

TANGO AUSTRALIS

December 2019



Every tango danced is a gift

TANGO AUSTRALIS Journal is published by Southern Cross Tango 50 Kauri Parade, Seacliff, South Australia 5049 E: sctango@bigpond.com Web: <http://www.southerncrosstango.com.au>

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A season for giving



I enjoy the holiday season. Busy-ness, followed by quiet, summer rest time. Although, with devastating bushfires in NSW and Queensland, and the threat always with us here, this year will be different. As a survivor of bushfires of 1952 (NSW-North-eastern Victoria), stories of loss are etched into my psyche. I fear blazing days in dry seasons, hot winds and the shimmer and smell of eucalyptus vapour in the air, and the dry lightning strikes of summer storms that set hundreds more fires burning.

We pray that rains will quench fires and replenish land, but we've seen drought before – and flood, fire, and famine. Cycles of our fragile, difficult land. We remember the aftermath of the Ash Wednesday fires. Terrible loss of homes, and lives. Once more, fellow Australians will rally to support those who suffer dreadful losses, but scars left from bushfires damage communities as well as ecologies. A single match, a spark from a machine, a discarded bottle magnifying the heat of the sun – it doesn't take much to start a conflagration.

This season can be stressful. To keep well, we need to eat well, exercise, get enough sleep, do things that make us feel happy. Stress is toxic, sleep deprivation is toxic, being sedentary is not good for us, relationship conflict is toxic. People do terrible things to spouses and family members at this time of the year. Loneliness is magnified for people without family and friends. Many community centers and churches host Christmas celebrations. Get involved; offer to help. Our tango circle will share seasonal cheer and extend it to those around us. A Gentle Tango dancer has knitted a Santa Claus doll for a Paediatrician's rooms, to bring joy to little patients and parents.

Shopping for gifts can be stressful, but it can be fun. Shop locally. I steer clear of big, energy-sapping precincts. Source, grow, and make useful things, edible treats. Recycle treasures. Support local businesses and traders. Acknowledge their effort in putting up decorations to make neighbourhoods brighter, and taking the trouble to wrap purchases. With so much on-line shopping, real shops might soon be a thing of the past.

Vouchers make good gifts: help in the garden, books, a beauty treatment, a massage, tango lessons from favourite teachers, guaranteed *tandas* with a partner, a restaurant, or a home-cooked, meal. The Geelong tango group ran a trading table at Tango for Pleasure on 2nd December. Students bring things to sell, swap or give away - a nice source of gifts. Bidding for things in the Silent Auction at the Spirits of Tango Party, ticked two boxes, raising funds for the Gentle Tango program along the way.

This season gives opportunity to show kindness; to make the world a little bit nicer. I'm not a fan of giving presents only to kids. Children should learn about the pleasure of giving, not just receiving. Some adults need to learn that lesson too.

Our tango group has not rejoined a newspaper sponsored Adopt-A-Family program. Last year we put together a generous package for a local family. Strangely no acknowledgement of the gift was forthcoming, at least not until almost a year later, when a letter arrived from the organizers asking

us to do the same again. This year we have supported a new cause, small pampering treats for Ladies of the Land to distribute to NSW drought (now bushfire) affected women. Our dancers donated 150+ lovely things: soaps, make-up, oils, lotions & potions, hair, hand & skin treatments, talc, deodorants, candles, incense sticks, handkerchiefs, sachets, jewellery, and two beautiful handmade pottery vessels.

Civic decorations could better reflect the season. Geelong favours hi-tech: a 'tree' that is a large floating cone-shaped object, illuminated at night with lasers, a star light arrangement, suspended above a street intersection, and light projections on buildings. Nothing to do with fir trees, or holly and ivy, seasonal relics of a pagan past. Sydney decorations are lovely. Illuminated private homes between Geelong and Ballarat are special, and so is the display in Ballarat's main street. Tourists go to Germany to experience regional Christmas markets. Asian cities create beautiful Christmas displays. New York puts on a fabulous holiday season celebration. There's no problem with celebrating football finals, or classic car revivals. How about it, City Hall? Let our civic decorations proclaim joy to the world, and set an example for traders and householders to provide seasonal visual cheer, with lights, stars, tree-like trees, sparkly baubles, wise men, shepherds, mothers and babies, angels, reindeers, or jolly old fat men in red suits.

Close encounters with strangely beautiful creatures



Animals feature in many Christmas stories, and we humans are members of the animal kingdom too. Creatures sharing this earth. A pair of tawny frogmouths live in a tree outside a family member's home. Their deck is elevated, just a small distance from the branches where the owls perch each day. The owls are aware of human presence, but it does not seem to perturb them.

The tawny frogmouths sit on their branches, pretending not to be there to avoid interaction. According to Gisela Kaplan, Australia's foremost expert on the tawny frogmouth, such behaviour is their defense strategy.

Tawny frogmouths are masters of disguise, choosing trees that match the pattern of their feathers. They can stretch their necks, to make themselves look slimmer, taking on the appearance of a dead branch. Their expressions are described as 'disinterested', but sometimes 'deadly'. They can choose to open their eyes and surprise a predator if it gets too close.

Does any of the behaviour described above remind you of tango dancers you know?

What do you want for Christmas?

I don't need things, and I'm not into coveting what other people have. I want people to think about joy, and peace, and channel this into creating happy times together.

I got to thinking about coveting when reading an Australian newspaper glossy supplement, called 'The List' (November 2019). It's about rich people, where they live, how much their mansions cost, what agents sell them, etc.. And there, on page 10, after a swag of glossy, tempting

advertisements, in the section on ‘Australia’s Top 50 Mansions’, is the description: “*the country’s most covetable properties*”.

Number 1 house on the list was purchased for \$100 million. This made me think that an ultra-luxury home tax could be levied by government, on sellers, purchasers, real estate agents, and it could be applied directly to establishing new low-income housing projects. Just a thought for the Christmas season.

It's not fashionable, but I fall back, selectively, on the Ten Commandments when I'm referring to my moral compass. ‘Ten’ may be an arbitrary choice to aid memory in the division of the 17 verses of Exodus and its Deuteronomy parallels. It’s a good number. The western brain copes better with decimals than with complicated imperial systems.

Whatever! I honor my father and mother. (I’m lucky. I was blessed with loving parents). I believe it is wrong to commit murder and adultery, and steal, or bear false witness against a neighbour. Then there is the somewhat old-fashioned notion of ‘coveting’. Other than ‘The List’ article, I don’t think I’ve heard the word coveting used elsewhere lately. The Bible warns against coveting your neighbour’s wife, house, slaves, animals or anything else.

In our wi-fi, global, Internet, Facebook and Twittering world, pretty much everybody is ‘our neighbour’, and the temptation to ‘covet’ things is constantly with us.

Retail, commercial and advertising industries are driven by coveting. Let’s be honest, who doesn’t ... occasionally ... hanker after, wish for with eagerness, desire for possession of, long for inordinately, or crave... gorgeous clothes, sylph-like bodies, flawless skin, glossy manes of hair, exotic jewellery, statement watches? A shiny new high-powered car? The latest bit of technology? The stuff we think other people have? Advertising is a powerful force, wielded by very smart, unseen people.

Coveting goes on in tango too. We see an elegant, expensive dress, or well-cut trousers, or somebody dancing *tanda* after *tanda* with good-looking, skillful partners. We see shapely legs wearing drop-dead gorgeous shoes, or a beautiful youthful figure... but we try to put those feeling aside. We tell ourselves that such things are not so important. They are ‘packaging’. The important thing is what is inside a dancer, what is given to a partner, how graciously it is received, and the spirit that is shared in the dance.

A seasonal tango motto: it is better to give than to receive.

The science of compassion

The best tango couples connect, at a deep level. In the most memorable tango performances and shows, dancers have this connection. You see it, you feel it. It is mesmerizing. When the connection is not there, even though the dancers might be skillful and able to execute complex steps and figures, the magic isn’t there.

Of the many tango performances seen over the years, I have clear recall of a few: the ones I felt, the connected tangos. I can conjure up Nelida and Nelson at *El Viejo Almacen*, Demian Garcia and Carolina Bonaventura, wearing cheeky period costumes at *El Querandi*, Demian, again, with

Alejandra Mantinan, and another year, with Milena Plebs at Buenos Aires at the Beach tango festival on Victoria's Great Ocean Road. Milena Plebs and Miguel Angel Zotto dancing *Gallo ciego*, recorded in happier days on a grainy videotape, is a classic example of tango harmony and connection. Milena Plebs and Ezequiel Farfaro, when they discarded traditional tango moves and danced a sweet, almost folkloric new-style of tango, showed a different kind of connection that was free and fluid. Pablo Veron was dancing with Noel Strazza the night her heel caught in her dress and he swooped seamlessly, within the dance, to release the fabric. Most of the audience did not even notice. And in this collection of memories of tango past, I place Australia's Adrienne and Andrew Gill's sparkling, engaging performances and connected and beautiful tangos, in Australia and overseas.

Watching, and remembering, these tangos, I feel again the frisson of pleasure, the warm wash of enjoyment, the electricity and excitement. I felt included in those relationships, immersed in the mystery, romance, and wonder of tango. I felt connected to the dance and the dancers.

Empathy and compassion are invisible ingredients in the wondrous event of two people moving seamlessly together in harmony, in dance, to music. Feelings of 'empathy' help dancers create that magical $1 + 1 = 1$ of tango. A 'fellow feeling' between dancers establishes understanding and enables the sharing of mood and response that defines a truly good milonga.

The word 'empathy' must be quite modern. It does not feature in my trusty Webster's International Dictionary (1909). 'Empathy' may have entered our language as jargon from the modern study of psychology. Today's dictionaries offer 'empathy' as a synonym for 'compassion'. 'Compassion' conveys a sense of suffering, whilst 'empathy' seems to be more about sharing.

Tango is a metaphor for life. Life and death: two parts of the same journey. We are born to die. If we are lucky, we dance. The ocho figure of tango is the shape of infinity, the numeral '8', a shape with no beginning and no end. When it is good, it seems like we can dance forever, but, even then, we know, in our hearts, that the ending of the tanda is inevitable. We dance, we move on, leaving only the memory of a shared breath, transient beauty, and a lingering hypnotic melody.

Undoubtedly, some tango music expresses suffering that can be embodied in dance, yet few of today's social tango dancers would feel that their art arises from a state of shared suffering with a partner. Many dancers suffer pain, resulting from injured body parts, but this is personal physical suffering, not a shared emotional state.

Etymology aside, compassion is now being treated as a science; its benefits researched. Studies show that the naturally occurring "cuddle chemical" hormone, oxytocin, administered in a nasal spray, can induce acts of altruism and increase bonding. 'Compassion with intention training' is being researched as therapy for war veterans suffering post-traumatic stress disorder, and for cancer patients. Online corporations like Google and Twitter looked at it too, a few years ago. Psychologists are using compassion focused therapy in clinical practice, and the University of Queensland has held compassion symposiums.

The Stanford Center for Compassion and Altruism Research and Education was founded by Stanford University Professor of Neurosurgery, Dr. James Doty, and funded by the largest donation ever made by the Dalai Lama to a non-Tibetan cause. Borrowing from Buddhist mind-

training techniques, compassion with intention practice uses meditation, visualization, breathing and mindfulness techniques.

It is claimed, as little as two weeks of practice can have a positive physiological effect: lowered blood pressure, boosted immune responses and enhanced wellbeing. Dr. Doty claims people are much happier and live a better life if they maximize their genetic potential through the practice of compassion. A contagion effect motivates others to be kinder. Empathy, altruism, kindness and resilience are being examined, as a means of rewiring the brain, in a mental health movement that is moving away from pharmaceutical intervention.

More researchers should be investigating what happens to the body and the brain when people connect through dancing tango. It is inexpensive therapy.

Once we lived in small communities and family groups. Looking after one another was essential to survival. A hundred years ago, when Buenos Aires was growing rapidly, bohemians invented a dance and music style for themselves. It became a means of community engagement and expression.

Today, cities are home to many unhappy, displaced, isolated individuals. ‘Selfies’ are an expression of a selfish focus. Our cities are growing too fast; our community bonds are eroding. Modern society could do with an injection of ‘compassion with intent’. Fear walks our darkened streets. Gang violence, perpetrated by alienated young men, is perplexing police and politicians. We have other social problems: troubled indigenous youth, ice addiction, widespread drug usage, domestic violence, sexual abuse, road rage, and problems arising from long-term unemployment. And, it seems, society is also afflicted with an epidemic of loneliness, isolation, anxiety, despair. We don’t need research to tell us there is a connection.

In Toowoomba, in Queensland’s Darling Downs, a community of 100,000 has absorbed more than 2,000 refugees from war-torn regions in the past 15 years. African leaders believe the concentration of new arrivals has allowed their own community leaders to provide strong support structure, particularly with youth. High levels of engagement of local people have been translated into practical sensible outcomes, like employment programs. There are farm jobs and work in abattoirs, suitable for refugees from farming backgrounds. Church groups and schools have been welcoming, helping new arrivals gain an understanding of social life in Australia.

In summary, Toowoomba found ways to support refugees, and engage them. They provided work in the communities where people live, useful work that gives a sense of worth, and an understanding of the value of human endeavor.

We can open doors, and help new arrivals, and those drifting on the fringe of society, to understand the good things about the Australian way of life: concepts, like ‘mateship’, giving people a ‘fair go’ and also the benefit of doubt, supporting the underdog, and being mildly and creatively disrespectful of pompous authority. We don’t like ‘bullshit’, or ‘bludgers’, those who don’t ‘pull their weight’. Bullying is a no-go zone. We need to talk and listen, connect with people. We can learn and change, in good ways. Our tango groups and tango schools can play a part in bringing people together to have fun, enjoy life together, and participate in growing a new shared culture.



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Reflections on the tango year in Geelong

It is the time when we assess the past year, and look towards the coming year. We have been busier than ever. The older we get, the more conscious of our own mortality we become. Time is valuable, each precious minute of every day. When we think about what we want to achieve, we feel a sense of urgency, of there not being a moment to waste.

We love working with students who embrace the responsibility of learning. They concentrate in class, try to do what we ask of them, practise at home, and pose thoughtful questions to deepen their understanding. Students like this are a pleasure to teach, regardless of whether they are new to tango or more experienced. We rejoice in their progress. The time we spend working with them is a joy.

We have made adjustments to our own dancing, because of injury and ageing bodies: back and joint pain, arthritis, stiffening muscles, reducing flexibility. Keeping fit at this age and pain management has become an essential component of our practice. We pass on what we learn from our own experience, to students battling with similar issues. These things are not excuses to stop dancing. We know that if we stop, things will get worse. Rest and recovery periods after intense exercise are important for body and brain. When we compare ourselves to friends the same age who do not dance, we realize that we are not ageing badly.

Future development of the Gentle Tango program engages my mind. How to take it further, offer it more widely? We know the program works and there is need for it. We know participants like coming. We have developed it without funding or grants from corporate, government or council bodies. A modest sponsorship provided by Tango Friends Australia and private support means we can charge participants only \$5 a session (and that includes morning or afternoon tea). We keep the program affordable because people dealing with diseases like dementia and other conditions have to manage on a restricted budget. Retirement may have come early and unexpectedly; medical expenses and service costs add up. Future uncertainty weighs heavily.

Gentle Tango is available, affordable and accessible. We want it to stay that way. One of the NDIS people came to a Gentle Tango class in Geelong, with a client and a carer. She loved what she saw and experienced. She said she would refer other clients.

You'd expect councils and the media would be happy to promote what is being done in their regions, for aged people and those affected by dementia. But again, we seem to fall between bureaucratic silos. Ballarat Council and press have been good in promoting Gentle Tango in Sebastopol, as an accessible service and activity; not so Geelong. We live in hope that the program will be included in Positive Ageing promotions. Can you think of a better way to age positively than by dancing tango? Local health services are beginning to promote Gentle Tango and refer clients, but it's a slow process.

Respected Melbourne teacher, Dianne Heywood-Smith accepted the invitation to join Pam and Richard Jarvis on the Gentle Tango teaching faculty this year, enabling the establishment of the new Sebastopol (Ballarat) group. This marks an important step, with Southern Cross Tango and La Tangueria / Sidewalk Tango, officially working together in the program. Fiz Doherty assists Di in Sebastopol, and an enthusiastic team of Community Tango in Geelong dancers help Pam & Richard in the Geelong program, and, some go to Sebastopol too. Richard Slade is doing extra training to take on more responsibility in the program, and two other Geelong dancers have expressed interest in doing likewise. Pam will be running special teacher training sessions for Gentle Tango during the holidays. Dianne is enthusiastic about getting Melbourne Gentle Tango groups established.

Community Tango in Geelong will probably get more approaches to host visiting Argentine teachers, and whilst we will consider the merits of such approaches, our loyalty lies primarily in supporting top quality Australian dance performers, musicians, and, occasionally, tango teachers (when students tire of our services, and local budgets permit). We are a regional tango group, supporting local talent and working to strengthen Australian tango culture.

We continue to encourage our students to visit Melbourne and other good tango cities, like Adelaide, where the tango culture is warm and welcoming and the dancing is good, and to attend regional tango events, where they can mingle and dance with other tango enthusiasts.

Loyal students, Graham Clark (our longest serving dancer, who has been with us since we started the group, ten years ago), Margaret Daniel, and other members of the group, have stepped in to keep Community Tango in Geelong running, when we have been unable to be present. This has meant we could provide twice-weekly tango sessions in Geelong all year, as well as some lovely seasonal events. We've welcomed visiting dancers and friends from Argentina, interstate, and students who travel long distances to come to class.

We have plans afoot for several beautiful and quite different tango events for 2020, including our annual fund-raiser to support the work of Christ Church in the community. And we will be making an announcement soon about a special event that will be taking place on the afternoon of Sunday February 16, and may become a regular fixture on our social dancing program.

We are pleased to see the growth in confidence and skill of our dancers, and delighted by the way they welcome new members into our circle. We look forward to a great Christmas Party on December 11, a wonderful Tango Intensive Seminar with Ady and Andrew on December 29, another good year of tango in 2020, and a restful holiday. Tango resumes in Geelong on Monday nights and Wednesday mornings in the first week of February. Please contact richardandpam@mac.com for further information.

Southern Cross Tango's year in South Australia



Andrew and Adrienne Gill came together over coffee to share their thoughts of the 2019 tango year:

“Notably, we are so impressed by how much our dancers have challenged themselves to improve their dance skills and knowledge. It is always great to see dancers regularly attending group classes and private lessons, but we are so pleased to observe when individuals choose to engage more deeply with the material, think about it critically between classes, and undertake targeted practice at weekly Practicas, eventually gracing the dancefloor at our regular *Tango by the Sea* and *La Calesita* Milongas. There is something so lovely about watching dancers who have not necessarily found learning tango an easy process or have struggled with their confidence, taking their first competent, musically and elegantly executed steps at a social dancing event. It feels seriously good to have helped our students find their joy in dancing tango.

This year we have been very much focused on inspiring our dancers to rise above their comfortable level of social dance skill, and pursue deeper technical knowledge of tango. We have cultivated a serious training ethic in classes in order to address and improve upon limitations in physical facility, and encourage improved active learning skills through focused observation of movement mechanics, teaching students to improve their critical analysis of techniques and develop their own reflective practice. We have given dancers more time to consolidate new learnings, facilitated spirited discussions on tango concepts such as *what gives a person confidence in tango?*, and encouraged an overall openness to innovation, musicality, respect for traditional methods, excitement over improvisational potential and developed personal and shared goals for the improved skill level of our dancers and community as a whole.”

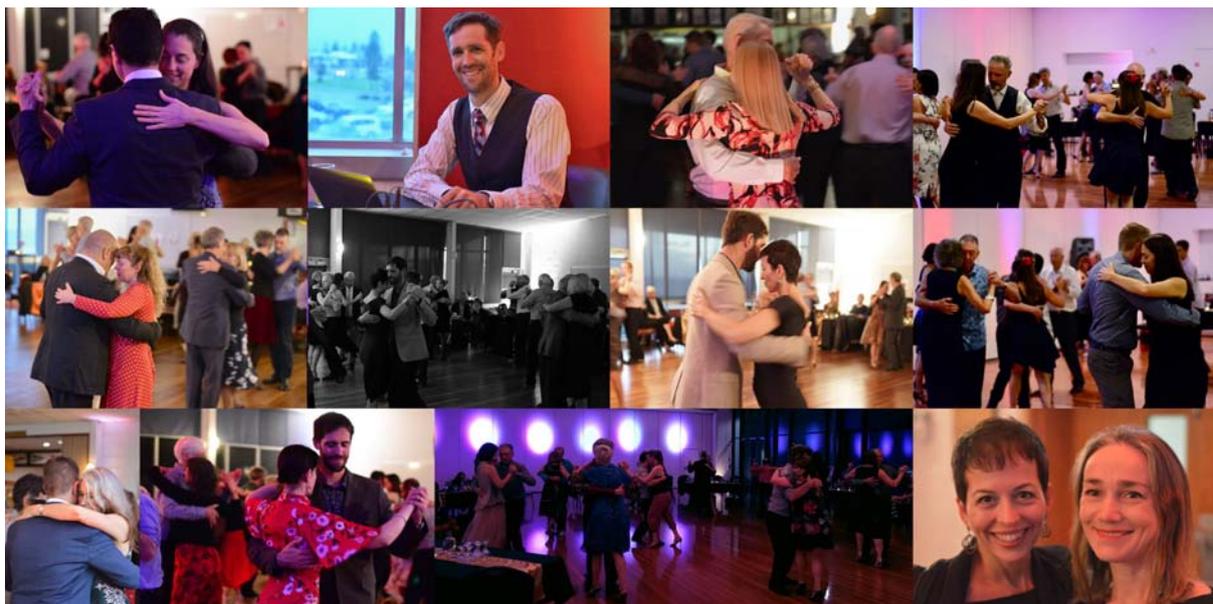


In January 2019, Southern Cross Tango celebrated their 20th Anniversary, a significant achievement and testament to Andrew and Adrienne's professional life as highly respected tango teachers, performers, festival directors, event managers, choreographers, and DJs, tasked with the ongoing nurture and development of social tango culture in South Australia.



Photos: Southern Cross Tango's 20th Anniversary Celebration, January 2019

Other highlights of 2019 included the visit of master teacher Cecilia Gonzalez, who presented a tango seminar of inspiring and achievable workshops for the highly enthusiastic and dedicated group of Adelaide and Geelong dancers. Andrew and Adrienne performed a memorable show at the Adelaide Masquerade Ball in sweltering summer heat, Glynn Nicholas and Gretel Killeen's hilarious stage show #UsTwo featured a lovely tango moment with Glynn and Adrienne (on her birthday), and Ray and Robyn hosted one of the most decadently luscious long tango lunches you could imagine. Festival City Tango over the October long weekend attracted dancers from across the country to Adelaide for a series of social dancing events, featuring Southern Cross Tango's beautiful Sunday afternoon soiree, the Tango by the Sea Milonga. Andrew and Adrienne were on the faculty of master teachers for several zouk festivals, and presented themed tango seminars during the year, in Adelaide and Geelong for small groups of couples, incorporating intensive tango training with fun social interaction, gourmet food, and of course, excellent coffee.



Photos: Some tango moments from the dancefloor during 2019

Southern Cross Tango teaching demonstrators Tricia and Kylie have been fabulous role models for our dancers, through their lovely dancing, and encouraging, inclusive and welcoming attitude at class and practicas, helping many of our newer dancers to gain confidence and persevere with their tango journey. While Kylie and Tricia were both overseas, Karen and Robyn stepped in to assist with class demonstrations, showcasing their great emerging technique. Andrew and Adrienne have thoroughly enjoyed developing some new group choreographies, including a new Progressive Milonga routine for a large group launched at their 20th Anniversary celebration, various new solo works for student couples, and have trained a new Southern Cross Tango choreography group of advanced couples who will debut their first performance at the Rock Star Christmas Party on 14 December.

What does 2020 have in store? For a start, Southern Cross Tango will launch into their innovative new TANGO LAB program in January with a program of tango seminars, small group workshops, tango nuevo masterclasses and practicas, private lessons and summer events, to keep the tango community enriched, inspired and energized for the new year!

Vale Julio Balmaceda

by Adrienne and Andrew Gill



Photo: Andrew, Virginia, Adrienne & Julio in Buenos Aires, 2018

We sadly say goodbye to Julio Balmaceda, who has recently passed away after serious illness. Across the tango community in Australia we send our heartfelt condolences to Corina de la Rosa, Alma and Virginia Vasconi.

Julio was a true inspiration to countless tango dancers across the world. We first trained with Julio and his partner Corina de la Rosa, back in the early 2000s, in a vital period of creative innovation within the professional tango community. We returned to train with Julio and Corina during many intensive training visits to Buenos Aires over the following decade. Alongside Demian Garcia and Milena Plebs, Julio (and Corina) became one of our most influential mentors in tango, transforming and empowering our dance. Last year, we reconnected with Julio and his lovely partner Virginia Vasconi at CITA in Buenos Aires, and fondly remember Julio and Virginia's warm energy and generosity in sharing their knowledge of tango.

Julio's breathtaking ability, warm and encouraging teaching, and charismatic and engaging personality inspired and most importantly, empowered his students to dance, feeling the wonderful joy, musicality and physicality of tango, energy exchange, flow, and of course, deep connection. Professional and social dancers continue to express their admiration and respect for Julio and Corina's artistry during their many years of creative collaboration, and in more recent years, Julio's partnership with Virginia Vasconi. For us, memories of Julio and Corina's joyful Vals remain, and their tango imbued with elegance, intensity and emotive power will continue to inspire our creative development through tango. Vale Julio.

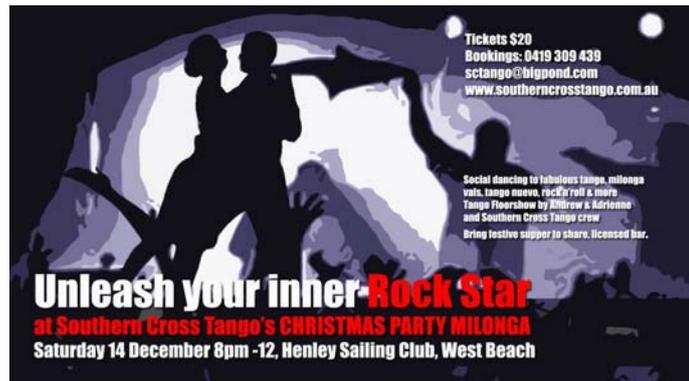
Bushfires and Tango



Southern Cross Tango's final event of the year the 'Rock Star Christmas Party Milonga' on Saturday 14 December will be raising money for RED CROSS Disaster Relief and Recovery, supporting Bushfire affected communities in NSW, QLD and SA. There will be a SILENT AUCTION held during the evening, and guests can bid on a gorgeous opal fire silver pendant necklace created by Rob Virgo, a pair of stunning titanium earrings and a unique opal and glass pendant created by local Fleurieu artists. There will be a Raffle on the night, and the winners drawn will receive fabulous prizes such as delicious Pinot Noir and Chardonnay from Maude winery (Central Ontago, NZ), Majella Coonawarra Shiraz, Turkey Flat Pedro Ximenez, dark chocolate apricots, Haigh's chocolate almonds, Andy's home-made preserved lemons, Dot Chocolate's gourmet biscuits and rocky road, Southern Cross Tango private lesson voucher and tango CDs, Fabian Salas and Lola Diaz instructional DVD and more. Special thank-you to Rob, Megan from Dot Chocolate, Meralyn and John, Ray, Paulie, Andrew and Adrienne, Shaun, Silvana, Heather, Bill and others (who may donate items after this journal publication) for their generous donations of items for the raffle and auction prizes.

Southern Cross Tango Christmas Party Milonga on Saturday 14 December, 8pm – Midnight at Henley Sailing Club, 1 Seaview Rd, West Beach.

Guests are encouraged to rock up, resplendent in **Rocker-chic** attire. Unleash your inner Rock Star for a night of dancing and fun! The night will feature **social dancing** to a fabulous mix of tango rock stars of the golden age (all the great tango, milonga & vals you love), with splashes of tango nuevo and contemporary grooves, plus



rock'n'roll, swing and other surprises in the mix, prepared by DJs A&A. Featuring **Tango floorshow performances** by Andrew & Adrienne Gill, and the premiere of a new work by Southern Cross Tango crew, and another special surprise performance. Licensed bar (no byo). Bring a plate of festive supper to share for the Green Room banquet! Tickets are \$20pp. Bookings Ph 0419 309 439 or sctango@bigpond.com www.southerncrosstango.com.au

If you can't make it to the Rock Star Christmas Milonga but would like to support those affected by the current Bushfire emergency, we warmly encourage you to donate directly to Red Cross: <https://www.redcross.org.au/campaigns/disaster-relief-and-recovery-bushfires>

TANGO IN ADELAIDE

TANGO ADELAIDE CLUB: *Practica Nuevo*, Sunday 29 December 4.30pm -6.30pm at Eastwood Community Centre, 95 Glen Osmond Rd, Eastwood. Music by Dj Rod. \$5. *New Years Eve Milonga*, Tuesday 31 December 8.30pm – 1am at Spicer Church Hall, 44A Fourth St, St Peters. www.tangoadelaide.org

TANGO SALON: *Comme Il Faut Milonga* – Sunday 15 December 4-8pm at Mt Osmond Golf Club, Mt Osmond. \$10. www.tangosalonadelaide.blogspot.com

SIEMPRE TANGO: *Christmas SuperThursday Milonga*, Thursday 12 December 8-11pm at North Adelaide Community Centre. \$10. www.siempretango.net.au

SOUTHERN CROSS TANGO: *Rock Star Christmas Party Milonga - Saturday 14 December*, 8pm – 12 at Henley Sailing Club, 1 Seaview Rd, West Beach. \$20. Floorshows, social dancing & more! Bring a plate of festive supper to share, licensed bar. Bookings & Info: 0419 309 439 sctango@bigpond.com *Tango Nuevo Practicas* Tuesday 21 & 28 January 2020, 8.10pm – 9.30pm, then Weekly Tuesday Practicas form Tuesday 4 February 2020, 8.10pm – 9.30pm at Roxy Centre, 80 Anzac Hwy, Everard Park. \$10pp. *Tango by the Sea Milonga – returns on Sunday 9 February 2020*, 4-8pm at Henley Sailing Club, 1 Seaview Rd, West Beach. Music by DJ A&A. \$15. Licensed bar. Bring a plate of supper to share. *La Calesita Milonga returns on Saturday 22 February 2020*, 8-11pm, at Thebarton Community Centre, South Rd (cnr Ashwin Pde), Torrensville. \$15. BYO drinks & snacks. www.southerncrosstango.com.au www.facebook.com/SouthernCrossTango

SOUTHERN CROSS TANGO (South Australia)

MONDAY Classes

Monday 3 February 2020

Come & Try Tango Workshop & Practica (\$5pp) 7pm – 8.30pm
Tango Refresher Workshop 8.30pm – 9.30pm (Intermediate level) (\$20/\$15pp)



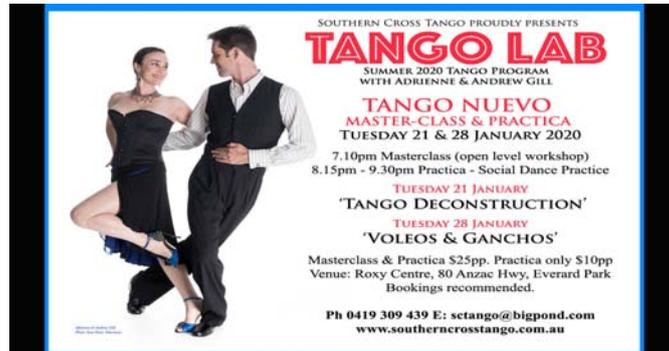
8 Week Tango Course: Monday 10 February – 30 March 2020

Beginner 7pm, Mini Practica 8pm, Open Level 8.30pm (Course or casual rates available)
@ UNLEY RSL, 29 Arthur St, Unley.

TUESDAY Class & Practica

Tuesday 21 – 28 January 2020: Summer Tango Lab

Tango Nuevo Workshops 7.10pm – 8.15pm (Intermediate+ level) (\$20/\$15pp per workshop)
TANGO PRACTICA 8.15 – 9.30pm (\$10pp)



Tuesday 4 February 2020

Come & Try Tango Workshop (\$5pp) 7.10pm – 8.10pm. New beginners are then invited to stay on for Practica until 9.30pm (\$5pp beginners).

Tango Practica 8.10pm – 9.30pm (\$10pp general entry)



8 Week Beginner Tango Course: Tuesday 11 February – 31 March 2020

Beginner Class 7.10pm -8.10pm, followed by Weekly PRACTICA 8.10pm – 9.30pm (course or casual rates available) @ ROXY CENTRE, 80 Anzac Hwy, Everard Park.

SOUTHERN CROSS TANGO (*South Australia*)

WEDNESDAY Classes

Summer Tango Lab (small group workshops) at Southern Cross Tango Studio

Wednesday 15 January: OCHOS, PARADAS & GIROS – Explore and diversify your tango repertoire with useful figures for social dancing in tight spaces.

Wednesday 22 January: MILONGA - Exploring milonga musicality, rhythm and syncopation

Wednesday 29 January: TANGO VALS – Introduce flow & elegance into your dancing, exploring vals musicality and travelling combinations.

Open level workshop 7pm – 8pm; Advanced workshop 8.10pm – 9.10pm (*Booked out!). Limited numbers, couples only. BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL! (\$20/\$15pp per workshop.)

@ SOUTHERN CROSS TANGO STUDIO, 50 Kauri Parade, Seacliff.

8 Week Tango Course: Wednesday 5 February – 1 April 2020 (*no class 18 March)

Open level 7pm – 8pm; Advanced 8pm – 9pm (course or casual rates available)

@ THEBARTON COMMUNITY CENTRE - South Rd & Ashwin Pde, Torrensville.

Half Day Tango Seminars – Summer Tango Lab

Saturday 18 January 2020 (Intermediate Level couples)

Saturday 25 January 2020 (Advanced level couples)

Half-Day Intensive Tango Seminars with Andrew & Adrienne Gill, 9am – 12. Limited numbers (couples only).

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL! **9am – 10am: *Tango Technique Training for leaders and followers.*** Please

bring a pair of socks to wear during the warm ups, and comfortable tango training attire. **10am – 12: *Tango***

Master Class. Cost \$50pp. Coffee & cake provided. Venue: Southern Cross Tango Studio, 50 Kauri Parade,

Seacliff. Bookings: Ph: 0419 309 439 or sctango@bigpond.com

PRIVATE TUITION with Andrew & Adrienne Gill

Private lessons with Andrew & Adrienne Gill are available by appointment. Please telephone 0419 309 439 to book. Lessons are available on Saturdays, and some weekdays (business hours).

Technique Training for Leaders & Followers, Saturdays 9-10am (next course dates to be announced), limited numbers. (\$20pp). To register interest in the next course E: sctango@bigpond.com or call 0419 309 439 @ Southern Cross Tango Studio, 50 Kauri Pde, Seacliff.

COMMUNITY TANGO IN GEELONG (*Victoria*)

Venue: Christ Church hall, corner of Moorabool & McKillop Streets, Geelong.

First Monday of the month: 'Tango for Pleasure' 7.30-9pm; Other Mondays - Open level group classes, 7.30 –

9.00pm. Thursday mornings - Body conditioning, dance training & improvisation for women. GENTLE

TANGO program, 10.30am. Presenting group tango classes, private lessons, seasonal salon events. Teachers:

Pamela & Richard Jarvis – 0417 531 619. E: richardandpam@mac.com

<https://www.facebook.com/CommunityTangoInGeelong>

Sunday 29 December 2019 (Open level couples)

Half-Day Intensive Tango Seminar with Andrew & Adrienne Gill, 9am – 12. Limited numbers (couples only). BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL! **9am – 10am: *Tango Technique Training for leaders and followers.***

Please bring a pair of socks to wear during the warm ups, and comfortable tango training attire. **10am – 12:**

Tango Master Class: GIROS & ENTRADAS. Cost \$50pp. Coffee & cake provided. Venue: Rathlea Studio,

Newtown, GEELONG. Bookings: 0417 531 619 or richardandpam@mac.com

SOUTHERN CROSS TANGO

Adrienne & Andrew Gill

Ph: 0419 309 439 E: sctango@bigpond.com

www.southerncrossstango.com.au

<https://www.facebook.com/SouthernCrossTango>

