



FOLK DANCE AUSTRALIA NEWSLETTER NO- 2 December 1990

NEWS LETTER NAME COMPETITION

We need a name for this newsletter. "The Grapevine" would be nice but is already being used by Sheffi's group in Melbourne. So think up something that has connotations of newsletters and folk dance or it may end up as the "Folk Dance Leader", "The Footnote", "The Buzz" or even the "Journal of Folk Dance Australia".

If you like or dislike any of these tell us or send in your suggestions.

Can you guess the dance in the entry above.

LOGO COMPETITION

FDA is looking for a suitable LOGO for letterhead, T-shirts etc. So far one entry has been received and has been used in advertising in Canberra.



Again if you like it or hate it tell us, or better still send in your entry.

FOLK DANCE AUSTRALIA

NEWSLETTER NO- 2

December 1990

Hi everyone! Here we are again with our second quarterly newsletter which comes to you this time from Jim and Chris Battisson in Canberra. Membership is steadily growing so please keep spreading the word on behalf of FDA. I'm sure we can be a very successful organisation if we all "pull together".

WORKSHOPS

Our first FDA workshop since the completion of the 1989/90 Folkdance Teacher Training Course was a wonderful, fulfilling experience with Branka Katalinic. It was held in Sydney on 21 October. Branka who is leader of the Dubrovnik Croatian Ensemble concentrated on style and choreography.

I have been to several of Branka's workshops to learn dances but this was quite different and indeed was the first workshop I have ever attended with Branka or anyone else which concentrated solely on style and choreography as opposed to just learning new dances.

We were taught a harvest dance/choreography called Baranjska Zetva from the Baranja region (north Croatia). Armed with sickles we commenced "harvesting" and presented our wheat to the landlord. Then one of the village men arrived playing his flute which attracted the village girls. However our work was not yet finished for we had to plough the field. When our work was completed the whole village celebrated the harvest. There were groups of men and women doing their own special little celebration dance which ended with everyone joining in.

It was a wonderful experience and by the end of the day we all wished we could go somewhere to perform it. The workshop was intended for us to use Branka's choreographies if we wished and videos were taken of the day, so if anyone is interested please let FDA know. I certainly intend using it at some stage in the future.

Workshops for the new year are being organised and information will be in the next Newsletter.

FOLKDANCE TEACHER TRAINING COURSE

Deposits have already been received (even from as far away as Nambour in Queensland) for the next Folkdance Teacher Training Course to start in Sydney on 7/7/91. This course can be recommended for teachers of folk dance.

I have benefited greatly myself and have conducted a workshop for the Kodaly Music Association and taught and choreographed folk dance for the ACT Callisthenics Association rep team who received an award as a result at the Ballarat competitions in Victoria in October.

If you are considering doing the course, don't delay, send your deposits and applications in now as there are a limited number of places. If finance is a problem please let us know. We would be happy to talk to you.

MONTHLY DANCES IN CANBERRA

'Two dances on the third Saturday of October and November have now been held. Jim and I had our fingers crossed for the first one and hoped that the stormy weather wouldn't stop people venturing out from their homes.

People certainly weren't fighting to get through the doors and I guess I was a little disappointed - just over 30 attended including 9 children. Maybe I was expecting too much for the first dance. The trouble is, I've attended too many bush dances with packed halls. Anyway we covered our costs and enjoyed ourselves.

The second dance was more successful in terms of numbers - just over 40 people attended including 11 children. The extra people added to the atmosphere and the hall seemed slightly smaller than the previous month. Wouldn't it be great if 50 plus came to our next dance on 15 December. We're hoping that these dances will be an ongoing event and that our numbers will continue to improve. We remain optimistic.

Many thanks to my mother for providing painted T-shirts for the raffle prizes.

WHAT'S ON WHERE

International Folk Dancing

CANBERRA

WEDNESDAY CIFDA (Canberra International Folk Dancing Association Inc.) at Hughes Community Centre from 7.45 pm to about 10.45 pm. Admission \$3. Contact Christine Battisson.

THURSDAY Woden Senior Citizens dance at their club rooms from 12.30 - 2.00 pm. Admission SOC. Contact Christine Battisson.

THIRD SATURDAY OF THE MONTH (excluding January) FDA dances at the Woden Senior Citizens Hall from 7.30 - 11.00 pm. Admission \$3 members, others \$4. Contact Jim & Chris Battisson.

SYDNEY

TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY Sutherland Shire Folk Dance Group recommences first week in February. Contact Kaye Laurendet.

FRIDAY Sedenka Folk Dance Group's Christmas party will be held on 14 December and resumes after Christmas on 1 February. Contact Nick Doumani (02) 516 2382.

Where do you dance? If it isn't on this list tell us and we'll put it on. We would like to know when, where, how much and whom to contact.

CONTACTS

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