



Let's Talk Folk Dance

Membership network email update and musings on local folk, historical, traditional and community dance

Read more at.....Folkdance.nz/members



HAPPY NEW YEAR to everyone –

Hopefully you have danced your way into 2019 – I began by taking workshops on 'NZ-made' Celtic dances at the Celtic Summer School. How wonderful to have musicians willing to write tunes for dance, and dancers wanting to make dances for us to enjoy.

I've just returned home from a very vibrant and exciting weekend of music, song and dance at the Auckland Folk Festival (AFF) which always has a lively dance programme complementing the music programme. Virelai – a Danish Medieval Group led several early Danish dances to fabulous music.

They were a hit with everyone and especially the younger contingent of dancers. The final night of the festival saw upwards of 50 young people between 15 – 30yrs dancing from midnight until almost dawn (or they would have if the musicians hadn't stopped at 4.00am). A smattering of 'more mature' dancers joined in and enjoyed the vigour of youth on the dance floor! Who says young people don't want to folk dance!.....This year many FDNZ members were leading workshops. The Kids Zone was particularly fun with Rae's colourful maypole, and myself and Jane taking the 'Kid's Dance' for the littlies – the children really enjoyed it. Thanks to Andy Smith for leading the dance programme at the AFF. Photos on the AFF website.

Coming up:

Celebration is the key word for 2019... Farandol, The Ruritanians, and Dance Folkus folk dance groups have anniversaries this year; Arts and Music Festivals are in full swing and there seems to be an increasing demand for dance. Musicians are keen to play. Do let us know if there's a dance opportunity near you.

Do check out our website for upcoming events and changes to group contact details.

We'd love to have more musicians involved with folk dance. We can help with resources

Happy Dancing in 2019 – Fiona

MEMBERS ARE THINKING ABOUT... Ana Maria de Vos

Sanchez, FDNZ committee member, will attend the Auckland Multicultural Society Inc. BOOK LAUNCH 2nd March on behalf of FDNZ members. Ana Maria shares the background.....

Last year (2018) the Auckland Multicultural Society Inc. (AMS Inc.) celebrated their 40th Anniversary under the leadership of President Mr Thuten Kesang representative of the Tibetan Community. To mark this significant Anniversary AMS Inc created a hand printed mural 2.5 metres long by 2 metres wide (see over) with the hand prints of ethnic dance and performance groups that have supported AMS Inc. at the Lakeside Multicultural Festival. Some groups have supported this event for the last 21 years!! For the last three years AMS Inc has been working on publishing a compilation of articles from Newsletters - . **Title: *Uniting Our Cultures - The History of Auckland Multicultural Society Inc. Part Two.*** The first part presented a compilation of articles relating to the organisation from 1978 to 2000. After this event the Society will distribute free copies to the National Library, local Schools and Libraries for general access. Other AMS Inc events to look out for in 2019 are:

- Sunday 17 March 2019 / 22nd Lakeside Multicultural Festival 2019
- Sunday 4 Aug. 2019 / 11th Multicultural Expo 2019
- December 2019 / Multicultural Christmas party

[Ed: thanks to Ana Maria's efforts FDNZ is now a member of AMS Inc The mural is a great acknowledgement of the many diverse communities in NZ's largest city]

DANCING....IN A LOFT... Maggie Quinlan (President

Ruritanian International Folk Dance Club) **attends weekly folk dance classes in Rae Storey's loft - proving you can dance anywhere ...** For many years Rae Storey, a founder member of the Ruritanian International Folk Dance Group, has held classes on Mondays and Fridays in a church hall in Remuera, Auckland. A few years ago, when their carport and a big tree succumbed to mutual destruction, Rae, and her husband Jack, built in their place a garage with a loft, the big room (5mx4.5m) a sunny rumpus room-cum-mini dance studio. When the dance classes numbers declined, the dance studio was the ideal solution. It will take about 6 or 7 people, even bouncing around in Israeli numbers.

Many of the dancers have been dancing for many years, but there are newcomers and together we enjoy dancing and socialising. We are very privileged to have Rae's wealth of experience in teaching, as we dance old and learn new dances from all over the world, particularly Europe.

Getting to know the names of the dances, with their backgrounds and meanings are part of the learning, as well as the different choreographic interpretations. We even have a lending library, where books can be passed on after reading!

It's fun; it's friendly; it's good healthy exercise, statistically proven to ward off dementia! Why not come along? We welcome all. We meet from 9.30 until 12 on Mondays and Fridays at 24A Dell Ave, Remuera. Contact number and e mail address for anyone interested: raestorey36@gmail.com; Tel 09 524 9504

[Ed: sounds like a fun group if you have free time on those days]

Update from your committee: Early Bird Subscriptions are due before 31 March - please encourage new members . Great to see our last newsletter out in time for some good summer reading. Don't forget we can advertise your classes / events on the FDNZ Facebook page. We're keen to repeat our successful Mountain Rhythms weekend – the musicians enjoyed the get together as well. **We hope to be running teacher training sessions this year** – so a good chance to think about who might benefit – fees will be minimal as FDNZ will support this as part of our objectives.

**EMAIL
UPDATE
2019 #1**

Auckland Multicultural Society Inc

Each culture unites through understanding
CELEBRATING
40
years
as a Society
1978 to 2018
TO STRENGTHEN N.Z. SOCIETY

Spanish Fiesta Dancers

Duo Flamenco

Doina Romanian Folk Dancing Group

Csardas Hungarian Dance Group

Auckland Thistle Dancers

Bulgarian Roses

Meadowbank Maypole Dancers

La Bourrée

Colour China

Tamil New Zealand

Folk Group 'Singing Nation'

Abraccia School of Dance

Joy International Folk Dancers

Dalmatian Cultural Society

Renacer in Auckland Chilean Dance Ballet

POONGA/Tamil Community Edu

Sunshine Iranian Dancers

Folklore Chileno Latino

M-Y Golden Ballard's

Auckland Dutch Dancer Group

Medieval Songs

Flamenco Tierra & Mar Nuevo

Woori Choom Korean Dancers

Felice Multicultural Fusion

Mystic Beginning

Melissa Lee MP

Thuten Kesang QSM President

Volga Dance School

AGAPE

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