

GRAPEVINE



Volume 13, Number 1, March 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)

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And it's Silver for PIFDG!!

No it's not a left over war cry from last year's Olympics, but an advance warning for our reunions and celebrations for our 25th year. No one is quite sure when the dance group was first formed but since we had our 20th celebrations in May 1996 we feel justified in holding silver anniversary celebrations this year!!

The main events are in May with some follow-up workshops in August and October.

In this issue we invite you to come along and join in. Particularly we'd like to see some 'old' faces at our Reunion Party on 5th May.

Put the notices and flyers on your fridge and be there. And if you think there are old members or friends of the Group that we may have forgotten please tell them and bring them along too.

These are once in a lifetime events!! We look forward to seeing you there!!

Look out for further announcements during the year.

Martin Williams, President, PIFDG

25th Dates for your calendar

Reunion Party Sat 5 May 7pm start

Old Dances Revisited 1:30 Sun 6 May

Fiona's workshops Sat 12 May and Sun 13 May

Dinner and Dancing Sat 12 May

Eve's workshop 1st w/end August

Where am I?

- 🌍 I cover an area of 29,800 sq km.
- 🌍 My population is about 4 million.
- 🌍 I was first united in 95 BC, and became the first country in the world to adopt Christianity as its official religion (AD 301).
- 🌍 My currency is the Dram, made up of 100 louma.
- 🌍 My flag is 3 horizontal stripes of red, blue and orange.
- 🌍 I became part of the Soviet Republic in 1920.
- 🌍 My capital is Yerevan.
- 🌍 PIFDG will learn some of my dances in 2001!

..... So where am I?



The Silver Jubilee Reunion Party

On 5th of May we start the Silver Jubilee celebrations with a grand Reunion Party at St Margaret's Hall starting at 7pm. All members and friends of the Group, current and past are invited. If you like dancing, live music, fun, food and drink please come along and help the evening swing along.

Yes we are planning live entertainment. Yes we will be having food. Dinner is planned fairly early in the evening, so please bring a plate of something suitable to share for dinner. The hall does not have full-scale kitchen facilities so no large casseroles please, unless you bring your own microwave!! Please bring your own drink and wear something silver and/or something ethnic.

Old Dances Revisited

Since 1995 the Group has learned some six-hundred dances!! OK, hands up those who know them all! Not too many takers eh!! Well no problems, because we have organised a workshop for the afternoon of Sunday 6 May. We're not sure who is teaching yet, we're just collecting the names of dances. Dances to be revisited. So dredge through your memory and come up with that dance that you used to do, you know the one! Then just add it to the list. You can even come along and teach it at the workshop. We're not too confident about doing all the dances in one workshop, so if this is successful it may be the first of a series of revisitation workshops.

Fiona's Coming Back

Yes, Fiona Murdoch will be back for the Silver Jubilee celebrations and will be running a series of three workshops over the week-end of 12 and 13 May at St Margaret's Hall. See flyer for details.

This is a great opportunity for you to catch up with Fiona who taught with the Group for five years before leaving for her native New Zealand in 1994. If you don't remember Fiona from then or from one of her two subsequent visits to Perth to teach, this is a great chance to meet up with one of our favourite teachers.

Fiona will also be joining Sara at her two-hour Saturday morning class on 5 May starting at 10am.

And one for later in the year

In August Eve Blair will be presenting a workshop. Eve has been a teacher with the Group since its inception, so it is very fitting that she should be part of our Silver Jubilee celebrations. More details later.

Tineke van Geel

Most of this issue has focused on our Silver Jubilee celebrations planned for May and into August. But that's not all!! Later in the year we have another set of workshops planned. In October we have invited Tineke van Geel to visit Perth and present a week-end of Armenian workshops.

Tineke is recognised as a world expert on Armenian dance. Most of the Armenian dances the Group knows came from Tineke, including:

- ϕ **Armenian Miserlou**
- ϕ **Assoulis**
- ϕ **Azche Jerazanke**
- ϕ **Garoon**
- ϕ **Guhniga**
- ϕ **Hey Par**
- ϕ **Mom Bar**
- ϕ **Sweet Girl**

And did you guess the 'where am I?' quiz on page one? Yes it was Armenia. So now that you have a head-start and you know so much about Armenia you just have to join us for the workshops!

International Pre-Yuletide Celebration with the Last Five Coins and Friends; Kulcha

December 10th last year saw an evening of music and dance put on by the Last Five Coins and Friends with help from John Whaite and Laurel de Vietri and various dancers from PIFDG. We had a great time dancing to airs from Brittany to Istanbul and members of the audience were very receptive to our encouragement for them to participate. The sounds of the bombard and the hurdy-gurdy permeated the scene along with the "bagpipes" as you have never seen before played by Mark Cain. Belly dancing and eastern music enthralled us all but in particular took little Alia's fancy.

Laurel de Vietri

French Folk Dancing at Alliance Francaise Christmas 2000

Members and guests of Alliance Francaise de Perth were entertained for their Christmas wind-up by members of Les Enfants de Provence and Perth International Folk Dance Group. The evening had an unmistakably French flavour with traditional and popular French music and dancing, wine and petits fours and French patisseries. A crowded dance floor was indicative of the enjoyment there and thanks must go to all of the dancers for their time and their enthusiasm.

Laurel de Vietri