

Presidents Report 2021

I think the 2021 will go down as one of the hardest I have I have had to deal with as far as leading the administration of our Society. What should have been a very easy term because of no activity within the Square Dance movement, this was more than offset by the task of making us comply with the registered constitution and well as formalizing what we actually do.

How we got into this situation has not been established as the Society was never ever registered to operate under the “Model Rules”.

I have personally spent more time than I would have wished, dealing with Consumer Affairs Victoria.

This was by way of numerous phone calls (too many to mention) and even personal visits to the City Office.

Dealing with Bureaucracy is not easy and this is still ongoing.

I have Personally logged a Freedom of Information claim against the CAV.

The specific questions asked are: -

1. When did the Society revert back to the “Model Rules”? and
2. Who lodged the change?

There has been so far no response.

In order to make us compliant again, there were several options looked at.

These included looking an Incorporating in a different State.

Copies of Incorporations Act from NSW, ACT, QLD & SA were looked at.

It was decided that the line of least resistance would be to continue with the Victorian “Model Rules” being used as a base, and changing just those clauses that represent the way we actually operate.

This is what is in the proposed amendment.

These will no longer be the “Model Rules” but with (upon being accepted) become “Our Own Rules”.

The amount of work that had to be done to get to this stage has been enormous, far more than I (and most people) would have expected.

Firstly, we had to establish who was actually Members.

I must thank Graham Burgan here, for the enormous amount of research and suggestions in establishing this.

This was taken to the CAV who gave their approval.

Secondly, we had to see what clauses needed to be modified to suit or operation.

All very simple when it is condensed down like this. But believe me, it wasn't

What we have to present, is what we have come with, It will no doubt need tweaking as it is almost impossible to get it right the first time.

You can have 10 people read it and could have 10 different interpretations.

However, future committees may wish to change it to suit the ongoing needs of the Society.

A big gratitude of thanks to Celia Karas, Graham Burgan and Alan Hansford and specifically to Ros Todd, who without her level headedness and support I would have walked away from it all.

In closing, I would also like to thank our executive committee, who were always there to offer support.

As I now have the big Eight Zero in my sights, with my hearing making it difficult to enjoy Square Dancing as I once did, it is perhaps time to start winding back.

But as the next term will only be a short one (Until February) I would

be interested in renominating so that I can see these current issues resolved. Should it be the Members wish.

If not, Then I pledge to make myself available, should there be any assistance needed.

Thank you all for your patience and understanding during this difficult Period.

Please keep safe

Regards

Kevin Thomas

President