

GRAPEVINE



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December 2013

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 7:15pm with a 60 minute dance lesson, followed by general dancing until 9:15. Saturdays begin at 10am 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 (0438 980 603) or **Palenque (0423 834 439)**.

President's Report 2013

We come to the end of another year. It doesn't seem that long ago that we had the last AGM when I somehow got myself elected President. Be that as it may the year has passed very quickly.

At the outset I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the committee, who in addition to their own personal everyday personal/family and professional commitments have worked hard throughout the year to keep everything running smoothly and engage in activities to promote International Dance. Without their commitment to fulfilling their respective committee roles Perth International Dance would not function.

The committee has been very active putting in place some innovative changes and generally steering the group through what has been a 'steady as she goes approach', to the year. Membership numbers are steady this year but remain an ongoing concern. We have had several new members join us this year and I take this opportunity to welcome them and trust they will continue to enjoy the fun and challenge International Dance provides for us all. Both Monday and Saturday groups have experienced peaks and troughs in daily attendances. Mundaring has experienced a more dramatic loss of members.

What is the solution to attracting new members? The committee took on board various submissions submitted at the start of the year, suggesting strategies as to what could be done to maintain/boost current membership numbers.

The committee considered all submissions and made the following modifications:

1. Monday evening session times
2. Teaching/social dance format.
3. Committee Meeting Minutes posted on the notice board for all to read.
4. Committee Member Names and Roles similarly posted on billboard along with teaching schedule for the year.
5. Monkey Survey is in the process of being developed by Palenque (Thank you for your time and effort). What the survey is designed to do is gauge the reasons why members are not attending or simply leaving and not returning. It should come as no surprise that injury, illness, travel and competing personal and community interests are the likely outcomes of this survey and will continue to be largely responsible for membership decline over the coming years. Perhaps the questionnaire responses will shed a different light on reasons for membership decline.
6. In addition, the committee increased its advertising activities in efforts to attract newcomers. Posters were posted on shopping centre billboards the most effective type being posters with tear off tabs with the group's contact address/numbers which demonstrated that people were interested enough to take our contact details. Designer leaflets promoting coming events which were distributed largely at Fairbridge and regular entries in the Post classified ads were also features of our promotion efforts. Many thanks to Bev for her time and effort in coordinating these publicity arrangements.



In the same vein, other avenues of promotion that endeavours to keep/put Perth International Dance in the public eye is the website which was administered by Jenny Currell. This is an ongoing review and update function and many thanks to Jenny for her time and efforts. Similarly many thanks to Palenque for her setting up and administration of the PID's Facebook page. Members are encouraged to utilise this avenue as much as possible and tell/send the page site asking their friends to become PID Facebook friends. Perhaps out of that we may get some expressions of interest.

Both Palenque and Jennifer Eyre were engaged to teach International Folk Dance in schools throughout the metro area this year. This kind of community involvement is to be applauded. It presents yet more opportunities to promote and develop community interest in International Folk Dancing especially among the young.

Fairbridge was held on the last weekend of April. Perth International was represented by John W; Palenque; Jennifer Eyre and Jenny Currell who were registered teachers/workshop leaders. By all reports the Festival and the Workshop was lots of fun, well attended by all ages, but did not attract new members. Many thanks to the group who offered their time and energy to register and attend on behalf of Perth International Dance.

A Beginners course was set for 18th May to the 29th June but was cancelled on the first day due to insufficient numbers enrolling. Disappointing but we'll try again next year. Thanks to John W for volunteering to conduct this event.

Andre was the visiting choreographer engaged for a workshop in July this year. Andre is always well received and appreciated for his teaching excellence and knowledge and this year was no exception. In his usual effective way he presented and taught us a range of interesting and some challenging dances. On behalf of the group as a whole, I extend the PID Group's appreciation and thanks to Eve for hosting Andre's stay, particularly the welcoming evening meal at her home. To Palenque also, many thanks for coordinating Andre's visit. As always the food was great and Deb did a great job with catering for the occasion.

In April we had an April Fools Day Party (29th April), and similarly held a "Christmas in July" party. Once again Santa took time out from his busy toy making schedule to pay us a visit. Both events were well attended and catered for by bring a plate to share. Then we went to Greece on Monday 30th for a Greek night which was always going to be a guaranteed energetic, fun evening.

On Saturday the 7th September we had a "Political" party theme celebrating the Saturday dance group's 12th birthday. It could be said that by the time we got to this party, everyone was so over politics, politicians and elections that there was little interest in anything political, but a few members did make the effort to demonstrate their political preferences. Another stellar

"Red Faces" evening was coordinated by Leone in August with the able support of Pat and others. Many thanks to Pat for hosting the evening at her house, and to the members who performed. To Leone another Oscar for Best Director and Producer. Perth International Dance was represented at the Darlington Arts festival on Saturday the 2nd of November. A group of about 10 attended and a number of spectators participated in the 30-40 minute time slot we were allocated. Thanks to Jenny C. and Jennifer E for the coordination.

One of our innovations this year was Saturday morning's session "Picnic in the Park" in June (at Matilda Bay) and a Monday evening "Dancing at Matilda Bay" session. Both occasions were attended by a reasonable number of members. Whilst the events did not attract new members it did entice a few members of the public to join in the dancing. This may be a great opportunity to attract more attention, perhaps new members and to further promote PID. With the benefit of this year's experience we should repeat the events again next year. On behalf of the committee many thanks to all who supported these novel events and to Jennifer Eyre for the use of her sound system on both occasions.

Once again thank you to one and all for your support throughout the year. Apologies and acknowledgement to anyone I have not extended an appreciation to for their commitment and efforts throughout the year, or events missed.

To one and all have a safe Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

John Bardill, President 2012-2013

Monday Christmas Party

Put on your Xmas gear. Bring a plate and a drink to share

16th December, 7pm start for 8pm

live music with The Last Five Coins

St Margaret's Hall, Cnr Tyrell&Elizabeth

\$10 (\$12 for non members)

\$2 discount for payment before the event

Saturday Christmas Party

Saturday - 21st December

**10am, St Margaret's Church Hall,
Nedlands**

also with the Last Five Coins

Price – the same as for Monday Party

Last Hills session Friday 13th at 09:30.

Dancing restarts Sat. 11th & Monday 13th Jan.

Andre Workshop - July 2013

The week-end of 6th/7th July saw 30 dancers at Andre's 17th visit to teach in Perth. As usual the teaching was excellent and the energy levels were up, with everyone responding to the usual cries of 'one more time' and 'look to me'.

Andre's dance list in the order taught:

Dance	Country	Score
Hasaposerviko	Greece	2
Momne Le Chubava	Bulgaria	5
Horaveche	Romania	9
Ordu	Turkey	1
Weave The Line	USA	5
Al Sadenu	Israel	2
Baltareasca	Romania	4
Ciorba De Curcan	Romania	9
Sababa	Israel	6
Dzanguritsa	Bulgaria	5
Isu Byala Nedo	Bulgaria	2
Serez	Serbia/Kosovo	0

Andre's Workshop Attendees - taken by Martin ↓



Who was that bag lady seen at the Workshop?



It's All in the Words

One of our favourite dances taught by Andre this year, Ciorba De Curcan (from Oltenia in SW Romania), gives some advice to newlyweds.

The name means 'Turkey Soup':

*Tell me my husband what is your intention?
Because if you marry me, you will get very hungry!*

*Mind my words, if you marry me
I will love you, but I can't cook!*

*For one or two months you will get only eggs,
But after one year you will get turkey soup.*

*Tell me my husband, if you like to be with me
I don't like cooking, that's me and you can't change it*

*If you like to drink, look into my eyes
If you like to eat, I offer you my sweet lips*

*I don't know what I have to do, with my husband
He's making me crazy, because I didn't cook for him.*

I will not love him any more, I don't want to spoil him

Because that's not good for him, my beloved man.

Red Faces - 2013

On 17th August we had another very successful Red Faces night - held in Pat's lovely home in Melville - thank you Pat.

We had approximately 18 acts - all very well prepared - ranging from poetry, song and dance, a very fine sermon, some crazy comedy and hopefully no-one got stuck in the lift, a beautiful song recital, some beautiful ukes, the cutest little drummer boy you've ever seen, a lively violin solo, great kids' acts, an exotic dance duo and our regular opening number - the CanCan, which sets the scene for the night and gets everyone involved and in the mood.

We are all very talented - some more talented than others!!! Already we have some great ideas for next year and hope you are all planning yours - it's such a fun thing to do so don't be bashful - whatever you do we love you for it - it can be as daggy as you like. Also we have in mind maybe having another try at the hall - I will talk to the committee about that - it will cost some money but I'm sure people wouldn't mind paying a little bit to cover that. 'Tis but a thought.

Thank you to John who once again put a lot of effort into filming and recording the event on DVD - thank you to Pat for hosting the event, and thank you to all of you who performed and/or came along to be part of the audience.

Best Wishes to you All

Leone

Where have 'we' been in 2013?

As usual, we've had a few people travelling this year:

Louise and Laurie returned from exotic places such as Arunachal Pradesh in India.

Gisela went to Germany and did lots of cycling on their safe and numerous cycle paths. She only got back in November and is still suffering from jet lag - oh and also from being back at work!! Good to see her back at Monday dancing.

Martin and Pam spent 6-weeks in the UK - the summer weather was OK for a change - including two great weeks in Scotland in their motor-home. Their 4-month planned trip to France and Iberia got unplanned when Martin was diagnosed with prostate cancer which required an operation and lots of recuperation. Some Scottish trip pictures in [here](#).

Tony Hoar went all over the place – some words from Tony:

In June last year I decided to see a bit of the world and just to make sure I kept moving, I rented my house out for a year. First port of call was Quimper in Brittany where I caught up with some of Laurel's French dance group. We attended the Cornouaille festival celebrating Brittany's Celtic heritage. Brigitte, one of the dancers in the group, comes from that area and gave us a wonderful insight into the towns and customs of the region.

After a week and a bit, I moved about 300km east to Angers, a university town in the Loire Valley. I stayed in a quaint studio apartment close to one of the Universities and joined a French language course for a few weeks. This also gave me the chance to attend the fantastic Puy du Fou spectacle with the school (qv: www.puydufou.com). The show had around 2000 performers, hundreds of horses, canons, fireworks and traced the history of the region from the Middle Ages 'til after the 2nd World War.

During my stay in Angers (also the home of Cointreau), I rented a bike and explored the area, using the navettes that travel the Loire, to ride around neighbouring villages and islands.

Following a short trip to Paris to catch up with a friend, I went to Turkey and joined some Perth friends on a Gulet in which we sailed from Marmaris east to Kaş. With a skipper, cook and deckhand provided there was not much to do but

lay around, be fed, swim and go sightseeing among the many Lycian ruins.

From Turkey I flew via Hong Kong to Hua Hin in Thailand and stayed in a friend's holiday apartment for a few weeks. The area now has a growing wine industry that's improving in leaps and bounds.

Returning home to Perth for Christmas (via Bali for a week) I discovered how expensive and hard to find good accommodation is in Perth.

In the new year, came a trip to Penang, Hong Kong and then Taiwan. Taipei is a fabulous city, clean, cheap, with good transport, parks and countryside, friendly people and a great range of restaurants. There is still a strong Japanese influence from the fifty years of Japanese rule.

In March, I moved to Fukuoka in Japan, the capital of the island of Kyushu. Two of the best times to visit Japan are Spring and Autumn, one for the fantastic displays of cherry blossom and the other for the red and gold autumn colours. Japan has many festivals and traditional occasions throughout the year and Hanami is one of the most popular as it involves picnicking under the cherry blossom trees and drinking sake or beer (or green tea for some). The favoured sites are in the proximity of old castles, temples or shrines as these have the oldest and largest trees.

Like most coastal cities in Japan, Fukuoka was carpet bombed in the Second World War and has been rebuilt since. It is now a prosperous city with wide streets and modern buildings and the people are friendly and open. One interesting traditional remnant is the appearance at dusk of portable footpath restaurants called Yatai. Holding about 6 to 8 people, they are very chummy venues where strangers meet like old friends and consume noodles and sake.

Next stop was a tour starting in Kobe in central Honshu, the main island of Japan. Kobe is in the prefecture of Hyogo, and the local Perth office of the Hyogo government organised a tour where we were guests of the Hyogo Prefectural Government. This was two weeks of flat out sightseeing. I joined the tour group in Kobe, having been delayed by train stoppages due to an earthquake in Awaji island just off Kobe. The very first afternoon started with the Kobe earthquake centre where, in a special area and using original footage, visitors are given some idea of what it would have been like to

experience the Great Hanshin earthquake of 1995 at 3am in the morning. We then visited Awaji island and called in to see the Koala bears donated by the Western Australian Government. A baby Koala had just been born and has become a tourist attraction.

The next two weeks took in a number of onsen spas, temples and shrines, restaurants, inns, sake breweries, a hands-on pottery factory, the Hiroshima Peace Museum etc etc.

The rest of the time until July was spent with trips to catch up with friends in Okayama and Osaka and at a school near Nagoya.

Then it was home via Adelaide for a week sailing with an old friend.

Next year, who knows? **Tony Hoar**

Damaged Goods!?

In last year's Grapevine we focused on where all the dancers have gone and why our numbers keep falling. Well this year in addition to the normal wastage some people have been trying extra hard to avoid dancing by getting really injured:

Peter Fallon 5th November

Cycling along Marine Tce in Fremantle on Saturday morning 7th September 2013, an elderly lady driving to the polling booth turned right into Collie St as I was passing it and T-boned me. My right leg took the impact, I somersaulted over the bonnet, somehow shoes detached from the pedals and landed face down on the road. I rolled over to sit up but the pain in my lower legs prevented me from standing up. She drove her car into a nearby driveway and I crawled on my backside to the pavement. A witness called for an ambulance. I noticed the lady getting back into her car (she did not approach me) and I asked a witness to get her details. She spoke little English and lives on Marine Tce. She drove away after that. The police arrived not long after the ambulance. An ambulance took me to Fremantle Emergency Department where they diagnosed a fractured left fibula; I ended up getting a cab home with my bike.

Now I am on crutches with my left ankle in plaster. While I can drive automatics, it is the walking that takes time. I assume her car was OK, my bike, helmet and clothes were OK. Shoes are a bit scuffed. The left leg is still swollen, mainly because I have not been resting

enough with the leg up. Work still to be done; every second day I would drive into work around 5pm as I could park my car outside the front door.

Unfortunately my idea of resting the leg by moving around with minimal weight on it was not appropriate and the fracture had separated with surgery required; a plate and screws. The top of the right fibula was also fracture but that will heal by itself. The cast is off after 8 weeks but I'm still using crutches and getting a lift into work. A sure way to get a good rest and be waited on.



Eve Blair

My Left Foot

I was staring at a monstrously enlarged ghostly white left foot: just off to the left a small crescent hung suspended in the murk: like the paring of a thumb nail perhaps. 'Yes it's an avulsion fracture' said the larger green coveralls, 'we'll have to slab it'. 'She's a very active 65 year old', said the smaller green coveralls, 'couldn't we boot it?' To avulse, I later learned, means 'to rip off, tear away', and when I landed on the side of my foot with the acceleration produced by my body weight falling through just one metre, the tendon had held and in doing so had ripped the small nail paring of bone to which it was attached away from the cuboid bone in my ankle.

A little while later I was waiting in the Emergency Dept of 'Charlies' for Carl to pick me up (thanks to the little doctor I sported a 'moon' boot on my left foot: no plaster – phew – at least I could wash!) trying to figure out how the 2 crutches I had been issued (without any instructions) could help locomotion rather than hinder it. If ever you have the misfortune to

need crutches, be aware that your weight is supposed to be supported by your wrists (or forearms if you have elbow crutches) and NOT by your armpits – which is really painful.

I got to Charlie's thanks to the insistence and generosity of Monday folk dancers, to where I had limped with a lesson prepared but no means of demonstrating the dances (thanks John). Anne had taken me into Charlie's when I objected that I would not be able to get from the car park to the emergency dept; Pam and Martin got my car home to Cottesloe – and you were right guys: if you have to go to an emergency department, go on a Monday night. It WAS empty.

But how come I fell one metre onto the side of my foot?

When you are dancing on a nice clear floor it is really helpful to know where your foot is without having to look at it (your audience likes to think that you are dancing for them rather than your foot): this is called proprioception. Proprioception is very useful (for all sorts of things) and I like to think that my proprioception is good. However the rules change when you are climbing on a crowded desk to reach the unreachable top shelf in your office. Not to look at where you are putting your foot in these circumstances is called stupid. **Eve**

Editor's note

For those not familiar with 'My Left Foot', Eve's title comes from a book about a guy, Christie Brown, with cerebral palsy who could only move the toes on his left foot....so he wrote a book using his left foot.

Have you ever wondered what one can do when wearing a moon boot? Well, Eve sent her article from her farm down at Pemberton, so yes she was driving and yes she was down on the farm - moving a tonne of fertiliser!! Eve just couldn't wait, although she is now praying for rain!! The macadamia nuts were dropping off the trees and the grass was growing - it doesn't really sound like 'feet up' and taking it easy does it?!!

She got rid of the crutches after 10 days (lots of dancing means good bone density in lower limbs, so that fractures heal faster ... perhaps we could use that in PIFDG advertising). Her physio told her do 'anything' provided you keep the moon boot on – he tried to qualify that, but she only remembered the initial sentence!!

The moon boot put a stop to bike riding and dancing.

Get well soon Eve! See you back at dancing!.

Down by the Riverside

Some photos below of dancers on the Nedlands foreshore.



On 30th September, the Saturday of the Queen's birthday holiday, we had Russell and Mark from The Coins to dance to – nice one guys!



Teaching Schedule for the start of 2014

Month	Mondays	Saturdays
January	Sara	John
February	Eve	Jenny C
March	Palenque	Jennifer

Memberships 2014

As we approach the end of the year it's time to think about renewing your membership for 2014. Forms available at dance sessions