

GRAPEVINE

Volume 16 Number 3 November / December 2004



Grapevine is the newsletter of the Perth International Dancers. The Group meets Monday evenings at St Margaret's Church Hall in Nedlands (Cnr Tyrell & Elizabeth) and Saturday mornings at the John Leckie Music Hall in College Park off Melvista Ave. The evenings begin at 7pm with a 90 minute dance lesson, followed by general dancing until late. Saturdays begin at 10am with 1 hour dance lesson before morning tea and general dancing. For further information please call John (9427 4258 (wk) or Martin (9445 2072).

President's Report 2004

I am pleased to report another generally successful year for the Group. A year of sound finances, another successful visit by Andre van der Plas, a small number of performances, an enthusiastic group of teachers, and an equally enthusiastic Committee.

Conversely it has also been a year of falling Monday night attendances. The interesting thing is that membership numbers are up with nearly sixty financial members, many more than we have had for years. I am not too sure what to make of this apparent contradiction.

Good luck to Jenny Currell who has recently started teaching in Mundaring.

I have been the President of the Group for some years now and I believe that it's time to hand over the reins. I am pleased to nominate Palenque as President for 2005. In doing this I'd like to thank her for her hard work and her support as Committee member, teacher, and choreographer and wish her every success in the future.

Any successful year must of course include a lot of thanks, so here goes. First, to Palenque and Laurel who taught in the beginners' course.

Many thanks to the outgoing Committee. Three members of the Committee have indicated that they will not be standing for 2005. My thanks to Paula and Caroline. Caroline has been a Committee member for a number of years. Lee also will be leaving the Secretary's role and I'd like to thank her for her great support over a very difficult period.

My sincere thanks go to all of our teachers, Eve, John, Laurel, Palenque, Sara and Jenny for their continuing efforts over the year. Thanks too to Laurel who has promoted and advertised the Group very enthusiastically during the year.

Finally, thanks to all of our dancers for their energy and efforts in 2004.

Thank you all, and all the best for Christmas and the New Year!

Martin Williams, President 2004

Xmas Events and key Dates

Monday Group - Xmas party 20 December

Saturday Group – Xmas Party 18 December

Last teaching dates for 2004

Saturday 11 December

Monday 13 December

Start dates for 2005

Saturday 8 January

Monday 10 January

AGM to be held November 29th starting at 8pm

Laurel's French Christmas Party

The Souleiado Franch Dance Group, with special guests The Last Five Coins, invite you to their Christmas Bal on 11th December at Mt Hawthorn Community Centre, Braithwaite Park in the Broadway. BYO finger food and drink. The cost is \$10 for adults, children are free. [age?]. RSVP asap on 9448 8179.

Teaching Programme for 2005

The schedule of dance teaching for 2005 is:

Month	Monday	Saturday
January	John	Laurel
February	Eve	Laurel
March	Palenque	Jenny
April	John	Palenque
May	Laurel	John
June	Eve	Jenny
July	Palenque	Palenque
August	Eve	Laurel
September	Palenque	Jenny
October	John	Laurel
November	Sara	John
December	John	Palenque

This schedule is subject to change – please look out for later announcements

Namaste - from Paula Day in Nepal

When was the last time I did something for the first time? Two days ago when I went with my hosts to their family rice field and helped with the annual harvest! Naturally, it was up another very big hill and was exhausting to get there. All around Pokhara there are terraced rice fields and this one was around the lake and then up, up, up. Several people had been employed to help with this final stage of the harvest. My job was to wack the two oxen with a bamboo stick as they walked around and around the post, squashing down the grass which had been cut from the rice stalks. I only whacked very gently! The men gathered the grass into a pile and then pulled and rolled and tied it into extremely large bundles. These were then carried on their backs with ropes around their foreheads, all the way to the parent's house which was 45 minutes away on another part of the hill.

The women were there to do women's work, which was the cooking, serving, dish washing and fetching of water down at the well. I got away with just eating! At my school the rice harvesting takes precedence over teaching, and when a teacher is required in the field, they simply don't come to school that day.

I am completely healthy again now, although I have not eaten dahl bhat (the local diet of rice and curried vegetables) properly since. Hardly any or no rice makes me feel better. The locals eat mountains of it. School is going wonderfully well, and I know that the teachers and children are enjoying me as much as I am enjoying them. Today we did lots of Nepali dancing, singing, clapping and drumming. It is such a happy environment. I also taught the 12 year olds a simple Italian song and dance, which they learnt very easily.

Tomorrow Dharma, my main host, and I are flying to Jomsom to do some trekking. I requested something not too challenging, as I really do not enjoy walking up big hills. I am taking this opportunity because there is a four-day festival here and schools will be closed.

Well, that's about it for now.

Until next time! Love from The Great Adventurer

PS – since the above we have had two further emails from Paula. She is still well in spite of camping at 3,800 metres in unheated buildings. She still comments on the 'upness' being relentless!

Saturday Group – Three-years on

The Group celebrated its third birthday on 18th September. After Jenny Currell's teaching and some birthday nibbles the Group popped some champagne corks and gathered together for a photo. Well done to the teachers, the organisers and the dancers. Congratulations all round!!



Photo: Martin Williams

Dancing in the Hills

In addition to teaching with the Saturday Group, Jenny Currell, seen above has recently started teaching at Mundaring on Friday mornings. The new sessions are held in the Mundaring Scout Hall, Jacoby St. So if you are up that way in them thar hills why not drop in and say hello. Or just head up that way and join in. Well done Jenny!

☺

Does the name Pavlov ring a bell?!

Hangover: The wrath of grapes?

Those who jump of a bridge in Paris are in Seine!

Reading while sunbathing without sunscreen makes you ...well red!

Condoms should be used on every conceivable occasion