



The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society
New Zealand Branch Inc
Junior Associate Newsletter



Issue 3/2016



Jigs And More

Our next JAM Camp

21st - 23rd April 2017

Wairarapa College, Masterton



What is more fun than dancing?

Well, the answer is getting to dance with other people your own age.

This is what JAM Camp is. It is a fantastic weekend away filled with heaps of dancing, good music, meeting old friends and more importantly making new ones.

All young dancers from between the ages of 6-19 can attend next year's JAM Camp.

We have chosen some great teachers so come along and have some fun while enjoying their tuition.

The camp committee are trying things a little differently this time by having the Ceilidh on the Friday night as a way to ease into camp life.

Start thinking about an item so you can show off your extra talents to everyone else.

We will also be having a Saturday night ball with a theme. The theme is "Thistle be fun", so come dressed up in the colours of green or purple, or even a thistle if that is possible.

There will again be medal tests taking place on the Friday afternoon before camp starts.

We all love JAM Camps as it is great to see young dancers having so much fun.

Every JAM around New Zealand has been sent a pack of information and forms for the Camp, so please read through them carefully and fill in the form and return as soon as possible. Forms are also available from the NZ Branch website - go to dancescottish.org.nz then click on Youth and then on JAM Camp.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with Elaine Lethbridge on 04 389 3597 or at lethbridge@paradise.net.nz

The committee are looking forward to seeing you all at the Masterton JAM Camp in April 2017!



Spring Fling Dance 1

In 2014 young dancers from all round the world were invited to submit dances they had created. These were then trialled at different dance clubs round the world. Maybe you were one of those clubs that tried out some of these weird and wonderful dances? From the scores each dance was given, twelve dances were selected to make up the next RSCDS book of dances, Book 50.

Two of the dances were created by young people from New Zealand, so here we will highlight their dances. Hopefully you may have already had a chance to try them out at your clubs, or you will next year.

The first dance was written by Amy Luxton, who lives in Auckland, and is one of the team that looks after JAM things in New Zealand, especially membership and helping put the Jigs and More together.

She tells us about how her dance came about:

"After hearing about the dance competition in conjunction with the 2015 Spring Fling in London, I began the process of trying to come up with a suitable dance that could be sent in for consideration. Thus, 'Dancing Spirit' was created and completed. How I came up with the dance, I can't quite remember but it worked and flowed well with minimal changes required. With so many dances sent in, I was surprised and thrilled when 'Dancing Spirit' was one of the original 45 to be shortlisted down to be included as part of the final 12 approved for publication."

Dancing Spirit

written by Amy Luxton

32-bar jig for three couples in a four-couple longwise set

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|--------------|--|
| Bars 1 - 4 | 1st couple, giving right hands, turn, moving down to face partner's first corner. 2nd couple step up on bars 1-2. |
| Bars 5 - 8 | 2nd man, 1st couple and 3rd woman dance a half reel of four, 1st couple pass by the left to finish facing partner's second corner. |
| Bars 9 - 12 | 2nd woman, 1st couple and 3rd man dance a half reel of four. To finish, 1st man curves in to face 2nd woman and 1st woman curves in to face 3rd man. |
| Bars 13 - 16 | 1st couple dance round corner by the right and, giving right hand to each other and left hands to first corners, finish in balance in line position. |
| Bars 17 - 24 | 1st couple, with 3rd and 2nd couples, dance as in the spoke. On bars 23-24 1st couple, retaining right hands and using skip change of step, turn to second place on opposite sides; 3rd and 2nd couples set. |
| Bars 25 - 28 | 3rd, 1st and 2nd couples dance clockwise halfway round the set to own sides. |
| Bars 29 - 32 | 2nd, 1st and 3rd couples, giving right hands, turn once round. |

Repeat, having passed a couple.

Spring Fling Dance 2

Our second home-grown dance was devised by Peter Fish from Waimate when he was 11 years old. It is a lively dance with not a moment's rest for any of the dancers. Once the music starts, it's all go until the final curtsy/bow.

Waimate is a small rural town in the South Island and, early in its history, a local man imported some wallabies from Australia as a gift for his wife. Soon there were lots of wallabies and then some escaped. Now there are wallabies hopping around the hills and paddocks surrounding the town, and once a year there is a pest quest, with prizes for the biggest wallaby shot, most wallabies shot and so on. The remaining wallabies are busy nibbling on the vegetation and destroying the native bush so they are a real pest now.

The Wandering Wallaby

written by Peter Fish

32-bar jig for four couples in a four-couple longwise set

- Bars 1- 8 All four couples dance eight hands round and back.
- Bars 9 - 16 All four couples dance reels of four on own sides of the set.
- Bars 17 - 24 1st couple, followed by 2nd, 3rd and 4th couples, cast off and dance down behind own lines, meet partner and dance up to finish in the middle of the set.
- Bars 25 - 32 1st couple, retaining nearer hands, set twice and cast behind own lines to fourth place. At the same time, 2nd, 3rd and 4th couples dance a promenade, dancing up one extra place on bars 31-32 to finish in the order 2,3,4,1.

Repeat with new top couple.



Medal Test Results

Congratulations to everyone who took Medal Tests recently at Milford Club in Auckland. There were dancers from 4 different clubs on the North Island plus one candidate from the South Island. It shows that with Scottish Country Dancing you really can go anywhere and step into a set with dancers you have not met before and dance with them.

Thanks to everyone that helped in their preparation and on exam day itself - it could not have happened without you.

Thanks, too, to the examiners that gave up their time for these sessions: Debbie Roxburgh, Gail Schofield, Elaine Laidlaw and Ruth Budden.

Bronze

Heron Aneurin	Lochiel
Oliver Burton	Milford
Abigail Cooke	Lochiel
Caitlin Cooke	Lochiel
Ryan Russell	Milford
Jingting Wei	Milford

Bronze Bar

Oliver Burton	Milford
Felicia Chen	Milford
Josephine Deady	Milford
Marius Nuttney	Milford
Jingting Wei	Milford

Silver

Alexandra Deady	Milford
Natalie Garcia Gil	Lochiel
Rachel McGuigan	Milford
Maya Russell	Milford
Natasha Skuljan	Milford
Hannah Zhang	Milford

Silver Bar

Sophie Hollingsworth	Milford
Rachel McGuigan	Milford
Abigail Mitchell	Milford
Kiara Nuttney	Milford
Natasha Skuljan	Milford
Grace Stapleton	Milford
Petronella Verhaegh	Tokoroa

Judy Zhang	Milford
Anan Zhao	Milford

Gold

Sophia Burton	Milford
Saskia de Graaf	Ellerslie
Juliette Lyons	Milford

Gold Bar

Xavia Fraser	Lochiel
Chelsea Herbert	Milford
Amy Martin	Tam O'Shanter
Anna Verhaegh	Tokoroa

Upcoming Medal Tests

**Summer School, Christchurch, Friday
30th December 2016**

**JAM Camp, Masterton, Friday 21st April,
2017**

You can find the application form on the NZ Branch website in the Youth section, or email jam@dancescottish.org.nz

Applications to : Hazel Fish
86 Whitneys Road, RD 8, Waimate 7978

\$\$\$ available

Under the **Branch Youth Fund** grants are available twice a year to provide funding for events, activities or resources that encourage or facilitate youth Scottish Country Dancing in New Zealand. Preference is given to applications by RSCDS NZ Branch members (which includes registered JAMs), but non-members may also apply.

See the NZ Branch website's Youth page for the application form. There is information there about what the fund can be used for, and the closing dates.

Earlier this year a grant was given to Edward and Jonathan Fish, from Waimate, to pay towards travel to get to a Day School in Rangiora. They thank the Branch Youth Fund for helping to get to the Day School, where they learnt a lot from the teacher of their class, David Williamson.