

GRAPEVINE

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Grapevine is the newsletter of the Perth International Folk Dance Group. The group meets Monday evenings at the Wembley Scout Hall in Jersey Street, Jolimont. The evening begins at 7:00pm with an hour dance lesson, followed by general dancing till late. For further information, contact John (444-4736) or Joy (386-7438).

A Cultural Success

The long-awaited date of Friday July 1st finally arrived when our very own performance group danced to a full house at the Cafe Folklorico in North Perth. It was an evening of colour and variety with the group performing three brackets of dances from Scandinavia, Israel and the Balkans. These were enhanced by brief introductions and explanations, several exotic costume changes, and a special performance by the Trio Grosso musicians. Throughout the evening the audience were invited to get on their feet and learn some specially selected dances. There was no shortage of enthusiasm - only a slight shortage of floor space. The taste-buds were also offered a cultural sensation with dishes from Israel, Bulgaria and Scandinavia, plus a few surprise treats.

Congratulations for such a successful evening are due to John, Eve, Sara and members of the performance group, who devoted weeks of effort and energy. Special thanks to Bernie and Michaela for the costumes that made the dancers look so impressive, and thanks also to Carolyn, Leone, Paula and other members for providing food and managing the kitchen.

We would like to also thank Fiona whose idea it was originally and who did all the spadework to set the idea going even though she wasn't here to see the results.

We made a profit of around \$140 for the evening, not including \$277 spent on costumes, which can be considered an investment into PIFDG's ongoing assets.

Through its sell-out performance at the Cafe Folklorico, the PIFDG has certainly made a positive impact on the multi-cultural scene in Perth - a great social and cultural success.

York Weekend

Due to popular demand, PIFDG is holding another weekend workshop this year at its old stamping (?) ground - the Old York Hospital. Dates are Fri 12 - Sun 14 August. A separate flyer is available, or ask Joy for details.

It is hoped that the much protracted competition for a new PIFDG T-shirt will be voted on at the York weekend, so get out your colouring pencils please!

Viva La France!

When there are five Mondays in a month, PIFDG always has a theme-party night on the fifth Monday.

The next fifth Monday is August 29, so dig out your old Chanel suit, Can-Can costume, or just anything red, white and blue, for our French Theme Night. Bring along some appropriate French food to share. Remember, the French are famous for their culinary delights, so don't just let us "eat cake". Escargot and frogs legs - this weeks special at Cheap Foods!

We are hoping to have live music for the evening, in which case the cost of the evening will be \$5 for members and non-members alike.

Point Peron Workshop Survey

This year saw the inaugural Point Peron Dance Camp Survey, a chance for the disenchanted and enchanted [to say nothing of the enchanting. Ed] to have their say on this significant event. We've had plenty of positive comments at previous camps, but we don't know if they were typical responses. We'd like to make the weekend better, so we really need the negative comments too, but most people don't feel comfortable making them public. Hence the survey.

The response to the survey was very positive. The only common complaint was that the mattresses were questionable. We have written to the Department of Recreation noting this concern.

The questions asked, and most common responses were:-

What did you like most?

A break, socialising, dancing, live music and Point Peron.

What did you like least?

Beds, beds, sticky weather, noisy kids, beds, showers and toilets.

What changes would you like to see?

Most people wanted no change, but about a third wanted fewer new dances and more review.

Did you enjoy Saturday Night?

Generally, it was fancy dress fun.

Comments on workshop sessions?

Early Sunday was a bit too early, one person felt the workshops were a little too long.

Is the camp good value?

Yes.

Will you attend more or less time next year?

The same or more.

Any comments on anything else?

The work tends to fall on a few people, it needs to be spread around with some organisation.

Should this survey have other questions?

Would you like more than one workshop per year? What months would you prefer? Do you know another suitable workshop venue?

In summary, there are a few matters that need to be looked at but overall the weekend is lots of fun. Thanks to all who took the time to fill in the forms, next time we'll have them at the camp (we should be so well organised).

Looking back, with Pam Massey.

On Monday 31st of January we had our first Turkish party night, which coincided with our farewell to Fiona Murdoch, our resident Kiwi dancer-cum-teacher over the last six years.

Fiona was presented with cycling pants and top in Aboriginal design - a very appropriate present, we thought, as Fiona was leaving Oz to cycle N.Z.! Fiona was delighted, and nice little speeches were said all round.

Then onto the food! Tables of Turkish dishes! I got my tongue around the food no problem, but the names? Ladies finger? Man's belly-button? Devilled tongue maybe? A sumptuous array of Turkish delights anyway, that we so ciably chomped our way through, then danced off again. I must say that I was impressed by the effort and delicious variety of food, so well done everyone who ploughed through Joy's recipes.

Looking further back, there was our Xmas BBQ in Kings Park. WHAT BBQ??? There I was with a piece of raw fish and there's the wood BBQ with the TOTAL FIRE BAN sign on it. What to do? Rumour had it that there was a gas BBQ somewhere in the park, so Brenda, Sue K, Helen and I piled into the car and drove off in search of this elusive dream. All we found were more wood BBQ's so we went to Hungry Jack's and returned to the fold, what seemed like hours later, with raw fish and rumbling stomach. Blast from the past! Anne and Brent, who met at PIFD, and their two sons had come down from the hills as they do every now and then. Good to see them!

We continued to have a nice time of dance and eating until the mozzies and the dark got the better of us.

Yet another party night.

This time it was the Israeli Theme Night on May 30th. It brought many old faces out of the woodwork so, if for no other reason, it was a success. Good to see Brenda, Moshe, Debbie (and if an Israeli night doesn't bring them things are getting desperate!), Cindy, Liz from circle-dancing, and many other blasts-from-the-past. Please keep coming!

Sara taught lots of dances, don't ask me the names. These were followed by lots of food, followed by lots more Israeli dancing.

Absent Friends

After cycling 1600km and getting very fit, Fiona Murdoch is now settling into life in Hamilton, New Zealand, working as a physio and enjoying treating some great bodies. With the spirit of dance still very much in her soul she is involved with Israeli, Flamenco and Scottish Country dance, and after locating a little hall with a good wooden floor hopes to entice some of the locals into doing some International dance. While enjoying family and friends over there, Fiona also misses friends and cafes over here. She also feels homesick for our sun, but as it has been -40 degrees only a few times, what is she complaining about?

Sue Keating left for England and Ireland on the 19th of June and has visited Windsor, Kew Gardens and had drinks at Kensington Palace (no interesting details supplied!) She should now be in her native Ireland where she is going to an international folk dance near Cork.

Lee Jones is now in France. She spent two wonderful weeks in Italy and had a ball. She then visited Yves Paliern for a while before meeting her family in Paris.