



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



Issue 3/2017



Jigs And More

Spotlight on: Little Thistles

The Little Thistles Club from Christchurch is gradually growing in numbers, but like all clubs would welcome new members.

All members of the Club managed to attend the Masterton JAM Camp in April. Like everyone else, they had a wonderful time and came home extremely tired. They enjoyed all parts of the camp, from the dancing to Saturday's afternoon activities to catching up with their old friends from previous JAM Camps and Summer Schools.

In June the club was visited by the New Zealand Branch President Elaine Laidlaw, who came to present the medals and certificates earned by all the candidates who had sat their Medal Tests at previous Summer Schools and JAM Camps.

The next Summer School is in Masterton and six JAMs are preparing to go. Two of them were lucky enough to receive scholarships, and the others will be helped with fundraising by the Club. Fundraising activities are also already underway for the next JAM Camp, which is in Auckland.

The hour and a half on Saturday mornings just flies by with step practice followed by formations for the medal dances that they are learning before finishing of course with a fun dance. They have recently started learning some of the more common dances so that they can demonstrate what they have

learned by dancing confidently with the rest of the adults from the Canterbury Region in the Club's final dance at the end of the year.

Exciting News!!!!

In November, Marian Anderson and Max Ketchin are coming out to New Zealand from Scotland to play for some anniversary and region dances. This is an event not to be missed!! They are playing in:

Auckland: Saturday 4th November. North Shore 50th Anniversary Ball - Browns Bay Primary School Hall, Masterton Rd.

Palmerston North: Saturday 11th November. Rangitiki Region Dance. College Street Normal School Hall, 402 College St, Palmerston North

Dunedin: Saturday 18th November. Otago Region Dance. Kaikorai Presbyterian Church Hall, 127 Taieri Rd

Christchurch: Tuesday 21st November. Canterbury Region Dance. Heaton Normal Intermediate School Hall, 125 Heaton St, Merivale.

Picton: Saturday 25th November. Picton School, Buller St.

See your name in print!

Jigs And More is for you - email us at jigsandmore@dancescottish.org.nz with a story or photo from your Summer School experience or summer holidays.

Closing date for the first 2018 edition is **Wednesday 28th February**.

Upcoming Events

Auckland Region Labour Weekend School: 20-22nd October 2017. Auckland Normal Intermediate School, Mt Eden, Auckland. Information available on the region website: www.aucklandscd.org.nz. Anyone remember Cairistiona Tait who taught at JAM Camp in Matamata? She's one of the tutors for the weekend school!

Medal Tests: Sunday 3rd December in Waimate.

2017/2018 Summer School: Masterton - 28th December 2017 to 5th January 2018

JAM Forum: There is going to be a JAM forum held for JAMs, tutors, parents and Friends at Summer School in Masterton. 1.30pm on 4th January 2018.

AWEsome Scottish Country Dance Weekend: Sydney, Australia. 2nd - 4th February 2018. From Friday afternoon until Sunday afternoon, AWEsome is a weekend of dancing for dancers aged 18-40. Send an email to: AWEsome@rscds.org.au for more information.

A dance from JAM Camp

Dancing With the Fantails

A 32 bar reel for 4 couples in a longwise set

Bars

1-12: 1st and 3rd couples petronella and set for 12 bars, finishing facing each other up and down the dance, men facing down, women facing up.

13-16: 1st couple turn $\frac{3}{4}$ with right hands and cast to 3rd place while 3rd couple turn $\frac{3}{4}$ with right hands and lead up to 1st place.

17-24: 1st couple, followed by 3rd couple, lead down the middle and back, finishing in the middle with both hands joined. 2nd and 4th couples step in on bar 24.

25-32: 3rd couple with 2nd couple, 1st couple with 4th couple, change places with a poussette.

Finish in the order 2,3,4,1 and repeat the dance from new positions.

Suggested music: Homecoming 2009, played by Colin Dewar on The Ruthven Collection Vol 2, or any lively 32 bar reel played AABB

Dedicated to the Junior Jams class at JAM Camp 2017. As we danced our very last dance - Petronella - a pair of fantails flitted in through the door and danced with us. This dance celebrates both the fantails and Petronella, with just a hint of Wild Geese.

Devised by Kathryn Deroles

\$\$\$ available

Do you need:

Travel costs to get you to a youth event?

Rent for a hall to hold a youth dance workshop?

Resources for a new JAM Class?

There is still time to apply for a Youth Fund Grant

The Branch Youth Fund is for use for events, activities or resources that encourage or facilitate youth Scottish country dancing in New Zealand - which includes encouraging JAMs to continue dancing as they transition to university and work. The age criterion therefore stretches up to 29, rather than the JAMs maximum age of 19.

The website has further details of what is or is not funded:

<http://www.rscdsnz.org.nz/yfund.php> as well as the 'Statement of Purpose',

Application Form and what is required of those who receive a grant.

Applications must be received by 1st June and 1st December each year. Young dancers (under age 30), teachers/leaders and organisers can all apply for funds for any future project which is intended to encourage youth dancing or dancers in New Zealand. Preference will be given to RSCDS members (including JAMs).

See the Youth page of the NZ Branch website for the application form. There is information there about what the fund can be used for. Applications need to be in by **Friday 1st December**.

Summer School JAM Scholarships

Congratulations to Emma Russ and Caitlin Tipping, both from the Little Thistles group in Christchurch, who are the lucky recipients

of the JAM scholarships to attend the 2017/2018 Summer School in Masterton!

The Scholarship pays the full cost of a JAM resident at the New Zealand Summer School (any travel costs are extra). Applications close on **30th June** 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 Youth page on the NZ Branch website, or talk to your club tutor for further **details**.

Dance Challenge

Looking for something to do over the summer? How about coming up with a dance to try with your club next season. To give you an idea, below are the instructions for Ninepins - a dance version of musical chairs

Ninepins

A 4 couple square set with an extra dancer in the middle.

Bars:

1-8: 1st and 3rd couples slip step across the set (men with their backs to dancer in the middle) and back to original places (women with their backs to dancer in the middle).

9-16: 2nd and 4th couples repeat first eight bars.

17-24: All dance eight hands round and back while dancer in middle does steps of their choice.

25-32: All four men* dance four hands round and back around dancer in the middle.

33-40 (and beyond): All five women* dance right hands across until the music stops. Find a new partner when the music stops, and the new extra dancer has a turn in the middle.

* After all women have had a turn, swap so the men get a chance to be in the middle.

Little Thistles at the JAM Camp Ceilidh



Have a great and relaxing summer, and hope you enjoy the 2018 dancing season!!!!