

GRAPEVINE

Volume 13 Number 6, December 2001



Grapevine is the newsletter of the Perth International Folk Dance Group. The Group meets Monday evenings at **St Margarets Church Hall in Nedlands (Cnr Tyrell and Elizabeth)**. The evenings begin at 7:00pm with a 90 minute dance lesson, followed by general dancing until late. For further information please call John ((08) 9444 4736) or Martin (9445 2072)

President's Report 2001

2001 - a year of activity and celebration, with the celebrations focused on the Group's 25th year - our Silver Jubilee year!

Monday attendance has been good for most of the year and our financial situation is still sound in spite of increased spending associated with the Jubilee events.

Key events for the year included, in May, the Reunion Party, lots and lots of silver in evidence and a new meaning to the word 'glitterati', the 'Old Dances Revisited' workshop, Fiona Murdoch's workshops, a night at an Abyssinian restaurant; Eve's workshops in August and more recently Tineke van Geel's specialist Armenian week-end sessions. All very successful.

Palenque coordinated the teacher programme and this year saw all of our regular teachers keeping up their efforts. Palenque attended a teacher-training workshop in Canberra and an Yves Moreau workshop, also in Canberra. Laurel also attended workshops in Canberra and in France. My sincere thanks go to all of our teachers, Palenque, Eve, Sara, John and Laurel for their continuing efforts over the year.

The performance group was active at Nannup (for those brave enough to perform in the heat), Fairbridge, where part of the performance was to live music, Sorrento for Dance Week (before the rain started!), Edith Cowan Uni at Mt Lawley and a recent RSL fete. The enthusiasm was high, with dances being well choreographed by Palenque and the events well co-ordinated by Lee. Thanks to them and to all of the performance group members themselves for their efforts.

Some of our Group also joined Laurel and 'Les Enfants de Provence' at Fairbridge and to dance to live music was excellent.

The year saw another beginner's course with average attendance. Thanks again to the teachers and to Joy and Leone for their support. A new Saturday class was initiated with lots of effort and perseverance by Joy. The Saturday Group has now moved to a new Hall and we need to look at our continuing use of St

Margaret's Hall, one of the issues to address next year.

Membership has been good with a number of new members recently joining from the Saturday class. The year also saw David Lane finally returning after his 'short' holiday over east!!

Lots of activity and effort in Grapevines this year with 6 issues. Thank's also to Jenny Currell for publishing updates to our Web page.

It was good to attend Eve's "revisitation" workshop in May and recapture some of the older and more challenging dances. It was also good to see some other members try their hand at teaching reintroducing some of their favourite dances that we have lost over the years.

Kakophani made another cameo appearance this time at the Jubilee night and they provided some excellent music to dance to. Well done you guys!

Thanks go to the Committee, and a special thanks to Joy who has retired from the position of Secretary that she has held for most of her 11 years with the Group. A small group like ours depends on volunteers who are willing to do the work, and Joy's contribution has been sustained and substantial - from hosting visiting teachers to cleaning up and a myriad tasks between. Fortunately, she intends to keep making a contribution as a volunteer, with a special focus on the Saturday group.

So at the end of 2001, I'd like to say 'thanks' to everyone who was involved in making 2001 a very special year for the Group. Thank you all.

All the best for Christmas and the New Year!

Martin Williams

President

Christmas Party

PIFDG will celebrate the end of its twenty-fifth anniversary year with a Christmas Party at our final Monday night for 2001 on 17 December. Please come and help us to celebrate, even if you have not been to dancing recently - we'd love to see you again. Look for the flyer with this issue. Please bring a small plate of finger food to share. **Regular Monday nights will recommence on 7 January 2002 at St Margaret's.**

So what is on for 2002?

Some might say that after all those Silver sessions this year that we should not plan too much for 2002. It may end up that way but the new Committee is currently considering events for next year.

Belcho Stanev will not be coming to Australia next year. His focus is on four week-long dance seminars at his new dance centre in Varna on the Black Sea. The seminars start in May and end in October. We have details if you are interested. Meanwhile back to Perth.

Sara and Hora Shalom have two visiting teachers Moshe and Shula Liechtenstein coming in May.

Back to PIFDG. In August we have a week-end of French Workshops. See the next article from Laurel.

I thought that this year's 'revisitation' events were excellent so personally I'd like to see some more, similar events next year.

Other than that we still considering options and are open to suggestions! What do you think?

Draft Teaching Programme for 2002

January	Palenque
February	Laurel
March	Sara
April	John
May	Palenque
June	Palenque or Eve
July	John
August	Eve
Sept	Laurel (revise French workshop)
October	Sara
November	John

After Tineke - What Next? by Laurel de Vietri

Now that we've been thoroughly imbued with Armenian dances we've another treat to look forward to for next year. Edith Marois, French dance teacher from Tours in France, will be coming to PIFDG in August, 2002, and below is a summary of her background and talents to whet your appetites.

EDITH MAROIS, teacher by profession, has been teaching dance as well since 1981. She is responsible for the group Dulcimène at Tours, France, and has been working with the group since 1983. She runs dance courses for adults and children all over France and in Italy and England.

Festival goers who know Le Grand Bal de L'Europe, annual international dance and music festival at Gennetines, know her for her "Berry" workshops which she has been conducting since

1993. She teaches with clear demonstrations and explanations and these very enjoyable workshops attract hundreds of international dancers each session. The evening balls associated with her workshops are extremely popular and she works with well-known French traditional music groups to build up a great following on the dance floor.

Impassioned by dance, she holds a Masters of Modern Letters in which her thesis (now published) was "Dance and Music in the Novels of George Sand" She has a Diplôme d'Etat d'Animation in which she presented a paper on "Dance in Romanesque Literature of the 19th Century". She is at the moment finishing a Doctorate in Comparative Literature on "The Different Dissertations on Dance in the first half of the Nineteenth Century".

With this background it is no wonder that Edith was chosen to teach a course of ancient and traditional dance called "Histoire et pratique de la danse traditionnelle" at the University François Rabelais at Tours. This has been running since 1999 and offers students of musicology a chance to study and practise dances related to music they are studying.

On the practical side, students are taught the structural evolution of dances by learning how to do these dances themselves and the theoretical part of the course adopts a diachronic plan by presenting information on dances from the Renaissance to Revivalism.

Very much in love with the dances of Berry, she is equally at ease with and adept and experienced at teaching dances from Poitou, Gascony, Brittany, Vendée and Auvergne. A particular dance, "La Branche d'Ardente," is always linked with her name in France and is loved by everyone who tries it for the sense it gives to each dancer of being part of a communicative whole during this dance of 'aller-retour'. Her teaching repertoire in Australia will include rondeaux from Gascony, gavottes and other Breton dances, bourrées from the Auvergne, bourrées from Berry, branles and ronds from all over France danced to singing without instrumental accompaniment, avant-deux from Poitou.

While in Australia, Edith will also give talks or conferences in French on the history of dance and its evolution in France, the place of traditional dancing in France today and dance in French literature for interested groups.

LEVE-TOI ET DANSE -French Dancing!

The Committee for 2002

Recent Monday Night Teachings

Chaj Zibede	Albania
Varnenski Predsvatben	Bulgaria
Vidinsko Horo	Bulgaria
An Dro Retourne	Brittany
Saeynu	Israel
Hora pe Bataie	Romania
Dospatsko Horo	Bulgaria
Krki Krici Ticek	Croatia
Ijswals	Holland
Hora De la Adunatii	Romania
Moj Dragane	Croatia
Nigun Shel Yossi	Israel
Setnja	Bulgaria
Horlepiep Hopsa	Holland
Gunnega	Armenia

