**New Dancers Celebration 2021**

As requested the programme was circulated to clubs early in the dancing year after being approved by the Region Committee. It was also sent to the Saltire Band.

Because we regularly have dancers from both Rangitikei and Hawkes Bay/East Coast at the Carterton Club formal permission was sought from the Region Committee to issue an invitation to new dancers from the clubs in those areas. Over eighty ‘new’ dancers were registered by their clubs including approx. twenty from Rangitikei Region.

With the challenge of COVID-19 and the whole country initially being in lockdown it was decided to proceed with plans for the New Dancers Celebration on 9th October so the invitations were sent out to the New Dancers.

As time grew shorter and the COVID outbreak continued we agreed that a final decision would be made after the Government announcement on 4th October but there was no change of levels so the event was cancelled.

Wairarapa College had agreed to a postponement to 6th November but unfortunately Wellington Region had other commitments that weekend.

I would like to thank the members of the Saltire Band for all their preparation and also playing for the first class in October.

Elaine Laidlaw