



Volunteer & Friends Newsletter

May/June

From my Office Desk as the Competition & Volunteer Officer



How fast is the year going, or at least I think it is, we are already about to start another month? What a month it has been, we have some 2 new staff members join the RSSS Team. Most of you know Louise Brooks who has helped us out in the Theatre Office over the last few years, plus Rosemary Butterworth who has been doing some admin work over the last 15 months. So, welcome to you both. We also have our Marketing Officer Aimee Riley.

Did any of you see BLOC local production of “Mama Mia” wow what an awesome show.

Since my last newsletter life has gotten very busy as you can imagine with the loss of team member & starting with a new team member. By the time this newsletter is sent entries would be closed for all disciplines other than the Arts for All & Sun Aria.

Once again, the office is closed due to lockdown and we are working from home, so I hope you are all staying safe.



3rd ~ Claire Thorpe

7th ~ Helen Emery

10th ~ Barry Wilkins

15th ~ Carolyn Bourke

22nd ~ Peter Cohen

29th ~ Deborah Gilchrist & Caylee Sandwith

6th ~ Yvonne Biggs & Kerry Daniell

8th ~ Yvonne Smith & Tracey Tresize-Barrett

13th ~ Doug McGregor & Marlee Wallis

19th ~ Stella Loverso

25th ~ Adam Miller

It's Competition time!

ACU Debating Cup Challenge:

Heats: Monday, July 26th to Friday, 30th July
Semi Final: Monday, 16th August
Grand Final: Monday, 23rd August
Venue: ACU Connors Hall

Celebrating Chopin:

Sunday, July 18th
Venue: Ballarat Fine Art Gallery

Schimmel Pianoforte:

Monday, July 19th to Wednesday, July 21st
Venue: Minerva Space BMI

Instrumental Solo's:

Thursday, July 22nd & Friday, July 23rd
Venue: Diocesan Centre

Speech & Drama:

Wednesday August 4th to Friday August 6th
Monday August 9th to Wednesday August 11th
Venue: Diocesan Centre

VBL ~ Victorian Bands Championship:

Date: Saturday, 14th August & Sunday, 15th August
Venue: HMT

Vocal:

Monday, August 16th to Saturday, August 21st
Venue: Minerva Space, BMI

Choral Contest:

Open Sections: Sunday August 22nd
Primary Schools: Monday, August 23rd
Secondary Schools: Tuesday, August 24th
Venue: Her Majesty's Theatre

Freemason's Bands & Strings:

Saturday, August 28th to Saturday, September 4th
Venue: Her Majesty's Theatre

The Arts for All

Monday, September 13th to Wednesday, September 15th
Venue: "The Farm" Ballarat Specialist School

Herald Sun Aria:

Heat 1 & 2 ~ Friday, September 10th
Semi-Final ~ Saturday, September 11th
Grand Final ~ October TBC by Herald Sun
Venue: Heats & Semi Final - HMT
Grand Final – Melbourne Concert Hall

Energetiks Dance Competition:

Wednesday, September 15th to Saturday, October 2nd
Troupes & Groups Weekend ~ September 18th & September 19th
Venue: Her Majesty's Theatre

Australian Calisthenics Competition:

Monday 5th October to Saturday, October 30th
Venue: Her Majesty's Theatre





With the Calisthenics Solo Auditions which was to be held June 12 -13th however, due to government restrictions we have had to postpone the weekend.

Therefore, I am after stage door help & ushers for the following times & days:

Saturday, June 26th:

- * Midday to 3pm
- * 3pm to 5.30pm

Sunday, June 27th:

- * 9am to Midday
- * Midday to 3pm
- * 3pm to 6pm

If you are able to fill these times, please let me know, this is a great opportunity to see the top calisthenic competitors who a wanting to reach the final of both the Peace & Quiet Graceful or Ballarat Calisthenic Solo.

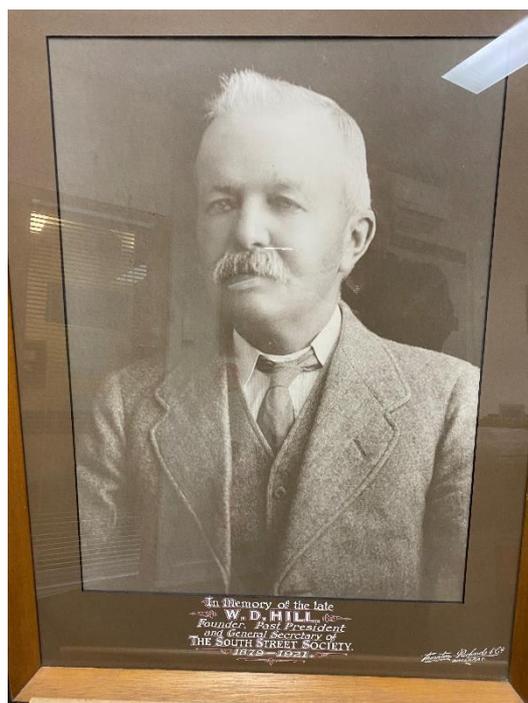


With the snap lockdown it was sad to see our first training session postponed, there will be many more to come, just a reminder everyone who volunteers for the comps at the Her Maj, whether Back Stage or Front of house everyone will need to attend, the information session. For those of you who worked at BLOC Productions of 'Mama Mia' you will not have to redo another session.

MAY - 2021

Anne Arnold	Bernadette Reus	Jenny Searl	Pam Gilbert
Jill Filmer	Tracey Trezise-Barrett	Rebecca Norris	Marion Parker
Kris Carroll	Yvonne Smith	Robyn Gould	Christine Mauseth
Andrea Brown	Lexie Brown	Stella Loverso	Lorraine Haintz
Helen Brown	Judi Quinlan	Peter Mould	Annette Lawson
Heather Turner	Colleen Holloway	Melinda Unmack	Melanie Dunbar
Barbara O'Shea	Brenda Ludbrook	Marion Waldron	Trish Peart
Sandra Fishwick	Kristen Rowlands	Tony Rowlands	Lorinda Brown
Sue Deans	Cherie Brown	Claire Thorpe	

Archive Talk



Royal South Street Founder ~W.D.Hill

WILLIAM DUGUID HILL (1858 – 1921)

By Kimberley Webber

This article was published in *Australian Dictionary of Biography*, Volume 9, (MUP), 1983

William Duguid Hill (1858-1921), festival administrator, was born on 7th January 1858 at Magpie, near Ballarat, Victoria, fourth surviving child of Archibald Hill, baker and riding teacher, and his wife Robine, nee Somerville; both parents were Scottish. Hill left Redan State School at an early age. By 1883 he had formed the auctioneering firm of Wicks & Hill; subsequent partnerships were Hill & Paine, Hill & Grose and Hill & Blackman. At St Andrew's Presbyterian Manse, Ballarat, on 13th November 1895, he married Katherine Elizabeth Bloore, daughter of a chemist.

In 1879, while a student at the Central State Night School, Hill and eight others held a meeting at his mother's hotel in South Street, to form the Young Men's General Debating Society, with the intention of "refining the manners, cultivating the mind and stimulating the intellect" into fitness for community service. Hill was president, then secretary and held this position, which in 1890 became salaried, until his death. As a founder and secretary of the Mutual Improvement Associations' Union in 1882, he first

introduced debating contests. Their success and Hill's belief in the educative value of competition led to their continuation by the debating society after the union's collapse in 1889.

By then the South Street Literary and Debating Society, as it was now popularly called, had its own hall seating one thousand. This housed the contests whose expanded program reflected Hill's interest in music, already evident through his secretaryship of the Liedertafel. By 1891 literary, elocutionary and musical items made up the program and six years later the first choral items were included. In 1902 Hill brought out from England, an eminent musician as adjudicator. By 1906, with the exalted title of Grand National Eisteddfod of Australasia, the annual contests lasted a month and were attracting 2250 entries. Their success can be attributed to the secretary's promotional skills. Public support for South Street, however, was not unanimous: one citizen described it as 'pure theatrical commercialism'. Hill sometimes complained of the widespread indifference to that which made Ballarat 'the Athens of Australia'.

Hill belonged to many civic and charitable organizations. Emphasizing the city's potential as an agricultural and manufacturing centre, he was prominent in the Forward Ballarat movement, was a councilor of the mining and agricultural schools, secretary of the agricultural and pastoral society and founder of Manufacturers' Day and the tourist bureau. From 1905 to 1921 he was councilor for the South Ward of Ballarat City. Elected mayor in 1909, 1916 and 1920, he was the first mayor of Greater Ballarat after the amalgamation of city and town in 1921.

Proud of his Scottish origins, Hill was active in the Caledonian Society and often sported a kilt. He was secretary of St Andrew's Kirk and found time to assist the orphanage, the benevolent asylum and the Red Cross. As recognition for his services to the city, in 1906 James Oddie commissioned Thomas Price to paint Hill's portrait for the Ballarat Fine Art Gallery. Survived by his wife and two daughters, Hill dies on 14 November 1921 and was buried in the New Cemetery, Ballarat. Small, with great charm, he was a devoted family man. His favorite activities were gardening and reading: 'I like to read about great men with big ideas...Warren Hastings has been my ideal'.

Select Bibliography

- L.A. Blackman, 'A History of the Royal South Street Society of Ballarat', Victorian Historical Magazine, 37 (1966)
- Ballarat Courier, 15 Jan 1908, 15 Nov 1921
- Table Talk (Melbourne), 16 June 1921



The Royal South Street Society Annual Meeting this year will be live (hopefully) on Monday, June 21st at 6pm.

The meeting will be upstairs (there is a lift) Sebastopol Bowling Club.

More information soon.

QR Codes



Due to Government regulations when you come into the office you will now be required to use the Service Victoria Ap from your phone to use the Royal South Street QR Code, we also have paper form if your phone does not allow you to have the ap.



Louise Brooks
Finance Officer



Born in Beaufort and moved to Ballarat when I was 4. Love sport and played Basketball, tennis and badminton growing up and still currently play tennis. Married for 29 years to my high school sweetheart Trevor who I originally met at kindergarten. We have 2 children, Todd who is nearly 24 who played soccer growing up and loves riding motorbikes. Meg is 19 and has competed in Calisthenics for 15 years. One gorgeous 6-month-old granddaughter who I absolutely adore and love looking after. I got involved with Royal South Street through Megs Calisthenics volunteering for almost 10 years and working in the office for the past 5 years during the Eisteddfod. Previously worked at Mars confectionery in the office for over 30 years in various roles. Looking forward to joining the small RSSS team and learning all the different aspects of the Eisteddfod. Love to travel and have done lots of travelling over the years overseas and within Australia. One of my favourites was travelling through Europe, climbing the Eiffel tower and the Leaning Tower of Pisa. Another one was taking the kids to Disney land and Universal Studios. Love my dogs and have competed in various disciplines with them to the highest level.

Rosemary Butterworth
Administration Support Officer



Rosemary started to help us out in the South Street office in November 2019, and of course then we went into lockdown in 2020, so she could not help us out, but since starting back as a volunteer at the beginning of this year, she has now become a permanent part-time member of the admin staff, working 3 days a week. In the past, Rosemary was an Import Manager for many years when she lived in Melbourne, but after seeing the light in 2010, she and her family relocated to Ballarat. And she couldn't be happier – the Ballarat locals have always been very welcoming to these “outsiders”. She is also still volunteering at the Gold Museum once a week, so her weeks are very full – just the way she likes it. In her spare time Rosemary enjoys knitting/crochet, gardening, travel & eating out. Her 1 dog & 2 cats always make her laugh with their never-ending hi-jinks. If she could be anyone else, she could not think of anyone living but thought of her long dead Great Great Grandmother Ellen Butterworth who lived in Ballarat from the 1860's till her death in 1899 but would only like to be her for one day. How amazing is this, her most cherished item she owns is old letters written by another ancestor who was a drover in the 1870's. Favourite meal is anything Thai or Italian. She is a novice gardener and really enjoys it (except for the ever-growing weeds)! Favourite destinations to travel to would be Port Douglas in Queensland, or Maldon.

Aimee Riley
(and Mr Pickles)
Marketing Officer



Aimee has taken on the role as the Marketing and Development Officer for RSSS. Aimee also competed at RSSS in the calisthenics section. In her spare time, she loves cooking for family & friends. Aimee & her family frequently have many of their Melbourne friends and family coming to visit for long lunches or staying for weekends away. She also enjoys exploring regional Victoria with her family & friends – hunting for a good coffee and antiques. Aimee also volunteers for Kivuli Project, using her marketing skills to help children in Kenya. Her children make her laugh. Mr Pickles is the new addition to Aimee's family!

Archive Merchandise



The wonderful Archive team has a number of guidebooks / prize list available from 1994 to 2019 all we ask a small donation if you would like to come & have a look on what is over, we also have a number of eisteddfod badges costing for \$4 to \$8, if you would like a piece of history please contact the office.

Until next time take care & stay safe

Regards,
Julie.

