

GRAPEVINE

Volume 6, Number 1, January 1995



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).

Master Dance Teacher Weekend Workshop

PIFDG is very pleased to announce the visit to Perth of Belcho Stanev one of Bulgaria's foremost teachers and choreographers, for the very special non-residential weekend workshops on 18 - 19 February. Other teachers of Bulgarian dance have visited Perth but none has Belcho's credentials and absolute mastery of the diverse Bulgarian styles. Several of PIFDG's favorite dances originated from Belcho, including Devojce and Opas - taught to the group by John and Fiona after their visit to the Varna Folk Dance Festival Summer School in 1992.

But as Belcho has a very wide, varied repertoire and is an incredibly fine dancer, his visit is one not to be missed by members. Further information, and an application form, are available from John (444 4736) or Joy (386 7438). The workshops will be at the **Subiaco Scout Hall** and there will be a revision night with Belcho, on the Monday night 20 February. Special arrangements are being made in case the weather is warm/hot.

Belcho's visit is supported by the Western Australian government, through grants from the Department for the Arts.

The Christmas Party

Yes we had one! The Monday before Christmas. Red and green food and fancy dress, reindeer antlers sticking out of people's heads, even dancing!

This was also Eve Blair's last night with us before her four months sojourn in France.

We also bid farewell to Sue Keeting. Sue has been with us for about five years, starting as a non-dancer and finishing as an integral member of the performance group. We presented Sue with a t-shirt printed with a photo of the performance group. People were obviously delighted with it as they swarmed like bees to a honey pot with big smiles on their faces. (You like it? See Michaela!)

Then on the 1st of January, some of us saw her off at the airport, as she flew off with her new man, to her new job, to her new life in Melbourne.

Good luck Sue and Eve!

Russian Theme Night

The theme on Monday 30 January will be RUSSIAN as the fifth-Monday-in the month is comin' RUSHIN' along again. [*I don't write 'em - I just print 'em... Ed.*] For this evening, the term *Russian* will also include any of the former USSR countries. This makes it a bit hard to decide which of the umpteen flags we will use to decorate the hall, but we will work out something. Dances of those countries will be taught and danced and we are assured that not all Russian dances are hyper-energetic. Please try to wear something appropriate but it has been decided that fur hats/coats/boots will be optional at this time of year. The cost will be the normal Monday night fee (unless we manage to get live musicians) but please bring a small plate of Russian/USSR nibbles. Anyone for caviar and vodka?

Point Peron Resident Weekend

A glorious sandy beach, lovely sea views, good friends, fun AND folk dancing! PIFDG's irresistible week-end at Point Peron will be held from Friday 17 to Sunday 19 March. Further details soon, but mark the dates in your diary now!

Andre Van Der Plas Visit

1995 will be a very special year for PIFDG as we will have not just one but TWO visiting overseas tutors! Andre van de Plas will be visiting for the weekend of 23 to 25 June which we hope will be a residential workshop at a venue which we are currently trying to organise. Hope everyone has a diary as these are dates which you must also mark in your diary!

Matched and Hatched

What is it about folk dancing that seems to bring out the nesting instinct? For those who don't already know, dancers Paula Schneider and Russell Merriman were married on 7 January. We all wish them a very long and happy married life.

It doesn't seem long ago since Janet Jackson and our editor, Glenn Huxtable, signed on the dotted line but it seems that they celebrate their second wedding anniversary on 28 November last. How time flies when your having fun!

Further along the line, we are delighted that Jenny Currell gave birth to her third son, Andrew Michael, in December, last year. Seems like Jenny is doing her bit to increase the numbers of men in our dance group. Congratulations Jenny, and all the best to your little son.

Sabor

The last Grapevine introduced the Sabor. The Sabor is a folk festival that is held every 5 years in the village of Koprivshtitsa in central Bulgaria, and is acknowledged as the Bulgarian dance festival. It will be held in July, although we don't know the exact dates yet. Cost is about US\$1000.

Absent Friends

Being an *international* group, it seems that there is always someone away overseas. Teacher Eve Blair will in France until late April, where she will be doing research into cerebral palsy. Lorna Palermo is in Canada, but should be back soon. Brenda Harvey is in Cincinnati until late January, and Sue Wildman is spending the Uni. vacation in Paris and Britain, where she has met up with Lee Jones who went overseas in early 1994.

There are also several imminent departures - Louise Scott, and husband Laurie, are going to Irian Jaya 'till late July. Paula Day leaves at the end of January for about four months LSL in Europe, and Pam and Martin Williams leave at Easter for a few months around the world.

Sue Keating hasn't ventured quite so far, but as she now has a career and other *interests* in Melbourne, we wonder when we will see her here again. Sue is keen for anyone visiting Melbourne to look her up. We all wish Sue the best.

Former teacher Frances Young, with husband Roger, are still in Oklahoma UWA and seem to have action-packed lives judging by her recent letter.

Anyone with graphics skills?

From time to time we have a need for someone with graphics skills. If you have some aptitude with graphics we would be most grateful to hear from you - even if you don't attend frequently. If you can help, please contact John or Joy.

1995 Committee

The new committee elected at the November AGM is:

President	<i>temporarily vacant</i>
Vice President	John Whaite
Secretary	Joy Hill
Treasurer	Peter Fallon
Committee	Sue Wildman Leone Pitman Palenque Blair

Summary of Coming Events

Mon 30 January	Russian Theme Night
Sat 18 -Sun 19 February	Belcho Stanev workshops
Mon 20 February	Revision with Belcho Stanev
Fri 3 - Mon 6 March	Nannup Festival
Fri 17 - Sun 19 March	Point Peron workshops
Fri 31 - Sun 2 April	Fairbridge Folk festival
Sun 16 April	Easter Hop by the river
Mon 29 May	Theme Night - YOUR suggestion?
Fri 23 - Sun 25 June	Andre Van De Plas workshops
July (sometime)	Sabor in Bulgaria