

NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE SOCIETY
OF
AUSTRALIA
 Incorporated
 Reg No: A0058827L

| <u>President</u> | <u>Vice President</u> | <u>Treasurer</u> | <u>Secretary</u> | <u>Public Officer</u> |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| Steve Longwood 105 Ardleigh Crescent HAMERSLEY WA 6603 08 9243 1200 | Kevin Thomas 15 Blackfish Drive KOO WEE RUP VIC 3981 03 9017 6609 | Christine Lucas 48 Bayley Road PINE MOUNTAIN QLD 4306 07 3201 6331 | Celia Karas 3 Longstaff Loop SOUTHERN RIVER WA 6110 08 9456 1266 | Kevin Thomas 15 Blackfish Drive KOO WEE RUP VIC 3981 03 9017 6609 |

MINUTES

OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE SOCIETY of AUSTRALIA INC.

HELD IN ROTARY HALL, DELORAINIE COMMUNITY COMPLEX, ALVERSTON DRIVE, DELORAINIE, TASMANIA.

THURSDAY 25th APRIL 2019 AT 1400 hrs.

Steve Longwood (WA), National Society President, opened the meeting and welcomed everyone in attendance.

1. Election of Minute Secretary

Celia Karas (WA) was elected Minute Secretary.

2. Apologies

Carmel Sinclair (VIC)

Lorraine Keenan (QLD)

3. Recognition of Delegates

Members present were asked to identify themselves.

Executive

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Steve Longwood | President |
| Kevin Thomas | Vice President |
| Celia Karas | Executive Secretary |
| Christine Lucas | Treasurer |

NSDSA Committee

| | |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| Pauline Hansford | Public Relations Officer |
| Rosalind Todd | Co ordinating Editor |
| Barbara Treharne | Merchandising Officer |
| Kevin Thomas | Web Coordinator |

Delegates

| | |
|------------------|-----|
| Barry Chandler | TAS |
| Kaye Chandler | TAS |
| Chris Karas | WA |
| Ian Pendlebury | WA |
| Rosalind Todd | NSW |
| David Calvert | NSW |
| Pauline Ottaway | SA |
| Diana Waters | SA |
| Barbara Treharne | VIC |
| Helen Bates | ACT |
| Robin Kerr | ACT |

Observers

| | |
|---------------|-----|
| Alan Hansford | NSW |
| Kevin Lucas | QLD |
| Russell Wall | QLD |

4. Confirmation of Minutes

The meeting approved that the minutes of the previous meeting were a true and complete record.

Carried.

5. Correspondence

Incoming

Letter from Kevin Thomas (V. President) re omission of Howard Cockburns name on Roll of Honour
July 2018 Various emails re car stickers
Don Barba –Publicity Officer 2021 Darwin

Outgoing

30/4/18 Letter of apology to Howard Cockburn
22/02/19 Letter to State Presidents re publicity & promotions

The meeting approved the incoming and outgoing correspondence.

Carried.

6. National Society Presidents Report

Steve Longwood-President (WA) presented his report. (Attached)
Steve Longwood (WA) moved and Russell Wall (QLD) seconded that the Presidents report be accepted. **Carried.**

7. Treasurers Report

Christine Lucas (QLD) presented her report. Emailed under separate cover.
Christine Lucas (QLD) moved and Barbara Treharne (VIC) seconded that the Treasurers report be accepted.

Carried

8. Public Relations Officers Report

Pauline Hansford presented her report. (Attached).

The contact details for the States were updated.

Pauline Hansford (NSW) moved and Chris Karas (WA) seconded that the Public Relations Officers report be accepted.

Carried

8a. Web Coordinators Report (Attached)

Kevin Thomas (VIC) moved and Rosalind Todd (NSW) seconded that the Web Coordinators report be accepted.

Carried

8b. Merchandising Officers Report (Attached)

Barbara Treharne (VIC) moved and Russell Wall (QLD) seconded that the Merchandising Officers report be accepted.

Carried

9. Australian Square Dance Review Report

Rosalind Todd (NSW) presented her report.

As Kevin Thomas has pointed out, the Review is made available to the National website and once the edition is complete it is sent to the State Editors, the National President and the Webmaster so it can be uploaded onto the National website. Most State Presidents usually send a report as do most National organisations. Advertising has varied from 3 to 9 pages in various issues, the magazine has gone from 26 to 32 pages with the exception of the Special Edition for this convention which was 44 pages. Kevin Thomas (Web Coordinator) provided a host of data about the magazine. As of March 2019 there were 197 subscribers to the magazine via the website which was nearly double to the figure last year. NSW continues to print 200 copies of the magazine. There were 600 copies of the special edition, for this convention, printed. There has been a bit of confusion regarding payment for advertisements going into the Review. It was decided last year that advertising should be paid for prior to it going into the magazine.

It was discussed at the State Editors meeting that any advertising for National Conventions be free of charge, this suggestion will need to be ratified at this meeting. Barry Chandler has offered to provide some guidelines for an electronic review.

Motion

That there be a special edition of The Review produced for the 2020 National Convention

Resolution

Kevin Thomas moved and Kaye Chandler seconded that there be a special edition of The Review produced for the 2020 National Convention.

Carried

Rosalind Todd (QLD) moved and Kevin Thomas (VIC) seconded that the Australian Square Dance Review report be accepted.

Carried

10. Setting and Ratification of Affiliation Fees

Chris Karas (WA) moved and Kaye Chandler (TAS) seconded that the affiliation fees remain as they are. These are \$40.00. Tasmania & ACT fees are set at \$20.00.

Carried.

11. General Business of which notice was given.

Publicity Stickers

General discussion was held regarding styles, prices and design of stickers.

Russell Wall - There is a need to get these organised quickly. The website needs to be advertised on the stickers.

Kevin Thomas -They can be produced online cheaply at 1000 for 49 cents each and 5000 for 37cents each.

Motion

That up to 5000 need to be ordered, ideally dark green on white background.

Resolution

Barry Chandler moved and Russell Wall seconded that up to 5000 need to be ordered, ideally dark green on white background, to be co-ordinated by Kevin Thomas (Vice President)

Carried

Brief discussion was held regarding the query from Don Barba Publicity Officer for Darwin 2021. The query was regarding the Apra licence for Darwin. It was agreed that The ACF should be approached regarding this query.

State Reports.

Barry Chandler (TAS) advised that under the National Convention guidelines, the National Convention secretary has to contact each State for a report for the Dancer Interest meeting.

There was also a request from the Review for a State report to be included in the special edition of the Review that goes in the Convention packages. This created some confusion.

Resolution

That one report be forwarded to the Review for inclusion in the special convention edition which all dancers attending the meeting will have access to. This will have to be approved once the new guidelines are available.

National Roll of Honour.

We used to give out awards for continuous service to our movement, but it seems to have dropped off as there hasn't been a nomination since 2012.

The nomination must come from the State. Perhaps the States need prompting and the nomination form may need altering.

National Secretary to write to the State Presidents together with the criteria.

Kevin Thomas (Vice President / Webmaster)

'In 2006 I wrote up a discussion paper, where are we going and what are we doing. The only thing that has transpired from that is our Incorporation. Nothing else has been done, so why are we here and do we need to be here or should we be in a different format. We aren't meeting our obligations of 4 meetings a year.

Steve Longwood (President) advised that there are now many different options other than 'conferlinks'. Home Video conferencing has been trialled and Steve Longwood & Kevin Thomas will look into this. These meetings need to be organised and dates actually set.

Barry Chandler suggested that the President talk to Jason Nicholson as he is aware of the options.

Advertising for National Conventions in Review to be free of charge.

Motion

That forthcoming National Conventions be advertised free of charge in the electronic Square Dance Review. Advertising to be at the discretion of the Review Editor

Motion

Rosalind Todd moved and Kaye Chandler seconded that forthcoming National Conventions be advertised free of charge in the electronic Square Dance Review. Advertising to be at the discretion of the Review Editor

Carried

12. Election of Officers

Vice President – Kevin Thomas (VIC) was re-elected as Vice President. There were no other nominations.

Secretary– Celia Karas (WA)) was re-elected as Secretary. There were no other nominations.

Carried.

13. Nominated Officers

13a Public Relations Officer – Pauline Hansford (NSW) was re-elected

13b Webmaster – Kevin Thomas (VIC) was re-elected

13c Merchandising Officer – Barbara Treharne (VIC) was re-elected

13e Review Executive Officer – Rosalind Todd (NSW) was re-elected

14f Public Officer – Kevin Thomas (VIC) was re-elected

Barry Chandler moved & Barbara Treharne seconded that all nominated officers positions remain the same.

Carried

14. General Committee

There was no general committee required

15. Other Business

Promotion of Square Dancing.

A 'Flash Mob' dance was held in Victor Harbour, South Australia. It was enjoyed by all who attended but as yet there is no result as to whether it encouraged any new dancers. The general view was that there should be another of these in a bigger, more exposed area. Steve Longwood reported that the 2018 Perth Convention appeared to have sparked interest and consequently there are 20-30 new dancers. Also according to the large amount of advertising and interest in the Deloraine area throughout this convention it is hoped there may a similar result.

Russell Wall (QLD), there must be beginners classes starting to accommodate these prospective new dancers.

Chris Karas (WA) advised the meeting that WA held a "Reunion Dance" inviting as many past, and present, dancers as possible. This too was successful. Approximately 120 past & present dancers attended and the feedback was very positive.

Ian Pendlebury (WA) at his club they have found that a group of dancers who have been away from dancing for quite some time have now returned.

16. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held by phone link up.

Date & Time TBA

The President thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting.

Meeting Closed 14:45 hrs

NSDSA President's report AGM Deloraine 2019

Wow what a year of achievement by so many clubs, callers, cuers and dancers over the

past year to bring us so proudly to the 60th ANSDC here in Deloraine Tasmania.

Tasmania has witnessed a huge revival in enthusiasm and activity in square dancing in all areas. Most recently it has been triggered by the 60th ANSDC. This demonstrates that many hands make light work and actions speak louder than words. There has been so much activity from the ground level up to create this level of interest and results....many thanks to the convenors Barry & Kay Chandler and all their committee for assisting in this process along with the many others who have assisted in any way.

Around the country we have seen new clubs, callers, cuers, dancers and related activities continue to pop up with new enthusiasm. Let's keep that going and learn from their success so we can replicate and extend this growth.

Thank you to all the people who assist the National Square Dance Society of Australia spread goodwill and encouragement across Australia.

The Society Facebook pages have grown considerably in activity along with the new National web pages. Each of these should be utilised by all to the benefit of all. Thanks Kevin Thomas for your extensive research and time involved in maintaining the national web pages and Jason & Leanne Nicholson in their efforts to keep us up to date on the society Facebook pages.

Thank you again to all the state editors, state presidents & contributors who have helped Rosalind Todd ensure the distribution of valuable news via the Australian Square Dance Review which has grown in its popularity in the digital format.

It is pleasing to see the growing number of events across Australia being shared by the TAWS group who also have a great resource of event flyers, dates and activities for many interested parties.

Finally - thank you very much to our committee and nominated officers for their efforts ... many above and beyond the call of duty...over the past year, they are....

Vice President – Kevin Thomas

Executive Secretary – Celia Karas

Treasurer – Christine Lucas

Review Executive Officer – Rosalind Todd

Publicity Officer – Pauline Hansford

Webmaster – Kevin Thomas

Merchandise Officer – Barbara Treharne

Regards - Steve Longwood - President NSDSA

National Square Dance Society of Australia

Public Relations report to Deloraine Tas. Convention April 2019

Listed below are the numbers of calls received for the last four years on the 1800 line. I have left in the previous 3 years figures to give you a comparison.

| | 2015/2016 | 2016/2017 | 2017/2018 | |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 2018/2019 | | | | |
| NSW | 16 | 13 | 11 | 17 |
| Victoria | 30 | 25 | 12 | 22 |
| WA | 10 | 23 | 6 | 7 |
| Queensland | 3 | 10 | 6 | 10 |
| ACT | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| SA | 1 | 3 | 5 | 4 |
| Tasmania | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| National | 5 | 4 | 6 | 2 |
| Total contacts | 67 | 78 | 47 | 63 |

As in the past, we are using our personal landline and mobiles for outgoing calls at no cost to the Society.

The total cost for the last year has been \$750.01 for the line and 1800 service combined. This is slightly cheaper than last year and, as you can see, we have received a lot more calls. A real bargain.

Payments for our 1800 service and the landline are still on autopay and twice a year, the "Account" is topped up by our treasurer with \$400. This system is still working well.

Many thanks yet again to Barbara & Kevin for looking after the 1800 service while I have been away and their support is very much appreciated.

The Booth staffing roster for the 2019 National Convention in Deloraine is listed below.

Thursday 25th April Queensland After Opening Ceremony till 9.30 pm

Friday 26th April WA After Dressed Set Parade till 9.30 pm

Saturday 27st April

Victoria 8.00 pm till 9.30 pm.

I had a call and a follow up discussion about a month ago from a woman with "The Seniors Newspaper" regarding us placing an article/advertisement nationally in their special edition paper. This edition is due "sometime this year". I asked them to email me information and an all states quote and, apparently, she was unable to email me or to even give me a verbal quote. With no means of sensible communication available to me, I have not followed this up, especially considering the disaster of our last fuzzy advertisement.

If you are using the 1800 number in your advertising, PLEASE LET ME KNOW. It is quite embarrassing and unprofessional when I do not know what a caller is talking about.

Would everyone please check that their contact information is up to date and make any necessary alterations on my master copy.

Pauline Hansford, Public Relations Officer. (and Alan, my PA)

Barbara Treharne

Once again, So very little to report as nothing significant has changed since my last report. The 2019 (Deloraine) Badges were ordered and dispatched. I guess that is pretty obvious as you would have all received them 😊.

Our Treasurer will invoice them once we receive any returns (Returns go into our sales stocks)

The NSW (2020) ones have been ordered.

Barbara Treharne

Merchandising Officer

This year my report is very much the same as last years.

That is, the website is still really my own version of what I think the site should contain.

I did ask last year for some feedback, or a "Bucket List" of things we could look at providing.

Unfortunately these have been almost non existent.

We have during the past year gone through many updates and the site is way faster than before.

We have managed to obtain many more copies of the "Review" which have been scanned and uploaded, and do have some more which I will be collecting at this Convention.

We have had a request from Victoria not to load copies of the SAV until 2 months after publication as it is currently a paid subscription.

This has been agreed to.

There were several complaints that it doesn't read right on Apple devices.

I have used both Iphone and Ipad's and didn't have any issues.

The site is really made for viewing with a Google Chrome browser.

As a matter of interest

As of February 2019, the most popular desktop browsers were:

Google Chrome – 58.53%

Microsoft Internet Explorer – 19.17%

Mozilla Firefox – 11.68%

Microsoft Edge – 5.55%

Apple Safari – 3.45%

Opera – 1.22%

Undetectable or Other – 0.4%

Source = Web Developers of America

The next 12 months efforts will be made on increasing viewer experience using Mobile and Tablet devices.

This means looking at how each page presents on each device and making tweaks where required.

This should make a better user experience for all.

We are still running the old site and perhaps we should have a discussion on this as we are paying for two hosting accounts.

Some Trivia, The most accessed page = No1 National Convention in the convention archive.

Cheers

Kevin Thomas