

THE CORNSTALK GAZETTE

Dates For Your Diary
Folk News
Dance News
Articles

Folk Federation of New South Wales Inc
Issue 451 JUNE 2013 \$3.00



Mic Conway's National Junk Band

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

Folk Federation of New South Wales Inc
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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.

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ADVERTISING SIZES

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

Deadline for JULY 2013
12th JUNE 2013



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: Folk Federation of NSW; or <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my credit card: <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/> (Tick one)		
Card number: ____ / ____ / ____ / ____ Name on card: _____ Signature: _____		
Expiry Date: ____ / ____		

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.

President's Report

We need you!!!!!!!

It's coming up to that time of year again when we have our AGM and the Folk Fed needs your support. We need people who would like to be a part of something special and worth preserving into the future. It's been 4 years or so since I joined the committee and it's been some of the most rewarding time of my life. I can recommend highly being a part of a body with over 40 years of rich heritage, filled with the involvement of some amazing people who have given so much in support of the community we call the world of folk. The rewards are many and I am personally grateful to the current members of the committee that have become as family in many ways.

This year I am not running for the position of President as I will be involved with the running of St Albans Folk Festival. I will still be putting my hand up to be on committee and if voted in look forward to supporting a new President for the next part of the Folk Fed journey.

It has been a good year for your Folk Fed. Financially we are doing very well, the Songs of Henry Lawson songbooks are still generating a good and steady income and membership is healthy, if not growing as much as we would like. The Mofo concerts at the Gaelic club are going from strength to strength, with attendances steadily growing and a wonderful group of young people now running the event. The level of young talent that perform each month never ceases to amaze and I am pleased to say the future of Folk seems to be in good hands.

Again big thankyou to those who give so generously of their time, skill and love to keep the Folk Fed running –

To Coral, Wayne and Julie who look after Cornstalk, membership, the Jam website and Folkmail thankyou – we would not be what we are without your tireless efforts.

To the committee Dallas (vice president) Pam (secretary), Bruce (treasurer), James, Terry, Patrick, Sandra and Margaret – thankyou for all you have given over the last 12 months both to the ongoing support of Folk in NSW and beyond and for your most excellent company, good food, wine and friendship.

Again congratulations to Dave De Santi as recipient of the Folk Federation Of NSW Award and life membership and to Mark Gregory and Brian Dunnnett for their awards for the Trains Of Treasure project.

This is probably my last President's report and I wish to say thankyou to you all for your ideas and support. It has been a rewarding four years that will always hold a special place in my heart. Thankyou to those who gently and generously helped me in the role, I hope I have "done you proud" at least in some small way and look forward to a bright and prosperous future for the Folk federation Of NSW.

See you all (he says hopefully) at the AGM and if not there at one of the many festivals and events where we get to share our love of all things Folkie.

Cheers,

Anthony Woolcott
President, Folk Federation of NSW



Focus on Folk 6-7pm 1st & 3rd Saturdays



1st June Gerry Myerson

15th June Carole Garland

Anyone with a CD they would like to add to the library collection for consideration for airplay please forward to:

*Focus on Folk, Post Office Box A182,
Sydney South 1235.*

**We are always
looking for
contributions -**

**CD, concert &
festival reviews, folk
news, new artists etc.**

**Please send to
cornstalk@
folkfednsw.org.au**

dates for your diary june 2013

Metropolitan

Saturday 1st

♣**The Shack. NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY** - John Flannigan ('Flano'), Warren Boyd, Isabelle Fogarty - lively, popular, thoroughly entertaining, an icon of the Sydney folk scene, who began at the original Shack. Originals, folk, comedic, 'adapted bluegrass', etc. + **KEN MCARTHUR**. His '60s debut was at The Shack in Waterloo St. Has performed with James Blundell, Jimmy Little, Frankie J Holden, etc. Also plays in several bands. + **SARAH AND MARGIE** - wonderful singers, Sarah Fogarty and Margaret Salem. Exquisite harmonies, songs straight from the heart. Tramshed Community Arts Centre, 1395a Pittwater Rd, Narrabeen (betw. car park & Ambulance). 7.30-11pm. \$20. 0413 635 856, www.shackfolk.com

♣**Beecroft Bush Dance**, with **SNAKE GULLY**. All dances called. Beecroft Community Centre, Beecroft Rd (opp. Fire Station). 8pm-12. \$17, \$14, \$12, incl. supper. Sigrid 9980 7077, Wilma 9489 5594. www.bushmusic.org.au

♣**Cat & Fiddle Hotel. ELEANOR MCEVOY** (Ireland). www.eleanormcevoy.com. 456 Darling St,



Balmain (cnr Elliott St). 8pm. \$25 at the door. 9810 7931

Sunday 2nd

Humph Hall. ELEANOR MCEVOY (Ireland). 85 Allambie Rd, Allambie Heights. 3.30pm. Bookings essential: 9939 8802, wayne@humphhall.org

Monday 3rd

Bush Music Club Dance Workshop. Bundanoon 2013 Dance Preview. Pennant Hills Community Centre, Yarrara Rd. 7.30-9.30pm. \$7. Felicity

9456 2860. (No Workshop on the 10th, because of Bundanoon Dance Weekend.) www.bushmusic.org.au/bmc_danceworkshop.html

Wednesday 5th

Wongawilli Colonial Dance Club. ITALIAN NATIONAL DAY FOLK DANCE. Dances taught. Acoustic musicians welcome to join the band. (On 12th and 19th, Bush Dance with usual Wongawilli Ceili Band.) Wongawilli Community Hall. 8pm. \$3 (kids free), includes light supper. 1300 887 034, info@wongawillicolonialdance.org.au. www.wongawillicolonialdance.org.au

Friday 7th

♣**Bush Music Club Singabout Night**. 'Songs Around the Piano.' Bring along a song or a poem, and some tucker to share. Tritton Hall (Hut 44), Addison Road Community Centre, 142 Addison Rd, Marrickville. 8-10pm. \$5. Bob Bolton 9569 7244, bobbolton@netspace.net.au

♣**Camelot Lounge. KIM SANDERS AND FRIENDS** (Llew Kiek, Sam Golding, Peter Kennard, Mustafa Karami): Gypsy Madness and Persian Night. 19 Marrickville Rd, Marrickville (cnr Railway Pde). 9pm (doors 7.30). Booked, \$27.70, \$22.70, at www.stickytickets.com.au/11132; \$25 on the door. Under-18s must be with an adult. Fully licensed - NO BYO. www.camelotlounge.com

Saturday 8th

NO Central Coast Bush Dance, because of Bundanoon Dance Weekend.

Thursday 13th

Sutherland Acoustic. CARMEL CHARLTON (WA), a delightful singer songwriter who has built her reputation on her crystal clear voice, guitar expertise and warm and interactive performances - and 6 CDs. Her song 'My Nullarbor Home' has been included on ABC Macca's album 'Sunday Best'. Uplifting, inspirational, educational music. carmelcharlton.com. + **BITCHPICK**, 4 piece band. Handpicked bluegrass, multi-part harmony singing, melding of Celtic and African American styles. Their name is a hard-hitting stonemasonry tool. Kaimea Room, Tradies Club, Kingsway, Gympie (short walk from station). 7.30pm. \$15, \$10, kids free. Floor spots, raffle. 9576 2301

Saturday 15th

♣**Bush Music Club's Ermington Bush Dance**, with **RYEBUCK BUSH BAND**, caller Margaret Bolliger. All dances

called. Ermington Community Centre, 10 River Rd. 8pm to midnight. \$19, \$17, \$15 BMC, \$10 HS student, \$39 family. Don 9642 7950. www.bushmusic.org.au

Illawarra Folk Club. THE

BORDERERS (Adelaide), high energy, unique sounding Celtic band. www.theborderers.com.au. City Diggers Wollongong, cnr Church & Burelli Sts. 7.30pm. \$15, \$10, (12-17) \$5, under-12s free. 1300 887 034, info@illawarrafolkclub.org.au



Sunday 16th

♣**Humph Hall. 'A NEW DAY' - KATE MACLURCAN CD LAUNCH**. Due to CD production delays, Vov Dylan's CD launch has been postponed. In its place, Kate Maclurcan will be launching her new CD. 85 Allambie Rd, Allambie Heights. 3pm. Wayne 9939 8802, wayne@humphhall.org, humphhall.org

♣**English Country Dances**. Caller Keith Wood. Main Hall, Pennant Hills Community Centre, Yarrara Rd. 2-5pm. Keith 0420 913 934

♣**Twilight Music Cafe. RAPT**, with guests. Springwood Sports Club, 83 Macquarie Rd. 5-8pm. Free. A family friendly environment with meals available. 4751 1298

Monday 17th

Bush Music Club Dance Workshop. Practice for Central Coast Banksia Ball (www.ccbdma.org). Pennant Hills Community Centre, Yarrara Rd. 7.30-9.30pm. \$7. Felicity 9456 2860. bushmusic.org.au

Friday 21st

Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Folk Club. CARMEL CHARLTON, popular WA performer. Her songs are often featured on radio and included on compilations. She also writes songs for children and songs with a Christian message. Resonant and crystal clear voice, guitar and piano expertise, warm and interactive live performances. Her composition 'Ancient Rock Art' (about



Burrup Peninsula in the Pilbara - much of the art destroyed by the building of a petrochemical plant) was performed recently by Bernard Carney's Working Voices Choir. www.carmelcharlton.com. Free tea, coffee. BYOG & nibbles. Beatrice Taylor Hall (candle lit), rear Willow Park Community Centre, Edgeworth David Ave, Hornsby. 8pm (doors 7.30). \$15. Enq, table bookings, David Spira 9488 9309, dspira1@bigpond.com

Saturday 22nd

♣**Loaded Dog. MARTIN PEARSON** (Vic., martinpearson.com.au), a very funny satirical performer, amusing, even thrilling, audiences around the globe. Scintillating satire and all round gutbusting hoots. Takes current events and observations of everyday life, and turns them into side splitting comedy routines. He reveres few sacred cows, neither Prime Minister nor Pope. + **CHRISALIS**, a new trio - Christina Mimmocchi, Sallyanne Brown and Lisa Cartwright. Sparkling, unaccompanied three-part harmony and songs collected from all over the place. Traditional songs from Australia and Europe, more recent but timeless songs by Tom Waits, Leonard Cohen and Andrew Bird. Upstairs, Annandale Neighbourhood Centre, 79 Johnston St. 8pm (doors 7.40). \$20, \$18. BYO, supper available. Sandra 9358 4886, kxbears@ozemail.com.au, theloadeddog.org.au

♣**Humph Hall. MIC CONWAY'S NATIONAL JUNK BAND.** Political satire



meets jug band blues. Lunatic onstage antics and musical mayhem combine as a new-vaudevillian cabaret, featuring saws, nose flutes, sousaphone and a real kitchen sink. Juggling, magic, tap dancing, fire, and some very funny songs. (nationaljunkband.com) 85 Allambie Rd, Allambie Heights. 7pm. Wayne 9939 8802, wayne@humphhall.org, humphhall.org

♣**The Troubadour. CARMEL**

CHARLTON (WA). Crystal clear voice, guitar and piano expertise, warm and interactive performances. Her songs are mainly about people and places and she is fascinated and inspired by the unique heritage that we share in Australia. www.carmelcharlton.com. CWA Hall, Woy Woy (opp. Fisherman's Wharf). 7pm. 4341 4060, 0419 231 319. www.troubadour.org.au

Sunday 23rd

The Independent (Twilight Series). **TANGALO** with special guest dancers. The sensual sounds of tango quintet Emily-Rose Šárkova (accordion, vocals), Susie Bishop (violin, lead vocals), Owen Salome (flute, guitar), Amy Putt (piano), Johan Delin (double bass) - transporting you to the underground world of Buenos Aires Tango Salons, with wonderful performances by international Tango Dancers! www.musicbyemilyrose.com.au/tangalo. 269 Miller St, North Sydney. Afternoon tea, with cakes, 4pm, before performance at 5pm. \$35, \$30, Family (2 adults + 2 under-18s) \$95. Bookings: www.theindependent.org.au/whats-on, 1300 302 604

Monday 24th

♣**Bush Music Club Dance Workshop.** Practice for Central Coast Banksia Ball. Pennant Hills Community Centre, Yarrara Rd. 7.30-9.30pm. \$7. Felicity 9456 2860. www.bushmusic.org.au/bmc_danceworkshop.html

♣**Sydney Conservatorium of Music.** Warren Fahey, presenting talks (the other on 1st July), with music and field recordings, on 'Australian Broadside, Folk Songs, Bush Ballads and City Ditties'. 6-8pm. \$95 for the two sessions. Enrol at sydney.edu.au/music/openacademy or 9351 1208

Wednesday 26th

WONGAWILLI COLONIAL DANCE CLUB. St Jean Baptiste Day French Canadian Folk Dance. Dances taught. Acoustic musicians welcome to join the band. Wongawilli Community

Hall. 8pm. \$3 (kids free), includes light supper. 1300 887 034, info@wongawillicolonialdance.org.au, wongawillicolonialdance.org.au



Saturday 29th

Humph Hall. MARTIN PEARSON (Vic.), a very funny satirical performer. (martinpearson.com.au). [See Sat 22nd, Loaded Dog entry above.] 85 Allambie Rd, Allambie Heights. 7pm. Wayne 9939 8802, wayne@humphhall.org, humphhall.org

Regional and ACT

Saturday 1st

Newcastle & Hunter Valley Folk Club. TREVOR KNIGHT, country singer (two Golden Guitars) with his family of ukuleles - including his prized banjo ukulele made for George Formby of music hall fame. + Snez, singer songwriter based in the Blue Mountains. Wesley Centre, 150 Beaumont St, Hamilton. 7.30pm. www.newcastlehuntervalleyfolkclub.org.au

Wednesday 5th

The Clarendon Guesthouse.

ELEANOR MCEVOY (Ireland). www.eleanormcevoy.com. 68 Lurline St, Katoomba. 8.30pm. \$25 + bf. 4782 1322. (clarendonguesthouse.com.au)

Sunday 16th

Bush Dancing Workshop, Newcastle, for beginners and experienced dancers. Want to try some Bush Ball dances? All Saints Anglican Hall, cnr Oxford and Cromwell Sts, New Lambton. 3-5pm. Margaret Kenning 4952 1327, Ken Leslight 4946 5026

Saturday 29th

Medieval Costume Ball. Dances taught at weekly workshops. All Saints Anglican Hall, New Lambton. Diane 4936 6220

festivals and events

4th - 6th June

Kilmore Celtic Festival
kilmorecelticfestival.com

7th-10th June 2013

Snowy Mountains of Music
snowymountainsofmusic.com.au

7th-10th June

National Celtic Festival
Enquiries: mail@nationalcelticfestival.com
nationalcelticfestival.com

26th - 28th July

Splendour in the Grass
Byron Parklands, Byron Bay
splendourinthegrass.com

20th - 22nd September

Turning Wave Festival
info@turningwave.org.au

27th - 29th September

Folk By The Sea
folksea@illawarrafolkclub.org.au

4th - 7th October

Bush Traditions
Enq. Ray Mulligan. 0262474725

25th - 27th October

Kangaroo Valley Folk Festival
mail@kangaroofolkfestival.com.au

25th - 27th October

Dorrigo Folk & Bluegrass Festival
info@dorrigofolkbluegrass.com.au

1st - 4th November

Maldon Festival
maldonfolkfestival.com

27th December

Woodford Folk Festival
woodfoodfolkfestival.com



Cobargo Folk Festival 2014

Applications are now open to perform at the Cobargo Folk Festival in 2014.

Dates are 21st, 22nd, 23rd Feb, 2014.

Applications close 31st August, 2013.

cobargofolkfestival.com

Win the Ultimate Backstage Pass at the Snow!

Are you into blogging, social networking and music festivals? Then this is the opportunity for you!

The search is on again for the official Snowy Mountains of Music 'Festival Blogger' who will interview, film and photograph artists and manage the Facebook and Twitter pages live from the snow at the festival this June long weekend (Friday 7th-Monday 10th June).

The Perisher Snowy Mountains of Music Festival is offering one lucky 18-28yr old living in the South-Eastern NSW regions of The Bega Valley, Cooma-Monaro, Bombala, Eurobadalla, Palerang, The Snowy Mountains and Queanbeyan the chance to blog for Australia's only music festival in the snow! It's the ultimate backstage pass – the Official Festival Blogger meets and interviews headline acts whilst developing industry level skills in writing, music journalism, blogging and social networking with a hands-on mentorship with the Festival's Public Relations Manager Bettina Richter.

Previous bloggers have gone on to study Public Relations, Marketing and Media Degrees, run their own marketing agencies, promote bands and have their work published on national music blogs.

This year thanks to the support of ABC South East, the Festival Blogger will also receive a one day intensive masterclass with ABC Open Producer Vanessa Milton, honing skills in photography, video and sound production and their final work will be published on the ABC Open website.

The Perisher Snowy Mountains of Music is held on the June long weekend and is one of Australia's most unique festivals – showcasing world class talent across 8 on-snow venues with the 2013 line-up including Blue King Brown, Kylie Auldist, Jeff Lang, King Tide, Rapskallion and Mikelangelo + the Tin Star!

To enter, in 200 words tell us about yourself, which of the festival's bands you'd like to interview, and 3 questions you'd like to ask them. We're looking for a young person aged 18-28 who is creative and a responsible self-starter with good communication skills, strong succinct writing, and a good understanding of social networking & how to get the message out!

Apply to Bettina via email bettina@missbettinamedia.com.au with FESTIVAL BLOGGER as the headline or message Bettina Richter Snowy on Facebook.

Presented by The Perisher Resort Chamber of Commerce, the Snowy Mountains of Music Festival is proudly supported by the NSW Government's tourism and major events agency, Destination NSW, through the Regional Tourism Partnership Program. The Festival's major sponsors are Perisher, NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, Tourism Snowy Mountains, Howling Wolves Wines and Media Partners, Drum Media and ABC South East.



Blue King Brown

Celtic Divas top the bill for the National Celtic Festival's 10th Birthday Bash

An outstanding array of world-class Celtic talent will perform at the Victorian bayside town of Portarlington this winter long weekend, June 8-11, for a very special 10th anniversary National Celtic Festival.

Preparations are well underway for the milestone event that will mark a decade-long association for the town. Over the past 10 years, the Portarlington community has watched this festival grow in numbers and stature to become the southern hemisphere's largest celebration of Celtic music and culture.

Amongst the international acts headlining at the 10th anniversary celebrations will be some of Ireland's most sublime female voices – including Lumiere duo Éilís Kennedy and Pauline Scanlon; the Noriana Kennedy Trio; Nicola Joyce; and guests – for a very special series of Celtic Divas concerts.



Scotland's award-winning young supergroup Breabach will be performing their unique blend of music rich with tradition and performed with a contemporary edge; along with the fresh, original sounds of rising Irish star, singer/songwriter Fiach Moriarty; the strong but sensitive interpretation of Scottish folk songs from Glasgow born and bred singer Fiona Ross; and from the UK, Shane McGowan's The Popes.

National Celtic Festival director Una McAlinden said this year's 10th anniversary musical program would see the return of some of the favourite acts of the past decade, while embracing the future of the Celtic music scene.

"I'm so excited that our audiences are going to get to experience some of the best singers from Ireland in the Celtic Divas concerts," Ms McAlinden said.

"As for Breabach, you can't get any better in Scottish acts, they are the full package. They have amazing musicians, songs, dancing and Gaelic – it is Scottish culture presented in a really contemporary way."

Ms McAlinden said she expected National Celtic Festival audiences to be surprised by the depth and quality of songs from Fiach Moriarty.

"Fiach's the heartthrob of the Irish scene at the moment," she said. "He's going to bring a modern songwriting quality that we haven't seen at the festival before."

There will also be new acts on the program gathered from across Australia, including Rhapsody, a classically-trained

duo made up of Lisa Hanley and Felicity Oakes, performing traditional Celtic folk songs, ballads and original compositions with their vibrant vocal harmonies.

Returning to the National Celtic Festival this year by popular demand will be local success story, Celtic punk outfit The Go Set; everyone's favourite Celtic rockers Claymore; Irish music "down under" from The Barleysakes, and many more.

Plus all the pomp and ceremony of traditional pipe bands; the third annual National Golden Fiddle Awards; the return of the "Trad Conference" sessions; dazzling dance displays; workshops; children's performances; and fun, friendly family entertainment across the entire long weekend.

Having gone from strength to strength in the past decade, the National Celtic Festival is enjoying an ever-increasing profile on the world stage as a culturally significant event.

Recently the festival further increased its international profile with representation at two of the world's biggest Celtic gatherings, Interceltique de Lorient in France and Celtic Connections in Scotland.

Ms McAlinden said organisers were busy making plans for a series of special events and concerts to acknowledge the fantastic relationship between the festival and its home town.

"This is going to be a very special year for us," Ms McAlinden said. "The success of this festival is partly due to the support and commitment of the Portarlington community, so it will be great to say thank you."

Earlybird tickets are on sale now until May 1 so be quick and take advantage of the savings. For further information and to buy tickets online visit nationalcelticfestival.com, or for phone bookings call GPAC on (03) 5225 1200.

For more information please contact: Rochelle Smith (Publicist) 0409 995 638 Shannon Stevenson (Moo Media) 0412



Fiddlers Feast



dance news

Bundanoon Dance Weekend

The callers for this year's weekend, 7th to 10th June, include some new faces: Cathy Richmond (Her Selection), Keith Wood (Modern Contra), Sandra Martens (Beginner Quadrilles), Emily-Rose Sarcovic (Tango) and Stephen Loftus (His Own Compositions), as well as many of our familiar friends from the past: Don Richmond, Daryl and Di Powell, John Short, Arthur Kingsland, Norm Ellis, Peter Ellis, Heather Clarke, John Garden, Paul Carr, Tony Northey, Colin Towns, Margaret & Bill Winnett, Jim Williams, Bruce Lemin, Madis and Tiina Alvre, and Sally Leslie. As usual the Saturday night dance will feature dances, callers and music from that day's workshops; similarly for the Bush Ball on Sunday night. All music is live and available as downloads from www.bushtraditions.org/bundanoon/bunders.htm prior to the weekend. Musicians are welcome to join in, with the workshops providing the opportunity to further rehearse the music under the direction of the lead musician. Tickets (\$89, \$79) can be securely purchased in advance via the website using either a credit card or a PayPal account. Tickets are also available for individual days and/or evenings. Accommodation will be tight: see website for suggestions.

Founders' Ball, Canberra

Canberra celebrates its Centenary this year, and to mark 100 years of dancing in the capital a program of dances is being held under the banner of 'Kick Up Your Heels' (www.socandance.org.au). The Kick Up Your Heels (KUYH) program presents dances throughout the year with each reflecting a particular decade of dancing in Canberra. Monaro Folk Society is now planning its 33rd Annual Ball, the Founders' Ball, which will be held on 7th September at the elegant Albert Hall. The Founders' Ball is included in the KUYH program and will reflect the music and dances from 1913 into the late 1920s. All four dances so far in the Canberra Centenary KUYH program have been sold out. The Monaro Folk Society also ran the opening dance of the series, the Shearers Ball on Saturday 2nd February. The Shearers Ball was extremely successful and tickets were sold out well before the event. Tickets for the Founders' Ball are now available and are selling quickly - to get your tickets or make further enquiries email foundersball@hotmail.com. Earlybird tickets are limited: adult \$55; under-18 (accompanied by adult) \$35. Or you can purchase tickets online, www.mfs.org.au/wiki/index.php/Founders%27_Ball

folk news

James Craig Shanty Sessions Update

No regular schedule over the next few months because of maintenance to the ship and availability of key organisers. There won't be a session in June or August - but on Thursday 18th July we will have folklorist, Warren Fahey as the guest. Enquiries, Mike Richter 0419 992 119, 9476 3861 or Margaret Walters 0427 958 788, 9698 2206; or email jamescraigshanty@gmail.com



Humph Hall

85 Allambie Rd. Allambie Hts.

Formerly the Allambie Heights Uniting Church, Humph Hall is now the private home of Gial & Wayne. Web site: humphhall.org

Bookings: 9939 8802 wayne@humphhall.org

Ask to be put on the mailing list!



N.B. All concerts are completely unplugged - no PA! :-)

'A New Day' - Kate Maclurcan CD Launch - 3pm, Sunday 16th June

Mic Conway's National Junk Band - 7pm, Saturday 22nd June

Martin Pearson - 7pm, Saturday 29th June

The Bridge Project

In February 2002 a young Jewish-American journalist working for the Wall Street Journal was abducted in Pakistan by extremists and murdered in a brutal and vicious way. His name was Daniel Pearl. In response to their son's very public slaughtering, Daniel's mother and father, Ruth and Judea Pearl, established a Foundation with the principal aim of unifying the World's religions through music. Their belief was that the best response to the murder of their son was to undermine the evil that caused his death in the first place.

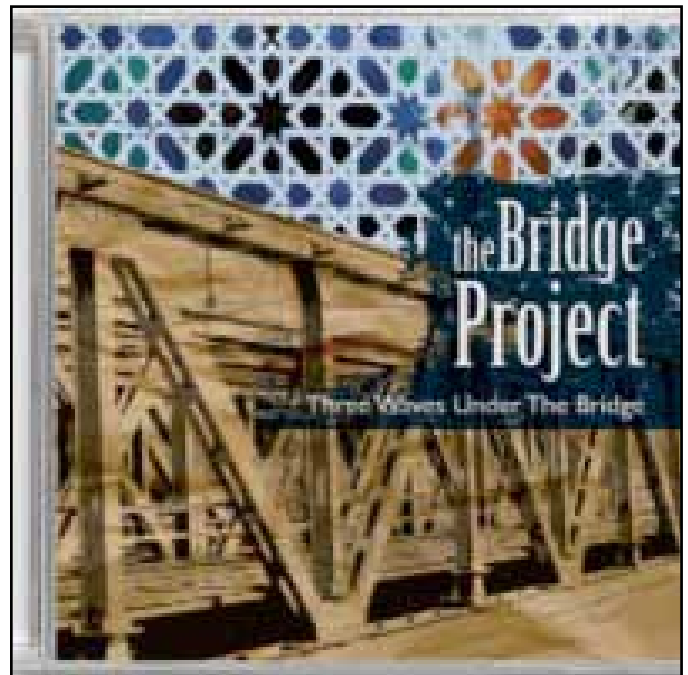
In January 2009, Bessan, Mayar and Aya Abuelaish, together with their cousin Noor, were in the bedroom of their apartment in Gaza when an Israeli tank targeted and shelled it. Three of the girls were killed instantly with the fourth, Bessan, being killed by a subsequent shell. Their father, Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish, in a desperate phone call to his friend Shlomi Eldar, a front man for an Israeli news programme, screamed that his girls had just been slaughtered and begged for help. This call was broadcast live to air in Israel and is chilling to hear. Dr. Abuelaish had made his reputation as a specialist in fertility medicine in various universities in Israel where he had helped many Jewish couples to realise their wish of becoming parents. He was a resident of Gaza and a willing and generous donor of time and finances to Gazans who needed medical help both in Gaza and in Israel. His response to the murder of his daughters and niece is encapsulated in his text "I Shall Not Hate". He lectures on the need for understanding and the futility of revenge and violence and his fundamental proposition is that these actions never bring about peace.

The common bond here is that both the Pearls and Dr. Abuelaish made the same commitment following the slaughter of those who are most precious to them. None of them would hate. They would work as hard as they could to bring together those who are often seen to be antagonists. This was an extraordinary response to their loss and one that I hesitate to believe that I would have either the good grace or the capacity to follow. I would like, mind you, to believe that I did.

The opportunity arose in 2009 to form a musical group made up of a Turk who is Moslem by birth and who is living in France as a refugee, an Israeli Jew living in Tel Aviv and myself a Roman Catholic by birth living in Australia. We formed the band over the the Internet and recorded an album in the same way. Since we all worked for the beta section of the audio software company Waves Audio, we called the album 'Three Waves Under The Bridge'. The band, and the subsequent project, was called The Bridge Project.

We were accepted to play at this year's National Folk Festival. Unfortunately Umit was denied a visa since he was a Turkish refugee living in France. Replacing him was a challenge. I asked John Robinson, an extremely flexible Arabic and Turkish lute player if he could take over the parts composed for the Turkish baglama (long necked lute). Given that Ittai was only going to be here for the National and there were still 7 concerts that needed to be played in his absence, I also had to come up with an alternative to his bowed strings. Enter John Napier, cellist extraordinaire and a very fine Australian transcultural musician. I also thought that it would be great to have someone of Moslem background playing with us and invited Nawres al-Freh to play and Bilge Ozgun to sing Umit's Turkish songs. Nawres is an absolutely glorious bowed string player and he plays the joza-tarhu (an upright fiddle designed and made here in Australia by Peter Biffin) and the violin.

The friendship that formed between the members of the band:



Bertie McMahon, John, John Napier, Tunji Beier, Nawres al-Freh, Bilge Ozgun, Peter Kennard, Ittai Shaked and myself was wonderful to experience. What especially warmed my heart was the relationship that was forged between Ittai and Nawres, an Israeli and an Iraqi. A Jew and a Moslem. They shared our house with us for a week and it was fascinating to watch the potential for conflict between them, in the strong opinions they held, totally disappear into an embrace of friendship that has persevered even though they now live a half-World apart but, through the internet, stay in regular contact with each other. The experience of these two men certainly confirmed that religious, political and geographical differences mean so much less than humanity. Contact in fact brought about friendship and warmth. Relationship forges bonds and these bonds were apparent between all the musicians in this wonderful company. Bridges were formed between the musical styles of the players, their backgrounds, their religious and spiritual experiences, their politics, nationalities and, of magnificent importance, between them and the audiences. All were unified in the concerts we played. The Bridge Project was brought to life in many wonderful ways. The improvisational skills of both the core musicians and the friends who joined us proved stellar and beautifully enhanced the music of the band. A further wonderful embellishment was provided by Tamara Taylor who danced to the band's music in a number of concerts and was beautiful to watch and in spirit.

This period of time with this extended Bridge Project further emphasised to me that music is such an important political medium. It can be a great unifier. It can teach us so much about ourselves as players as well as in our participation as audience. In this case, my experience with The Bridge Project also enhances the demand I deeply feel to live as well as I can and in a way that reduces the burden of conflict that often arises in my day-to-day life. In other words, it's changed my life.

Andy Busuttill



jam.org.au



Patricia Early (17/3/34 – 1/5/13)

By Margaret Walters with thanks to many people for conversations and notes.

Patricia was a stalwart of the NSW folk scene in many ways, as a dancer and a dance organiser and teacher; as a committee member for the Folk Federation, as a presenter of folk music radio programs on 2MBS-FM and earlier on 2SER-FM; she played the accordion and enjoyed singing and reciting comic songs and verse. She participated in folk festivals and clubs far and wide, and loved a good session.

She often entertained in nursing homes, taking her small dog (she always had one) along with her. She added a second story to her home in Lidcombe furnished expressly for the purpose of holding dances, and she organised many concerts and sessions there too, and the odd whiskey tasting! She also served on several organisations outside the folk scene at different times, volunteering at 2MBS-FM and the Sydney Heritage Fleet to name just two.

Patricia was born in New Birmingham in Ireland (her parents were Terence Alioycius Early and Ada Cheshire) and migrated to New Zealand in 1958; she was friendly there with Charlie and Jane Montgomery and their family. They kept in touch after Patricia moved to Australia in 1974 and shared many holidays in Sydney and New Zealand over the years. Daughter Mary remembers the many ways Patricia encouraged music making in their lives. She and Patricia travelled around Ireland together around Ireland on two different occasions.

Patricia's first experience of a folk festival was in 1976 at Numeralla. Patricia described herself as a "reluctant accordion player" until she met Errol Lee. They formed a folk band and since they lived in Granville, the band was called the Grand Villains. They built up an Australian repertoire and Patricia played with the band dances, parties, clubs, etc under its various names (one was the Maranoa Bush Band) for 18 years.

Patricia was one of the early members of the Sydney Playford Dance Group which was formed by Lynette Hicks and Noreen Grunseit who had learned the dances in England and brought them to Sydney. Patricia kept the group going when age and ill health meant that Lynette and Noreen could no longer teach. She also taught English Country dance at Wesley School for Seniors. It is interesting that, although Patricia was proud of her Irish heritage and being born on St Patrick's Day, her passion was English Country Dance.

The annual New Year Folk Festival at Gulgong acquired a reputation as a festival for dancers because Patricia took on the task of getting dance into the program, and organising workshop presenters. She also produced a Music Hall night in the Gulgong Opera House, unearthing some previously unknown talents in many of the performers. She would not take "no" for an answer! And sometimes that is just the right encouragement to draw people out.

With a good head for figures, Patricia worked in accounting and was befriended by her boss and his family: they shared Christmas Day together for 36 years and it was Rebecca Birnie from this family who organised Patricia's funeral. (Patricia didn't have any children of her own and the members of her family all predeceased her.)

Serious health issues plagued Patricia during the last three years and she faced the challenges with enormous fortitude and resilience. Continuing to be involved in folk activities helped sustain her. Patricia also received tremendous support – especially in the last 3-4 years of her life from Larry, her tenant; Avis, her self-effacing indefatigable friend from the Mountains; Eric a musician friend; Donna a dancing friend, Paul technical whiz; and others. Her strong will must have tried their patience at times.

She continued holding events at her home, making day trips from the hospice to be the hostess. And even when she couldn't climb the stairs, there would be dancers there ready to carry on her legacy. Patricia was still planning events from her death bed! Patricia knew she only had a little time to live but was determined to survive into her 80th year and to celebrate her 79th birthday with a pre-wake.

Patricia died peacefully in her sleep on 1st May, aged 79. Her funeral was held on Friday 10th May 2013 at Rookwood Gardens and Crematorium. Appropriately, folk dance and song formed part of the service and there was a gathering afterwards at the Bush Music Club in Marrickville where people were able to share stories of Patricia and songs and dances that she loved.

Stories that emerged about Patricia all shared common threads: extreme gratitude that she had introduced them to the world of folk music and dance, and for the individual encouragement they received in their musical endeavours; they appreciated her recording ventures and the many dance and musical events she hosted. At the same time, Patricia was a very forthright and determined person who never lost an argument. But most learned to avoid conflict and were grateful for the world that Patricia had opened for them.

From Christine Wheeler:

On the one occasion I did get to one of Patricia's birthday dos (she shared a birthday with my son, and with all those St Pats day gigs), I remember it as a welcoming and special occasion where Patricia's pleasure in everyone's musical contributions was very clear. Patricia revelled in the social cohesion that shared music making and dancing can provide. In addition, I remember that when I went to help her clear out the rooms where she stored her music stuff, she was very keen to pass materials on to people who would use them. There was an unexpected generosity about Patricia. And didn't she confound those doctors' predictions about her illness and how long she'd last??

From Julie Bishop:

Patricia was very good hearted and gave generously of her time to support folk music and dance in Sydney. She also

encouraged others to come forward and develop their skills in many areas including dance teaching. Those few people who might have been disconcerted by her occasionally gruff manner usually found that Patricia would go to great lengths to help and support them. She really did have a heart of gold and will be sadly missed in the Sydney folk scene.

From Donna McLaren:

Her life was well lived and it was a useful life, not only contributing to society but to our culture as well. She not only helped keep alive song, music and dance but she lived it! It was part of her and it is kept alive by us - ordinary folk, in our ordinary lives. This is the way we will remember her - a legacy that can be passed on from one generation to another. Our new friend from overseas, Margaret Swait, is now teaching Patricia's Wesley classes here in Sydney and has also been able to get other dancing classes up and running every fortnight in Kirribilli, building on this wonderful tradition of English dancing. This extending of the joy of dance would not have been so easy if Patricia, and others before her, had not introduced us to English country dancing, through her knowledge and love of it.

From Paul Hemphill:

She was certainly a super trouper. I was always impressed by her enthusiasm and get-up-and-go no matter what life threw at her health wise.

From Mary Hobby:

Some could say that Trish was like an Auntie to me but I saw her more as a friend. Trisha's enthusiasm and get up and go was more than any young person.

(Top photo courtesy Ros Jinks)



Cockroach in a Folk Club

Alan Foster

A true story from a singing session at the Riverview in Balmain turned into song and written in 1992. Patricia Early and her dog appear in the account as well as Tom Hanson and Patrick Hart.

When Tom the stockman came to town
'Twas the hottest night of the year
And as he sat down in the little folk club
Pat went out to the bar for some beer
There were sounds in the air of an Irish ballad
"The Flower of Donegal"
The singer was halfway through her song
When a cockroach appeared on the wall.

Now Tom eyes the roach with a baleful glare
And wished for his trusty stockwhip
And not to be daunted he rose to his feet
And removed his belt from his hip
Well Tom kept his eyes on that crawly intruder
He had that roach in his sight
He flicked his wrist and a sound like a shot
Made the singer stop short in a fright

The cockroach's tail remained on the wall
Leaving a dark little stain
The singer remembered the words of the song
And we all joined in the refrain
The rest of the cockroach sailed through the air
In a graceful descending arc
Just as Patrick emerged through the door with the beer
And the dog began to bark
Now the roach's trajectory took it unerringly
Towards the beer that Pat held
And he gave a shrill cry and jumped aside
From the place where the roach was propelled.

As Pat jumped aside a few drops of beer
Fell to the floor in a puddle
And right in the middle of the pool of beer
The dying cockroach did tumble
He swam round and round in the amber fluid
As he died from the lethal blow
And I think of this death in a pool of grog
And I think what a great way to go!





Wedding Bells

John Warner (songwriter of great renown) and Jenni Cole (singer with the Canberra Union Voices) were joined in matrimony (courtesy celebrant and folk singer Judy Pinder) at the memorial hall in Yass on Saturday 11 May 2013. The couple combined their poetic talents to express their vows in prose and song. It was a lovely warm-hearted event with friends and family from far and wide,

There was a nice country feel about it all. Huge bunches of home grown proteas donated by a friend adorned the hall; there was food aplenty and cakes that only the CWA ladies can provide and it was all delightfully informal with Jenni popping out to check on things in the kitchen or to answer the door...

There was a range of musical contributions (mostly folk) from John, Jenni, Jenni's fiddler sister, Jenni's organ playing ex-brother in law, John's jazz playing brother, Judy Pinder, the Canberra Union Voices, Walters & Warner, Fay and Terry White from Victoria. and the Roaring Forties.

It was a lovely way for a pair of folkies to embark on their future together. To steal a line or two from John's song, "Bring out the Banners"....

So – John and Jenni – here's to you! You've plighted troth, now see it through, that all around may plainly see the power of your unity!

Old John Warner's Getting Wed

(W: Robin Connaughton M: 'Old McDonald had a farm')

Note: - this needs interpretive singing to make it scan, which it will do

Old John Warner's getting wed – E I E I O
She'll kick his bum and warm his bed – E I E I O
They live on property at Murrumbateman
Without a butler or a gateman
Old John Warner's getting wed – E I E I O

They could have been wed in Canberra – E I E I O
Probably a tactical error – E I E I O
Instead they wedded here in Yass
The local Celebrant has a good.....reputation
Old John Warner's getting wed – E I E I O

Enough livestock for Noah's Ark – E I E I O
The dogs go "miaow" and the cats all bark – E I E I O
Don't go wandering after dark
There's orang - utans and a lone aardvark
Old John Warner's getting wed – E I E I O

Up early on unsteady legs – E I E I O
John milks the chooks & collects the cow's eggs – E I E I O
There's geese and ducks, and chooks to spare
Feathered fuckwits everywhere (Fuss & feathers everywhere)
Old John Warner's getting wed – E I E I O

Here's luck to him and Jenni Cole – E I E I O
She'll keep him young while he's getting old – E I E I O
I reckon he'll be safe from harm
Doing animal husbandry on the farm
Old John Warner's getting wed – E I E I O



Christina Mimmocchi is part of a new trio called 'Chrisalis' together with Sallyanne Brown and Lisa Cartwright.

Chrisalis specialise in unaccompanied three-part harmony and songs collected from all over the place including traditional songs from Australia and Europe and more recent but timeless songs by Tom Waits, Leonard Cohen and Andrew Bird.

Chrisalis will be appearing at The Loaded Dog on Saturday 22nd.

Singing trek in Nepal, 17-29 March 2014



This unique journey of music making amongst the world's highest mountains and some of the most stunning scenery on earth is for people who love to sing, who are reasonably fit and culturally adventurous. This will be a joyful and magnificent experience.

The tour includes two days of cultural orientation based in Kathmandu, 7 days of trekking on the Everest trail, then a day or two back in Kathmandu to debrief and indulge in the luxury of a five star hotel and a warm bath before heading home.

Your tour leaders, Sacred Journeys Nepal, will provide guidance for your physical preparation and also act as tour guides en route. Your accommodation will be basic but clean and comfortable and porters will carry your luggage.

Along the way, you will meet and perform with local musicians to ensure this is a musical adventure of a lifetime. Some of your porters may even pull musical instruments out of their packs and join the daily singing sessions.

Trek Organisers - Sacred Journeys Nepal SJN is committed to meaningful and socially responsible travel, and arranges tours that range from cultural visits to pilgrimages to leadership journeys. We find that often the most memorable moments come from experiences that weren't pre planned in an itinerary and couldn't be described in a brochure. We do our best to facilitate those magic moments.

We are also deeply committed to the wellbeing of the people who make it possible for you to trek in comfort in the mountains – the porters. Unlike many other expeditions, our porters will not be overloaded and are properly housed. We also provide medical insurance for our porters.

Sanjaya Tripathy - Sanjaya is the founder of Sacred Journeys Nepal, and was born in a hillside Nepalese village with a view of the Himalayas. It took him years to realise that not everyone has such a good view from his birthplace, and he now is passionate about sharing the jewels of Nepal with others. Sanjaya began working in the tourism sector in 1994, for Sagarmatha Trekking and Cross Country Tours and Travels, a trekking company that specialises in treks for school groups. He then went on to work for the Himalayan Rescue Association, managing aid posts in the Everest and Annapurna regions, arranging rescues for trekkers and porters who had succumbed to altitude sickness or other mountain hazards. He later worked (with his now wife, Serena Rix-Tripathy) to produce an award winning documentary on preventing altitude sickness. After two years living in Australia, Sanjaya has now returned to his homeland to lead treks. Sanjaya and his team of guides and porters will do their best to ensure your trip is as smooth as possible.

Christine Wheeler - Christine has been invited to lead the singing on this unique tour. She is a community choir leader in the Blue Mountains near Sydney, well respected for her warm and inclusive manner as well as for her singing and musicianship. Best known for her role as lead singer of award winning Celtic band Wheelers and Dealers (2001-2011), she is also part of the team of musicians contracted by Musica Viva in Schools to provide a diverse program of high quality music in primary schools around Australia. Christine trekked in the Himalayas some 40 years ago and (possibly) recalls that singing while she walked through that amazing part of the world was a great help in putting one foot in front of another when the going got tough!

She'll bring a repertoire of good strong songs that are uplifting, tell a story of our times, or are simply fun to sing, including several from the storehouse of Australian contemporary songwriting. For more information or to book, contact: Christine Wheeler 0408 276 436

christinewheeler55@gmail.com www.christinewheeler.net.au Sacred Journeys Nepal <http://sacredjourneysnepal.com.np>

The Life of Lola -

A musical memoir adapted by PP Cranney and Christina Mimmocchi from the autobiography of Lola Wright.



2.30pm, Saturday 1st June 2013

Merrigong Theatre in Wollongong

presents a rehearsed reading of an early draft of some scenes from Lola Wright's Life.

Lola Wright is an extraordinary ordinary person whose life, in words and songs, is recorded extensively in the National Library's Oral History and Folklore archives and also in her own unpublished autobiography. Lola is a woman of great passion for life, social justice, music and children's education and welfare. She has lived through colourful times in the Illawarra (1940s - 80s) and so her life is the story of one person but it's also a social history of those times. It occurred to me that Lola's life was worth taking out of the archives in order to inspire a wider audience. And so the idea of a play with music came about. Lola's lifetime of musical repertoire includes old bush songs and ditties, college songs, songs of struggle, skiing parodies, children's songs and more.

The script is being developed by PP Cranney who has a long list of impressive plays to his name including AWGIE awards and nominations. Musical Director and Producer is Christina Mimmocchi.

This rehearsed reading will be performed by Vashti Hughes as Lola and multi-instrumentalist Laura Bishop. If you'd like to come and catch this work-in-progress and afterwards share your thoughts on what you've seen and heard, please come along.

The reading is open to the general public (\$15) and I am sure there will be tickets at the door. If you'd like to book ahead of time to ensure a front-row seat, visit

Supported by the Alistair Hulett Memorial Fund, the National Library of Australia, the Bush Music Club and Merrigong Theatre

<http://merrigong.com.au/shows/ruff-new-works-in-progress.html>

(top picture courtesy National Library of Australia)





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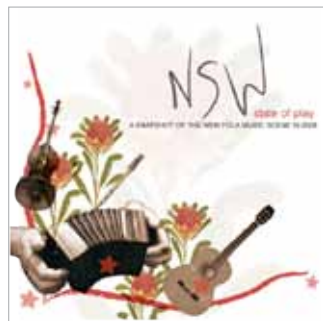
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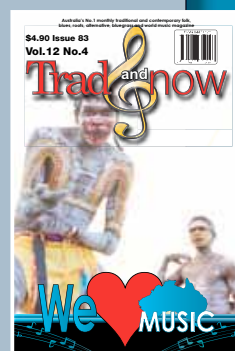
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