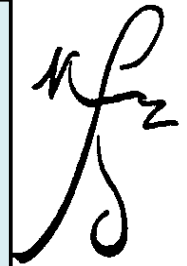




Let's Talk Folk Dance



Membership network email update and musings on local folk, historical, traditional and community dance
Folkdance.org.nz

Happy New year to you all - and Happy 21st birthday to FDNZ. We are celebrating 'coming of age' this year with some great events...

In early April Farandol (Christchurch) will host a dance workshop with Australian folklorist and dance teacher Gary Dawson and a fun Contra Dance party; and in late September the Gisborne-based Supper (folk) Dance Crew will host a 'home-grown' weekend of NZ tutors sharing favourite folk dances and live music. Keep an eye on our website for updates and registration details.

Your subscription reminder is out now. Why not invite a non-member from your dancing network to join as well? The application forms are on our website. Membership helps fund FDNZ initiatives and supports the network to expand and grow – which means more for you.

Happy dancing in 2016, and I hope that whatever style of dancing is your passion, it nourishes your soul; encourages you to move to wonderful music, and creates occasions to enjoy good company and make new friends.
Regards, Fiona

MEMBERS ARE THINKING ABOUT.....

Rae Storey (founding member of FDNZ) says she is thinking about the folk dance resource she is trying to finish and publish - for schools, early childhood centres, and groups right through to adult, with rich notes on the history of the dances and their context. 100 dances, from more cultures than the existing **New Wave** collection. Alongside that Rae is writing a short history of community dance right from ancient times to the present, which has taken her years to research and write. It is intended to fill a yawning gap in dance studies. To whet your appetite and blow your mind, she recommends reading this book, which should be readily available from your library, and has been reprinted in 2013: **The Invention of Tradition**, ed. Hobsbawm and Ranger, Cambridge University Press. ISBN 978-1-107-60467-4. Contact Rae at: rstorey@ihug.co.nz *FDNZ looks forwards to the final publication Rae – the book launch will certainly be a good excuse for a folk dance party!*

DANCING IN.....HAMILTON

Each update will talk about local dancing 'scenes'. We are interested in you sharing what's happening at a local level - for example favourite dances, happenings, a little bit of history, what's important etc. I'll kick off with Hamilton... We have a lot of dance in Hamilton with many different genres. Of the more 'folky' traditional styles that meet regularly there is the international group (Dance Folkus); an Israeli group; Scottish Country Dance groups; an Irish Dance Academy; and several ethnic dance groups – Russian; Indian; Chinese; Philippine; Pacific Island groups etc. The Dutch group is in recess but runs an annual 'Tulip Day Festival'. Several South American communities get together for the annual Spring Carnival. There is also Alf's Imperial Army and some medieval re-enactors. There always seems to be something happening and we have some wonderful venues, especially in the Hamilton Gardens. We have seen an increase in the number of musicians - both locally and passing through - available to play for folk dance-style events which has led to some fun one-off dance parties, evenings & workshops such as the French Café, Miner's Ball, and Longsword workshops. Collaboration with like-minded groups occurs from time to time, such as Dance Folkus dancing to the singing of the local World Voices choir. Linking with other group's happenings has led to increased exposure and an expansion of people participating in our folk dance events, and sometimes regular dance classes. Come and join us if you are passing through. Details for Hamilton groups in the FDNZ network are on the website.

Update from your committee: We are using the on-line network communication platform 'Loomio' for committee discussion and decisions – this makes life much easier for a national network and is cost effective for the organisation; we have changed bank accounts to enable wiser scrutiny of incomings and outgoings; Rae Storey (Auckland) has resigned but has retained an interest in the Folk Dance Teacher Training Sub-committee; We welcome Ana Maria de Vos (Auckland) who has been co-opted in her place; We are in need of a correspondence / minute secretary as Fiona has moved into the President's role – if you have on-line access and a spare hour or two a month - perhaps you can help?

Remember to check the FDNZ website for updates, happenings & contacts - plus as a member you can advertise your dance event for free

EMAIL UPDATE
February
2016-01