

Dear DanceSport Enthusiasts ,

Welcome to 2010 , another year of fantastic Dancing ahead !!

The National Capitol DanceSport Championship continues to grow in strength and popularity . This years event features a fabulous floorshow from Riccardo Cocchi & Yulia “ International Latin American Superstars “. Entries forms ,ticket sales and all relevant information is now available on line at www.ncdccanberra.com.au .

This marks the the 65th Anniversary of the South Pacific DanceSport Championship being staged at The Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre Darling Harbour , October 2nd and 3rd . Please stay tuned for the launch of the 65th SPDC website mid April for all relative information on Syllabus, Ticketing,Accomodation and Advertising opportunities , www.southpacificdancesport.com.au

The FATD Dance Assessment Syllabus has been up dated during 2009 and is now available for review by all registered full members . The syllabus offers more flexibility to teachers to assist the possibility of enhancing the medal test programs within their dance school . On line facilities include Medal Test / Dance Assessment bookings , examples of medal trophies and medallions . Please contact the office for an information pack.

All Festival dates for 2010 are now available on line under the DanceSport events tab . If you would like to be included on the print mail out please forward your information to the FATD office .

The directors of FATD are pleased to inform the Dance community that it will continue its partnership with the National Breast Cancer Foundation of Australia in association with the South Pacific DanceSport Championship. Last years championship was able to donate \$1500 from ticket sales plus the sale of NBCF merchandise over the 2 day event . In 2010 we will be endeavouring to increase that amount.

I would like to highlight some of the achievements during 2009 for the Ballroom Faculty of the FATD ;

- The FATD DanceSport League continued to be successful and consolidate its place within the local festival program of all FATD events in NSW. On average generating an interest of some 40 entries per festival and an increased patronage of 100 people per festival . A big thank you to all the Studio proprietors and Coaches for their valued support of the Dance League Program.
- FATD Colloquium , this was held at the 2009 AGM March of last year .

The guest speaker was [John O'Connell](#) is the internationally acclaimed choreographer of the hit movies STRICTLY BALLROOM (1992), WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE]'S ROMEO and JULIET (1996) and MURIEL'S WEDDING (1994). ENCHANTED(2006) .SHALL WE DANCE (2005) .SCOOBY DOO(2004). ME MYSELF(2003) MOULIN ROUGE (2001) is his third film collaboration with [Baz Luhrmann](#), with whom O'Connell has worked on various projects for over twelve years. He has worked extensively in all areas of theatre, film and [television](#).

O'Connell staged and choreographed Lurmann's production of A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM for the Australian Opera. The production went on to win the Edinburgh Festival Critic's Award, as well as rave reviews in the European press. The rave reviews continued for the international production of SOUTH PACIFIC for Frost Australia. Richard Rodgers's wife, Mary Rodgers, described it as the best production she had ever seen.

O'Connell is also a vibrant performer who wrote, produced, choreographed and starred in his own how-to-dance' show MR. CHA CHA SAYS DANCE.

- FATD Ballroom Faculty extends into Tasmania and South Australia. Andrew Palmer from Tasmania was appointed onto the board of directors under the Ballroom Faculty In October of Last year. Andrew is the proprietor of a successful dance school in Tasmania and brings with him a keen interest in expanding FATD into Tasmania. Rhett English from South Australia was appointed the South Australian Delegate for FATD in October of last year. Rhett is very well known in the Dancesport arena and has been the proprietor of Dance Gallery for 18 years. As a delegate Rhett is assisting in waiving the federal flag in South Australia .
- Launch of the www.southpacificdancesport.com.au website , dealing exclusively with the South Pacific detail.
- The FATD Constitution overhaul continues with Doug Newton undertaking Initial business relating to the Articles of Association and the constitution.

That is all for now , HAPPY DANCING and the directors of the Federal Association of Teachers of Dancing look forward to seeing you at the Autumn Dancesport Festival on the 11th of April .

Craig Wilson