

# *Honorary Member ScotDance Ontario*

*June 1997*



## **Janet Thomson MacLachlan 1928 – 2003**

Janet (Jenny) T. MacLachlan, born Jenny Gilfillan, Lanarkshire, Scotland, was an artist, historian and pillar of resource and knowledge in the Highland and Scottish Country Dance communities in Canada, the United States, and in Scotland.

She was extensively involved in the foundation and establishment of many highland dance governing bodies and performance institutions – USHDA (United States Highland Dance Association), WOHD (Western Ontario Highland Dance Association), BATD Western Ontario District Stage and Highland Festivals, Founder and Organizer of Cambridge Highland Games along with her late husband Duncan MacLachlan.

When Jenny first came to Canada in 1954, she conducted a series of lectures on the new Scottish Official Board technique, helping to create a solid platform for the aforementioned institutions.

Jenny also published books on the histories of rare and lesser-known Scottish Dances collected throughout North America and Scotland. She worked hard to enrich the Scottish Dance heritage in North America, producing many exceptional highland dancers that have gone on to teaching and judging careers.

Jenny was a Teacher, Examiner, Judge, Mentor and Friend. She will be sadly missed in the highland dancing world.

A Beautiful Memorial Service was held at Knox Presbyterian Church, Waterdown Ontario July 7, 2003. Alison MacLachlan read scripture readings, Anne Sutherland spoke on reflections of Jenny's life, a sword salute was performed by Honour Guard Stacy Dye Williamson and Kerri Sutherland and Piper Ian Sutherland played Flowers of the Forest, Loch Etive-side and Amazing Grace.

Jenny's final resting place is the Kirk O'Shotts, Scotland commemorated with a memorial service August 2003 at the Kirk O'Shotts, Scotland.

