

Minutes of Wellington Region Committee, 2 December 2025,

Petone Community House, 6 Britannia Street, Petone

Present: Joy Tracey, Janet Gootjes, Elaine Laidlaw. Elaine Lethbridge, Lesley Campbell, Lynne Scott, Denise Pitts, Brenda Vale.

In attendance: Michael Laidlaw, Andrew Oliver, Chris Totten, Anna Verhaegh.

1. **Apologies** – none received

2. **Bereavements** – We remembered Pam Fletcher

3. **Minutes of previous meetings 64th Wellington region AGM**

Correction - Elaine Laidlaw is the delegate for the Branch AGM at Summer School not Elaine Lethbridge. Branch Secretary advised.

Confirmed Janet Gootjes co-opted as region treasurer.

Minutes of September 2025 meeting – confirmed

Matters arising:

- Elaine Laidlaw noted the disappointment that the provided tribute to Gary Morris had not been included in the Society's October magazine.

4. **Discussion and Actions**

- *Bank Signatory changes approved* - four signatories for the Region bank accounts. Class co-ordinator, Treasurer, President and secretary.
- *Agreed full balance sheet* in the annual report to show the RSCDS money entering and leaving the account.
- *New Dancers Celebration*
 - a. Andrew Oliver presented Linden's report. The event had run smoothly noting that Linden had run the event 10 years previously.
 - b. The report and budget have already been handed to Melva Waite for Ngaio to run in 2026.
 - c. Guidelines to be updated.
 - Draft budget required.
 - Club secretaires to be made aware that the names required are those who have been dancing one or two years regularly at club not everyone who registered as a beginner, came once or twice and then stopped.
 - Better co-ordination for hand delivery of invitations between those delivering and clubs could ensure more new dancers were there on the night.
 - Suggested follow-up email those with an invitation nearer the event to reaffirm their invitation. (this year 70 were invited and 36 turned up).
 - In future we should invite new dancers from Rangitikei by personalised emails. Will require names and contact details from clubs there.
- Fugues Event Feedback
Agreed that in future all Region events and classes should have feedback forms.

5. **Calendar Planning 2026**

- a) Elaine Lethbridge updated - All Region annual dances dates have been received from clubs as well as those for Manawatu, Levin, Ashhurst and Glendarroch. Table of proposed Region events/classes to be completed attached. Tutors have been approached for their availability.

Calendar of events/classes

Event/class	Date(s)	Location	Time	Cost	Tutor/MC	Live Music
Early Dances Day Books 13-18	18 April	St. John's Johnsonville	?	?	Elaine Laidlaw	
Basics	5, 19 May, 2, 16, 30 June	St David's Petone	?	?	Melva Waite	30 June only
Intermediate	12, 26 May, 9, 23 June, 7 July	St. David's Petone	?	?	Elizabeth Fergusson	23 June and 7 July only
Advanced	4, 25 July	St. John's Johnsonville	?	?	Jeanette Watson	
Region Ball	19 September	?	?	?	?	
NDC prep classes	22, 29 September	St David's Petone	?	?	Melva Waite?	
New Dancers' Celebration	3 October	Knox Hall	?	?	Melva Waite	
John Drewry Dances	17 October	St. John's Johnsonville	?	?	Damon Collin	
St. Andrew's Day dance	28 November	?	?	?	?	
Hogmanay	31 December	?	?	?	?	

Discussion

- It was noted that Auckland start the year with a Region Ball for more experienced dancers but it is too late to do this for 2026 but could be planned for 2027, with the new dancers' event in the later part of the year.
- For all Region events/classes tutors will receive \$25/hour for parity with musicians.
- Catering at events where tea is served will be simplified to fruit, biscuits and drinks.
- Region committee meeting dates March 10, June 9, September 1, December 1. Region AGM 3 November.
- Chris Totton presented 2025 Hogmanay planning - progressing well with the band and dramatics personae organised apart from someone needed to deputise as President. The event starts at 8.00pm with setting up from 3.00pm.
- Chris Totton is also organising 2026 summer dancing and the Law School has again agreed to using their grass as the venue. Dates were fixed as 20, 27 January and 3, 10 February. A poster will be needed for the web site and for Desiree Patterson by 10th December.
- Chris Totton talked to 2027-28 Summer School planning.
Some overseas bands and tutors have been organised. The plan is to hold the event at Scots College with any overflow at the airport motel. There was discussion as to whether it is good to switch tutors between classes. The intermediate class is to have an overseas tutor. All details will need to be in place so the event can be advertised at the end of Auckland 2026-2027 summer school.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm.