



AROUND THE TRAPS

A Night of Dance with JH

Well, what can I say. It certainly wasn't your average bushdance. Rick and his saxophone had the dancers rockin' around the hall. The Jacaranda Dance will never be quite the same again.



Pic by Leo Bailey

Seems the dancers enjoyed the up tempo music and we are all looking forward to our Ragtime Night with JH in November. Now that will be an experience! And a "dress up" one at that. John Short will be Calling and I know he and the band are already sourcing dances and music.

Meet the President

Following elections at our February AGM, Kim Hopkins has taken the seat at the head of the table. Kim is relatively new to dancing, commencing at Kariong just 18 months or so ago. He does, however, have a long history of service with Community and Volunteer Organisations and brings a wealth of knowledge (and a very good sound system) with him. The sound system has made a world of difference to Kariong – and my vocal cords – so we are extremely grateful for its use.



The new Committee consists of Allan Warren, Vice President; Robyn Graylin, Secretary; Richard Graylin, Treasurer; and Kerrie-Anne Riles, Julie Shannon and Gai Ritchie as Ordinary Members.

Catering, one of our most important functions, is again being overseen by Leone Kennedy. A huge thank you from the Committee, Leone.

Dances from the British Isles

Our next Dance on May 12 is our Dances from the British Isles and again we will enjoy our regular guest Callers, Fran Bucello (Scottish), and Bill Probert (Welsh). This year we are joined by Arthur Kingsland, with dances from both Ireland and England.



Last year's British Isles Night

The programmed dances will be practiced at Kariong over the next three weeks. There are a couple of challenging dances on the programme (which is now on our website) so if you would like to brush up on "Australian Ladies" or "Trip to Bavaria", come along to the Friday Night Workshops at Kariong. We break the dances down and teach them slowly, so everyone can "get" them. And if you find one too fast and furious, just rest, watch and enjoy. There are plenty of other dances on the programme. Note too, that several of the dances scheduled for the British Isles Night are also on our Flannel Flower Spring Ball programme.

Past British Isles Nights have been outstanding and we are expecting nothing less of this coming one. And do feel free to dress up. Break out the kilt, Welsh costume or anything else that takes your fancy. Even if it is just a tartan sash or a green hair ribbon.

Band for the evening will be "Accord", ie. Dave, Leo, Pete and Margaret. Sadly for us, Trish Barker, leader of "Bon Accord", has moved to Queensland. Trish was always enormously supportive of CCBDMA and we miss her.

Kariong Workshops

Our Kariong Workshops are continuing well. The proof of the pudding being that we had FOUR – count them - **FOUR** sets up for the Dancers' Dance – “Queen of Sheba” – at our April bushdance. Obviously, the Kariong dancers are going from strength to strength, steadily improving in technique as well as ability.

Our current focus is on the dances programmed for our October ball as well as those for the next and subsequent dances. New people are always welcome.

June Bush Dance

For the first time in a very long while, the Bundanoon Dance Weekend will **not** clash with our dance, so we will be holding a bushdance on June 14. Band for the evening will be “Southern Cross”, providing traditional Australian music and dancing at its best.

Our Flannel Flower Spring Ball

Our ball will be held on October 11 this year, so well deserves the “Spring” in its title. The programme and dance instructions have now been uploaded to our website, together with details of the practices and the Recovery Picnic. **Please write them in your diary NOW!**

John Short will again be running Pennant Hills Practices on the four Mondays leading up to the ball, and we will be holding a full day of practice on Sunday October 5 at the East Gosford Hall. In the meantime we will be teaching the ball dances at Kariong.

Dances at the Ball will be Called but not taught or walked through - except, perhaps, for some tricky bits. It is to everyone's advantage for you to be familiar with the dances by the time the ball comes around.

Our Recovery Picnic on the Sunday after the ball, held up on Kincumber Mountain, where the Mud Hut is available for dancing, was very successful last year, so will be repeated this year. A BBQ lunch will be supplied by Angus, which needs to be pre-paid when ball tickets are purchased. If you would like to stay the weekend on the Central Coast feel free to approach us for some accommodation options.

Jane Austen Theme Night

The Miss Bennetts (and the Mr Darcys, too) might like to start considering their costume for this, one of our most popular, theme nights. Costume isn't compulsory of course, but this theme provides a wonderful dress up opportunity and dressing up is a lot of fun. Get into the spirit. Patterns are available at Spotlight for the creative and don't forget Vinnies.

Regency Ryebuck will be providing the music and our Caller is the irrepressible Julie Bishop. Our programme will be posted on the website shortly.

Once again, the dances will be practiced at Kariong, so if you are new to English Country/Playford style dancing, come along to learn the basics and practice the dances. There is nothing like a little familiarity with the dances when one comes to dance them on the night, even though all the dances are taught, walked through and Called.

Video Clips

Both Snake Gully and JH Dance Band have videoed part of recent dances, and the clips will be up on our webpage shortly. Keep an eye out for them. They illustrate the improvement in the level of dance expertise on the Central Coast. Thank you to the bands for the videos.

Dance Performance

Anne Maree Turner is a persuasive lady! As a relative beginner, it was with some trepidation that I let myself be persuaded (arm well and truly up my back!) to partner Beck Richmond in a demonstration dance along with experienced dancers Anne Maree and Bill Propert. But Beck looked after me!

The occasion was the Central Coast Philharmonia playing an "American Songbook" at the Holy Cross Primary School in Kincumber, in which members of our Central Coast dance group had been invited to participate to demonstrate a couple of American contra dances, the Salty Dog Rag and Citronella Morning.

After a week of frantic U-tube viewing and two practices, the night came and we arrived in our co-ordinated black and white outfits. My mouth was dry with nerves, but all went well, although the speed of the Citronella Morning with all its twirls threatened to set our heads spinning! And I didn't look at my feet, just at a point on the floor about 3 metres ahead!

And the moral of the story - if I can do it anyone can! - Alan Riles

Radio Campaign

Week commencing May 14, and again June 4, CCBDMA will be running a week long radio campaign on Coast FM promoting our Kariong Workshops and bushdance. Listen out for them.