



Israeli Folk Dancing Club Inc.

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Established 1988

Incorporation No. A0018887H ABN No. 83 008 797 893

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Newsletter December 2007

President's Report

I have been President of Nirkoda for only a few months but so much has happened in that time. Margaret has unfortunately been injured and we miss her so much. She has been very sore and sorry and we realize (not that we needed reminding!) how valuable she is! We miss her and wish her a speedy recovery.

Nirkoda continues to celebrate Jewish Life Cycle Events, such as Succot, Chanukah and Nirkoda's Birthday / Cup Day. Well, not ALL our events are Jewish!!!

We try to be a little different ...120 parents and dancers saw children from East Bentleigh Primary School sing "Sevivo" and dance "Ma Na'avu" and "Od Yishima" to name a few items.

We danced with Glo sticks on Chanukah, wore "mad hats" on Cup Day and were entertained by Dave Walker's wonderful poetry!

Nirkoda is also very community orientated. We have danced for J.N.F, Pesach in the Park, performed at Beth Weizmann to mark the 60th Anniversary since the U.N. voted on Partition (Resolution 181) and helped with communal dancing at King David School Fete, WIZO AGM and many other community functions.. In addition, Nirkoda raised almost \$300 for Breast



Cancer Awareness with our dancers donating a gold coin and wearing pink during the week of October 22nd.

None of this is possible without the wonderful organization and support of the Committee (Hillary, Denise Setton, Lilach, Louise, Helen Rawicki and Rosie) and of course the tireless work and dedication of the teachers (Margaret, Ami, Denise, Rosie, Rita, Ilana and Uri).. Meetings, preparing play lists, learning new dances, setting up, clearing...the list of jobs the teachers do, goes on and on! I appreciate all their efforts and professionalism.

There are many people behind the scenes doing tasks such as producing the newsletter, cutting fruit, helping with our computer, taking part in the door roster and decorating the hall.etc etc.

I say to my family and you ALL a big "thank you".

I look forward to our camp in August 2008 which will be structured like no other camp (you will just have to be there), and a workshop in November with Kobi Michaeli.

To all Nirkoda members,
"Season's Greetings and happy New Year and well over the summer. Use plenty of sun cream. AND come back eager and as enthusiastic as ever"

Judi Banky.
President

Breast Cancer Fundraiser



Class costs for 2008

The Nirkoda committee wishes to announce that single entry (cash) fees for classes will remain the same. \$9: members \$11: non members

When paying cash please try to have correct money, as it is easier for the volunteers on the door.

The cards will be simplified with ONE NEW card for members for 12 classes and cost \$100.

The Yellow discount card for new beginners will now cost \$40, for 8 lessons as it has proven popular and a good way to introduce new people to our club.

New people can alternatively pay \$9 cash per class for their first month, and then decide whether to join.

You can use up your old cards till they are finished.

Thanks

From the committee.

Class Reports

TUESDAY NIGHT is Nirkoda's Intermediate and Advanced Class.

The class begins at 7pm, when keen members come and learn difficult dances, forgotten repertoire, or are helped with a tricky part of a dance...or they come and just get that extra hour of dancing in!

From 8pm –10pm, the night of circle dancing continues.

Popular circle repertoire has included Im Yesh Gan Eden, Ana Bekoach, Mamri'im and Liya.

At 10pm to after 11 pm, the partners section is enjoyed. Favourites continue to be Asufim, Chof el chof, and Hitgashmi Li. Line dancing seems to have a mixed reaction...it is either loved or hated! Hits such as Sunflower and Bora may have helped change some minds, though.

The very heavy load of a 4 hour class is shared well between the teachers, (Ilana, Rosie, Denise, Rita and Ami). I thank them for their hard work, preparation and professionalism.

The environment is relaxed, welcoming and warm.

We look forward to teaching new material and reviving some lost classics in 2008.

Judi Banky

THURSDAY MORNING CLASS held at Birch Street, Scout Hall, South Caulfield. 9AM – 10AM Beginners 10 AM – 12MD Intermediate.

Several new members have joined this group in recent months. All who attend the class are very enthusiastic, and have increased their repertoire in circle and line dances. Various new and reintroduced dances have been taught in recent weeks to both groups.

Every 6 to 7 weeks a "dance through" is held for the intermediate members to enable them to get through the wonderful repertoire, and for everyone to enjoy their

favourite dances. Several of our class dancers also attended other Nirkoda classes, enjoyed the special events like the 19th Nirkoda birthday, Cup Eve "wear a hat night" as well as contributing to other Nirkoda events.

Great patience has been shown by our class members who have so regularly attended in spite of the noise made next door by the renovation and rebuilding of the previously burnt St John's Ambulance Hall. Thank you all for 'hanging in there'!!!!!!

Unfortunately I have caused some disruption in the process with an unexpected admission to hospital in August and then had a fall in October breaking my upper arm and a rib!!! I am hoping the x ray will show good signs for me to start physiotherapy and then get my legs back on the floor. I am really missing everyone and the music. Many thanks to Ilana Cohen, Judi Banky and Rosie Tusia in the help over the last few months at the class. In the midst of everything our loyal doorperson at the Thursday morning class (Gravin Robinson) also became ill (my carer who went out in sympathy with me)!!!! Thanks to Franki Paper for all of the support in the doorkeeping role. Gravin and I hope to be back soon.

LAST THURSDAY MORNING CLASS WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY 13TH DECEMBER, 2007. PLEASE BRING A SMALL PLATE OF REFRESHMENTS FOR A SPECIAL MORNING TEA. The class will resume on Thursday 10th January, 2008 at 9am.

THE FINAL NIRKODA PARTY FOR ALL MEMBERS WILL BE HELD TUESDAY 18TH DECEMBER IN THE BOORAN ROAD HALL AT 7PM – PLEASE COME.

My sincere thanks to everyone at Nirkoda for all of the get well wishes, cards and gifts of friendship and support for me at this somewhat debilitating time of my life. I am wishing to get back to many classes

as soon as I am able. Once again, my deep appreciation to all of the THURSDAY CLASS MEMBERS, as it is the highlight of my week, so thank you everyone for the joy, enthusiasm, commitment and hard work!!!

Margaret R Robinson

THURSDAY NIGHT CLASS.

Most of this year Thursday night class which consists of a beginners session from 7-8pm, and an intermediate to high intermediate session following, has been jointly conducted by the rotation of all the Tuesday night female teachers. This has proven to be very successful in many ways.

Firstly it gives all dancers the chance to meet our wonderful teachers, and our teachers get to meet some of the members. It also gives the teachers the freedom to have a bit of break and do normal things like be with their families occasionally or other commitments.

Another aspect is the teaching exposure. This is especially valuable as it prepares our members for guest teachers and choreographers when they come from overseas, and also to our own teachers at camps and workshops.

Having a variety of very capable teachers at NIRKODA has helped to maintain the high level of teaching and the result is a fast moving standard of capable dancers which we have seen progress in the last year or two.

The mixture of people in this class has also been very uplifting as it has seen dancers returned from overseas (ISRAEL) who have revisited us and a few younger dancers who have joined together with the existing group to become very enthusiastic and helpful .

The core group continue to be the backbone of this class and we value their continued support. They have now reached a very respectable level of dancing repertoire and we encourage

them to join the Tuesday night class to extend their knowledge when available.

On behalf of all the teachers involved I would like to congratulate all the participants on their support and their ability and achievements and look forward to the next year.

Rosie Tusia.

SATURDAY REVISION CLASS

What a great year we have had!!!!!!
What a place to be every Saturday afternoon!!!!!!
It's a friendly happy and fun filled atmosphere. We laugh and dance, we talk and eat (a little bit ☺).

The class is well attended weekly, where we average around 30 dancers.

We revise dances by request and dances that were done during the week in all classes. We revise dances for beginners starting at 2pm followed by intermediate and continuing with advanced level.

We are considering having a Partners dancing session on Saturday, we would love to hear some feed back from you, our members.

Judi and I would like thank you for your continuous support.

We would like to welcome all members to join us on Saturday afternoons next year. Come and share the fun with us!!!!

Judi and I would like to wish you a well deserved break, a Happy Chanukah, a merry Christmas and a safe and healthy new year.

Love
Ilana and Judi

PARTNER CLASS REPORT

The partners class continues to grow and we have a base of around 28 dancers who span from beginners to intermediate to advanced.

The class is structured from 6.30 - 7.30 as beginners , then till 8.30 as intermediates and till 10.15 as advanced. Dancers coming early have an advantage of

sometimes learning the dance twice during the night - as we may teach a dance slowly at 8.00 then quicker at say 9.00. We are open to requests for dances to be taught and as such have revised Hakol Yihiye Beseder and Chai Lemaanech recently.

The "old classics" are not forgotten and we have brought back some gems such as Otach , Chagigat Aviv and Ahuvat Levavi.

It is funny how partners dancing appeals to some so much that this is now all that they focus on. Maybe it is the pleasure of dancing with someone and the complexity that partners has over most circle dances.

One beauty or outstanding feature of the partners evening is the number of smiles, all dancers seem to be relaxed, having fun, singing (thanks to Aura - who does not mind another faked Pavarotti "singing" the 2nd voice).

Please come and join us - you will be warmly welcomed!

Denise Borghi

Sundays in 2007 is below.

CHAI LEMAANECH - NONA MALKI
 SHIMRI ET LIBECH - OZERI
 AFILU SHESREIFOT - GADI
 SIMANIM - GADI
 KOACH LE'HAVATECH - AVI LEVY
 TZOVET LI BALEV - ISRAEL YAKOVEE
 HITGASHMI LI - GADI
NIGUNIM - BENTZI TIRAM
AT - AVI LEVY
 ESPERENZA - RAFI ZIV
 EIFO AT - GADI
 IM AT ADAYIN OHEVERT OTI - KOBI
 GAN EDEN - NAFTALY
 CHOF EL CHOF - MAMAN
OTACH - MAMAN
 SOF HALAYLA - AVI PERETZ
HAKOL OMED BAMAKOM - DAVID HAREUD
AHUVAT LEVAVI - YAIR MENASHE
 KOL MA SHETIRTZI - RAFI ZIV
MOR VKINAMOM - YARON ALFASSI
BEIN HAREY CHEVRON - DANI DASSA
 BAT TZOANIA - GADI
 AT - GADI

The list of partner dances taught on

NIRKODA - JANUARY 2008						
Mon	Tuesday	Wed	Thursday	Fri	Saturday	Sunday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 ALL NIRKODA CLASSES RESUME Intermediate/Advanced Partners 7 - 7:30pm Circles 7:30 - 10pm Partners 10 - 11pm	9	10 AM - Birch Str - 9am - 12pm Beg/int PM - Ormond Church Hall - North Road 7pm - 10pm Beg/int	11	12 Revision Class Resumes Partners & Lines 2 - 3:00pm Circles: 3 - 5pm Intermediate - Adv	13 Partner classes resume as usual 6:30pm
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 Australia Day Party. Wear green and gold. Bring an Aussie Plate. Normal venue.	30	31	Contact: For further information Judi: 0407 517865 Rosie: 9572 0992		

Doing a mental Stock-take of where has the time gone.

It's not often that I find 'time' to catch my breath when meeting a friend who played a part in my life, what I call the 'endearing years'. It was a time when we were trying to fit a 32 hour target of activities into 24 hours disrupted only by involuntary sleep that engulfed us every now and then. We sure lived life to the full from dawn till dusk only to restart yet a new phase of activities that were regarded as 'evening outings' returning early mornings and meeting the possums on their way home after some serious feeding frenzy in our neighbourhood gardens (especially ours!). While reflecting on the topic of time (of which I really have very little to spare) and its many meanings, I almost convinced myself that we somehow manage to 'make time' in the past. Now with the best will in the world we are forced to approach time management with the help of diaries, need to 'book early', arrive on time, and leave on time etc. I have started to count the 'time' spent waiting at red lights.....

In order to depressurize, by chance I read a wonderful 'reflection on life' by a quiet clever thinker who suddenly realized that his needs were like an itch, requiring scratching but waking up to the realization that the cure lay not in material gratification but in an inward calmness that settled over him with melodic stimulation and 'time to think'.

We have wider freeways these days but slower traffic flow, we have many

opinions but narrower viewpoints. We spend more but have less, we buy more but enjoy it less. We have bigger houses yet smaller families, more conveniences but 'less time' to enjoy them. We collect more educational accolades yet are less able to differentiate the mundane from the important.

We laugh too little, yet long for funny stories. We've learned how to make a living but not quite how to live. We've added years to life not life to years. These are times of fast foods and slow digestion, big egos and small character, steep profits and shallow relationships. These are days of two incomes but more divorces, fancier houses, but broken homes. We are in a time when technology can bring this letter to you, and a time when you can choose either to share this moment or let it pass

you by.

Enjoying ones grandchildren gives an unlimited insight into unbridled love, adoration and a desire to connect with your offspring. So often I was told remember, to say, "*I love you*" to your loved ones, but above all there is a need to mean it.

Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.

What do I do for an anchor, I will 'make time' and go Folk-dancing !!

Uri Krieser

