



Kiwi News

RSCDS NZ Branch Inc.

Volume 24 No 3

November 2019



President's Report

I have been pleased to find, as I travelled round the country, that many clubs report significant numbers of new dancers this year. Two questions have been discussed this year by the Management Committee:

- How do we do entice new dancers through the door?
- How do we keep these new members for the future?

There is no one-size-fits-all solution; different clubs have different situations, numbers and facilities.

Some of the things we can look at include:

- Run an introductory course for new dancers at the beginning of the year – before club starts, if you don't have more than one room available; or perhaps a separate group, if you have the teachers and facilities to do so.
- Encourage them to see the wider picture, go to dances as soon as they are a bit up to speed and cope with simpler dances with or without support from club members. Seeing a room full of dancers dressed for the occasion with live music should excite them.
- Make sure to involve them in club activities to make them feel they belong. Even simple things like taking a turn doing supper on club nights.
- When you prepare your own dance programme, make sure there are easy dances on it that new dancers can participate in.
- Many regions run a dance towards the end of the dancing year specifically aimed at new dancers. This should consist only of dances that are suitable for dancers who have only had (a bit less) than two years of dancing experience, perhaps with the support of more experienced dancers. Experienced dancers should be able to enjoy dancing simpler dances very well and get pleasure from just dancing without having to think too hard.

Experience in Wellington and Auckland Regions is that these dances are very well attended (Spring Dance in Auckland in September had 120 dancers and there were around 150 in Wellington in October).

Importantly, we need to remember that new dancers must not be regarded as a drag on your club; you NEED them to replace members who leave for one reason or another. If you don't encourage new members, your club numbers will slowly but surely dwindle.

Happy dancing

Elaine

From the Branch

Notes from IT

A big thank-you to the regions, clubs and members who took the recent changes to RSCDS renewals in their stride. Despite some initial reservations and the odd hiccup, the renewals were completed with a minimum of effort and in record time.

This meant that we have been able to issue membership cards much earlier than in previous years. We are trying out a new strategy based on one which has been used successfully by some Branches in the UK, whereby sheets are emailed to Clubs who simply print them on plain paper and hand them out to members. This eliminates the cost of postage and has the added bonus of providing a foolproof way of ensuring that members know exactly what contact details are held by the Branch. So be sure to send us any corrections via the online form at <http://dancescottish.org.nz/member-update-form>.

Did you read in the October issue of the Scottish Country Dancer magazine that you can now opt to receive it via email? This is an alternative which is intended to help save the planet and avoid clutter at home – you cannot get the printed copy as well. If you want to select this option, you need to log on to the RSCDS website at rscds.org and edit your profile. Let me know if you want advice on this (or anything else).

*Andrew Patterson
Information Technology Co-ordinator*

Branch Awards

One of the ways that the NZ Branch can recognise someone's contribution to Scottish Country Dancing is through arranging for them to be presented with an RSCDS Branch Award.

You can go on to the NZ Branch website and under the Membership menu item is the NZ Branch Honours Board (<http://dancescottish.org.nz/member-honours-board/>) where you can see who has received an RSCDS Branch Award in the past.

The RSCDS says that recipients of the Award will have:

- upheld the objectives of the Society over a period of years
- shown sustained and exceptional commitment to the promotion of Scottish Country Dancing
- been responsible for some notable achievements in relation to Scottish Country Dancing and/or its music.

But it does leave the process for choosing who should receive the Awards up to the individual branch. The NZ Branch Management Committee has just agreed on new guidelines for nominating and choosing recipients of RSCDS Branch Awards through the NZ Branch.

The major points are:

1. Recipients of the Award will have been responsible for some notable achievements so as to benefit Scottish Country Dancing and/or its music at the Branch level or across the whole New Zealand Branch.
2. Nominations are to be made on the appropriate form (how could there not be a form!), and prepared without direct input from the recipient – we want it to be a surprise.

So if you know of someone who you think ought to be honoured by the Branch, talk about it with a few other dancers, read the full guidelines online, then get the form from the website and fill it in. You may choose to involve your region in this, but that's not an absolute requirement.

And if you have any questions about NZ Branch Awards, email education@dancescottish.org.nz.

*Lee Miller
Education and Training Co-ordinator*

Youth

Global Youth Week 23-30 November 2019

Take a photo or video of youth activities at your club/group/region during Global Youth Week and share these on Facebook to participate in the GYW competition. The photo with the most 'likes' wins, and the winner gets a mystery prize.

Interested? Find out more at:

<https://www.rscds.org/get-involved/young-dancers/youth-activities/global-youth-week>

Summer School news flash – reduced fees for JAMs!

Cambridge Summer School has received funding from the Lottery Grants Board to support juniors/ youth dancing. The organising committee has decided to use this grant to discount the fees for JAMs to attend the school.

Fees will now be:

- Junior commuter \$200
- Junior resident \$600

JAMs who have already registered will have the discount automatically applied to their fees.

Only a limited number of discounted fees will be available and these will be allocated on a 'first in, first served' basis.

This is a great opportunity to attend summer school, so get your applications in quickly.

JAM Forum

The next forum will be held at Summer School in Cambridge on Thursday 2nd of January at 1.30pm.

Topics for discussion:

- Strategies for attracting and keeping JAMs dancing
- Suggestions for how the JAM Committee and the New Zealand Branch can support youth dancing both locally and nationally
- Other discussion topics can be sent to youth@dancescottish.org.nz or raised at the forum.

*Debbie Roxburgh
Youth Co-ordinator*

From the Recordshop

I hope you received a copy of my October 2019 Recordshop Newsletter. It contained a whole lot of news, not only about CDs available from the Branch Recordshop, including a few being offered at a bargain price, but also what to look forward to hearing by way of new releases early in 2020.

Reminder: **NEW RELEASE "30 Popular Dances Vol. 2"**. This is a pair of CDs to be released by the Society early November. One CD has been recorded by James Coutts and his SD Band and the other is a compilation CD. These are to be sold as a pair and represent a selection of 30 dances, many

well known, that have retained their popularity over the years.

I am taking orders for these two, **but** need to have your name, address and post code, no later than 3 November 2019! Price t.b.a.

Jim Lindsay and his SD Band "**Recorded Highlights Vol. 1**" – WOW! What an amazing CD, full of surprises! This CD has been very well received, and I still have a few copies available at \$30 each. For details of other CDs in stock, visit the Branch website. Also on the website you can read the October 2019 Recordshop Newsletter mentioned above.

Please note: The Recordshop Mail Order service will close on 1 December and all outstanding accounts need to be paid by 7 December 2019.

I look forward to seeing many of you at Cambridge Summer School. Even if you are not living in at the School, you are very welcome to call in – I would love to see you.

*Dorothy Wilson
recordshop@dancescottish.org.nz*

News from around the Regions

Katikati Scottish Country Dance Club Queen's Birthday Weekend 2019

The Queen's Birthday weekend school attracted participants from all around New Zealand, and from Canberra (Australia). Classes were held for Elementary, Intermediate, Advanced (Low Impact) and Advanced (Technique) levels of dancers, together with a Musicians' Class, where the special techniques of the Scottish reel, jig and strathspey music, were taught. Musicians from Katikati College were encouraged to attend the Musicians' Class. There was a presentation of "*What to do with your ears while your feet are busy*", and a demonstration by a team of very proficient dancers.

Attendance exceeded our expectations, as a result of appropriate classes, respected class tutors drawn from throughout New Zealand, live music at the classes, and appropriate registrations fees, made possible by sponsorship from Creative Bay of

Plenty, and a very successful fundraising raffle with excellent prizes donated by local businesses.

We had a Ball on the Saturday evening, attended by additional dancers from throughout the Waikato-Bay of Plenty region. An outstanding 11 sets were on the floor.



Dancers at the Queen's Birthday Weekend School Ball

On the Sunday evening, a significant number of non-dancers joined us for a ceilidh, enjoying various items, as well as dancing simpler dances to music presented by professional musicians together with musicians from the Musicians' Class. The last class, on Monday morning, was a combined one, where less experienced dancers were able to enjoy a dance class with more seasoned dancers.

All meals were provided from Friday evening through to Monday midday. A very significant contribution was made by club members providing food for the lunches, High Tea, morning and afternoon teas. We were conscious of the need to be environmentally friendly, and wherever possible, plastic was eliminated by wrapping lunches in paper bags and in home-made beeswax wraps, which the participants got to take home.

We consider the whole event an outstanding success, borne out by the many verbal and written compliments we received. We were offered advice, guidance and moral support from other clubs in the Waikato-Bay of Plenty region and we don't think that there is anything that we would want to do differently on another occasion.

Katikati Scottish Country Dance Club is a relatively new club, which started less than five years ago. The club owns a very limited number of official RSCDS instruction books, donated by the Tauranga Scottish Country Dance Club, and no music, or equipment. Our tutor currently provides these,

using her own resources. This leaves the club in a very precarious position if we should lose our tutor.

We plan to put the small surplus from the Queen's Birthday Weekend School towards the purchase of further RSCDS instruction books, the official music for these dances, a suitable device to play the music, and a portable speaker that can be used for our classes, balls, and the many demonstrations, A & P Shows, cultural festivals, etc. (both indoor and outdoor) that the club is frequently involved in. These demonstrations encourage others to join, and benefit in fitness.

Having our own resources will give the club a significant level of security that it currently lacks, being completely dependent on our present tutor, for these resources.

We look forward to seeing you all at Summer School in Cambridge.

Linda Carter
QBWE 2019 Convener

Opotiki Club

Our Social this year was very successful with a good turnout from around the Region.

Inspired by the story behind the dance *The Aviator*, our club teacher Jan Pyke created the first half of a dance programme and wrote a story about an adventurous osprey.

She and Victoria Radley then included the dances from the second half of the programme in the story, in which Hans the Aviator reflects on the previous year and the year to come.

We had a wonderful storyteller, Trish, who really brought the story to life and added to the fun. She sat on the stage and slowly revealed the story, as a way of introducing the dances – sometimes getting the visiting dancers to participate in the story by naming the next dance on the programme. Everyone enjoyed both the slowly revealed story and the dances. It was a great afternoon and about 20 of us went out to dinner afterwards.

Here is the story – see if you can spot all the dances.

Long, long ago, when time began, giants roamed the Highlands of Scotland. Throwing boulders and ripping up trees and tossing them at each other,



“Storytime at Opotiki” (Photo: Doug Ashford)

they were an unruly bunch. One Giant, Storr, decided to jump from the mainland to the Isle of Skye. Landing on both feet, he shook the island so much there was an enormous landslide and new cliffs and glens were formed. Because of its appearance, one area became known as *The Old Man of Storr*. Under the watchful gaze of the Old Man of Storr, there was an *Eyrie in the Glen* where two osprey chicks were born in the spring. As they fledged and grew stronger, they quickly learnt how to *Catch the Wind* and swooped and soared across the glen. One was more adventurous and flew further and higher. With his excellent hearing and eyesight he could soon hear *The Song of the Sea*, and flying high and far, he wondered at the activity and noise below him! Aha! that buzzing noise must be *The Bees of Maggie Knockater* – look at them flying in and out of the hive, zooming off to the local gardens to find pretty flowers to gather nectar from!

With their vibrant colours, *Marigolds* seem to be a favorite! (What sweet honey that will be)

There is the sea with dolphins swimming and playing, they must be the famous *Pelorous Jack's* cousins. He used to guide ships like *The Dundee Whaler* through Cook Strait down in New Zealand.

That large busy area must be Edinburgh, a warren of wynds and lanes meandering around the ancient buildings and monuments. And there is *The Water of Leith*, a silver thread in a ribbon of green.

Looking down he could see another bird and he swooped alongside for some fun and games, catching the breeze and swooping and twirling. Odd looking fellow, big wings, but not many feathers and big googly eyes – he must be *The Aviator*.

What a day! Now it is time to fly up and over, *Rest and Be Thankful*, as I head back to the eyrie. Then I can really rest and be thankful for an exciting day.

Hans, the Aviator, woke up on the first morning of the *New Year* reflecting on the past year. The highlight of which was surely flying with the osprey. Oh, that was a special day! The other highlight was his *Trip to Bavaria*, to catch up with old friends and family there. Happy memories.

And today, he was due to meet up with a group of friends, including *Rose of Cambridge*, such a graceful lady – someone should devise a dance for her, a strathspey would be nice. They were going to meet up at that lovely pub out in the countryside, the *Pluto's Head*, where they would enjoy a pub lunch and then a few of them would have a walk around the old quarry – *Quarries Jig* – with its unique formations. It was a fascinating area.

Hans was looking forward to the ball at Holyrood Palace that evening. Maybe he would get to dance the *Holyrood Strathspey* with Rose? *A Reel for Alice* was also on the program – it always reminded him of his favourite cousin Alice, and the wonderful time they'd had together when they had been visiting family in America and the evening when they'd been to a show on *Broadway*.

So busy remembering and daydreaming, he completely forgot the *Cranberry Tart* he had in the oven. Just in time! Luckily it wasn't necessary to use the *Firehose Reel!*

Jan Pyke and Victoria Radley
Opotiki SCD Club

Introducing new Johnsonville dancers to the Wellington dancing community

We were all new dancers once, but it's easy to forget what it was like. As a beginning dancer, all you see is club night, and you have no idea what else is out there, and how much fun it can be. This is especially true at Johnsonville where so many of our dancers are relatively new to Scottish country dancing.

This year, we looked at what we could do to help new dancers become aware of the range of SCD activities that exist outside of club.

We began by promoting class opportunities that exist at region level. Subsequently 14 of Johnsonville's newer dancers attended at least one of the Wellington region's Basics, Beyond Basics, and Upper Intermediate classes, or Maureen Robson's Reels Class (one even went on to attend the region's Advanced class!). They gained skills and knowledge, became familiar with other tutors, and met dancers from other clubs. Quotes from some of our new dances reflect their thoughts:

"In between the concentrating and the laughs, we all had a wonderful time learning."

"Besides the dancing I really enjoyed connecting with other dancers from around Wellington."

"I couldn't believe the time went so fast and we had so much fun doing reels, reels and more reels."



Three of eight Johnsonville dancers at the region's Upper Intermediate class were new dancers

Next we included items in the club's weekly newsletter showcasing Johnsonville members' varied dancing experiences – at different clubs, weekend and summer schools, at Saturday night dances, and overseas. We asked members to give first-hand reports of their experiences, together with a photo if they had one. We were fortunate to receive newsletter items from first-year dancers through to the very experienced. These items were then posted on the club website for future reference.

Building on that increased sense of a wider dancing community, and the positive experiences people had at classes, we focused on encouraging our newer dancers to attend our annual dance. In 2018, only three of our new dancers had come along – despite our best efforts at supporting them from beginners' classes onwards. We wanted to turn that around for this year's dance.

We promoted the dance as the premier event of the club year, and emphasised that it was for **all**

members of the club – not just experienced dancers. We sent out a series of four e-newsletters focusing solely on the annual dance, highlighting the fun to be had, encouragement from our tutor Rod, support by our more experienced dancers, as well as practical information (like what to wear, where to park, etiquette).

Committee members approached new dancers individually at club to encourage them to attend, and we talked at club about experienced dancers buddying up with newer dancers to make sure they had partners. As usual, Rod (and guest tutor Jeanette Watson) made sure everyone was well prepared, teaching all the dances on the programme in the weeks leading up to the event. Finally, to alleviate possible concerns about "not knowing the dances", joint MCs Rod and Jeanette decided to walk all dances for one couple on the night. This took very little extra time, and made for a more relaxed night for experienced dancers as well.

In the end, a lot of different things contributed to a really good turnout of Johnsonville's newer dancers. On the night, fifteen of our dancers with less than two years' dancing experience took to the floor and were part of a really happy fun night. For the majority of them, it was their first time at a Saturday night dance, and they had a ball. Thanks to all those experienced dancers from Johnsonville and also other clubs who supported our new dancers on the night. See lots of photos at <http://www.johnsonvillescld.org.nz/2019/06/26/annual-dance-2019/>



Smiling faces at Johnsonville's Annual Dance, as new and more experienced dancers buddy up

NOTE: On the back of this success, sixteen of our new dancers were confident to attend the region's New Dancers' Celebration in October, meaning that overall nineteen newer Johnsonville dancers joined in at least one of Wellington's wider dancing

community events this year. And the community welcomed them.

Kristin Downey
President, Johnsonville SCD Club

JAM Landing in Auckland

extends grateful thanks for the

- financial support of Creative Communities Auckland Council, The Pub Charity Ltd, New Zealand Branch Inc. RSCDS and the Edna Smith Memorial Fund (of the Auckland Region).
- assistance with morning and afternoon teas from New World Eastridge, Produce Pronto and Loaf.

And to the many dancers in New Zealand who sold vege bags, made donations and assisted the Landing in so many ways.

Heart-felt thanks from organisers: Mission Control (adults) and Mission Specialists (JAMs).

Katharine Hoskyn



The Mission Specialists

Scottish Society SCD Club, Christchurch

Another busy year is coming to a close. After commencing in February, we looked forward to celebrating our 70 year of Scottish Dancing on 6 April 2019. It was a great evening enjoyed by all. Invitations had been sent to previous tutors and members, and it was pleasing to see them join us for this celebration. We look forward to another 10 years!

Club nights have been well attended even through the winter months. Members have visited other Clubs, joining in at their Annual Dances as well as Club nights. Highlights for members have been the Otago Easter School, Little Thistles Ball in April, Region Day School, and dance classes held throughout the year. We are looking forward to the St Andrews Celebration with live music by Marion Anderson and Max Ketchin in November. We wish you all a happy and peaceful break over the Christmas period.

Margaret Birse
Secretary, Scottish Society SCD Club

Wellington Region New Dancers' Celebration

Every year, the Wellington Region runs a special dance to celebrate all the dancers who have started dancing in the past two years. Clubs are asked for the names of their new dancers, who are given personal invitations to the dance. The dance is for everyone, no matter how long they have been dancing. The new dancers are provided with special name tags, so that the more experienced dancers can invite them to dance with, and support them.

The programme consists of relatively easy dances, and all the dances are walked once, so everyone has a great time, without feeling confused or overwhelmed. To make sure that the new dancers are reasonably familiar with the dances on the programme, two evening classes are held to go over them before the big night.



Yue, one of Tawa's 2nd year dancers, and Todd get ready for an Allemande at the New Dancers' Celebration

The Region's clubs take turns to organise this dance, and this year, it was Tawa Club's turn. The dance was held at Te Rauparaha Arena, a great public facility in Porirua. The hall was huge, and easily accommodated the 18-plus sets on the floor. The bonus was a double-sprung floor, which is so much kinder to our feet and legs.



The huge hall easily accommodated the 18-plus sets at Wellington's New Dancers' Celebration

The MC for the evening was Tawa Club's teacher, Maureen Robson, and the four-piece band consisted of Aileen Logie (accordion), Hilary Ferral and Don Mackay (violins), and Terry Bradshaw (drums). They made a great sound that filled the large hall and was wonderful to dance to.

Désirée Patterson
Secretary, Tawa SCD Club

Other Interesting Stuff

Kiwi fiddlers at the Edinburgh Tattoo

The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo often travels beyond Scotland. Kiwi fiddlers have been involved in the Tattoo since Wellington in 2016, so when it came to Sydney this year, a trip across the ditch was a no-brainer. Eight Kiwi fiddlers and several Aussies joined the Shetland fiddle group *Hjaltibonhoga* – which means “*Shetland, my spiritual home*”.

Making the total fiddlers up to 40 were: Ruth Budden, Anne-Marie Forsyth and Charlotte Naden from Auckland, Ann Goodbehere, Mary McDonald and Lynne Scott from Wellington, plus ex-pat Kiwis

Karen and “Jacko” Jackson, who currently live in Alice Springs.

After a pleasant Saturday afternoon playing SCD music for the Killara Club's social dance, four of us were whisked off to our team hotel in Parramatta. There we met up with old Shetland, Scots and Aussie friends, and squeezed in a last few bars of fiddle practice. That was probably the most relaxed part of the whole week

Each day began with an early bus trip to the ANZ Stadium at Sydney's Olympic Park. Our music (15 pages or so) had been distributed several months previously, as it had to be not only learned but mostly memorised beforehand. Rigorous music rehearsals were interspersed with learning the steps and formations for the *Hjaltibonhoga* act, which was built around the Tattoo theme of “All Points of the Compass”. We also had to learn (and re-learn) our positions and cues for entries and exits, and try to march in step. These were long days, frequently returning to the hotel at 11pm.

For many of these practices, and for meals, we used spaces within and near to the Stadium, which is **vast**. Access to different levels was via vehicle-width external spirals, and we frequently walked up and down the four levels to our next event. At sometimes 20,000 steps a day, fitness levels certainly shot up: by the end of the rehearsal period, we were even able to chat on the climb up!

But it was worth it when we walked out on the field in front of the replica castle, to the cheers of up to 35,000 people. There's a huge thrill in being one of almost 1,600 performers, the biggest Tattoo cast ever.



Kiwi fiddlers at the Edinburgh Tattoo in Sydney

Memorable moments were many, but the standout ones were a plaintive duet between an oboe and a didgeridoo on the castle battlement (an unexpectedly beautiful combination), and the privilege of playing for the very last performance of

the Lochiel Marching Team, which is disbanding following the death of its long-time coach.

Would we do it again? Once the long days and sore feet have receded into more distant memory, I would say it's very likely.

Lynne Scott

“The Musicians’ Wedding” Book and CD

Gaye Collin published this book of her dances in time for Summer School last year. It is accompanied by a CD by Marian Anderson and Max Ketchin (who are the musicians of the title).

Since then, Gaye has received favourable reviews from a number of overseas teachers who have been trying out her dances, including Mervyn Short, who will be teaching the Advanced Technique class at Summer School this year. He has taught Gaye's dances in places like France, Spain and Italy, as well as the Lake District and Cornwall.

Mervyn lives in Rustington, West Sussex, on the south coast of England. He gained his RSCDS Full Certificate in 1995, and since then has taught at day and weekend schools all over the UK, Europe, America, Australia, Canada, Japan, Russia and South Africa. He is currently vice-chairman of Berks/Hants/Surrey Border Branch and has served twice on the Education & Training Committee at HQ.

Since he will be teaching in New Zealand soon, people might be interested in reading some of the comments he sent to Gaye.

Over to Mervyn:

From your book “The Musicians’ Wedding”, I have taught *A Babbling Brooke*, *Susie from Penilee*, *Joyce MacLeod*, *Easy Peasy Rights and Lefts*, *Dancing the Baby* and *Chain Lynx*.

Susie from Penilee gives us another dance using the rondel and grand chain. It is difficult to find ‘different’ dances to teach which include these formations. I like the combination of set and rotate for three couples and six hands round in the last eight bars.

Easy Peasy Rights and Lefts – I like this dance for teaching advance and retire and a four-bar turn. ‘Covering’ can also be practiced. This dance is also very suitable for beginners as it is ‘once and to the foot’, so they don't have to worry about progression.

Chain Lynx – How good to have another dance including the corner chain, a much-neglected formation in my opinion. As Gaye says, the end of the corner chain in *Chain Lynx* has you “going somewhere with momentum.” I also like the exit from the reel of three. The same method is used in Drewry's dance *Salute to Miss Milligan*, which I have always liked.

The music to all these dances, except *Born to Dance*, is on the accompanying CD by Marian Anderson. As you would expect, this is an excellent CD. The music is played at a good tempo with plenty of ‘lift’. The tunes for *Dancing the Baby* are all traditional, but the rest of the tunes are modern compositions, some by Marian and many by Muriel Johnstone. The beautiful tune *Sheila Gardiner's Strathspey* by Muriel is played as an alternative for the dance *St. Aidan's Church Hall*. Sheila regularly attends my weekly class.

“*The Musicians’ Wedding*” is an excellent book of dances, which often use a ‘twist’ to traditional formations. The original tunes for a number of the dances are included, which is a bonus. For those teachers who do not have the benefit of a class musician, the recording of the CD was an excellent idea. The book and CD should definitely be added to your library.

New teaching videos

Dancers and teachers will be aware of the teaching videos created by the Lower Hutt Club, and posted on their website. A new set of videos has been posted recently. They are the first 13 videos on this link: <http://www.lowerhuttscd.org.nz/index.php/teaching-tools/> .

Not all of them are new, as feedback from some beginners was that they could follow the dancers when the formations were in Strathspey time better than in quick time. So some Strathspey versions have been added for that reason.

The new formations, or progressions are,

- Four hands round and back
- Four hands across and back
- A right shoulder reel on both sides of the set
- Cross and cast – three different versions
- Steps, linking Set and Travel together
- Moving using setting step
- Diagonal half R&Ls, as in *The Paisley Weavers*
- Diagonal R&Ls

Scottish place names

Many dances are named after Scottish places or geographical features. I found this list of words relating to place names in a little booklet that belonged to my late mother-in-law, which she had kept after a tour of the Highlands in the 1970s.

Aber – mouth or confluence of a river

Ach, auch – field

Allt, auld – stream

Ard, aird – height or promontory

Bal – settlement

Ban – white, fair

Beag, beg – little

Beinn – mountain

Ben – a mountain peak

Bide – wait for a good opportunity

Brae – a hill or slope, upper part

Burn – a small stream

Cailleach – old woman

Cairn – heap of stones

Clach – large stone

Corrie – hollow

Creag – sheer rock

Dail, dal – field

Drum – ridge

Dubh – dark, black

Dun – hill, fort

Eilean - island

Firth – a narrow inlet of the sea

Gear, gair – short

Gille – lad

Glas – grey/green

Glen – narrow valley

Gorm – blue/green

Inch, inish – island

Inver – river mouth

Ken – head

Kil – cell, church

Kyle – narrow firth

Linne – pool

Loch – lake

Mor – big

Ness – headland, promontory

Oba, oban – bay

Ochter – upper

Rant – wild or uproarious merriment

Sgurr – pointed rock

Strath – a wide flat river valley

Tarbert – isthmus

Tigh – house

Torr – rounded hill

Désirée Patterson



At the Hibiscus Coast Anniversary Dance, this striking men's set danced the Reel of the 51st Division

Just for fun ...

You know you are a Scottish Country Dancer when ...

- You have difficulty counting past eight
- You start walking like a duck to work on your turn-out
- You practice your pas de basque at work without any co-workers batting an eye
- Your feet start moving on their own any time you hear Celtic music (even if it isn't Scottish)
- Double triangles doesn't refer to a long forgotten geometry class
- You plan your holidays around Scottish dancing events
- You start doing a polite turn every time you hold the door open for someone
- You accept that the men have a fancier costume than the women
- Men understand why women like carrying purses for their "stuff"
- Every time you hear a chord you automatically find yourself bowing or curtsying without thinking.

Marge MacLeod Van Nus (taken in part, from the Tartan Tattler, Nov. 2003)

Editor's note: Discovered in a 2013 issue of the Vancouver "Scottish Country Dancer".

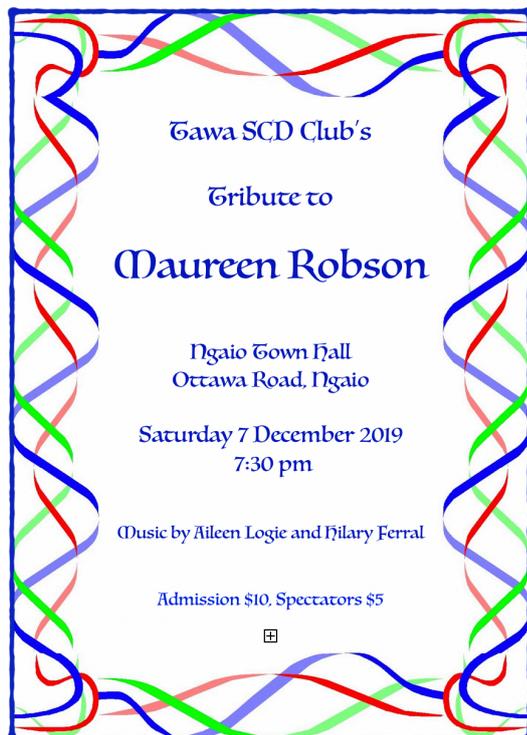
Events coming up ...

Tribute Dance for Maureen Robson

Tawa Club's teacher Maureen Robson will be retiring from teaching the Tawa club after 38 years. To celebrate Maureen, and thank her for all those years of outstanding tuition, patience and good humour, the club is holding a **Tribute Dance on Saturday 7 December**, starting at 7:30 pm, at the Ngaio Town Hall, Ottawa Road, Ngaio.

We warmly invite dancers who know and appreciate Maureen and those who have benefitted from her teaching – not just at club, but also her famous reels classes, Region classes and classes at Summer Schools.

The programme will consist of Maureen's favourite dances, including some of her own devising. Music will be provided by Aileen Logie and Hilary Ferral.



Closing date for the next issue of
Kiwi News
Sunday 29 March 2020



Auckland Region

Dates for 2020

Visiting Auckland next year?
Like to know dates for region social events?

Opening Social: April 4
Region Ball: July 4
Spring Dance: September 19

Want to take part in a big mass display? –
Tartan Day Tattoo on Sunday June 14
(provision made for out of town dancers)

Visiting Auckland or Northland over Summer

Summer dancing in some areas of the region.

Details on aucklandscd.org.nz or northlandscd.org.nz
or contact us on info@aucklandscd.org.nz

Any friends in Auckland? Have they tried SCD?

Encourage them to come along

To one of the many Open Nights held by clubs

or on

Saturday 14 March 2020

Join us for dancing for community, family and friends
And visiting dancers from North America

St Marks Church, Remuera
Grounds and Hall

Dancing for the old hands –
and for those who have never danced before



Nelson/Marlborough Region

St Andrew's Dance 2019

Saturday November 30th 2019

Masonic Hall, 107 Nile Street, Nelson

Cost \$30/Adult, \$15/Child or spectator

6.30 pm Drinks & nibbles, 7pm Dancing

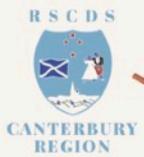
Featuring Marian Anderson & Max Ketchin

Marian will also play for Nelson Club's closing night on Thursday 28th November, 7.30pm at YMCA Hall, 156 Toi Toi Street, Nelson.

Why not come to the sunny top of the south for the weekend?



Contact for tickets & details
Kelly Walker 021 173 9642
nelson@dancescottish.org




MARIAN & MAX

2019 NZ TOUR

JOIN MARIAN ANDERSON AND MAX KETCHIN DURING THEIR 2019 NZ TOUR FOR THEIR CHRISTCHURCH STOPOVER

23RD NOVEMBER 7:30PM

CALEDONIAN SOCIETY HALL, 5 MICHELLE RD

SUPPER PROVIDED

\$25 RSCDS MEMBERS
\$30 NON-MEMBERS
\$15 CHILDREN AND SPECTATORS

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