

Monaro Folk Society - Bush Dance Group Annual Report 2019/20

Like all groups, the Bush Dance Group has had a truncated year, but despite the cancellation of all activities from mid-March, still made a profit for the year.

Attendances at Monday Bush Dance Workshops, until their cessation, continued to see good numbers, averaging 22 dancers with numbers ranging from 17 to 28. The “open stage” for musicians and callers attracted an average of 11 musicians, plus 2 or 3 callers each night.

Saturday dances, including one Dancers' Dance, saw a continuation of attendances averaging around 20. This does not include the free Christmas Picnic/Dance which again attracted a large crowd, nor the Special Olympics fundraiser dance which had 58 attendees and raised \$1053 (this included the door takings, donations from individuals, and the band donating their payment back to the cause).

Only one Kids' Dance was held for a small profit.

In December and January another season of Dancing In The Park was held. Numbers were steady for this, but there were few new dancers attending. Again, due to the NCA charging for use of Stage 88, attendees were asked to make a small donation which covered the hire costs with a small profit.

Just before suspension of dancing we held the Gala Ball at the Albert Hall. This was to be the opening event of our planned 50th Anniversary celebrations as well as celebrating Roni and Adrian's 30th wedding anniversary. Music was provided by the Bush Capital Band and a very successful event ensued.

The Bush Capital Band was poised for a big year, preparing to play for two of the Society's main events – the Shearers Ball and Colonial Ball. The unfortunate cancellation of both of these, plus the ban on group gatherings, has dealt a blow to their performances and practices.

Overall, the BDG made a profit of \$463.