

GRAPEVINE

Volume 26 Number 1

June 2014



Grapevine is the newsletter of Perth International Dance. 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. Saturdays begin at 10am. A 1 hour dance lesson is followed by a break for tea and general and request dancing in the second hour. There is also a Friday session at 9.30am at Mundaring Scout Hall. For more information please call John or Jenny (9381 5235) or Palenque (0423 834 439).

Prez Sez

from John B

Welcome to the midyear Grapevine update on Perth International Dance activities since the last AGM in November 2013. Christmas was a busy time for everyone and we had for the first time the Last Five Coins do a double appearance, one on Monday 16th December the other on the 21st December. Both occasions were reasonably well attended and the Last Five Coins did not disappoint with their music. Santa Claus even came and had a dance.

Events since Christmas

Year 2014 has been passing very quickly. The incoming committee has been busy and I would at the outset 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 to keep everything running smoothly and engage in activities to promote International Dance. Also apologies to anyone I fail to mention in this edition of Grapevine. Your support and efforts are greatly appreciated.

The Performance Group has been busy with performances at the following events and venues:

The Harmony Day Concert at Cannington on 22nd March.



This was a fantastic event in which a huge range of cultures was represented in full costume and regalia. PID was well represented by John W; Martin & Pam; Palenque; Eve and Jennifer E. who gave a stellar performance.

The Harmony Day at Kalamunda 23rd March. This occasion was a smaller event but the PID representatives of Palenque; Eve and Jennifer E. were joined by Nicole. The performers performed to their usual high standard, as well as engaging the audience in dance.



Kalamunda Kapers ▲

Who's teaching next?

June

Saturdays – John W & Jenny C.

Mondays – John W.

Sausage Sizzle

A Sausage Sizzle was held at Bunnings Hardware Claremont, many thanks to the Bunnings Community Service for their sponsorship. The WA Arthritis Association also chipped in and donated the required number of rolls needed for the day. This unexpected generosity was greatly appreciated and is acknowledged with a special thank you to Rebecca for arranging it. To all who participated in all the various activities needed to make the event a success a huge thank you and to everyone who just came to say “Hi” your support was greatly appreciated. Flyers were available to hand out to those numerous people who expressed an interest – now we wait for the results. A new banner produced for the group had its inaugural showing on the day.



Sally, Leigh, Pat & John B



Palenque (Chef), Deb, Jen B, Pam & Hazel.



Maureen, Deb, Jenny B, Rebecca, Bev, Stephanie & Hazel

Looking at the above photo you might think there had been an earthquake in Claremont. Was the sausage sizzle on a hill or had there been an earth-shift? It looks like the sizzle was running downhill!!! No - someone spiked the photographer's soft drink.

Greek Party Night

A Greek party night was held on 31st March and with the benefit of the 'tag team' teachers who did a sterling job presenting several dances in the course of the evening. A good number attended with some new faces. The event was as always an energetic, fun evening.



"Tag team" Eve & Palenque in action on Greek Party Night

The Canberra Folk Festival was held over Easter 17th - 21st April. PID was represented by Palenque, Eve, John W and Marie Wynter from Canberra who dances with us whenever she visits family here. The following is a summary from John W.

This Easter, Perth International Dance took part in the Australian National Folk Festival in Canberra.

In mid 2013, our teachers got together with Laurel De Vietri, The Last Five Coins and The Red Sea Pedestrians to make a set of presentations at this year's festival. In 2014,

Western Australia was the featured state at the NFF, but there was still a lot of competition to be selected - there were several thousand proposals. Late in 2013 the organisers contacted us to say we had 3 workshops and a dance in conjunction with Laurel De Vietri and The Last Five Coins.

After a bit of discussion, we selected a teaching team of Palenque, Eve, John and Marie Wynter from Canberra. Most of the group doesn't know Marie, but her family home is in Nedlands, she joins us when she is in Perth, she's a paid up member, and she sometimes teaches dance to children in Canberra. And our application said we had 4 teachers.

So before Easter, the Perth crew moved into Marie's house. It was pretty full, with 3 Perth teachers, Felix, Marie's mother from Perth, Marie's husband Tom, their two kids, Tom's mother from Adelaide and their dog. Co-ordination and transport to and from the festival added an extra dimension of entertainment to the weekend.

It was a busy 4 days, with lots of great music, comedy, circus and dance. Our workshops and the dance were well received, and we even had a ring-in band for an Advanced Cajun workshop. We also caught up with Yorgo Kaporis, who was there with a Bulgarian dance group, and we had a great time dancing tarantella etc. to a fine Italian group. For me, the most interesting event was the Colonial Ball - a couple of hundred dancers, many in ornate period costume, and most knew the dances without prompting. Folk dance lives in Australia!

It was privilege to be involved in such a great event, and to promote our dance to the Australian folk scene. John (tdt)



Palenque, Bev, Leigh (and John W. in the background) seen here enjoying a festival dance.

Fairbridge was held on 25 – 27th April. Perth International Dance was not involved this year.

Coming Events:

Keep your calendars clear for the following events -

Andre Workshop - 5th - 6th July 2014

Keep the week-end of 5th/6th July free. Andre is back for his 18th visit to Perth. It's also his umpteenth visit to Australia.

An enjoyable and informative weekend of dance is guaranteed so keep the weekend free and come along and support this event.

Next Red Faces – 2nd August 2014

Red Faces is planned for the 2nd August and for the first time will be held in the hall. This event is to be coordinated by the Oscar winning producer Leone, so another fun evening is guaranteed.

Beginners Course 2014

An Introductory Course to International Folk Dance is being conducted by Jennifer Eyre and Palenque during term 2 & 3 in Bassendean starting 7th May. It's not too late to enrol for Term 3! so If you know any eastern suburbs people who might be interested or if you are interested, please pass on Palenque's number or give her a call on 0423 834 439 so that she can start taking registrations. Let's support and promote this event any way that we can.

Bassendean Markets

Perth International will do anything to attract new members, even dancing in the streets of Bassendean at the weekend markets in driving rain and what looks like a howling gale. Now that's dedication! Well done to our dedicated performers and all who were able to attend and join in with a special mention to our youngest member – Felix.



Heads down, Tails up – that must have been some kind of headwind!!

Where are they now?

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

Louise and **Laurie**: Having returned from India late last year they have had another trip to Ethiopia. By the time that you read this they should be home again.

Martin and Pam One year on from having to cancel their motor-home European trip, when Martin was diagnosed with prostate cancer, they have just left for a 4-months planned trip to France and Iberia. It's planned to be a re-run of last year's holiday that got unplanned.

Tony Hoar did come back to Perth briefly but after went all over the place including Germany and Lisbon. He's now in Japan – we think!

John W is heading off to Europe soon. Bon voyage and safe return.

More Dancer Damage!?

In the last *Grapevine* we focused on where all the dancers have gone and why our numbers keep falling. We heard from Eve Blair and Peter Fallon who had very good reason not to dance by getting really injured.

Happily both Eve and Peter are now back dancing.

The bad news is that members keep on damaging themselves. Cyndie is the latest. Cyndie went off on holiday to Norway – to see the Northern Lights. Well she did see them but only from a wheelchair. She fell on ice and cracked her pelvis. Cyndie reckoned that there should not have any ice there – it should have been snow, but thanks to climate change the snow had gone. Having melted to water it then froze again and Cyndie slipped and fell on it.

So yes, Cyndie did see the Northern Lights but only from the comfort - or perhaps the discomfort of a wheelchair!!

Cyndie is now back home and it was good to see her been back at dancing recently. Get fully fit soon Cyndie.

Ann Whyntie (Saturday group for 13 years) also # her pelvis whilst overseas and although Ann has made a good recovery, she is no longer able to dance. We wish her well.

It's All in the Words

We continue our series on what the words of our dances actually mean. We focus so much on the rhythm, the steps and the patterns that we don't think too much about the meaning of the words.

In April Palenque retaught Hora Cimpulungului a dance that she learned in Romania.

Here are the words:

*Come, with light steps,
With soft and rocking movements,
Let us begin this proud Hora,
Danced in the way it has always been danced.
This is the Hora from this area,
The Hora from Cimpulung
The basil leaf is green,
Our proud Hora should be heard everywhere,
Come folks, we dance.
In the art of our forefathers
O, proud and beautiful is the Romanian Hora.
Long live those who dance the Hora.
I like to dance in the big Hora circle,
With the girls during the holidays,
And the scent of basil all around.
Come, let us finish and dance this beautiful,*

Hora from this area till the end,

The Hora from Cimpulung.

Source Dunav

www.dunav.org.il/

Promotions:

The poster on the church notice board has been upgraded. Similar flyers with tear off tabs have been placed on various shopping centre billboards in our continued efforts to attract new comers.

In the same vein we had a visit from Alan Mortimer, who coordinates the U3A (University of the Third Age) programs in the State. He has advised all 650 U3A members of what we have to offer suggesting they might be interested in taking it up. John W learned of this group's existence in Canberra and Sally Wojnar – Horton facilitated our eventual meeting with Alan. There have been a number of calls making enquiries to Sally and Palenque. There is the possibility of an introductory course being offered later in the year.

TTFN

The Prez