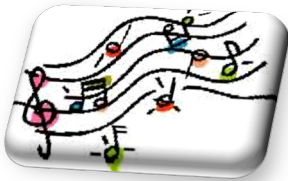




The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society New Zealand Branch Inc Junior Associate Newsletter



Issue 1/2018



Jigs And More

New JAM Committee members

Happy New Year for 2018!

Two new people have joined the JAM Committee this year. Nicole Trewavas has taken over the organisation of Medal Tests, and Debbie Roxburgh is the new Youth Co-ordinator. Huge thanks to Hazel (past Medal Test organizer) and Diane (past Youth Co-ordinator) for their time and work they have put in over the past three years!



Debbie:

I started Scottish Country Dancing in Christchurch in 1975, dancing 3 or more times a week and enjoying the tuition of many excellent teachers. In 1984 I relocated to Whanganui, married Paul, and two years later began SCD teacher training completing the RSCDS Full Certificate in 1989.

I have been involved with JAMs since they were first established in 1996/97, and was a member of the first JAM Committee. I worked with a small team to develop the JAM



Medal Test structure and syllabus, and I am a medal test examiner.

I currently teach at the Glendarroch Club taking 2 adult classes and 1 children's class each week. I am active in encouraging new teachers and mentoring candidates for their RSCDS teaching examinations.

I have taught at numerous summer schools, and day and weekend schools throughout New Zealand, and twice taught at the annual RSCDS Summer School at St. Andrews in Scotland.

I am passionate about sharing my love of dancing and aim to teach in a way that makes dancing accessible and fun people of all ages whilst encouraging everyone to dance to the best of their abilities.

Nicole:

I began dancing at the age of 11 in Waikanae, being taught by Glenys Mills. Both my parents danced and when my sisters and I were old enough, we were allowed to dance in the adult class as well (no JAM class then). A few years later we moved to Palmerston North and I have continued dancing at the Manawatu club, as well as attending Glendarroch in Wanganui on a regular basis. As a junior member, I was lucky enough to be able to sit and achieve all the JAM medal tests. This then led to me working towards my RSCDS Teaching Certificate, which I

achieved at the Cambridge Summer School 2013/2014. I am currently the tutor for the Manawatu Scottish Country Dance Club in Palmerston North and in 2016 began a new class for children. I have attended many Summer Schools, day schools and weekend schools around the country as a dancer and I have also had the privilege of teaching an elementary day school class, two weekend schools and the Senior JAM class at the Christchurch 2016-17 Summer School since gaining my Teaching Certificate.

When I am not teaching dancing, I am teaching pre- schoolers at a local childcare centre where I have worked for the past 8 years. When I'm not working or dancing, I am also a Pippin Leader (Girl Guiding) in Palmerston North.

See your name in print!

Don't forget! Jigs And More is for you - email us at jigsandmore@dancescottish.org.nz with a story or photo.

Closing date for the next edition is **Thursday 31st May**.

JAM Raffle

During the first few nights of Summer School, raffle tickets were sold to raise money for the Youth Fund. Murray Corps from Celtic Thistle generously donated prizes of a pair of dancing shoes. Judith and Iain Muir, who were the guest musicians from the UK, drew the raffle at the President's Ball. Congratulations to Josie Olsen and Amy Luxton-Esler. \$427 was the grand total from ticket sales.

Changes to JAM Memberships

JAM membership will now run from January to December. Those currently registered will now only need to renew in January 2019 along with anyone who joins through the year. The \$5 registration fee will now cover all or part of a year, so everyone will need to pay for their registration by the end of March each year.

Medal Test Results

Congratulations to the candidates who sat their Medal Tests in Waimate in early December last year.
All are members of the Waimate SCD Club.

Bronze:

Paige Strachan
Hinako Sugiyama

Bronze Bar:

Rebekah Clark
Hinako Sugiyama

Silver Bar:

Alex Kuti
Amanda Kuti



JAM Scholarship Reports

Congratulations to Caitlin and Emma (both members of Little Thistles in Christchurch) who were the lucky recipients of the JAM scholarship to attend Summer School in Masterton. From their reports, it sounds like they had a great time.

Caitlin:

To get a scholarship to go to Summer School, that is amazing and a privilege to get. Every day I was there, it felt like every day was different because you always met someone new.

Classes were great and fun, even though it was exhausting at times. It was an amazing experience, both meeting new people and learning heaps of new dances.

I think the venue at Summer School was an amazing choice to stay at. It was: very comfortable, had heated pools (great for when we had the cold days) and easy to find your way around the place. I have to mention the food, because the food (especially lunch) was great, well organised and not to mention yum.

In general the organization for each day and still making sure we got a break, which was well-deserved, was fantastic. I also loved how they gave us a daily timetable and notices. It was definitely helpful and useful.

My favourite evening dance event was definitely the Hogmanay. It was my favourite event because everywhere I went, I could see smiles on people's faces and laughing and having fun. Even though the evening functions were exhausting, I still had so much fun and made the most of my time.

I think the one thing I love most about going to Summer School is the people you meet, dance and engage in great conversations with. I met lots of old and new friends when dancing. One memory I think I will always remember is that I danced in a set of Kate's and Katherine's and so on. I loved dancing with them because it was such a creative idea and so much fun.

Overall I had the best and unforgettable time, because the amazing organization team made it great. I also would highly recommend and encourage everyone to go because it is an amazing un-missable event to go to. Thank you so much to everyone for making it an amazing time.



Caitlin and Emma with the recipients of the adult Summer School scholarships.

Emma:

Hi, I'm Emma Russ and I got a scholarship for Wairarapa Summer School for 2017/18 and I was in the Senior JAMs class. I really enjoyed Summer School. If you didn't get to go this year you should try to come next year. Some of my favourite things we did were the President's Ball, Hogmanay and the Final night. At the President's Ball I loved getting photos with my friends, my class, my family and everyone else who got scholarships as well as all the fun dances. The best part about Hogmonay was staying up so late and the toast they did at midnight (they had juice for the kids) with the singing and wishing everyone Happy New Year. At the Final night, I tried to dance with all the new people I had met and all the people I already knew - there weren't enough dances. Then I got to go to the after party for hours and played cards and ate lots of food. I would love to go again, and I think Elaine Laidlaw and her group did a great job of organising Summer School, thank you for the chance to go and try it out.

