

Footnotes



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Folk Dance Australia

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OBJECTIVES:

- to promote an understanding and mutual respect for all ethnic groups living in Australia;
- to help promote folk dance in Australia;
- to encourage and develop the skills of folk dance teachers, by providing courses and workshops;
- to serve as a folk dance information network.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

I was given cause recently to muse on the merits of folk dancing over other forms of dance (eg, American line dancing). I was asked why I was so passionate about folk dancing in particular. Seems to me, apart from the intriguing variety of music, rhythms and steps, that it could be the sense of geography, history and culture that goes with each dance.

For example, if a dance has originated from an area of valleys or plains, the steps are likely to be heavier and closer to the earth, the circle or "open" circle will be dominant, dancers will be many and will keep closer together. By contrast, a dance from more mountainous regions, where the ground is harder and more confined, is likely to involve leaps, the steps will be higher and lighter, and involve fewer people. Also, where the dance was performed has had an impact - when dances moved from the village green into buildings, the longways set and quadrille developed to reflect the limitations of the space.

The influence of history has been crucial – whichever culture was dominant has left traces in the music, steps and costumes of dances. It is likely that history holds the key to why most of the western European dances move clockwise and /or begin with the left foot (certainly for males), when most dances further east move counter clockwise and begin with the right. (Croatia and Serbia have dances whose names translate as "Let's move to the left" - obviously the exception to the rule). Could this be tied to the areas of control of either the Roman or Byzantine Empires?

It is easy to understand that adjoining cultures will exhibit some of each others' features in dances, or, as in the case of Israel, migration from other countries (eg, *Hora fun Moldova*). But why do some Turkish dances use "pinky" hold – which also seen in dances from Brittany on the western coast of Europe? Is there a link – perhaps with Celtic migrations?

Folk dances can reflect seasons (*Garoon*, garoon = "Spring"), cultural events (eg, weddings, feast days), occupations (carpet weaving, harvesting, horse riding), gender, fertility rites, rhythms of the language, historical events, etc.

What other form of dance is so intriguing and rich?

Hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and New Year.

In the meantime, happy dancing.



Maureen Petherick

**** PLEASE NOTE: The views expressed in this magazine are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of FDA. Events publicised in this magazine are not necessarily sponsored by FDA ****

Closing Date for the next Footnotes issue: Please send articles for the **February 2010** issue to: The Editor, Footnotes, 25 Hesper Drive, Doonan, 4562 or email dannilyn@hotmail.com by **16 January 2010**

MANDALA FOLK DANCERS 2009

The Mandalas have had a busy year. Like most groups, we have coped with fluctuating numbers as illness, travel, and family concerns have intervened. We have welcomed a few new dancers as well throughout the year, but attendance figures are always a concern.

Mandalas have visited the Philippines, Hong Kong, Singapore, Holland, England USA and Canada this year.

Our performance load has been very heavy this year, and with only seven performers, we may have to review our commitments in 2010. We are regulars at quite a lot of nursing homes around the coast. One of our favourite events is our annual performance and join-in dancing with Crossroads, a social organisation for the intellectually disabled. Difficult to say whether the dancers or the audience enjoy the evening more! Craft in the Chapel, a Cancer Fund fundraiser, is also an annual event with us. We are regulars at the Caboolture Multicultural Festival. This year we performed a Turkish/Armenian/Albanian bracket with a new costume, as a change from our usual Balkan offerings.

In October, we held our annual dance afternoon. The keenest of us then rushed from that, straight to Brisbane, where we enjoyed the BAMEDAM fundraising Balkan Dance Party, led by Yorgo Kaporis. Yorgo has a huge fan club in Queensland, so the evening was well attended. As well as dancing to live music of Transbalkan Express, we enjoyed performance by Reni (Bulgarian singer), Corey Dale (gaida) and the Bulgarian dance group, Horo. Although only a recent addition to the Brisbane Balkan music and dance community, they are already a slick, well rehearsed group. The next day, we returned to Brisbane for Yorgo's dance workshop (see separate article), which was wonderful.

We have attended other events throughout the year - Noosa group's dance afternoon, Anita's Balkan parties in Brisbane, Silk and Saris day (a fundraising day of Indian music, dance and sari fashion parades), World Refugee Day Festival in Brisbane, Paniyiri, Abbey Medieval Festival, dance afternoons with the Playford, Irish and English country dancers, Roma Street Multicultural Festival in Brisbane, Doch's last performance. Some of us dance with the Greek Association dancers and performed at a local cultural day, and some of us went on the annual pilgrimage to Bowral for Andre's workshops.

We were saddened earlier in the year with the loss of Gary Pascoe, who danced with Brisinta, and many other dance groups in Brisbane. Gary always had a big smile, was full of jokes, and had his own little versions and names of dances. Those of us who attend the Irish, Contra, Playford, etc, dances in Brisbane always found Gary welcoming and generous, and he is very much missed within the dance community.

The Mandalas have a break over Christmas/New Year, which gives us free time to enjoy the Woodford Folk Festival, and we are back dancing at the beginning of February.

Lorraine Moore

If you are interested in FDA providing a link from our website to yours, please email your details to our website administrator.

TOURING NORTHERN GREECE & SOUTH ALBANIA

Parallels in Dancing Traditions

Kyriakos Moysidis' 10th Anniversary Seminar of Greek dance was a very special one. He announced a 15 day cultural tour of Western and Central Macedonia, based on the towns of Edessa, Siatista and Veroia and extending into surrounding villages that are well recognized bastions of Greek folk culture and traditions, which would include those close to Aridaia, Gianitsa, Florina, Kozani, Grevena, Pieria and Rumluki. We would dance with local groups as well as Pontian and Thracian refugees in their villages. We would also meet Epirotes who transplanted themselves on to neighbouring Macedonian territory. It sounded amazing; not in my wildest dream would I expect to visit the very heart of Macedonian traditions and certainly not all in one go.

The tour proved to be beyond our expectations. Kyriakos had liaised with numerous local authorities who mobilised each village to organise our welcome, which included local dancing groups, singing, costume displays, food prepared by local women, visits to museums and more. The schedule was hectic. Two dance classes a day by local teachers, visit to museums and places of interest in the afternoon, dancing to local bands with the villagers, savouring their traditional food and excellent hospitality. A double-decker bus would cart around our group, all 64 of us, from various parts of the globe, and take us in the small hours to our accommodation. A traditional wedding was enacted for us with such fidelity that we could convince ourselves that we were experiencing the real thing. We joined the crowds of relatives and friends dancing all the way to the wedding "reception" to the sound of the live band. The same band would escort us to our bus at well past



The custom of dressing and cheering the young bride; local traditional wedding enactment at the village of Ai Yiorgis. Photo Kate Goodwin.

one in the morning and the "glenti" would continue inside the bus all the way home. What a treat! That was in the village of Ai Yiorgis, Grevena. At Rumluki, Veroia, we were enthralled to watch the arranging of the famous local headdress and the very idiosyncratic dancing of women whose traditions go back to Alexander the Great. We revisited the Museum of Vergina which has been renovated and has become truly spectacular.

And so it went on.

The tour finished at Amouliani, the little island located off the coast of Mount Athos Peninsula. Our group "Maenads" danced there with Kyriakos in 2007 prior to our performance at Dora Stratou theatre. * Neil and I had decided to enter Macedonia from the North, so we flew to Tirana, capital of Albania, from Munich.

There we hired a car and drove to the beautiful Ohrid and Prespa lakes bordering the 3 countries Albania, Slav Macedonia and Greece. We entered Greek Macedonia from Bitola, known to folk dancers from the synonymous dance. After Kyriakos's tour, we drove from Amouliani to Korça in south-east Albania.

Concentrating on the south, we visited Tepelena Gjirokastra, Saranta, Himara and worked our way back to Tirana to fly home

All these places are known to me by their Greek names, Korytsa, Tepeleni, Argyrokastro, Agii Saranta, Heimára.

Southern Albania was in its historical past known as Northern Epiros and the whole of Epiros was administratively under the semi-autonomous rule of the very colourful Ali Pasha, born in Tepeleni late in the 18th century. He was based in Ioannina, the then and still capital of Epiros. Ali Pasha appears in a number of Greek folk songs, the most well-known telling his affair with a Greek, Christian woman called Kyra Frosyni who, for her sins, was sentenced to die by drowning in the lake of Ioannina!



Albanian Folk Costumes displayed at the ethnological museum at Gjirokastra. Note the similarity, particularly of the male costume to the Greek male costume of the Evzon variety. Photo Neil Goodwin.

Albania has its roots in the Illyrian tribe which inhabited that area, as mentioned by Homer in his *Odyssey*. The Illyrians were conquered by Philip II (father of Alexander the Great) and annexed to the Macedon Kingdom. Since then Albania has known innumerable transformations to finally acquire its present form.

Fortunately we could communicate with the locals as many of them could still speak Greek. Besides the language, folk dances and traditions are akin to those in Greek Epiros. Interestingly, we found an entire TV channel totally dedicated to broadcasting Albanian folk dance and 2 more channels with regular folk dancing programmes. It was exciting for me to watch these. At times I would not know which side of the border the dance belonged, dancing mannerisms and styles, etiquette, traditional costumes, also showing great similarities. Trends, however, have taken different paths. The commercial tourist oriented Greek folkdance follows the Taverna and Zorba Cult. In Albania I was amused to see the trend of doing cabaret displays with special adaptation of the traditional costumes and having singers of either sex dressed up in glittering clothes, singing traditional – often peasant songs!

Kate Goodwin

*Anapali 2007: A Dream Realized. Footnotes, issue 101 Oct. 2007, page 11.

DANCE AND THE BRAIN

This article was planned for the last issue of Footnotes but postponed when I received Maureen's President's Report also about the brain.

For those of you who like to dance you'll be pleased to know that dancing has definite benefits for the brain. We know that dance does more than build muscles and help prevent heart disease but there is new evidence that it also boosts brainpower and offers hopes in the battle against Alzheimer's.

Research shows those who maintain the fittest bodies have the fittest brains and are more resistance to disease, especially autoimmune diseases.

Dance helps increase the temporal and prefrontal activity to improve memory, multi-tasking, planning and attention skills. Dance helps the older brain to form new interconnections and work faster. The benefits go beyond the physical aspects because we feel better about ourselves. As a social activity it helps to stave off symptoms of Alzheimer's, ADHD and other cognitive disorders and mood disorders like anxiety and depression.

Any motor skill more complicated than walking has to be learned and thus challenges the brain. With repetition you're creating thicker myelin around the nerve fibres which improves the quality and speed of the signals and the circuit's efficiency.

However just doing the same dances you learned years ago won't help your motor cortex stay in shape. To keep the mind alive requires learning something truly new with intense focus. That is what will allow you to lay down new memories and have a system that can easily access and preserve the older ones.

Dancing integrates several brain functions at once, increasing connectivity. Dancing simultaneously

involves kinaesthetic, rational, musical and emotional processes. A cognitively rich physical activity such as learning new dances may help ward off balance problems, with the added social benefit of preserving brain health.

Studies of dancers show that moving to an irregular rhythm versus a regular one improves brain plasticity. So those tricky Balkan dances with insane rhythms may be difficult to learn but are helping you make new brain connections. The more complex the movements the more complex the synaptic connections. Even though these circuits are created through movement, they can be recruited by other areas and used for thinking.

With a partner dance, such as the tango, the fact that you have to react to another person puts further demands on your attention, judgment and precision of movement, increasing the complexity of the situation. Women need to make quick decisions to interpret their partner's moves so they can follow. Dancing with different partners makes this even more challenging as there are more variables so the chances are you'll stay smart longer. Men need to watch their partner and adapt their dance moves to what their partner likes. Try new moves (and new partners), you will have more fun and your brain will benefit. When you consider the enjoyment and social aspect of dancing you're activating the brain and the muscles all the way down through the system.

As we age we rarely engage in tasks in which we must focus our attention as closely as we did when we were younger - trying to learn a new vocabulary or master new skills. Such activities as reading and speaking in our own language are mostly the replay of mastered skills – not learning. By the time we reach our 70's we may not have engaged the systems in the brain that regulate plasticity for fifty years. Our brain constantly rewires its neural pathways as needed. If it doesn't need to, then it won't.

Anything that requires highly focussed attention will help that system – learning new physical activities that require concentration, solving challenging puzzles, learning a musical instrument or a foreign language.

When learning a new activity don't worry about the probability that you'll never use it in the future. Take a class to challenge your mind. It will stimulate the connectivity of your brain by generating the need for new pathways. Difficult and even frustrating classes are better for you, as they will create a greater need for new neural pathways.

Physical exercise creates new neurons. In order to keep the brain fit we must learn something new rather than simply replaying already mastered skills. Learning how to use new "toys" doesn't make new neurons but it does cause the new neurons in the area to live longer. Physical exercise and learning work in complementary ways – the first to make new stem cells the second to prolong their survival.

Danni Mackenzie

Ref: *The Brain That Changes Itself*, Norman Doidge, Viking 2007. *Spark, the Revolutionary Science of Exercise and the Brain*, John J Ratey - Little, Brown & Co, 2008. (I can highly recommend both books)

<http://socialdance.stanford.edu/syllabi/smarter.htm>

Richard Powers, instructor at Stanford University's Dance Division

MACEDONIAN DANCE W'SHOP

The Mandalas had settled on the 3rd October for our annual spring dance afternoon. However, when I contacted Malindi Morris to advise her of the date, I found the evening of the same date had been selected for the BAMEDAM Balkan fundraiser dance evening. Furthermore, they were hoping to entice Yorgo Kaporis up to lead the evening, and to conduct a workshop of Macedonian dances and wedding customs. However Malindi offered to run the workshop on the Sunday so that we would not miss it. A nanosecond of consideration - could I run the dance afternoon at the Sunshine Coast till 4.30pm, drive to Brisbane for the 7pm start of the dance evening, drive home, and drive back to Brisbane the following morning for the workshop? But, of course! All made a bit easier when the workshop was later changed to Sunday afternoon.

Although a smaller roll-up than some years, our dance afternoon went well. Lots of easy dances, a great afternoon tea, and the chance to catch up with some people we don't often see. A mad rush home to shower, and eat, and then, on the road to Brisbane. The evening was worth the trip. Yorgo taught and led the dancing in his usual breezy and entertaining manner, accompanied by Transbalkan Express. We were entertained by a performance from Horo, a Bulgarian dance troupe, based in Brisbane, and Reni Bojilov singing Bulgarian songs, accompanied by Corey Dale on gaida.



Horo Bulgarian Dance Troupe

The next afternoon, we were back in the same hall for the workshop on Macedonian men and women's wedding dances and customs. This workshop was a precursor to the mock Macedonian wedding to be conducted at the BAMEDAM camp at the end of October. In preparation for this, several people (myself included) had attended a workshop at Malindi's house a couple of weeks previously, to make opinci.

I thoroughly enjoyed Yorgo's workshop. Yorgo adds so many layers to a dance by explaining the meanings of dance names, translating lyrics, and the stories behind some steps or arm movements. Some dances come from the area where his mother was born, which gives a context to the dance. He demonstrates possible step variations, or levels of difficulty, can often demonstrate subtle differences in the same dance between different villages, sings while he dances, and radiates an infectious enthusiasm.

Some of the dances we learnt were *Za Ramo*, *Nevestinsko*, *Teskoto*, *Pusteno*, *Pembe*, *Rajko*, *Svekrvino*, and *Elena Mome*. There were others, but my memory

fails me! Yorgo taught the men some very tricky and impressive moves in *Teskoto*. We women were very impressed to see them all balance on one leg with the other foot crossed over the knee of the balancing leg, while they slowly squatted and held the pose (while we demurely danced in the women's line.) However, Yorgo made them do it again, saying that the women had made better men, and exhorting Nick, the groom-to-be, to try harder to impress his bride, or she may just look at someone else through the wedding ring.



We danced with Maddy, the bride, in *Nevestinsko*, as she wore her 70 kilos of costume (Yorgo said that this publicly displayed her ability to bear the heavy burdens that married life would impose upon her). We respected the mother-in-law in *Svekrvino* (while secretly waiting for her to leave the celebration), and learned how to hold our

hands to keep our skirts from flying up as we turned. We now know why floral headdresses are worn, and the story behind *Pembe*.

It was a very enjoyable and satisfying afternoon for all who attended. I was unable to attend the camp due to my father's illness, so missed the actual wedding. However, it is to be repeated at the Woodford Folk Festival on Tuesday 29th December, so those of us who missed it, will have a reprieve!

Lorraine Moore

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By André van de Plas:

'International Folk Dances for Adults'.

Book & cassette.

1989 – 2002 tours. \$12 set.

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Videos \$25 each

DVD (2005- 2009) \$35 each

'International Folk Dances for Children'.

Book & cassette.

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Book & CD

2000, 2003, 2006 tour \$35 set

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'Easy Dances' *Cassette and booklet* \$12 set

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Yves Moreau, Balkan & Other International Dances (2001 Australian Tour)

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André Rossides, Greek Dances (2001)

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Vasilios Aligiannis, Greek Dances of Celebration & Participation (2002)

Elie Akouri, Lebanese Debka (2002)

Gary Dawson, Balkan Dances (2003)

Djordje Nikolic, Serbian (Sumadija) (2003)

Dianna Laska-Moore, Mostly Romanian (2004)

(Cassette of music from workshop \$10)

Heather Celic & Milivoje Stajanic, Serbian Dance (2004)

Djordje Nikolic & Vas Aligiannis, Serbian and Macedonian Greek (2005)

Asadour Hadjian, Armenian Dance (2005)

Sandra Bassetti & Jenny Lester, Bulgarian Dances (2006)

Yorgo Kaporis, Macedonian Dances (2002, 2003, 2004 & 2006 & 2008)

Veronika Zaharieva, Bulgarian Dances (2006)

Gary Dawson, Balkan Dances (2006/7)

Aleks Popovic, Serbian Dances (2007)

Avi Zohar, Israeli Dances (2007)

Antal Stopic, Hungarian Dances (2008)

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Laurel de Vietrai, French (2008)

Sarah Myerson, Yiddish (2008)

NOTE: All resources are available through Kaye Laurendet, 127 Woronora Cres, COMO WEST 2226 phone Kaye Laurendet on 95284813 or email okay@optusnet.com.au

RHODOPE MOUNTAINS

I was at the meeting point bright and early Tuesday morning, 6.30 a.m. in fact, an hour ahead of scheduled departure! It wasn't cold - skivvy, jumper, short jacket & jeans adequate so I didn't have to don the gloves and scarf I'd taken. It was rather nice to wander around in the vicinity of the Cathedral with barely a soul in sight.

Only seven of us and the guide and driver in the 28-seater bus (end of season). Got away early as everyone arrived with time to spare. A couple of hours out of Sofia we heard on the radio there had been gale force winds and rain in Sofia. We were driving through sunshine which stayed off and on with us all day, just had short intermittent showers. We travelled the 260 kilometres to the Rhodope Mountains (south eastern part) in about four hours and passed through some really quaint villages. Saw the usual farmers with their small herds of sheep, goats or cows, an elderly man was leading his goat with a rope. People working the fields.... donkeys and carts. A far cry from Sofia which is becoming more and more modern with new construction and a fair share of new and 4-wheel drive cars. Refreshing to see that some things never change.

One village by the name of Popvitsa is perhaps famous for its cabbages because outside almost all the houses (just one strip in a narrow road) there were patches of cabbages, very neat and orderly, like a nature strip beside the pavement. We were in an area of the Rhodopes where many people of Turkish descent and



Pomaks live and there were mosques dotted around. Lovely to get out into the countryside, especially this time of year when the trees have their autumn colours. Beside some of the roads a vivid red creeper was growing - really pretty. We first visited Kamennite Gurbi (Stone Mushrooms), volcanic and of pretty pale pink and green colours because of the minerals in

the stony ground. Quite large and they really do look like mushrooms. Then to nearby Perperikon, famous for the half ruined Thracian city there. We scrambled upwards and over rocks for about 10 minutes to reach the city, large and interesting with remains of the acropolis, sanctuary, housing structures, Queen's throne and streets. Almost got blown away on top at the fortress. Spent some time here before going to the nearest town, Kurdjali, which is situated on the banks of the Arda River. The population is 50% Bulgarian (Orthodox) and 50% Turkish (Muslim).

The town is nothing special but in the museum we saw artefacts which had been uncovered at Perperikon. I

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especially liked the remnants of bowls made from the pink and green stone. What came as a surprise was the top floor with a wonderful display of costumes - from Aegean Thrace, early 20th century, including wedding costumes; local costumes with double and single aprons; a small display of Turkish costumes; Kukeri and Lazar's costumes. Also fabulous silver belt buckles; shoes typical of the times, many socks with a variety of designs. One room was even set up as an atelier with loom, table with the type of cloth used spread out, cottons, and the most enormous pair of cutting scissors. Musical instruments were on display too.

It was a wonderful day out, fortunately the colder weather predicted did not hit us until arrival back in Sofia, 7.30 p.m. THEN I was more than glad to have gloves and scarf with me!!! But I felt really energised, must have been all that mountain air.

Anna Travali

BAHAR BAYRAM



From 22nd – 26th October I was lucky to attend the Bamedam Association's 4th annual Bahar Bayram Balkan and Middle Eastern Dance and Music Camp. I'm not sure how many attended but I heard that 120 were booked for the Saturday.

The camp was held at the very well set up Camp Bornhoffen, near the Springbrook National Park, in southern Queensland. The facilities were excellent. Accommodation was in dormitories or family cabins, but no one felt crowded. The food was plentiful and very good. Overall the atmosphere at the camp was friendly and relaxed.

However the main joy of the camp was the wealth of dance and music we could indulge in. With 4 or 5 sessions each day and a choice of 6 classes each session there was certainly something for everyone. Included in the program were many different styles of what I group as Belly Dance, many different drumming classes including Tapan, Arabic, Daf, and Arabic Riq, several different styles of singing and many instruments including oud, kaval, zurna gaida, ney and many others. Even didgeridoo! What I enjoyed most, however, was the Balkan dancing.

This year Yorgo Kaporis and Gary Dawson joined forces, wit and resources to present a Macedonian Wedding. We had sessions to learn the specific dances from the Bride's family and the Groom's family and also to learn the customs associated with a wedding. It was

very interesting to find dances I've know for many years fitted into a context of village life. While we learnt the dances, mostly to live music, others were learning the songs. Some sessions we laughed more than danced. We certainly had a lot of fun.



Groom's dance rehearsal

Saturday evening was the 'Wedding' and the whole camp was invited to our celebrations. Everyone dressed up in their finest clothes, with a large representation of Macedonian and other Balkan costumes. Somehow Yorgo and Gary managed to compress a week of wedding activities into an hour and a half, and to keep the audience entertained throughout. Dinner was traditional Macedonian food, some of which we had prepared in cooking classes given by Yorgo. We all indulged in a little rakia to get into the party mood. After dinner the musicians played for us all to dance, until dancers and musicians could go no further. A fantastic night was had by all

On other nights there were concerts given by the teachers and by the various class groups to show what they had learnt.

The teachers were all excellent, not only skilled in their field but excellent at conveying their knowledge, and always happy to teach a beginner along with the experienced group members.

Many of the participants had been to the previous camps and I know I will be going again.

Congratulations to the organizing team for running such a successful event.

Chris Wild

AVDP WORLD DANCE more of our favourite dances on CD INTERNATIONAL DANCES Mix 1993 – 1999

Aromim'cha, Scatter Promenade, Polka din Batrini, Dans cu Sucitoare, Mannings Mixer, Hora de la Corbasca, Reiach Tapuach, Tamzara, Kol ma Shekadan, Maya, Me'ever lanahar, Kak Po Lugo, Idam ne Idam, Tajimi Ko Uta, Oy Tsvetyot Kalina, Corlu, Hahar Hayarok, Traca Traca, Sapar al Ahava and Sboenka

CD - \$20

Book of Instructions \$10

Contact Kaye (02) 9528 4813

FROM NEVOFOON

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SERBIA 2

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BULGARIA/MACEDONIA

Koponica, Jove Male Mome, Novozagorsko Horo, Pravo Trakijsko, Graovsko, Kamenpolsko, Cestoto, Cerkezka, Tropnalo Oro, Dzungurica, Cupurlika, Skopska Crnogorka, Potrcano. Nevestinsko, Arap, U Krusevo Ogin Gori, Sadilo Mome

CDs are \$20 each

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For Non-profit clubs:

Links from the FDA website are provided free-of-charge to websites of non-profit clubs and organizations related to dance and folk.

For Businesses:

We have set up a page specifically for displaying links to the websites of businesses and other "for-profit" organizations. The annual (i.e., Jan – Dec) cost of FDA providing a link to your website is \$40. However, if you have at least one FDA member within your management or staff you will be entitled to a 50% discount.

If you are interested in FDA providing a link from our website to yours, please email your details to our website administrator.

OVERSEAS SEMINARS 2010

BALKAN WORKSHOP, HOLLAND

24-27 June, Zetten, near Arnhem, Netherlands

Ben Koopmanschap (Croatia to Albania), Bianca de Jong (Bulgarian), Dick Zwan (Greek), Ersin Seyhan (Turkish), Silviu Ciuciumis (Romanian), Hedwig Schoots (Song). Eur 82,50. Accommodation and meals extra.

DOINA FOUNDATION, ROMANIA

1 - 8 May, Deva – Transylvania Eur 765

16 - 23 Oct, Târgu Jiu – Oltenia Eur 745

Price includes half board, dance tuition, excursions, museums, festivals, accompaniment by Silviu Ciuciumis and an English speaking guide/interpreter.

JIM GOLD TOURS

Aug 2 – 15, 2010, Koprivshitsa, Bulgaria

Sofia, Bansko, Plovdiv, Veliko Turnovo, Koprivshitsa Folk Festival, from US\$2,295

Oct 10 – 23, 2010, Greek Islands

From US\$3,000, includes accommodation, half board. Extension available for 4 day Greek Island Cruise, followed by 4 day Santorini extension.

Jim Gold - (201) 836-0362

www.jimgold.com email: jimgold@jimgold.com

IFD SUMMER SCHOOL, WALES

University of Wales, Swansea, Aug 7 – 14

Choice of Russian, Macedonian and general folk dances (either partner or non-partner & set). Russian dances taught by Hennie Kongings, Macedonian by Ibrahim Rizevski, and general by Ramon Cardona (Catalan, Balkan, French, Basque, Israeli, Scandinavian). There will be teaching every morning, optional dance classes or workshops in the afternoon and social dancing at night. £150 dancing only, accommodation extra.

www.sifdsummerschool.org/index.htm

Email: sifdswansea@gmail.com

Phone: 07905 603655 or 01462 457791

BALKANFOLK 2010

Aug 4 – 16, 2010, Koprivshitsa, Bulgaria

The 2010 seminar will be held in Koprivshitsa located approximately 80-100 kilometres from Sofia. This delightful museum town in the Sredna Gora mountain stretches along both sides of the Topolnitsa River and with its cobblestoned streets, wonderful houses from the Revival period and tiny stone bridges across the river, it is one of the most picturesque and architecturally and historically interesting places in Bulgaria.

Accommodation will be in private homes and the choice of the Balkanfolk courses is as follows: Bulgarian dances, Serbian dances, Bulgarian musical instruments, Serbian accordion, Bulgarian singing and Bulgarian language. There will be eight educational days. Balkanfolk is also always happy to welcome people who would like to come but not participate in a course - to enjoy the nature, history, culture and ambience of Bulgaria and the fun, lively evenings with music, dancing and singing to a live orchestra.

More details are now available at www.balkanfolk.com (click on workshop). Email info@balkanfolk.com

MACEDONIAN PEARL SEMINAR 2010

July 24 – Aug 3, Berovo, Macedonia

www.macedonianfolk.com

WORLD CHOIR GAMES

July 15 – 26, Shaoxing, China

www.worldchoirgames.com

The concept of calling into being an event like the World Choir Games, taking the Olympic ideal into the arts, arose from the dream to peacefully unify singing people and nations connected by song in a fair competition. The idea should inspire people to experience the strength of interaction which is able to challenge personality and community equally through the power of singing together. No matter on which artistic level one is working – whether singing for

pleasure or reaching for artistic stars. The World Choir Games are an international choir festival taking place biannually on different continents.

This idea of the World Choir Games is carried out through the personal experience of millions of people throughout the whole world who sing in choirs daily and internalise and pass on human ideals through song. The idea is instrumental in helping people overcome conflicts and offering, through their social interaction, an example for life. In the future, choirs from all over the world will come together regularly to the World Choir Games, in order to contribute to understanding and peace among nations. All participants celebrate this amazing festival of music, as music is the common language of the world!

LOCAL EVENTS

FDA GREEK FOLK DANCE WORKSHOP

Vas Aligiannis, 29 November 10am – 3pm

\$20 full day - \$18 for FDA members

\$12 half day \$10 for FDA members

Marrickville Youth Resource Centre, Cnr Yabsley and Northcote Sts Marrickville, 10 minutes walk from station, 3 minutes from shopping centre

Plenty of street parking

Enq: Sandra 6552 5142 or Kaye 9528 4813

SEDENKA PRE XMAS DANCE PARTY

Gary Dawson is turning 60 this December (!) and since we (and everyone else) are crazy busy this year (well, every year pre – Christmas actually) we thought the best way to celebrate his birthday (and several other Sedenka folk who have December birthdays) was to get along to Sedenka's final end-of-year festive/pre-Xmas "DANCE PARTY". It's on Friday December 11th 2009 at usual place, Rozelle Community Centre 665A Darling St at 8pm. Bring \$10, food and drink to share and energy. Hopefully some musos won't mind coming along to have a play and a dance and a sing too.

Jenny Dornan

MARTENITSA – OUR STORY

Together with the Mara! Band, world-music choir Martenitsa is preparing to go to Europe in July 2010. While specialising mostly in Bulgarian repertoire for the past 20 or so years, our focus for the next 6 months will be bringing together a special suite of Italian pieces composed by members of the Mara! Band, inspired by the poetry of Edoardo Di Giovanni, who was a lawyer, freedom fighter and father of our sound engineer Daniele. The suite is called *Tra Parole E Silenzio* meaning *Between Words and Silence*.

We are holding some fundraising events in preparation for our proposed trip. We hope to perform at a few festivals and maybe visit Koprivshitsa again. Funds raised at these events will go towards our trip.

We are having a "Big Dance" on Sat Feb 13th at Lane Cove Country Club, River Rd, Northwood. Dances led by Gary Dawson, Music by Mara! Band and songs by Martenitsa. For more info www.maramusic.com.au. Check out some YouTube links while you're at it. We are also having a series of 'Free Film and Music' nights. Italian movies. Entry by donation. Five Dock RSL

(upstairs) 66 Great North Rd - 6.30 pm nibblies, 7pm concert 7.30pm film. Dinner available at club (approx \$15). Really great raffle prizes, songs by Martenitsa, plus guest musicians. Dates: (all Fridays) Jan 29, Feb 26, Mar 26, Apr 30, May 28. For more info look up the brochure at above website. Come early or book a table or single tickets thru www.stickytickets.com.au

Hope to see some of you at one or more of these events.

Jenny Dornan

DANCE COMPETITION

Australia's online community and business directory for dancers and performers, DanceLife has just launched DanceLife Unite. DanceLife Unite is a unique and exciting opportunity for dance studios and dance groups from all over Australia to compete in an elite dance competition. The result is a professional event staged in a state of the art venue over two weekends in May 2010. The event is about encouraging participants to have fun, keep fit and healthy and create a performance culture while battling it out against the best dance studios, groups and routines from the country.

15th & 16th May 2010

22nd & 23rd May 2010 (Depending on entry numbers)

Science Theatre, University of NSW, Anzac Parade, Kensington, NSW.

NOTE: DanceLife Unite is a competition for groups only. No Solos, Duo or Trios will be held at this competition.

Check out the website for general information, entry forms, FAQ, rules and regulations, advertising and sponsorship options. www.dancelifeunite.com.au

WOMADELAIDE

March 5 – 8, Botanic Park, Adelaide

Amongst the varied entertainers are -

Babylon Circus (France), rakish humour, French song, afro beat, dance reggae and European folklore.

Djan Djan - the kora of Mali's Mamadou Diabate, tabla of Mumbai's Bobby Singh and searing acoustic blues guitar of Australia's Jeff Lang.

Besh O DroM (Hungary) - musical & cultural inspiration from Transylvanian, Jewish, Afghan, Egyptian, Greek, Lebanese, Armenian, Bulgarian & Romanian tunes.

Kathakali Dance Ensemble - will present excerpts from the epic Indian poem *The Mahabharata*, as a dramatic dance-drama with dancers, actors, singers and drummers, renowned for their elaborate costuming and make-up.

Ross Daly & Ensemble - Ross lyra, singer Kelly Thoma, Cretian laouto player Giorgos Xylouris and percussion Iranian Bijan Chemirani. www.womadealide.com.au

How does your FDA Membership benefit you?

- 6 issues of the FDA newsletter, "Footnotes", emailed or posted to you each year;
- Discounts for:
 - FDA Workshops; Folk Dance Videos, cassettes, dance instructions, manuals and books; Nevofoon resources.
- Free advertising for your events and publications, both in "Footnotes" and on FDA's worldwide website: www.folkdanceaustralia.org.au

CANBERRA RAISES FUNDS

DANCE TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE ADDIS ABABA FISTULA HOSPITAL, ETHIOPIA

As part of the national campaign to raise funds for the Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital, a most successful international folkdancing morning was organised on Saturday, 29 August 2009, by Canberra's U3A International Folkdancing Group with assistance from the Canberra International Folkdancing Association (CIFDA). The venue, the Yarralumla Uniting Church Hall, was filled to capacity with dancers from U3A, CIFDA and other groups in Canberra.



The year 2009 marks the 50th year since Australian born Dr Catherine Hamlin AC and her late husband, Reg Hamlin OBE, a New Zealander, went to Ethiopia and saw for the first time the agonising plight of sufferers of obstetric fistula, many of whom were destitute. Fistulae (holes) may occur in a woman's bladder or vagina (or both) and sometimes in the rectum as a result of excruciatingly prolonged and obstructed labour in childbirth, sometimes lasting up to seven days. Usually the baby is stillborn. In some cases there are also ulcerations, kidney damage and nerve damage to the feet and the woman finishes up being crippled. When fistulae occur, the woman is unable to control the flow of urine or excreta. Because of the objectionable smell associated with the condition these women are mostly rejected by husband and family, becoming social outcasts with a deep sense of rejection and shame.

Profoundly affected by the serious needs of hundreds of these women, many of them little more than children having been betrothed in some areas at the age of 8 or 9, the Hamlins were able to develop a surgical technique to successfully repair fistulae in 93% of cases. Starting with their first clinic at the Princess Tsehai Hospital, and responding to the great demand for this operation from more and more women, many of whom had walked long distances or begged for many months to get enough money for the bus fare, the Hamlins went on to found the Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital in 1974. This was upgraded and expanded in 1998 with financial assistance from AusAID, Rotary and generous donors in Australia, New Zealand and other countries.

During the last ten years the hospital has built four mini-hospitals in regional centres to help those fistulae victims unable to make the journey to Addis Ababa. In 2003 a self-help rural village, Desta Mender, was opened to accommodate 100 patients who cannot be completely cured. In 2008 with the opening of the Hamlin Midwifery College, the Hospital moved more aggressively into the important area of fistulae prevention.

Today the Hospital is the world's only medical centre dedicated exclusively to providing free fistulae repair surgery. Together with its four regional mini-hospitals, it is able to assist nearly 3,000 women each year. Training is provided for nurses and it is also a major teaching institution for surgeons from all over Ethiopia and the developing world.

Funds for the hospitals and the Midwifery College come largely from private donors in Australia, the UK and the USA. Many women in Australia and elsewhere have knitted shawls (patchwork blankets) which are given to the fistulae pilgrims when they arrive at the hospital. This may be the most valuable possession some of them ever own and may be seen as a symbol of love from women far away.

Given that the average cost of one operation is A\$600, we had this amount as our target for the fund raising dance. Thanks to four donations of \$600 or more, proceeds from raffles and cash donations in addition to the entry fee of \$10, we were delighted to reach a final figure of \$4,200. Since then a further \$422 has been donated.

The 18 dances on the program reflected a variety of moods, rhythms and formations and included favourites such as *Hora Fun Moldova*, *Koce Berberot*, *Hastayim*, *Chassapikos* and *Janiman Kavrahk*. We started with the lively *Dimna Judo Mamo* from Macedonia, which Sue Miller and Chris Wild had learnt from Wal van Heeckeran in Sydney in 1968 and which was revived by Chris at her CIFDA workshop earlier this year. The pace slowed down at the end with *Chors Goghk & Votk* from Armenia introduced by Andre van der Plas at this year's Bowral workshop.

There was a special Ethiopian flavour to the morning thanks to Pauline Snowie, one of the U3A dancers, and to her daughter, Jenny Walker. Jenny, a remarkable woman, the mother of seven adult children and of three adopted Ethiopian children, was there with one of her adult children, Natasha, and two of her Ethiopian children, Tsion (9) and Kidist (6). The children came in



Kidist and Tsion

traditional Ethiopian costumes and joined in some of the dances with great enthusiasm, especially *Savila Se Bela Loza*. Pauline, Jenny and Natasha very kindly organised lots of delicious Ethiopian food for morning tea with assistance from a few other U3A dancers. Jenny and

Pauline spoke most feelingly about the plight of fistulae sufferers; and Pauline talked about her recent visit with Tsion to the Fistula Hospital. Jenny also arranged a display of some of her distinctive Ethiopian memorabilia and photograph albums. Thanks to Pauline's initiative, we were able to display a large map of Ethiopia and posters provided by the Ethiopian Consulate in Melbourne.

Thanks to Jenny Martensz, another of the U3A Dancers, ladies in the U3A group were inspired to knit squares to be sewn together to make patchwork shawls for fistulae sufferers. Three of these bright cheerful shawls were also on display in the Hall. Since then a further six have been completed. As this edition goes to print a number of the U3A Dancing Ladies are still knitting and have encouraged friends and relatives to do likewise. Since it is estimated that there are over 8,000 new cases of obstetric fistulae in Ethiopia each year, the need for shawls is not likely to diminish for some time.

Dr Catherine Hamlin, her late husband and their team of doctors have treated more than 34,000 women. Now aged 85, Catherine is still performing fistula operations. As well as being made a Companion of the Order of Australia, being awarded the ANZAC Peace Prize, the coveted Gold Medal from the Royal College of Surgeons, she has recently won a Right Livelihood Award, known as an "alternative Nobel" for dedicating her life to "restoring the health, hope and dignity of thousands of Africa's poorest women". She will receive this award and 50,000 euros (A\$80,000) in prize money at a ceremony in the Swedish Parliament in December. It was indeed an honour to meet her when she was in Canberra in October helping to promote a new documentary on her work, "Lighting a Candle", produced with help from AusAID.

During the five years that the U3A Dance Group has been going we've done some sixty dances from lots of different countries and had much enjoyment. It could well be described as brain training through mind body co-ordination and as therapeutic active relaxation. This year I've been very pleased to have Sue Miller as co-leader. Sue is also the CIFDA co-ordinator, having started international folkdancing in Canberra in 1976. Our fund raising dance for the Hospital is certainly one of the highlights of our dance year. Many people are to be congratulated on making it such a great success.

Glenys West

Visit www.fistulatrust.org or phone (02) 9449 6725 for more information or to make a donation.

TRAVEL TIPS

With the strong Oz dollar travelling overseas is a tempting option especially with fantastic events like Koprivshitsa happening in 2010. Most people have a wonderful holiday but for some it's marred due to lost or stolen luggage.

A friend was recently targeted in Rome soon after his arrival, while tired and disoriented. A woman showed him a piece of paper while talking to him rapidly in Italian. While he was distracted, someone else took his shoulder bag which he'd put down momentarily. It contained his passport, credit card, essential medicine, addresses and flight e-tickets for the rest of the journey.

Rome and Barcelona are notorious but this sort of thing can happen anywhere (even in Oz). Below a few suggestions that may help prevent theft or leave us in less of a quandary.

Bright, distinctive luggage – a thief is less likely to target something bright (pink, orange, yellow) as it will make them more obvious. A bright suitcase is beneficial when claiming baggage after a flight as it's so easy to unintentionally pick up the wrong black suitcase. Also it's easy to describe if it doesn't reach your destination. Alternately a distinctive strap will help to identify your luggage.

For those of you with computer skills I suggest before you leave home email yourself your e-tickets, contacts list, schedule, passport number, insurance details and any other pertinent information so all you need to do is to head to an internet café to gather all this information. To be on the safe side give the same information to a trusted friend.

Make sure you have copies of all prescriptions (including glasses) in two or more locations and/or with your travelling companion. Credit card numbers, passwords etc can be disguised and incorporated into an email sent to yourself.

Wear a money belt under your clothes to store passport/cash/credit cards. Only keep enough cash in your wallet/handbag/bumbag for your immediate needs. If wearing a bum bag wear a long shirt over the top so that it's not easy for someone to slice and grab it.

Take essential items on the plane with you, that way if your luggage is lost it is not such an issue (I always carry my dance shoes on board with me – comfortable dance shoes can be hard to find in a foreign country).

So having taken a few sensible precautions head off on your travels, have a fantastic time and remember to write an article for Footnotes on your return.

Danni Mackenzie

CARNIVAL IN THE PINES



The "Carnival in the Pines" is a Rotary sponsored carnival; all proceeds go to charity. There was a parade through the streets on Sunday, 4 October. The U3A ladies knew about the carnival from previous years and suggested they dance for the publicity. The enthusiastic audience cheered and clapped and I was swamped with enquiries afterwards so hopefully I will have some new recruits – a male or two would be good.

Christine Battison

Come, knit hands, and beat the ground in a light fantastic round.

John Milton

DANCING IN THE WOODFORD ZONE

The Woodford Folk Festival begins 27th December 2009 and finishes on the evening of 1st January 2010 with a spectacular Fire Event. The experience of the festival touches the hearts, ears, eyes and feet of those who venture there. Culturally the festival program is as deep as it is broad. It includes a vast amount of music, dance, theatre, talks, cinema, circus and visual arts in genres extending from folk and traditional to 'culturally contemporary yet relevant'.

By concentrating on the feet component of the festival program, the festival experience extends to dance workshops, performances and dancing to music wherever the opportunity presents. Dance is a big part of this festival.

Every year the dance workshop program caters to many tastes and levels of experience. This year at the Chameleon tent, there are opportunities to travel to Greece, Macedonia, Hungary, Thrace, England, Tibet and Africa to be introduced to dances linked to ancient rituals and folk traditions. The wild call of the gaida bagpipe and the zurna bring you to the Apokries Karnivali dances once part of the Dionysian mysteries, the Macedonian wedding dance party and the Gypsy



Above photo from Bahar Bayram – the wedding will be re-enacted at Woodford at 7pm 29th December

dance workshop. The rhythm of the drum takes you to Africa and the Kwenu rain dance of tribal Ghana, Zulu dancing and Gum-boot dancing in South Africa. Slow and steady dance is experienced learning ancient Tibetan Cham dance, Japanese Butoh and Tai Chi, where each step and gesture has a definite purpose. Popular contemporary dance includes an extensive program of Tango, Bollywood, Congolese Rumba and Latin dance.

Each evening at The Chameleon there is social dancing with live music. Dance with Jane Austin and friends at the 19th century English social dance with Sheree Hill and Dance Kaleidoscope. Go to an Irish Ceili dance. Join in at the Tango Dance Party with Tango Paradiso or relive the fun of the great Australian Bush Dance. For something completely different, celebrate New Year's Eve at the Hungarian family Tanchaz, then move on to the Roma Gypsy Dance with Xenos (and every other Balkan musician at the festival). Everyone is welcome - from experienced dancers to dance novices. A dance caller or teacher is there to guide you.

Dance performances at the Folklorica Stage feature beautiful dancers such as Yorgo Kaporis (Macedonia/Balkan), Richard Reicher (Hungary), Davydd McDonald (Ireland), Sam Okoth (Kenya) Preeti Kaur (India), and dance groups Florina Aristotelis Dance Group (Greece/Macedonia), Kengugro (Hungary), Bollywood Dhamaka, Sher-E- Punjab Bhangra Group and Bharati Dance Group (India), Bulgarian Dance Group 'Horo' and many more. The performances are always a spectacle, with great costumes, choreographies and fabulous music.

If you are thinking of coming to the festival, the program is on line. There are a variety of ticket types from day tickets to season camping tickets for children over 6 years, youth and adults. For more information go to www.woodfordfolkfestival.com

Pat Symons

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THANK YOU FROM THE EDITOR

I would like to express my appreciation for all the writers who have contributed such an array of interesting articles for Footnotes during 2009.

Articles about costume conservation, Greek dance etiquette, sound system information, dances of Thrace, Carol Maddocks' French connection and La Bastringue.

Reviews of dance workshops – Yiddish, Gary's Dances from Florina, Yorgo's Macedonian, Andre's workshops as well as reviews of overseas workshops and holidays which all sound exceptionally enticing.

Several groups held anniversary celebrations while others had celebrations as an excuse to get together and dance.

Anna Travali continues to delight readers with her regular articles about living and dancing in Bulgaria.

Thanks too for those who have shared your colourful photos with our readers.

It's refreshing to receive input from Interstate groups so in 2010 I'd love articles from all around Australia - especially South Australia, Victoria and Tasmania.

When you email stories for the newsletter please make sure that the subject line reads folkdance or Footnotes so that if it goes into my junk mail folder I will notice it. I always thank people for articles received by email so if you don't receive acknowledgement check to make sure the article was received. Also if an article isn't published in Footnotes do check as I receive a lot of emails and occasionally they go missing (operator error).

Enjoy your Christmas break and do take the opportunity to write an article for the February Footnotes.

Danni Mackenzie

SPRING BALKAN PARTY

On a beautiful spring evening in September I went to the Marrickville Youth Resource Centre with fellow folk-dancers from near and far to attend the inaugural FDA Balkan Spring Dance Party.

The event had been planned by Sandra Bassetti, Kaye Laurendet and Gary Dawson and was a resounding success.

Gary opened the evening by leading some simple group dances from various Balkan countries, teaching the eager participants with his clear and patient instructions - then when we'd warmed up he challenged us with a very fast and tricky one! We could see that we were going to be in for a lot of fun!

The event had been advertised as having live music and the musicians who played were wonderfully talented, experienced and exciting to listen and dance to. They certainly contributed greatly to sustaining the high levels of energy throughout the evening, their talents and skills being much admired by those who danced - as well as by those who chose to watch and listen.

Kim Sanders played sax gaida and Cory Dale from Queensland was on gaida. Mara and Lew Kiek were on vocals and tapan and Linda Dawson played tapan.

Our intrepid team of organisers were rewarded for their months of hard work by a constant stream of party-goers coming into the hall to join in the festivities until, by 7.30pm, the numbers had swelled to about 180 and the evening was in full swing.



For me an unexpected treat was that well-known Sydney teachers Yorgo Kaporis and Djordje Nikolic had brought along their fully costumed dancers to perform during the evening.

The first performance was a medley of Macedonian ritual dances lead by Yorgo. Then Djordje's large troupe of dancers - made up of groups from Kiama, Wollongong and Sydney - performed very polished, choreographed Serbian dances.



Serbian dancers

The youngest performer was 5 and it was wonderful to see so many young people - boys, girls and young men and women - participating in their stunning traditional dress, watched by their proud family members.

Yorgo returned with his dancers to perform some very lively Bulgarian dances beautifully.

After the buffet supper we all continued to dance the night away. The hall was filled to capacity and the singing and music raised the rafters.

Many FDA members helped out on the night taking care of jobs such as moving furniture, ticket sales, the smooth running of beverage sales from the kitchen and clearing up the venue afterwards. Thanks go to everyone who contributed to making the Spring Dance Party such an enjoyable and successful event.

Monica King

2010 FDA MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

To join or renew your membership, you can:

1. Pay by Internet: Transfer AUS\$25 to St George Bank, BSB: 112879, A/C No 053 969 771 (if renewing, please include your Membership No. in the description)
2. Cut off the Renewal Slip at the bottom of page 18 and send it, together with your \$25 cheque or money order (made out to **Folk Dance Australia Inc**), to the Membership Secretary, Deborah Hotchkis, 4 Old Station Rd, HELENSBURGH 2508.

OVERSEAS MEMBERS. Please make your payments in AUS\$25 equivalent.

Twelve dancers are dancing, and taking no rest, and closely their hands together are press'd; And soon as a dance has come to a close, another begins, and each merrily goes.
Heinrich Heine

WEBLINKS

www.evansvillefolk dancers.com

Homepage has National Days listed, scroll to the far right to find links to song words (some translated), dance instructions (pdf format), photos - some dating back to 1971 when folk dancing was a course offered by the YMCA.

www.folkdance.com/miller/index.htm

Folk Dance Federation of California have a very long list of dances with guide to pronunciation, they have instructions for some of the dances.

www.phantomranch.net/folkdanc/folknote.htm

Dick Oates has instructions to a variety of dances – includes notes about the dance and pronunciation.

<http://ifdvl.org/videodancelist.shtml>

Links to numerous folk dance instructions also to folk dances on YouTube danced by a recreational American folk dance group (royisdancing).

FOLKLORE OF TREES

The plant kingdom has always played a big role in our life and as a result there are many folk rituals relating to plants. The tree, as a symbol of life, is not exclusive to any one religion.

Early man believed that all trees and plants had souls (spirits). Before cutting down a tree there were ritual chants and dances explaining to the spirit of the tree why the deed had to be done – shelter, canoes, etc. After the tree had been cut down spirits had to be appeased and once again song and dance was the medium to connect to the spirit of the victim and it was asked not to take vengeance on the perpetrators of the act.

In many cultures humans were said to have originated as trees or trees as human beings.

Willow trees are very prominent in folklore – in English folklore they are quite sinister, believed to be able to uproot themselves and stalk travellers. In other countries the willow was a fertility symbol and women would embrace the tree trunk asking for children.

Some trees were considered to have curative properties and a child with certain diseases, such as rickets, was passed through a hole in the trunk of a sacred tree in the hope of affecting a cure. The disease would be squeezed out of the child and transferred to the tree. Nails were hammered into trees to transfer pain such as toothache. Pieces of cloth worn by the ill person were tied onto a tree in the hope of transferring the illness.

Trees that bore fruit and nuts, such as a pear tree (feminine tree) were particularly venerated. Apple trees were associated with magic and the “Tree of Life” and were considered a symbol of fertility. The hazelnut is rich in folklore – it is the 9th tree in the old Irish tree alphabet and the symbol of the 9th month. Hazel twigs are often used as divining rods which, in the 17th century, were used for finding thieves and murderers as well as precious water.

The maypole dance is a descendant of older tree-worshipping dances. The original maypole was a tree which had had most of its limbs cut off leaving some small branches/leaves at the top. More recently



maypoles might be crowned with flowers and/or fruit while others have coloured ribbons, each colour connecting the dancer with a particular aspect of life; red - love and

life, blue and white - purity, green - regeneration of nature, yellow and orange - sun and wisdom. The pattern made when dancing around the maypole was very important as it was believed the better the pattern the better the harvest would be.

In Greece the maypole is known as Gaitanaki and is a fertility symbol (as it is in many other countries). In Germany the maypole dates back to the 16th century and spread from there to other countries such as Sweden, Czech Republic, Denmark, Slovakia, Slovenia.

The bay tree (bay laurel) is associated with purity and acts of purification. Greeks of antiquity considered the bay laurel a sacred tree because of folklore associating the tree with both Apollo and Zeus. Apollo is said to have made a wreath or crown from laurel to signify his victory over the dragon Python – this later became the *crown of victory* at the Olympic Games. Apparently the bay tree can revive after dying back to its roots and because of this was used at funerals as a symbol of resurrection.

At this time of year it would be remiss not to mention the Christmas Tree which is part of our holiday customs.

Long before there was a Christmas, Egyptians brought green palm branches into their homes on the shortest day of the year in December as a symbol of life's triumph over death.

Romans adorned their homes with evergreens during Saturnalia, a winter festival in honor of Saturnus, their god of agriculture. Druid priests decorated oak trees with golden apples for their winter solstice festivities.

Vikings from North Europe considered evergreen trees an inspiration to struggle on with life during winter and as a reminder that spring will soon come again.

In the Middle Ages, the Paradise tree, an evergreen hung with red apples, was the symbol of the feast of Adam and Eve held on December 24th.

German Christians were the first to bring Christmas trees into their homes. The first recorded reference to the Christmas tree dates back to the 16th century. In Strasbourg, Germany (now part of France), families both rich and poor decorated fir trees with colored paper, fruits and sweets. If trees were not available a wooden pyramid would be made to take its place. The retail Christmas tree also dates back that far - in those times older women would sell trees harvested from nearby forests. Ancient Christmas tree decorations included biscuits, popcorn, apples and nuts.

References include: *The Mythic Forest, the Green Man and the Spirit of Nature*, Gary R Varner, Algora Publishing, 2006.

A Window on Folk Dance, Lucile Armstrong, Springfield Books, 1985.

WHAT'S ON WHERE

A.C.T. (Canberra)

Monday, 7:30-9.00 pm Folk Dance Canberra - FDC: sessions for Advanced folk dancers in International Dances, at Folk Dance Canberra Hall, 114 Maitland St, Hackett. Contact Lesley Rose (02) 6286 6401

Monday 6.45pm - dusk, 'Dancing in the Park' at Stage 88, Commonwealth Park, Canberra - only during summer (Dec-Feb). Live Music, **Free**. Enquiries to 02 6295 8280.

Tuesday, 10:00-12:01pm Folk Dance Canberra - FDC: sessions for Intermediate folk dancers in International Dances, at Folk Dance Canberra Hall, 114 Maitland St, Hackett. Contact Lesley Rose (02) 6286 6401 or email lesley@magma.com.au

Wednesday, 7:00-8:30pm Folk Dance Canberra - FDC: sessions for Beginner folk dancers in International Dances, at Folk Dance Canberra Hall, 114 Maitland St, Hackett. Contact Maria Jenkins (02) 6231 4472 or email maria_jenkins@hotmail.com

Wednesday 7.45pm - 10.15pm, International Dancing with CIFDA (Canberra International Folk Dancing Association) Uniting Church Hall, Denman St, Yarralumla; cost \$8 (includes supper; first 3 nights are ½ price). Contact Sue 02 6281 6314 or Judy 02 62815229.

Wednesday 8.00pm - 10.00pm, Irish Set Dancing, 10 week terms, Reid Uniting Church Hall, Coranderrk St (cnr Dirrawan Gardens), Reid. Cost: Monaro Folk Society members \$4 session or \$30 term; non-members \$5 session or \$40 term. Contact Paul Wayper on 0422 392 081, 02 6279 6251(w) or email paulway@earthling.net

Thursday, 7:30-9:00pm Folk Dance Canberra - FDC: sessions for Intermediate folk dancers in International Dances, at Folk Dance Canberra Hall, 114 Maitland St, Hackett. Lesley, 02 6286 6401 or email lesley@magma.com.au

Friday 7:00 – 10pm, 1st Friday of each month, traditional and modern Greek Dancing, Folk Dance Canberra Hall, 114 Maitland St, Hackett. Cost \$10. Contact Maria (02) 6231 4472.

Saturday Social Dance 3rd Saturday of each month (March – November) from 8pm, St John's Church Hall, Constitution Ave, Reid with John Garden and Earthly Delights, \$15 / \$12. Contact John or Aylwen (02) 6281 1098.

Sunday 4.00 – 6.30pm. Earthly Delights' circle, couples and set dances, YMCA Sailing Club, Alexandrina Drive, Yarralumla, \$10 casual, \$5 regular. Contact John or Aylwen (02) 6281 1098.

Sunday Scandinavian Folk Dance Group 5pm, Uniting Church Hall, Denman St, Yarralumla. New members very welcome. Contact Brad Sherman (02) 6288 3050 ah or email brad@dynamite.com.au

NEW SOUTH WALES (Sydney)

Monday 10 - 12 noon. During school term. Earlwood Senior Citizens Centre, 362 Homer St. Earlwood. Contact Debbie (02) 4294 1363, 0427 315 245

Monday 6.30 – 7.30. Balkan Social dance classes, Croydon Park Public School, Georges River Road, \$50 month. Yorgo 0412 861 187 (m).

Monday 6.30 - 8pm. Scottish Country Dancing for beginners with 'Scots on The Rocks', Fort Street Public School, Observatory Hill, Sydney. Contact Nea 02 9904 1358 (ah) or Lynn 02 8244 9618 (bh) or email SCDancers@netspace.net.au. Internet: <http://www.rscds.org.au>

Monday 7.00pm Belly Dance classes - Basic / Beginners, 8.00pm - Choreography, Girraween Hall, 17 Tungarra Road, Girraween. Contact Vera Myronenko (02) 9631 6464 or 0418 416 849 (Mobile).

Monday 7.30pm. Bush dancing workshops for beginners (Bush Music Club) Pennant Hills Community Centre (downstairs, opp railway station); Contact Margaret (02) 9614 0529

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Day and evening sessions, Sutherland Shire Folk Dance Group. Contact Kaye Laurendet (02) 9528 4813.

Tuesday Greek Folk Dance classes - 6:30pm - 7:30pm Junior Terpsichore group (3yrs to 12yrs). 7:30pm - 9:00pm Senior Polyhymnia group (13yrs to Adult), Pan-Korinthian House, Level 1, 11Anglo Road, Campsie. Cost \$7/night casually, or \$50/term for 10 weeks. Contact Vas Aligiannis, 0407 081 875, greekdancer@excite.com or Internet <http://www.greekdancing.com.au>

Tuesday 6.00 – 8.00pm Scottish dancing in the city. 'Scots on The Rocks' meet at Fort Street Public School, Observatory Hill, Sydney. Contact Nea 02 9904 1358 (ah) or Lynn 02 8244 9618 (bh); email SCDancers@netspace.net.au. Website: <http://www.rscds.org.au>

Tuesday, Belly Dance classes: 6.15pm Basic /Beginners Class, 7.15pm Beyond Beginners Class, 8.15pm Choreography Group, Randwick Literary Institute, 60 Clovelly Road Cnr Market St, Randwick North. Vera Myronenko 02 9665 9713 or 0418 416 849

Tuesday, 7.30pm, Swedish Folk Dancing with Linnéa, 141 Campbell St, Surry Hills (close to Central Station). Contact Graeme Traves, (02) 9874 4194 or linneafolk@hotmail.com

Tuesday 7 30pm Belly Dance classes - Basic / Beginners, Girraween Hall, 17 Tungarra Road, Girraween. Contact Vera Myronenko (02) 9665 9713 or 0418 416 849 (Mobile).

Tuesday, 7.30 Sydney Irish Ceili Dancers, Scout Hall, Martha St, Yagoona. Contact (02) 9150 6765.

Tuesday, 7.30pm – 8pm (beginners) 8pm – 9.30pm (advanced), Turkish Dance classes, with Yusuf Nidai, Auburn Girls High School. Yusuf Nidai (02) 9646 1166.

Tuesday, 8pm – 9.45pm, Hungarian Dance classes, with Gary Dawson, cost: \$10/\$5 per class, \$90/\$45 for 10 week semester. Uniting Church, Harris Community Centre, 97 Quarry St (cnr Bulwarra Rd), Ultimo. Contact Gary Dawson (02) 9559 4485, 0425 268 505 (m) or email: gazad@aapt.net.au

Wednesday 9 – 10am beginners, 10 – 11am, advanced (school term only). International Folk Dancing – classes for older women. BOWWC at Bankstown Police & Community Youth Club (PCYC), cnr Meredith St & French Ave, Bankstown. Contact Gabrielle 02 9728 7466 or Alita 02 9798 9269.

Wednesday Greek Folk Dance Classes 6pm till 7pm for junior classes. 7 pm to 8.30 for Senior classes (Masters class) by invite only. St Stephanos Greek Church Hall, 650 New Canterbury Rd Hurlstone Park. Contact Vas Aligiannis, 0407 081 875, greekdancer@excite.com

Wednesday 8.00 – 10pm. Australian Heritage Dancers, rehearsals, Annandale Neighbourhood Centre, 79 Johnston St, Annandale). Contact Patrick Burnett: (02) 9957 6049.

If you cannot get rid of the family skeleton, you may as well make it dance. *George Bernard Shaw*

(Sydney cont)

Wednesday Belly Dance classes: 8.00pm Basic /Beginners Class, Randwick Literary Institute, 60 Clovelly Road Cnr Market St, Randwick North. Contact Vera Myronenko (02) 9665 9713 or 0418 416 849 (Mobile).

Thursday, Greek Folk Dancing (adults), 7:30pm to 9:00pm Clio group (21yrs and up) with Vasilios Aligiannis, Megas Alexandros Greek Macedonian Club, 164 Livingstone Rd Marrickville. Contact: 0407 081 875 greekdancer@excite.com

Thursday Belly Dance classes, 6.15pm: Basic Beginners class, 7.15pm: Choreography and Performers Group. Girraween Hall, 17 Tungarra Road, Girraween Contact Vera Myronenko (02) 9665 9713 or 0418 416 849 (Mobile).

Thursday 7pm Sydney Irish Ceili Dancers, Girl Guide Hall, Wardell St, Arncliffe. Contact (02) 9150 6765.

Friday 10.00am Belly Dance classes - Basic / Beginners, Girraween Hall, 17 Tungarra Road, Girraween. Contact Vera Myronenko (02) 9665 9713

Friday, 8 - 11pm. Sedenka International Folkdance Group, Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre, 665A Darling St, Rozelle. (1st Friday of the month Balkan Night with Yorgo Kaporis) Contact Chris (02) 9560 2910.

Saturday Belly Dance classes: 9.00am Children's class 12yrs & under; 9.45am: Adults Basic Beginners class; 10.45, Choreography class, PCYC building, Hassall St, Parramatta (near station on Nth side). Contact Vera Myronenko (02) 9665 9713.

(Bateman's Bay)

Tuesday 1.30-3.00 Easy/Intermediate Folk Dance (U3A), Community Hall, Flora Crescent, Batemans Bay, NSW. Visitors Welcome. Contact Audrey (02) 44722642 or email audmar@tadaust.org.au

(Blue Mountains)

Thursday 1.30 to 3.00pm, Israeli Folk Dancing. The Lawson Community Centre, Lawson. Contact Yudit Kayatsky (02) 4759 1952.

Thursday 7.30 - 8 15pm and/or 8.30 - 10.00pm. The Blue Labyrinth World Dancers, Baptist Church Hall, King St, Glenbrook. Contact Jo (02) 4739 6498 or Pat (02)

(Braidwood)

Monday, 9.30 am Beginners; 10am - 11am, Braidwood Folk Dance Group, Braidwood RSL Hall, Braidwood. Contact Noela (02) 4842 8004.

Friday, 4.30 pm, Braidwood Belly Dance Group, Braidwood RSL Hall, Braidwood. Contact Erika (02) 4842 2505.

(Bowral)

Thursday 9.00 - 11.00 am. Southern Highlands Recreational International Folk Dance Group. Presbyterian Hall, Bendooley St. Bowral. Beginners start at 9 am.

Contact Margaret Connor (02) 4861 2294.

(Central Coast)

Thursday 8.00pm - 10.00pm. Israeli and International dances, Woodport Primary School, Ernest St, Erina, \$6 per lesson, free 1st lesson, \$50 for 10 weeks. Contact: Avi Zohar, 0417 208 150 (m), avzohar@hotmail.com

(Newcastle)

Saturday (2nd Saturday of month) 7.30pm, Wesley Fellowship Hall, Hamilton. Contact Cecille 4957 0830.

Saturday (1st Saturday of month), 1.30-4.00pm. Folk dances, peace dances, circle dances. Anglican Church Hall, Naughton Street, Birmingham Gardens. All are welcome. No experience necessary. Cost \$10 per session. Contact Judith 4945 5343.

kellsull@ozemail.com.au

(Nimbin)

Wednesday Israeli Dance Class 4.30 – 6 p.m. Back of main stage, School of Arts Hall, Cullen Street, Nimbin \$12 week, \$10 if paid by month. Special beginners intro \$5 per week for 5 consecutive weeks. Beginners to advanced Please call first if you haven't attended before Liora 6624 4216 or liora@people.net.au

(Queanbeyan)

Sunday 6.30pm – 8.30. Macedonian Folk Dance classes, with the cultural association, "Razigrana Makedonka", Macedonian Community Centre (upstairs, 266 Crawford St, Queanbeyan. Contact Aleks Celeski, 0411 145 443 or email ac_maco@hotmail.com. Website for Razigrana Makedonka:

<http://www.sportscentreeoz.com/gmdg.htm>.

(Shoalhaven area)

Monday, 7.30pm. Balkan & International Folk Dance, Cambewarra Hall, Main Rd, Cambewarra. Contact Suzi Krawczyk 02 4446 0569 or email: plotki@westnet.com.au

Tuesday, (school terms only), 7.30pm – 9.30pm, "FDA – Callala", international folk dance, Callala Bay Progress Hall, Boorawine Terrace, Callala Bay. Contact Maureen Petherick 02 4446 6550 or email:

mep1@westnet.com.au

Thursday, (school terms only), 1.30pm – 3pm, "FDA – Callala", international folk dance, Callala Bay Progress Hall, Boorawine Terrace, Callala Bay. Contact Maureen Petherick 02 4446 6550 or email:

mep1@westnet.com.au

Friday, (school terms only), 8pm - 10pm, Shoalhaven Folk and Bush Dance Club, Cambewarra Hall, Main Rd, Cambewarra. Easy social dances, Colonial, Scottish, English and Folk. All welcome. Contact Margaret 02 4421 0557 or email:

msharpe@shoal.net.au

(Taree)

Wednesday, 6 pm – 8.30 pm, Lazarka International Folk Dance Group, Steiner School, Albert St, Taree. Contact Sandra Bassetti (02) 6552 5142.

NORTHERN TERRITORY (Darwin)

Monday 5.30 - 7.00pm Darwin Folk Dance, Audrey's Dance Studio, cnr Ferntree & Nightcliff Rds. Contact Lynette 08 8927 5415 or email

DarwinFolkDance@yahoo.com.au

Tuesday 6 - 8pm. International and Playford Dancing - Beginners to advanced; at the Railway Institute, Parap. Contact Anna 08 8981 6400 or Sue 08 8985 1827 or email sueross21@hotmail.com.

QUEENSLAND (Brisbane)

Wednesday 6.45 – 8.00pm, Academy of Greek Dancing, Lithuanian Hall, Gladstone Rd, Highgate Hill. Contact Victor Comino 0433 126 619.

Wednesday - beginners 7 – 8pm, social 8 – 9pm. Hoppa Hey Israeli Dance Group, Margaret St Synagogue Hall, Brisbane. Contact Barbara 0421 274 408 blachish@optushome.com.au

Friday (2nd & 4th of month) 8 - 10.00pm, Brisinta International folk dancing, Uniting Church Hall, cnr Kingsley & Kadumba Sts. Yeronga. \$5. Contact Lyn or Barry (07) 3379 2088.

Saturday (monthly, generally 2nd Saturday of the month), 8.00 - 11pm. Colonial/bush, Celtic, American Contra and multicultural dancing. Morningside School of Arts, cnr Wynnum & Thynne Rds, Morningside. Supper provided; music by the Champion Moreton Bay Band. Contact Vic or Jan on (07) 3848 7706.

(Cairns)

Wednesday 8p.m. - Italian dancing classes, Tennis Court Hall, Windarra St, Woree. Contact (07) 4054 4259 or (07) 4051 1065.

Thursday 7p.m. - Bavarian, Austrian and Swiss folk dance practice, Germania Club, Winkworth St.

(Rockhampton)

Thursday 6.30 - 7.30 p.m. - Music group practice 7.30-10.00pm - "Capricornia Dance & Music Exchange" International and other dances, Women's Health Centre, Cnr Bolsover & Derby Sts, Rockhampton, Qld. Contact Nicholai 0412557052

(Sunshine Coast)

Monday 9.30 - 11.30 a.m. Buffaloes Hall, Price Street, Nambour. \$5. Contact Lorraine 07 5445 1740.

Thursday 9.30 - 11.30 am, Buffaloes Hall, Price Street, Nambour, \$5. Contact Lorraine 07 5445 1740.

Friday 9.00 - 11.30 a.m, Noosa Bicentennial Hall Annexe, Bicentennial Drive, Noosa, \$6. Contact Danni 07 5471 0409 or email dannilyn@hotmail.com

(Townsville)

Tuesday 6pm - 7.30pm; International Folk Dancing at the AWU Hall, Sturt St, Townsville. Contact Maurice (07) 4772 2757.

Saturday 2pm - 4pm, International Folk Dancing at the AWU Hall, Sturt St, Townsville. Contact Maurice (07) 4772 2757

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Monday 7 - 10pm, Adelaide Traditional Dancers, RSL Hall, Woods St, Norwood Oval, Norwood. Teaching for beginners from 7 - 8pm, cost \$3. Contact Rae 08 8356 2172.

Tuesday 7.30pm - 9.30pm, (2nd, 4th and 5th Tuesday of the month), Australian Traditional & Bush Dance Society (ATBDS), Prospect Town Hall, Prospect Rd, Prospect. English, Scottish, Irish dances and some American Contra style dances. 8255 9243 or 8261 8255 atbds@chariot.net.au

Tuesday 10am, International Dance: Community Centre, Tynte St, Nth Adelaide. Contact Ann Tregenza 08 8295 2576.

Saturday 1 pm - 5 pm, Cajun dancing (1st Saturday of the month), Cajun Club, Governor Hindmarsh Hotel, Port Road, Hindmarsh, Adelaide. Dancing session followed by Cajun music session 2.30 pm - 5pm approx. led by the Backdoor Cajun band. Contact Martin at cajunsa99@hotmail.com

TASMANIA (Hobart)

Thursday 8pm, Hobart Multicultural Dance Group, \$5 + contribution to shared supper, St James Hall, Rupert Av, New Town, contact Graeme (03) 6239 1553, Krista & Peter (03) 6227 8471 or email Peter: PeterSands@netspace.net.au

VICTORIA (Melbourne)

Tuesday 7.30 - 10pm. Greek traditional, popular, national & folkloric dancing at Margaritas Centre 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) 9583 1173 (all hours) or Mobile 015 821 203.

Wednesday 6 - 10pm. Pine St Hall, Pine St. Cheltenham. Contact Margarita (03) 9583 1173.

Thursday 10.00am. International Folk Dancing, U3A, Dandenong, Uniting Church Hall, Birch Ave. North Dandenong. Contact Conny (03) 9792 9377.

Friday 7.30 - 10.00pm, every 2nd Friday of each month. International Dancing, Box Hill Ballet Association hall, Whitehorse Rd, Box Hill. Contact Jan Turner (03) 9434 3368 or email jant@alphalink.com.au.

Saturday 4th Saturday of each month, 1:30 - 3:30pm, St Kilda International Dancers, St Kilda. Address on enquiry. Marie Feigl 5473 3355 or 0412 447 600.

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

WESTERN AUSTRALIA (Perth)

Monday Souleiado French Dance Group runs classes in French Dances for Australian Kids after school for children in Nedlands, Perth. Contact Laurel (08) 6389 0767, email farandole@nw.com.au.

Monday Perth International Dancers, 7.00pm teaching, 8.30 - 9.30 social dancing. St Margaret's Hall, cnr Tyrell and Elizabeth Sts Nedlands, WA. Contact Nina Thompson (08) 9385 3689, or Palenque (08) 9279 4813 or email palenqueb@gmail.com.

Tuesday 7.45 - 9.45pm. Hora Dance (Israeli), Temple David Social Hall, 34 Clifton Cres, Mount Lawley. Contact (08) 9276 7566 or (08) 9335 2042.

Thursday 10 am - Noon, St Paul's Hall, 162 - 164 Hampton Rd, Fremantle. Contact (08) 9276 7566 or (08) 9335 2042.

Thursday 7pm, Souleiado French Dance group runs classes for adults in traditional dances from various regions of France in Nedlands, Perth. Contact Laurel (08) 6389 0767, email farandole@nw.com.au.

Friday Perth International Dancers, Morning in the Hills, during school terms. 9.30 a.m. lessons, new dances taught followed by general dancing. Mundaring Scout Hall, Jacoby St, Mundaring, contact Jenny Currell, (08) 9298 9069 or 0418 899391.

Saturday 10.30am - 12.30 p.m., Perth International Folk Dance Group, St Margaret's Hall, cnr Tyrell and Elizabeth Sts Nedlands, WA. Contact Jenny Bardill (08) 9381 5235 or Internet <http://members.iinet.com.au/~currell/>

CHANGES TO "WHAT'S ON WHERE"

When the details of your folk dance group change, please email BOTH the website administrator: Paul Clark, webmaster@folkdanceaustralia.org.au and the editor, dannilyn@hotmail.com

- The dead batteries were given out free of charge.
- A bicycle can't stand-alone; it is two tired.
- A will is a dead giveaway.
- A chicken crossing the road: poultry in motion.
- A boiled egg is hard to beat.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 29 Nov** FDA Greek Folk Dance Workshop with Vas Aligiannis, Marrickville Youth Resource Centre, enq. Sandra 6552 5142 or Kaye 9528 4813
- 11 Dec** Sedenka Pre Xmas Party and More - Rozelle Community Centre, 665A Darling St at 8pm. Bring \$10, food and drink to share
- 12 Dec** Baubles, Bangles and Beads - Folk Dance Canberra Xmas Party 7 p.m. Members \$8, Others \$10. Please bring a plate to share. Sue 6241 2941, Ros 6258 5443
- 27 Dec – Jan 1** Woodford Folk Festival, Woodford, Qld www.woodfordfolkfestival.com
- 31 Dec – Jan 3** Gulgong Festival www.gulgongfolkfestival.com
- 8 Jan** Noosa Folk Dancers Friday classes resume, 9 – 11.30 a.m. All welcome. Phone Danni 5471 0409 dannilyn@hotmail.com
- 8 – 10 Jan** Cygnet Folk Festival www.cygnetfolkfestival.com
- 14 – 17 Jan** Illawara Folk Festival www.illawarrafolkfestival.com.au
- 17 – 22 Jan** Celtic Summer School, Campaspe Downs, Vic. Enq. 03 6397 3427 www.celt.com.au/summer.html
- 29 Jan** Free Film Night, fundraising event for Martenitsa, Five Dock RSL
- 13 Feb** “Big Dance” – Gary Dawson, Mara! band and Martenitsa on Sat Feb 13th, Lane Cove Country Club. Maramusic 02 4751 4910
- 26 Feb** Free Film Night, fundraising event for Martenitsa, Five Dock RSL
- 26 – 28 Feb** 15th Cobargo Folk Festival, www.cobargofolkfestival.com
- 5 – 8 March** Womadelaide, www.womadelaide.com.au
- 5 – 8 March** Port Fairy Folk Festival (03) 5568 2227 www.portfairyfolkfestival.com
- 9 – 11 July** AVDP Bowral Folk Dance Weekend

YOUR EVENTS COULD BE LISTED ON THIS PAGE. All you need to do is email dannilyn@hotmail.com or phone (07) 5471 0409 before 16th January 2010



Folk Dance Australia Inc *Application for 2010 Membership*

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Phone: (____) _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Email: _____

If you elect to have your Footnotes emailed to you instead of posted, then your Membership Fee is reduced to \$20.



I would like my Footnotes Newsletter to be emailed to me instead of posted.



Please send Membership/Renewal Form with membership fee of \$25 (or \$20, if Footnotes is to be emailed to you) as a money order or cheque made out to Folk Dance Australia Inc to:

The Membership Secretary
Folk Dance Australia
4 Old Station Rd
HELENSBURGH 2508