

From the Archives:

FDNZ Historical Timeline

A selection of snippets from my timeline database compiled from a variety of sources such as meeting minutes, dance-related newsletters, event flyers and online sources. It aims to give coverage of Folk Dance NZ's historical development via the organization's vital records and a sampling of the variety of community events members have been involved in over the years.

1995

- Feb Stage 1 of Teachers Training Course for recreational dance held at Auckland (1 week)
- Feb Founding Sub-Committee set up (Yates, Nugent, Broomhead)
Foundation Questionnaire postal survey sent out to gauge support for setting up FDNZ
Draft Rules for a potential folkdance umbrella organization in New Zealand developed
- Aug Stage 2 of the Teachers Training Course held at Havelock North (1 weekend)
- Aug Inaugural meeting held at Havelock North and officers elected (President Yates)
Constitution & Membership Application cum publicity flyer drafted
- Sep Delegate attended DANZing 95 Conference, Wellington
- Nov Delegate liaising with Dance Advisory Group re NZQA Unit Standards for dance
- Nov Promoted Polish dance workshops by **Jacek Marek**¹ (USA)

1996

- Feb First issue of an FDNZ Newsletter compiled (Volume 1 Number 1)
Database compiled of classes, tutors, events ...
Library Round Robin set up to circulate dance periodicals
Logo chosen and design finalized for FDNZ official seal
- Apr Stage 3 of the Teachers Training Course held at Auckland (1 week)
- Apr 5 candidates examined & graduate from the 1st FDNZ Teacher Training Course
- Apr Inaugural AGM held at Auckland
- Winter Second issue of FDNZ Newsletter produced (Volume 1 Number 2)
Teacher Training needs questionnaire circulated & results published (1996 V1 #3 p25)
- Spring Third issue of FDNZ Newsletter produced (Volume 1 Number 3)

1997

- June Promoted Bulgarian Dance Workshops with **Belco Stanev**² (Bulgaria)
- July Delegate attends DANZ Exchange Day & Dance Research Forum at Auckland
- Aug Written input sent to Dance Advisory Group re NZQA Unit Standards for dance
- Autumn FDNZ Folk Dance Teacher Training framework outline drafted
- Autumn FDNZ Newsletter Volume 2 Number 1 published
- June Go Dancing! Database goes online and first FDNZ web page being set up
- Winter Membership Email contact list created for electronic notices
- Winter FDNZ Newsletter Volume 2 Number 2 published
- Spring FDNZ Newsletter Volume 2 Number 3 published

¹ **Marek** http://www.socalfolkdance.org/master_teachers/marek_j.htm

² **Stanev** <https://folkdancefootnotes.org/dance/a-real-folk-dance-what-is-it/2nd-generation-dances/brestaska-racenica-bulgaria/>

FDNZ Historical Timeline ctd.

1998

- Mar Promoted Turkish Dance Workshops with **Yusuf Nidai**³ (Sydney, Australia)
Femke van Doorn⁴ visited NZ and was invited to become FDNZ Patron
FDNZ Newsletter Volume 3 published (2 issues)
Emailed news updates sent out to dance group leaders as required

1999

- Jan 2nd FDNZ Teacher Training Course held at Hamilton (1 weekend)
Feb Promoted International Dance Workshops by **Kaye Laurendet**⁵
May Kate Goodwin teaches her first “Dance Like A Greek” Workshop at Hastings
Aug Revision of 2nd Teachers Training Course held at Hamilton
FDNZ Newsletter Volume 4 published (3 issues)

2000

- Apr FDNZ Website launched with a hyperlink to the Go Dancing! Database
Oct Auckland workshop held on styles & teaching techniques by **Andre van der Plas**⁶
Oct Members participate in 1st National Congress of Professional Dance Teachers
FDNZ Newsletter Volume 5 published (3 issues)

2001

- May Promoted Breton Dance Workshops by **Tara MacKenney** (UK)⁷
June 1st annual national FDNZ Camp for International dancers held at Tauranga
FDNZ Newsletter Volume 6 published (2 issues)

2002

- Apr Auckland Teacher Training Day held, led by **Kaye Laurendet** (FDA)
Apr Promote International Workshops by **Kaye Laurendet**
June 2nd annual national FDNZ Camp held at Tauranga featuring **Koce Stojcevski**
(Melbourne, Australia)⁸ teaching Macedonia repertoire
FDNZ Newsletter Volume 7 published (2 issues)

2003

- June Competition held & FDNZ Newsletter is renamed as *Folkdancers' Own*. Format
changed from A5 booklet to A4 top-stapled. Frequency remains 2 issues per year.
June 3rd annual national FDNZ Camp held at Tauranga featuring **Vasilios Aligiannis**⁹
(Australia) teaching Greek repertoire. Live musicians accompany teaching sessions.
Dec FDNZ action plan arising from the AGM is published (FO 2003 V8 #2 P10)

³ **Nidai** See Ruritanian Club Camp Morley 1998 Flyers “Founder of the Academy of Turkish Music & Fine Arts Folk Dance Group Sydney” & “Cyprus-born teacher, choreographer, Artistic Director – dynamic fun tutor who accompanies himself on the Turkish drum”.

⁴ **van Doorn** See *Ruritanian Roundabout* August 2006 page 15 & reprinted in *Folkdancers' Own* December 2006 Volume 11 Number 2 Page 3.

⁵ **Laurendet** See, for example, *FDNZ Newsletter* March 2002 V7 #1 P4. Sydney based Kaye is an experienced, popular tutor with an easy teaching style.

⁶ **van der Plas** See *Footnotes* April 2019, issue 170, for tributes and memories of Andre. P2 notes how he inspired the setting up of Folk Dance Australia in the early 1990s. See *FDNZ Newsletter* April 2004 V9 #1 pp13-14 for a resume. http://folkdance.org.nz/articles/andre_cv.htm

⁷ **MacKenney** *FDNZ Newsletter* May 2001 V6 #1 P6

⁸ **Stojcevski** *FDNZ Newsletter* March 2002 V7 #1 P5

⁹ **Aligiannis** *FDNZ Newsletter* November 2002 V8 #1 p15

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2004

- May Panel presentation on “Creating Costumes for Performance” given at Auckland
- May 1st time FDNZ Accounts are audited before AGM.
- June Domain name folkdance.org.nz is taken up
- July Dance Teacher Workshops held in Auckland by **Andre van der Plas** (Netherlands)
- Oct 4th annual national FDNZ Camp held at Hamilton featuring **Dianna Laska-Moore**¹⁰ (Australia) teaching International repertoire
Volunteer archivist completes indexing 1st 5 years of the newsletters
Folkdancers’ Own goes digital and includes colour images

2005

- Apr 5th annual national FDNZ Camp held at Auckland celebrating 10th years
- Apr Two new objectives added to the mission statement relating to live music for dance
- June Constitution revised to comply with the Charities Act so FDNZ can gain incorporation
- June FDNZ acquires the full set of SOFDH (USA) *Problem Solvers* for teacher resources
- Nov Kate Goodwin elected to UNESCO International Dance Council Executive

2006

- June Death of FDNZ Patron **Femke van Doorn** (1923-2006)
- June 6th annual national FDNZ Camp held at Hamilton featuring International tutor **Kaye Laurendet** (Australia) and live music by *Green Ginger & Bohemian Orchestra*
- Oct President (FM) helped judge Auckland Multi-cultural Society choreographic challenge
- Dec Delegate (FM) attends Dance Research Society annual conference in Hamilton

2007

- July Six members of FDNZ attend **Kyriakos Moisidis** Seminar in Greece and perform Kate Goodwin’s original choreography as *Maenads* at Dora Stratou Theatre, Athens for annual Anapale Festival
- July Ruth Ames “To Dance” photographic exhibition opens at Auckland with dancers
- Oct Teacher Training Intensive weekend held in Auckland facilitated by Rae Storey

2008

- Jan FDNZ Tutors lead dance workshops at annual Auckland Folk Festival
- Apr Hawke’s Bay *International Dancing Group* & friends celebrate 25th anniversary
- Aug 7th national FDNZ Camp held at Havelock North featuring **Zivana Vajsarova**¹¹ and members of *Jaro* performance group (Czech Republic). Czech dance workshops are held at Auckland, Hastings, Wellington & Christchurch during their NZ Tour

2009

- Feb 8th national FDNZ Camp held at Christchurch featuring **Maggie O’Reagan**¹² (European) & **Sonya Arabadzhieva** (Bulgarian) in conjunction with *Farandol Folkdancers* 30th Anniversary Extravaganza
- Feb International Dance Workshop with **Maggie O’Reagan** (UK) at Auckland

¹⁰ **Laska-Moore** See *FDNZ Newsletter* April 2004 V9 #1 p14 resume

¹¹ **Vajsarova** <http://folkdance.org.nz/camp08/zivana.html>

¹² **O’Reagan** Photos of Maggie in *Ruritanian Roundabout* May 2009 pp6-7

FDNZ Historical Timeline ctd.

2009 ctd.

- May 7 DVD set released of 1st FDNZ Teacher Training Course videoed material (1995) including style workshops by **Femke van Doorn** (International), Marija Stanisich (Croatian) & Denny Wood (Greek)
- June Auckland 18th & 19th century Quadrilles Workshop with Beth Harris (Auckland)
- July Hungarian Dance Workshops with **Tamas Farkus**¹³ (Budapest) at Auckland
- Aug Teacher Training with **Andre van der Plas** (Netherlands) at Christchurch
- Aug International Dance Workshop with **Andre van der Plas** at Auckland
- Aug Viva Eclectika Asia Vision Cup winners for best fusion item in intercultural challenge and 2nd prize overall won by a team including Auckland groups *La Bourree*, *Joy Dancers*, *Maypole Dancers* & *Lion Dancers* for “The Missing Festival Dance” item.

2010

- Mar Quadrille Workshop with Beth Harris & Bronwen Arlington (Auckland) at Tauranga
- May Editor begins work on creating high quality PDF format editions of past newsletters
- June Victorian Ball held at historic home Highwic (Auckland) with Beth Harris & live band
- June 9th FDNZ Camp held at Hamilton featuring **Eve Blair**¹⁴ & **Palenque Blair**¹⁵ (Australia) et al. This camp also included a teacher training component with Christoph Maubach leading a workshop, using Orff education principles and practices, focussed on pulse, metre and dance rhythms
- July French Bal for Bastille Day in Dunedin with Kate Grace & musicians
- Sep FDNZ former President (1999 – 2003) Kate Goodwin, of Tauranga, died
- Dec FDNZ Costume bank opens for borrowing donated performance group costumes
- Dec FDNZ registered for charitable tax status with Charities Commission (#CC20651)

2011

- Mar Contingent of NZ dancers (including FDNZ’s Elaine & Bronwen) attended inaugural “Rikud Oz” Israeli dance weekend in Ballarat, Victoria with 4 (!) choreographer / teachers from Israel – Dudu Barzilai, Shlomo Maman, Yaron Carmel & Ohad Atia.
- June Commemorative Booklet re Kate Goodwin prepared by Fiona Murdoch & Gabrielle Johnston. Complimentary copies sent to NZ International Dance Group leaders.
- June Editor has 15 years of digital *FDNZ Newsletters* available, potentially as CD format.
- June 10th FDNZ Camp held at Wellington featuring **Aleksander Zankin**¹⁶ (USA) teaching Bulgarian repertoire, Kate Grace (Dunedin) teaching French community dances, et al
- July Two FDNZ members visit Kate Goodwin’s grave in Athens (Bronwen & Gaby)
- Aug Auckland Workshop held with **Vincent Hsu**¹⁷ (Taiwan) teaching Asian styles
- Aug Workshops with **Andre van der Plas** held at Auckland, Wellington & Christchurch
- Sep Performance Groups support Rugby World Cup matches at Hamilton & Ashburton
Greek part of late Kate Goodwin Collection to be accepted for an electronic archive

¹³ **Farkus** *Folkdancers’ Own* May 2009 V14 #1 P26 “a brilliant young male dancer-teacher from Budapest” ... “Tamas is in Melbourne for six months ... this is his one teaching visit to NZ”.

¹⁴ **Blair Eve** <http://folkdance.org.nz/camp10/eve.html>

¹⁵ **Blair Palenque** <http://folkdance.org.nz/camp10/palenque.html>

¹⁶ **Zankin** <http://folkdance.org.nz/camp11/aleks.html> & <http://folkdance.org.nz/camp11/Resume-AZANKIN.pdf>

¹⁷ **Hsu** See Hsu Sheng Yuan notes in camp registration pack. He started dancing in 1960 after attending a folk dance seminar in Taiwan and began sharing his enjoyment of the dances with his students. Later as staff of Asian Folk Dance Camp he began research on methodology in teaching folk dancing. Now resident in NZ.

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2012

- Jan FDNZ tutors help choreograph dance snippets for Roger Hall's new play *A Shortcut to Happiness*, which was inspired by his visits to local folk dance classes.
- Jan FDNZ Members attend Polish workshops held at Wellington & Auckland led by **Wioletta Milewska**¹⁸ & the touring *Jedliniok* ensemble (from Wroclaw, Poland)
- Mar Ruth Ames offering a 5-week starter course at Cox's Bay, Auckland
- Mar French Workshop & Bal, led by Kate Grace (Dunedin), held at Hamilton
- Apr Members in *Farandol Folkdancers* perform at Dance-o-Mat Gap Filler venues in post-earthquake Christchurch to enliven demolition sites by using coin-in-slot power source
- April Work on website make it standards-based - improving accessibility via mobile devices
Google analytics tool implemented to report on visitor's use of FDNZ website. Most popular pages being classes and events as well as a link to Lublin's Profile page.
- June 11th FDNZ Camp held at Wellington featuring **Gary Dawson**¹⁹ teaching Balkan
- June Recreational Dance Teacher mentoring program drafted as a one year course suitable for individuals to use offering an introduction to teaching methodology; hints for preparing to teach a dance; mentors giving constructive feedback on videos of their teaching sessions; and commentary on their teaching development plan.
- June Archives Policy (draft 2) accepted in principal. Committee to consult for final version
- AGM FDNZ Life Membership awarded to Rae Storey.

2013

- Aug Storage of costume bank had moved to Hamilton to make it more accessible
- Aug Server for FDNZ website was upgraded & domain name simplified to folkdance.nz
- Aug FDNZ Archives Policy re collections and procedures was amended and confirmed
- Aug Kate Goodwin Collection (Greek material only) to be captured electronically
- Nov Workshops held at Hamilton & Christchurch with Dutch tutors **Tineke**²⁰ & **Maurits van Geel** featuring Armenian and Caucasus dances
- Dec Fiona Murdoch is honoured with a civic award by Hamilton City Council
- Dec Tutor Marcel Baaijens leads public to dance at a Wellington café accompanied by band *Balkanistas* live music

2014

- June Memorial Dance Day held at Hamilton to remember two of Auckland's International dance tutors and valued group leaders who had contributed so much to folkdance in NZ – Stanley Morris (d. 3 Nov 2013) and Ruth Ames (d. 21 Dec 2013)
- Aug Ruth Ames Memorial Winter Warm-up, Auckland, to remember Ruth who instigated these with the *Tzinakis Dancers*
- Nov *Hamilton Israeli Dance Group* 30th Anniversary celebrated at Hamilton with friends
- Dec "Just Dance" party to commemorate Ruth Ames held in Auckland

2015

- Jan Eurogypsy Dance Workshop presented by Fiona Murdoch at Auckland Folk Festival
- May International Dance Day at Te Papa, Wellington, included workshops and performances of many dance styles including *Lublin* Polish performers and Cashy Yates leading audience participation dances to the music of *Chilli Jam*

¹⁸ **Milewska** Email 18 Dec 2012, via Leszek Lendnal publicizing the workshops, gives the instructor's name.

¹⁹ **Dawson** Gary from Australia, now aged in his 60s, is a Balkan and Hungarian dance specialist.

²⁰ **van Geel** The van Geels hail from the Netherlands and are well-trained, experienced performers, teachers and travel guides. Tineke specialises in Armenian dances and Maurits in Roma Gypsy styles.

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2015 ctd.

- June Jane Luiten starts the *Supper Dance Crew* a monthly dance night in Gisborne
- June *Farandol Folkdancer's* tutor Katy Sinton receives Christchurch City Council Community Service Award for 22 years involvement in folkdance.
- July **Andre van der Plas** (Netherlands) gives Teacher Training Master Class at Hamilton with a focus on “tips and tricks that would help novice teachers promote and engage beginner / uncommitted dancers in the folk dancing experience”.²¹ A detailed feedback report was presented at the AGM.

2016

- April FDNZ national workshop at Christchurch featuring **Gary Dawson** (Balkan dancing) 4 Past Presidents celebrated FDNZ 21st anniversary with a cake for supper whilst together at Christchurch for *Farandol Folkdancers* 40th anniversary celebrations.
- Sep “Rhythm and Grapevines” weekend event celebrated FDNZ North Island 21st anniversary at Gisborne organised by Jane Luiten & her team. Workshops included Kyriakos Moisidis Greek repertoire shared by Bronwen Arlington (Auckland) & Gabrielle Johnston (Tauranga) who had attended several of his Greek Islands annual seminars. Rosa Trancosa taught some Portuguese partner dances and Fiona Murdoch & Jane Luiten added Armenian ones from their recent trip there. Tairawhiti Filipino Society entertained & live musicians accompanied dancers at the social evenings.
- Sep FDNZ Life Membership awarded to Kieron Horide-Hobley at the AGM

2017

- Katy Sinton stepped down from her tutor role with *Farandol Folkdancers* & handed over to Judy Shillito.
- Apr Traditional Greek Dance workshops with **Kyriakos Moisidis**^{22 23} held in Auckland organised by *Athena*, sponsored by FDNZ and supported by Ruritanian International Folk Dance Club. Robin Perry, Diane Madgwick and Bronwen Arlington stepped in to lead dances when Kyriakos became too sick on the 2nd day.
- Apr Dance Teachers/Leaders Discussion Forum with Fiona Murdoch at Auckland.
- June Committee member Ana Maria de Vos Sanchez (Auckland) was awarded a QSM for her services to ethnic communities.
- Sep FDNZ costume bank survey requests feedback on the proposal to close it.
- Sep An Index to FDNZ newsletters 1996-2016, completed by the archivist, put on website.
- Oct FDNZ launched a Facebook social media open page administrated by Rosa Trancosa.
- Nov Rae Storey released her digital upgrade of the *New Wave Folkdancing* resources set.

2018

40th anniversaries for *Meadowbank Maypole Dancers* & *Auckland Multicultural Society*

- Jan 45th Auckland Folk Festival at Kumeu now offers punters a huge range of folk music styles as well as an increasing variety of world dances - a workshop & display of French Regional Dances by *La Bourree*; *The Joy International Dancers* Asian Workshop and a display bracket of six Taiwanese dances arranged by Julia Wei; FDNZ President Fiona led the Euro-Gypsy workshop & hosted the Saturday Night

²¹ *Folkdancers' Own* July 2016 V21 #1 P 14

²² **Moisidis** *Folkdancers' Own* September 2017 V22 #1 P7 “Kyriakos has the winning combination of huge knowledge worn lightly, deft teaching technique and an engaging personality.”

²³ *Ruritanian Roundabout* February 2017 P5 “Kyriakos teaches a wide repertoire of regional styles, focussing on traditional Pontian, Thracian, Greek Macedonian & Cappadocian dance.”

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2018 Ctd.

- Dance with *Tamlin* band at which folkdances (not the usual Ceilidh ones) were called by Fiona, Jane & Bronwen; *Rose & Thistle* band featured in three workshops with Karen Vernon on Early Renaissance social dances, Scottish Country with Katharine Hoskyn and Playford Dances with Beth Harris; Ana Maria de Vos Sanchez delivered a Latin American dance workshop; Have-a-Go sessions included maypole dancing;
- Feb *Dance Folkus* Colonial Dancers entertained at the Hamilton Gardens Arts Festival.
- Apr *Mountain Rhythms* live-in weekend event held at Pukeatua, Waikato. Workshops by 10 NZ tutors covered a variety of dance styles. Socials included dancing to live music by folk musicians hailing from Northland to Gisborne.
- June 20th Anniversary Ball for Auckland's *English Country Dance Group*
- June *Mountain Rhythms* feedback survey results indicate participants very positive response
- June Costume bank survey results confirmed insufficient use was being made of it to warrant future retention by FDNZ. Costumes to be donated or sold.
- July Auckland's biennial *Viva Eclectika: An Explosion of Cultural Fusion* included FDNZ President Fiona Murdoch as one of three judges. Organised by the New Zealand-Asia Association Inc. in which member Ana Maria de Vos Sanchez has a supporting role.
- Aug World Dance Repertoire Workshop at Auckland (selected from Andre van der Plas's annual resource kit) taught by Rae Storey & Bronwen Arlington
- Sep Jane Austen High Tea held at Dunedin with dancing led by Kate Grace (annual event).
- Oct *Dance Folkus*, with financial support from FDNZ, ran *Dance Souvenirs* workshop at Hamilton where returning dance nomads Jane Luiten and Bronwen Arlington shared their dance souvenirs and stories from Armenia, Georgia, Turkey and Greece. Lively dance music from the *Matangi Minstrels* ensured a fun evening social to follow.
- Sep FDNZ auditor Sue Watt passed away. *Wellington World Dance Group* performed the Armenian dance Daronee at her funeral.
- Dec Three FDNZ members started new local community classes – Jane Luiten in Gisborne (monthly 'Good Folk – Dances from Planet Earth'); Rosa Trancosa in Nelson; and Barbara in Wellington.

2019

Another year for milestones – *Dance Folkus* 25th, *Ruritanians* 40th and *Farandol* 40th

- Jan Renowned tutor Andre van der Plas died suddenly at home.
- June Rae Storey receives Queens Service Medal for services to folk dancing.
- Sep Remembering Andre – Retrospective Day - Repertoire Workshop in Auckland
- Sep FDNZ Teacher Skills Workshop, Auckland, led by Rae, Fiona & Jane
- Nov American Contra Dances at Gisborne in collaboration with *Auckland Contra Dance Club* caller Leonard Bloksberg and Gisborne's *Contabandits* Band
- Nov A fundraiser for Hibiscus Coast Hospice includes *Athena* Dance Group performance at Orewa for a Greek Extravaganza

Compiled by Elaine Prakash, May 2020

Please notify me of any errors herein!