



AROUND THE TRAPS

New Committee

Our AGM was held before the February dance and sees the incoming Committee containing a number of new faces and the return or re-appearance of a couple of stalwarts.

President:	John Short
Secretary & VP:	Robyn Northwood
Treasurer:	Colin Thom
Ordinary Members:	Joseph Crowley
	Julie Shannon
	Mike Young



L to R. Robyn, John, Mike, Julie, Joseph and Colin

Welcome to the “new kids on the block”. John is well known as a Caller with several bands and teacher at the BMC Workshops at Pennant Hills on Monday nights. Julie served on our inaugural Committee twenty one years ago and several times since, Joseph has been a member for some years and Colin is a very new dancer.

We will also enjoy the services of Kate Myers, as Publicity Officer – an absolutely vital role. We are particularly interested in exploring free or low cost publicity options so please approach Kate with any ideas or suggestions you might have.

Christmas Contra

Our Christmas Contra with Pastrami on Ryebuck is always a joy and last year’s was no exception. Some terrific dances, great, lively music, a wonderful supper overseen by Mike & Ros and Julie Bishop Calling. What more could we ask! Roll on December for the next one.



Great crowd at the Christmas Contra

Dancing By the Water

Our Saturday evenings in January met with mixed success as we were totally at the mercy of the summer weather. One was perfect, two were OK and one was a total washout. “This is Australia!” “and the humidity – we breathe”.



Dancing By The Water – no rain!

Those who turned out enjoyed the convivial company and the dancing we did manage to do, however limited. We attracted a couple of new dancers and welcomed several visitors from Sydney, Newcastle and the Blue Mountains – as well as a couple of stray children. It was fun! Rain or shine – thankfully, we were spared hail.

Maybe we will do another one or two during the year. Watch this space.

Kariong Workshops

We resumed Kariong in mid January to practice the dances for our February dance. We expect that the numbers will pick up again now that the

festive season is behind us and the grand-kids have returned to school.

We are currently operating at Beginner Level and it is gratifying to see the newer dancers, some of whom had never danced before, steadily improving then attending, and enjoying the monthly bushdance. That's what Kariong is all about.

Future dances and Socials, our Jane Austen Night in May and our Flannel Flower Spring Ball in October, give us plenty to practice for the next year.

Welcome to our new dancers, Kate Myer and Ron Masterson - so good to have you with us.

Late last year, in a wonderfully generous gesture, Colin Thom offered us the use of a fabulous sound system, which includes a hands free microphone, thus allowing me to dance as I teach and call. It is a huge asset to Kariong and was used very successfully at Dancing By The Water. I used to struggle to be heard so it has made my life a lot easier. Thank you, Colin. So much appreciated.

Kariong Workshops are held on Friday evenings, 7.30 – 10.00, at Kariong Community Hall on the Corner of Woy Woy Road & Dandaloo Street. Cost is \$8.00.

Our February dance with "Currawong"

A great success! Everyone loved the programme prepared by John Short, Caller for "Currawong", and the music was outstanding. We also enjoyed the fine supper provided by Yvonne and Don.



"Currawong". L to R Bob Foggin, John Short, Samantha O'Brien & Erie Eisler

This dance could well have been the swan song for Samantha, who has played for us for decades in a couple of incarnations of "Currawong". Sam is currently considering a tree change far away from Sydney. Of course we wish her a happy, more relaxed future, but it will be a great loss to "Currawong" and those who have danced to and appreciated her music for so long. We will miss you Sam.

March Social

Bill's Propert's, "March Ado About Dancing" Social, with his "little bit of this and a little bit of that" programme is eagerly anticipated. Many of the dances are easy but the programme includes a few challenges. Also some Contra, Welsh, a little Scottish and plenty of Australian.

We started practicing the dances at Kariong and Bill was there on February 15, to teach the lesser known New French Quadrille, Gundagai Schottische and Wicklow Waltz. With a bit of luck, we will be able to entice him back to teach the Welsh and other dances from the programme.

Our Jane Austen Dance

Always one of our special nights, Jane Austen will be held on May 11, with a full day of Practice on May 5, with David Potter teaching at the practice and Calling for Short Dented Potts on the night.

It was a superb night last year and we expect another just like it. Start thinking about your costume, particularly if you intend to make it, but do remember that Op shops are a great resource for the unskilled, for both men and women.

Costume is encouraged - not compulsory. It can be as simple as a ribbon tied under the bust of a vaguely suitable dress. Need ideas? Call me.

We will commence practicing the dances at Kariong just as soon as the programme comes to hand.

Social Media

CCBDMA now has a presence on Facebook and on Meetup where our regular events are publicised.

While Meetup provides a limited opportunity for discussion and feedback, our Facebook page has a community tab where anyone may post comments and pictures or discuss upcoming events or items of interest to the group. Please keep posts polite and only post material of interest to members of our organisation.

Both Meetup and Facebook provide reminders of upcoming events for which you have indicated an interest or an intention to attend. You can find us on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/gosfordbushdance>

and our Meetup group is:

<https://www.meetup.com/Central-Coast-Bush-Dance-Meetup/>

or click on the link on the Links Page of our website.

Happy dancing, everyone!