

# Touch of Irish

Award-winning Upper Hutt Arts a Go Go! performing arts classes for kids are adding Irish dancing lessons to their programme.

Irish Dancing has been made popular with shows such as *Lord of the Dance* with Michael Flatley.

"We included Irish dancing in one of the scenes of our 2009 show *Happy Birthday Gran O'Shea*, and the kids absolutely loved the movement along with the lively rhythms of the Irish music," says Rachel Main, the founder and director of Arts a Go Go! programme.

Seeing the enjoyment in the children and having the Irish connection in her family, Ms Main set the wheels in motion to be able to offer Irish Dancing at Arts a Go Go! to

enable more children to access the intricate and energetic form of dance.

Ms Main is delighted to have Ali Perkins from Kildunne School of Irish Dance in Wellington teach the classes.

She won her first national title at the age of nine, has won many national titles since and been teaching Irish dancing for 10 years.

The Kildunne School boasts many national champions and has had dancers place in the top three in the World Irish Dancing Championships in Ireland.

■ Contact Rachel on 977 7887 for more information or see [artsagogo.co.nz](http://artsagogo.co.nz).