



Royal South Street Society Since 1891
125+ years of pure performance gold

Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Royal South Street Society will be held on Wednesday November 11, 2020. Due to the prevailing pandemic restrictions, this meeting will be held by remote format.

**** Amendment to item 3 – there is one vacancy left not 2 as stated.**

**** Amendment to voting procedures.**

Currently there are six board vacancies to be filled as follows: -

1. In accordance with clause 11.2 of the constitution existing directors must offer themselves for re-election every three years on a rotational basis. In accordance with this clause Peter Zala and Ronald Harrington's terms now expire.

2. Maree Nolan, Kallista Kaval, and Adam Miller are currently ex officio board members who were appointed to the board as "Ex Officio" members since the last annual general meeting, in accordance with clause 11.3 of the constitution. Section 11.3(b) states "any person appointed under this rule 11.3 holds office until the next Annual General Meeting where an election may be held to fill the vacancy but such person is not to be taken into account in determining the number of Board members who are to retire by rotation at the meeting. Any person appointed under this rule 11.3, is eligible to stand for election at the Annual General Meeting in accordance with this constitution."

3. There is one further vacancy to be filled and in accordance with the Clause 11.2(3) nominations were sought. Nominations have now closed.

4. As to item 1 above, both Peter and Ron have indicated their willingness to re-nominate; as to item 2 Maree, Kallista and Adam have indicated their willingness to nominate; and as to item 3 we have received two further nominations.

As an election is required a ballot form with "a list of candidates' names in alphabetical order" along with the nominee's bio's and their proposers' and seconders' names, shall be posted to all members of the company with voting rights, the ballot form needs to be completed and returned in the pre-paid envelope. The closing date for votes to be received is 5pm on the 11th November 2020.

An Agenda and registration format with the "log-In" code for Zoom will be emailed (or mailed where required) separately.

This year, as part of the Australian Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, temporary modifications have been made to the Corporations Act 2001 under the (Coronavirus Economic Response) Determination (No.1) 2020. These modifications allow notices of meeting, and other information regarding a meeting, to be provided online where it can be viewed and downloaded.

For those who are unable to access Zoom please contact Julie for possible alternatives.

Peter Zala Chairman

Volunteer & Friends Newsletter

October 2020

From my Home Desk as the Competition & Volunteer Officer

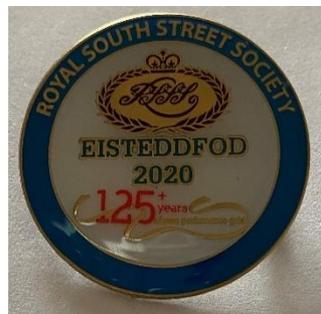
Where has October gone, it does not seem that long ago since I was writing the September news. Not much has really changed, the Team of Susan, Aimee & I are still working from home & will continue to do so until January 2021. It is now 7 months since we have worked together under the one roof. We catch up weekly for a chat & what we have been up to work wise, but at times I wish we were all together.

By the time you get to read this month's news we should have been celebrating the end of the comps for 2020, instead we are getting our thoughts together to bring on a bigger & brighter 2021 Royal South Street Comps, when we can hopefully be all together once again.

November will be a busy month for the team as we prepare to have meetings with each of our 13 Discipline Chairs to discuss the Competition moving forward in 2021, as I am sure we will still be required to be COVID safe over the coming year, so there will be a few changes.

At least we will shortly be able to move around our state & visit our families & friends which I am sure we will all be grateful for.

2020 Badges:



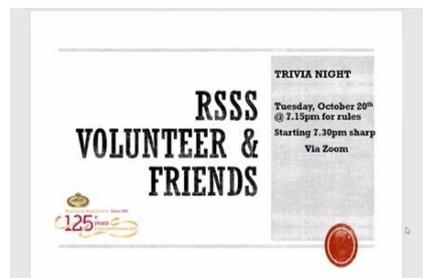
Just a reminder that we still have our 2020 Royal South Street Badges available, to add to your collection. The cost of \$15 includes postage.

Please follow the link, to our website to purchase: <http://125.royalsouthstreet.com.au/shop/>

Trivia NIGHT?

Thank you to all that attended the Volunteer Trivia Night last Tuesday, it certainly was a lot fun. Thanks to Rebecca Garlick for all your help before & on the night. Thanks to Susan's daughter Bianca for giving me the idea & the setup, & thanks to you Susan for your support. Thanks to the following who donated prizes for the evening, Peaches Fruit & Vegie Market, Wen & Ware, Barb Howes, Peter Zala & Liliodae Wellness Retreat (Rebecca Norris our Volunteer Business).

Work is currently underway to hold another Trivia Night most likely in December before we finish up for the year. I do thank you all for your support you have given me throughout the year in attending our many Zoom catchups, I must say I have missed all your smiling faces. So, for those who didn't join us for the night hopefully you may be able to join our next one.



Congratulations to our winner of the evening Andrea Brown, who won a Fruit & Vegie Box from Peaches Fruit Market.



Special Interest Stories

Brenda Green

Retired Calisthenic Adjudicator



MEMORIES OF MY YEARS AT ROYAL SOUTH STREET SOCIETY

When I reflect on my life, I realise how fortunate I have been to be involved in Calisthenics and the opportunities and experiences I have gained. Some of my fondest memories have originated from my yearly journey to Ballarat and the RSSS Eisteddfod.

Growing up as a competitor, then coach, mother and adjudicator, the conversation in our house about what would be taking place in the future was always prefaced with “before Ballarat” or “after Ballarat”.

COMPETITOR

In my first year as a competitor in Clifton I was sitting in the audience at the Albert Street Hall watching an action song “Winter Wonderland” and to my amazement snow was falling. At the age of six I thought it was the most marvellous spectacle I had ever seen. What was more amazing (I later found out) it was real snow, and it was coming through the roof.

Another memory of competing in that auditorium was when it rained very heavily, you couldn’t hear the singing because of the tin roof and also because of the noisy flooded channel underneath the floor – which was viewed by many mischievous competitors when the trapdoor was lifted.

As a competitor at RSSS I learnt the importance of being a team member, of always working together to give the best performance possible and the value of friendships which remain with you throughout your life.

COACH

In my first year of taking a team to RSSS we competed at the Civic Hall in Mair Street. Then there were only 2 sections Novice and Open. If you won an item in the Novice section, the following year you would compete in that item in the Open section. So, the next year, my team were entered in four items in the Novice and three items in the Open.

The experience of travelling and staying together in a hotel/motel all added to the thrill of competing at Ballarat.

My girls were astounded at the support personnel, props and costumes of the interstate teams, especially when our parasols were made out of crepe paper!! Through competing at that level, they also loved the challenge, excitement and team responsibility of presenting their work on the big stage. Participating at RSSS whether as a competitor or coach was always the highlight of the year.

MOTHER

I experienced the most nerves as a Calisthenic mother when my two daughters were on the stage competing in Regent teams. I never knew you could hold your breath for three to four minutes and even be scared to look as they swung clubs or prepared to execute a difficult balance. The relief and pride I felt when the item was finished was overwhelming.

I am sure one of their best memories would have been at the Memorial Theatre joining in with girls from all other Championship classes in their dressing gowns, hair in rollers, holding dusters, mops and buckets as they moved through the audience on to the stage to the music of "Memories". They were all paying tribute to the adjudicator's remarks how she loved doing her housework to that melody. Jennie Feutrill will always be remembered by my daughters. This unofficial item was Calisthenics at its best.

ADJUDICATOR

One of my greatest memories as an adjudicator was the audience excitement and buzz in the theatre for the beginning of the Senior Championship section. Everyone was so happy to be there, to catch up with old friends and to view the outstanding work that was about to grace the stage. The chairperson's job was so much harder trying to control the enthusiasm of the calisthenic supporters.

Once while adjudicating during the 100th year of RSSS, I rang the brass bell for the next item to commence and the metal ball flew over the balcony into the audience below. I was so relieved it was mid-week with fewer people in the stalls and no-one was injured. I felt like I had wrecked part of the RSSS history!!! Of course, in those days that was the only means of communication with backstage staff.

Another special memory was the wonderful hospitality and friendship given to all adjudicators by the members of the RSSS committee. The suppers were legendary, the meals on panel days were always delicious and the care and attention to detail for our benefit was exemplary. When I arrived to adjudicate it was like "I was coming home". I extend my sincere thanks to Doug and Daphne McMillan, Ron and Dawn Harrington for making my visits so special.

My most everlasting memory will always be during my final year of adjudicating the Senior Championship section, when the heaviest of storms hit Ballarat and the walls in the upper dress circle became a waterfall. The competition was suspended, and everyone was evacuated (and drowned) as they tried to find cover outside. The competition resumed at the Ballarat Grammar theatre early next morning with the Championship teams finishing at lunchtime followed by Championship Reserve until 11.30 pm that night.

Regardless of whether you were a competitor, coach or adjudicator, being a part of RSSS was an honour and a challenge to extend yourself to be the best you could be. Everything you did at that time was aimed towards Ballarat – it certainly was the pinnacle of our Calisthenic year.

Andrea Brown

Chair of Calisthenics, Board Member & Volunteer



Calisthenics is not always just something you do. It can seep into your soul and become part of who you are. It teaches you discipline and teamwork, it teaches you skills which help with the development of gross and fine motor skills, it gives you the confidence to get up and perform on stage, and it gives you the opportunity to shine. And it gives you great friends.

My calisthenics journey began when I started Tinies at Heathergene in 1973. From there I was lucky enough to go to Regent in 1975, where I stayed for the next 20 years, moving from Sub-Juniors to Seniors. I was taught by some wonderful coaches, notably Enid Feltham and Diane Synnott, and achieved my Bronze and Silver medals in the 80s. It is an enormous regret to this day that I didn't continue on with my Gold ... that backward walkover on my 'bad' leg was just too terrifying. I sadly left my Regent Senior team in 1994, solely because I was living and working in Ballarat by then and couldn't commit to a full year of travelling to Melbourne for class each week. People suggested I go to a Ballarat club, but after 20 years at Regent, the thought of wearing another club's tracksuit felt almost disloyal, and so I retired.

The next 10 years were my "spectator" years, religiously attending the RSS comps, telling my husband that the Graceful/Senior Champ weekend was MY weekend. It was a time to catch up with many team mates, several of them still involved with teams themselves. Then my daughter started Tinies at Jayde in 2005; 16 years on she's in Seniors and a RSS volunteer herself.

I became involved in the committee at Jayde, was a Section Manager for several years, and the club's secretary for nine years. And when they started a Masters team in 2008, I leapt out of retirement and took it up again, clocking up 12 hilarious years with some fabulous ladies.

Outside the club environment, I've also been a calisthenics writer for what must be more than 20 years, taking me from Mt Gambier to Shepparton, Bendigo to Warrnambool. Though I'm yet to get an offer to Nationals (if any adjudicators are reading this!). I've volunteered for Julie at the Ballarat Solo Comp, been on the South Street Calisthenics Committee for four years, and worked as either a writer, stage manager or an usher across several disciplines. I've been on the RSS Board for two years, and this year I took on the role of Chair of Calisthenics, and what a year it's been, incredibly disappointing to have to cancel our beloved competitions.

The RSS comps hold many special memories as a competitor, a volunteer and a mum. As a competitor:

- So many hilarious 'Spec' items, including standing on steps upstage watching in horror as one of our elephants walked off the front of the stage. I also recall a funny moment when a large crab's eyeball (polystyrene ball) fell off its stalk and rolled down to the stage in the middle of our crab duo.
- A Spanish March to the music from "Carmen" – we all sprayed our hair black, and could hear the audience's oohs and aahs as we all entered the stage slowly from the OP side in our leotards – black with a white lace top and obligatory red rose details.
- Creating a special item for an adjudicator who had mentioned repeatedly how much she loved the song "Memory" from Cats and would do her house cleaning to it. At the end of our comp, team members from every club invaded the stage dressed as cleaning ladies with buckets, brooms and dusters to perform an impromptu "spec" item.
- A Junior Song "Don Gato the Cat" - as we sang "He fell off the roof and broke his knee, broke his ribs and all his whiskers" our small house prop with a 2 step ladder attached to the back tipped forward on the raked stage, throwing poor Don Gato 'off the roof'. Our poor cat limped to her place, feeling every word we sang! Clearly HMT's OH&S has improved since then.
- The post-comp parties where we watched the video of our items (thank you Lloyd & Lorraine Harvey), often roaring with laughter and replaying any stage mishaps over and over.

And as a volunteer:

- watching the oh-so-excited competitors arrive and have their day in the spotlight.
- Stage managing – knowing exactly how they feel when they step through that green room door into the wings. The nerves, the deep breath as the music begins, and the wiping of hands on the floor (NOT the curtains!) so you don't drop your rod/clubs, and the occasional "where do I come on?"
- Over the years I've watched people crash into each other, slip and sit on the floor, hair pieces fall off, headgears get hooked together, costume malfunctions and little accidents from nervous Tinies.
- Writing – sitting in that position is such an honour, even for the writer. The view is amazing, and whenever I'm there I feel almost involved in the performance, not that I get to see much of each item, but the glimpses are definitely worth the effort.

And as a mum, that goes without saying.

As Royal South Street volunteers, we are there to make the competitors' day special. Every competitor (but my heart is with calisthenics). The Ballarat comp day is the biggest day of their calisthenics year, they've worked hard, they are excited, they are proud of their team, and they all want to hear their number called out in the placegetters. There will be tears of joy, and undoubtedly tears of despair, but it's our job as volunteers to help make it a fabulous experience for them. We should wear our RSS shirts with pride, and be the polite, friendly and helpful people I know we are. Bring on 2021!

Lorraine Harvey
Photographer, Volunteer & Life Member



Zonta Club of Ballarat Inc:
Celebrating Ballarat's Great Women ~ 26th March, 2020

Preserving history with precious pictures
By: Bayley Cocking

VOLUNTEERING is second nature to Lorraine Joan Harvey.

When she was just 11, she was offering her services as a cadet for St. John Ambulance. Since then, she has volunteered at Ballarat Secondary School, the Royal South Street Society, Ballarat Lyric Theatre, BLOC Music Theatre and more. "I was raised this way, I'm used to working for free," she said. "I used to work at the mixed business with my mother, I wasn't paid then either."

On top of this impressive resume, Lorraine has spent her entire life collecting a comprehensive photographic history of Ballarat. "I would walk around town and if I saw a monument I liked, snap. If I saw a house I liked, snap," she said. "On one walk I used nearly six rolls of film."

"If here's no silly people like me who go around taking photos of everything, then how will future generations know what Lake Wendouree looked like when I was younger?"

She has also worked tirelessly with the history and archives committee of the South Street Society, where she assembled an impressive portfolio, capturing the history of the Society over many decades. "I love ballet and the arts, so helping to maintain this history wasn't a chore for me," she said. "The RSSS also granted me a life membership, which was very flattering,".

Lorraine's voluntary nature and photographic talent is what earned her an honourable spot as one of Zonta Ballarat's Great Women for 2020. However, her modesty caused for some hesitation with accepting the nomination. "Bragging about achievements just isn't me, I think my kids don't even know some of the awards, I've gotten over the years," she said.

Despite Lorraine's humility, her volunteer work has earned her countless awards and prizes. Whilst working with St. John Ambulance in the 1960's, Lorraine received a red badge of honour for 200 hours of service.

She was granted the Michael Ronaldson Award for her volunteer work within the former Ballarat Secondary College Norman Street Campus, "Volunteering has been a big part of m life, it's important to live a charitable life," she said.

Lorraine also held a leadership role within the Scouts movement, where she received many honours and praises.

In 1991, she found work as a photojournalist for the movement's newspaper, the Nugget. "I enjoyed the work, but found it a bit hard, so I decided to begin studying VCE English as a mature age student. The kids at the school saw me as a bit of a 'mum-figure', as I'd usually spend my morning tea in the staff room with teachers," she said.

Lorraine was first introduced to photography by her future father-in-law, who would fly over Ballarat in an airplane and take photos of the township from above. She would also "carry the bags" for her husband Lloyd, while he photographed weddings and debutante balls. "It wasn't until around the nineties that I started photographing those celebrations myself." She said.

Her appreciation for camerawork has allowed Lorraine to travel across the state to judge photographic competitions. "I usually try to be more positive with my feedback, I like to be a nice Judge," she said.

Now, Lorraine has joined the History of Buninyong study group at U3A and works at N L Harvey & Sons Photographic and camera business with her husband. She Shares her photo collections with relevant groups and organisations, to help preserve and add to the city's cultural heritage.

"Ballarat is constantly changing. Not many people know that there was a Zoo around Lake Wendouree, for example. That is why I take photos, it's very important to me," she said.

Thanks again everyone, I look forward to our next newsletter in November which will include all the Board Members along with names & photo's of all our wonderful volunteers who have been sent their service certificate.



Until next time:

Kind Regards,

Julie
Competition & Volunteer Officer
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