

SUTHERLAND SHIRE FOLK DANCE GROUP GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

Our 50-year celebration at Club on East, Sutherland on Sunday 15 June was a wonderful gathering of about 60



current and former members, some of whom had travelled long distances by plane and car to attend. It's hard to believe that 50 years ago, Sutherland Shire Folk Dance Group commenced with classes at Caringbah High School. Basil and Iris Butler and Kaye and Bert



Laurendet were the driving force behind its establishment, and 50 years later, Kaye is still teaching the group at Como and Gymea each week.

Pre- and post-lunch dancing included some of our favourites – Florence, Trip the Light, Fado, Lathos and my personal favourite, Cumbia Reggaeton. Kaye had ambitiously prepared a list of 35 dances – we got through a little over half of these and the dance floor was always full. The Wednesday 11 am class also



performed a Greek dance Ta Dalina (with minimal rehearsal by some of us!)

Club on East was an excellent choice of venue. The two-course lunch was very generous and of top restaurant quality (especially the salt and pepper squid and barramundi), and I saw many take containers home with delicious leftovers. We were also treated to some homemade cakes for dessert, lovingly prepared by Debbie and Maria.



Special thanks go to Corralynn and her helpers for organising such a successful event. We were all encouraged to wear something gold to celebrate in



style. Every detail was carefully and thoughtfully planned – from the golden name tags, beautiful table decorations, banner and presentations.



We each received a booklet with the history of the group, prepared by Corralynn. For relative newcomers like myself, it was wonderful to read about the group's history and ups and downs over the years.

Congratulations all for our Golden Anniversary. Let's hope SSFDG is still going strong for another 50 years!

Jenny Stauber