



Volunteer & Friends Newsletter

January 2021



From my Office Desk as the Competition & Volunteer Officer

Welcome back everyone to a year that we hope to have you all back together at the comps & at different functions that we may have. I thank each & everyone of you for your support last year in the year I am sure we would all like to forget.

I had a wonderful Christmas with my family, especially Charlotte she was very happy with what she got from everyone, including Santa. I look forward to spending my time once a week with her once again through out the 2021. I went on a few road trips during my time off went around the painted Silo's these were amazing, if you get a chance I would recommend the trip, 580 kms I travelled in one day, still have many more I would like to see. Also spent 4 days away with my partner David, which was great until we decided to go for a walk in the Bendigo Gardens where there were thousands of Bats, I have never been so close or seen so many at once before, then I also did a lot of work around the backyard.

After leaving the office back in March 2020, I am finally back at my desk as of today January 19th, the RSSS Team are all on reduced hours, so even though I would like to see you all pop in & say hello please just give the office a ring first to make sure I am here, I will list the hours for all the Staff a little later.

South Street Office Hours

Although the South Street Office has reopened, the team are all on reduced hours for now, so please be patient with us as we all gradually get back to normal. I have listed below what the team are working at the moment, I will keep you all updated as we progress over the coming months.

Susan ~ Finance Officer will continue to work from home but will be in attendance most Wednesday morning.

Aimee ~ Marketing Officer will be working Wednesday morning & Thursdays in the office and will work from home on Friday's.

Myself ~ Competition & Volunteer Officer will be in the Office Monday to Wednesday & will work from home most Thursday & Fridays. If you need to contact me feel free to call me on my mobile ~ 0417 390 599.

Our Archive team consisting of at the moment is Lynda, Tarja, Silva & David are also back in their office most days.

February 2021 Birthdays



2nd ~Virginia Wise;
11th ~Olivia Rondeau & Melinda Unmack;
16th ~Graham Paulin & Heather Turner;
22nd ~Christine Barentsen;
26th ~Caron Cavalier;
29th ~Amanda Milton

4th ~Aimee Riley;
12th ~Andrea Fairall & Katrina McGearey;
18th ~Cheryl Russell & Alicia Wrigley;
24th ~Wendy McCann;
28th ~Rosemary Butterworth;



Expression of Interest

We are currently looking for willing volunteers who would be interested in joining the committee for Energetiks Dance, Choral, Piano or the Archive Team. Please place your interest along with any experience in any of the disciplines, or even you would just like to be a part of one of the committees, please send me your details via email to julie@royalsouthstreet.com.au as soon as possible.



Volunteering for South Street

If you know any of your friends that may be interested in joining our wonderful volunteers in 2021, please either let me know by sending me an email or passing my email onto them. I would love to see them join our team. Everyone must have a valid Working with Children's Card or VIT (Teachers) card, along with a special interest in helping the competitions, in 2021 training will be given if required.

Special Interest Stories

I am going to continue with these stories throughout the year, as I have found them very interesting to read, + you find out lot about our supporters, volunteers & friends.

Kylie Cleary

Principal Coach of Sovereign Calisthenic College, Ballarat
Volunteer for South Street & Ballarat Solo Competition



I have a long and proud association with Royal South Street, as a performer, Coach, and volunteer. I am the current Principal of Sovereign Calisthenic College.

In 1978, Sovereign Calisthenic College opened in Ballarat, and I attended my first class as an eager 5-year-old. I recall instantly falling in love with calisthenics, its diversity, and its inclusion. I attended the comps at any opportunity I could, always with my Mum and Nan. It did not matter if it was Calisthenics or Ballet – I was there every day. We would stay until stumps...which was often after midnight...and then head out to the old Kingswood and try and unfog all the windows with a rag before driving home. Swapping calisthenics badges quickly became an obsession, along with another couple of Sovereign teammates. We would scurry across the knees of audience members to show our latest “swap” and obtain another badge to trade. Then we would be off again. The middle isle and the never-ending mystery of the dressing room tunnels, are also a very strong memory for me.

As I progressed into a teenager, I began to show interest in Coaching. I was 14 when I volunteered at my first class and haven’t stopped teaching to this day. I have taught across all age groups from 3-year-olds, right through to Masters. In 1996, I was selected to be Assistant Coach with the Victorian State Team Junior age division, which was a huge honour and also a great learning opportunity. Retiring from dancing in 2000, I then took over the role of Principal of the College. Then in 2007, I was named Victorian Coach of the Year, which I still to this day, remain very humbled and honoured by. Another great achievement that I am extremely proud of, was securing our own purpose built, brand new Studios in 2018.

I began volunteering with South Street and the Ballarat Solo Comp around 6 years ago. I generally perform writing for adjudicators or timing. Both roles are polar opposites of each other – one you really obtain an insight into the mind of an adjudicator (and don’t see any of the items usually), and the other you get to sit back and enjoy the performance. However, it is the sense of providing a service to others, that I really enjoy. I have met some incredible people through my association with Royal South Street. I always try and instil in my students, to treat people how you would like to be treated, and to give back. I know that there are a number of Sovereign families involved in volunteering at South Street, and they do it for similar reasons.

To pinpoint what makes South Street so magical... to me, as a performer, you can almost feel like you could reach out and touch the people in the balcony. The bright lights feel like you are performing into a void, but the warmth of the audience can be felt by you. As a Coach, the nervous anticipation as you take your team to the "Green Room" to "check out the stage" each year and how the rake seems to grow a little steeper and the wings a little shallower. And as a Volunteer, how the love, well-being and care for each performer is as it was, way back in 1978, when I first entered this magical space.

Lynda Grant

Archive, Assisting Me in the Office & Volunteer Usher



My family comes from the Western District of Victoria. I have 2 brothers, one either side, I went to state school at Dundonell, now boasts a wind farm, also went to Derrinallum High School. Upon finishing High School, I went to Emily McPherson College in Melbourne in my last year it amalgamated into R.M.I.T, I graduated with a Diploma of Art (Fashion). After working for Sammie of Melbourne for a couple of years, I then decided to travel, which became an adventure of a lifetime! I travelled through Africa from South Africa up the east coast across to the Cameroons and up to Morocco in the company of 20 other people living in a tent and travelling in a truck.

Upon arriving in England, I then went up to Scotland and worked in a hotel of a couple of months, travelled extensively through Europe many times. I worked in the clothing industry in London just off Oxford Circuit as a Pattern Maker for a number of years. I then got a job working for a Big Mail Order Company in Hong Kong for a number of years. I travelled backwards and forwards between London & Hong Kong & loved every minute of it.

After being away for over seven & half years, I decided it was time to come home. I sold my flat in London and bought a farm in Dunnstown. I also had a job in Melbourne, I worked for Toronto which was a division of Pelaco and travelled up & down for many years.

After finishing working in Melbourne and requiring a shoulder operation, I decided to volunteer work with Royal South Street Archive Team. I didn't know what I was typing about with all the different section to Calisthenics, so I decided to volunteer through competition and have been ever since. I do a lot to help Julie out and try to make her life easier during the competition, hopefully I achieve that rather than annoy her. Let's hope for a better happier 2021 for RSSS.

** I can tell you that Lynda helps me a lot through the year, & even came to my home in 2020 to help me, which I am grateful for.

Kind Regards,

Julie
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