

DUP WA Report

Dances continue regularly in Perth once a month with Karuna and Ishara. Dances happen sporadically on the South Coast with Nirtana, Fatima, Adam and Kate.

We held our 5th week long Dances/Sufi camp at Nirtana's home on the south coast (Denmark) in January. This year it was part way between a retreat and a camp with around 25 people camped for the week, and others coming and going. We spent a lot of time particularly refining how to hold a space for families, with 6 little beings ranging in age from 3 to 9, and a morning program of 'aunty/uncle' time to allow mothers to dance with us. Each morning we started with a different tradition, and a different person each day shared a story from that tradition, followed by a dance, which was aimed at giving the kids a taste of the traditions. This was really lovely, and all the adults agreed that stories continue as part of our regular camp. We self-catered in teams and this year charged a sliding scale, rather than donation, meaning we were able to offer payment to dance leaders, a tithe to DUPWA and support for an international DUP 'beyond' initiative project. We were delighted to welcome Brigitte to our dance camp. We also held our first dance leadership training weekend, with Nirtana, supported by Karuna.