

A GUIDE TO AUSTRALIAN FOLK / HERITAGE SOCIAL DANCE EVENTS - 2018

(Amended 4th edition with two updates 20.1.18)

ANNUAL EVENTS EXCEEDING ONE DAY		
12-14 January	Cygnnet Folk Festival, Tasmania	https://www.cygnnetfolkfestival.org/
19-21 January	Trentham Irish Set Dancing Weekend, Vic.	http://www.melbournecladdaghdancers.com.au/
29 March-2 April (Easter)	National Folk Festival, Canberra	http://folkfestival.org.au/
12-15 April	Jane Austen Festival, Canberra	http://janeaustenfestival.com/
27-29 April	Melbourne Comhaltas Set Dance Weekend	http://melbournecomhaltas.org/
8-11 June (Long weekend)	Bundanoon DanceFest, NSW	http://www.bushtraditions.org/
14-16 September (3 rd weekend)	Turning Wave Festival, Yass, NSW	http://www.turningwave.org.au/
12-14 October (w'd after 1st Mon pub hol. *Not this yr)	Canberra Irish Set Dance Weekend	http://www.mabula.net/setdancing/workshop.html
19-21 October (3 rd weekend)	Kangaroo Valley Folk Festival, NSW	http://www.kangaroovalleyfolkfestival.com.au/index.htm
9-11 November (w'd after 1st Tues.)	Spring Dance Weekend, Portarlington, Victoria	http://tsdav.asn.au/ Under review - check website closer to time
NB The Folk Festivals included all have a strong dance component . [A general festivals calendar is at http://www.folkalliance.org.au/directory/festivals-calendar/ . See also <i>Trad and Now</i> magazine's regular listing.]		

AUSTRALIA-WIDE DIRECTORIES

Note: These sites sometimes struggle to be up-to-date, but still serve as guides to events/bodies to Google.

Australian Social Dance Network <https://asdwordpresscom.wordpress.com/>

Dancing the Web <http://dancingtheweb.com/>

Folk Dance Australia <http://www.folkdanceaustralia.org.au/australia-links.aspx> [New]

Scottish Country Dance in Australia http://rscds.org.au/_mgxroot/page_10836.html

SOME MORE NARROWLY-FOCUSED SITES [see also their LINKS pages]

Bush Music Club, Sydney http://www.bushmusic.org.au/bmc_dances.shtml

Dance Kaleidoscope, Brisbane <http://www.dancekaleidoscope.org.au/index.html> **Note animations!**

Earthly Delights, Canberra <http://www.earthlydelights.com.au/>

Folk Federation of Tasmania <https://folktas.org/dancing/>

Melbourne Colonial Dancers <http://www.melbournecolonialdancers.org.au/homepagef.html>

Monaro Folk Society, Canberra	http://www.monarofolk.org.au/about-the-monaro-folk-society/calendar/
Queensland Colonial & Heritage Dancers	http://members.optusnet.com.au/colonialdance/index.html
Folk Music & Dance SA	http://folkmadsa.com/
Sydney English Country Dance	https://englishcountrydancesydney.com
Traditional Social Dance Association of Victoria	http://tsdav.asn.au/
WA Folk Acoustic Music and Dance Calendar	http://www.wafolk.iinet.net.au/calendar.html

SOME GOOD FINDS ON THE WEB OVER RECENT YEARS

It seemed a pity to waste the remaining space, so here are some other dance-related items.

International

What are Playford Dances?	http://round.soc.srcf.net/playford/
Dance Video Archives	http://dancevideos.childgrove.org/
Callers Workshop	http://www.colinhume.com/callers.htm
Dance Instructions	http://www.colinhume.com/instruct.htm
What is Contra Dance?	http://www.sbcds.org/contradance/whatis/#Def0
A very short history of Contra	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CG6vVoiFT9c [Added 2018 – 7 mins]
What is Irish Set Dancing?	http://www.setdancingnews.net/news/setintro.lp
Quotes about dancing	http://www.daytonfolkdance.com/dquotes.html

Australian

Jeanette Mill on US contra	http://jam.org.au/moxie/dance/4_10/new-england-usa-is-this-t.shtml
Musings on the why	https://englishcountrydancesydney.com/musings-on-the-why/
Come colonial dancing!	http://www.melbournecolonialdancers.org.au/homepagef.html
Australian Colonial Dance	http://www.colonialdance.com.au/
Old Time Dancing & Music	http://www.bendigobushdance.org.au/layout.php?p=20
Dance Animations	http://www.dancekaleidoscope.org.au/dance.html [Includes calls & music]
Old time musicians on film	http://www.bushtraditions.org/videos/nfsavideo.htm

Compiler's note

I returned from the usual high quality dancing at the 2015 National Folk Festival determined to make it easier for my fellow South Aussie folk/heritage dancers to keep abreast of interstate dancing opportunities. As Australia-wide dance directories can struggle to keep up-to-date, I have based this directory on linking to State-level sites. This 'directory of directories' approach requires considerably less maintenance. I compiled the 1st edition in June 2015 and since then have updated the Guide in January/February, when I send it to my SA folk email list and also email it to all the groups listed. Since 2017 it has also been downloadable from the Directories page of the Australian Social Dance Network website. Naturally I'd welcome suggestions for additional entries – see my email address in the footer – but will aim to keep the document to under two pages.