

Greetings to all,

I hope you are all well and that square dancing is up and going again in your area. We've been able to dance the past few weeks and it's been awesome to see everyone and get back to our great activity. Of course one aspect of square dancing that hasn't occurred for quite a while are weekend events and I'm happy to say that is about to change!

I am thrilled to confirm all the details for our first weekend in the post COVID era. This weekend is unique in that rather than holding it on the Mornington Peninsula - we are heading out to country Victoria to the beautiful town of Buchan.

Buchan is a small town in the East Gippsland region of Victoria - around 45 mins from Bairnsdale & Orbost. It's a comfortable 4 to 4 1/2 hour drive from Melbourne & the Mornington Peninsula, less than 5 hours from Canberra and just over 7 hours from Sydney. The town is probably most famous for the Buchan Caves - some of the most stunning caves in Australia. Ranger-led tours of both the Royal & Fairy Caves are run every day. The entire Caves Reserve is a beautiful setting and a great place to relax (perfect setting for a BBQ or a picnic.) There are many superb bush walks within the reserve and the surrounding area. Next door to the hall is the Buchan Caves Hotel - a super place for a meal & a drink. We ate there several times last week and all of the food was excellent.

Traveling a little further from Buchan there is lots more to see and do. Travel an hour north through Gelantipy to the Little River Falls & Little River Gorge (the deepest gorge in Victoria.) Or go a bit further to the famous & historic McKillops Bridge. Or head south and explore the towns of Lakes Entrance, Orbost, Marlo, Metung, Paynesville, Bruthen & Bairnsdale (among many others) - all within an hours drive of Buchan. There is no shortage of things to see and do whilst in the area!

We have put together a format that we feel will work well for a weekend away. There are 3 nights of dancing (Friday, Saturday & Sunday) plus a session of Plus on Saturday afternoon. A full country style supper will be provided Saturday Night whilst refreshments and an array of snacks will be available across all sessions. We decided that as we are having a weekend away in an area with so much to explore, we would leave the days as clear as possible for people to sightsee (or just relax!) and dance in the evenings.

All dancers attending will need to be fully vaccinated for COVID (this is a requirement under both state government rules and conditions of us booking the hall.)

There is a good selection of excellent accommodation in Buchan, but being a small town the amount is quite limited. For those with caravans/motorhomes/other RVs or tents - we strongly recommend the Buchan Caves Reserve campground. This is a beautiful spot - I have attached a selection of photos I took whilst up there last week. When booking - be sure to check the dimensions of the site you are booking (the site sizes vary quite a lot.)

For those looking for other accommodation - excellent rooms are available at the Buchan Motel, Buchan Log Cabins plus a number of full houses in the area (Buchan Cottages & the Caves House at the Buchan Caves Reserve are the main two) plus there is more accommodation on AirBnB. Quite a bit of the accommodation (cottages/houses & some cabins) have multiple bedrooms so are excellent for sharing with your friends. Again - the amount of accommodation is limited so we strongly urge you to book your accommodation immediately if you would like to join us.

Attached you will find

(1) A flyer with all information on

(2) A registration form

(3) A poster with a selection of photos I took of the Buchan Caves Reserve whilst there last week.

We are really looking forward to hosting what should be a superb weekend next March. We would love to have you join us and we hope you'll spread the word around to your friends. And please book your accommodation soon to ensure you don't miss out.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to get in contact.