

## Minutes of Scottish Country Dance Club of Canberra Committee Meeting – 4 February 2016

**Present:** Barry Longstaff, Kate Armstrong, Bruce Clark, Jan Clark, Cathy Jones, Michael Phillips, Derek Synnott (Black Mountain Reelers Club section), Jenny Atton

Apologies: Catherine McLoughlin, Brian Gunning (Black Mountain Reelers Club section)

Meeting opened at 4.00pm and was held at 50/29 Thynne Street, Bruce

### General Business

#### 1. *Thursday 7.30pm Class*

Bruce questioned the continuing value of running an additional 30min prior to the main class at 7.30pm each Thursday. The original purpose was to help those intermediate dancers, and focus on more complex figures that would be used in the main class. However, Bruce has found recently that those dancers targeted have not been taking advantage of this earlier session. A general discussion followed. It was decided to start the main class at 7.30pm, to incorporate the popular format of the intermediate session into the main class as far as possible, and finish at 9.30 rather than the current 10.00pm. The new class times will start on Thursday 2 March 2017. To alert all dancers of the change:

- Bruce will announce the new start and finish times at forthcoming classes. *Started*
- Kate will send an email to all those she has an address for. *Complete*
- Kate (pp Barry) will alert Jenny Wardrobe (Editor of the Branch's RSCDS monthly newsletter) publicising the new times to all local and regional clubs in the Branch's RSCDS monthly newsletter. *Complete. Post Meeting Note* Alan McCulloch has updated the SCDCC page and the class timetable on the Branch website to reflect the new arrangements.

#### 2. *Club's Vinyl Collection*

Bruce has been reviewing the Club's vinyl collection to identify those historic dances of interest. Once identified, he has digitised the recording for use on the Club's current music system based on CDs. He intends to teach the dances identified. The vinyl LPs will no longer be needed. It was agreed to donate the vinyl collection to Jim Lissaman who expressed an interest in them.

Bruce will organise the donation of LPs. *Complete*

#### 3. *Finances*

Kate presented a summary of the current costs and income from class fees, membership subscriptions and investment interest given in Annex A Financial Update. The Club has a balance of \$17,618. Review shows that, as at September 2016, the running costs of hall hire for both classes of the Club were covered by dancer attendance fees, but that fixed costs were not covered. Other sources of income however, do cover the fixed costs.

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### 4. *Options for 2017*

A repeat of the New Dancers Dance to help new dancers get used to socials was raised. This was an initiative led by Bruce and Jan in 2015 and would be raised with them as soon as convenient

### **Other Business**

#### *Calendar of Events*

Ideas to develop a calendar of events for the Club for the next 12 months were discussed and included:

1. a repeat of the successful New Dancers Dance to help new dancers get used to socials held on a Saturday afternoon, an initiative led by Bruce and Jan in 2015.
  - Bruce to check potential venue, date (July possibly) and live music.
2. Live music at class on a regular basis eg 3 or 4 times a year
  - Bruce to explore with the Canberra Scottish Fiddlers.
3. SCD October Weekend /Canberra Ball – The Branch's RSCDS has invited the Club to contribute financially if wished, however have not asked for practical help.
  - Barry to check what plans are and how the Club can contribute both practically and financially.

#### *Succession Planning*

Bruce intends to retire from teaching in the next few years. Various options were discussed including the development of new RSCDS-qualified teachers, and informal teaching and calling by dancers attending class.

#### *Temporary Replacement Teacher*

Bruce and Jan are not available in March – April for 3 weeks, and Alan McCulloch has agreed to teach the Thursday class while they are absent.

Bruce and Jan are not available late July – mid-September. The possibility of dancers sharing the teaching of the 6 to 7 dances between 2 or more volunteers per class was discussed. Kate outlined the format developed for the Irish Set Dance Group.

Kate will share the written format of the Irish Set Dance Group. *Complete*

Barry will explore this possibility with potential dancers who may be interested.

#### *Change of End of Financial Year (EOFY) for the Club*

Kate raised the possibility of changing the EOFY from the 31 March to the Australian 30 June for convenience of pre-paying hall fees. There was no objection.

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Kate will research how to change the EOFY and action.

The meeting closed 5.45pm

### Annex A Financial Update

#### Bank account balances

**Operating account** - ANZ - Business Cash Management account  
Account balance at 20170204 = \$2612.15 - no transactions outstanding

#### Investment accounts

St George - Term deposit - Account number 0393 235 491  
Account balance at 20160701 was \$10,006

St George - Term deposit - Account number 0350 958 155  
Account balance at 20160701 was \$5000

Total = \$17,618.15

#### Yearly Fixed costs for running SCDCC (based on 2015-2016)

Item	Cost
Bank charges	\$33.10
Postal/secretarial costs	\$8.35
Subscription to RSCDS	\$90.54
Music expenses (APRA, CDs)	\$123.68
Dance Insurance	\$266.08
Post Office Box	\$191
Lodgement of Annual Return	\$39
Gift for auditor	\$70
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$821.75</b>

As at September 2016 both classes were covering their hall hire through class attendance fees but were not covering the above fixed costs. Our other sources of income (see below), however, do cover the fixed costs.

2015-2016 income other than events/classes	
Memberships	\$260
Interest from investment and bank accounts	\$956.70
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1216.70</b>