

Waikato/Bay of Plenty Region - RSCDS New Zealand Branch Inc.
Minutes of General Meeting held on Saturday 9 April 2022, 3pm
At Hinuera Hall, 4800 State Highway 29, Matamata 3473

PRESENT: Jill Littlewood (President), Robyn Howes (Treasurer), Colleen Gunn (Secretary), Heather Johnston (Training and Education Co-Ordinator), Jeanette Lauder (Youth Co-Ordinator), Ruary Laidlaw (standing in for Agnes Algra – Communication & Publicity Co-Ordinator)

Hamilton Scottish - Grietje Badham, Shelley & Wayne McConnel,

Lochiel – Ruary Laidlaw, Christine Miller, Kate Corfield, Hugh Speirs,

Mt Maunganui - Mary Gray, Lynne Hudson,

Opotiki – Jean Smithson,

Rotorua – Andy & Jeanette Patterson,

Tauranga - Jim & Linda Carter, Chris Ingram, John Rowlandson,

Te Awamutu – Jane McIlroy,

Tokoroa – Joy Morgan,

WELCOME: Chairman, Jill Littlewood, welcomed those present and suggested that members stand and face masks be removed whenever anyone was speaking to the meeting– AGREED.

APOLOGIES: Bill & Maureen Jacob, Agnes Algra, Antanus Procuta, Ian Stewart, Glenna James, Jan Caldwell.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Minutes of the Meeting, dated 10 April 2021, having been previously circulated, were taken as read and confirmed. Linda Carter/Robyn Howes

MATTERS ARISING:

- Trialling of Book 53 – moved to General Business.
- Death Notices to be forwarded to NZB.

CORRESPONDENCE: INWARDS & OUTWARDS

Inwards and Outwards Correspondence, shown on emailed list that had been circulated with Agenda was accepted and approved. Grietje Badham/Chris Ingram

MOVED THAT the Correspondence list to be broken into two sections – one for matters to be referred to AGM (eg remits), the other as per current list in date order.

Jill Littlewood/Grietje Badham/Carried

Secretary advised that Gordon Tonks' brother Ian should be noted in Obituaries.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Jill Littlewood

How lovely it is to be here with you all again. Life seems to be returning to some semblance of normality and though not all clubs are up and running as yet many are and no doubt more will begin again once the Omicron peak is over. It will be interesting to see how many people come to the dance tonight as it will give us a gauge on how many to expect at Club Dances this year. We have entered a time of personal responsibility to keep ourselves safe from Covid-19 but I implore you to also look after others by not coming to a dance or club nights if you are at all sick. Some clubs may continue to ask for vaccine passes for a period of time. Please check if this is the case when Dance invitations are sent out via the Region Secretary or if you are planning to visit on a club night.

Just in case you don't realise it, the Region team are an amazing bunch! So much happens quietly behind the scenes and my job is made easy by the depth of commitment and knowledge that is held by the team. Thank you to you all.

Sadly, I was unable to present Lynne Hudson with her Region Award in December, a well deserved honour. Heather Johnson stepped into my shoes and did a wonderful job. Congratulations Lynne and Thank you, Heather.

When Bill Jacob stepped down as treasurer at the AGM he had no idea that he would have a major health scare so soon afterwards. I'm sure that you will join me in wishing him the best outcome possible from his treatment.

Our congratulations must go to Andrew Patterson for his re-election to the RSCDS NZB Management Committee IT Coordinator position at the NZB AGM. We appreciate all you do to represent us on the committee, Andy.

The following entry for Howard McNally in the RSCDS NZB Memorial Book was ably compiled by Ruary Laidlaw and has now been completed. There is link to this on the NZB website and the family have been sent a copy. Thanks Ruary. Howard certainly put in a lot of time and energy supporting and promoting SCD.

For Service Lawrence Alexander Howard McNally died 2021

RSCDS NZ Branch Award 2020

Branch President 1999/2000

Branch Vice President 1997/1998

Waikato Bay of Plenty Region Representative 1994-1999

Region President 1981-1982 and 2006-2007

Region Secretary 1973-1974

Lochiel Club Secretary, Treasurer 1969

Club Treasurer 1979-1992

Vice President 1994-1996

Remembered by Bay of Plenty Region NZ Branch RSCDS

While dancing has been curtailed by the pandemic we have been lucky that Hogmanay and Twilight Dancing have been able to continue. The Paeroa Tattoo was sadly cancelled so we did not have this opportunity to showcase SCD to the public as has the Katikati Dance which we will miss. Hopefully you will all be able to enjoy many other dances throughout the year, beginning with Lochiel's Ball on 14 May.

The combined Teachers Workshop/Core Dance Day was able to take place. Thank you to Heather for all her preparation and running of this day. I know that the club teachers appreciate the support that these days offer them.

Queen's Birthday Weekend is only around the corner and I know that Wayne McConnel, Jean Smithson and others have been working hard planning this. Wayne agreed to pick up the organization of this when no club had stepped forward to run it and a new format will be trialled. We are so ready for dancing that I am sure we will all have a great time. See you there.

Jill Littlewood/Shelley McConnel/Carried

TREASURER'S REPORT & MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

Before presenting my report, and following on from the AGM, I **MOVE THAT** Alison Bennett be appointed as the accounts reviewer for 2022
 Robyn Howes/Jill Littlewood/Carried

I'm pleased to report a total of \$14,490.44 in the various bank accounts as at 31 March 2022.

Statement of Receipts and Payments

Waikato Bay of Plenty Region, RSCDS NZ Branch
 For the 7 months ended 31 March 2022

Sep 2021-Mar 2022

Operating Receipts	
Donations, fundraising and other similar revenue	
NZ Branch - Summer Event	400
Total Donations, fundraising and other similar revenue	400
Fees, subscriptions and other receipts from members	
RSCDS Membership Fees Received (79, 2021 - 89)	5,493
Less RSCDS Membership Fees Paid	(5,493)
Total Fees, subscriptions and other receipts from members	0
Interest, dividends and other investment receipts	24
	424
Operating Payments	
Operating Expenses	
Accounts Reviewer	75
Total Operating Expenses	75
Grants and donations paid	
Deposit - Weekend School Venue	100
NZ Branch Memorial Book	20
Summer Event - Cambridge Hogmanay	120
Total Grants and donations paid	240
	315
Increase/(Decrease) in Bank Accounts and Cash	109
Cash Balances	
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	14,581
Net change in cash for period	109
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	14,690

Made up of:

Westpac Bonus Saver	11,751
Westpac JAM Online Saver	1,178
Westpac Online Saver	739
Westpac Trading Account	1,023
Total Bank Accounts and Cash	14,690

This statement has been prepared without conducting an audit or review engagement, and should be read in conjunction with the attached Compilation Report.

I have prepared the report in xero. As an accountant, I feel an obligation to prepare reports within the accepted framework for Not-For-Profit organisations.

The benefits of xero are:

- It is a recognised accounting system with standardised reporting for NFP entities.
- The information feeds direct from the bank into xero.
- It is readily available to committee members as required.
- It has a tracking facility whereby different streams of income can be reported separately – eg no requirement to open a separate bank account for the Weekend School; and
- Can be shared with the accounts reviewer at year end.

The one drawback is a \$13 + GST monthly fee.

MOVED THAT the meeting approve the financial statements being prepared on xero for the Region, **APPROVE** applying for the xero bank feed from the Westpac accounts, and **APPROVE** payment of the monthly subscription, currently \$14.95 per month (GST inclusive)

Robyn Howes/Jill Littelwood/Carried

My next point for discussion is reimbursing rates for mileage incurred on Region business, such as co-ordinating tutors workshops.

Historically we have reimbursed 50c per km. Given the recent price hikes of fuel, I wonder if we need to reconsider that. As a starting point, the IRD approved reimbursing rate for business was 79c for the 2021 year. The 2022 rate hasn't been released yet.

Discussion followed re increasing travel allowance to 80c per km **MOVED THAT** an amount of 80c per kilometre for travel be paid for Region related events. Ruary Laidlaw/Linda Carter/Carried

Payments to be Ratified			
\$120	08/02/2022	Cambridge Club	Hall Hire for Hogmanay (ex N Z Branch grant for summer dancing)
\$20	14/03/2022	NZ Branch	Donation - Howard McNally Memorial Book Entry
\$100	16/03/2022	Trident College	QBW School Deposit
Payments to be Approved:			
\$102.52		H Johnston	Tutor's Workshop & Core Dance Day
\$500.00		Trident HS	QBW Balance of Venue Hire (amount to be confirmed subject to variation in facilities hired)
\$45.68		C Gunn	Region Dance Supper
\$280.00		Bourach Mor	Part payment for Region Dance music (being the balance of the N Z Branch grant for summer dancing)

\$280 to Bourach Mor for Region Dance music 9 April (received from NZ Branch Summer Grant). Total cost for music would be \$600 - a further invoice will be submitted in due course. Jean Smithson mentioned that the \$500 to be paid to Trident High School be approved but payment should be left until the booking is definite (fee for putting up the stage (or not) needs clarification).

MOVED THAT the above **payments made** be ratified and **payments to be made** be approved.

Robyn Howes/Jean Smithson/Carried

Membership Report

I have re-reported updated Branch membership figures, an increase of one due to a late payment last year.

There were 212 members of clubs as at 31 August 2021. On the face of it, that is an increase of 14 dancers for the year, but I note that there was nothing recorded for Hauraki Thames in 2020.

Balmoral Club have advised that they are in recess, and Katikati is on hold.

Some clubs are not yet dancing in 2022 and it will be interesting to see the effect of the lengthy covid restrictions when all clubs feel ready to continue.

RSCDS NZ Branch Membership Category	Numbers	
	2021/22	2020/21
Adult Single	10	10
Adult Single - Email	48	53
Adult Joint	6	6
Adult Joint - Email	14	16
RSCDS Life Member	1	2
RSCDS Life Member-Email		0
RSCDS Life Family		1
Young Adult		1
Total Membership	79	89

Club	Membership		
	RSCDS 2020/21	Club 31/8/21	Club 31/8/20
Balmoral			
Cambridge	13	18	17
Hamilton Scottish	9	16	23
Hauraki-Thames	3	15	
Katikati	2		
Lochiel	5	24	25
Mount Maunganui	4	10	16
Opotiki	2	14	13
Pauanui		13	10
Rotorua	6	6	8
Taupo	2	18	20
Tauranga	14	34	27
Te Awamutu	6	12	9
Tokoroa	11	11	12
Whakatane	2	21	18
Club Membership	79	212	198
Non-Club	0		
Region Membership	79		

MOVED THAT Membership Report be accepted.

Robyn Howes/Heather Johnston

TRAINING AND EDUCATION CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT

11 teachers and interested dancers gathered at the Hinuera Hall for the Teachers' Workshop. Those present were: Teachers ~ Andy Patterson (Rotorua), Jeanette Lauder (Tokoroa), Lynne Hudson (Mt Maunganui), Jean Smithson (Opotiki), and myself (Tauranga). Others who attended as interested participants were ~ Colleen Gunn (Region Secretary), Jeanette Patterson, Grace Sa, Robyn Dowdle, Chris Wilson, and Lesley Gousmett. Had it not been for the attendance of the latter group we would not have had enough to make up a set to trial and select Core dances for the year, so I would like my grateful thanks to those people to be on record.

There were apologies from 13 teachers: Wayne McConnel (Hamilton Scottish), Jane McIlroy, Agnes Algra and Glenna James (Te Awamutu), Antanas Procuta and Helen Smythe (Cambridge), Margaret Ponga, Andreena Broadley and Margaret Green (Taupo), Glenda Hammond and Olina Carter (Thames), Genny Hall (Tokoroa) and Jan Pike (Whakatane). Jill Littlewood (Region President) also put in an apology as did Ruary Laidlaw who is no longer teaching.

The content of the Teachers' Workshop was two-fold this year. As we had not been able to gather in November 2021 to select Core dances because of the Pandemic, it was suggested and agreed to at the Zoom 2021 AGM that, Covid willing, Core Dance trialling and selection would be carried out as part of the March 2022 Teachers' Workshop. Antanas had asked after the Workshop last year if we could look at resources (instruction books) as he felt a little ill-equipped in that department, and this was to have been Part 2 of the Workshop.

As the “current” Cores had been kept on the boil for over 2 years due to the number of annual dances that had been cancelled during 2020 and 2021, I asked teachers if they wanted to carry one over as a Year 2 or did they want to start from scratch. The unanimous vote was for starting from scratch.

The first request for Core selections to be submitted went out on 31 January, with a reminder on 14 February. Another reminder/request went out prior to the cut-off date which was 4 March, as selections were not exactly pouring in. I was disappointed with the response this year - only 7 teachers bothered to send me their lists regardless of whether they were going to/able to attend or not. Yes, we are all guilty from time to time of leaving things until the very last moment, but teachers had had notice of the Core selection date back at our Region AGM in November 2021. However, trial we did and then we voted on those that we preferred. Our stooges were also able to vote. They will be dancing these dances after all.

For Part 2, I asked teachers to browse through their non-RSCDS books looking beyond those that most of us would probably have, such as Belfast Diamond Jubilee and Belfast Platinum Anniversary. That way we probably wouldn't end up with too many double-ups!

They were asked to make a list of 6 books and to list the dances that they had taught from those books, or had danced somewhere, either at a School or at a Ball etc. They were asked to include the known dances in their list if they were in a book that they had chosen, because we often look for instructions to known dances but don't always know where to find them.

I asked that they note the genre (reel, jig or strathspey) and to give some indication of the level that the dance would be suitable/unsuitable for and to be prepared to teach one of the dances from one of their books at least. They were asked to choose a dance that hadn't, to the best of their knowledge, appeared on a programme.

I didn't think the task would have been too onerous. I got lists from 3 teachers, mine made 4 and some useful information that Ruary put forward made 5 and a couple of books were mentioned by two other teachers. Having looked at annual dance programmes over the years I am led to believe that there is a wealth of instruction books out there, so I was hugely disappointed by the response to the Part 2 request. As Antanas was one of the apologies, the sharing of resources was not quite as I had planned anyway.

Some of the apologies were Covid related and I accept and respect that, but some were because people had other arrangements for that day. While I accept extenuating circumstances, I felt seriously let down having had only 5 teachers attend given that the date had been set at the Region AGM in November 2021. If teachers don't want a day for a Workshop on the Region calendar, then let's scrap the idea, and then I won't have to put time and effort into organising a day under my watch as Training and Education Coordinator. Core selections aside, if the topic for Part 2 was not something that teachers were interested in, then I would have preferred to have been told just that, and would have gladly taken ideas that might have been put forward as an alternative.

After the Workshop I emailed the resource lists that had been received to all teachers in the Region. I also emailed out the Core Dance list and the relative teaching notes to all clubs.

Heather Johnston - Training and Education Coordinator

Waikato/BOP Region Core Dances for 2022

Reels			Year	
Fight About the Fireside	8 x 32	3c in 4c	Book 01 - 10	1
The Summer Assembly	88 bars	□ set	Book 35 - 8	1
Andrew's Dance	8 x 32	3c in 4c	Harbour City - 4	1
Jigs				
Light and Airy	8 x 32	3c in 4c	Book 04 - 5	1
Cabbages and Kings	8 x 32	3c in 4c	Harbour City - 3	1
Andrew and Gordon's Jig	4 x 32	4c set	Graded & Social 2 -1	1
Strathspeys				
Fair Donald	8 x 32	3c in 4c	Book 29 - 4	1
Furth O' Clyde	3 x 32	3c set	Birmingham Diamond Jub - 6	1
There's Nae Luck	8 x 32	3c in 4c	Book 10 - 10	1
About the Hoose				

PLEASE NOTE:

Fight About the Fireside (Reel)

Books 1-6 Compilation states bars 25-32: 1st couple set to each other twice, then 1st couple, giving RH, turn 1 and a ½ times to finish in 2nd place on own sides. (Note)

Note: Traditionally these turns would be danced with two hands and pas de basque.

An alternative would be as danced in Hamilton House (bars 21-24)

Bars 29-30 With pas-de-basque steps, 1s advance for 1 step, ½ turn with 2 hands

Bars 31-32 1s retire with two pas-de-basque steps

Cabbages and Kings (Jig)

Bar 16 1st couple are in 2nd place on their own sides and turn their 1st corners dancing in from the sideline, and RETURN to the sideline in 2nd place before turning their 2nd corners.

Bar 24 1st couple again RETURN to the sideline in 2nd place own sides.

We also decided at the Core Dance selection day, that:

Bar 28 The 1st couple AND supporting couples should return to the sidelines before the 1st couple dance LH across at the opposite end (bars 29-32).

Furth O' Clyde (Strathspey)

Bar 8 All 3 couples dance in with left foot ready for an Allemande.

Fair Donald (Strathspey)

Bar 24 1s must end in the middle between the 2s at the top – 1s only have 2 bars to cast into 2nd place (bars 25-26), before all 3 couples set on the sides (bars 27-28).

COMMUNICATION AND PUBLICITY REPORT – Ruary Laidlaw (standing in for Agnes Algra)

1. **WaiBop News** During 2021 we produced five Newsletters. The response from WaiBop dancers was heartening. Lots of different view points were expressed, which is a healthy sign.
2. **Facebook/Dance Scottish Waibop** provides a reminder to WaiBop dancers of the next event coming up, and also a report on the previous one. It aims to complement Andy's WaiBop 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 user friendly, thanks to Andy Patterson's expertise.

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. Thanks to the Lochiel Club for organising this.

Agnes Algra and the team; Agnes, Andy, Shelley & Ruary - 9th April 2022

Ruary Laidlaw/Shelley McConnel/Carried

Andy Patterson commented that Maureen Robson was willing for someone to take over the role from her writing up the Memorial Book.

YOUTH – Jeanette Lauder

It seems that there are currently very few JAMs in our region. While I cannot presume to know the various reasons that have led to this situation I do know that Covid has had a major impact. Tokoroa Club's decision to ask that dancers be double vaccinated has meant the majority of our young dancers will not return to club nights when these restart in a few weeks time. However, a few of them are asking "if dancing will be back on for them now there are no mandates". It seems we have a major task ahead if we want to rebuild numbers. There is likely to be hesitancy amongst people to join a new activity at the moment but we will need to look at options for how we attract them when the time may be more suitable. Please discuss this within your own club and let me know if you have any suggestions as to how we approach this.

Jeanette Lauder/Jill Littlewood/Carried

GENERAL BUSINESS:

QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY WEEKEND SCHOOL 2022 (Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 June) – Whakatane -

Wayne McConnel reported that his volunteering to organise Queen's Birthday Weekend School this year was to keep the concept alive. Region teachers had volunteered to teach, accommodate and feed themselves to keep the QBWES going, keeping costs to a minimum. This year he hoped members would enjoy the company of others, there would be many possibilities for having time together as well as dancing together – some things money can't buy. One issue – as an organisation we can ask for attendees to have a vaccine pass. If passes have expired, comments will be shown on the webpage about Covid, respecting other people, staying home if not well, and a full refund will be given if anyone cancels because of sickness – personal responsibility takes preference. Budgeting method used – if the School is cancelled because of unforeseen circumstances, the Region expenses already incurred will be carried by the Region. When the Registration Form goes "live" on Tuesday 12 April, anyone from anywhere will be able to Register online. Total numbers for each of the two classes offered will be limited. Wayne thanked Jean Smithson for her energy in organising the Whakatane aspect and welcomed Robyn Howes onto the QBWES committee.

Heather Johnston recommended that Jean Smithson and Wayne McConnel be applauded for the work involved up to date to keep the QBWES continuing. Met with loud acclamation.

MOVED THAT any JAMS attending 2022 QBWES receive a 50% subsidy towards cost of school.
Jill Littlewood/Jim Carter/Carried

RUARY LAIDLAW – explained his website www.reeltimedancing.com – all his info from many years collecting. Books, CDs, costs etc., lists of dances. Going out on NZBranch Facebook page.

ANDY PATTERSON

Amendment to motion at NZ Branch AGM 2023 (Expected Remit)

The original motion reads:

It is further proposed that Summer School fee at the non-dancing rate (exclusive of any single occupancy supplement or other optional surcharges) be available for the following positions: (list of all 8 management positions).

Amendment:

It is further proposed that **fifty percent of the** full Summer School fee at the non-dancing rate (exclusive of any single occupancy supplement or other optional surcharges) be available for the following positions: (list of all 8 management positions).

Rationale:

The original motion reflects the existing arrangement whereby Management members are fully compensated for their attendance over all eight days of Summer School. To put this into perspective, the allowable compensation for Summer School 2022/23 will be about \$16,000 which accounts for almost half of the income that the Branch is budgeted to receive from membership subscriptions (\$32,500).

In May 2021, a proposal was put to the Management that we should adopt a more efficient and less costly approach to our meetings. We should exploit our experience of zoom to hold further meetings during the year and this would allow us to schedule Branch business at Summer School over just four consecutive days. The Management has agreed to hold additional zoom meetings, but continues to argue that all committee members should be present for the entire Summer School in order to attend ad hoc meetings and be available to engage in conversation with members of the Branch.

This amendment will encourage the Branch Management to adopt a less extravagant approach to the arrangements at Summer School, notably by reducing the number of days allocated to Branch business. It is recognised that Management members who are under an obligation to attend Summer School should be entitled to claim their expenses in full, but this should not extend to those days when they are under no such obligation. Compensation should therefore be limited to fifty percent of the Summer School fee.

After consideration of the above Amendment, it was **MOVED THAT** the WaiBoP Region will present an Amendment based on Andrew Patterson's Amendment presented to this meeting, 9 April 2022, and **AGREED THAT** the Amendment be worded by this Region Committee members after the Expected Remits are received from NZ Branch later this year.

Andy Patterson/Jane McIlroy/Carried

HOGMANAY

Jill Littlewood explained that Jane McIlroy had run Hogmanay as a private event for many years (Virginia ran it previously as had Dianne) – not a Region-run event until Cambridge picked it up last year as a one-off. Summer School is in Auckland this year. Query raised - members wanting to attend Auckland Hogmanay, even if not attending full School – could possibly be subsidised if taking a full carload. Andy Patterson referred to Waipu 150 year celebrations being planned for end of this year. Ruary suggested some people would still want to attend a Hogmanay in the WaiKato Bay of Plenty area – Jill advised that the Region is happy to advertise this as a Region event – Jane commented that she would be happy to run future Hogmanay events.

REGION DAYSCHOOLS

Change of date – Region Workshop and Beginners' Dance changed to 3 September in Hamilton or Cambridge.

REGION SCHOLARSHIPS IN EACH CATEGORY FOR 2020/2021 SUMMER SCHOOL

Deferred until AGM.

OBITUARIES

Hector Mein, Joy Luxmoore, Elsie Martin (Hamilton Scottish – Treasurer for 27 years).

TRIALLING FOR BOOK 53

Information to be directed to Linda or Gaylia at NZB. Maybe three months to trial possible 5 dances – separate day for trialling. Jeanette Lauder offered to organise a trial date before end of August.

REGION EQUIPMENT

Heather Johnston had Region speaker and microphone – Bill Jacob would prefer someone else store these items – including a hands-free microphone. Jill Littlewood offered storage – Covered by NZB insurance for Region or Branch event. Not available for private functions. Covered by member's Contents Insurance if stored in private home.

REPORTS FOR NZ DANCER

Secretary explained how she had sent reports from almost every WaiBoP Club to be included in NZ Dancer, but had misunderstood request from Editor. Endeavours would be made next time to make up one report to include all Region Clubs' activities.

THANKS

Linda Carter gave a vote of thanks to Chairman, Secretary and others involved in arranging a well-conducted meeting. Met with loud acclamation.

NEXT MEETING DATE - To be decided.

Meeting closed at 4.45pm.

Signed..... Date