

GRAPEVINE

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Grapevine is the newsletter of the Perth International Dancers. The Group meets at St Margaret's Church Hall in Nedlands (Cnr Tyrell & Elizabeth) on Monday evenings and Saturday mornings. Monday evenings begin at 7pm with a 75 minute dance lesson, followed by general dancing until late. Saturdays begin at 10:30am with a 1 hour dance lesson before morning tea and general dancing. There is also a Friday session at 9.30am at Mundaring Scout Hall. For more information please call John (9427 4258 (wk)), Martin (9326 6077 (wk)) or Palenque (0423 834 439).

President's Report 2009

2009 has disappeared in a blur, but with lots of fun times! It started in late 2008 with Fiona Murdoch over from New Zealand to teach a weekend workshop that sadly I could not attend as I was in Peru, and the AGM ably handled by then-Vice President Steve Hubbard, who has now left Perth to work in Adelaide – very sad!

The PIFDG year as always started with Christmas Parties – with Last Five Coins playing for the Monday party – that I attended jet-lagged from flying in earlier that day, so don't remember much!

Three dance sessions have run successfully through the year: Monday nights, Saturday mornings and Friday mornings in the hills with Jennifer Eyre taking on a much larger teaching role on Fridays and Saturdays. We had 44 financial members in 2009.

The Saturday Group moved to St Margaret's Hall with a 10.30am start, and therefore started using the laptop music system. We still haven't worked out how we can use a remote control with the laptop, but in the smaller hall it doesn't seem to be so much of a problem!

Early in the year Deb had an unfortunate slip and the Committee has decided to take on accident cover as of April 2010, and increase Membership fees to \$25 pa (and \$18 concession) to cover this. The Committee has also agreed to trial a change to charges for classes to try to encourage students to come to all classes in a given month. The current rate will remain if classes are paid for a month (or more) in advance, but will increase to \$5/\$7 for members/non-members if paid casually.

The Group was invited to perform for four events: We danced at Fairbridge Festival with Last Five Coins in April – with a Tarantella-themed Eurodance workshop and performance. It went down very well. Following this, on 9th May some of the group joined Belyssa, her belly dancers and various other dance groups in a multicultural spectacular as a preliminary to a Kylie Minogue performance at Burswood Theatre, as a fundraiser for the Amanda Young Foundation.

Rehearsals and the performance were great fun. We also danced at the Hilton Community Harvest Festival on Sunday 24th May – in support of setting up a community garden in Hilton. Apart from being on bitumen in the sun, it went well and we got some interest in the group and local classes!

The Group was also invited to perform and teach dances at the Whitegum Valley Community Feast on November 8th. I organised Last Five Coins to be invited also and a group of us performed and taught dances to live music by Last Five Coins. We partook in the feast in a lovely friendly community atmosphere in the park. Fortunately the Fremantle doctor wasn't too strong and we didn't get blown away. Lots of fun was had by all.

In October - the Saturday of Halloween - we ran a one day Beginners' Workshop in Bibra Lake – at the Waldorf School – an amazing bush oasis in the suburbs. It was a beautiful peaceful spot and we had about 18 students learn about 15 dances. Thank you very much to Sara Freidman for initial organisation and to Leone, Nina and Pat on the day who did all the coordination. Thanks also to John Whaite and Jennifer Eyre who helped me teach on the day.

In July we had Andre Van de Plas visit for a weekend workshop that went down very well – we are still dancing the dances. The favourites were Raz Vechor and Trakiisko Choro – see full list below.

On 5th September the Saturday group held their 8th Birthday party (see photo below). There were no official Monday party nights, as the Committee forgot to organise them, despite planning one for the end of August. However we did run Red Faces this year – again at Eve's place, and there were some classic skits presented! Thanks Leone as always for making it happen.

Happy Dancing,

Palenque



The Saturday Group's 8th birthday party at St Margaret's Hall – for a first time!



Teaching Schedule for 2010

	Mondays	Saturdays
December	John	Jennifer
January	Palenque	Jenny
February	John	Jennifer
March	Eve	Palenque

Subject to change

A message from Leone

Well Red Faces for 2009 has been done - and how good it was! We had some lovely/clever/funny items, and thanks to everybody for participating and entertaining us all - especially great to see the little and not so little children performing. I loved it all, and I think everyone else did as well - it is so much fun so let's hope we can do it again next year. Also we are very grateful to Eve for once again opening her home to us - we appreciate your hospitality Eve and hope we didn't leave too much mess. A big **THANKYOU**

Farewell Steve

We were very sad to hear that Vice President Steve Hubbard was moving to Adelaide to a new job. His position here in Perth had been becoming untenable since his company was taken over – I suppose the global financial crisis had hit! So on 19th September dancers descended on Palenque's new dance floor in Bassendean to properly christen it with a farewell party for Steve, Szusza, Mathew and Kati. Russell and Mark from Last Five Coins came, and we had lots of fun dancing to live music as well as testing the MP3 player of music we gave Steve as a farewell gift.

Steve, we'll miss you, your technical know-how and your energy. But hopefully we'll see you back here again, and if not I'm sure we'll meet again on a dance floor somewhere! Hope all is going well in Adelaide!

Palenque

Some dates for your diary:

Christmas Party Monday 21st December

St Margaret's Church Hall

With live music by the *Last Five Coins*

Join us for another great Party Night, bring a plate and drink to share and dress Christmas-y

7pm start for 8pm live music

Pre-sale \$5 (\$7 for non members) \$10 at the door

Saturday Christmas Party

Saturday 19th December

St Margaret's Church Hall

Including a performance of Malay and Indian folk dance by the Yuan Ching Group from Singapore.

Last Saturday class for the year at 10.30am, followed by a break for a light lunch. Performance at 12.15pm.

Join us for another great Dance Party, bring a plate and drink to share and dress Christmas-y

Friday Christmas Party

The Friday Hills group at Mundaring Scout Hall will have their last session and Christmas morning tea for the year on Friday 18th December. If you are free, I'm sure they'd love a visit from some flat-landers! 9.30am

More for the diary THIS WEEKEND:

Sunday 6th Dec is the Guildford Heritage Festival. Soulieado will be dancing, and Last Five Coins will be playing with plenty of dance music - at 2pm at Stirling Square, Guildford.

It's All in the Words

Here we continue with our series that looks at the words of some of our regular dances.

John has been teaching More Sokol Pie recently – here are the words. More rebellion than the normal folk dance!

A falcon is drinking
water in the River of Vardar
Jane, Jane the white gullet
Jane, Jane the gentle lamb
Oh you falcon
you brave bird

Jane, Jane the white gullet
Jane, Jane the gentle lamb

Haven't you seen
a brave man to pass by
a brave man to pass by
with nine sharp wounds?

Chorus

A Brave man to pass by
a brave man to pass by
with nine sharp wounds
all from gun shoots

Chorus

And the tenth wound
stabbed with knife

Chorus

Or of course you can have the Macedonian version!

Море сокол пие
Вода на Вардарот.
Jane, Jane ле бело грло
Jane, Jane ле кротко јагне.
Море ој соколе,
Ти јуначко пиле.
Jane, Jane ле бело грло
Jane, Jane ле кротко јагне.
Море нели виде
Јунак да помине,
Јунак да помине,
С'девет лути рани.
Jane, Jane ле бело грло,
Jane, Jane ле кротко јагне.
Јунак да помине
С'девет лути рани,
С'девет лути рани,
Сите куршумлии.
Jane, Jane ле бело грло
Jane, Jane ле кротко јагне.
А дестта рана,
Со нож прободена.
Jane, Jane ле бело грло
Jane, Jane ле кротко јагне.

And while we are at it here are the words of Rumelaj:

When we dance Rumelaj we hear,
Zetel mini maj, muntra kurva me
Zetel mini maj mata muntra da meri.

Which is an introduction to the words which very loosely translate to:

When I pass by and see you,
How you torture me,
Oh my sweet Katerina
You are frying meatballs on the fire,
and you are frying them so sweetly!

Oh, my Katerina, my Katerina
I must tell you about my little grief.
Your eyes are like chestnuts and they torment me
I want to pass by your door all the time.

You 've got a pot of clay
and you are cooking beansoup.
Playing my guitar I long for you
I sing for you by your door my beloved,

Oh, my Katerina, my Katerina
I want to tell you about my little grief
Eyes like chestnuts put me in tortures
and I want to pass by your door all the time.

Andre 2009 – reprinted from Footnotes

Well, after days of sparkling Perth winter weather - wall-to-wall blue skies - Andre flew into Perth from Bali to meet a cold wet snap for the start of his 25th year of visiting Australia. This was his 14th Perth visit to present his workshops and outside it must have been as cold and wet as any of those earlier visits. Inside, we were happy and warm in our anticipation at learning new dances.

Ours is a small but dedicated group of dancers and over the week-end 18/19 July Andre held over 30 of us in his spell with his inimitable style - how many times did we hear that familiar "one more time" and "look to me".

Andre brought us 12 dances over three workshop sessions; 11 new ones and one Israeli dance that for us was a 'revisitation'. As usual there was a good mix of dances; dances from some of our favourite countries and in favourite styles. Personally I enjoyed the challenge of the kopanitsa, Trakiisko Choro, and liked the Serbian, the Croatian and the Armenian dances. The Cossack Russian dance, Raz Vechor was different – and recorded top votes from the group. Overall there was good music and good choreography; challenging but not too challenging!! Great exercise for the body and for the mind!

In line with recent years we all ranked the dances taught, choosing three dances as our favourites - '30 pieces of silver' did I hear! I would have liked a choice of four but c'est la vie - three it was! Whatever the scores I am sure that we'll be adding many of these to the long list of dances that Andre has taught us over the years. Our Group's dance scores for those taught is attached, as is a picture of most of our attendees at the workshops.

All too soon the workshops were over for another year and Andre was speeding off to the airport to travel east to visit family and to repeat the dose of workshops across Oz and New Zealand.

Many of our Group see Andre as a friend, so it was great to see him again. Well done Andre; good luck with your other workshops. Come back soon - we hope to see you in 2010.

Martin Williams

Martin Williams has attended ten of Andre's workshops. Martin was President of the Perth International Folk Dance Group for many years; he is now the Group's Treasurer

And an extra note from Palenque Blair, current President of PIFDG.

Andre actually arrived on Thursday and as usual stayed with Eve Blair in Cottesloe – not that the weather was much good for his annual beach visit!! On the Friday evening, several of the Group attended our local multicultural music venue Kulcha to hear the Hungarian community dance group band, renamed from something unpronounceable to Hot Paprika! They put on a great show and we all got up for at least one dance. Saturday evening, all a little tired from a day of dancing, we had a casual pot-luck dinner at Eve's house – not everyone braved the wild weather to be there, but there was plenty of choice and good food to share – including Peter Fallon's infamous dessert made of cream, chocolate cake, alcohol, strawberries and more cream!

Dance	From	Votes
Raz Vechor	Russia	13
Trakiisko Choro	Bulgaria	10
Nemoj Kate	Croatia	8
The Gleeful Threesome	USA	8
Staro Zensko	Macedonia	7
Joj Rado, Joj Radmilla	Serbia	5
More Pile	Bulgaria	5
Te Avan Baxtale	Romanian - Gypsy	5
Chors, Goghk & Vokt	Armenia	3
Sarba Moldoveneski	Romania	3
David Melech	Israel	2
Ya da Kalinushku	Russia	



Some faces caught on Red Faces film:



Red faces 2009

Turkish faces not so red, but with seriously green hairdo's!



Red faces 2009

Bev and Leigh sing All Things Bright & Beautiful! Or was that Ugly?



John, Steve and Martin driving their way through a cute little driving dance from France!

