

According to the complete set of results published in CLRG's *Ceim Magazine*, the following *Eastern Canadian* dancers placed at the **1981 CLRG World Irish Dancing Championships** (held at the Pavilion Theatre in Dún Laoghaire, County Dublin, Ireland):

1. Girls 13-15 Tracey Donaval, Rince na nGael – **Aer Lingus Award**
2. Boys 13-15 Brian W Grant, Grant School – **3rd Place and Aer Lingus Award**
3. Ladies 17-19 Ruth Garrett, Butler Academy – **1st Place WORLD CHAMPION**
4. Senior Dance Drama – Butler Academy – **3rd Place**

Aer Lingus Award

This award, formerly the Bord Failte Award (which, as of 1974, was awarded to the top-placing teams from outside Ireland), was presented to the highest-placing dancer not resident in Ireland or the UK in each of the ten solo championship events.

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Toronto Star (1971-2015); Apr 23, 1981; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Toronto Star pg. A15

Pickering teen gets her Irish up to win world step-dancing crown

Toronto Star special

PICKERING — Ruth Garrett, 18, of West Shore Blvd. in Bay Ridges has won the world championship for traditional Irish step-dancing in Dublin.

And, when she flies in from Dublin April 29 with her 13-year-old sister Karen and mother Patricia, her father George Garrett will greet them with a bottle of champagne.

Last year Ruth was runner-up in the competition held in Dublin's famous Mansion House, but this year wrested the title away from the holder, an Irish girl.

She is the first non-Irish resident and the first Canadian to win the step-dancing contest. She competed in the junior ladies' division. Ruth

also holds the Canadian and North American titles.

Her sister Karen, who holds the Canadian and North American titles in the minor girls' category, came 17th out of 110 in Dublin in the juvenile class.

Ruth, a Canadian citizen, was born in Ireland, but came to Canada with her parents when she was 4. Karen was born here.

George Garrett, who received a phone call from his daughter on Easter Monday telling of her victory, said the competition is "big business" over there.

Ruth was one of 98 competitors in her class, including several Canadians. Others came from Britain, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand.



North America's first female World Champion, Ruth Garrett of the Butler Academy.