

A GUIDE TO AUSTRALIAN FOLK / HERITAGE SOCIAL DANCE EVENTS - 2023

ANNUAL EVENTS EXCEEDING ONE DAY [AS AT 18 MARCH]		
CHECK WEBSITES FOR ON-GOING IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC. THIS PDF WILL NOT BE UPDATED.		
13-15 January	Cygnets Folk Festival, Tasmania	https://www.cygnetsfolkfestival.org/
20-22 January (3 rd weekend)	Trentham Irish Set Dancing Weekend, Vic.	http://www.melbournecladdaghdancers.com.au/ Cancelled due to Hall being renovated.
6-10 April (Easter)	National Folk Festival, Canberra	https://www.folkfestival.org.au/
21-25 April	3rd Annual Irish W/E, Queenscliff, Vic.	https://melbournecomhaltas.org/
19-21 May	Melbourne Comhaltas Set Dance Weekend	https://melbournecomhaltas.org/
9-12 June (Long weekend)	Bundanoon DanceFest, NSW	http://www.bushtraditions.org/dancefest/bunders.htm Please check website closer to time.
18-20 August	Sydney Folk Festival	https://www.sydneyfolkfestival.com.au/ Contact Alex Bishop re dance program. Mob. 0400 786 494
15-17 September (3 rd weekend)	Irish & Celtic Music Festival, Yass, NSW	https://www.irishcelticmusicfestival.com/ OR https://www.facebook.com/jointhecraicinyass/
6-8 October (w/e after 1st Mon pub hol.)	Canberra Irish Set Dance Weekend	https://www.monarofolk.org.au/dance/irish-dance/
20-22 October (3 rd weekend)	Kangaroo Valley Folk Festival, NSW	https://www.kangaroovalleyfolkfestival.com.au/
10-12 November (w/e after 1st Tues.)	Spring Dance Weekend, Portarlington, Victoria	https://tsdav.asn.au/ Please 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://asdnwordpresscom.wordpress.com/>

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

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

Scottish Country Dance in Australia <https://www.rscds.org.au/home.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/>

Folk Music & Dance SA	http://folkmadsa.com/
Melbourne Colonial Dancers	http://www.melbournecolonialdancers.org.au/homepagef.html
Monaro Folk Society, Canberra	http://www.monarofolk.org.au/dance/
Queensland Colonial & Heritage Dancers	http://members.optusnet.com.au/colonialdance/index.html
Sydney English Country Dance	https://englishcountrydancesydney.com
Traditional Social Dance Association of Victoria	http://tsdav.asn.au/
Victorian Folk Music Club	http://www.vfmc.org.au/dances.php
West Australian Folk Federation	http://www.wafolk.org.au/wa-folk-music-dance-calendar/

SOME GOOD FINDS ON THE WEB OVER RECENT YEARS

International

What are Playford Dances?	http://round.soc.srcf.net/playford/
Dance Video Archives	http://dancevideos.childgrove.org/
Callers Workshop	https://www.colinhume.com/callers.htm
Dance Instructions	https://www.colinhume.com/instruct.htm
What is Contra Dance?	https://www.sbcds.org/contradance/whatis/#Def0
A very short history of Contra	https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CG6vVoiFT9c
The Joy of [Irish] Sets	See link at end of first paragraph of https://sets.ie/
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
Old time musicians on film	http://www.bushtraditions.org/videos/nfsavideo.htm

Compiler's note

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 and, since c2018, the Bush Traditions website. Naturally I'd welcome suggestions for additional entries but will aim to limit the document to two pages. This year's edition held over until March to minimize Covid-related changes.