

Step, Lock and Shuffle

A monthly publication to share line dance news associated with Northern Riders Line Dancing

Northern Riders' Classes for 2011

Monday—Yagoona Greyhound Social Club—6pm to 8.30pm

Beginner to intermediate class with Michelle and Robert.

Tuesday—Denistone East Bowling Club—6.45pm to 8.45pm

Intermediate to advanced class with Jenny.

Wednesday—Yagoona Greyhound Social Club—Beginner 6.15pm to 7.15pm then intermediate to 9.45pm with Michelle.

First Friday of Each Month—Yagoona Greyhound Social Club.

Partner dancing and two-stepping with Robert and Pat.

April Activities—According to John

Due to popular demand and the fact that I am no longer slack, the newsletter is back and coming to your line dance venue in the first week of each month. Well, that's the plan.

The first weekend of April was a huge one for the Sydney line dance scene.

The Northern riders dancers kicked off with a pre Ball social on Friday night at Yagoona. Next day, over 700 dancers packed into the State Sports Centre at Olympic Park for the 4th annual NSW line dance ball. The theme for this ball was "Hearts of Fire" and what a great night it was!

Doors opened at 4.30pm and the dancers began to stream in in their red, black, orange and yellow outfits. The colours were brilliant against the black curtains of the sports centre and added to the wonderful decorations and balloons that adorned the venue.

The dancing began at 5pm with an hour of warm up dances that were not included on the final playlist. The dances alternated between a classic and a newer dance to give everyone a chance to warm up and get a feel

for the floor. The new dances were very recent choreographies like Simon Ward's "Perfect Day", Rosalie Mackay's "Better Than Leaving" and Gordon Elliot's "A Woman is Trouble" that were released after the ball playlist had been finalised. The last dance in the warm up bracket was a dance by Kelvin Dale and Kathryn Sloane which was choreographed especially for the ball and called, appropriately, "Hearts on Fire".

There followed 13 brackets of dances led by instructors and choreographers with most dances having a split floor dance at the back for those who wanted to try an easier option. The floor was packed for most of the night and it always amazes me how dances like "Patient Heart", "Who Did You Call Darlin'", "I Remember" and "No Matter What" still get just about everyone up and dancing and fill the floor in their own right.

Dancers came from all parts of NSW as well as from ACT, Queensland, Victoria, Tasmania and South Australia. So, when you were not dancing it was a great opportunity to catch up with line dance friends from all over Australia. This socialising is a great part of a function like the ball be-

cause even though you may not know or like every dance on the playlist you have a wonderful opportunity to find out what is happening in line dancing throughout the country.

Two of the many highlights from the night were the raunchy performance of "Bump and Grind" delivered by Gordon Elliott and Tracie Lee on the split floor stage (it was given an "R" rating by the censors and Under 18's were not allowed to watch!!). And the special surprise performance of "Tush Push" that was done by all the instructors who were at the ball – much to the delight of all their students and to the surprise of the instructors!

Organisers reported that the comments on the night were really positive and people were already looking forward to attending the 5th annual ball in 2012. The theme for next year's ball is "Hearts of the Country" and the organisers are focussing on getting more dancers from country areas to attend the ball. Can't wait!

Not only was it a great success and a very enjoyable night it raised over \$22,000 of much needed funds so the wonderful people at Ronald McDonald House at Westmead can continue their crucial support for the families of young people with cancer.

Lots and lots of

great photographs

at

www.northernriders.net



Gordon and Tracie on "Fire" at the Hearts of Fire Ball



Margaret and Jennifer at the ball. Love the hats girls!!!

For more information on upcoming events and for lots of photos visit our website—www.northernriders.net. (Hosted by Liz Barned)

Please send news, views, suggestions, photos etc for inclusion in future publications to jhughes866@aol.com.

April Activities continued:

MAYWORTH? IN APRIL?

Unfortunately Northern Riders was not represented in the competition or workshops at Mayworth this year as the early date clashed with other things that were on. By all reports the line dance extravaganza was a wonderful success as usual. One person commented to me that "It just gets bigger and better!" The competition entries were the biggest ever and the standard was very high. Once again Maddison Glover and Simon Ward took out the coveted "Ashby Cup" (below) with a great freestyle routine and Maddison teamed with "Niece" Elise to win the Open Duo section.



A highlight of the weekend is always the instructors' performances in "So You Think You Can Dance". The show was stolen this year with a raunchy stage performance by Noel Brady and Wendy Hughes and a



sexy? Tango by Simon Ward and Kate Simpkin. Kate looked great in a tuxedo while it was hard to recognize Simon in his short, slinky, little, sparkling silver dress!! Great legs Simon. If you look I believe you can find video of all these and other performances from Mayworth on "You Tube".

Mayworth will return to May in 2012. Watch website for details.



NORTHERN RIDER'S NEXT COMPETITION.

Practice is well underway for our next competition which will be the Southern State Line Dancing Championships in Melbourne on the June long weekend. Karen, Jenny and I are competing and we will be joined in some of the group performances by Diamond Line Dancers Carol and Kristine. Karen and Jenny are entering the Masters Freestyle Duo Section this year and have developed a great routine that we hope will do really well.

MILDURA COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL

Planning has started for our annual trip to Wentworth for the Mildura Country Music Festival. The trip is from Friday 30 September to Sunday 9 October. We would love to have you join us for 10 days of travel, fun, workshops, socials, music, good company and an all around good time. We need to make bookings for accommodation and transport so if you are thinking about joining us please see Robert or me by the 20 May. More information and photos can be found on our website.

NORTHERN RIDERS' SOCIALS for 2011

Jenny, Michelle, Robert and I have finalized, at last, our social program for the rest of the year and a copy of it is in the table below. It is always difficult

to plan a social calendar so that it can all fit in and we always try to avoid clashing with dates of other socials from other clubs. It also depends on the availability of the venues. But we hope with the program below we have achieved all of this and you will enjoy dancing with us.



We are trying something different for the request socials at Yagoona this year. Prior to the social a list of dances that will be played as part of the night will be available. This list will be compiled by our instructors Jenny, Michelle and Robert and will include the recent dances that have been taught or revised at the classes. This will allow dancers to see at least some of the dances that they will be able to do at the social. We are trying to cater to all levels of dancer from all of our classes. Requests will then make up the rest of the program. See you there.

Happy Trails—John

Northern Riders' Socials

| DATE | VENUE | TIME | COMMENTS |
|----------------------|---|------------|---|
| FRIDAY 20 May | YAGOONA | 7.30—12.00 | REQUEST SOCIAL |
| FRIDAY 17 June | YAGOONA | 7.30—12.00 | REQUEST SOCIAL |
| FRIDAY 8 July | YAGOONA | 7.30—12.00 | REQUEST SOCIAL |
| SATURDAY 9 July |  DENO EAST | 7.30—11.00 | Cactus Club 18th Birthday Jenny and John DJ's |
| SUNDAY 24 July |  YAGOONA | 1.00—6.00 | Christmas in July 2 Step/Partner/Line dance |
| FRIDAY 22 July | YAGOONA | 7.30—12.00 | REQUEST SOCIAL |
| SATURDAY 13 August | DENO EAST | 7.30—11.30 | ALL REQUEST SOCIAL |
| FRIDAY 19 August | YAGOONA | 7.30—12.00 | REQUEST SOCIAL |
| FRIDAY 2 September | YAGOONA | 7.30—12.00 | 2 Step/Partner/Line dance |
| FRIDAY 16 September | YAGOONA | 7.30—12.00 | REQUEST SOCIAL |
| SATURDAY 8 October | DENO EAST | 7.30—11.30 | ALL REQUEST SOCIAL |
| FRIDAY 14 October | YAGOONA | 7.30—12.00 | REQUEST SOCIAL |
| FRIDAY 11 November | YAGOONA | 7.30—12.00 | REQUEST SOCIAL |
| SUNDAY 20 November | YAGOONA | 1.00—6.00 | Ronald McDonald House |
| FRIDAY 16 December | YAGOONA | 7.30—12.00 | Christmas Social |
| SATURDAY 31 December | DENO EAST | 7.30—1.00 | New Years Eve Social |