

# **Monaro Folk Society – End of Month Dance Organising Team (EOMDOT)**

## **Report for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024**

### **EOMDOT area of responsibility**

The EOMDOT runs dances for MFS members and the general public usually, but not exclusively, on the last Saturday of the month, for most months of the year. The EOMDOT also organises three MFS high profile dances: the Shearers' Ball, Colonial Ball, and New Year's Eve dance.

### **The EOMDOT's objectives are:**

- to build competency in the performance of Australian traditional dance, dance calling and music
- to promote in the community an interest in and appreciation of Australian traditional dance styles and music
- to contribute to increase attendance and overall MFS membership
- to develop strategies in collaboration with the MFS Committee and other MFS subgroups to ensure that ALL MFS activities are successful.

### **Description of activity:**

Monthly dances to live music held at suitable venues in Canberra

Annual Colonial Ball usually held at the Albert Hall

Annual Shearers' Ball and New Year's Eve dance usually held at the Yarralumla Woolshed.

### **The office bearers and membership of EOMDOT**

Antonella Salpietro - Convener and primary contact

Rita Turnbull - Committee member

Mark Simmons - Committee member

Matthew Gibbins - Committee member

### **Outcome of activities**

In the financial year 2023-24, EOMDOT organised three social dances attended on average by 27 people, excluding non-paying attendees, and two special dances i.e. the New Year's Eve dance (attendance 83 people, excluding non-paying attendees) and the Shearers' Ball (attendance 38 people excluding non-paying attendees), which was held at the Folkdance hall instead of the Woolshed.

The EOMDOT publicised these events very widely and the EOMDOT Convener was interviewed by ABC Canberra Radio as part of the promotion.

Takings \$4633.68

Expenditure \$4542.25

Surplus \$91.43

Since March 2020, the pandemic and its repercussions have dramatically affected social and cultural activities in Canberra and interstate and attendance at social dances has dropped considerably. The EOMDOT decided that it wouldn't be wise to hold the Colonial Ball in 2023.

In November 2023, the EOMDOT supported a concert/dance held in partnership with the Canberra Mandolin Orchestra (CMO). Mark Simmons was invited by CMO to be the Caller. The event was well attended and EOMDOT was provided with the opportunity to publicise MFS events and activities.

On behalf of EOMDOT

Antonella Salpietro

EOMDOT Convener