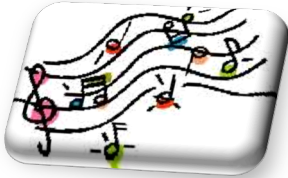




The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society  
New Zealand Branch Inc  
Junior Associate Newsletter



Issue 1/2019



# Jigs And More

## Nelson Summer School Scholarship reports



### *Isobel Harris*

This was my first ever Summer School, and I am really grateful I had the chance to attend. I was in the Senior Jam class taught by Diana who successfully managed to exhaust us with her energetic list of dances like "Do not stop," and the "Hyperactive reel." By the end of the week we were relying on the lollies, and the hope of gaining more star stickers, to keep us going. I doubt I could choose a favourite, but "A New Leaf," devised by one of our class, was an interesting dance which deservedly became

our ceilidh item. Over the course of the week we learnt new steps and formations and tried out dances that none of us had done before. Once we had to dance without using hands, and another time we were challenged to act sluggish and immobile—making for an amusing version of the Farquharson 50. Thank you, Diana for making our class both challenging and enjoyable, we definitely learnt a lot.

On some of the afternoons I went along to the optional Highland and Ladies step classes. Apart from completely melting in the heat, these were a lot of fun, and a great chance to learn some new steps. Hogmanay was probably my favourite night, but I was very glad we had New Year's Day off since many of us did not make it to bed until early that morning. The mock court was also hilarious, although I don't recommend ever dancing the Petronella backwards... It was great to be able to dance to live music all week, so thank you to all the musicians, with a special thank you to Anne-Marie who put up with our weird class requests to "start from bar 29!"

It was amazing to be able to meet, and dance with people from all over the world and I would like to thank the NZ RSCDS branch for giving me this opportunity—I had a really enjoyable time and I highly recommend applying for the JAM Summer School Scholarship.

### Edward Fish

The 2018/2019 Summer School was an incredible experience. This is the third Summer School I've been on, and I was lucky enough to receive a full scholarship. Looking at the programme, I was incredibly daunted by the amount of dancing that I was expected to be doing, and indeed my feet did not appreciate the torture — I can't believe I managed to dance for over 5 hours on Hogmanay! My body got a nice workout, and so did my brain.

Diana was my teacher, and she brought us lots and lots of new dances, formations, and even steps. Coordinating arms and legs was tricky at times, but I managed to complete the classes and even obtain a total of 4 gold stars. For the first couple of days the theme was reels, and I didn't know that many types of reels existed! *Do Not Stop* has a Weasel Reel, *Cadgers in the Cannongate* has a Cadger Reel, and the dance *Riders of Rohan* consists entirely of different types of reels!

For the dance we were performing at the ceilidh, I suggested a dance that I had devised myself, as did Jack, one of my classmates. His dance, *A New Leaf*, was the one that was chosen, and I'm glad since I actually preferred it over mine. That ceilidh, and in fact all the evening dances, were accompanied by live music, which was simply spectacular. We had Wild Heather performing most evenings, but sometimes we were instead joined by Iain Matcham on the fiddle and Jason Morris on the keyboard.

I learned so much, and the privilege of being able to bring my newfound knowledge back to my local club is something truly special. My feet are glad that it's over, but the rest of me can't wait for the next one.

## 2018 Medal Test Results

Congratulations to the candidates who sat their Medal Tests in Waikanae in August last year.

### Bronze:

Josie Herrick	Glendarroch
Amelia Lambert	Glendarroch
Caitlin Lambert	Glendarroch
Annalise Strachan	Glendarroch
Li-Yin Lin	Lower Hutt
Ruby-Jean Willis	Lower Hutt
Sophie Hurnard	Manawatu

### Bronze Bar:

Catherine van der Gulik	Lower Hutt
Thomas van der Gulik	Lower Hutt
Katie Warner	Waikanae

### Silver Bar:

Caitlin Tipping	Little Thistles
Jonny Bourne	Lower Hutt
Emily Warner	Waikanae

### Gold Bar:

Emma Loader	Newtown
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At time of going to print, the next opportunity for dancers to sit their Medal Tests will be at the Auckland JAM Camp in July.

Registration forms for both the Camp and Medal Tests will be online soon.

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## Wanted! A new Jigs And More editor

I am coming to the end of my time as editor of Jigs And More, so I'm on the lookout for someone to take over this role at the beginning of 2020. Email me at [jigsandmore@dancescottish.org.nz](mailto:jigsandmore@dancescottish.org.nz) and I'm happy to discuss what is involved - Amy

## RSCDS Youth Leadership Award

The RSCDS Youth Leadership Award is for young dancers aged 12 and upwards through the teenage years. Those interested will need to talk to their teacher first.

Below are the requirements for achieving this award:

**Social and Ceilidh Dances:** Learn dances which are often included in a Party Programme.

**Communication Skills:** Assist the teacher with practical aspects of a class of younger dancers, while getting to know the children.

**Teaching/Leadership:** Help with technique, formations and dances in a class of younger dancers.

**Music:** Understand the difference between jigs, reels and strathspeys; be able to count and clap in time; choose appropriate music for the devised dance.

**Creativity:** Devise a dance of 32 bars, independently or with others, using well known steps and basic formations; choose the number of dancers and shape of the set.

**Participation:** Attend an adult class occasionally to appreciate the social benefits to dancers of all ages.

**Diary:** Each participant is required to keep a record of details of participation and responses over a one year period including evidence such as photos and dance programmes.

Further details and a copy of the dance diary to download can be found at [www.rscds.org](http://www.rscds.org).

Click on **Courses** at the top of the page and choose **Youth Leadership Award**.

All the necessary information is on links near the bottom of the page, including "*Guidelines for teachers taking part in the programme*".

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## JAM Forum – Nelson January 2019

The regular JAM forum was held at Summer School and attended by 24 JAMs and interested adults.

The following topics were discussed:

**Medal test review** - The dances for the tests have been reviewed and some new dances added at each level. The new syllabus will be examined for the first time at this year's JAM camp in Auckland.

**Spring Fling style class** at the Cambridge Summer School. This is a high energy class that will appeal to senior JAMs.

**Dancing Achievement Awards (DAA)** - these are like Medal Tests but for older JAMs and adults. Auckland dancers should keep a look out for these being run in your region during 2019.

**RSCDS Youth Leadership Award** - Hazel Fish talked about how this had been implemented at the Waimate Club. Read more about it elsewhere in this newsletter.

# JAM Landing in Auckland 12 – 14 July 2019

*St Cuthbert's College, Epsom, Auckland*

**THE MOONWALK WAS REAL**

**Or should that be reel?**

The JAM Camp is one week before the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first moon walk

And so it is

One small step for a dancer, one giant leap for Scottish country dancing  
*That means – great fun & lots to learn*



There will be medal tests on the afternoon of Friday July 12.

More information coming soon to regions, SCD groups and clubs.  
Registration for medal tests and the camp will be online.

If you would like to be added to the email list to receive information directly on a regular basis,  
please contact

**[jam@aucklandscd.org.nz](mailto:jam@aucklandscd.org.nz)**