

Footnotes

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Newsletter No 22 - August 1994

Folk Dance Australia Inc.



RECREATIONAL FOLK DANCE TEACHER TRAINING COURSE 2 - 8 JULY 1994.

On Friday, 1st July, folk dance enthusiasts from all over Eastern Australia descended on the Sutherland Shire Folk Dance Group for the third FDA Teacher Training Course.

The ladies of the Sutherland group were marvellous; they billeted us, fed us mountains of food, generally spoilt us and adding insult to injury, were the victims of our attempts at teaching.

During the course we had classes in dance analysis, singing, music, rhythm, Romanotation, dance holds/positions, teaching common dance steps, children's dances and organizing a dance evening.

That was the easy part.

The real challenge came with the international dancing and the Romanian style classes. (Is it my imagination or are the Romanians stamping faster this year?).

On the last night, we had a very pleasant dance evening with the Sutherland ladies, demolishing yet more of their cooking at supper time. (Writing this at home, and watching my hand shake across the page, I realise I'm suffering withdrawal symptoms from Pat's special chocolate cake!).

It was a great week and superbly organized. Highly recommended for any budding teachers. A huge vote of thanks to Andre, Kaye, Christine, Jim, Jacqueline and the Sutherland Shire Folk Dance Group. We had a fantastic time.

Wendy Williamson (ACT)

"We managed to get a hire-car in Goulburn - they said they should be able to get our car fixed by next Saturday - but we had to transfer all the course notes and the tapes and all the other gear as well as our clothes and...".

"I went to Sutherland Primary School and there was no sign of life, then just by a fluke I met this lady down the street who knew about the course and that it was on at Caringbah...".

"The plane was late and then I got this rude taxi driver who didn't have any idea where Caringbah was - he shoved the street directory into my hands...".

"I had to be towed into Campbelltown - the children were with me - my dad had to come and collect us...".

How everyone did manage to get to the first session of the 1994 Recreational Folk Dance Teachers' Course is still a mystery. All that mattered was that somehow all eighteen participants and five teachers did get there. And it was definitely worth the effort!

Our brains worked just as hard as our feet as we attempted to absorb reams of Romanotation, miles of music theory, tons of teaching technique, a swag of student psychoanalysis and of course lots of wonderful new dances.

No, we couldn't take it all in, in one short week which is why our wise and highly organised teachers sent us home with arm loads of tapes and notes. We can remain thoroughly overwhelmed for the next twelve months.

Like everything else at the course the notes were clear, thorough and just exactly what every teacher needs. Solid information plus lots of ideas.

As well as becoming walking (or should I say dancing) encyclopaedias we each had to teach a dance to the Sutherland Recreational Folk Dance Group. This nerve-racking experience was made much less daunting by the ladies' polite attentiveness and good humour. The end product of at least my lesson was a pleasant surprise thanks to the ladies' skill and style. The greatest challenge for me was trying to sing while I not only danced but also taught. According to the very kind and possibly tone-deaf course critics I managed to produce something resembling a tune while giving my lesson - I may yet learn to walk and chew gum at the same time!

We somehow managed to squeeze in some sublime singing (or in my case listening) under Jacqueline's guidance - songs from Africa, Israel and Europe, a cappella singing at its most stirring, unaccompanied save for the hammers, trowels and earth moving machinery in the immediately adjacent building.

I will never cease to be amazed at the repertoire, energy and attention to detail of our four dance teachers - Andre van de Plas, Kaye Laurendet and Jim and Chris Battisson. Every tiny thing had been planned and organised from, dances to name tags. Months of preparation were very evident.

So, feeling physically exhausted but otherwise revitalised I would like to thank all those who helped to make the course so enjoyable and successful, the teachers, the Sutherland ladies and the many other behind the scenes people. Your hard work was very much appreciated.

A tall dancer from Sutherland Shire
Whose brain we all greatly admire
Asked questions astute But left no
student mute

Though persistent she was to enquire.

So remember, for info on dances
Rest assured that your very best chance is
A '94 student

Whose judgement is prudent
On whether one glides or one prances.

Fran Robertson (NSW)

ANDRE VAN DE PLAS AUSTRALIA TOUR

As most members are aware by now Andre is in Australia and has so far conducted workshops in New South Wales, ACT, Tasmania, Victoria and South Australia. Speaking on behalf of the ACT I have to say that Andre has been a great success with excellent attendance at all his workshops which included 2 schools, senior citizens and adults' recreational groups over 4 days. However, like everything else, all good things must come to an end and with **the last weekend of his tour at Bundanoon on 5 August completely booked out**, Andre should leave Australia with some very happy memories of his 10th anniversary tour.

GREEK DANCE WORKSHOP

Margaritas Center of Greek Dance and Greek Folklore invites you to take part in a workshop on Greek dancing "**Greek Dancing for Social Occasions**".

When Sunday, 21st August 1994. 11 am - 1 pm Dance Tuition i- 2 pm Greek Lunch 2- 4 pm Dance Tuition.

Where The Richmond Community Primary School Hall, Cnr. Kent & Davidson Sts. Richmond. Entrance to hall in Kent Street. Adequate parking in streets close to the hall.

Tutor Margarita-Gwyneth Jones, Director of Margaritas Center of Greek Dance and Greek Folklore. Margarita is also a dancer, teacher, performer and researcher with the International Organization of Folk Art, UNESCO. Margarita is very well known for her twenty years work as a professional dancer and teacher in the Greek and in all sections of the Australian Community. During the workshop, dances that the Greek people dance when they meet together for social occasions will be taught and revised. The workshop will also include national, popular and some of the traditional dances from the various regions of Greece. Everyone is welcome to enrol in the workshop. Experience in Greek dance is not necessary.

Please bring a plate of Greek type food that can be shared by all during the lunch break. One of the important aspects of the workshop is to share a lunch together and to get to know one another. Tea and coffee will be available. Soft drinks can be purchased at shop prices. Early bird prices and concession prices are available. For further information telephone Margarita (03) 583 1173 (day & evening). An answering service is available.

AUSTRALIAN FOLKLORIC DANCE COMPANY

The Australian Folkloric Dance Company was formed with the aim of preserving, presenting and promoting the folk culture of Australia's diverse multicultural society through the medium of dance.

The Company presents an exciting, energetic and entertaining program highlighting a wide variety of folk dances from different cultures around the world. Throughout the performance you will be able to experience the diversity of the dance - moving from the gentle soothing sounds and dance of the Philippines to the boot clapping and rhythmic stamping of the Hungarian dances, to the toe tapping and swirling of American clogging, to the haunting and beautiful music and dance of Israel - to name but a few. The performance 'travels' through a world rich in colour, rhythm and energy portrayed by its dances and music.

The Company's Artistic Director, **Dianna Laska-Moore**, is one of Australia's finest folk and character dance teachers. Her expertise comes from a performance career which began in Sydney with Dance Concert and continued in Europe with the Folkloric Dance Company based in Amsterdam. Dianna leads a company featuring twelve leading folkloric dancers on a first ever tour of Queensland.

The tour is being presented by the Queensland Arts Council in association with the Queensland Performing Arts Trust.

Sponsors for the tour are 'Arts Queensland', The Australia Council and the Rothmans Foundation.

Bookings

Contact local booking office, watch local press, contact performance venue.

Prices very reasonable.

Tour Dates

October

| | |
|--------|---|
| Sat 1 | Redcliffe Entertainment Centre (Premiere) 8 pm. |
| Mon 3 | Warwick Town Hall |
| Tue 4 | Toowoomba Centenary Heights Community Hall |
| Wed 5 | Miles Civic Centre |
| Thu 6 | Dalby Great Hall |
| Fri 7 | Gympie Civic Centre |
| Sat 8 | Hervey Bay Great Hall |
| Sun 9 | Free |
| Mon 10 | Monto Shire Hall |
| Tue 11 | Biloela Civic Centre |
| Wed 12 | Emerald Town Hall |
| Thu 13 | Moranbah Community Centre |
| Fri 14 | Mackay Entertainment Centre |
| Sat 15 | Prosperpine Cultural Centre |
| Sun 16 | Free |
| Mon 17 | Ayr Burdekin Theatre |
| Tue 18 | Townsville Civic Centre |
| Wed 19 | Innisfail Conservatorium Theatre |
| Thu 20 | Atherton Merrilands Hall |
| Fri 21 | Douglas Clink Theatre |
| Sat 22 | Cairns Civic Centre |
| Sun 23 | Return to Brisbane |

November

Monday 14th to Friday 18th. Cremorne Theatre, Queensland Performing Arts Centre. Evening and Matinee performance.

A Night of Stunning Dance - A Performance not to be Missed

We ask all members of FDA to advise friends, relatives, etc. who live in Queensland near any of the venues to go along and see this wonderful professional company. The success of the tour will depend on bookings and the response of the audience, so go along and show that 'we in the folk dance world' want this company to not only continue, but to also conduct tours to all states of Australia not just Queensland. The existence of a company such as this is long overdue in our diverse multicultural society. The premiere performance on October 1st at Redcliffe Entertainment Centre and the performances in the Queensland Performing Arts Centre, Brisbane, from 14th to 18th November should not be missed. Why not make up a bus-load and have a great night out enjoying the music and dance we all love and at the same time giving support to this wonderful hard working company.

BIANCA DE JONG, INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE TEACHER FROM HOLLAND

As mentioned in the June newsletter, Bianca will be visiting Australia in November. Bianca teaches international dances and specializes in Bulgarian and Turkish. She is highly recommended by Andre van de Plas and Yves Moreau.

For information contact
Kaye Laurendet (02) 528 4813.

FOLK DANCE CLASSES IN THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

Members will be pleased to see in "What's On Where" that we now have a new member who is conducting folk dance classes in Darwin. Thanks Sue for joining FDA and letting us know about your classes. I'm sure anyone heading up that way will give you a call.

Christine

MID YEAR PARTY -17 June 1994

Once again Jim and Christine excelled in organising the above event. There is a lot of hard work behind the scenes involved to make these evenings a success with the program to be planned, timed to the minute and printed.

Thanks must also go to their daughter Alison who volunteered 'canteen' duty.

The weather was bitterly cold that night, but in spite of this, I believe approximately 90 people attended, including twenty from Woden Seniors Club - inclement weather never deterred our seniors when bent on a night of enjoyment. The displays were marvellous - just proves what can be done with a bit of professional tuition! It was wonderful to see so many wearing international costumes too. One disappointment was that Jim and Christine did not perform for us. May we look forward to seeing them dance together at the next party.

As usual, the supper was a banquet! What generous people folk dancers are. Such a variety of goodies. This, plus the friendly atmosphere certainly made a great night.

Many thanks to the Batissons.

It's that "Gran" again.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Perhaps people hear of the Recreational Folk Dance Teacher Training Course then wonder who does what with it when they graduate. I thought perhaps people may be interested in the work of "Dance Deli" made up of Margaret Connor and Kaye Laurendet, two graduates of the first Teacher Training Course in Sydney. Margaret, an occupational therapist, who has worked with a variety of "client groups" since the 1970's e.g. children, elderly, the psychiatric or developmentally delayed, always intended to use her new folk dance skills in the community. She has regularly run a group for 50's - 80's age group in the Earlwood area of Sydney since 1989 and worked at the other end of the age range in infants and primary schools, both with the children and running workshops for teachers.

Together with Kaye Laurendet, an experienced "teacher extraordinaire" of folk dance to various age groups, they have combined their skills to run workshops for gentle exercise leaders to incorporate easy folk dances into their exercise routines to add variety and challenge. They have also developed their expertise in the area of modifying folk dances to easy "sit dances" for the more frail aged nursing home/hostel client. (Margaret regularly works part-time in an Aged Care Assessment Team in Community Health and has skills in dealing with this client group).

Diversional Therapists have been interested to learn from them and resource materials have been developed by Kaye and Margaret for this purpose.

"Dance Deli" has also developed teaching materials for primary and secondary school teacher use, an area in which Kaye and Margaret also work.

These materials are only available through a workshop situation. Any enquiries about their activities can be directed to Margaret on (048) 612294 and Kaye (02) 528 4813.

Margaret Connor (NSW)

Dear Chris,
I'm now in New Zealand and wonder if you can forward membership details to me here. I'm starting an International Dance Group here in Hamilton so would like to keep abreast of workshops [etc. in](#) Australia.

Regards,

Mary Pendrey

Fiona Murdoch (NZ)

Dear Jim & Chris,

The Mandala Folkdancers have received a grant from the Australian Folk Trust for a weekend workshop in Greek dance with Margarita-Gwyneth Jones.

For the past twenty years Margarita has been involved in the field of Greek Traditional dance, music, costume and folklore as a dancer, teacher, choreographer and administrator. A resident of Melbourne, she works closely with local, interstate and overseas Greek dance teachers and has on many occasions visited Greece in order to widen her knowledge, skill and expertise in her field.

In 1981 Margarita founded "Margarita's Greek Folkloric Dancers" and has been the director, tutor and choreographer of this group since then. Her group is highly acclaimed for its polished, dynamic and vibrant performances which portray the spirit, emotions, patriotism and spontaneity of the Greek people.

The Mandala Folkdancers are looking forward to learning new dances and improving their **Greek dance** style at Margarita's **workshop** which will be held **in Yandina on the 10th and 11th of September** and will include videos and a talk about Greek dance.

Danni Mackenzie (QLD)

RESOURCES FOR SALE BY FDA

International Folk Dances for Adults by Andre Van de Plas

Book & cassette

1989, 90, 91, 92, 93 & 1994 tours. \$30 each.

Videos

1989, 90, 91, 92, 93 & 1994 tours. \$35 each.

International Folk Dances for Children by Andre Van de Plas

Book & cassette

1986, 89, 91 & 1994 tours. \$30 each.

Balkan & International Folk Dances by Yves Moreau

Book & cassette 1993 tour. \$30.

Ajde Na Horo - 20 Bulgarian Folk Dance Favorites

Recorded in Bulgaria under the supervision of Jaap Leegwater and Yves Moreau

Book & cassette \$30.

The above prices include postage and are available from the treasurer: Kaye Laurendet. 127 Woronora Crescent, Como West, NSW 2226 Ph (02) 528 4813.

8th INTERNATIONAL EISTEDDFOD OF SOUTH AFRICA

29 September - 7 October 1995, City of Roodepoort.

Full details can be obtained from The Secretariat, Eisteddfod '95, PO Box 738, Roodepoort 1725, Republic of South Africa.

HOVERGAKAN (Armenia)

One of Andre's dances included in his 1994 adults' programme is the Armenian dance below. Here is a translation of the words kindly provided by one of our members, Thea den Hollander from Canberra.

Dearest mountain Gragaz,
tell me where my lover is,
my eyes are tearful,
my heart is standing still and sad. Beautiful
birds of the mountain Mantasch when my
lover arrives warn me, so my heart can be
happy.

Come dearest and sing
with the tunes of my heart, look, I
have befriended the mountain. A
mountain without spring, a lover without
love is nothing. Through love a rose
can flower
through the snow of the mountains.

My brother is harvesting,
I take my sandwiches and
do not disturb him. Today
is not the day for love, better
wait till Sunday.

Day and night I sing about you,
you are my morning dream. My
heart burns like a candle, don't
just let my love disappear.

Good-bye dear boy,
take your sheep with you
to the mountains.

Let's keep our love till after spring. Only in
autumn can you propose. My dearest while
you walk over the mountains I shall wait
impatiently for you. My heart burns like a
candle. Wherever you go,
I shall follow you like the breeze.

WHAT'S ON WHERE

International Folk Dancing

A.C.T. (Canberra)

Tuesday 10 - 11.30 am. Corroboree Park Hall, Paterson Street, Ainslie. Contact Christine (06) 241 3563.

8 - 9.30 pm. Uniting Church Hall behind the Erindale Centre, Wanniasa. Contact Audrey (06) 231 5896

Wednesday 1 - 2.30 pm. Humpy Hall, Frewin Place, Scullin.

Contact Christine (06) 241 3563.

7.45 pm Canberra International Folk Dancing Association. Hughes Community Centre. Contact Carol (06) 251 3096 or Margaret (06) 281 3150.

Thursday 12.30 - 2.00 pm. Woden Senior Citizens, Corinna Street, (opp. Woden Library), Woden. Dances suitable for seniors 50 years plus. Contact Christine (06) 241 3563.

7.30 - 9.30 pm. Corroboree Park Hall, Paterson St. Ainslie.

Contact Christine (06) 241 3563.

NEW SOUTH WALES (Sydney)

Monday 10 - 12 noon. During school term. Earlwood Senior Citizens Centre, 362 Homer St. Earlwood.

Enquiries Margaret (048) 612294, Kath (02) 558 5315 or Gwynne (02) 558 4753.

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday

After school classes for children 6 - 18 years. Collaroy Plateau Youth & Community Club. Cost \$24.00 per school term. Contact Carol Maddocks (02) 905 1563.

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

Sutherland Shire Folk Dance Group. Contact Kaye Laurendet (02) 528 4813.

Wednesday 7 - 8.15 pm. Adult classes. Collaroy Plateau Youth & Community Club, Blandford St. Collaroy Plateau. Cost \$3.00. Contact Carol Maddocks (02) 905 1563.

Thursday 7.30 - 9 pm. Nepean Folk Dance Group, 59 Brook Road, Glenbrook. Contact Pat (047) 39 1005 or Maureen (047) **36 6469**.

Friday 8 - 11 pm. Sedenka International Folkdance Group, Village Church Hall, Cnr. Newcombe & Oxford Sts. Paddington. Contact Chris (02) 560 2910.

Saturday (am) Children's classes 6 - 18 years. Pennant Hills Community Centre, Yarrara Rd. Pennant Hills (opp. railway station). Contact Carol Maddocks (02) 905 1563.

(Blue Mountains - Katoomba/Leura)

Monday 7- 8.15 pm. Beginners at Uniting Church Hall, Katoomba.

Tuesday 6 - 7.30 pm. The lounge room group. Cosy, relaxed dancing in Dianna's lounge room, Leura.

Saturday (2nd) 12 - 2 pm. The 'Kill Yourself Once a Fortnight Group' (The Horas). Fast, difficult & performance dances. Uniting Church Hall, Katoomba.

For above contact Bronwyn (047) 57 2316.

(Bowral)

Thursday 10 - 12 noon. Southern Highlands Recreational International Folk Dance Group. Presbyterian Hall, Bendooley St. Bowral. Contact Margaret Connor (048) 612294

3.15 - 4 pm. K - 2. -

4 - 4.30 pm 3 - 6 grade. Bowral Primary School (children's' classes) Contact Margaret Connor (048) 612294.

NORTHERN TERRITORY (Darwin)

Monday 7 - 8 pm. Beginners' Israeli Dance. 8 - 9.30 pm. Beginners' to Advanced International Dance.

The Dance Co-op, Moil Primary School (GP Room) Moil. Contact Anna (089) 843394 or Sue (089) 851827.

QUEENSLAND (Brisbane)

Friday (2nd & 4th of month) 8.00 pm. Brisinta International folk dancing, Holy Trinity Hall, 70 Hawthorne St. Wooloongabba. \$4. Contact Lyn 379 3603 or Kathy 355 0083.

(Cooroy, Mapleton, Nambour, Tewantin)

Monday 9.30 - 11.30 am. Beginners! intermediate Lutheran Hall, Sydney St. Nambour.

Tuesday 9.30 - 11 am. Beginners at the Uniting Church Hall, 49 Maple St. Cooroy.

Thursday 12 - 2 pm. Advanced at the Lutheran Hall, Sydney Street, Nambour.

QUEENSLAND continued

(Cooroy, Mapleton, Nambour, Tewantin)

Friday 9.30 am. Mapleton Hall, Obi Obi Road, Mapleton.

9.30 am. Tewantin, St. Mary's Hall, Tewantin.

For above contact Danni (074) 42 8821, Jean (074) 41 2315 or Delicia (074) 41 4000.

VICTORIA (Melbourne)

7 days a week Classes for all levels at Sheffi's School of Israeli Dance "Habonim" hall, cnr Gordon & Sinclair Sts. Elsternwick. Contact Sheffi (03) 699 6343 or Helen (03) 509 7083.

Monday 7.30 pm. Greek Traditional Dancing with Margarita and Stefanos Antoniou at 7 Hartington St. Northcote. Ph. (03) 583 1173

Tuesday 8.00 pm. International Dance Workshop, St Michael's Hall, Cnr MacPherson & Mcllwraith Sts. N. Carlton.

Contact Audrey Shoobridge (03) 878 0887.

7.30 - 10pm. Greek traditional, popular, national & folkloric dancing at Margaritas Center of Greek Dance & Folklore, Richmond Community Primary School, Cnr Davidson « Kent Sts Richmond. Classes for beg/inter/advan or private lessons. Also available for teaching intellectually, sensory & physically disabled (03) 583 1173 (all hours).

Wednesday 8 to 10 pm (school term). St Kilda International Dance School, St Margarets Hall, Hotham St & Denman Ave, East St Kilda, \$40/10 week term.

Contact Marie Feigl (03) 531 1284.

6 - 10 pm. Greek dance. Pine Street Hall, Pine St. Cheltenham.

Contact Margarita (03) 583 1173.

Thursday 7.45 - 9 pm during school term. Adult classes. Thomas St. Hampton. Wide range of dance styles taught & danced in small friendly class. Contact Kim Dunphy (03) 555 4813.

Friday 7.30 - 10.30 pm 2nd, 4th & 5th of each month. Eltham International Dancing, St Margaret's Church Hall, Putt St. Eltham. \$4 or \$20 for 8 week term.

Contact Ina Bertrand (03) 439 9991.

Sunday 2 - 4.30 pm. Margaritas Center of Greek Dance. (See above Tuesday).

WESTERN AUSTRALIA (Perth)

Monday Perth International Folk Dance Group, 7.30 teaching 8.30 dancing. Wembley Scout Hall, Jersey St. Contact John Whaite (09) 444 4736.

FDA CONTACTS

President: Valerie Wojtulewicz (02) 953 3873 110 Young Street, Cremorne, NSW, 2090.

Secretary: Carol Crees (02) 949 2513 2/12 George Street, Manly, NSW, 2095.

Treasurer: Kaye Laurendet (02) 528 4813 127 Woronora Crescent Como West NSW 2226.

Footnotes editor: Jim Battisson (06) 241 3563 14 Nambucca Street Kaleen ACT 2617

RESOURCE AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON DANCES

If you have any questions about dances we suggest that you write to the Editor and we'll attempt to obtain the information required from our various members' resource libraries and publish it in "Footnotes".

ADVERTISING IN FOOTNOTES

Full page \$40.00 20% discount for members. Other sizes are available on a pro rata basis. Anyone wishing to advertise in Footnotes please contact the editor.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE Please send articles for the October newsletter to Jim Battisson, 14 Nambucca St., Kaleen, ACT, 2617, by 15 September 1994.

This Newsletter has a voracious appetite for articles that relate to folk dance.

This edition although it fits comfortably into 7 pages as printed, with plenty of white space to lighten up the text, required 13 pages of single spaced typewriter text to fill it.

There is an article on copyright being developed (I hope). If further articles (on any subject) are not forthcoming I shall have to resort to more Romanotation or have issues with just 4 pages. Please consider writing an article, or some local news. If sufficient lead time is allowed I can assist with editing the article if that helps.

Jim Battisson (Editor)