

BSC and SCD



A Wellingtonian (Father from Scotland, Mother an early settler family with Scottish roots), Bruce Stuart Campbell was an accountant and held various positions during his 38 years with BP(NZ) Ltd. Whilst on a two-year staff exchange with the London office, he met Edith

from Edinburgh, also working in London where she obtained the Final part of her RSCDS Teacher's Certificate. They became engaged, so when she was appointed to teach a Beginners' Class, he was introduced to SCD. In New Zealand they became involved with the Wellington Club and soon after, Edith was invited to be the tutor and Bruce's organisational skills were recognised with his election to the position of President (1964-65-66).

The births of their three older children happened near the end of the dancing year - October and November, so when March came around Bruce generously took on the job of child carer on Wednesday (later changed to Thursday) evenings so that Edith could continue to teach the Club. Fortunately carrycots were in vogue, so babies were carefully placed 'backstage' at club events, then later graduated to being seen on the dance floor either balanced on a strong fatherly hip or held by the hand and before long, were fully-fledged dancers.

Bruce continued to be associated with the Club as Auditor and appreciation of this was expressed with the bestowal of Life Membership in 1986. He was very delighted when his eldest daughter Catriona was christened at the Lincoln NZB Summer School Church Service (1967-8) and the dancers presented her with an engraved Christening mug and a dainty brooch to wear on her sash to commemorate the event.

The Wellington Region also benefitted from his services. It seems inevitable, when any organisation becomes aware that a member is an accountant, he or she is 'tapped on the shoulder' for the job of Treasurer and in 1966 he accepted this invitation and held the position of Region Treasurer until 1990. Unexpectedly, he also served as Region President for 1968-69 when the elected President, Joe Constable, sadly lost his life in a road accident.

The 1970-71 NZ Branch Summer School was held in Wellington (at Victoria University, based at Weir House) and Bruce was the Organiser. A few (still practised) innovations were introduced – a second 'formal' evening dance as *The President's Ball*, and

Scottish place names were given to certain areas. Bruce was a RSCDS Life Member.

In 1978 the Wellington suburb of Seatoun (location of the Campbell home) celebrated its centenary (started by James Coutts Crawford from Kilbirnie in Ayrshire), marking it with several events, one being the establishment of Seatoun SCD Club. Bruce was a founding member and served as President in 1978 and 1979. Life Membership was bestowed on him in 2001. Bruce enjoyed SCD and the people who participated in it. His pleasant manner, quiet slightly quirky sense of humour, and most generous spirit, meant he had many friends in the SCD family.

From the Branch Recordshop

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Back in Stock: *The Ruthven Collection – Black Watch Edition* Colin Dewar & his S D Band. Contents— Introduction: The Black Bear; *Gus's Reel (5x40), *Tribute to the Black Watch 2004 (4x32R); *Strathspey for the Black Watch (4x32S); Never Again (6x48R); Kandahar Reel (5x32R). Dedicated to the Black Watch and in memory of who died in Iraq and Afghanistan – profits are donated to the 'Black Watch Association' registered charity. *Instructions for these dances, composed by Rob Sargent, are included in the sleeve. Price \$15-00

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Let's Go S C Dancing Vol. 6 Digitally enhanced – more dances from those precious old LPs – Peter White (incl Celtic Brooch!), Ian Holmes, Ian Reid and their Scottish dance bands. \$30-00

Summer School, Cambridge, 28 Dec 2013 – 5 Jan 2014 *Transport? Want a Lift?* I plan to travel by car with the Recordshop this year. Probably take the early morning ferry sailing to Wellington from Picton, then drive on to Cambridge, returning the same route on 5 January. If there is anyone who would be interested in travelling with me—with not too much baggage as the Recordshop does tend to take up most of the back seat and boot—please contact me asap and we may be able to arrange something suitable to both parties.