the Youth Fund grant she received:

The second AWEsome (Australasian Weekend of Excellence) held in July 2014 was even more successful than the first in 2012. Without the assistance of a grant from the NZ Branch Youth Fund I would not have been able to attend this fantastic weekend. For me, the weekend was a fabulous opportunity to dance with other young dancers, have a role in organising a dance weekend, and have an AWEsome time.

I was part of a group of 7 New Zealanders who made the trip to Melbourne, Australia for this residential weekend, organised by young people for young people. The weekend is for 18-39 year old dancers and gives them with a great opportunity to gain new knowledge, skills, to dance and learn with their peers, and is a great opportunity to catch up with friends, as well as make new ones.

We had classes on both Saturday and Sunday - Jeanette Watson taught some fabulous and interesting dances that got us really thinking and particularly appealed to young people. We were also lucky to have live music for all classes and evening functions from David South and Matt Robertson and their band.

The Friday night social for weekend participants was a chance to catch up with old friends and get to know new people. The Saturday night open social dance was attended by a further 50 people from the local Melbourne and districts branch and further afield. The evening was a great way to get to know some of the local dancers and let them know how wonderful the weekend was. As if we weren't jamming enough into the weekend, we had a dance challenge on Sunday afternoon (five dances devised by attendees (2 from New Zealand) at the school were demonstrated and judged - the winner was Diana Hastie (Sydney), before saying goodbye and sending Facebook friend requests to the new people we had met!

I think all young people should aspire to attend a youth event like this. It's a wonderful way to keep up your interest in dancing, and great to meet young dancers from NZ and abroad - it's good to

know they are out there, and that you don't have to stop high energy dancing(!) when you're no longer a "JAM". Rumours are that the next AWEsome Weekend is in the pipeline. Hopefully even more Kiwis will attend in 2016!!!

Springing, Flinging Young Dancers

Do you sometimes feel like older dancers just think young dancers are a "problem"? It's just all that extra energy *they* don't have - it erupts in delightful exuberance, it can give lift to the set, elevating enjoyment of all around. At the same time, it can disrupt the uniformity of style, be selfish, and in some cases, dangerous.

Kate Walker writes in TACTalk (Vol39/2, Sept14), as a former young dancer and now (just) on the 'other side', she can remember being a much-sought-after partner, appreciated for her energy and pizzazz, OR the convenient scapegoat if the dance broke down, even if the error wasn't hers. She uses Mairi's Wedding as an example - high energy younger dancers erupting in unexpected twirls or extra-wide loops on reels can make other dancers worry about collisions or bad phrasing, or even confuse inexperienced dancers. How then can we enjoy ourselves when stretching someone else's comfort level?

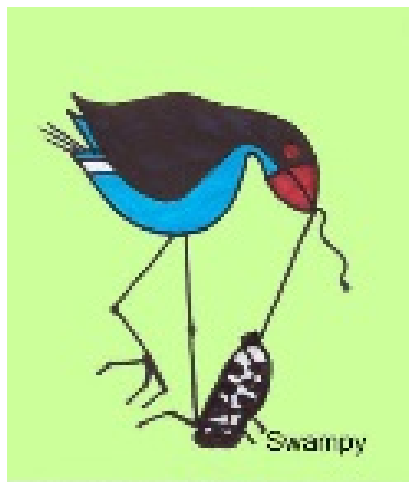
It is easier for older dancers to relax and just enjoy when complex twirls and clapping are performed with good phrasing, and there's no pressure to join in if they're unsure. Smiles and eye contact help you read what your partner or corner wants to do this time through. The most fun comes from cooperation.

That's the fun of Scottish Country dancing - it allows creativity within form and structure, as long as *all* dancers are allowed their individuality.

jam CAMP

Is Coming!

10-12 July 2015



The Waikato Bay of Plenty Region

contact:

jamcamp@dancescottish.org.nz

Auckland Youth Fling

A youth fling? What's a youth fling? Always the same question! A youth fling is when a bunch of youth get together and have fun and dance (and don't forget yummy supper). There aren't many places you can go and have fun even when you make mistakes (I just hope they're laughing with me not at me). We really enjoyed the company of the big Bennett boys from up north boosting the boys' numbers.

Fire in the Rye is my favourite dance because you are always doing something. Another highlight of the evening was dancing with glow sticks and singing happy birthday to fellow dancers in the dark. Other dances we particularly enjoyed were Posties Jig and Petronella with a variety of techniques to master or muck up, depending on your sense of direction. A big thanks to Lois and Angela for their wonderful organising and providing supper for the dance - without them it would have been a youth flop!

Report by the Burtons - Sophia (17) and Chris (16), Milford Juniors

