



Let's Talk Folk Dance

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



Hi everyone,

We have had fabulous 21st birthday parties between the Christchurch 'Fall back' and the Gisborne 'Spring Forward' of daylight saving. What a wonderful way to spend those longer nights and cooler times and celebrate 21 years of joined-up folk dancing.

A very **BIG** thank you to Jane Luiten and the Gisborne Supper Dance Crew for a fun weekend of shared dance, food, and music. You can read more and catch some of the pictorial record in our next edition of Folk Dancers' Own newsletter. If you have a photo in the **FDNZ 21st Birthday Photo Booth** – please send it to the newsletter at editor@folkdance.org.nz

Special Announcement.....

We awarded FDNZ Life Membership to our wonderful editor and webmaster Kieron Horide-Hobley at our 21st AGM. Read all about Kieron's contributions to FDNZ in the next newsletter

Do you know of a member who has not let us know their email address? They are missing out on these updates – remind them to update us as well.

Coming up at Labour weekend

- **Machol Pacifica** – Israeli dance in Hamilton
www.macholpacific.org.nz
- **Wellyfest** – Folk festival in Wellington
www.wellingtonfolkfestival.org.nz

Happy Dancing - Fiona

MEMBERS ARE THINKING ABOUT FOLK DANCE:

At the Rhythm and Grapevines weekend, and as a nod to our 21st birthday year, we asked participants to take a balloon and write a thought on it about what folk dancing means to them. While the balloons made for festive birthday decorations, it was the shared thoughts that captured the heart of folk dance and I thought I'd dedicate this month's news sheet to those thoughts.

- "Fun"
- "This balloon bursting is like the burst of energy I get from dancing – "bang!"
- "Fun with lots of moves"
- "Folk dance is non-threatening fun with smiley people"
- "Fun folksie feelings"
- "Around the world in 80 minutes"
- "Folk dance to me is fun experiencing different cultures through great music, steps and people"
- "May the world learn to dance together"
- "Fun and freedom"
- "I love meeting beautiful people and dancing with them"
- "Movement to music"
- "Exotic music, rhythms, and folk"
- "4 Fs – Fitness, Friendship, Fun and Fantastic music"
- "Folk dancing brings people together – it generates a sense of unity – so powerful is the light of unity, it can illuminate the whole earth" [*quote from the B'hai*]
- "Interaction with people"
- "Dance is uplifting, fun, joyful, physical, energetic"
- "Folk dancing – twinkly toes, twinkly eyes, twinkly heart"
- "Traditional, community, national pride"
- "Meeting new friends, interesting music, challenging my brain, laughter, fitness"
- "Bouncy bits"
- "Interesting"
- "Fun, fitness (body and brain), friendship"
- "Dancing is happiness"
- "Viva Folk dance Gisborne 2016" [*and so say all of us – Ed*]

Update from your committee: We held the AGM and happily our current committee was willing to stand again so was re-elected uncontested with the addition of a new communications secretary. We welcome Noelene Barr-Allwood from Hamilton into this role. All formal reports were placed on the website two weeks before the AGM and the minutes will be there very shortly, so you can keep up to date with your committee's activities on your behalf. We held a general meeting to follow the AGM and explored exciting developments such as a Greek Dance specialist visiting NZ next year (more in the newsletter); and the launch of a FDNZ Facebook page to increase those networking opportunities. We welcome anyone who would like to join the committee and be involved from the inside out.....

**EMAIL
UPDATE**

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