



KIWI NEWS

NOW INCORPORATING

MAC NEWS

(MANAGEMENT & CO-ORDINATORS NEWS)

RSCDS NZ Branch Inc.

Volume 20 No 3

October 2015

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT



For a number of dancers, the NZ Branch Summer School is what we are looking forward to. The Auckland School is promising to be a great school and if you have not put your application form in yet, it is not too late to do so.

Frances & I have not managed to get around the country as much as we had hoped. We did manage to attend a number of significant birthdays in the South Island though - Hokitika, Greymouth and Banks Peninsula, who all celebrated 50 years.

The Branch AGM will be held on January 1st 2016 and some positions are still to be filled.

I would ask that if you are any way interested in joining the Management Committee and would like to know more about the tasks, please do not hesitate to contact myself or the co-ordinators themselves.

I look forward to seeing those dancers attending Summer School and hope you all have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David".

TREASURER'S REPORT

A reminder to all Region Treasurers to send an audited copy of Region accounts to me by 30th November 2015.

This is in order to meet the year-to-year audit requirements of the Branch's accounts. Please email these to me at treasurer@dancescottish.org.nz

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Fast approaching another year-end and all preparations for the Annual AGM are under way.

Remits (4) were emailed to all Regions and Club Secretaries ahead of this mail-out, in time for full discussion.

The new structure of RSCDS Headquarters into a Company, which resulted in our having 14 named Delegates in NZ, will be having its first AGM in Scotland in November. As none of our Delegates will be attending, our representatives at this meeting will be Liz Douglas and David Cordes - NZ dancers now living in the UK.

The only remit from Scotland to be voted on is the raising of the RSCDS Fee by 2 pounds. The opinions of the Management Committee and Delegates were varied as expected. The details of how our Branch voted have been sent to Region and Club Secretaries.

As noted in the last Kiwi News I have not re-applied for the post of Secretary due to my health, and am still wondering if there is a willing applicant out there somewhere.

CO-ORDINATORS' REPORTS:

COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLICITY

The New Zealand Branch is going to hold a Dance Scottish fortnight in March 2016. Promotional material will be sent to Clubs in early 2016. If you want to/need to contact the Communications and Publicity Co-ordinator, the email address is communication@dancescottish.org.nz.

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Music Director, Lynne Scott has held two workshops in Hastings and Palmerston North with another in Wellington still to be held for fiddlers, accordionists, pianists and other musicians to try their hand at playing SCD music (her full report is in this edition of the Kiwi News.)

There is no examination class at Summer School this year but there is a teacher preparation class, so if you are interested it is still not too late to register for this class. If you would like any further information email: education@dancescottish.org.nz

MEMBERSHIP

All the renewals of membership along with the new members joining (and in some cases re-joining) is making this month a very busy one for me. Memberships have to be entered into both the New Zealand Branch database and the RSCDS database. If you have any queries regarding membership please email me on membership@dancescottish.org.nz

YOUTH

Thanks to those JAMs who applied for the **Summer School Scholarship** in July this year. Congratulations to Hannah Zhang aged 9 from the Milford Club and Rebecca Warnes aged 18 from the Lower Hutt Club who were successful in the draw.

In June, there were no applications received for funding from the **Youth Fund**. The closing date for the next round of applications is **1st December** so start thinking about your application now. The 'Statement of Purpose and Terms' and application form are all available on the website. Applications can be sent at any time by mail to Diane Bradshaw, 19 Thornycroft Avenue, Epuni, Lower Hutt

Live Music

ST. ANDREWS BALL

hosted by:

BLENHEIM SCD CLUB

Whitney St School Hall, Blenheim
(Plenty parking in school grounds)

Sat November 28th 2015

6:30pm Drinks & Nibbles 7:00pm Dancing

RSCDS members	\$20
Non-members	\$25
Spectators	\$10

Tickets available from Miriam Ph: 03 928 4479
Or email brian-mc@mlb.planet.gen.nz

REGION REPORTS

ROTORUA CLUB

The Rotorua Scottish Country Dancing Club had a busy start to the year organising our annual Tea Dance, and of course practicing all our dances. The night was very successful and enjoyed by those who attended. Thank you to Marion and Andrew who organised the programme and briefed the dances.

We have continued this year having "combined dance nights" with the Tokoroa Club. Each alternate month we either travel to their dance night on Thursdays or they come to our first Monday of the month, as well as "Tartan" and Supper nights. These have been greatly enjoyed by all who attend.

A few months ago we were delighted that a new family chose Scottish Country Dancing as their weekly family event. We love having them and now have almost an equal number of men dancers as ladies - which is wonderful!

Unfortunately Barbara is still unable to dance, and thus Andrew and Marion have been tutoring jointly, alternating each week. A big thanks to Marion and Andrew for their time, skills and energies; it is much appreciated by all our members. Also we have asked Lynn to come a couple of times to help with tutoring our new beginners and to give us all some skills to improve upon. This has been much appreciated and a koha was given to Lynn for her time, energy and petrol costs.

~ Sally-Anne Christensen - President

KAITAIA CLUB

There was great enthusiasm when the Kaitaia SCD club approached its 30th year celebration.

Our club was founded in July 1985 and has over the years managed to keep dancing alive here in the Far North.

Many dancers have come and gone but with the support of a keen core of Scottish Country Dance lovers, we have kept the doors open and encouraged new members.

Last year we organised an open day to coincide with the local AMP Show. With our various banners displayed and our great stirring music drifting out the door, we had passers-by showing their interest and eager to take a look. Along with our own dancers we managed to dance them through several easier dances. There were some enthusiastic young ones, along with several Mums who wanted to know more. We were delighted with their keenness and an early club night was formed.

This class is progressing well and growing. These dancers, ranging from 7-13 years, along with Mums and a Nana, joined us for our 30th Anniversary dance.



Our beautiful cake

Lifting the atmosphere to a high level and surprising us with their dancing skills, they truly enjoyed being involved with our adult dancers. With a record attendance of 60 dancers and spectators, the feedback was wonderful. This helps keep our club alive, moving towards the future of Scottish Country Dancing.

Our members are to be congratulated on their efforts; preparing the hall, producing a delicious supper and providing great hospitality for our guests.

Those who had travelled a distance were thanked and wished a safe journey home.

~ Gladys Farrant



A special occasion in Kaitaia



HOPPIT JAM CAMP 2015

Young dancers from around New Zealand gathered near Matamata in mid July for a JAM- packed weekend of dance, fun and friendship. With the Hobbiton movie set being close by there was no doubt that the weekend would focus on all things Hobbit.

The very cold but dry and sunny weekend meant the JAMs had to dance to keep warm! And dance they did! As one JAM commented "We had a blast, dancing until we couldn't breathe, meeting new people, making new friends and totally enjoying ourselves."

Four classes, each relating to a Hobbit family, were put to work by five fabulous teachers; Susanna van der Gulik, Katharine Hoskyn, Antanas Procura, Cairistiona Tait and Lynne Scott. As well as four dance class sessions, the Tookes, the Gamgees, the Proudfoots and the Bagginses each experienced a music session with Lynne Scott to give them an understanding of the music that enhances Scottish Country Dancing.

The JAMs (or Junior Associate Members) also had the experience, new for many of them, of having a musician play for several of their class sessions. The work of Ruth Budden, Virginia Mathieson and Lynne Hudson in this regard was much appreciated.

It should be noted that the New Zealand Branch provided funding for the music sessions and the class musicians. It should also be noted that Cairistiona paid her own travel from Melbourne to come to camp, something that was much appreciated by the committee as their budget did not stretch to funding that.

The social events of camp revolved around the 'Hoppit' theme. Friday night's opening social, 'The Bag End Bash' was emceed by Ruth Budden and set the tone for the weekend. Helen Smythe hosted 'Bilbo Baggins' Eleventy-first Birthday Party' on Saturday night. With Bourach Mor providing the music, great decorations provided by a number of people and some wonderful costumes, this was an amazing night.

Special thanks go to Cheryl Graham who supplied a Hobbit home and its surrounds plus outfitted the band with Hobbit feet.

Wayne McConnel brought the camp to a close as emcee for Sunday's Ceilidh, 'The Return Journey'.

It was great to see items that displayed the enthusiasm and talents of so many of the JAMs.

Three buses were filled with JAMs, teachers, musicians, parents and committee members for a tour of the Hobbiton movie set after classes on Saturday.

Everyone learned interesting things about Hobbiton and JAMs from the Baggins' class danced "The Party Tree" around the dragon pole... since it wasn't possible to dance it around the actual party tree.

On the Friday afternoon prior to the start of the camp 14 candidates sat Medal Tests in Matamata. All these candidates achieved their particular Medal or Bar. Thanks go to the examiners and those who helped complete sets for each test level.

There are many others to thank for their support prior to, during and after camp. Families, clubs and regions that supported JAMs in raising the necessary funds to travel to and participate in the weekend were appreciated by so many of the JAMs.

The parents and teachers who accompanied their JAMs to camp helped to make the camp run smoothly – everyone was prepared to help out to make the weekend successful.

The support of so many within the Waikato Bay of Plenty Region - individual dancers, clubs and a hardworking committee was invaluable. Extra funds raised within the region to supplement the fees of participants were vital, as unfortunately, the committee was not successful with any grant applications to outside agencies.

Congratulations go to the RSCDS New Zealand Branch for holding the 10th JAM Camp. The foresight of those who set the ball rolling in Otaki in 1997 is acknowledged, as are the efforts of so many others who have run JAM Camps since then.

Congratulations also go to all the JAMs who met challenges from their teachers during JAM camp.

We look forward to hearing of their progress in their clubs and regions over the next two years before they meet again at the next JAM Camp in the Wellington area.

~ Jeanette Lauder

BAND REGISTER NOW ONLINE!

A comprehensive list of New Zealand's SCD bands has for some time been a missing element in the SCD community. Now it's available online: at a glance you can see who might be able to play for your event.

The Band Register is accessed through the Education & Training tab on the NZ Branch website @ www.rscdsnzb.org.nz

Click on "Musicians' Page" and then on "Band Register". For each band you can see who plays which instrument, where they are based, what options the band can offer for class playing, and who to contact to make an enquiry.

The Band Register is currently presented as a pdf, and as such will need to be updated from time to time; I will try to keep it as current as possible.

Other areas of the Musicians' Page will contain articles of general interest to dancers, as well as useful information for musicians and bands. It's in a fledgling state at present – but watch this space!

Lynne Scott
Music Adviser, RSCDS NZ Branch



CANTERBURY EASTER WEEKEND SCHOOL 2016



KAIKOURA

Come and have a whale of a time!



Dates: Friday 25th March – Monday 28th March

Teachers: Diane Bradshaw (Lower Hutt)

Maureen Robson (Wellington)

Doug Mills (Picton)

David Williamson (Christchurch)



Music by **Scotch Measure** with guest
Lynne Scott

Branch Record Shop attending

SCD Musicians: the Next Generation

A growing number of musicians have been checking out what lies behind the music that we dance to.

Workshops in Hastings, Palmerston North and Wellington are bringing fiddlers, accordion players, pianists and others out of the woodwork, and getting them started on the path towards SCD musicianship. Local tutors and dancers have supported the initiative, and I'm very grateful for their help.

The one-day workshops are intended to give prospective SCD musicians a window into the world of SCD, so that they can make an informed decision about whether to take their interest further. Attendees are given an overview of SCD in an international and national context, and are taught about sets, standard dance shapes and progression. Where possible, a demonstration by local dancers can provide a visual illustration of a standard dance, and demonstrate the common steps seen on the dance floor.

A practical session of playing then puts the theory into practice. Musicians learn to play the bow-and-curtsey chords as a band. They learn to play one tune in an appropriate style, and then add other tunes to make up a dance set. We explore the style of tunes – swinging the jigs, snapping the strathspeys – and look at some basic instrumental techniques to bring out the “Scottish” style.

This leads us into an investigation of how to put music sets together, identifying the lead tune and selecting suitable supporting tunes. Where to locate music for these tunes is explored, with reference to published material and the internet.

The day ends with a look at where and how to get further training and practical experience, and some recommendations for further reading and contacts. All are encouraged to become dancers!

In both Hastings and Palmerston North, the core of a new band emerged. (Wellington's workshop is after the Kiwi News deadline; at the time of writing there are seven registrations.) These musicians will take time to develop their skills and to learn about SCD. They will need nurturing: all are competent instrumental musicians, but their success as SCD musicians will depend very much on the encouragement and helpful comment provided at club level. *Do encourage them to play for your warmups, and then when everyone is comfortable together, work with them to find a single dance that they can work towards playing. With the help of the SCD community, we can all benefit from live music for SCD.*

~Lynne Scott - Music Adviser, RSCDS NZ Branch

Record Shop

Dorothy W Wilson,
P O Box 612, Blenheim 7240
Ph 03 578 3766
Email: recordshop@rscdsnzb.org.nz



What's New?

Andy Imrie & the Reel of Seven “Gotta Dance”: 13 SCD tracks.
For details see Recordshop Newsletter September 2015

I have just a few “early birds” in stock, but there will be plenty available at Auckland S.S.
More supplies of Music for Book 49 are to hand and I have a couple of copies of “Carriages at Midnight” and “Edinburgh Branch 90th Anniversary” at the time of writing.

Luke Brady hopes to have “Take Your Partners for... Vol.5” available before the end of the year, although not confirmed as yet. However it is definitely “in the pipeline for 2016”!!
I hope to have more details for inclusion in my next Recordshop Newsletter .

As the end of the season approaches and some of you are perhaps looking for a gift for someone, remember the Branch Recordshop can supply Gift Vouchers (minimum value \$30-00)

Bookshop Bitz

Recent arrivals:

- Book 49
- Leaflet Dances 1964-1998, in A5 format
- Dances to Song Tunes by Hugh Foss
- RSCDS Edinburgh Branch 90th Anniversary book
- Graded Book 3
- MacNab Dances combined Vols 1&2
- the Imperial Book Vols 1-3
- Unit 2 Teaching Certificate Dances
- new Manual of Scottish Country Dancing

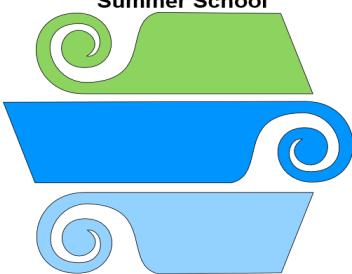
Summer School - The Bookshop will be operating most days at Summer School in Auckland. If you aren't able to be there you are welcome to email me with your requirements

Contact Sue Pearson:

- Email: bookshop@dancescottish.org.nz
- NZ Branch Website
- Snailmail C/- 21 Stafford Street, Wanganui 4501



RSCDS New Zealand Branch Inc.
Summer School



2015 - 2016 Mount Wellington

Registrations are still open! While a lot of your fellow dancers have already registered and all classes are going ahead, there is still space for more!

If you are unable to attend classes you are most welcome to attend evening functions. Our evening functions work much the same as club and region balls – pay cash for casual attendance at the door and enjoy the dancing and music.

Most events will be held in the Edgewater College Hall, with the concert on the 30th December being held at the Hotel and the Hogmanay Ball in the Edgewater College Gym.



Calendar

28 December 7:30pm	Opening Social	A social night with a Kiwi theme to the programme
29 December 7:30pm	Youth Night	Run by young dancers dress up for the Sound of Music
30 December 7:30pm	Reel of Seven in Concert	Bring your family and friends to a concert in the Cole Theatre
31 December 8:00pm	Hogmanay	Semi-formal, see in the New Year with your fellow dancers
2 January 7:00pm	Presidents Ball	A formal evening starting with canapés and a Grand March
3 January 7:30pm	Ceilidh Night	Easy dancing for everyone mixed with a variety of items
4 January 7:30pm	Closing Social	A social farewell to Summer School

<http://summerschool.dancescottish.org.nz>

Organiser: Duncan Laidlaw -
duncan.laidlaw@dancescottish.org.nz
Ph: +64 21 245 1468 or 0800 023 862 (NZ only)





AWEsome

Scottish Country Dance Weekend School
for ages 18 to 40

Fri 29 - Sun 31 Jan 2016
Lower Hutt, New Zealand

AWEsome is a residential weekend school for 'young' Scottish Country Dancers. Registrations are open now for 18 to 40 year olds no matter how much SCD experience you've had.

We will have one combined class for all dancers, with classes on Saturday and Sunday. An informal social on Friday night and a formal dance open to the public on Saturday night, with a ceilidh on Sunday night.

\$330 includes 2 nights twin share accommodation all meals from Friday dinner to Sunday lunch social, classes, formal dance, dance challenge, ceilidh, fun, friendship!

\$230 for commuters
(includes all dancing and meals).

Earlybird registration before 30th November to avoid late fees.



<http://lowerhuttscd.org.nz/awesome> iain@jumbletree.com

Organised by the Lower Hutt Scottish Country Dance Club lowerhuttscd.org.nz