

RSCDS WELLINGTON REGION NEWSLETTER



Volume 26 No. 3
September 2023

Editor: Désirée Patterson – editor@wellingtonscd.org.nz

President's Column

From Rod Downey, President



Since my last report

Passing of Karen Harris: Karen was a well-known member of the Tawa Club who passed away on a plane trip to North America. She will be greatly missed.

Classes – The Advanced Class was run by Jeanette Watson, and in the end, it was well-attended, but with a large number of late registrations.

I only say that as we were close to cancelling the class, which would have been sad; especially as I heard it was a great class. I know people are very busy, but *please* try to register for classes as early as you can.

Clubs – I attended the Upper Hutt, Capital City/Johnsonville, and Lower Hutt Annual dances and all had great spirit. Nice to see some new faces also! Upper Hutt and Ngaio also had successful Ceilidh days, with lots of people attending. Perhaps we might explore this in a more region-wide way.

Archival Project – There has been a lot of work on this excellent project, with lots of archival material posted on the region website, such as videos which may be viewed [here](#). Read the Archive Project Report later in this issue. Many thanks to Lorelee Hyde, Philippa Pointon, and Kristin Downey for their continuing work.

Musicians' Birthday Bash – A great night celebrating two of our local musicians, Aileen Logie and Lynne Scott, with massed musicians from far and wide. We are so lucky in

the Wellington region to have fine musicians within the region!

Upcoming events

Region AGM – I hope to see you all at the Region AGM which is to be held at

7:30pm, Tuesday 7 November 2023 at
St David's Multicultural Hall, Elizabeth St, Petone.

This is **your** region, so please come along. Some members of the committee will be standing down, especially as they have commitments to Summer School which will be in Wellington in 2024. Thus, we will be seeking [nominations](#) for committee members.

Lower North Island Centenary Ball – Registrations close on 15 October

Most long-standing region tutors have agreed to come and brief dances at this once-in-a-lifetime event. Currently, we have over 90 people registered and there is still time to decide to go. Bear in mind that the finishing time is arranged so that people will be able to return to Wellington should they so desire, and get home at a reasonable time. I know a number of groups are car-sharing.

This should be a fantastic event. [Register here](#). *Please register as early as you can to help with planning.*

Further information about the event, the programme and the story behind the programme can be found [here](#).

New Dancers' Celebration – Carterton Club are hosting this. It will be held at Wairarapa College on 7 October, from 7:30 to 10:00 pm, followed by supper.

- Lots of clubs are car-pooling to travel over the hill so you might consider doing this. **Note** that the Remutaka

Hill Road will be closed on Sunday night at 9.00 pm, but not on Saturday so you can still return on the night.

- **Preparation Classes.** The [programme](#) is new-dancer-friendly, and Diane Bradshaw will be taking [preparation classes](#). They will be on 26 September and 3 October, with payment a gold coin at the door.
- **Accommodation.** Elaine Laidlaw says that accommodation in the Wairarapa is very tight at present, due to weather event displacement. So, if you plan to stay overnight and perhaps make a weekend of it, *book soon!*

Hogmanay – Be There! One of the fun things to do on New Year's Eve is to go to a Hogmanay. Great news that Chris Totton and Anna Verhaegh have kindly volunteered to organise Hogmanay at Crofton Downs School, which is a fantastic venue, with music provided by Iain Matcham and Jean Malcolm. The programme is on p.10 of this issue.

Planning for 2024

First Book Centenary Dance Day – Following the Early Wellington Dances Day, we have been approached to have another similar day, and are planning something in April 2024, based around dances from the early RSCDS books. Next year, 2024, will be the centenary of the publication of Book 1. Fantastic tunes in those early books, and fun, usually not too complicated, dances.

New Dancers' Celebration 2024 – Lower Hutt (in conjunction with Upper Hutt) have kindly agreed to host the 2024 New Dancers' Celebration. Linden will host it in 2025, due to 2024 Summer School commitments.

Teachers' Workshop Easter 2024 in Wellington – This will involve an overseas tutor, including an all-comers class on the Friday. Watch this space.

Summer School 2024 – Be aware that Summer School will be held in Wellington at the end of 2024. Preparations are well under way. This will be a great opportunity for local dancers to experience a Summer School, which will be held at Scots College. We will be seeking help for gofers and baking, etc, from the local clubs. This should be a great event. More details in the new year, but please keep this in mind for 2024!

If you want to contact the committee, email me president@wellingtonscd.org.nz or Michele, the region secretary wellington@dancescottish.org.nz.

We are all in a team together!

Obituary – Karen Harris

From Désirée Patterson

The Wellington SCD community was shocked and saddened to learn about Karen Harris' sudden death while on a flight to Vancouver on 28 August.



Karen was a loyal and well-liked member of the Tawa Club for 27 years, and she also danced in the Tuesday afternoon groups. Everyone knew her as a friendly, always smiling person, an experienced dancer who was always ready to help new dancers. Just days before leaving to go overseas, she danced at Tawa Club and told

us that she would be taking her dancing shoes, and was looking forward to dancing in several UK clubs while away. Sadly, this was not to be.

A memorial service to celebrate Karen's life was held at Tawa Union Church on 15 September, which was attended by a large number of family and friends, including about 30 Scottish country dancers. There were moving tributes from friends, family members and Karen's grandchildren.

As Scottish country dancing had been such an important part of Karen's life, her husband Ian asked me to give a [eulogy](#) on behalf of the SCD community. Following this, a video was shown, in which Karen danced as first lady. The [video](#) of Anna Holden's *Strathspey* was the Tuesday afternoon dancers' contribution to the *Pick Up 52* project. The full service was live-streamed and may be accessed [here](#).

Karen's cheerful presence will be greatly missed by members of the Scottish country dance community, especially at the Tawa Club and at the Tuesday afternoon dancing groups.

REGION HISTORY

Special Anniversaries: Weekends to Remember

From Loralee Hyde

This year, 2023, is the Centenary of the founding of the RSCDS. It is also the 70th Anniversary of the formation of the Wellington-Hawke's Bay Association in 1953. This was the first Scottish Country Dancing association in New Zealand, which later morphed into the RSCDS New Zealand Branch.

To give some insights into the joy and friendship of Scottish Country Dancing in years gone by, and to provide an easily accessible historical record, particularly of the



Grand March at the 40th Jubilee: Piper Bruce Fordyce. Front row from left: Nancy Baxter, Dorothy Claypole, Peg Hutchison (Wellington Region President for four years in the 1970s), Marion Cunningham, Wellington Region President Carol Smith, Hawkes Bay and East Coast Region President May Brooker, New Zealand Branch President Min Jaeger, Carine Mayhew. (Photo Credit: Supplied by the Fordyce family)

dancers who were involved in the formation of the Wellington-Hawke's Bay Association, I have gathered stories from old issues of *Harbour City Happenings* and the *New Zealand Scottish Country Dancer* about two special celebrations.

In 1993, to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Wellington-Hawke's Bay Association and the 25th Anniversary of the founding of the New Zealand Branch of the RSCDS, 120 dancers from 25 clubs gathered in Napier for a Jubilee Weekend from 8 to 10 October organised by Carine Mayhew.

The highlight was having special guests who helped form the Association in 1953. These were Marion Cunningham of the then Wallaceville Club (now Upper Hutt), Bruce Fordyce of the Hastings Club, Nancy Baxter (founder of the Napier Club), and Jessie and Les Coe of Morison's Bush, who arranged the first Scottish Country Dance Ball in New Zealand. They hosted the 'travellers' at their farmhouse or the barn—wherever there was space to "put a body"!

See an article by Carine Mayhew about the Jubilee Weekend and more photos at <https://wellingtonscd.org.nz/wellington-hawkes-bay-40th-1993/>

To celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Wellington-Hawke's Bay Association in 2003, dancers from around the country enjoyed an Anniversary Ball on Saturday 26 April 2003 in conjunction with a Wellington Region Anzac Weekend School at Onslow College.

With Carol Smith as convener, the weekend was promoted as *The Place To Be in April 2003*. Highlights of the 50th Anniversary Ball included 24 sets on the floor,

music from Peter Elmes, Lynne Scott and John Smith, and a floor show prepared by Ian Simmonds. The weekend school had six classes and teachers, along with guest musicians.

For more about the 50th Anniversary and the weekend school see an article from Carol Smith and photos at <https://wellingtonscd.org.nz/wellington-hawkes-bay-50th-2003/>

100 – but much more in the making

From the Spurtle-wielder

Dancing to celebrate the joys of dancing sounds a great idea! Last March, the spacious Assembly Rooms in Edinburgh's George Street were filled with Scottish Country Dancers for a Centenary Ball – 100 years since that momentous meeting in Glasgow's Atheneum to test the waters about interest in, not only preserving, but actively revitalising, our wonderful dance tradition. The scene was a very far cry indeed from the Old Assembly Rooms in the Old Town's West Bow (later Victoria Street), which were opened around 1710.

The city was virtually imprisoned between the swampy Nor Loch (now Princes Street Gardens) and the defensive wall, which was made in a kind of semicircle from each end of it, round behind the Castle Rock. In the early days of the city, to attract 'industry', merchants were encouraged to build along the main streets, and of course, to utilise the space, they built upwards. It is amazing the ingenuity used to carry the smoke from the fires in the lower floors – a chimney which tapered to very small aperture in the roof.

In that all levels of society lived cheek by jowl in the tall narrow buildings, inevitably, there was an egalitarian element. Though the 'weel-to-do folk' were on the top floor to get as far away as possible from the street stench, of course they had to meet each other on the stairs.

News of social developments elsewhere of course did filter into the country from travellers – a few made the 'Grand Tour'. In 1688, Queen Anne visited Bath to 'take the waters', and subsequently, that town's entertainment establishments (in the creation of which that man of fashion, Beau Nash, played a prominent role), were copied and adapted to local situations in numerous places, including Edinburgh.

The city became a place of notable intellectual standing in Europe (the Age of Enlightenment) and larger spaces – 'Assembly Rooms' – were made to accommodate appropriate activities. That favourite Scottish activity – dancing – featured largely of course.

Despite the abhorrence expressed by the Church at the 'promiscuity' of the two sexes gathering to dance together, weekly meetings were arranged, but the very strict rules were meticulously adhered to under the watchful eye of Lady Directresses. They set up the programme for the sets of dancers (carefully chosen and vetted) to participate. The space was relatively small, so some couples might only be allocated a couple of slots in the evening! The Church objections were somewhat tempered when the practice was introduced of giving the profits from the evening to support charities.

Privately printed pamphlets were a popular way of sharing criticism. One from the 'country' warned that the Assembly *"would soften and effeminate our young Nobility and Gentry ... who were concerning themselves with their dress ... rather than their learning"*. The city's well-known wig-maker and poet Allan Ramsay, countered with a poem addressed to the Lady Directresses: *"Noble and Worthy Ladies; whatever is under your auspicious conduct must be improving and beneficial in every respect. May all the fair daughters copy after such virtuous and delightful patterns as you have been and continue to be."* It is interesting to note that, in addition to the Assemblies supporting the poor and charitable institutions (including a big contribution to the building of the Royal Infirmary), a newspaper advertisement stated that *"all ladies and gentlemen who attend the Assemblies are expected twice a year to be dressed entirely in the manufactures of the country"* and that *"at all times thereafter no linen or lace to be worn in this Assembly but what shall be made in Great Britain."*

One could say the Assemblies had a spin-off for the man in the street: the elegantly attired attendees alighting

from the procession of hackney chairs was a spectacle to be enjoyed, e.g. the arrival of Lady Eglinton and her seven beautiful daughters *"conspicuous for their stature, carriage and lovely clothes"*.

By the mid-1700s, the old city had reached its absolute capacity. The fear that the wealthy would desert Scotland and move south, revived the idea of a New Town (promoted earlier) which was implemented around 1767, including the important drainage of the Nor Loch. Very quickly, more spacious houses lined the wide streets – allowing for more entertaining (and dancing?) 'at home' and the necessity for the old-style Assembly Rooms diminished. However the grand building in George Street, opened in 1787, found its place in the new style of the capital's vibrant cultural life. The New Town is regarded as a marvel of urban town planning, and in 1995, UNESCO inscribed it as a World Heritage site.

The White Rose Festival

From Rod Downey

During a mathematics visit to Leeds earlier this year, I also took the opportunity to interact with the thriving local Scottish country dance groups in the area. I taught a day of dances, but also had the great pleasure of attending [and opening - ed.] their [White Rose Festival](#), which has been running since 1953 ([early history](#) here).



Rod opens the 2023 White Rose Festival

The festival is broken into day-time 'team-dancing' of pre-prepared dances, followed by an evening social dance.

Teams choose from a collection of dances selected by a committee, which are sent out to possible participating groups. Instructions and videos of the dances are provided where necessary. The dances are grouped into 'standard' dances, such as you might meet on an annual dance programme; junior/beginner dances; and more challenging 'demonstration' dances; plus highland dances, such as *The Shepherd's Crook*, or the *Fling*.

This year, the music was provided by Susan MacFadyen and her Band. Groups practice whichever dances they wish to do on the day. Should they wish to dance a particular dance, groups get up as the particular dance is announced. You only dance those dances you wish to. The idea is that people can practice the relevant dances and this gives them something to be confident about. Groups seem to love the demonstration dances, some of which are quite difficult, so a real challenge (maybe a 'reel' challenge). They are too hard for a standard club night or annual dance.

I particularly liked the involvement of the local schools and children. On the day, the teachers supervise their groups who have practiced the dances, with varying degrees of success, but much fun. The festival is totally non-competitive and people seemed to have a whale of a time. Groups come, and even bus in, from quite afar. I quite like the historical quote from the [early history](#):

The afternoon continued pretty much as it does today. The numbers gradually increased as teams came from all parts of the country. When the adult teams reached 40, a waiting list was introduced. There was plenty of room for more dancers outside, but the room inside was limited. A few years later, children's teams were introduced, as many of the schools then had teams they prepared for Children's Day in Roundhay Park. The maximum number of children's teams was 27.

Post-covid, not that many, but still a lot of people were there.

Normally the 'prepared group dance' part of the day is outdoors. However, in 2023, (probably as there was an Ashes cricket match on in Headingley!), it rained all weekend. So, we were indoors. The evening dance is more or less a standard annual-type dance (but had 21 dances!).

I was quite struck with the enthusiasm and feel of the whole festival. It might help explain why Leeds remains so strong. Having the practice with the same people would likely make you confident in the dance and maybe

more confident to come along. Having schools and teachers involved means that lots of young people attend, and lots of families. It also creates an ongoing relationship with the schools.

The organisation ran like a well-oiled machine, but I guess Leeds have had lots of practice. I kept wondering if something like this could be looked at for the Region or the Branch in New Zealand. It would take a lot of preliminary analysis so gauge feasibility and enthusiasm, and a lot of effort the first time. Food for thought.

If you are in the Leeds area, take your ghillies and contact them via their very efficient [website](#). As well as Leeds Branch classes, and day/weekend events, there are nine other local groups.

Superb Kaikōura Matariki Weekend School

From Loralee Hyde

Framed by a backdrop of snow-capped peaks in the Seaward Kaikōura mountains with shimmering blue seas at the fore, the recently refurbished Kaikōura Memorial Centre was a perfect spot for the Matariki Weekend School from 14 to 16 July 2023, organised by the RSCDS Canterbury Region.

Dancers from Wellington down to Timaru enjoyed dancing on the hall's beautiful wooden floor during the Advanced Class led by Wellingtonian Damon Collin, two evening functions – the Welcome Dance on Friday night and the Saturday Night Dance – and a Combined Class on Sunday morning. The Intermediate Class with Gaye Collin as tutor danced in St Peter's Anglican Church Hall.

Two others from Wellington – Pat Reesby and Margaret Cantwell – were in the Advanced Class, along with former Ngaio dancer Gaylia Powell who now lives in Christchurch.

A highlight of the class was learning the energetic *Dancing the Baby*, a delightful square set dance devised by Gaye containing reverse Schiehallion reels which kept



Matariki Weekend School dancers with tutors Damon and Gaye Collin. Photo: RSCDS Canterbury Region

us on our toes – helped along by music from Marian Anderson (*The Musicians' Wedding* Track 8).

See more about this enjoyable weekend including the dances we did and the social functions along with photos at <https://www.johnsonvillescđ.org.nz/2023/07/25/kaikoura-weekend-school-2023/>

Tune Tourism in Scotland

From Lynne Scott

Tune Tourism – it's a Thing! You find a place that has a tune named for it, and – guess what – you play the tune there! It certainly adds variety to a trip, and takes you places you might not otherwise go.

James and I have just returned from two weeks in Scotland. This trip started in Edinburgh, took us through Skye to the Outer Hebrides, and then up to Orkney. Dances and dance tunes featured frequently (though only a few actually got played – I was a bit shy!)



A snap of Fyvie Castle, in the company of its spooky tune

We crossed *The Dean Bridge of Edinburgh*, and drove to Skye where we saw *The Old Man of Storr* and passed the island of Raasay (*Mrs MacLeod of Raasay*) on which is *Calum's Road*. A ferry took us to the Outer Hebrides, where we stayed near *Culla Bay* and had dinner at *The Dark Island Hotel*.

From Benbecula we had a couple of days in

and around historic Stornoway, then another ferry back to the mainland and up towards John o'Groats and the Pentland Firth: *Pentland Jig* is played for *EH3 7AF*. This turbulent stretch of water takes you to Orkney, where the *Orcadian Strip the Willow* is a local variation of the traditional dance. Back on the mainland, we visited the Castle of Mey (*Reel of Mey*) and Forres, home of the *Sueno Stone*. *Forres Country Dance* is played for *The Bees of Maggiecknockater*. We visited *Fyvie Castle*, where a dastardly murder took place in 1601. It's commemorated in a spooky slow air by James Scott Skinner - you can find it on [Youtube](#). We stopped at the real *Clatterin' Brig* and passed *Crathes Castle*. I regretted not having allowed enough time for exploring all the potential diversions!

A real highlight was visiting the Orkney Accordion and Fiddle Club. The 20 or so players made me very welcome, though they were a bit stunned that I had brought my

fiddle from the other side of the world! Fortunately, I was familiar with about half of their tunes, and it was great to play along with them.

So many tunes, so little time....

Interest stays high at Johnsonville club

From Kristin Downey

In the June issue of Harbour City Happenings, I wrote about the exciting revival of interest in things like Scottish country dancing, with many clubs attracting new dancers. It is even more exciting to see that interest being sustained as we leave travel and winter illnesses behind.

Beginners – Of the 13 people who started dancing at Johnsonville this year, 12 continue to dance at club nights, and participate in club events, region events and classes. Almost half of them also dance at other clubs, a great way to widen their experience and gain confidence.

Club nights – Although attendance was high at our [second Tartan Night at the end of May](#), club night numbers have traditionally dropped in the winter, and you can never tell if they will bounce back. It's been fantastic to once again see around 40 dancers at Jville club nights as we come out of winter and into spring.

Annual dance – The [Johnsonville-Capital City shared annual dance](#) is right near the tail-end of winter, when many travellers have returned. Johnsonville dancers accounted for over five of the almost ten sets on the floor, a big increase on the number of our members who attended last year.



Nine sets dance *Miss Gibson's Strathspey* at the Annual Dance (Photo: John Patterson)

Mid-year ceilidh and dinner – This year, we changed the way we organised the club's mid-year social, holding our [Stars or Stripes themed ceilidh](#) at The Johnsonville Club, rather than at St John's Church hall. The on-site restaurant meant less in the way of kitchen duties for members, and the larger dance floor accommodated the biggest turnout we've seen in the past nine years. A total of 50 dancers, friends and family members enjoyed a relaxed night of dancing, dining and socialising.

Many thanks to all those who work to keep club members engaged, and keep them coming back. It's a fantastic team effort.

Lower Hutt Club Happenings

From Elizabeth Ferguson

This year, we have continued to hold our Family Evenings during the school holidays. These have been well attended and club members have brought grandchildren and family members to share in a night of dancing. We are fortunate to have a supper room we can use, and during the evening, our visitors went with one of our tutors to learn a new dance that club members were not familiar with. They then came and joined in with the full club, and were the 'experts' for the dance about to be taught. The younger family members were enthused and couldn't wait to relay what they had learnt at home.

Several of our club members have been overseas in recent months visiting Scotland, Spain, Australia and USA, to name a few places. We are always glad to see them return safely. Our new dancers have continued to attend our club nights and we have welcomed a past member back from many years ago which has been a great catch up.

Our Annual Dance was held on 2 September. Andrea Wells and Chris Totton did an amazing job as our MCs. We only had an hour to set up the hall, and club members turned out in large numbers to help. Flowers and greenery soon became wonderful floral arrangements, and the hall was decorated with tartan banners, quilt, Scottish heritage stories, and a wonderful programme displayed as a large book. We had seven sets attend the dance with visitors from Whanganui and Tauranga. Aileen Logie, Hilary Ferral and Jason Morris



Chris, Andrea and Rowan

provided the music. and it just made you want to dance. Several of our members were overseas at the time, including our club President Janice Henson.

Rowan, the mascot for the Centenary celebrations for the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society, was 'tripping' around the world and happened to visit us for the night.

You can see him in the photo with our two MCs. He will appear at Glendarroch's 60th Anniversary Celebrations, before going over the waters again on his trip back home to Scotland.

After the Annual Dance we usually have a club event, e.g. film evening, ten pin bowling night, etc. This year, we decided on a request night, and we enjoyed lots of interesting dances that hadn't been danced for some time, along with some old favourites.

Our club looks forward to celebrating our 70th anniversary in 2024. Amazing to still be dancing in the same hall after all these years.

Our final night for the year will be held on Monday 20 November.

Waikanae SCD Club

From Judy Keats

To celebrate its 48th birthday, the Waikanae Club recently held a special club night to also acknowledge the birthdays of members who have, or will, become octogenarians this year – and one who has reached 90 years!



Unofficially dubbed "OBEs" (Over Bloody Eighty) were Quentin Christie, Romaine Butterfield, Jan Macfarlane, Roy South, Clive Williams and Pat Urwin, and Shirley Clarke who turned 90. Unfortunately, Pat was unable to attend as she is recovering from a stroke.

Around 25 dancers were present, including a number of visitors from Levin Club. Our tutor, Romaine, compiled a lovely set of dances that fitted the birthday theme. Annie Christie made and decorated a beautiful anniversary cake, which was cut by Shirley and Romaine. The members' birthdays were acknowledged, and they were thanked for the encouragement, help and support they give to less experienced dancers.

What amazing birthday milestones, and what an inspiration they are for us all to keep dancing.

Ngaio SCD Club

From Wendy Donald

We hosted our club's Dinner Dance in August, with local clubs as invited guests, and catered for by women volunteers raising funds for Save the Children. It is so good to have a lovely evening out, whilst also supporting such a worthwhile cause. They provided a delicious meal, and afterwards, we enjoyed our tutor Melva's programme of popular dances, accompanied by live music from *The Cranberry Tarts*, a duo of Aileen Logie and Hilary Ferral.

Very recently, we hosted a Fun Evening, to offer to family and friends the chance to experience SCD, to see if it was for them. This year, the Region provided us with some advertising funds, which was most helpful. The dancers who came to last year's event were glad to celebrate a year of dancing, enjoying the fitness, fun, and friendship of the club!

Looking ahead: Our final night this year is on Thursday 16 November, a Tartan Night, with live music and supper.

Linden SCD Club

From Vicky Ryan

We are having a good year of dancing at Linden club – our enthusiastic new dancers have made great progress and several members have enjoyed the regional classes this year.

In May, we had a successful and fun theme night – '*All Kinds of Weather*' – which saw us through four seasons in one evening, with some wonderful weather-themed dances, costumes and live music from Iain Matcham and Jason Morris. We have been lucky enough to have several live music nights throughout the year which add an extra level of atmosphere to the evenings.



Musicians Iain Matcham and Jason Morris

We held our successful annual dance in July, with a fantastic programme devised by Ann Oliver, and live

music from Aileen Logie, Hilary Ferral and Jason Morris.

We are looking forward to the Region's final event of the year, the New Dancers' Celebration. We will finish off the year with our final night on Monday 6 November. Visitors welcome!

Happy Birthday Aileen and Lynne!

From Désirée Patterson

On Saturday 16 September, seven or eight sets of dancers gathered at the Khandallah Town Hall to celebrate the 70th birthdays of Wellington musicians Aileen Logie and Lynne Scott.



Lynne and Aileen play at their Birthday Bash
(Photo: Loralee Hyde)

A massed band of 11 musicians was on stage, with several people who often play with Lynne having come from out of town for the occasion. Together, they made a powerful sound which was very energising for the dancers. With so many musicians, some were "allowed time off" to join in with the dancing at times.

The "*70th Birthday Bash*" was organised by the Johnsonville Club, and a [full report by Loralee Hyde](#), including more photos and videos, can be found on Johnsonville Club's website.



"*The Duke of Atholl's Reel*" (Photo: John Patterson)

A few more photos of the “70th Birthday Bash”, by Lorelee Hyde



“Violynne”



“Aileen Logie”

Final Club Nights

It seems hard to believe, but we are already heading towards the end of the year, and clubs are listing their final club nights.

Capital City	Thursday 2 November
Linden	Monday 6 November
Tawa	Thursday 9 November
Ngaio	Thursday 16 November
Lower Hutt	Monday 20 November
Johnsonville	Monday 27 November

Victoria University of Wellington Scottish Interest Group

Meets on the 28th day of the month, 7:30 pm at the VUW Law School in the Government Buildings, Lambton Quay (Bunny Street entrance).

No university connections needed. No charge.

Thursday 28 Sept, 7:30 pm – *An early Scottish tradition – fostering children’s education* (Education Act 1872) Stuart Hudson

Saturday 28 Oct, 2:30 pm – *Reeling for 100 years! The Royal Scottish Country Dance Society and NZ,*
Plus: A brief review of 2023 and a look at 2024

Website www.wellyscots.wordpress.com



Wellington Region, RSCDS NZ Branch Inc.

New Dancers’ Celebration 2023

Saturday 7 October,
Wairarapa College Auditorium
83 Pownall Street, Masterton

Dancing 7.30 to 10.00 pm followed by supper

Door charges

- New Dancers \$12 (with invitation)
- RSCDS members \$15 (please bring a plate of finger food)
- Non RSCDS members \$18 (please bring a plate of finger food)
- Non-dancers and Juniors \$5

Raffles

A fund raiser for the Carterton Club. Tickets will be available in the foyer.

Directions

From the south – Drive up High Street to Kuripuni roundabout (3 trees)

Take the first exit off the roundabout – Chapel Street

At the next roundabout take the first exit – Renall Street

Drive up Renall Street to the small roundabout and turn left onto Pownall Street. Wairarapa College is on the left.

From the north – Drive down State Highway 2 to the Lansdowne roundabout

Take the third exit – Chapel Street

Continue down Chapel Street through one roundabout

At the second roundabout take the third exit – Renall Street. Continue as above.

There is parking on the school grounds or Pownall Street. Access through the gate, down the driveway by the astroturf courts. Balloons will guide you to the auditorium.



RSCDS New Zealand Branch Inc.
Wellington Region



NEW DANCERS' CELEBRATION

7.30 pm Saturday 7 October, 2023
Wairarapa College Hall, 83 Pownall Street, Masterton
Music Aileen Logie, Hilary Ferral and Jason Morris

New Dancers: \$12 (with invitation)
RSCDS: \$15 Dancers: \$18 Non-Dancer/Junior: \$5

Programme

<p>Jig to the Music</p> <p>Crom Allt</p> <p>12 Coates Crescent</p> <p>Jubilee Jig</p> <p>Anderson's Rant</p> <p>The Paisley Weavers</p> <p>St Andrew's Fair</p> <p>Flowers of Edinburgh</p> <p>Fair Donald</p> <p>Mrs Stewart's Jig</p> <p>The Lass of Richmond Hill</p> <p>Lady Glasgow</p> <p>It's Nae Bother</p> <p>Mary Erskine</p> <p>The Halfway House</p> <p>The De'il Amang the Tailors</p>	<p>Jig</p> <p>Reel</p> <p>Strathspey</p> <p>Jig</p> <p>Reel</p> <p>Strathspey</p> <p>Jig</p> <p>Reel</p> <p>Strathspey</p> <p>Jig</p> <p>Reel</p> <p>Strathspey</p> <p>Jig</p> <p>Hornpipe</p> <p>Strathspey</p> <p>Reel</p>
---	--

Supper




Johnsonville Tartan & Final Night


Khandallah Town Hall
11 Ganges Rd, Khandallah
7.30pm, Monday 27 November 2023
Music by Lynne Scott
Cassandra Bahr, Sam Berkahn, Thomas Nikora

<p>Allison Kay</p> <p>Kingussie Flower</p> <p>The Braes of Tulliemet</p> <p>The White Heather Jig*</p> <p>The Monifieth Star</p> <p>Something in the Air*</p> <p>Mr William Brown's Reel</p>	<p>(J) R Downey – Golden Bear</p> <p>(R) 21/6</p> <p>(S) 7/12</p> <p>(J) J Cosh – 22 SCDs</p> <p>(R) Miscellany</p> <p>(S) 53/8</p> <p>(R) H Foss - Galloway</p>
--	--

Supper

<p>The Machine Without Horses</p> <p>Catch the Wind</p> <p>The Duchess Tree**</p> <p>The College Hornpipe</p> <p>Mairi's Wedding</p>	<p>(J) 12/12</p> <p>(H) R Butterfield – 45/5</p> <p>(S) J Drewry – Brodie Book</p> <p>(R) 20/12</p> <p>(R) J Cosh – 22 SCDs</p>
--	---

- Adult \$5, Student \$0.50
- Most dances walked, newer dancers welcome
- * This dance is a wee bit tricky, find a clever partner - *The White Heather Jig* is rather quick, a *mobile* clever partner is highly advised
- ** Only dance *The Duchess Tree* if you know it





Lower North Island RSCDS Centenary Ball

CELEBRATING DANCE SCOTTISH!

5.30pm, Saturday 4 November 2023
College Street School Hall, Palmerston North
Music by *Balmoral Band* - Anne-Marie Forsyth (Auckland)
Sharlene Penman (Christchurch), Iain McKenzie (Queensland)

<p>New Year Jig</p> <p>Morison's Bush</p> <p>Miss Milligan's Strathspey</p> <p>Mrs Stewart's Jig</p> <p>The Meeting of the Waters*</p> <p>Oriel Strathspey</p> <p>Catch the Wind</p> <p>Gary Morris*</p> <p>Balmoral Strathspey</p> <p>The Reel of the 51st Division</p>	<p>(J) M Robson – 51/8</p> <p>(R) K Shaw – Morison's Bush</p> <p>(S) RSCDS Leaflet</p> <p>(J) 35/1</p> <p>(R) I Boyd - 53/15</p> <p>(S) I Simmonds – 32/2</p> <p>(H) R Butterfield – 45/5</p> <p>(J) A Hay – Morison's Bush</p> <p>(S) J Charles 22/3</p> <p>(R) 13/10</p>
--	--

Celebratory Catered Supper

<p>Pelorus Jack</p> <p>The Reverend John MacFarlane</p> <p>Mildred Clancey's Strathspey*</p> <p>Best Set in the Hall*</p> <p>Petronella</p> <p>A Gift From Heaven</p> <p>Seton's Ceilidh Band</p> <p>The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh</p> <p>Dancing Spirit – extra if time, walked</p>	<p>(J) B Skelton – 41/1</p> <p>(R) G Morris – 37/1</p> <p>(S) J Miller – A Touch of Gold</p> <p>(J) H Greenwood – 46/7</p> <p>(R) 1/1</p> <p>(S) N Whitson – Harbour City</p> <p>(J) B Fordyce – 53/12</p> <p>(R) 39/7</p> <p>(J) A Luxton-Esler – 50/11</p>
--	--

RSCDS \$35, Adult \$40
Juniors/Spectators \$20

* Please only dance this if you are familiar with it

REGISTER ONLINE BY SUNDAY 15 OCTOBER

www.wellingtonscd.org.nz

WELLINGTON REGION

HOGMANAY 2023

BAND: IAIN MATCHAM, JEAN MALCOLM

ENTRY: \$15 RSCDS, \$18 NON-RSCDS, \$5 JAMS & SPECTATORS
+ SMALL PLATE FROM ALL

8PM START AT CROFTON DOWNS SCHOOL, CHARTWELL DR

<p>NEW YEAR JIG</p> <p>THE BORROWDALE EXCHANGE</p> <p>THE BYRON STRATHSPEY</p> <p>JUBILEE JIG</p> <p>PELORUS JACK</p> <p>THE SHORES OF SOLWAY</p> <p>ORPINGTON CALEDONIANS</p> <p>GARY MORRIS</p> <p>BUTTERSCOTCH AND HONEY</p> <p>MR WILLIAM BROWN'S REEL</p>	<p>J</p> <p>R</p> <p>S</p> <p>J</p> <p>R</p> <p>S</p> <p>R</p> <p>J</p> <p>S</p> <p>R</p>	<p>BOOK 51</p> <p>CARNFORTH 2</p> <p>DEESIDE BOOK</p> <p>LEAFLETS</p> <p>BOOK 41</p> <p>CARNFORTH 6</p> <p>BOOK 49</p> <p>MORISON'S BUSH</p> <p>ALEXANDER LEAFLETS</p> <p>GALLOWAY ALBUM</p>
--	---	--

SUPPER

<p>ANDERSON'S RANT</p> <p>MONADH LIATH</p> <p>THE KISSING BRIDGE</p> <p>GRANVILLE MARKET</p> <p>CITY OF BELFAST</p> <p>THE REEL OF THE 51ST DIVISION</p>	<p>R</p> <p>S</p> <p>R</p> <p>J</p> <p>S</p> <p>R</p>	<p>MMM</p> <p>BANKHEAD 6</p> <p>BOOK 47</p> <p>2ND GRADED BOOK</p> <p>BOOK 48</p> <p>BOOK 13</p>
--	---	--

HOGMANAY CELEBRATIONS

<p>THE EIGHTSOME REEL</p> <p>THE ROBERTSON RANT</p> <p>SETON'S CEILIDH BAND</p>	<p>R</p> <p>S</p> <p>R</p>	<p>BOOK 2</p> <p>BOOK 39</p> <p>BOOK 53</p>
---	----------------------------	---

ALL DANCES MAY BE WALKED AS NEEDED