

Hi Fellow Members of ARDA.

Things have been rather quiet since our AGM in Hobart, so now you will have two large emails within a short space of time!

I hope you all received the newsletter, prepared by our Editor, Carol, along with its attachments, which our President sent out on or around 18 September.

Unfortunately, Carol is experiencing some difficulties setting up the Editor's email address, ARDA.NewsEditor@gmail.com, on her computer. Hopefully, this will be resolved soon.

If you did not receive the email and its attachments, please let me know and I will gladly forward them to you.

A reminder about ARDA's generic email addresses the reason we have established generic email addresses for our various positions is to ensure that correspondence remains accessible when a person steps down from their role. This means that emails sent to the position's address can still be accessed by the person who takes over. When adding ARDA email addresses to your address book, I suggest using **ARDA as the first name and the position as the surname**, rather than the individual's name.

For example: First name: ARDA Surname: President

This will help avoid confusion when someone new takes over a position and prevent emails from continuing to be addressed to their predecessor.

RECORDS OFFICER At the recent AGM, I initially took on the role of Records Officer, as I felt it made sense for this position to sit alongside either the Treasurer's or Secretary's role.

Warwick has the ARDA database set up on his computer, so while we were in Hobart, I copied it onto the Secretary's computer. I am familiar with the Microsoft Access program, but unfortunately, this database has so many bells and whistles that I just couldn't get my head around it!

Following discussions with the Management Committee, it has now been decided that **Warwick Armstrong will take on the role of Records Officer**.

Hopefully, Warwick will be able to set up the Records Officer email address, ARDA.Records@gmail.com, on his computer soon.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS While on the subject of the Records Officer, for those who have read the latest newsletter, please note that your membership renewal forms and invoices will be distributed in early 2027.

I am also looking into setting up a QR code for payments. This is definitely a *work in progress*, but hopefully it will make the renewal process a little easier for everyone!

Due to Incorporation.

Taken from the AGM Minutes 2025.

Moved Bev McLachlan, second Glen Cassar that those members renewing membership, or joining ARDA for the current 2025/2026 membership year, will have their membership extended until 28th February 2027.

CONFERENCE – 2027

I am sure you have read about the 2027 Conference in previous email updates and in our August Newsletter.

I have attached the latest Conference Registration Form, which now includes details about the Wednesday evening dinner.

For those who have already paid their conference registration fees (currently 21 people), if you would also like to attend the dinner on Wednesday evening, please complete the relevant section of the registration form and return it to me.

STATE REPRESENTATIVES

For those who have visited our website recently, you may have noticed that quite a bit of information needs updating. This is an urgent *work in progress*, and hopefully we can get everything brought up to date soon!

You may also have noticed that the website still lists Carol Simondson as the Victorian State Representative. Carol has not held this position for over 12 months. The current Victorian State Representative is **Leanne Cassar**, who can be contacted at leabar29@gmail.com.

The South Australian State Representative is now listed as **Anne Tulloch**, who took on the role in August this year. Anne can be contacted at atulloch3@bigpond.com.

Please update your contact lists accordingly.

Thank you for your patience while we work through the necessary website updates.

STATE REPS – Do you know who your State Rep is?

State	Person	Email address
NSW	HELEN HODALJ	helen_hodalk@yahoo.com
QLD	CHRIS HEYWORTH	caduceus22@hotmail.com
SA	ANNE TULLOCH	atulloch3@bigpond.com
TAS	DIANE ASHTON	dianeanhton444@gmail.com
VIC	LEANNE CASSER	leabar29@gmail.com
WA	MARILYN vanSambeeck	marilyn110453@gmail.com

Do you know who your Management and General committee members are? (unfortunately, email address in the WEBSITE for Vice President Glen is incorrect

<i>President</i>	<i>Chris Heyworth, Qld</i>	arda.president@gmail.com
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Helen Hodalj, NSW</i>	arda.vicepres@gmail.com
<i>Vice President (2)</i>	<i>Glen Cassar, VIC</i>	arda.vicepresident2@gmail.com
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Bev McLachlan Qld</i>	arda.secretary@gmail.com
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Bev McLachlan Qld</i>	arda.treasurer@gmail.com
<i>Education Officer</i>	<i>Warwick Armstrong Qld</i>	arda.education@gmail.com

General Committee Members		
Editor	<i>Carol Simondson Vic</i>	arda.newseditor@gmail.com

Historian	<i>Chris Heyworth Qld</i>	arda.historian@gmail.com
Records Officer	<i>Warwick Armstrong Qld</i>	arda.records@gmail.com
Minute Secretary	<i>Warwick Armstrong Qld</i>	arda.minutes@gmail.com
Face Book Administrator	<i>Anna-Lee Hodalj</i>	anna_h@y7mail.com

Please direct all enquiries through the ARDA Secretary - ARDA.Secretary@gmail.com

Website updates, comments and contributions to Tony McDonald at web@rounddancing.au

SHOWCASE AND INTERMEDIATE NOMINATIONS: State Representatives should or have already called for expressions of interest for dances to be nominated to be presented at the 2027 Australian National Square dance convention as the close off dates for nominations is the 30th November 2026. Your State Reps will be receiving very shortly their nomination form for these dances. They must nominate between 2 or 3 dances.

2027 SHOWCASE & INTERMEDIATE NOMINATIONS

**This is a reminder of the close off date for nominations for both
2027 Showcase Nominations & 2027 Intermediate Nominations
30th NOVEMBER 2026**

ARDA State/Territory Representatives have the responsibility of submitting nominations on behalf of their State or Territory.

If you are involved in this process best to have your input to your representative earlier, rather than later.

Please get your thinking caps on and please look further afield than a Two Step. This rhythm is getting very top heavy as you will have seen by the Survey that was distributed

Recently. The Intermediate needs to be a little more than a higher phase cue and do.

Talking of the Survey that was recently sent to every dancer registered to attend the 67th ANSDC that ticked they would attend round dance sessions have you completed your survey AND cuers who have registered to cue have you completed your survey? Work will commence on the programme for the 67th after the closing date i.e.. 30th November.

I have attached a copy of the Criteria so that you the members are aware of them. If you have a dance that you would like to be submitted let you State Rep know I am sure they would be happy for your assistance.

ROUND DANCE SURVEY: All dancers who have registered to attend the 67th ANSDC in Ballarat should have received a survey asking you to let us know which round you would like to see on the Programme. I realise it's a long survey as the National Dance lists is a long list but hopefully with your responses we may be able to do something with this. Please if you have received the survey take 10 minutes out of your busy day and complete it. It will benefit many.

ROUND DANCE CUERS: An email has been sent to all who have registered to cue at the 67th ANSDC in Ballarat. Please complete this form as it will tell the Round Dance Programmer what you are confident to cue at the National. The results will have an impact. If you don't return the document what will the programmer do – give you dances you are not confident in cueing? This may not reflect well on the cuer. With the timeline in place there is no time to individually contact year cuer.

67th AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL SQUARE DANCE CONVENTION: For those who are going and those who are still thinking about going please get your accommodation as soon as you can. There is a large Marathon held in Ballarat each year and this year because their regular week-end is the ANZAC week-end they have bought it forward to the National Week-end. This is making it difficult to book accommodation and could make it difficult to get to the venue due to road closures.

President's Report taken from the August Newsletter
Hi to everyone - hope you are all well and enjoying your dancing.

The ARDA Conference for next year is well in hand and will feature Randy & Marie Preskitt as our international teachers for the event. A social wind-down dinner is also planned for the Wednesday evening at the same venue as the Conference - more details as they come to hand.

Randy and Marie were in Buderim in 2016 for the Caller-Cuer Conference and stayed for the National Convention. We were fortunate to be provided additional round dance sessions which allowed ARDA to use their teaching skills during these extra sessions.

It is great to see most states hosting round dance weekends, and the main upcoming function is the South Australian choreographers weekend held on October 2-4 - for more details contact SARDA President, Shirley Bates or Les Tulloch.

The new website is currently a work in progress and hopefully it will be up and running soon - it will also have a members' only section as well as public access to some areas.

At our recent management committee meeting, there was some discussion about possibly bringing John and Karen Herr out again in 2028 for the ARDA Conference. John and Karen were here in 2013 to lead the RAL Minilab, a first for Australian round dancing.

Finally, a well done to WA for hosting our Education Officers for two days of teaching immediately prior to their State Convention. All the hard work is certainly having benefits and seeing a resurgence in round dancing in the west.

Cheers
Chris Heyworth
ARDA President.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT.....How do we increase the number of dancers at National Convention round dance sessions? What can be done to keep dancers at the Showcase session. Let Secretary Bev know your thoughts.

Don't forget if your State Body is holding a Round Dance Festival there is a Grant of \$ 250.00 that the Assn can apply for to enable an incentive to be given to financial ARDA members to attend. Contact Secretary Bev for details

Deadline for the final edition of YOUR ARDA Newsletter is 25th November, 2026