



Royal Scottish Country Dance Society New Zealand Branch Inc.

MAC News

(Management and Co-ordinator News)

Issue 2013/2 April

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VICE-PRESIDENT

Here we are with 1/4 of the year gone and the second MAC News for the year. The Management Committee has been busy since Summer School tidying up matters raised at the AGM along with other requests. As you will be aware Leslie Nicol has resigned as treasurer and Bill Jacob has taken over the post until the 2014 AGM. At the Waikato Summer School there will be some more vacancies in the Committee due to retirements. Now is a good time to think about Branch Members who may be willing to put their name forward. The positions will be advertised in the near future.

The Management Committee's mid-year meeting is being held in Christchurch this year, (three of the Committee live in the South Island). A visit to the Hoon Hay Annual dance is on our programme for the weekend.

On a general note, I attended the Otago Region Easter School which was attended by nearly 50 dancers. For the first time in many years, the South Island had a group of JAMs attending the Easter School. While there were only 5 youngsters in the class, 4 of them were boys. One other interesting piece of general interest was the fact that there were 3 sets of twins dancing. Enjoy your dancing year.

SECRETARY

Nominations for Branch Office: It's time to start thinking about who you would like on the Management Committee next year. All positions, including those of incumbents are subject to annual nomination and election.

Next year Fiona Bullivant will be retiring from the position of President after serving for three years.

Normally the Vice-President seeks nomination for this position and David Williamson has signalled his willingness to do so. This means that we will need to find a new Vice-President.

The Branch likes to alternate the President/Vice-President roles between the North Island and the South Island which means that a North Island Vice-President would be preferred, but that is not essential.

More information and details of Committee vacancies will be provided in the July Kiwi News.

CO-ORDINATORS' REPORTS

COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLICITY

Promotion: In March clubs and regions were sent copies of promotional posters and leaflets. If your club/region has thought of a creative way to use these items please share these ideas so that others can build on your success.

The blue pamphlet "Fun, fitness and friendship" is particularly designed for promoting RSCDS membership. Have you

shared the listed "great reasons to become an RSCDS member" with dancers at your club yet?

Additional copies of all these promotional items are available, at no cost, from: communication@dancescottish.org.nz

EDUCATION & TRAINING

Scholarship: Training courses and examinations for Unit 2 and Unit 3 will be offered at the New Zealand Branch Summer School in Dunedin 2014/15. One NZ Branch Scholarship will be awarded to enable a candidate to attend. The scholarship covers the residential fee for the Summer School. Further information and an application form are available on the Education and Training section of the website. Applications are due by 30 November 2013.

The first NZ Branch Teachers' Workshop was held on 25-28 April and attended by 47 teachers from around the country and Australia. The participants received a wealth of information from Helen Russell and thank the RSCDS for providing financial support from the International Teacher Development Fund to enable the Branch to bring Helen to New Zealand. Information from the workshop will be made available through the Branch website for those who were unable to attend.

MEMBERSHIP

The last 3 months have been fairly busy, working closely with Michael to get my head around the databases and membership structures.

By now all clubs should have a copy of the fee structure for 2013/2014. This year it will be possible for members to receive some publications via email resulting in a \$10 reduction in the annual fee.

In the recent Kiwi News I provided a breakdown of our current membership, figures were unavailable at the Branch AGM in Christchurch. I also issued a challenge to all clubs to attract and retain at least one new member this year; I hope clubs have taken up this challenge, and I look forward to seeing an increase in Branch membership.

YOUTH

Youth fund: The JAM Committee is keen to receive feedback from members on the uses for the Youth Fund, and the other items raised at the JAM Forum (see the report and requests in the latest Jigs And More). To date no comments have been received. The Committee can only do what the 'community' of dancers want, if you tell us what that is. Please discuss these topics at your club then send your thoughts and suggestions to: youth@dancescottish.org.nz

Next mail out due:

30th June - Jigs And More and MAC News

31st July - Kiwi News