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LOCAL NEWS

'Mai Bhas' - Konkani permeates WGD-2006

Moorabbin, September 30: It was an electric ambience at the Kingston City Hall in Moorabbin tonight with revelry by Melgoans celebrating 'World Goa Day - 2006'. Few hundred Goans together with their friends had converged to rejoice their 'Mai Bhas' - Konkani - the theme for this year's festivities. And in that spirit, many Goans conversed in their mother tongue and 'Konkani' resounded within the confines of the Kingston Hall.

The evening, which was a professionally managed Dinner-Dance, began dot-on schedule at 7.00pm and the first couple on the floor were rewarded with a surprise prize - many more prizes continued to flow all through the night sponsored by Cinnamon Club, True Spice, D'Nance Hair Saloon - run by a Goan, Nancy D'curz, Maharani Indian Restaurant and Stella's Gift Shop.

forming a Goan cultural dance, better known as the "Kundbi Harvest Dance".



Kundbi dancers performing at World Goa Day function

ering, bringing back memories of their abundant terra firma of Goa in India. This

had many guests in a sombre nostalgia, while others joined in, accompanying the singers and clapping with the music.

Peter Fernandez and Trevayne Fernandez performed some rhythmic Konkani numbers followed by some more English duets, which had the whole house on the floor.

Hudson, representative for the Premier Steve Bracks were among other eminent dignitaries and Parliamentarians present on the evening. Many Goans from Brisbane, Roxy Downs, near Adelaide and even visitors from Dubai and Kuwait joined many Australians-Portuguese guests for a true Goan evening of merriment, gastronomic delights and Goan tango.

The committee of Melgoans were a truly hospitable and untiring bunch looking out for all guests at the evening. They however, profusely thanked the volunteers of the day. Celebrations continued into the wee hours of the morning and guests and their friends congratulated the Melgoans and departed with some happy and nostalgic memories.

"Shan & Venus" based at Moorabbin, Dandenong, Preston and Glen Waverly; retailer of Indian & Sri Lankan spices and groceries were part sponsors of the event.

Mrs Lidia Martins presented a troupe per-

The young performers enthralled the gath-

Mrs. Dympna Beard, and Hon. Mr. Rob

by Shalini Singh