

# THE CORNSTALK GAZETTE

Dates For Your Diary  
Folk News  
Dance News  
CD Reviews

Folk Federation of New South Wales Inc  
Issue 442 August, 2012 \$3.00



*folk music dance festivals reviews profiles diary dates  
sessions opportunities*

Folk Federation of New South Wales Inc  
 Post Office Box A182  
 Sydney South NSW 1235  
 ISSN 0818 7339 ABN9411575922  
 jam.org.au

The Folk Federation of NSW Inc, formed in 1970, is a Statewide body which aims to present, support, encourage and collect folk music, folk dance, folklore and folk activities as they exist in Australia in all their forms. It provides a link for people interested in the folk arts through its affiliations with folk clubs throughout NSW and its counterparts in other States. It bridges all styles & interests to present the folk arts to the widest possible audience.

**Committee**

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 president@folkfednsw.org.au

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*Committee:* James Baxter, Terry Clinton, Patrick Kelso, Sandra Nixon, Margaret Walters

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ADVERTISING SIZES			
	Size mm	Members	Not Mem
Full page	210 x 297	\$80	\$120
1/2 page	210 x 146 or 102 x 146	\$40	\$70
1/4 page	102 x 146	\$25	\$50
1/8 page	102 x 70	\$15	\$35

Advertising artwork required by 5th of each month. Advertisements can be produced by Cornstalk if required. Please contact the editor for enquiries about advertising (02) 6493 6758

All cheques for advertisements and inserts to be made payable to the Folk Federation of NSW Inc.

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Cornstalk is the official publication of the Folk Federation of NSW. Contributions, news, reviews, poems, photos welcome!

Photographs - high resolution JPG or TIFF files. 300 dpi images cropped at correct size.

We use Adobe InDesign, Photoshop 6, Microsoft Word. PLEASE do not send photographs as part of a Word doc.

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**Deadline for September 2012:  
 12th August 2012 (firm)**

If your event misses Cornstalk, Julie Bishop 02 9524 0247, folkmail@folkfednsw.org.au can include it in Folkmail, the weekly email to members. And don't forget that as a member you can put info on jam.org.au, where helpful tutorials will guide you.



Riogh are at Sutherland Acoustic - Thurs 9th

**The Folk Federation of NSW - Membership Application Form**

Name/s:	Eve phone:	Day phone:
Address:	Mobile:	
	Email:	
Membership Type (Tick one) <input type="checkbox"/> Individual - \$25 <input type="checkbox"/> Family (more than one in same household) - \$30 Other name/s: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Affiliate (organisation) - \$35 Contact Name: _____		
Please find enclosed \$ ____ being my subscription for ____ years. <input type="checkbox"/> I enclose my cheque/money order payable to: <b>Folk Federation of NSW;</b> or <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my credit card: <input type="checkbox"/>  <input type="checkbox"/>  (Tick one)		
Card number: ____ / ____ / ____ / ____		Expiry Date: ____ / ____
Name on card: _____		
Signature: _____		

*The membership year runs from 1st May to 30th April or from 1st November to 31st October. Allowances are made in your favour for people joining at other times. Send to: PO Box A182, Sydney South NSW 1235.*

# Folk Federation of NSW AGM Report

The Annual General Meeting of the Folk Federation of NSW was held on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> July at the Gaelic Club, Surry Hills, with nine members present. New members Nikki and Patrick Kelso were welcomed to their first AGM.

In his report, President Anthony Woolcott noted the year's highlights which include a positive financial outcome, the achievement of DGR (tax deductible gift) status and the establishment of the successful MoFo (Modern Folk) concerts. Anthony also noted the support that the Folk Fed is able to give member organisations by acting as the auspicing body for events and grant applications. Over the past year, assistance has been given in this way to the Northern Beaches Folk Festival, Sing Dubbo, Unaccompanied Baggage *a cappella* concert and the Bright Stars' Singers music development day.

Treasurer Bruce Cameron presented the audited financial report, which shows net assets of \$8429 and a net operating surplus of \$2152. Membership Secretary Wayne Richmond advised that membership numbers have slightly decreased and emphasized the need for consideration to be given to mechanisms for attracting new members and retaining existing members.

Results of the annual elections were as follows :

President – Anthony Woolcott  
Vice-President – Dallas Baxter  
Treasurer – Bruce Cameron  
Secretary – Pam Davis  
Committee – Jim Baxter, Terry Clinton, Patrick Kelso, Sandra Nixon, Margaret Walters.

The following ex-officio appointments were confirmed :

Membership Secretary – Wayne Richmond  
Folkmail – Julie Bishop  
Cornstalk editor – Coral Vorbach  
Wrap Team – Dallas and Jim Baxter

Several very worthy nominations were received for the Folk Federation Award and the Award subcommittee will review these and make a recommendation to the next Committee meeting. The Award will be presented at next year's National.

Pam Davis  
Secretary



## Coming to a venue near you!

8pm, Friday 24th - **Monaro Folk Society**

8pm, Saturday 25th - **The Loaded Dog**

2pm, Sunday 26th - **Humph Hall**

*Unsung Heroes of Australian History* is a show presenting ordinary people who have done extraordinary things. This exciting and innovative production presented by Bruce Watson, Moira Tyers, Wendy Ealey and Neil Robertson involves scripted narration, songs, projected images, audience interaction and the gratuitous distribution of Anzac biscuits & Turkish delights.

You are invited to meet many people who have quietly made their mark and helped to form this fortunate nation and find the answers to the big questions: Who shot Ben Hall? Whaddaya mean 'Pa Will?' What can you do with old leather belts and felt hats? The youngest soldier to die at Gallipoli was how old!?!

*Unsung heroes of Australian History* has met with wide-spread acclaim. Don't miss this opportunity to experience it! Well behaved children welcome.



Chris Wheeler

## Metropolitan

**Wednesday 1st**

### WONGAWILLI 25TH ANNIVERSARY DANCE.

Wongawilli Hall. 8pm. \$3, children free. Acoustic musicians and dancers welcome. Gwen 4296 1855. [www.wongawillicolonialdance.org.au/page/Events/](http://www.wongawillicolonialdance.org.au/page/Events/)

**Friday 3rd**

◆'ONE VOICE' **LOOSELY WOVEN** - 27 instrumentalists & singers present a free, light-hearted, folky acoustic concert/cabaret. Boronia Park Uniting Church, 93a Pittwater Rd, Hunters Hill. 7.30pm. [looselywoven.org](http://looselywoven.org)

### ◆BUSH MUSIC CLUB SINGABOUT NIGHT.

'The Songs We Sing Today.' Bring along a song or a poem, and food to share. Triton Hall (Hut 44), Addison Road Community Centre, 142 Addison Rd, Marrickville. 8-10pm. \$5. Bob Bolton 9569 7244, [bob-bolton@netspace.net.au](mailto:bob-bolton@netspace.net.au)

### ◆ILLAWARRA FOLK CLUB. WONGAWILLI 25TH

ANNIVERSARY CONCERT, including past band members, and Wongawilli Colonial Dancers. City Diggers Wollongong, cnr Church and Burelli Sts. 7.30pm. \$15, \$10. David De Santi 0409 57 1788, [www.wongawillicolonialdance.org.au](http://www.wongawillicolonialdance.org.au)

**Saturday 4th**

◆BEECROFT BUSH DANCE, with **GALIMOR**, caller Don Richmond. Beecroft Community Centre, Beecroft Rd (opp. Fire Station). All dances taught. Beecroft Community Centre, Beecroft Rd (opp. Fire Station). 8pm-12. \$17, \$14, \$12, incl. supper. Sigrid 9980 7077, Wilma 9489 5594

◆THE SHACK. **NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY** (John Flanagan, Warren Boyd, Isabelle Fogarty), a lively, popular, thoroughly entertaining trio, long a Sydney

folk icon, began their career at the original Shack. Originals, folk, comedic and 'adapted bluegrass'. + **GREEN MOHAIR SUITS**. Lots of picking, singing and vocal harmonies; bringing the roots of country and bluegrass music. **Ben Romalis** (slide guitar), **Brian Campeau** (acoustic guitar), **Jason Mannell** (banjo). + **DAVID KNIGHT** - he treats the guitar as an entire musical package, with many techniques, playing percussive guitar, incl. its neck & body, as well as standard methods. Tramshed Community Arts Centre, 1395a Pittwater Rd, Narrabeen (betw. car park and Ambulance in Narrabeen shops). 7.30-11pm. \$20. 0413 635 856. [shackfolk.com](http://shackfolk.com)

◆'ONE VOICE' **LOOSELY WOVEN** - 27 instrumentalists & singers present a light-hearted, folky sort of acoustic concert/cabaret. Concord Presbyterian Church, cnr Correys & Concord Road. 7pm. [looselywoven.org](http://looselywoven.org)

◆WONGAWILLI 25TH ANNIVERSARY BUSH BALL, featuring a number of dances introduced by the band & dancers to the Australian folk dance scene. Albion Park Centenary Hall. 7.30pm. \$10, incl. light supper, tea, coffee. BYO drinks. David (0409) 57 1788, [wongawillicolonialdance.org.au](http://wongawillicolonialdance.org.au)

◆LAWSON 'LIVE'.

### CHRISTINE WHEELER CD LAUNCH AND BUSH DANCE.

Mid Mountains Community Ctr (in new Lawson town centre). Dinner, snacks available from kitchen/cafe. BYO alcohol permitted; glasses provided. 6-10pm. \$15, \$12, <12 free.

**Sunday 5th**

◆'ONE VOICE' **LOOSELY WOVEN** - 27 instrumentalists & singers present a free, light-hearted, folky acoustic concert/cabaret for Amnesty International. Avalon Baptist Peace Church, 2 George St. 4pm. [looselywoven.org](http://looselywoven.org)

◆PRACTICE FOR MAITLAND BALL. (The aim is to avoid teaching at the Ball.) East Gosford Progress Hall, cnr. Henry Parry Drive

& Wells St, East Gosford. 10am - 4pm. \$8. <http://users.tpg.com.au/juliasm/BMC-Ball/>

### ◆THE PARK FOLKSONG FESTIVAL

Bundeena RSL (in Royal National Park). Musos on board Cronulla Ferries. Led singalongs in the club, 1-4 pm. Also Bundeena Market Day & Art Trail. Event will promote the Green Music Train & Illawarra Folk Festival locally. Dani danikaris@ozemail.com.au

### ◆WONGAWILLI 25TH ANNIVERSARY PICNIC & SOCIAL.

Wongawilli Com. Hall. 11am. Free. BYO drinks & food. [wongawillicolonialdance.org.au](http://wongawillicolonialdance.org.au)

**Monday 6th**

### BMC DANCE WORKSHOP.

Practice for Maitland Ball. Pennant Hills Community Centre, Yarrara Road. 7.30-9.30pm. \$7. Felicity 9456 2860. <http://users.tpg.com.au/juliasm/BMC-Ball/>

**Thursday 9th**

SUTHERLAND ACOUSTIC. **RIOGH** are Alan Morrison guitar/vocals, Leigh Piper bass, Danny Priestley vocals/bodhran, Lindsay Martin fiddle/mandolin, Johnny Spillane whistles/bodhran & Lisa Baraldi keyboard. Sutherland District Trade Union Club, Cnr Manchester Road North & The Kingsway, Gympie \$15/\$12 (<12 free!) Info: 9520 5628

**Friday 10th**

### NOTES, NEWTOWN

**FRED SMITH WITH A WITH A FEW GOOD SPOOKY MEN**. 8pm. 75 Enmore Rd, Newtown. \$28.05 (incl. booking fee).

Bookings: <http://noteslive.net.au> 9557 5111.

◆'ONE VOICE' **LOOSELY WOVEN**

- 27 instrumentalists & singers present a free, light-hearted, folky acoustic concert/cabaret. St Andrews Uniting Church, Chisholm & Vernon Sts, Sth Turrumurra. 7pm. [looselywoven.org](http://looselywoven.org)

**Monday 13th**

### BMC DANCE WORKSHOP.

Practice for Maitland Ball. Pennant Hills Community Centre, Yarrara Road. 7.30-9.30pm. \$7. Felicity 9456 2860. <http://users.tpg.com.au/juliasm/BMC-Ball/>

**Friday 17th**

### HORNSBY KU-RING-GAI FOLK CLUB

Double bill: **NICK LOCK** and **BADJA RIVER BAND**. Beatrice Taylor Hall, rear Willow Park Community Centre, Edgeworth David Ave, Hornsby. 8pm (doors 7.30). \$15. BYO drinks, nibbles. Tea, coffee provided. Candle lit, tables can be booked, Barry Parks 9807 9497, [bpparks@tpg.com.au](mailto:bpparks@tpg.com.au)

◆'ONE VOICE' **LOOSELY WOVEN**

- 27 instrumentalists & singers present a free, light-hearted, folky sort of acoustic concert/cabaret. Humph Hall - 85 Allambie Road, Allambie Heights. 7pm. [looselywoven.org](http://looselywoven.org)

## Saturday 18th

### ◆MACQUARIE TOWNS MUSIC CLUB

Nigel Wearne. St Peters Educational Ctr, 384 Windsor St, Richmond. Great acoustic venue with candle lit tables. 7pm. \$12/\$10, incl. 'suppa & cuppa'. BYO snacks, drinks. Enq, or group table reservations, Lydia 4576 0521, info@macquarietownsmusicclub.com.au

### ◆BALMAIN BUSH DANCE,

with *Folklines*, caller Claire Stoneman. All dances taught. Sydney Secondary College, Balmain Campus, 25 Terry St, Rozelle. 8pm-12. \$17, \$14, \$12, incl. supper. 9642 7950

## Sunday 19th

### ◆'ONE VOICE' LOOSELY WOVEN

- 27 instrumentalists & singers present a free, light-hearted, folksy sort of acoustic concert/cabaret. Humph Hall - 85 Allambie Road, Allambie Heights. 2pm. looselywoven.org

### PRACTICE FOR MAITLAND BALL.

Scout Hall, Park Avenue, Concord. 10am - 4pm. \$8. Don Richmond 9642 7950. <http://users.tpg.com.au/juliasm/BMC-Ball/>

## Monday 20th

**BMC DANCE WORKSHOP.** Practice for Maitland Ball. Pennant Hills Community Ctr, Yarrara Rd. 7.30-9.30pm. \$7. 9456 2860. <http://users.tpg.com.au/juliasm/BMC-Ball/>

## Friday 24th

### ◆SONGS FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE.

**OPENING CONCERT** with Block Harmony, Maurie Mulheron and Jeannie Lewis, Ann Bermingham (Qld), Miguel Heatwole, Jenny Fitzgibbon (Qld), Peter Hicks (Tas.) and Jumping Fences (Qld). Gaelic Club, upstairs, 64 Devonshire St, Surry Hills (near Central). 8.15pm. (Come early for Politics in the Pub at 6pm.) \$20, \$15 (or incl in wkld ticket) Paul 4952 5889 songweekend@gmail.com <http://songweekend.wordpress.com>

## Saturday 25th, Sunday 26th

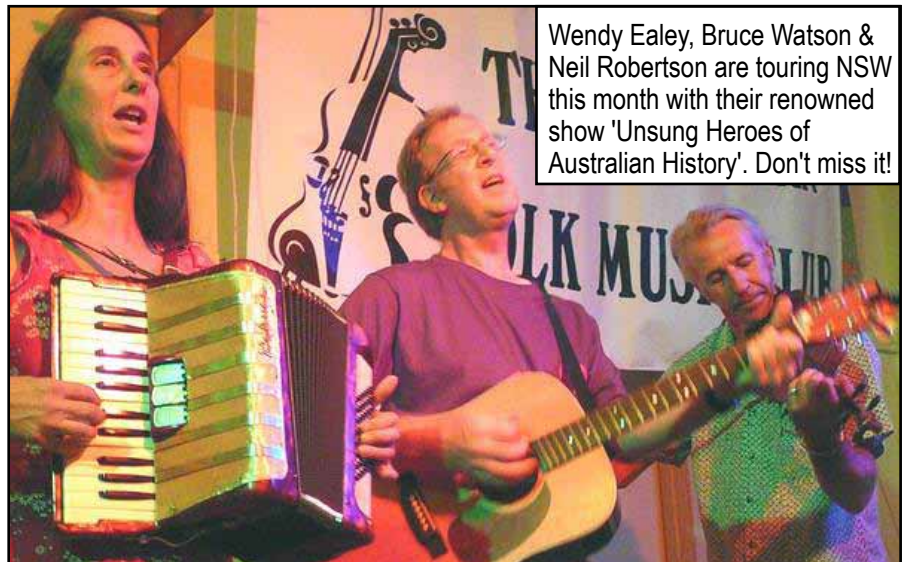
### ◆SONGS FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

- workshops, song-sharing, skills-sharing, and singing just for fun. There's something for everyone and space for spontaneous contributions! Jenny Fitzgibbon, Peter Hicks, Ann Bermingham, Maurie Mulheron, Mithra Cox, Paul Spencer, Margaret Walters; and many others. Teachers Federation Building, 30 Mary St, Surry Hills. [Not at NCOSS, previously advertised.] 9.30am - 5pm. Weekend ticket \$50/\$35 includes Friday night. (Day tickets \$20, \$15. Sat + Sun, \$35, \$25.) Saturday night options: a cheap meal, bar and a session at Humanist Hall, Shepherd St, Chippendale (just near Broadway) and/or a night at the Loaded Dog. To receive monthly update or be involved, contact us (see above).

## Saturday 25th

### ◆LOADED DOG.

'UNsung HEROES OF AUSTRALIAN HISTORY'



Wendy Ealey, Bruce Watson & Neil Robertson are touring NSW this month with their renowned show 'Unsung Heroes of Australian History'. Don't miss it!

**'LIAN HISTORY'** presented by *Bruce Watson, Moira Tyers, Wendy Ealey* and *Neil Robertson*. Who shot Ben Hall? The youngest soldier to die at Gallipoli was how old!? Who's got a glacier and a rat named after them? Who was Australia's first professional female jockey? And so on. Moira, Bruce, Neil and Wendy are all talented and sought after performers and writers. The show is performed with a narration and audio visual display. (2 hrs) + Floorspots from singers from the Songs for Social Justice weekend. Annandale Neighbourhood Centre, upstairs, 79 Johnston St. 8pm. \$15, \$13. BYO, supper available. Sandra 9358 4886, [www.theloadeddog.org.au](http://www.theloadeddog.org.au)

## Sunday 26th

### HUMPH HALL. 'UNsung HEROES OF AUSTRALIAN HISTORY'.

(see above for description). 85 Allambie Rd, Allambie Heights. 2pm. Entry by donation. Bookings advised, Wayne 9939 8802, wayne@humphhall.org humphhall.org

## Regional and ACT

## Sunday 12th

### THE ARTISTS SHED, QUEANBEYAN.

*Chris Johnson*. + *The Wedded Bliss*. 14 Foster St (behind Magnet Mart off Yass Rd). 2-5pm. Entry by paper note donation. Glass of wine, wonderful artworks, great music, rustic surroundings! Ros 0438 768 754. [www.facebook.com/pages/The-Shed-Sessions/214316861927285](http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Shed-Sessions/214316861927285)

### NEWCASTLE PRACTICE FOR MAITLAND BALL.

All Saints Parish Hall, cnr Cromwell & Oxford Sts, New Lambton. 10am - 4pm. \$8. <http://users.tpg.com.au/juliasm/BMC-Ball/>

## Saturday 25th

### BUSH MUSIC CLUB

## SUBSCRIPTION BALL

Maitland Town Hall. 6.30 for 7pm start. Booking essential. \$60, Non-Dancer \$50, Early Bird (received by 5 Aug.) \$50, Student \$35. Sunday's BBQ \$10 (child \$5). Cheques, payable to 'Hunter Folk Dancers', to Bill Propert, 26 Croft Rd, Eleebana 2282. Direct deposit details (& dance instructions, etc) at <http://users.tpg.com.au/juliasm/BMC-Ball/>

## Sunday 26th

### NEWCASTLE, BBQ & RECOVERY

**PICNIC**, incl. Dancing in Heritage Hall. Heritage Shed, Speers Point Park - on NW tip of Lake Macquarie; a quiet, safe setting. 15 min from Toronto entry to Freeway. BYO chair & drinks. 11am to 4pm. \$10, \$5. (Bookings as above.)

The Artists Shed, Queanbeyan. Cassidy & Peter Richens. + Graham Dodsworth. 14 Foster St (behind Magnet Mart off Yass Rd). 2-5pm. Entry by paper note donation. Ros 0438 768 754. [www.facebook.com/pages/The-Shed-Sessions/214316861927285](http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Shed-Sessions/214316861927285)

## THE MERRY MUSE

## Friday 10th

*Graham Dodsworth plus Christina Mimmochi*

## Friday 17th

*Jenny M Thomas and the System/ the Lucky Wonders*

## Friday 24th

### MONARO FOLK SOCIETY 'UNsung HEROES OF AUSTRALIAN HISTORY'

presented by *Bruce Watson, Moira Tyers, Wendy Ealey* and *Neil Robertson*. Involves scripted narration, songs, projected images, audience interaction and the gratuitous distribution of Anzac biscuits & Turkish delights. Canberra Southern Cross Club. McCaughey St, Turner (The Bowlo), Cnr Condamine St. Enq, Eileen 0412 127 882. [www.merrymuse.org.au](http://www.merrymuse.org.au)

## festivals & events

### 24th - 26th August 2012

Songs for Social Justice, central Sydney  
<http://songweekend.wordpress.com>  
 email: [songweekend@gmail.com](mailto:songweekend@gmail.com)

### 15th - 17th September 2012

Neurum Creek Musical Festival  
[www.neurumcreekfestival.com](http://www.neurumcreekfestival.com)

### 12th - 16th September, 2012

The Turning Wave NSW Yass  
[www.turningwave.org.au](http://www.turningwave.org.au)

### 28th September-1st October 2012

Uranquinty Folk Festival  
[www.uranquintyfolk.com](http://www.uranquintyfolk.com)

### 28th September - 1st October 2012

Bush Traditions Gathering  
[www.bushtraditions.org](http://www.bushtraditions.org)

### 20th - 21st October, 2012

Wingham Akoostik Music Festival  
[www.winghamakoostikfestival.com](http://www.winghamakoostikfestival.com)

### 14th October, 2012

Illawarra Folk In The Foothills  
[www.illawarrafolkclub.org.au](http://www.illawarrafolkclub.org.au)

### 19th - 21st October, 2012

Kangaroo Valley Folk Festival  
[kangaroovalleyfolkfestival.com.au](http://kangaroovalleyfolkfestival.com.au)

### 2nd - 5th November, 2012

Maldon Folk Festival  
[www.maldonfolkfestival.com](http://www.maldonfolkfestival.com)

### 17th - 20th January, 2013

28th Illawarra Folk Festival  
[www.illawarrafolkfestival.com.au](http://www.illawarrafolkfestival.com.au)

### 25th - 27th January 2013

The Irish Cultural Festival Lake Jindabyne  
 Info: John Mc Loughlin 0414 439 659  
[www.JindabyneIrishFestival.com](http://www.JindabyneIrishFestival.com)

## Kangaroo Valley Folk Festival

Once again, in a most beautiful valley, the 2012 Kangaroo Valley Folk Festival will be held on 19th - 21st October 2012.

Super earlybird weekend tickets are now on sale for a measley \$70 (\$60 conc) until 31 August. (Full price \$85)

We are seeking volunteers to join our happy crew. Stallholder applications are also open.

The performer lineup is just about finalised and we think it's our best ever. Keep an eye on our website for performer details.

See you in the Valley!

<http://kangaroovalleyfolkfestival.com>

## Maitland Ball - 25th August 2012

The Bush Music Club's Annual Subscription Ball at the Maitland Town Hall is drawing very close and I thought that I'd give all you wonderful dancers a gentle reminder. The regulars of course will not need this but there is always a warm welcome to those who have not been before. I remember my first time. I was nervous and anxious but pleased that I had taken the opportunity of attending the practice day to learn the dances that were new to me. And at that time of my life that was most of them. I was careful to mark my dance card with the easy ones and leave the "challenging" ones to the experts. Booking partners on my dance card was a bit of a concern but I found that I knew just enough people to see me through the night. I survived to tell the story and was hooked. That was eight years ago and I haven't missed a Maitland Ball since.

What I like about the Maitland Ball is the wonderful atmosphere. It's a total sensory experience made up of the sights, sounds and physical involvement. It's a shared experience as on the dance floor it all comes together.

I love the costumes. The gowns and paraphernalia worn by the ladies and the suits, kilts and uniforms of the gentlemen make a scene to behold. The colours, the textures and designs provide a pageant and spectacle not witnessed too often in our modern world. Let's face it, some of us still like dressing up and playing together.

I love the atmosphere of the historic Town Hall. It's big and it's old and every corner has a sense of its past and the many grand events that it's witnessed. It's not the most beautiful of Maitland's old buildings but it does have one unique feature that makes our whole dancing experience an unforgettable one. It has a sprung dance floor. Yes a multitude of steel coil springs support the structure of the floor and provide that bounce and "give" that makes dancing all night such a great pleasure.

I love the music. There are a number of important factors that make for a good dance and the music is probably the most important of all. Coalbrook Band has played at almost all of the Maitland Balls and their choice of tunes and the high quality of their musicianship makes dancing such a pleasure. Jigs, reels, waltzes and whatever the dance demands they provide in volumes. Nothing is too big a challenge.

I love the meeting and greeting of friends from far off places. People that we only get to see at festivals or balls like this. It's the warm social atmosphere and the more friendships I've made the better I like it. Yes it takes time to feel comfortable with so many but well worth the effort. A dance is not a dance without all the other dancers. It's something that we share and enjoy in good company.

So for me the Maitland Ball is a must do event and this year I anticipate with some excitement the chance to experience its magical atmosphere all over again. I hope you may be there as well and share with me another unforgettable night of dancing.

For all the information about the Ball, ticket prices, dance programme, practice days/evenings and the recovery picnic/barbecue please visit the website at <http://users.tpg.com.au/juliasm/BMC-Ball> where you can also download the booking form and the dance instructions. Call on 02 4946 5602 or email [propert@netspace.net.au](mailto:propert@netspace.net.au).

Bill Propert (Hunter Folk Dancers)

*[This is the 32nd Colonial Subscription Ball run by the BMC. The first was in 1978. For a history of the Balls, and a look at their dance programs, go to [http://bushmusic.org.au/ball\\_history.html](http://bushmusic.org.au/ball_history.html)]*

*Practice Sessions*

**Central Coast practice**  
 Sunday 5th August, 10am - 4pm: East Gosford Progress Hall, cnr. Henry Parry Drive & Wells Street, East Gosford.

**Newcastle practice**  
 Sunday 12th August : 10am - 4pm: All Saints Parish Hall, Cnr Cromwell & Oxford Streets, New Lambton. NSW.

**Sydney practices**  
 Sunday 19th August: 10am - 4pm: Scout Hall, Park Avenue, Concord - (Don Richmond 9642 7950).  
 Mondays in August: 7.30 pm - 9.30 pm: Pennant Hills Community Centre, Yarrara Road, Pennant Hills.

Practice day sessions cost \$8 for day or \$4 for half day.  
 Tea, coffee and cold drinks provided. BYO lunch.  
 Night sessions cost \$7.

**\*\* Attendance at practices is highly recommended\*\***

*Websites*

<http://users.tpg.com.au/juliasm/BMC-Ball/>  
<http://www.bushmusic.org.au>

*Ball Enquiries*

Newcastle:  
 Bill Propert 02 4946 5602, [propert@netspace.net.au](mailto:propert@netspace.net.au)

Sydney:  
 Collin Fong 02 9716 9660, [c.fong@unsw.edu.au](mailto:c.fong@unsw.edu.au)

*The Bush Music Club's 2012 Maitland Ball*

*Saturday 25th August 2012*



*Maitland Town Hall*

*6.30 pm for 7pm start*

*Music by Coalbrook Band*



## Songs for Social Justice: *singing together for change*

24th – 26th August, 2012

Songs for Social Justice will be a weekend of concerts, workshops and song-sharing circles held in central Sydney from Friday 24 to Sunday 26 August 2012. The aim is share our rich treasury of songs, to create opportunities for activists involved in campaigns for social justice, to learn and share relevant songs, to meet like-minded enthusiasts, and to encourage the use of more music at public rallies and demonstrations – and have fun on the way!

The weekend will begin with a concert on the Friday night upstairs at the Gaelic Club, 64 Devonshire Street, Surry Hills. The events during the day on Saturday and Sunday will take place in Teachers Federation House, 23-33 Mary St, Surry Hills. The program is a multi-stream series of skills-sharing workshops and thematic song-sharing circles on topics such as land rights, migration, coal seam gas, songwriting for causes, songs for keeping hope alive, there'll also be space for unstructured sessions. It will end on Sunday afternoon with a 2 hr concert sharing songs from each of the sessions. (See end of this article for Saturday night activities.)

Artists in the Friday night concert include some interstate performers as well as Sydney folks: Block Harmony, Candy Royalle (TBC) Maurie Mulheron and Jeannie Lewis, Ann Bermingham, Miguel Heatwole, Jenny Fitzgibbon, Peter Hicks and Jumping Fences. There'll only be time for each of them to give a taster of the sorts of songs you can expect to hear more of on Saturday and Sunday.

Among the presenters and facilitators on Saturday and Sunday are: Ann Bermingham, Candy Royalle, Christina Mimocchi, Ecopella, Jenny Fitzgibbon, John Queripel, Jumping Fences, Karl-Erik Paasonen, Kate Maclurcan, Krista Pav, Lina Cabarero, Margaret Walters, Mithra Cox, Paul Spencer, Peter Hicks and others to be confirmed. All details will be available on the Songs for Social Justice website: <http://songweekend.wordpress.com>

**Meals:** The weekend ticket does not cover meals, but there'll be free tea and coffee, a small donation for biscuits, sandwiches and soup. We'd be grateful if you could bring your own mug. People are welcome to bring their own resources but there will not be access to a kitchen, fridge, stove etc. (NB: No alcohol allowed in Teachers Federation building.)

**Accommodation:** We hope most people from outside Sydney will be able to sort out their own accommodation but we'll try and match up people having difficulty with people offering billets.

**Stalls:** Any participants are welcome to bring along any CDs or books they have for sale. And there will be a separate table where you can donate or exchange books and CDs.

**Tickets:** Cost of the weekend will be \$50/\$35. There are options for Friday night and day tickets. Note – meals and Saturday night activities are not included. We encourage people

to register and buy their tickets in advance as this will assist us in catering and finalising the program.

You can volunteer to work for four hours in exchange for the weekend ticket (or pro rata), and people short of cash and desperate to attend the whole weekend without sacrificing time in volunteering can apply for a limited number of scholarships. Use our web email form to make a request or phone Paul (02) 4952 5889 or Margaret (02) 9698 2206 or contact any of the Committee members.

Any surplus funds will be used to set up a seed fund for next year's event and to contribute to performers' expenses, and hopefully also reward them for their time. Solidarity purchases of tickets by performers are welcome!

**In summary:** this weekend is very much about participation - so don't expect a music festival where there's a divide between entertainers & audience. The opening concert on the Friday night will be the only one with amplification. Most of the weekend will be devoted to workshops & song-sharing circles & unstructured sessions. We are encouraging all presenters to include chorus songs (providing words & chords where appropriate) and to select a song that typifies their session & include it in the closing concert on Sunday afternoon.

(Note – you won't be bullied into participating if you just want to quietly absorb what's on offer – but we hope you will take advantage of the opportunity to learn lots of songs, and how to create some of your own.)

No events are scheduled for Saturday night. However, we have some suggestions for two or three sympathetic activities after the events finish at Teachers Federation House. There will be a chill-out and session at Humanist Hall, Shepherd St, Chippendale (just near Broadway); and/or a night at the Loaded Dog Folk Club at the Annandale Neighbourhood Centre, 79 Johnston St, Annandale where Melbourne singer songwriter Bruce Watson and friends will be presenting songs of unsung Australian heroes; there will be a 30-minute segment during the evening devoted to some of the singers from the Songs for Social Justice weekend.

**A third alternative:** Power to the People: a night of comedy, culture & politics from 7pm at the Newtown Neighbourhood Centre – fundraiser for GreenLeft TV. [songweekend@gmail.com](mailto:songweekend@gmail.com), <http://songweekend.wordpress.com>

**Postal address:**

**C/- Margaret Walters,  
45 Ivy Street, Darlington NSW 2008  
Enquiries: Margaret (02) 9698 2206,  
0427 958 788 or Paul 0477 008 686**

## folk news

### Ted Egan's 80th Birthday

Living national treasure Ted Egan, celebrated his 80th birthday in early July. Always a generous host and great entertainer, Ted again did things in style with celebrations lasting two days. He and Nerys opened their home to guests from near & far including the inspirational Margret Roadnight. Margret, a matriarch of the Australian folk music scene, celebrates 50 years of performing next year. We were treated to a glorious performance of songs including several of Ted's that she has recorded.

On the Saturday the music continued with John Kane of the Flying Emus joining in with various singers throughout the afternoon including Scotty Balfour of Bloodwood fame, Barry Skipsey and yours truly.

### Changes at The Shack

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to Trevor & Kathleen Swadling who've been part of The Shack crew since the inception (including the first time around in the 70s), for their valuable contribution to the enjoyment and running of The Shack. Trevor as Treasurer and sound guy (technician) & Kathleen as Secretary and all aspects of Administration and Door and everything else that entails, as well as both helping to set up and break down performance nights at The Shack. We look forward to seeing them when they come along to enjoy a Shack Night, wish them well and trust they will relish the free time to concentrate on their other interests including their group 'Selalu'.

Welcome to Andrew Hoyle who has taken over as our new sound guy (goodness knows we need one to calm Paul down, he is doing his Master's in Enthusiasm!) and with his new swanky equipment, we now have a more modern streamlined look to the stage plus a great sound. The new Treasurer is Roxana Jarolimek, who multi skills on Shack nights by also doing some performance videoing, and whatever's needed, and Jackie Jones is the new Secretary. 'We are both on the steering committee for the Northern Beaches Music Festival which you will soon be hearing more about. Ask us, Rhonda and Paul about it when you see us!' The monthly Shack night on 4th August will be a fundraiser for the 2013 NBMF.

Julie

# One Voice

a,  
light-hearted,  
folky, sort of  
acoustic  
concert/  
cabaret

with 27  
instrumentalists  
& singers

# Loosely Woven

2pm, Sunday 29th July  
St Davids Uniting Church  
St Davids Ave, **Dee Why** (next to police station)

7pm, Friday 3rd August  
Gladesville-Boronia Park Uniting Church  
93a Pittwater Road, **Hunters Hill**

4pm, Sunday 5th August  
Avalon Baptist Peace Church  
2 George Street, **Avalon**



7pm, Saturday 4th August  
Concord Presbyterian Church  
Cnr Correys & Concord Road, **Concord**

7pm, Friday 10th August  
St Andrews Uniting Church  
Chisholm & Vernon Sts, **Sth Turramurra**

7pm Friday 17th August + 2pm Sunday 19th August 2012  
Humph Hall  
85 Allambie Road, **Allambie Heights**

Info: Wayne Richmond 9939 8802 wayne@humphhall.org looselywoven.org

*The following is from the Washington Post Style Invitational contest that asked readers to submit "instructions" for something (anything), but written in the style of a famous person. The winning entry was The Hokey Pokey (as written by William Shakespeare).*



O proud left foot, that ventures quick within  
Then soon upon a backward journey lithe.  
Anon, once more the gesture, then begin:  
Command sinistral pedestal to writhe.  
Commence thou then the fervid Hokey-Poke,  
A mad gyration, hips in wanton swirl.  
To spin! A wilde release from Heavens yoke.  
Blessed dervish! Surely canst go, girl.  
The Hoke, the poke -- banish now thy doubt  
Verily, I say, 'tis what it's all about.  
- by "William Shakespeare"



# Waltzing Matilda

*The Secret History of Australia's Favourite Song*

Dennis O'Keefe, Allen & Unwin, 2012, p 294.

Review by Chris Woodland.

This book took a long time to reach publication, but it was worth the wait. Many years of dedicated research and the passionate, thoughtful interest of Dennis O'Keefe has produced an Australian publication of great importance.

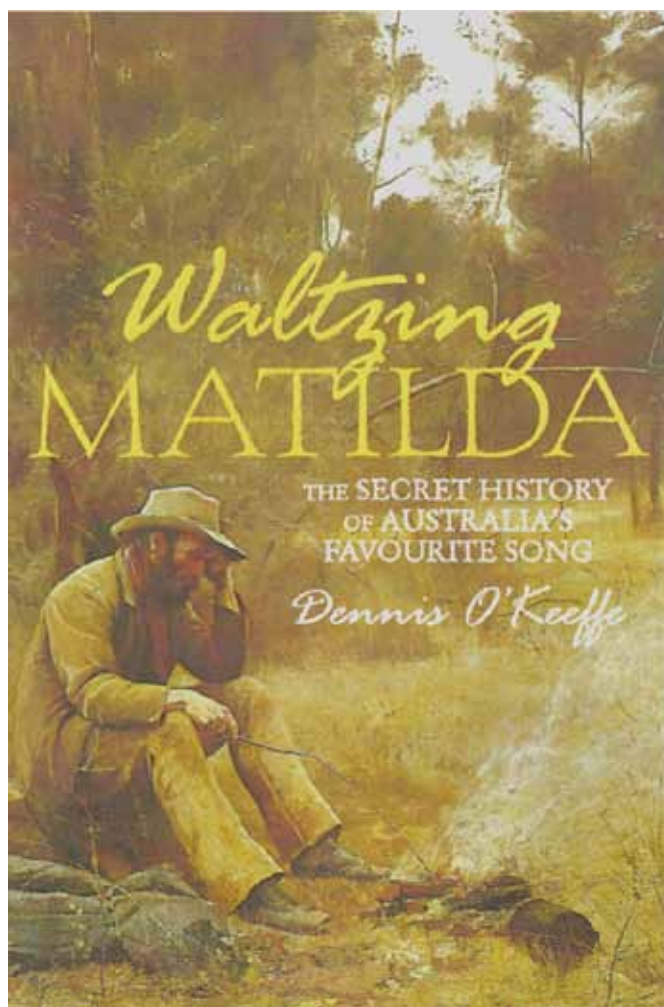
This book is a lot more than the poem and subsequent song versions that evolved from Banjo Paterson and Christina Macpherson. It is about the history and development of the Australian character, the painful and slow birth of the trade union movement, the hardships endured by the squatter class and the tactics of both groups, and how close we came to experiencing the worst war of all, a civil war. It contains elements of violence, arson and murder. It is also a story of romance, both in human and nationalistic senses. The personalities of many of the key players in the story are covered in detail, much of it obtained from direct descendants through personal interviews conducted by the author. Apparently the Banjo was quite a lad with the ladies!

Most Australians accept Waltzing Matilda as our folk anthem and unofficial national anthem and many an eye has been moistened by the singing of it in all parts of the world – often when the song has been an impromptu event. The author's description of Australian soldiers charging to their obvious doom, all singing Waltzing Matilda, is also an eye moistening experience for those who have already read this book.

How this simple poem coupled with a Scottish tune quickly became such a popular song is a fascinating story. It is also interesting to discover to what degree the legendary Billy Tea Company contributed to its popularity. To many, the beautiful tune *Thou Bonnie Hills of Craigielea* is associated with almost non-sensible lyrics in the song *Waltzing Matilda*. Dennis O'Keefe explains to the reader the various lyric changes and the background to these lines. The subtitle mentions the 'secret history' and it would be unprofessional for a reviewer to expand and disclose some of these previously generally unknown facts. As an old bloke said to me many years ago, 'No one would commit suicide for killing a sheep,' and he was correct in that statement.

Dennis O'Keefe is a well known Australian performer of traditional folk songs. He is a singer-songwriter and a songwriting teacher. He is a multi instrumentalist and for many years has run the popular Australian Song Sessions at the National Folk Festival held in Canberra every Easter. Many readers will enjoy the many traditional songs and poems that provide artistic support for the text content. Not all poems and songs are in their entirety and not all are traditional, as Dennis uses some of his own compositions for illustration.

My reading of the book picked up only a couple of errors. The passing description of a cabbage tree hat, page 86, leaves (no pun intended) the uninitiated an incorrect idea of the universal headwear of the early Australian. As was usual in places of minimum resources, people had to make do with that which was available. For example, in the outback where trees did not offer the bark properties of the inside country, bark huts were replaced with bough sheds with the use of thatched cane grass, coolabah leaves and the like. The cabbage tree hats were woven from coastal palms (*Cordyline australis* and *Livistona australis*) and their production became what today



would be called a cottage industry. The hats varied in shape and size, but were generally finely plaited from the leaves, often with a high crown and wide brim. On page 85 the term 'bullock trails' are mentioned. The use of the word trails was not used by the bushmen of the past, nor is it used today, except by National Park bureaucrats and such, those whose education was United States or flickering screen based. That slip by the author appears to be just that, a slip, as his use of the Australian language is otherwise exceptional, as one would expect from such an expert on our culture.

The publication contains copious note sources, photographs and sketch reproductions, an impressive bibliography, an index, and a brief but disturbing preface.

This book offers so much more than the exciting story of our famous song and the explanations of the words Matilda, swagman, squatter and the evolution of mateship. It is more than Paterson's early embarrassing female relationships and its consequences. It gives the background to our developing nation; it covers a great deal of country, from Victoria's Western Districts to the far outback of Western Queensland and beyond. Dennis O'Keefe's *Waltzing Matilda* covers a wide spectrum of Australian politics, folklore and history and I believe it is a book that should take a prominent position on the bookshelf of Australian literature. It is essential reading for all Australians be they school students, those seeking information on our history and folklore, and for those that already have a profound knowledge of our heritage. As the blurb says, 'Waltzing Matilda is as important to Australian culture as the Eureka Stockade and Ned Kelly'.

# folk contacts

## Choirs

### Monday

**A Chaired Taste**, Glebe, led by David Westmore, 9716 7016

**Bright Star Singers** Ashfield, led by Mary-Jane Field, 9090 2362

**Ecopella**, Blue Mountains, Miguel Heatwole, 9810 4601 mheatwole@bigpond.com

**Glory Bound Groove Train**, Petersham, led by Linda Calgaro, 9518 4135

**Inner West Chamber Choir**, Leichhardt, led by Rachele Elliott, 9797 1917. info@innerwestchoir.com.

**Intonations**, Manly, Karen Smith, (0415) 221 113, karensmith@artsconnect.com.au

**Martenitsa**, Ultimo, led by Mara and Llew Kiek, 47514910

**People's Chorus**, Newcastle, led by Rod Noble, 49 623432

**Unaccompanied Baggage**, North Sydney, led by Stuart Davis, singup@optusnet.com.au

**Voiceworks**, Katoomba, led by Rachel Hore 4759 2456, rachelhore@ozemail.com

### Tuesday

**Cantorian**, Neutral Bay, led by David Westmore, 9716 7016

**Ecopella**, Illawarra area (alternate Tuesdays), led by Miguel Heatwole 9810 4601, mheatwole@bigpond.com

**Roc Lawson**, led by Rachel Hore, 47592456, rachelhore@ozemail.com

**The Honeybees**, East Sydney, led by Dynes Austin. Contact Jenny Jackson, 9816 4577 lindsayandjenny@hotmail.com

**Sydney Trade Union Choir** Sydney City, contact Nola Cooper 9587 1165 - Nola.Cooper3@three.com.au

**Songs Next Door**, Seaview Street, Dulwich Hill, meets weekly at Sea View Hall, Seaview St, Dulwich Hill. 12.30pm. (Seniors mostly) Contact Allan 9520 6180

### Wednesday

**Choralation**, Abbotsford (school terms), Margaret Grove mggrove@optusnet.com.au

**Ecopella**, Erskineville, led by Miguel Heatwole, 9810 4601 mheatwole@bigpond.com

**The Heathens**, Blackheath, day time 2pm-4pm. Led by Chris Wheeler 4787 5725 chriswheelersanddealers.com.au

**NoteTonight, Josephine**, Glebe, led by David Westmore, 9716 7016

**The Spots**, Christina Mimocchi, Randwick 0410 682 061

**The Sydney Welsh Choir**, men and women. Meet on Wednesday evenings at Concord Baptist Church hall. 7pm - 9pm. 20 + performances p.a. Contact MD Viv 4739 0384, taffy@pnc.com.au. President Clive 9997 2019.

### Thursday

**Bouddi Voice**, Kincumber (school terms), led by C & C Sainsbury, contact 43 683270

**Chorella Community Choir**, Richmond, contact Ellen 4578 2975

**Cleftomaniacs**, Waterloo, led by Gary Smith, garys7@optushome.com.au

**Solidarity Choir**, Erskineville, Cathy Rytmeister, 0438 683 867, crytmeister@bigpond.com

### Friday

**Mudlarks**, women's a cappella choir. Woodford. Led by Alison Jones 4759 2880

**Pacopezants**, Balkan Choir Fri 4pm, Katoomba. June 4782 1554. junerose12@gmail.com

**The Sydney Street Choir**, CBD, led by Peter Lehner 0425 268 771

### Sunday

**Blue Mountains Trade Union Choir**, Upper Mts., contact Kate 47 82 5529

## Dance

### Monday

**Bush Music Club Dance Workshop**, Beginners, experienced, 7.30pm, Pennant Hills Community Centre, downstairs. Except Jan. and public holidays. Felicity 9456 2860

**International Folk Dancing**, School term, Earlwood Senior Citizens Ctr, 362 Homer St 10am-12pm. Debbie 4294 1363 0427 315 245

**Scottish Country Dancing for beginners**, with 'Scots on the Rocks', Fort St Public School, Observatory Hill, Sydney, 6.30-7.30pm. Nea 9994 7110, Lynn 9268 1246, SC Dancers@netspace.net.au, www.rscds.org.au

**Belly Dance**, basic/beginners 7pm, choreography 8pm, Girraween Hall, 17 Tungarra Rd. Vera Myronenko 9665 9713

### Tuesday

**Blue Mountains Scottish Country Dancers** Catholic Church Hall, 7-9pm, Wentworth St, \$3 Verley Kelliher, 4787 5968, kelliher@lisp.com.au Carol Gardner 4751 6073/a.c.gardner@bigpond.com

**Greek Folk Dance**, Pontian House, 15 Riverview Rd, Earlwood. Adult class 7.30pm - 9.00pm (Senior Diogenes Group - 15 yrs to adult. Cost involved. Vas Aligiannis, 0407 081 875, greekdancer@aapt.net.au. www.greekdancing.com.au

**Hungarian Dance Class**, Ultimo, 8pm -10pm. Gary Dawson 9559 4485. garydawson@ozemail.com.au

**English Country Dancing, Sydney**, Playford Dance Group. Occasionally at Lidcombe. TBA. Patricia 9649 6978 or Mike or Ros on 9929 8193

**Scottish Country Dancing**, St John's Uniting Church Hall, Coonanbarra Rd, Wahroonga, 7.30pm-10.30pm. All welcome. Catherine Bonner 9489 5027

**Scottish Country Dancing** Fort Street School, Observatory Hill, City. 6pm to 8pm Nea MacCulloch 9904 1358(a/h) or Lynn 8244 9618(w)

**Sutherland Shire Folk Dance Group**, International Dancing, Gynea Bay Scout Hall, June Place, 7.30pm-9pm. Kaye Laurendet 9528 4813

**Turkish Dance Class**, Lidcombe Community Centre, 8pm-10pm. Yusuf Nidai

9646 1166

**Ukrainian (Cossack) Dancing Class** for fit and energetic young people (16-23yrs), 7.30 pm to 10.00 pm. Ukrainian Hall 59 Joseph Street, Lidcombe. Jaros Iwanec 9817 7991, jarosiwanec@optusnet.com.au /www.veselka.com.au

**International Folk Dance class** - Open Door, Georges Hall Senior Citizens, Birdwood Rd, 11.30am-12.30pm. Gabrielle 9728 7466, gabybaby@optusnet.com.au

**"The Dance Buffet"**, wide variety taught, Liverpool City Pipe Band Hall, Woodward Park (next to Whitlam Centre), Memorial Ave, 7.30-9.30pm. \$8 (\$5 conc). Nicholai 9822 7524, mob 0407 178 228

### Wednesday

**Albion Fair, North-West Morris Dancing** Lilyfield Community Centre, Cecily and O'Neill Sts, 7.45pm. Angie Milce 9817 3529

**Australian Heritage Dancers**, Annandale Neighbourhood Centre, 79 Johnston St, 8pm -10pm. Jim Young 9412 3721 jayoung3@bigpond.net.au - australianheritagedancers.org.au

**Balmoral Scottish Country Dance Group** Seniors' Centre, Mosman Square, Mosman 7pm - 9.15pm. Nell Morgan 9981 4769.

**Epping Scottish Country Dance Club** St Aidan's Church Hall, Downing St, 7.30pm-10pm. All levels welcome. Clare Haack 9484 5947 clare\_kirton@hotmail.com

**Gosford Scottish Country Dance Society** 7pm-10pm, Church of Christ, Henry Parry Drive, Wyoming. Cecily Cork 4384 3527, Jan McCudden 4329 5537

**Greek Folk Dance**, Pan Macedonian Assoc Building, Railway Pde, Sydenham from 7pm onwards. Adult classes from 7.15 pm, Vasilios Aligiannis, tel/fax 9708 1875 greekdancer@excite.com

**International Folk Dancing for Older Women**, School terms only, 9am-10am beginners, 10am-11am advanced. Bankstown Older Women's Wellness Centre, Police and Community Youth Club, cnr Meredith St and French Ave. Gabrielle 9728 7466, Alita 9798 9269

**Irish Set Dance class, Irish Gaelic Club**, 64 Devonshire St, Surry Hills. 8pm-9.30pm. Alarna 0401 167 910.

**Sutherland Shire Bush Dance Group**, Uniting Church, 4 Gosport St, Cronulla, 7.30pm-10pm. \$3. Beginners most welcome. Partners not necessary. Mike 9520 2859

**Sutherland Shire Folk Dance Group** International dancing, Como Guides Hall, cnr Warraba & Mulyan Sts, Como West 9.30am, - 11am & 11.30am - 12.30pm. Kaye 9528 4813, okaye@optusnet.com.au

### Thursday

**Blue Labyrinth World Dancers. Term time, 7.30-9.30pm. Glenbrook Baptist Church Hall, King St. Jo Barrett 4739 6498 or Jeanette Mollenhauer 4739 0909**

**English Country Dancing for the Over 55's.** American Contra + Beginners English, 11.30am - 1pm. Advanced English 2pm-4pm. School for Seniors, Wesley Mission, 220 Pitt St. Sydney. (Opposite back of Hilton Hotel.) Roslyn 9263 5416

**English Country Dancing.** 1st & 3rd Thurs. Church by the Bridge hall (St John's Anglican), Broughton St (cnr Bligh St), Kirribilli. Enter courtyard gate - hall is on right. 7.15-9.15pm. Donations (optional), for the church or expenses. Please email Margaret Swait, so that you can be advised of schedule changes: MargaretTalbot@me.com

**Blue Labyrinth International Folk Dance** from 7pm, Baptist Church Hall, King St Glenbrook. Jo Barrett 4739 6498

**Greek Folk Dance.** Mytelinean House. 225 Canterbury Rd, Canterbury. Adult classes from 7.30pm - 9.00pm (Clio Group - 21 years and up Greek dances). Cost involved. Vasilios Aligiannis, tel/fax 9708 1875 greekdancer@excite.com

**Sutherland Shire Folk Dance Group.** International dancing. Scout Hall, June Place, Gympie Bay. 10am. Kaye 9528 4813 okaye@optusnet.com.au

**Sydney Irish Ceili Dancers.** Kingsgrove Uniting Church Hall, 289A Kingsgrove Rd (cnr Moreton Avenue, Kingsgrove. Beginners to intermediate step dancing 6pm, advanced step dancing 7pm Set and ceili dancing 8pm-10.30pm. Margaret and Bill Winnett 9150 6765. email: wmntt@optusnet.com.au

### **Friday**

**Australian Colonial and Folk Dancers.** Every Friday, Scouts/Guides Hall, Plympton Road, Carlingford, (opposite Nth Carlingford shops). Anthony and Lisa 9873 4805.

**Greek Dancing.** St Therapon Greek Orthodox Parish (Church Hall) 323 Cumberland Highway, Thornleigh. Time: Juniors 6.30pm - 7.30pm (Callipe Group)

Pontian House. 15 Riverview Rd, Earlwood. Junior Class - 6.30pm - 7.30pm (Thalia junior group - 3yrs to 12 yrs. Class is free, Pontian only)

**International Dancing.** Sedenka Folk Dancers, Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre, 665A Darling St Rozelle. 8pm-11pm, \$3. Chris Wild 9560 2910.

**Scottish Country Dancing.** Adult classes, beginners welcome, children 6.30pm -7.30pm, adults 8pm-10.30pm, Beecroft Primary School, \$2. Sheena Caswell 9868 2075, Heather Dryburgh 9980 7978

**Scottish Country Dancing.** Caringbah Seniors Hall, 386 Port Hacking Rd, Caringbah (rear Library). 8pm. Beginners/other levels. G. Milton 9524 4943, Erica Nimmo 9520 4781

### **Saturday**

**Bush Music Club Bush Dances.** Feb-Dec (not Easter), 8pm-12pm, \$17/\$14/\$12 incl. supper, children to 12 free. Beecroft Community Ctr 1st Sat, Helen 9626 7816; Balmain High School hall, Terry St, Rozelle, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat, Don 9642 7949

**Central Coast Bush Dance.** Second Saturday, 7.30pm - 11.30pm, East Gosford Progress

Hall, Henry Parry Dr and Wells St, \$15/\$12. Beate 4323 3356. Robyn 4344 6484.

**Scottish and Old Time Dance.** Second Saturday. 8pm, Uniting Church, 9am-11am Bay St, Rockdale. \$3 incl. supper. Chris Thom 9587 9966.

**Scottish and Old Time Dancing Orkney and Shetland Assoc.** 3rd Sat, 8pm-11 pm. St David's Hall, Dalhousie St, Haberfield. \$3 inc. supper. Visitors most welcome. Jean Cooney 9874 5570.

**Macedonian Dance Class Rockdale.** 6.30pm-8.30pm. \$5. Y Kaporis 0412 861 180

**Mortdale Scottish Dancers Learners Night** (for learners and experienced), 7.30- 9.30pm. Pensioners Welfare Club Hall, 76 Pitt Street, Mortdale. Pam Jehan 9580 8564.

**Linnéa Swedish Folkdancers** Estonian House, 141 Campbell St, Surry Hills. New members welcome. For times contact Graeme Traves 9874 4194, linneafolk@hotmail.com

**Medieval Miscellany** (Medieval Dancing). All Saints Parish House, cnr Oxford and Cromwell Sts, New Lambton. Saturdays, 3.30pm-5.30pm. \$10. Dianne 4936 6220

## **Music in Concert**

### **Tuesday**

**The Screw Soapers Guild - Writers Presenters & Listeners Group** 4th Tues, 7.30pm, stories, poems, songs & conversation. Albert 9600 7153, DermottRyder@bigpond.com, www.folkclub.com/folkodysey/

### **Wednesday**

**Wisefolk Club.** Last Wed in month, 11am-2.30pm, Toongabbie Bowling Club, 12 Station Rd, lunch at club bistro. Sonia 9621 2394 Allen 9639 7494,

### **Thursday**

**Sutherland Acoustic Night.** 2nd Thurs concerts. All ages. Floor spots welcome. Enjoy friendly, sociable entertainment, support local talent. Jenny 9576 2301.

### **Friday**

**Hornsby Kuring-Gai Folk Club.** 3rd Fri, 8pm, Each month Beatrice Taylor Hall, rear Willow Park Community Centre, Edgeworth David Ave, Guest artist & floor spots, light supper provided BYO grog. Barry Parks 9807 9497 bpparks@tpg.com.au

**Illawarra Folk Club.** 1st Friday, Wollongong City Diggers Club, cnr Burelli & Church Sts, 1300 887 034 www.illawarrafolkclub.org.au

**Springwood Neighbourhood Centre Acoustic Club,** or SNC Acoustic Club Regular folk nights 4th Fri (Feb-Nov), 8pm \$7/\$5 Springwood Neighbourhood Centre, Macquarie Rd, Springwood. (next to Civic Centre). Visitors and floor performers welcome. Mark Hand 4721 4230 eternitynow@tadaust.org.au

**Toongabbie Music Club.** 2nd and 4th Fri 8pm, Northmead Scout Hall, Whitehaven Rd, Northmead. Sessions always happen so bring instruments. Allen 9639 7494 allendavis@iprimus.com.au. or Ray Pulis 9899 2102.

### **Saturday**

**Bluegrass & Traditional Country Music**

**Society of Aust.** 1st Sat, March-December Sydney get-together. Annandale Neighbourhood Centre, 79 Johnston St, Annandale. Band workshop 7pm, concert 8.15pm, jamming all night. All welcome: \$5/7. (02) 9456 1090 www.bluegrass.org.au

**Illawarra Folk Club.** 3rd Sat, Wollongong City Diggers Club, cnr Burelli & Church Sts, 1300 887 034 www.illawarrafolkclub.org.au

**Loaded Dog Folk Club.** 4th Sat, Annandale Neighbourhood Centre, 79 Johnston St, 8pm. Sandra Nixon, 9358 4886, kxbears@ozemail.com.au. www.theloadeddogg.org.au

**Macquarie Towns Music Club.** 3rd Sat, 7.30pm Alternates between concert (featuring guest artist + blackboard) & round robin jam sessions. St Peters Ed. Centre, 384 Windsor St, Richmond. Lydia Bowen-Clare 4576 0521 doozi-do-z@hotmail.com

**The Shack.** 1st Sat, 21st century original, contemp & trad. folk music at The Tramshed, 1395a Pittwater Rd, Narrabeen 7:30. BYO drinks & nibbles. Rhonda (0416) 635 856 or Roxana rjarolimek@bigpond.com

**Troubadour Folk Club.** Central Coast, 4th Sat. 7pm CWA Hall, Woy Woy. (opp. Fisherman's Wharf), The Boulevard, Woy Woy. \$11/\$9/\$8. Floor spots available. includes light supper. Marilyn or Frank 4341 4060 or (0419) 231 319

**Fairlight Folk Acoustic Lounge.** Four times a year, Feb, May, Aug, Nov (usually 1st Sat) 7.30pm. Quality live acoustic music in a comfortable, relaxed environment. After show - jam. BYO drinks and nibbles. Light refreshments available. William St Studios, Fairlight (Baptist Church down from Sydney Rd.) Rosie 9948 7993. www.fairlightfolk.com

## **Sessions & Free Workshops**

### **Monday**

**Bush Music Club.** Music Workshop. Addison Rd. Community Centre, 44/142 Addison Rd, Marrickville, 7.30pm. All singers & musicians welcome. Bob 9569 7244, bobbolton@netspace.net.au

### **Tuesday**

**Irish Music Session.** 2nd & 4th Tues 7.30-10.30pm @ The Shamrock Inn, Asquith Leagues Club, Alexandra Pd. Waitara (short walk from station). It's an open session and all musicians are welcome with focus on tunes rather than songs. Phone Norm 9489 5786 normanmerrigan@optusnet.com.au

**Irish Music Session,** Gaelic Club 8pm. plus Irish music lessons including fiddle, flute, whistle, guitar, banjo. 1st Floor, 64 Devonshire St. Surry Hills, 9212 1587 info@gaelic-club.com.au

### **Wednesday**

**Jam Night.** Jolly Frog Hotel, Cnr Bridge & Macquarie Sts, Windsor. 7.30pm to late. Mark (0419) 466 004

**Gosford Bush Poets.** Last Wed 7pm. Gosford Hotel, cnr of Mann & Erina Sts. Everyone welcome to share in night of fun, friendship and great poetry. Contact Vic Jefferies, 02 96394911 or jeffries@tech2u.com.au

## Thursday

**Sutherland Acoustic.** Fourth Thursday of each. month from 7.30pm Gymea Tradies Club, Kingsway, Gymea. Friendly jam. All welcome to sing, play an instrument, recite poetry or just listen. Enq. Jenny 95762301

**Blackheath Folk Club.** 1st Thurs, 7.30pm, Ivanhoe Hotel, cnr Gt Wstn Hwy & Govetts Leap Rd. Christine/Peter 4787 7246

## Friday

**Bush Music Club Beer & Cheese Night.** Themed music nights, 1st Fri (exc. hols), 8-10pm. Bring something to sing, eat, drink. Hut 44, Addison Rd Com. Centre, 142 Addison Rd, Marrickville. 9569 7244, bob-bolton@netspace.net.au

**Eastern Suburbs Poetry Group.** 1st Fri, Church in the Market Place, Bondi Junction. 6.30-8.30pm. 9349 6958

**Springwood Neighbourhood Centre Acoustic Club.** 4th Fri, (Feb-Nov) 8pm, \$7/\$5, Springwood Neighbourhood Ctr, Macquarie Rd (next to library & Oriental Hotel) Visitors & floor spots welcome, Theresa 4751 8157, Jeannette 4754 4893

## Sunday

**Hotel Illawarra Wollongong.** 3rd Sun, 3pm, spoken word, 5pm acoustic music

**Irish Music Session.** Kellys, King St, Newtown, 6pm. 9559 6300

**Irish Music Session.** 3rd Sunday. Bennett Hotel, Hamilton, 4-7.30pm Roz and Shane Kerr 4967 3167

**Irish Music Sessions.** Dicey Riley's, Wollongong 2pm.

**Music lessons for kids.** 12-3pm. Focus on tin whistle. Gaelic Club. Surry Hills 9212 1587.

**Music Session.** Hero of Waterloo, cnr Lower Fort St and Windmill Street, The Rocks. 6-10pm. Brendan 9818 4864

**Sydney Scottish Fiddlers.** 1st & 3rd Sun, 2-5pm, New Church, 4 Shirley Rd Roseville. All ages. Trish 9416 2402

## Regional Events

### Bateman's Bay

**Scottish Country Dancing.** Batemans Bay Caledonian Society -Tue 7.30pm Batemans Bay Bowling Club - all welcome. 4457 2065.

### Bellingen

**Celtic Australian Session.** Sat from 1pm. Northern end of Church Street cafe strip. John 6655 5898 Carole 6655 1225

### Blue Mountains

**Blue Mountains Heritage Dancers.** Wed in term time, 7.30-9.30pm. Wentworth Falls SOA. 217 Great Westn Hwy. (0439) 314 948, dba23266@bigpond.net.au or (0412) 786 988

**Blue Mountains Folk.** Mid Mountains Community Centre, Joy Anderson Room, 7 New St, Lawson. 3rd Sunday, 3.30pm - 6pm. Nick Szentkuti 4758 7953, szentkuti@exemail.com.au

**Irish Session** at the Carrington, Katoomba. 4th Sunday, 3pm.

### Braidwood

**Braidwood Folk Music Club.** 3rd Thurs Anglican Church Hall, BYO everything. Sue

4842 8142

**Tallaganda Dance Troupe.** Folk dance, Mon. 9.30am 35 Coronation Ave, Braidwood. Noela 4842 8004

### Broken Hill

**Occasional Acoustic Jam Nights.** Bell's Milk Bar. Contact Broken Hill Art Exchange, (08) 8008 3171

### Central Coast

**Troubadour.** 4th Sat. 7pm CWA Hall, Woy Woy. (opp. Fisherman's Wharf), The Boulevard, Woy Woy. \$11/\$9/\$8. Floor spots available. includes light supper. Marilyn or Frank 4341 4060 or (0419) 231 319

### Cobargo

**Yuin Folk Club.** Occasional Folk Nights. David Crowden 0404 359 631. yuinfolkclub@bigpond.com, www.cobargofolkfestival.com

### Cooma

**International Folk Dancing.** Uniting Church Hall, Soho St, Thurs, 6pm. Fran 6453 3282

### Dubbo

**Dubbo Folk Club.** Usually 2nd Sun, 2.30pm, Western Star Hotel. All welcome. Di Clifford 6882 0498 (0458) 032 150

### Gosford

**Gosford Bush Poets.** - last Wed 7pm Gosford Hotel, cnr of Mann & Erina Sts. Everyone welcome to share in night of fun, friendship and great poetry. Contact Vic Jefferies, 02 96394911 or jeffries@tech2u.com.au

### Goulburn

**Bush Traditions Sessions.** Old Goulburn Brewery. 1st Fri (except Jan & April), 7.30pm. Bradley Grange, Bungonia Road David Johnson 4884 4214 bushtraditions.org/sessions/goulburnsession.htm

**Irish and Celtic Music Sessions.** Old Goulburn Brewery. 3rd Fri. Bradley Grange, Bungonia Road. 4821 6071.

### Gulgong

**Gulgong Folk Club,** 3rd Fri, Waratah Hotel, Mudgee 5pm. PO Box 340, Gulgong NSW 2852, Bob Campbell 02 6373 4600, gulgong-folkfestival.com

### Kiama

**"No Such Thing".** Yvonne O'Grady hosts an Australian tune session suitable for beginners every Mon. 4233 1073 iffaj@shoal.net.au

### Newcastle

**Acoustic Folk Lounge,** 1st Wed, 7-10pm. Downstairs, Grand Hotel, cnr Church and Bolton Sts, Newcastle. Circle session. All welcome. 4967 3146, catherine.laudine@uon.edu.au, Tracy 0402 761 520

**Bush and Colonial Dancing.** 3rd Sun 2-4pm. Beginners and visitors always welcome. All Saints Anglican Hall, New Lambton. Enq. Margaret Kenning 4952 1327 email: westwick@wix.com.au or Bill Probert 4946 5602 email probert@netspace.net.au

**Newcastle and Hunter Valley Folk Club.** 1st Sat. 7.30pm (not Jan) Wesley Centre, Beaumont St, Hamilton. (Dances held 4 times a year, March, June, Sept, Nov) Lainey 4943 4552, 0421 412 358 laineyv@bigpond.com. www.newcastlehuntervalleyfolkclub.org.au

**Traditional Irish/Folk Session,** 1st Sun,

3-6pm. Lake Macquarie Hotel, opp. Morissett Railway Station. (0418) 146 555 or (0418) 146 554, gcalcagno2008@hotmail.com

**Lakeside Folk Circle.** 4th Sun. Teralba Community Hall, Anzac Pade, Lake Macquarie. 4-7pm. \$2.50. Paul 4959 6030. nager99@hotmail.com

**People's Chorus Practice.** 6pm, Trades Hall Council Meeting Rooms (opp. Panthers' main entrance), Newcastle. Rod Noble 4962 3432 Frances.Munt@newcastle.edu.au

**Newcastle Irish Set Dancers,** Tues, 7.30-9pm, Scots Kirk, Hamilton, Newcastle. Julia or Arthur, 4955 5701 juliasmith@tpg.com.au, or users.tpg.com.au/juliasm/Irish-Dance/

**Hunter Bush Poets,** 2nd Tue 7pm, Tarro Hotel; Ron Brown 4951 6186.

**Hunter Folk Dancers.** Enq. 4955 5701, **Irish Music Session.** Bennett Hotel, Hamilton, 3rd Sun, 4pm. 4967 3167

**Newcastle Poetry in the Pub,** 3rd Mon, 7.30pm, Northern Star Hotel, Hamilton. Glenn 4967 1460.

**Newcastle Strath Hunter Dancers.** Adults: Mon 7.30pm, Wallsend Uniting Church. Juniors: Thur 4.15pm, Youth 5.30pm, All Saints Hall, New Lambton. Elma: 4943 3436.

**Welsh & Cornish Folk Dancing,** Mon, 7.30-9.30pm, All Saints Anglican Hall, Cromwell St, New Lambton. Beginners and visitors welcome. 4952 1327. westwick@wix.com.au

**The Beehive,** as requested. 8 Lewis St, Islington. Neville Cunningham 4969 4246.

### Nowra

**Balkan and International Folk Dance,** Mon, 7.30pm, Cambewarra Hall. Suzi Krawczyk 4446 0569, plotki@shoal.net.au

**International Folk Dance,** Progress Hall, Boorawine Tce, Callala Bay. Tues (school term) 7.15-9pm. 446 6550, mep@pnc.com.au

**Celtic Craic.** 9 piece acoustic trad band. Tue 7.30 Chris 4446 1185, chrislangdon@optusnet.com.au or Mark 4454 5028, nangle@shoalhaven.net.au.

**Scottish Country Dance Group,** Presb. Church Hall, Kinghome St (next to Woollies), Wed, 8pm, all welcome. Jill 4421 3570

**Shoalhaven Bush and Folk Dancing Club,** Friday (school term, 8-10pm, Cambewarra Hall. Margaret 4421 0557.

**Shoalhaven Acoustic Music Assoc,** Bomaderry Bowling Club, formal concerts, not always folk, approx quarterly. 4421 3470.

### Orange

**Orange Dirt Music.** 3rd Sat from 3pm. Jam sessions of acoustic folk, jazz, blues etc. rotating around each others' houses - all welcome. ckinross@csu.edu.au 6365 8221

### Southern Highlands

**Bowral Folk Club.** 3rd Thurs, 8-10.30pm. Fentons Cocktail Bar, upstairs at the Grand Bar, 295 Bong Bong St, Bowral. Traditional music from around the world. 4861 6076.

**Burrawang Folk,** 4887 7271

**Southern Highlands Recreational International Folk Dance Group,** Bowral Presb Church Hall, Bendooley St, Thurs (school term), 9-11am. Margaret 4861 2294

**Southern Highlands Scottish Country**

**Dance Group**, Moss Vale Uniting Church, Cnr Argyll and Spring Streets, Wednesday, 7.30pm. All welcome. Enq. 4861 6471.

### Taree

**Lazarka International Folk Dance Group**, Manning River Steiner School Hall, Wed. 5.30-8.30pm, Thurs 9-11am. 6552 5142.

### Wagga Wagga

**Downside Bush Dance & Open Mic**, Tin Shed Rattlers, 1st Sat, 6928 5541.

### Wauchope

**Café Blue Frog**, 1st Sat, 7.30pm: Concert (invited artists), 3rd Sat, 7.30pm: Open session. High St. 6585 1488 [Uniting@tsn.cc](mailto:Uniting@tsn.cc)

### Wollongong

**Bluegrass Jam Session**, 3rd Sat. 7.30-11pm. Thirroul Neighbourhood Centre next to PO.

**Illawarra Folk Club**, 1st Fri & 3rd Sat, Wollongong City Diggers Club, cnr Burelli & Church Sts, 1300 887 034 [www.illawarrafolkclub.org.au](http://www.illawarrafolkclub.org.au)

### Jamberoo

**Session**, Jamberoo Pub, Thurs, 7.30pm. [claire@kissevents.com.au](mailto:claire@kissevents.com.au)

**Poet's Breakfast**, Wed. 7.15am. Wollongong Writers' Centre, Town Hall, Corrimal St. Tony Stoddart, [immune@exemail.com.au](mailto:immune@exemail.com.au)

**UOW Folk Club**, 12.30pm, Mon & Fridays. Old timey, bluegrass, Celtic session. Duck Pond (in front of library), Uni of Wollongong. David Harman, [dharman@uow.edu.au](mailto:dharman@uow.edu.au)

**Wollongong White Heather Scottish Country Dance Group**, Mon, 7.30-10pm, St Andrew's Church Hall, Kembla St. All welcome. Arnold Thurling 4228 1986 or Grace Halliday 4229 3480

**Wongawilli Colonial Dance Club**, Bush Dance, Wed, 8pm, musos & dancers all welcome, Community Hall, West Dapto Rd, Wongawilli. David 0409 57 1788. [www.wongawillicolonialdance.org.au](http://www.wongawillicolonialdance.org.au)

## Across The Border

### ACT

**Monaro Folk Society**, PO Box 482 Civic Sq, ACT 2608 (0409) 817 623 [dance@mfs.org.au](mailto:dance@mfs.org.au) [mfs.org.au/wiki/index.php/Calendar](http://mfs.org.au/wiki/index.php/Calendar).

### Northern Territory

**Top End Folk Club**, PO Box 41551, Casuarina, NT 0811. Di Howard, (08) 8945 0436 (ah), [www.members.ozemail.com.au/](http://www.members.ozemail.com.au/)

### Queensland

**Brisbane Folk Club**, (07) 3345 1718.  
**Cairns Folk Club**, Ray Elias (07) 4039 2493  
**The Folk Rag (Mag)**, PO Box 517, Everton Park 4053, (0437) 736 799 or (07) 3855 1091, [nimda@FolkRag.org](mailto:nimda@FolkRag.org) [www.FolkRag.org](http://www.FolkRag.org)

**Qld Colonial & Heritage Dancers**, PO Box 3011, Yeronga 4104. Jan Orloff ph/fax 07 3848 7706, [colonialdance@optusnet.com.au](mailto:colonialdance@optusnet.com.au)  
**Woodford Folk Festival**, PO Box 1134, Woodford 4514. [qff@woodfordfolkfestival.com](mailto:qff@woodfordfolkfestival.com) [www.woodfordfolkfestival.com](http://www.woodfordfolkfestival.com).

### Tasmania

**Celtic Southern Cross Folk Music Cat**. Beth Sowter, [music@celt.com.au](mailto:music@celt.com.au); [www.celt.com.au](http://www.celt.com.au); PO Box 100, Legana, as 7277.

**Folk Federation of Tasmania Inc**, PO Box 1638 Hobart 7001. Peter (0409) 216 752

### Victoria

**Ballarat Folk Club**, John (03) 5332 7872  
**Boite World Music Cafe**, Fitzroy, (03) 9417 3550 (w), <http://www.boite.asn.au>

**Geelong Folk Club**, 2nd. Fri - Coffee House Folk- singing & session - Cafe Go! Bellerine St. from 7.30pm. Last Fri - Upstairs at The Pancake Kitchen, Moorabool St. for songs & session. (03) 5221 1813 or (03) 5261 3443

**Traditional Social Dance Assoc. of Victoria**. Marion Stabb (03) 9439 7100

**Victorian Folk Music Club Inc**. GPO Box 2025S, Melbourne 3001. Brian (03) 9884 9476, [gillespie.jeanette.f@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:gillespie.jeanette.f@edumail.vic.gov.au)  
Bill (03) 9876 4366, [billb@bigpond.net.au](mailto:billb@bigpond.net.au)

### Western Australia

**WA Folk Federation**. PO Box 328, Inglewood, WA, 6932. (08) 9375 9958. [www.wafolk.iinet.net.au](http://www.wafolk.iinet.net.au) [all@wafolk.iinet.net.au](mailto:all@wafolk.iinet.net.au)

If you change your details, PLEASE advise the editor (02) 6493 6758 or [cornstalk@folk-fednsw.org.au](mailto:cornstalk@folk-fednsw.org.au). You may also wish to have your details online (free) - [jam.org.au](http://jam.org.au)

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### Rain In The Mountains: Songs From Henry Lawson

*Christine Wheeler and Friends*

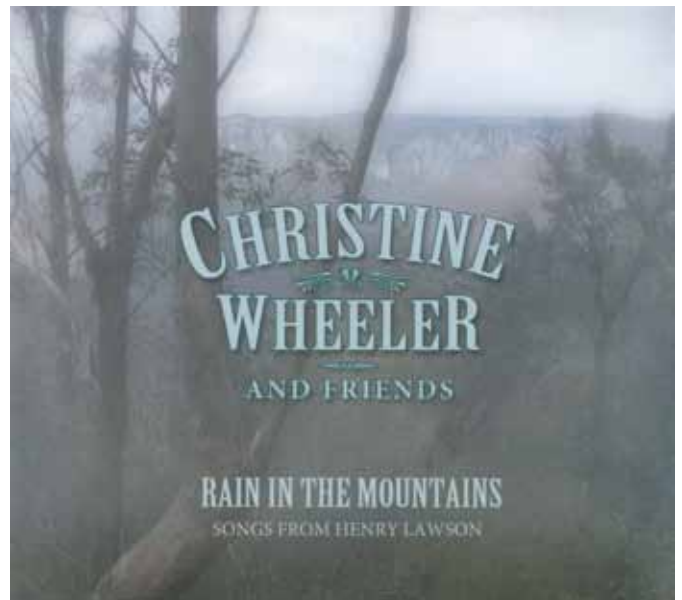
The power of Henry Lawson's writing is that within conventional poetic structure he leads readers into depths of imagination which were no doubt challenging during his own lifetime and which remain to haunt us today. Ranking beside those who see more deeply into the human spirit, Lawson created timeless statements that brook no argument. He was one reason, perhaps the main one, why a young country could come so quickly to feel so deeply.

A man who understood bush and city life at a time when both were still half formed, Lawson perhaps envisaged the nation already emerging and set about sinking Australia's emotional guideposts early in its development. The project by Christine Wheeler and Friends, *Rain In The Mountains: Songs from Henry Lawson*, was therefore always destined to be a bold initiative. Many have paid tribute to Lawson's achievement: George Robertson, Miles Franklin, Max Cullen, The Laggan Poets, Leonard Teale. It is a measure of the finesse of Wheeler's venture that a clear declaration is possible. An important addition to the Lawson canon has arrived.

This finely crafted album deserves international recognition, and will no doubt find it. The songs themselves will offer overseas listeners, perhaps less familiar with Lawson, a joyful introduction to his writing; seldom are texts set so delightfully to music. And for those already engaged, *Rain In The Mountains* once again brings Lawson and his subject matter to life with relevance and musical integrity.

Every base is covered, in fact, in this album's instrumentation and arrangements. Often complex, they always combine comfortably and confidently. Guitars, pipes, flutes, accordion, strings, percussion and bouzouki blend into easy authenticity. Andy Busuttil's darabuka, djembe, tapan and seedpod contribute a pleasing touch of the exotic. Gary Daley's piano accordion achieves a similar result on *Do You Think That I Do Not Know?* in an unexpected but appealing echo of a Parisian street scene, implying a worldliness that takes this recording much further than the signpost to Mudgee. Mudgee itself (the name means Nest In The Hills), where Lawson spent much of his life, is charmingly acknowledged in Wheeler's arrangement of *The Mudgee Waltz* for *When The Children Come Home*.

Celtic themes are handled with taste and accomplishment in Leigh Birkett's several instruments and his harmony vocals. Nowhere is the whole greater than the sum of the parts than in *The Route March*, for which Wheeler has placed Lawson's original text in the traditional Scottish melody *Return From*



*Fingal* to paint a poignant image of horror and innocence, all the more powerful in Lawson's characteristic understatement.

The Katoomba launch was an enjoyably relaxed affair, and telling for the number of accomplished musicians it attracted who were not directly involved. It risks running a little close to cliché to describe Wheeler's voice as a definitive English language folk voice. Nevertheless, it is. It combines sweetness and power and provides the perfect vehicle for these expert adaptations of Lawson's writing. Its innocence complements his irony superbly, for example, in *The Route March*.

Encased in the artwork of Leigh Birkett, who also co-arranged much of the album with Wheeler and Rebecca Daniel, and co-produced all of it, *Rain In The Mountains* offers rich imagery as well as fine music: the call of the nurturing bush heard from a railway cutting; the false promise of jingoism; a mother's fear in times before text messaging, when a son's departure to go droving may mean the last time she'd see him; the strange, seasonless place where women sometimes go when hope seems lost; man's inability to be truthful to himself, and the slow destruction this wreaks on his life. Lawson's words remain profoundly relevant and evocative today.

Above all, these recordings are the real thing, perpetuating the great days of Australian folklore, the pathos of Lloyd and the mirth of Wyndham-Read. If no other tribute had ever been made to the achievement of Australia's bard, this one would do very well indeed. A labour of love and an undoubted contender for folk album of the year (and not just within Australia), *Rain In The Mountains* carries contemporary folk music to the sophistication it deserves.

launch,credits.banc.org.au/cd-launch-christine-wheeler-and-friends/purchase: CD \$25 download mp3 \$9.99 christine-wheeler.net.au, cd baby.com

Paul Cosgrove

## SINGING NEWS – Coming soon to Cornstalk

In the next issue of *Cornstalk*, we will introduce a new column for choirs, session singers and everyone who enjoys singing along. Do you have a story about your choir that you'd like to share? Do you want to find a singing session, or perhaps start one? Please contact Pam Davis (0412 730 754) to become involved.

Remember - you don't have to have "The Voice" to raise your voice in song.

## The Ballad of Jim McKay

In the wildest part of the vast red heart  
of this land of the endless sky  
still today is told, by those who are old,  
the sad story of Jim McKay.

Now Jim McKay, and there's few will deny,  
was loathed by the folk in the town  
for his chief delight was to drink and fight  
and thief what was not nailed down,  
But the gravest sin committed by him  
was the theft of a young girl's heart,  
for the love that he swore was nothing more  
than evil lies upon his part.

When her father heard the whispered words  
of his dear daughter's hurt and shame,  
he kissed her head and cried, "He is dead  
and I shall gladly bear the blame!"

Now, the rascal's abode sat by a road  
where but few ever chose to go,  
a galvanised shack, the type built outback,  
with a door made of calico.

As the father rode in, Jim with a grin,  
said, "Why here is some fun a last!"

He failed to see the gun on the knee  
of the old man galloping fast.

Two shots discharged, two bullets barged  
Right through that calico door,  
and 'Big Jim' was dead, or so it is said,  
ere his body touched the floor.

Sergeant Tom Brown was in charge of the town  
on the night McKay met his end,  
and oh how he swore and cursed the law  
when he had to arrest his friend.

For few ever knew but the Sergeant too  
shyly loved the old man's daughter  
he said, "If I'd known I'd have gone on my own -  
'tis I'd be guilty of slaughter!"

In a very short while there came the trial  
of the old man now remorseful,  
though he was told with a wink, over a drink,  
"All would prove to be most lawful,"

So when the jury returned the judge learned  
their opinion of Jim McKay:

They found without doubt, "Twas a fair shoot-out,  
and the mongrel deserved to die!"

The judge said he, "I must disagree,  
for the evidence did clearly show,  
one gun was found at the time of the crime,  
so where did the other one go?"

Stout Sergeant Brown representing The Crown  
addressed the court and he said,

"Your Honour it's clear - the termites round here  
eat timber, gun-metal and lead!"

"Then this case I close as judged by those

good sturdy twelve men and true,  
let the record show the Accused may go,  
though there is one thing I must do."  
"Clerk, cease to record - I cannot afford  
to have noted what I will say.  
It seems to me and you all will agree;  
'twas Jim McKay we tried today."  
The baby was born the very next morn  
as the dawn faintly shone in the sky,  
and the tale one hears is the town shed its tears -  
at the news of another McKay!

*Vic Jefferies*



### Gina's Song

*Tune: Eddystone Lighthouse*



West Australian millionaires  
Like to trade in Fairfax shares.  
Gina Rhinehardt bought a heap -  
Tens of thousands, really cheap.  
Sought a seat upon the board,  
Power is its own reward.  
Up with freedom of the press!  
[Sydney is the wrong address.]  
Rip the iron ore from the earth,  
Move the Herald out to Perth.  
Sack the jourmos, hire the hacks -  
Down with Labor's mining tax!  
Where lies love and loyalty?  
Just ask Gina's family.  
When the money's running short,  
Drag your mother into court.  
Greed from cradle to the grave -  
That's how we should all behave!

*John Dengate*

# Sultan's Feast

Sunday, 19 August 2012 at 12.30pm

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Enjoy a sumptuous six-course Turkish feast with a glass of wine or mineral water for just \$75.

### About our special guests

**John Newton** is a freelance writer, journalist, novelist and teacher featured in numerous publications, including the *Sydney Morning Herald*, the *Age*, the *Art of Eating*, the *Asian Wall Street Journal*, *Slow* and the *Organic Gardener*. His most recent book is *Grazing: the ramblings and recipes of a man who gets paid to eat*. John has won many awards for his writing including the Golden Ladle for Best Food Journalism in the 2005 World Food Media Awards.

**Somer Sivrioglu** spent his first 25 years in Turkey before falling in love with Australia and starting his own Turkish restaurant here. An advocate of real Turkish Cuisine, Somer writes a weekly column for the Turkish community newspaper *Yeni Vatan* and hosts his own Turkish Cable TV show, *Somer in Mutfagi (Somer's Kitchen)*, as well as the SBS Radio program *Lezzete Yolculuk (Journey to Taste)*.

Susan at [basfevents@gmail.com](mailto:basfevents@gmail.com)

or telephone 9555-1213

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Songs of Chris Kempster

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