

ZOOM IN!!!

When the Covid Pandemic reached Australia, in the early months of 2020, a logo was developed in order to maintain a positive outlook for what was to come – ‘*We’re All in This Together*’. However, many of us gradually lost confidence and freedom in what became ‘social distance’.

Social Distance?? How could we enjoy our dance classes if we were not allowed to be near each other, let alone hold hands in the style of Folk Dancing? How could we maintain the friendships we have closely woven together? How could we be bothered with all this?

But then, along came *Zoom!* We have had two sessions so far, and I look forward to every week to come; and although we cannot dance like before, we can dance alone in our own home watching the steps on Zoom (and making the usual mistakes). It is also a delight to see friends, tell a story, laugh at a joke, and make a cup of tea.

And within our circle of dance, *We Are All in This Together*.

Kris Matthews
Sutherland Shire Folk Dance Group

VIRTUAL ZOOM WORKSHOP With TINEKE AND MAURITS VAN GEEL

Tineke and Maurits have made many trips to Australia, are very well known, and their dances are always popular. FDA’s next zoom workshop is planned for the 10th October, 2021 from 4-6pm AEDT.

Please email okaye@optusnet.com. If you would like to register for the workshop.

Please encourage others in your group to join FDA – **and by joining now, their membership will be extended up to the end of 2022.**

Don’t miss this workshop – it should be great!

ZOOM-SATIONAL BULGARIA

Sunday, August 8th brought another FDA Zoom workshop, this time with highly-credentialed Bulgarian teacher, Gergana Panova,.

76 dancers tuned in; the majority from here in Australia, but there were also guests from Japan, the Netherlands, Canada and the USA. There were five new FDA members as well. Welcome!

You could tell straight away that Gergana loves presenting her dances; everything she does is enthusiastic, informative and full of fun. I loved the way she taught with her back to the camera, which I think is needed when learning on Zoom.

She also sent us a wonderful map picture, which showed different regions of Bulgaria and the costumes appropriate to each.



The dances taught were: *Tropanka*, *Kazundzha*, *Mari Mome*, *Bera*, *Shumarsko*, and *Gulab Forka*

I found *Mari Mome* particularly interesting inasmuch as I’ve never heard of a dance with a 37/16 time signature! It must be quite hard if you’re a musician! It’s a lovely dance, and one that fits the music perfectly. To help out Gergana has sent us the time signature. Another of the dances, *Gulab Forka*, was created by her especially for our workshop. I loved them all, though if asked to nominate a favourite I would say *Bera*.

Our two hours went much too quickly, with my eyes glued to the screen and coffee in hand. Hopefully we can have Gergana with us again very soon.

DK
Adelaide International Dancers