



# Kiwi News

RSCDS NZ Branch Inc.

Volume 21 No 3

October 2016

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

October already and planning will be underway for the Christmas and New Year break. Everyone I speak to has the same question, "Where has the year gone"?

Liz Hickey's "Review of payments" was discussed at the Management Committee mid-year meeting. This has resulted in several remits being put forward for this years' AGM. These should be discussed at your own Regions, and delegates advised of your views. There will be an open forum at the Summer School regarding this subject. It is scheduled for Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> December from 2.00-4.00pm.

There are still vacancies for the Management Committee, and while the date has passed for nominations, these can be taken from the floor at the AGM. If anyone is interested in taking on the Vice-President, Education and Training or Secretary positions, please contact any committee member for further information or "what should I do now?"

My last few months as President, has been a role that I have enjoyed. Elaine Laidlaw takes over that position at the AGM and I wish her well. Thank you for your support over the last three years, especially Frances, and I look forward to seeing you at this year's Summer School.

*David*



**RSCDS, NEW ZEALAND BRANCH INC.**  
**ILAM SUMMER SCHOOL**

**2016-2017**  
Christchurch 'The Garden City'

**28 December 2016 - 5 January 2017**

A wide variety of classes are available with teachers who will challenge you and musicians who will entertain you. The modern accommodation is within easy walking distance of the dance venues, cafes, malls and buses.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the  
**2016 - 2017 Ilam Summer School**

**For more information contact: The Organiser: David Williamson**  
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PH,+64-3-322-7954, Email; [ss2016@dancescottish.org.nz](mailto:ss2016@dancescottish.org.nz)  
Web;[www.summerschool.dancescottish.org.nz](http://www.summerschool.dancescottish.org.nz)







## **NZ Branch Summer School, Christchurch 2016/17**

The closing date for applications of 31<sup>st</sup> August 2016, has been and gone, but the committee would like to advise that late applications will be taken. There is still room available at College House and commuters are always welcome.

With talented NZ and overseas musicians and tutors, the NZ Branch Summer School is challenging and, of course, lots of fun.

If attending the School is not possible but you will be in Christchurch between 28<sup>th</sup> December 2016 and 4<sup>th</sup> January 2017, you are welcome to come along to the evening functions. Two of the evenings, Hogmanay (31<sup>st</sup> Dec) and the President's Ball (2<sup>nd</sup> Jan) are ticket only, owing to catering purposes. These tickets are available from the organising committee.

## *From Around the Regions*

### **OPOTIKI**

Opotiki SCD Club has no exciting news, but we do have some "thank you's" to mention. Firstly, we were really delighted to welcome NZ Branch President David Williamson and Frances, to both a class and our social at the end of May. The theme for our social was "Around the World in 18 dances". We managed to include 16 out of the 36 countries where there is an RSCDS club. It was wonderful to have so many dancers. Thank you all for supporting us!

The social was successful and we were able to generate some local publicity about it, and then advertise our "Dance Scottish" initiative - a series of hour-long classes for beginners. Three new people came along, and one has become a keen and regular dancer with us. So we thank the Branch for the financial support and the posters, which allowed us to do this.

Our third thank-you goes to our Waikato/Bay of Plenty Region President, Heather Johnstone, who travelled through wintery weather to come and dance with us one evening; we really appreciated your visit! Both David and Heather have visited many clubs during their terms as NZ President and Region President respectively. These visits are very encouraging to small clubs like Opotiki, both for our dancers and our teachers and help us to feel part of the bigger RSCDS picture.

### **ROTORUA**

The Rotorua SCD Club had a busy and early start to the year due to a big advertising campaign to attract new members. It was decided last AGM to have a "beginners class" run during the month of February and this would be free. Thanks to a few dedicated members we advertised in the local papers and the library and posted flyers around the town. Our hard work paid off, resulting in several new people attending.

After the success of our beginner's class it was straight into organising our annual Tea Dance, and practising our dances. This year we celebrated our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. The night was very successful and enjoyed by those who attended.

We have continued this year having "combined dance nights" with the Tokoroa Club. Each alternate month we either travel to their club night or they come to our first Monday of the month "tartan" and supper night. We are now concentrating on organising the Region's annual Queen's Birthday Weekend School, hosted by Rotorua. See our flyer for details.

### **HASTINGS**

At the Hastings SCD Club's annual dance, held on 25<sup>th</sup> June three of our members were awarded Life Membership: *Dorothy Wilson, Pauline Griffiths and Colin Barker*. Together, these Life-Members have made a tremendous contribution to Scottish Country Dancing in Hawke's Bay and are valued members of our club. You can read more about them in the 2017 NZ Scottish Country Dancer magazine.

### **JOHNSONVILLE**

Johnsonville club has had a busy year with lots of events, dancing, music and plenty of fun amongst it all and, since the last Kiwi News, we have had Guest tutor Jeanette Watson, who brought her expertise to club nights, keeping club going through the start of winter, while Rod Downey was overseas.

In July, it was time to celebrate with our Bright Midwinter Night. Mulled wine, Indian food and ceilidh dances with friends and family brought lots of laughs and some inspirational "bright" costumes.



In August we celebrated our 50 years of association with the RSCDS, with a club dinner and dancing for all, at Karori Recreation Centre. It was an event to remember. Read more on that topic in the next issue of NZ SC Dancer magazine.

September – Our second tartan night of the year came upon us very quickly. It was also the second in our series promoting dances by Wellington devisers. Visitors from other clubs joined in to give us five sets on the floor - this time dancing to music by Lynne Scott, Sharlene Penman, Richard Hardie and Mary McDonald. In October we supported our new dancers at the Wellington Region New Dancers' Celebration and now we're getting ready for the end of the dancing season and voting-in the new committee, to start planning for next year...



And in November, we will close our dancing year on the 21<sup>st</sup>, with our Tartan and Final Night celebration. Everyone is welcome. Come along for another opportunity to enjoy music by long time Wellington musician Peter Elmes, along with Don McKay, Lynne Scott and Aileen Logie.

### CANTERBURY

Since July, various Canterbury and South Canterbury clubs have held open nights or afternoon dances. Dancers have travelled as far as Timaru in July, through to Akaroa for the Banks Peninsula dance on 2 October. In between, we have had our Mid-Winter Christmas Ball, where we were fortunate to have the current Vice President of the Branch, Elaine Laidlaw visiting us and being our MC for the evening. We also had the privilege of two dancers from France join us for this dance.

The region hosted a Day School at Rangiora on 6 August and the classes were taken by Hazel Fish and David Williamson. Although the numbers weren't large, the participants greatly valued the opportunity to have this tuition.

Oxford Club held their annual dance on 13<sup>th</sup> August, followed by Lincoln on 10<sup>th</sup> September. Between these two dances, the Region held a fund raising Quiz night. Although this wasn't as well attended as we would have liked, the teams who did enter had a great night testing their mental prowess.

Waimate held their annual dance on 18<sup>th</sup> September in the afternoon and Rangiora Club held its annual charity Afternoon Tea Dance on 25<sup>th</sup> September, which was well attended. The proceeds from this year's dance went to Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Canterbury. Our President, Helen Russ, presented the cheque to Natalie Paterson of BBBS at the end of the afternoon.

Banks Peninsula had a very successful afternoon dance on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, in the recently reopened Gaiety Theatre in Akaroa. It was great to have the opportunity to dance in this hall after it had been closed for earthquake repairs. The season of open nights/afternoons will close with Burnside's dance scheduled for Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October.



Helen Russ with her daughter Emma (also a dancer) presenting the cheque to Natalie Paterson

### 'LITTLE THISTLES'

#### A New Children's club!

Little Thistles is a new club formed from an existing Canterbury Region JAM class. Tutored by Linda Glavin, it has children ranging from beginners, to those getting ready to sit medal exams at Summer School.



Photo by Jill Plank

A 'Little Thistles' JAM dance was held on Saturday 2nd July, with adults, adult beginners, JAMs and families invited also.

Email: [LittleThistlesSCDCNZ@gmail.com](mailto:LittleThistlesSCDCNZ@gmail.com)

### EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Unit Teaching candidates are focused on their upcoming exams; Unit 1 in October in Auckland and Unit 5 at Summer School in Christchurch. Our best wishes go to all the candidates – make it happen!

It takes a team to make sure courses and exams happen and we are very fortunate to have tutors, musicians, administrators and stooges – all working to ensure the candidates success.

Blenheim SCDC has a cassette Coomber to give away! It comes with a carry case and lots of cassettes. Contact: Heather Lamb on 03 5782177; 02102587325 or [blenheim@dancescottish.org.nz](mailto:blenheim@dancescottish.org.nz) Arrangements can be made to bring the Coomber to Summer School

## CLUB SUPPORTS NEW MUSICIAN ~ Lyn Scott

This year has seen a new initiative in the Wellington Region. The Island Bay SCD Club has been actively supporting the development of a new musician, to the delight of everyone concerned.

It started with an Introduction to a SCD Music Workshop in Lower Hutt in 2015. Among the attendees was Heather Elder, a fiddler with only a little Scottish background but with enthusiasm plus! So after some exploratory sessions with a local pianist (who decided not to proceed), Heather and I approached the Island Bay SCD Club to see if we (with me on piano) might play a little for them. The Club, and its 2016 tutor Catherine McCutcheon, welcomed us warmly.

To start with, we just played marches and waltzes for the warm-ups. Once confidence was established on both sides, we started to play one dance each week. In consultation with Catherine, I was careful to select dances with relatively easy lead tunes that could be played with a minimum of stress. Davy Nick Nack/Violynne, some easy hornpipes and two-steppy jigs made for a good start. As the weeks went by, Heather has been able to prepare and play for more than one dance, and has been expanding her repertoire into more complex tunes, traditional strathspeys and faster reels. We precede each dance evening with a practice session in which we explore fiddle technique and the Scottish idiom, as well as rehearsing this week's tunes.

The Club has played its part magnificently. It has welcomed Heather with interest and congratulated her genuinely, showing her the warmth that is endemic to the SCD community. From the start, Catherine has provided good feedback and has used Heather for step and formation practice; she has also included in each dance evening, at least one simple dance for Heather to try (scheduled to *not* immediately precede dancing!) and Heather is now looking forward to attending a beginners' class, possibly with her family, next year. Could this example be a model for your club? It takes a long time for SCD dancers and tutors to become proficient, but we all had to start somewhere. Extending the warmth and inclusiveness of the community to involve new musicians will strengthen the whole SCD community.



## Autumn Gold in Cromwell

The Otago Region is holding an Easter School in Cromwell from 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> April 2017. There will be the usual mix of classes and evening dances, together with time to explore the scenery & vineyards of Central Otago.

Teachers are Ann Corry (Corstorphine Club, Dunedin) for the General Class and Hazel Fish (Waimate Club) for the Beginners / Intermediate Class.

For further info & registration forms contact: Ruth Taylor  
63 Passmore Crescent, Maori Hill, Dunedin 9010  
Ph: 03 4667647 M: 021 1251287 or [rumartay@gmail.com](mailto:rumartay@gmail.com)

If you wish to take advantage of the region's block booking of accommodation, the deadline for registration is 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016. If arranging your own accommodation, the deadline for registration is 1 February 2017.

## BOOKSHOP BITZ

**Book 50** is now available!

**Recent arrivals:** 'Southern Skies' (new NZ Branch book) - do you have a copy yet?

**Summer School in Christchurch:** The Bookshop will be open most afternoons during Summer School.

Are you looking for a particular publication? Please contact me and I will do my best to obtain it for you. ~ Sue Pearson

E: [Bookshop@dancescottish.org.nz](mailto:Bookshop@dancescottish.org.nz)

W: NZ Branch Website

M: C/- 21 Stafford Street, Wanganui 4501

## Notice Board...

- ✓ Due to new guidelines for Kiwi News content, only the flyers for 'special occasion' dances will be published. Programmes can be uploaded to the Branch website.
- ✓ From 2017, advertising for local bands in the Kiwi News will be charged at the same rate as the NZ Scottish Country Dancer magazine.
- ✓ Closing dates for the 2017 NZ SC Dancer magazine:
  - Region reports 30<sup>th</sup> Nov 2016
  - All other items 31<sup>st</sup> Jan 2017

*It would be most helpful if these were received before the due dates.... Ed ☺*

## RECORD SHOP

**New Releases:** Have you ordered your CD for Music for Book 50 recorded by Scott Band? Have you ordered Luke Brady's recording of 'Miss Milligan's Miscellany'? I have received enthusiastic feedback from the many members who have already purchased them. Just **\$35** each and, if the purchaser is an RSCDS member the P&P is discounted! Fresh supplies in stock.

**Other Releases:** Luke Brady's 'Take Your Partner for... Vol. 5' 'Chasing the Eclipse' (3x32S – instructions incl in sleeve) is probably the only track not recorded previously, BUT there are 15 other dances. Luke offers a superb mixture of old and new and breathes new life into 'Birks of Invermay' and 'Swiss Lassie' to name just two. For full contents please refer back to my February 2016 Newsletter or to the Recordshop Catalogue on the Branch Website. **\$30**

Andy Imbrie & Reel of 7: The last available from the Branch Recordshop (certainly at this price) is the CD which sold like hot cakes at Auckland S.S.; 'Gotta Dance' only 4 left @ **\$25**, BUT I recently obtained a few 'Dance for Joy... Encore' (3 left), 'Dance for Joy' (one only). The special price of any **2 for \$45 + P&P** is still on offer. Be in quick! *There will be no more.*

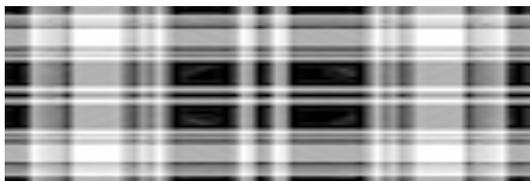
**Something Different:** DVD 'The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo 2016'. As announced in my August Recordshop Newsletter, I am taking orders for this "Special". The world's most spectacular military parade with the stunning backdrop of Edinburgh Castle; this year's programme includes the NZ Army band AND I understand that **four** of our members (from Dunedin and Auckland, are taking part this year. Late October release. Price t.b.a. **Closing Date for Orders: 21 Oct 2016.**

**This DVD would make a lovely gift!**

For full CD details please visit the NZ Branch website. Also on the website is an updated copy of the Recordshop catalogue and a copy of my most recent Recordshop Newsletter. A reminder that Gift Vouchers (min.value \$30) are available.

~ Dorothy Wilson

[bookshop@dancescottish.org.nz](mailto:bookshop@dancescottish.org.nz)



## WILD HEATHER

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### Contact

[sharlene@wildheather.co.nz](mailto:sharlene@wildheather.co.nz) 09 817 4561

[lynne@wildheather.co.nz](mailto:lynne@wildheather.co.nz) 04 565 0164

[www.wildheather.co.nz](http://www.wildheather.co.nz)



# RAISE YOUR SPIRITS

**ROTORUA  
SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB  
QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY WEEKEND SCHOOL**

**3 – 5 JUNE 2017**

Contact Angela 07 3481356

Email: [qbwe2017@waibopscd.org.nz](mailto:qbwe2017@waibopscd.org.nz)

Website: [qbwe2017@waibopscd.org.nz](http://qbwe2017@waibopscd.org.nz)



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