

KYNETON & DISTRICT OLD TIME DANCE CLUB INC.

“KEEPING IN TOUCH” NEWSLETTER No. 16

FEBRUARY 2021

Hi again to everyone, ‘Keeping in Touch’ is back in business.

FIRSTLY – RE DON CLIFFORD’S FUNERAL

RESTRICTIONS HAVE NOW BEEN LIFTED RE LIMITATIONS ON FUNERAL ATTENDANCES, WHICH HAVE ALLOWED THE ORIGINAL PLAN TO BE REINSTATED - ALL WELCOME (MASK COMPULSORY) –

THE SERVICE WILL NOW BE HELD AT TONY CLARKE SPORTS GROUND IN WATERFALLS RD., MACEDON AT 2PM (NOT 2.30PM AS PREVIOUSLY NOTIFIED) - FOLLOWED BY REFRESHMENTS AT MACEDON HOTEL (NOT MT MACEDON).

The service will be held in a marque at the ground, bring a hat for the sun.

Could you let me know if you will be attending so the family have a better idea of numbers for seating and catering. I will pass it on to them. (Julie – 0400 126 870)

The Tony Clarke Ground is at 37 Waterfalls Rd, which is off Honour Ave., Macedon. The ground is on the left a short distance from the Honour Avenue intersection.

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It is Wednesday, 17 February, as I write. GREAT NEWS this morning – restrictions will be lifted significantly tomorrow. After being in lockdown again for a week, not a place we really expected to be once more, it is wonderful to feel we can be free again. I feel this was a lesson, in some ways, that things can change so quickly with this viral enemy. I think, this time around, it was more difficult to deal with the frustration and disappointment of a sudden lockdown all over the state, particularly with such short notice.

So, we need to remain vigilant and compliant, to hold on to the spirit and the will to see it through. We need to look out for each other and keep a positive focus together. We will get there, and we WILL be able to get together at St Mary’s Hall one day, though when this can happen is another question. In some ways, what happened a week ago, justifies Fr Declan’s reluctance to hire the hall out until Covid is controlled. I understand why some people think that regional areas are virus-free and safe, therefore should not be subjected to lockdowns, but I do recollect what happened in Kilmore a few months ago when someone stopped for eat-in lunch. People do move around the countryside and the virus moves with them.

So, I guess, keep patient, keep strong and watch out for each other. Just remember, you are an important part of our close and friendly dance ‘family’.

As we have been in lockdown again, I thought we could recommence “Keeping in Touch”. Please let me know if you don’t want to receive it.

Several people have been in touch with memories of Don Clifford and messages about him, including -

Gayle Morgan (Kilmore) said “It is a shame we cannot all be there (*at the funeral*) for Don, he loved the dance club and put so much into it, he had the capability to spur people on and lift the spirit of everyone in the hall with his singing.”

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Jenny Trehwella (Bacchus Marsh) said “What wonderful memories we all have of Don’s enthusiasm! But wasn’t it sad to see him being overtaken by illness.”

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Ina Bartram (Trentham) said “Sad news about Don Clifford. I will be thinking of Marie, in particular, on the day of the funeral. They made such a great couple.”

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June Wishart (Castlemaine) lived in Macedon when Don was growing up and the first thing she said on hearing of Don’s death was that she remembers (as I did), many times, Don singing for the joy of it, as he walked home through the village from wherever he had been - on a quiet night, how his voice would echo through the hills and trees. She also remembers helping the teenage Don learn to dance at local Macedon dances. Don, himself, often credited June with teaching him to dance.

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Marie and Robert Waller (Broadmeadows) asked me to pass on their deepest sympathies to Marie and family.

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I am sure there are also many more comments and memories via Facebook.

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K&DOTDC Club Lunch on February 24

I have just checked with the hotel management and we are now permitted to go ahead with the lunch as planned. I am very sorry for the confusion and date change due to last week’s Covid restrictions, but at least it is now all sorted and we can meet and have lunch together.

The details - **12 md for a 12.30 start at the Shamrock Hotel, Mollison St., Kyneton.**

Please let me know if you would like your name added to the list for lunch.

(Call me – Julie Wilson on 0400 126 870 or email – juliewilson40@bigpond.com)

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Back in December, **Ray Sharrock** (Bendigo) sent Christmas greetings, saying he had just finished listening to “The Small One”. This brought back my memories of “The Small One”, narrated by Bing Crosby and Steve’s much loved favourite, Leon Redbone singing “Christmas on Christmas Island”. Memories can be very potent, can’t they?

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Elaine Black (Metro) has sent a program of upcoming events featuring “**The Silhouettes’ Band**, mostly in south and south easter suburbs, also Altona. Call me if you are interested.

