

Waikato/Bay of Plenty Region

RSCDS New Zealand Branch Inc.

Reports in lieu of General Meeting which was to be held today, Saturday 4 April 2020.

CORRESPONDENCE: INWARDS & OUTWARDS.

The list of correspondence, up until 31 March 2020, both in & out, is attached for your information.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

We have accumulated funds as follows:

	Current (as at 23/3/2020)	Last Meeting (AGM19)
Trading Account	1272.20	355.68
Online saver	1237.47	1237.17
Online bonus saver	11183.01	10965.81
JAM Saver	1231.67	1006.45
Total	\$14,924.35	\$13,565.11

The Trading Account current balance includes all Club fees for the year, \$546 surplus from the Region Ball and a donation of \$250 from the Katikati weekend school. The JAM account has benefitted from a \$405 donation from the St Peters Summer School being an unused bonus from a sponsor to Summer School. The Region was requested distribute \$300 to each of 10 Clubs in appreciation for the volunteer work done at Summer School.

The following expenses/outgoings require the approval of this meeting.

Administration	Stationery	2.99
	Sympathy Card	4.99
AGM 23/11/2019 AGM Hall Hire Region Meeting 21/9/2019	Refreshments	7.78
	Hall Hire	50.00
	Refreshments	2.90
Region Ball 30/11/2019	Refreshments	5.78
	Plastic Cups & Serviettes	8.79
	Replacement cups	4.00
	Hall Hire (St Peters Catholic School)	75.00
RSCDS Fees	NZ Branch	4053.00
	RSCDS Clearing account	2891.00
Teachers' Workshop 14/3/2020	Mileage @50c/km	49.60
	Refreshments	5.09
	Photocopy	20.00
	Hall Hire	50.00

Bill Jacob, Treasurer.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT.

Most of you will have been bombarded with Covid-19 information of late so I'll not repeat it here, except to say keep safe and come back to dancing when this is all over.

Meantime to assist you in keeping fit and in the SCD frame of mind I am sending with this report music files that you can load onto your 'device', play and dance to anytime in your isolated 'bubble'. If you would like more, please email me at membership@waibopscd.org.nz

Bill Jacob

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLICITY REPORT.

1. **WaiBop News.** During 2019 we produced five Newsletters. The response from dancers: young and old and near and far was impressive. Lots of different viewpoints were expressed, which is a healthy sign.
2. **Facebook/Dance Scottish Waibop** communication has been carried out regularly. I hope it provides a second string to Andy' Website.
3. **DanceScottishWaiBop website** <http://waibopscd.org.nz/> has been a great go to point for all the events happening in the Waikato Bay of Plenty. It is well presented and user friendly thanks to Andy Patterson's expertise.
4. **Summer School News.** I hope that the Newsletters produced for the lead up the St. Peter's Summer School contributed to the success of the school. Seven were produced between January and December 2019.
5. **NZ Branch Magazine.** We were also able to provide articles in January written by Summer School attendees for the NZ Branch Magazine at their request.
6. **Youth Team.** Although not responsible for it in any way, I would like to commend Antanas Procuta and his team for creating the Youth Team. I think that this will do a lot for communicating a great image for SCD in the Waikato Bay of Plenty region, as well as providing a focus for our young dancers who want to perform to a high standard.
7. **Lochiel's Twilight Dancing in the Hamilton gardens in January.** This really helps to get Scottish dancing out to the public. We regularly get interested people turning up to Club nights from these events.

Ruary Laidlaw

TRAINING AND EDUCATION REPORT.

Teachers' Workshop Saturday 14 March 2020, held at the Hinuera Hall.

10 Club teachers (including myself) attended – Jean Smithson, Jan Pyke, Lynne Hudson, Jane McIlroy, Mary Thomas, Jeanette Lauder, Andrew Patterson, Antanas Procuta and Wayne McConnel.

There were 6 apologies – Ruary Laidlaw, Marion Jones, Olina Carter, Glenda Hammond, Helen Smythe, and Alison Junne (Pauanui), the latter having emailed to say she was no longer the teacher for that group.

The focus for the Workshop was *Devising a Ball Programme*. Notes on this topic by Kent W. Smith and David Knight [which had been posted to the Strathspey mailing list], had been copied and emailed to all teachers a week or two prior to the Workshop, which they were asked to read through.

I had highlighted my own copy and these notes were gone through section by section, with teachers giving their thoughts leading to some very worthwhile discussions.

We then looked at a Proposed Social Dance Programme taken from the 2013 Teachers' Workshop in Lower Hutt tutored by Helen Russell from the UK. Teachers in groups of 3 were asked to comment on the programme both from the point of view of the dancers and the musicians. Crib notes for the programme were then given out and some interesting findings were noted both in the programme format, the variety of formations (or lack of), the length of the dances in terms of number of bars etc.

Other handouts and topics for discussion included:-

- The duties of the MC/Briefer, and questions posed as to dancers being allowed to walk the dance while being briefed, the pitfalls of using a microphone, the relationship between the MC and the musicians if a band was involved, the speed of the music and who was in charge of that etc.

To break the day up we then had a little bit of dancing. I kicked this off with a different idea for teaching the alternating diagonal reels of 3 as in *The Aviator* for the odd dancer who "... just didn't get it." Mary had her way of teaching *Polharrow Burn* which we then danced with her instruction, and finally Andy taught *Mrs Stuart Linnell* which the Rotorua Club has on their Annual Dance programme this year.

After a short break for lunch we then looked at a further 3 aspects with regard to devising a dance programme:

- To "Band" or not to "Band" – pros and cons
- Devising a programme: Who does this if there is more than 1 tutor at a Club; deciding on what dances to include on a programme, ensuring that there is variety of dances including square sets, 2c, 3c, 4c, and/or 5c dances, making sure that a 40 bar dance is not next to a 48 bar dance, having a wide range of formations and ensuring that dances with the same starting or ending formation did not follow each other.
- Dance Analysis: Lynne, Jeanette, Jane, Andy and I had a sample of the analysis that each of us uses when devising a programme and we were willing to share these ideas with others attending.

Quite a full-on day but some interesting and very worthwhile discussions took place with everyone participating in these.

Our thanks to Ruary Laidlaw for donating a copy of his book, "For a Year and a Day" (2020 version) to each of the teachers present. Teachers who didn't attend may be given a copy at a future date.

Heather Johnston

Youth Report

My name is Sophia Kilgour and I, along with Jill Littlewood, am acting as the Junior Associate Member (JAM) Coordinator for the Waikato/Bay of Plenty region in 2020. I have been dancing for almost 12 years now, primarily at the Hamilton Lochiel Club, however also at the Cambridge Club over the past two years. Scottish Country Dancing has been an increasingly important part of my identity throughout my life, and I feel honoured for this opportunity to take up more responsibility within the dance community which has extended towards me an extraordinary amount of kindness for many years.



At this stage, all JAMs should be registered, as this process was due to be completed by the end of March. JAM registration costs \$5 (or \$10 for families), and all JAMs who have successfully registered will receive a copy of the 'Jigs and More' newsletter three times a year. This newsletter outlines information regarding upcoming events and medal test opportunities.

JAMs are also able to participate in medal tests (bronze through to gold), and receive discounts at the occasional dancing events throughout the year.

Registration forms can be found on the New Zealand branch RSCDS website, under the Youth (JAMs) tab...

<http://www.rscdsnz.org.nz/stored/JAM%20Registration%20doc.pdf>

https://docs.google.com/document/d/18nypm_TxXIQ5MEUjwK3-OKu5iVQp8O1MP4-NMzxKGHMO/edit

If any clubs or individuals have struggled with this process, please feel free to contact me via email at -

kilgour.sophia@gmail.com I will help in any way I can, and have registration forms available if needed.

I sent out an email in March to all the WaiBOP club secretaries requesting the contact details (e-mail address or phone number) for the youth dancers within their clubs this year - JAMs or otherwise. With their permission, I would like to start a JAM e-mail distribution list, and potentially a facebook page. This would be used for encouraging our youth dancers to sign up for JAM memberships, and also in order to personally provide updates on JAM dances, scholarship opportunities, and other events throughout the year. I think that being able to contact the community of youth dancers myself will be easier than passing information through every club secretary each time an opportunity arises. This communication would go both ways - as I would love to receive any suggestions

or the input of any of the WaiBOP JAMs regarding what they would like to accomplish individually, and as a group with their dancing this year and beyond. For example, it has been brought to my attention that there may be a few JAMs this year who are eager to take part in medal tests, and I would happily liaise with other members of the SCD community in order to try to organise this.

As far as I know, the next opportunity for medal tests will be during the 2021 JAM camp which will be held in the South Island, however there will possibly be opportunities prior to this if enough interest is shown.

Over the past year, the Waikato group of young demonstration dancers - 'Anti-Gravity' - have performed at a number of functions throughout both Hamilton and Cambridge. Our goal in 2020, encompasses focusing our efforts towards expanding our numbers, thus hopefully simultaneously increasing the number of JAMs in our region. We are starting by reaching out to Waikato schools, and have begun by advertising at Hamilton Boys High School, in the hopes of increasing the number of young males within our dancing community.

We have also started advertising SCD, by word of mouth, throughout Waikato University - specifically within their own dance club. Chris Totten has kindly put together a poster advertising the Anti-Gravity demonstration group which I have attached below. If any club secretaries would like a digital copy of this poster for advertising purposes within their club or community, let me know and I will send one through.

The Anti-Gravity demonstration team established a facebook page late last year in order to publicize our activity, as well as for communication purposes. This year, we are considering expanding this page to include all JAMs and other young dancers within the WaiBOP region in order to welcome new JAMs to SCD and help include them in the goings-on of the community. This would be a closed Facebook page, so that specific information and photos cannot be viewed by the general public, and therefore would only be able to be joined through request. This is one of the reasons why I am asking for the contact details of the current JAMs throughout the WaiBOP region, as it will make the initialization of this process far easier. I am happy for my email address to be distributed among any JAMs who are interested in joining this Facebook page/chat.

Applications for the 2020/2021 Summer School in Christchurch will close by 30th of June. JAMs can apply for a scholarship for those who have been dancing for more than three years, which can be located on the New Zealand RSCDS website (<http://dancescottish.org.nz/scholarships/>). However there is also a scholarship specifically targeted for JAMs who fit the following criteria:

1. The candidate has a minimum of one year's dancing experience and is resident in New Zealand;
2. The application is completed in full. (Those applicants unable to attend class/club regularly due to changing circumstances (e.g., attending boarding school), should ask a tutor who has recently taught or seen them dancing to complete the "Teacher" section);
3. The candidate has the permission of their parent/guardian to attend the Summer School;
4. The candidate has not received the Scholarship previously.

The application form can be found in the JAM section of the New Zealand branch of the RSCDS website; (<http://www.rscdsnz.org.nz/stored/JAMScholarshipToSummerSchool.pdf>)

Scholarship forms can be completed and submitted online, however those that are handed in after June 30th will not be considered. If any JAMs are having trouble with this process feel free to contact me at kilgour.sophia@gmail.com

I am very much hoping to expand the network of JAMs that we have in the WaiBOP Scottish Country Dancing community, and if anyone has any suggestions or concerns please feel free to contact me.

Due to the rapidly developing status of the Covid-9 outbreak many of the proposals that I have discussed in this report (for example expansion of the Anti-Gravity Demo team and youth dancers in general) may not be possible or may be delayed this year, however, I still consider it relevant to advertise what I am aiming for as the situation starts to die down!



Anti GRAVITY *Demonstration Team*

Waikato / Bay of Plenty Youth Dancers are looking for new members to join their team. No experience necessary!

Every Tuesday @ 7pm

Lochiel Club
St John's Methodist Church Hall,
Wellington St,
Hamilton

Find us on Facebook

Dance Scottish WaibOP
or visit our website
www.waibopscd.org.nz

Every Wednesday @ 7pm

Hamilton Scottish Club
YMCA Hall,
Clarence St,
Hamilton

SUMMER SCHOOL REPORT.

1. General description - article published in NZ Dancers attached.
2. Financial Reviewers Report – Gerry Beban’s email of 1 April below, providing a draft review
3. Summer School Survey – I make some general notes below. The Summer School committee will moderate the survey prior to issuing it, as some survey responses are identifiable or identify individuals.
4. Portfolio reports have been prepared by members of the Summer School committee. Once the final Review has been provided, the committee will again meet to agree the final report and recommendations etc to be made to the RSCDS NZ Branch.

2. Reviewer’s Report (Gerry Beban, of 1 April 2020)

Hello Antanas,

I have completed my review of the financial transactions of the 2019/2020 Summer School from start date 7/1/19 to finish date 5/3/20.

The WP cash balance for the treasurer, Andrew Patterson, to transfer to the bank account you nominate to him is \$31,676.96.

I commend Andrew for his fastidious, detailed records which were presented to me in a neat and tidy order. All my queries were answered promptly and were resolved satisfactorily.

All WP transactions were supported by emails, invoices, vouchers, chits and personal explanations.

My Review report will be issued formally in coming days to yourself cc to Andrew.

Kind regards,

Gerry Beban

*JG Beban bca[vuw]
Andrew*

Antanas, would you please cc this to

3. Survey Review (Antanas’ Summary)

The main area of concern was the Development Class, in terms of the range of capabilities and number of people in that class. Nicole was given much due credit. The two learnings are that class selections require the dancer’s club teacher mediating / endorsement so that people are in appropriate classes to their skill level. Secondly the development-end classes need to be small; possibly no more than two sets.

The idea of having two separate teachers (in two x three-day sessions) seemed to be well-received. There was another comment that all classes should have exposure to / opportunity with an international teacher.

A number of people would like evening programmes sooner, and a number of comments came that the evening programmes need to be more appropriate to learner / newer dancers.

In regards the Unit 5 Stooze participation, not many comments came back adverse to the invitation.

Wayfinding (signage and mapping) on the campus was an issue, and a number of comments came back hoping that all classes would be on campus, but not much can be done about that!

There were a number of areas where we received diametrically opposite responses. Some people didn't like the cubicles. There was an issue with diets / food (probably because the attendees didn't make themselves known when dining), but the response was typically very positive, and similarly for the afternoon trips.

Communication, and committee attendance to attendees, prior and throughout the school was held to be very good.

"I give here specific credit to all the volunteer work undertaken by the Waikato / Bay of Plenty's members, dancers, friends and the Summer School Committee before and over the school, and without whose work nothing would have happened at all; no dancing, learning, eating, socialising, nor enjoyment".

Antanas Procuta

2019 – 20 Summer School Organiser

REGION DAY SCHOOL (BEGINNERS.)

This has been cancelled due to the Covid-19 virus.

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY WEEKEND SCHOOL 2020:

This has been cancelled due to the Covid-19 virus.

GENERAL BUSINESS.

1. Howard McNally – Branch Award.

It has been a great pleasure to be involved with Heather Johnston putting together the paperwork necessary for a "Branch Award". Numerous emails and phone calls took place in order to obtain the detail involved to reach the criteria required, and all without Howard having any idea this was taking place.

2. Approval of the payments made since our last meeting has been given by the executive committee.
3. Jean, our president, wishes to express thanks to the co-ordinators for their full and interesting reports.

WaiBOP Region Correspondence List for April 2020 Meeting.

FROM:

NZ Branch Secretary

- Request for details for Region Directory 2019
- Request for club reports.
- Copy of Otago Region Newsletter.
- MAC News February 2020.
- Advice regarding Covid-19 virus.

NZ Branch Editor

- Closing dates for 2020 magazine.
- Letter detailing content and size of articles permitted in NZ Dancer magazine.
- Reminder of due date for news articles from clubs.
- Thanks for all the "Summer School" articles.

NZ Education & Training

- Exam Papers for Unit 1 exam.

WaiBOP Clubs

- Updates to Club Office Bearers for NZ Branch Directory.
- Responses from clubs regarding calendar dates.
- Responses for magazine articles.
- Notification of cancellation of club nights due to Covid-19.

Lochiel Club

- Twilight dancing details
- Information regarding Reely Good Workshop.
- Program for dance following Workshop.

Mt Maunganui Club

- Letter expressing concern about extra dance dates being put into the calendar and thus jeopardising their Annual Ball.
- Further letter regarding spacing of events on the dance calendar for 2020. (Attached below)

Opotiki Club

- Change of ball date with Tokoroa.
- Request for more advertising pamphlets. An old one with a great deal of detail on.

Tauranga Club

- Notice of ball cancellation.

Te Awamutu Club

- Notice of Nita Stock's death, a past member of their club.
- Notice of cancellation of Queen's Birthday Weekend School.

Andrew Patterson

- RSCDS membership cards.

Antanas Procuta

- Forwarded a thankyou letter from Dianne Murdoch (attached) REMEMBER

Jill Littlewood

- Advising that Ann & Peter Mahon were willing to act as delegates to NZ Branch AGM.
- Requested Job description for Youth portfolio.
- Request to use Region Cups for Summer School.

Sophie Kilgour

- Received "Youth" information to forward to clubs.

Raewyn Adams

- Providing details for the Wooden Farmer Restaurant and asking for likely date/s for hire of St John's Hall in Putaruru for the 2020 AGM.

Anne Bailey

- Change of contact for Balmoral Club

Heather Johnston.

- Request for list of Core Dances for 2020

- Teachers Training Day Information

Glenna James

- Request for stooges for teachers class at Summer School.

Ruary Laidlaw

- Newsletter dates for 2020.

TO:

NZ Branch Secretary

- Copy of WaiBOP Region Directory and Calendar.
- Notice of cancellation of Queen's Birthday Weekend School.

NZ Branch Editor

- Club reports forwarded for NZ Dancer Magazine.
- Individual articles about Summer School sent for inclusion in "Dancer".

All WaiBOP RSCDS Clubs.

- Request for club reports.
- Request to check Club details on 2019 Directory and Calendar.
- Request for news input to end of year newsletter
- Twilight Dance's details.
- Request for contributions to NZ Dancer magazine.
- Notice of closing date for NZ Dancer input.
- Copies of WaiBOP Newsletters.
- Programme of WaiBOP Regional Dance held on 30 November 2019.
- Cambridge Summer School details.
- Request for update on details of youth convenors within each club
- Details of "Paeroa Tattoo" sent to all clubs.
- MAC News February 2020.
- Core Dances for 2020.
- Notice of cancellation of Region meeting and Dance.
- Notice of Queen's Birthday Weekend School cancellation.
- Notice to clubs regarding registration of "ALL" JAM's in your club.
- Notification of cancellation of club nights.

WaiBOP RSCDS Members

- Request for news input to end of year newsletter.
- Agenda for WaiBOP Region Meeting in April & Minutes for last meeting.
- Copies of WaiBOP Newsletters
- Programme of WaiBOP Regional dance programme held on 30 November 2019.
- Cambridge Summer School details.

Mount Maunganui Club

- Reply to Letter regarding dance calendar. (attached below)

Auckland Region

- Copy of WaiBOP calendar sent with a request for Auckland's calendar to avoid clashes.

Thank you Letters sent on behalf of Region

- Sent to both Howard McNally and Dianne Murdoch

Raewyn Adams

- Letter requesting details of Restaurant in Putaruru and of the hall committee.

Jill Littlewood

- Job Description for Youth Co-ordinator.

Sophie Kilgour

- Information from Sophie, (Youth) for all clubs.

Dianne Murdoch

- Thank you letter (attached) for "Letter of thanks"

Regional President.

Waikato Scottish Country Dance Society

Dear Regional Secretary,

I wish express my thanks for the recent Certificate awarded to me for my time as a Tutor in SCD, principally in the Waikato area; For my involvement in the training of SCD teachers and for my role in the guidelines for future weekend schools. (They will need bringing up to date to move with the times!) I thoroughly enjoyed my time involved with the wonderful pastime of Scottish Country dance and appreciated the acknowledgement, especially now, while I can enjoy the compliment, and not just archived in the Memorial Book.

The personal delivery by regional personnel was appreciated, also the format- something I can display. Thank you, Maureen and Bill Jacob.

I will never forget the enjoyment I have had; the friends I have made; the places I have been and the talented musicians I have met. And I still love a Strathspey! and the music!

Yours in dancing,

Dianne Murdoch

Mount Maunganui Scottish Country Dance Club



TREASURER: Mary Begley

15B Seaspray Drive

Mt. Maunganui

fmbegley@kinect.co.nz

(07) 574 8687

SECRETARY: Lynne Hudson

243 Boucher Avenue

Te Puke 3119

billyne@kinect.co.nz

(07) 573 5055

TUTOR:

Geoffrey Thompson

21 Boscabel Drive

Tauranga

gs.thompson@xtra.co.nz

(07) 544 0839

1 March 2020

Region Secretary

Waikato/Bay of Plenty Region

At the last meeting several members of the Mount Maunganui Scottish Country Dance Club asked me to write to you on their behalf to express their concern that this year several Club annual dances will be occurring on consecutive weekends while there are large gaps in the calendar between these events. Their query is how to stop this occurring. Do we need to go back to the system that was practiced in the past whereby the weekends available for the year were marked on the board and clubs chose which date suited them best, or if it is a question of venue availability, then maybe dates should be chosen two years in advance to make sure of hall bookings on the weekend required.

On behalf of the Club Committee

Regards

Lynne Hudson

Secretary

The Secretary,

Mount Maunganui Scottish Dancing Club.

C/- 243 Boucher Ave

Te Puke, 3119

Thank you for your letter with concerns regarding the Region calendar.

We note that there are three occasions where dances are only one week apart in the 2020 calendar.

Lochiel changed their weekend because their usual dance date was only three weeks after their planned day school and Beginners dance. I'm not sure why they chose the 4th July date but we can look at that issue when sorting out dates for 2021.

Cambridge had two dates in October to choose between. The second Saturday in October has always been the date Cambridge have had their ball. They have to book the town hall a year in advance in order to secure it for their dance.

As Katikati's dance is in a school hall it is probable that it could be changed to a later date, e.g. 24 October 2020 if that club feels their attendance will be effected.

Hamilton Scottish and Thames Hauraki did have discussions regarding their dates.

As the calendar stands, with cancellations already taking effect due to the Covid-19 virus, it is maybe fortuitous that we have a five week gap between Cambridge and the Mount's dance because it gives us an opportunity to have extra dances should we be back to normal by then.

During 2019 there were extra dances put on, usually by invitation only, to cater for the more experienced dancers. These dates were not discussed with the Region committee, it was at the convener's discretion. This meant for some dancers, there were dances on most weekends during the year. This is not likely to affect experienced dancers as they would be happy to attend week about dances anyway.

Prior to the AGM, all club secretaries were sent a copy of the calendar with the request that they check that their dates were correctly recorded. As the Mount had already raised concerns over the closeness of some dances, the opportunity was there to discuss this problem at the meeting.

I trust this has been helpful. Look after yourselves, your neighbours and families.

Take care,

Maureen Jacob

Secretary, WaiBOP RSCDS Region.