

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY
NEW ZEALAND BRANCH INC.**

HELD AT ST PETERS COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE, ON 1 JANUARY 2020 AT 1.30 PM

PRESENT:

Management Committee: Elaine Laidlaw (President), Linda Glavin (Vice-President), Michele Miller (Secretary), Quentin Currall (Treasurer), Lee Miller (Education and Training), Sue Lindsay (Communication, Publicity and Membership), Andrew Patterson (IT Coordinator).

Delegates: Katharine Hoskyn, Pat Henley, Trish Henley, Miriam Laidlaw, Duncan Laidlaw, Gail Schofield, Steve Goldthorpe [Auckland]; Bill Jacob, Jean Smithson, Jeanette Lauder [Waikato Bay of Plenty]; Paul Roxburgh [Rangitikei and proxy Hawkes Bay East Coast]; Ian Pearson, Nicole Trewavas [Rangitikei]; Gaylia Powell, Ann Oliver [Wellington]; Dorothy Wilson [Nelson/Marlborough]; Wendy Jaeger-Webster [West Coast]; Su Marshall, Ian Marshall, Alice Shankie, Lorraine Hearne [Canterbury]; Emily Currall [Otago, proxy Southland].

Other members: Maureen Jacob, Glenice Saunders, Barbara Laing, Betty Mahy-Cressey, Jim Carter, Linda Carter, Sue Pearson, Shirley Li, Tony Pears, Hannah Roxburgh, Mary Thomas, Elaine Goldthorpe, June Herbert, Alan Duthie, Andrew Oliver, Ann Luxton.

OPENING: The President declared the meeting open, thanked attendees for their prompt arrival and asked them to be sure to sign the attendance register if they have not already done so. She reminded those present that comments be concise and directed through the Chair, and requested that when members speak, they introduce themselves, and where they are from.

The President reminded members that the business that we are doing here today is to foster the enjoyment and promotion of Scottish Country Dancing.

All people present were asked to switch off their mobile phones.

GREETINGS: The New Zealand Branch received greetings from: Lydia Hedge, Canada; Janet Favel, Otago Region (to all dancers attending Summer School in beautiful Cambridge).

APOLOGIES: Lydia Hedge, Janet Favel. Debbie Roxburgh (Youth Coordinator), Amy Esler-Luxton, Gary Morris, Ruth Currall, Isabel Jackson, Brian and Lorna English.

THAT apologies be accepted. Moved by Sue Pearson. Seconded by Ian Pearson. CARRIED.

BEREAVEMENTS: The following dancers passed away during 2019: Winton (Win) Clancy, Pamela Kliskey, John David McIntosh, John Webb, Elspeth Allan, Jeanette McFarland, Brian Cowley, Hugh Thompson, Kath McClure, Nita Stock, Beryl Dineen, Frances French-Wright, Roger Schofield.

The President asked all to stand for a moment's silence.

ROLL CALL: Region Delegates and voting numbers. 41 delegates were represented.

Auckland	13	Waikato Bay of Plenty	5
Hawkes Bay East Coast	1	Rangitikei	3
Wellington	7	Nelson Marlborough	2
West Coast	1	Canterbury	6
Otago	2	Southland	1

LIFE MEMBERS: The President welcomed the following Life Member to the meeting: Dorothy Wilson. Other Life Members' news: Gary Morris has been hospitalised since 23 December but is due home today; Mary Ronnie is well and dancing Strathspeys.

OTHER ITEMS: The President asked for notice of any other items to be discussed under General Business, relevant to the Annual General Meeting, which were not already on the Agenda.

Dorothy asked if the Branch was going to record Win's excellent contribution in any way. Elaine replied she is in contact with the family and there will be a page in the Memorial Book.

TIMING: The President advised that, for general matters, speakers would be allowed a maximum of 3 minutes.

TIMEKEEPERS: The President proposed that Hannah Roxburgh and Sue Pearson be timekeepers. The timekeepers were asked to ring a bell 30 seconds before the maximum time allowance for speakers and at the time limit.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS AGM: The minutes of the meeting held on 1 January 2019 were sent to Members earlier in the year.

THAT the minutes be taken as read. Moved by Elaine Laidlaw. Seconded by Su Marshall. CARRIED.
Correction: Tim Wilson, not Tim Bosen, is booked for Christchurch Summer School. Addition to bereavements: Graham Fleming.

THAT the amended minutes are a true and correct record of the meeting. Moved by Elaine Laidlaw. Seconded by Duncan Laidlaw. CARRIED.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES: There were no matters arising.

ANNUAL REPORTS:

President: The President added "In September I visited Glendarroch, Lochiel, Cambridge and the 60th anniversary at Howick. In October I attended the New Dancers' Celebration in Wellington with 90 new dancers registered and 150 dancers on the floor. In November I visited Lawrence, Mary Ronnie, Ceilidh, Corstorphine, Ann Corrie, and the Otago Region Dance. We belong to an amazing organisation." She acknowledged the Management Committee, including previous members Liz Lusher and Margaret Cantwell, her family, and Carterton club, whose support made it possible for her to fulfil this role.

THAT the President's report be accepted. Moved by Elaine Laidlaw, seconded by Ian Marshall. CARRIED.

Vice-President: The Vice-President thanked Dorothy Wilson for her support over her years as a teacher.

THAT the Vice-President's report be accepted. Moved by Linda Glavin, seconded by Lorraine Hearne. CARRIED.

Treasurer: The Treasurer advised, subsequent to his report, the accounting system Xero has been implemented and the Membership renewals process occurred. The UK-NZD exchange rate moved significantly after the Management Committee's mid-year meeting and prior to sending money to Headquarters (the NZD dropped by 10%). The RSCDS Subscriptions account balance is now \$6088.

THAT the Treasurer's report be accepted. Moved by Quentin Currall, seconded by Ian Pearson. CARRIED.

REVIEWER/AUDITOR: Treasurer proposed that Cross and Associates remain as the Branch Reviewer/Auditor. Seconded by Duncan Laidlaw. AGREED unanimously.

Communication, Publicity and Membership Coordinator: Sue Lindsay advised she had nothing to add to her report.

THAT this report be accepted. Moved by Sue Lindsay, seconded by Paul Roxburgh. CARRIED.

Youth Coordinator: Nicole Trewavas spoke on behalf of the Youth Coordinator and said there was nothing further to add to her report.

THAT this report be accepted. Moved by Nicole Trewavas, seconded by Su Marshall. CARRIED.

Education and Training: Lee advised three candidates sat and passed Unit 1 in 2019 and five candidates are being examined for Unit 5 at this Summer School. Thank you to Debbie Roxburgh for her role in teaching the Teacher's Candidates. Thank you to Lynne Scott in her role as Music Adviser, particularly promoting new musicians.

THAT this report be accepted. Moved by Lee Miller, seconded by Emily Currall. CARRIED.

IT Coordinator: Andrew noted 2019 has been a year of change, and he is very pleased with the way people have adjusted to the changes. Comments are always welcome.

THAT this report be accepted. Moved by Andrew Patterson, seconded by Su Marshall. CARRIED.

Book shop: Sue advised she had nothing to add to her report.

THAT this report be accepted. Moved by Sue Pearson, seconded by Hannah Roxburgh. CARRIED.

Record shop: Dorothy added "I am so pleased Sue is taking over my beloved CDs. They will be in good hands. It's been a smooth transition. All the best Sue."

THAT this report be accepted. Moved by Dorothy Wilson, seconded by Linda Glavin. CARRIED. Linda thanked Dorothy for her 35 years of service. There will be further acknowledgement of Dorothy's service at a later occasion.

SCRUTINEERS: The President proposed that Hannah Roxburgh and Sue Pearson be scrutineers and asked the meeting for approval. AGREED.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

President: The President advised the meeting that one nomination had been received for the position of President: Linda Glavin. (Nominated by Lorraine Whaley, seconded by Su Marshall).

As there was only one nomination, the President asked if it was the wish of the meeting that Linda Glavin be President of the New Zealand Branch for 2020.

AGREED WITH ACCLAMATION

The outgoing President stood down and Linda Glavin took the Chair.

The President presented Elaine Laidlaw with a "Past President" badge and thanked her on behalf of RSCDS NZ Branch.

Vice-President: The President advised the meeting that no nominations had been received for the position of Vice-President. There were no nominations from the floor.

Secretary: The President advised the meeting that one nomination had been received for the position of Secretary: Michele Miller. (Nominated by Juping Zhou, seconded by Jeanette Watson). As there was only one nomination, the President asked if it was the wish of the meeting that Michele Miller be appointed Secretary of the New Zealand Branch for 2020.

AGREED WITH ACCLAMATION

Treasurer: The President advised the meeting that one nomination had been received for the position of Treasurer: Quentin Currall (Nominated by Ruth Taylor, seconded by John Drummond). As there was only one nomination, the President asked if it was the wish of the meeting that Quentin Currall be appointed Treasurer of the New Zealand Branch for 2020.

AGREED WITH ACCLAMATION

Information Technology Coordinator: The President advised that one nomination had been received for the position of Information Technology Coordinator: Andrew Patterson. (Nominated by Quentin Currall, seconded by Shelley McConnel). As there was only one nomination, the President asked if it

was the wish of the meeting that Andrew Patterson be appointed Information Technology Coordinator for 2020.

AGREED WITH ACCLAMATION.

Youth Coordinator: The President advised that there was one nomination for the position of Youth Coordinator: Debbie Roxburgh. (Nominated by Jeannie Wright, seconded by Mary Hawkes). As there was only one nomination, the President asked if it was the wish of the meeting that Debbie Roxburgh be appointed Youth Coordinator for 2020.

AGREED WITH ACCLAMATION

Education and Training Coordinator: The President advised that one nomination had been received for the position of Education and Training Coordinator: Lee Miller. (Nominated by Juping Zhou, seconded by Michele Miller). As there was only one nomination, the President asked if it was the wish of the meeting that Lee Miller be appointed E&T Coordinator for 2020.

AGREED WITH ACCLAMATION

Communication, Publicity and Membership Coordinator: The President advised that one nomination had been received for the position of Communication, Publicity and Membership Coordinator: Sue Lindsay. (Nominated by Chris Whittington, seconded by Joy Haylock). As there was only one nomination, the President asked if it was the wish of the meeting that Sue Lindsay be appointed Communication, Publicity and Membership Coordinator for 2020.

AGREED WITH ACCLAMATION

REMITTS AND NOTICES OF MOTION

The President proposed the following timing arrangements for handling remits.

Proposer: 4 minutes Seconded: 3 minutes

Speakers: 2 minutes Right of reply - Proposer and Seconded: 3 minutes

The President advised that these are maximum times and, if they wished, seconders could waive their speaking rights, also proposers and seconders could waive their right of reply.

DETERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP FEES AND OTHER EXPENSES

Remit: Membership Fees for 2020/21

Proposer: Quentin Currall. Seconded: Elaine Laidlaw

The Treasurer corrected the Adult Single Fee to \$80 as mentioned in his report. He noted the fees are the same as the previous year.

Bill Jacob noted the Society has reduced its membership fees by two pounds per member. He asked how the Branch intends to distribute the excess funds collected. If credited to Regions, the WaiBoP Region could use the \$334 to support JAM activities, for example.

Katharine Hoskyn reminded the meeting NZ Branch did not pass on the last fee increase to members so there may not be the same obligation to pass on the decrease.

Andrew Patterson commented it is hard to compare different years given the differences in exchange rates etc. However we need to acknowledge Branch income will be higher than it would have been if the Society had not reduced its membership fees. It is important that this time next year the Branch clearly states the excess amount collected and what has been done with these funds.

Quentin assured the members this has been considered by the Management Committee and Regions will be advised of the outcome during 2020. The extra funds will not be absorbed into general funds.

Voting: FOR 41 AGAINST 0 ABSTENTIONS 0 CARRIED

Remit: Honoria and Payments for Management Committee position holders

Part A: Honoraria

Proposer: Quentin Currall. Secoder: Elaine Laidlaw

Voting: FOR 41 AGAINST 0 ABSTENTIONS 0 CARRIED

Part B: Management Committee Expenses for Summer Meetings and AGM for 2021 Financial Year

Proposer: Quentin Currall. Secoder: Elaine Laidlaw

The Treasurer noted not all expenses are claimed. Jean Smithson asked how often are the expenses not claimed. Quentin replied it varies, but in most years there have been some not claimed. Andrew Patterson commented it is a private matter between the committee member and the treasurer; we do not want to deter people from serving on the committee.

Voting: FOR 41 AGAINST 0 ABSTENTIONS 0 CARRIED

Remit: President's Travel Budget.

Proposer: Quentin Currall. Secoder: Michele Miller

The Treasurer recommended changing this accounting year be a calendar year rather than a financial year. Elaine Laidlaw commented 31 August is the end of the financial year but not the end of the dancing year.

Voting: FOR 41 AGAINST 0 ABSTENTIONS 0 CARRIED.

Remit: Honoria and Payments for Non-Management Committee position holders

Proposer: Quentin Currall Secoder: Michele Miller

Voting: FOR 41 AGAINST 0 ABSTENTIONS 0 CARRIED

NOTICES OF MOTION

THAT the word 'Remit' is removed from the Branch Constitution.

Proposer: Katharine Hoskyn. Secoder: Michele Miller

Katharine spoke to the motion. There is no definition of remit or notice of motion in our Branch Constitution. The term is somewhat historic. If passed, this changes clauses 8.5(8), and 8.6.

Voting: FOR 31 AGAINST 10 ABSTENTIONS 0 CARRIED

THAT amendments to motions must be notified prior to the AGM.

Proposer: Katharine Hoskyn. Secoder: Quentin Currall

Katharine spoke to the motion. Pre-notifications of amendments enables better member-based discussion prior to the AGM. Further discussion is needed, for example, at what point are amendments accepted (before or after Region AGMs)? Does the Constitution need to change?

Voting: FOR 31 AGAINST 10 ABSTENTIONS 0 CARRIED

THAT motions regarding determination of fees and expenses of Office Bearers must be pre-notified and pre-circulated.

Proposer: Katharine Hoskyn. Secoder: Quentin Currall

Katharine spoke to the motion. Any changes to the fees and expenses during the AGM implies a different set of expenses and the Treasurer would need to adjust figures during the meeting.

Voting: FOR 31 AGAINST 10 ABSTENTIONS 0 CARRIED

Elaine Goldthorpe proposed a vote of thanks to Katharine Hoskyn for her work in clarifying the rules and processes for the Branch.

AGREED WITH ACCLAMATION

Katharine thanked the meeting and added a group of people was responsible: Quentin Currall, Antanas Procuta, and Linda Glavin.

GENERAL BUSINESS

BUDGET:

The Treasurer presented the proposed budget, firstly apologising for the incorrect 2019 Actuals. The expenses are over-estimated given not all honoraria and other expenses are claimed.

AGREED unanimously.

FUTURE SUMMER SCHOOLS

2020-21 Christchurch. David Williamson, Organiser. Su Marshall spoke on his behalf. The theme is "Rise up and Dance". Overseas teachers and musicians are Tim Wilson (San Francisco), Andrew Timmons (Adelaide, Germany), Adam Brady (Scotland), and Iain McKenzie (Australia). Accommodation will be in College House Ilam and evening functions will be in Caledonian Society Hall. Hopefully classes will be back at Villa Maria. Note the Summer School will not accept cheques.

2021-22 Auckland, Duncan Laidlaw, Organiser, with Shona Greer and Liz Hickey. Waipuna Hotel gave good service last time and has been booked again. Renovations have occurred since the last Auckland school. The meals will be full buffet not a separate dining room. They quoted almost the same as in 2011. Duncan recommended we all share our Summer School stories which are the best advertising for future Summer Schools.

SCHOLARSHIPS: The members were advised that the following scholarships were awarded in 2019.

JAM: Petronella Verhaugh, WaiBOP, Casey Marshall, Canterbury.

Teaching: Chris Totten, Wellington.

Dancer Under 3 Years: Neda Baldwin. Auckland

Dancer Over 3 Years: Emily Currall, Otago

BANK SIGNATORIES:

THAT the bank signatories be Linda Glavin, President, Michele Miller, Secretary, and Quentin Currall, Treasurer. Any 2 can approve online transactions. AND THAT outgoing President Elaine Laidlaw be removed as a signatory.

Moved: Linda Glavin. Seconded: Sue Lindsay. CARRIED.

VOTING CARDS: Delegates were asked to return voting cards before leaving the meeting.

ATTENDANCE REGISTER: Attendees were reminded to sign the attendance register if they had not already done so.

CONCLUSION: The President thanked the members for attending.

The President advised that the 53rd Annual General Meeting of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, New Zealand Branch Incorporated, will be held at Christchurch, on 1 January 2021.

The meeting closed at 2:50 pm.

These minutes are a true and correct record of the meeting.

.....President.....Date

.....Secretary