

RSCDS Branch Award

Lynne Scott - citation

Since her appointment as New Zealand Branch Music Advisor in 2013, Lynne has worked tirelessly to encourage musicians to play for Scottish Country Dancing and to encourage local groups to include musicians in their classes and annual dances.

Lynne regularly contributed articles to local and national newsletters and is responsible for the wealth of information in the 'Music' section of the NZ Branch website. These articles target dancers, teachers, and musicians, ensuring that there is something there for everyone. Lynne was also responsible for updating the Musicians' Register on the website.

In addition to consulting with school organisers on local and international musicians, Lynne has led the musicians' course at several Summer Schools. She has actively mentored new musicians, advising on programmes, providing suitable music, arranging, and supervising rehearsals and supporting performances.

Lynne has proactively sought opportunities to educate dancers and musicians. She has taught introductory musicians' workshops; sessions on working with dance teachers, mentoring other musicians, structure of dance sets; and workshops for less experienced dancers on the way music fits into SCD.

Lynne instigated an annual weekend workshop which draws musicians from around New Zealand to play together and learn from each other about playing for Scottish Country Dancing. A much-anticipated feature of these weekends is the Tea Dance at which all the attending musicians play, in their own bands and as a massed band.

An interesting extension of Lynne's playing for SCD was a foray into fiddle and cello, for the Wellington Region Early Dances Day in 2024. A common combination before accordions became popular, this gave the dancers a feel for dancing in the "early days".

There is no question about Lynne's commitment to fostering musicians and educating teachers and dancers. She has dedicated countless hours to achieving this goal. Lynne's contributions have improved our experiences as musicians and dancers.

Thank you, Lynne!