

## **Minutes of the meeting of the Folk Federation Committee held at Paddington Uniting Church on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2007**

1. **Attendance** : Present : James Baxter, Dallas Baxter, Peter Miller-Robinson, Christina Mimmocchi, Bruce Cameron, Mary-Jane Field, Pam Davis, Terry Clinton Apologies : Carol Hirt, Kate Delaney

2. **Minutes of previous meeting** : (not available)

3. **Financial Report** : Merchant facility application has been lodged; no response from St George to date. Cost will be approximately 4% of transaction. It is anticipated that the ease of payment will encourage membership renewals & advertiser payments & thus recoup costs. Bruce notes that this is not a contract & can be cancelled at any time. It was suggested that the transaction costs could be passed on; however Bruce recommended that this not be done until a reasonable time had elapsed to test the success of the system.

Re Cornstalk : printing costs, postage stable as membership numbers are stable. It was suggested that we ask for small donation when Cornstalk is taken to Folk Clubs OR give away previous issues.

CD Sales : continue to generate a small income. It was agreed that CD sales will be made available via the website once the merchant facility is in place. Bruce will handle orders.

### **4. Meetings 2007/08**

- to be held monthly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of month, 6pm for social get-together, 7pm for meeting.
- Venues to be rotated – Paddington, Balmain, Croydon, Cammeray, Katoomba. (on Sunday following 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday). No meeting in January.
- Meetings will start and finish on time.
- Agreed not to revisit issues that have already been decided in previous Committee meetings, unless new information is to hand
- Action plan to be circulated.
- Only traditional Tim Tams to be permitted at future FF meetings

Committee Membership – Andy Busuttil has expressed interest in becoming a member of the Committee. Christina suggests that his expertise as a producer of Maltese music would give Committee a useful new perspective. It was agreed to invite Andy to join the Committee.

### **5. Goal Setting**

After an extensive discussion, the following goals were agreed for the coming year :

- Membership – attracting new members, reducing attrition
  - Pam to draft questionnaire for a member survey
- Library of folk materials
  - Awaiting response from Committee of Mechanics Institute.
  - CDs held by Macquarie Uni - ?? what has happened to them ??
- FF involvement in National Folk Festival 2008
  - Proposal to be submitted for retrospective concert based on 1<sup>st</sup> National festival.
  - Folk clubs to be involved
  - Compilation CD of NSW artists
  - Subcommittee = Christina, Terry, Bruce (for CD) & Warren Fahey to be invited to participate. Dave O'Neill to be invited to comment.

- Continuous improvement of Cornstalk
  - Focus on local artists for reviews.
  - Priorities – 1 = NSW, 2 = rest of Australia, 3 = rest of world.
  - Committee members to assist with reviews.
  - Graphics – Wayne to assist Coral with advice re not stretching images
  - Break up text with headings, pull quotes etc.
  - Christina to discuss with Coral
- Songbook of original Australian songs

7. **Folk Alliance** – It was agreed not to send a FF rep to the Folk Alliance AGM.

## 8. **General Business** :

Wayne reported on progress with the Henry Lawson project. The songbook will be republished with the addition of more songs & improved graphics. To be launched at Port Fairy in March. David Newton & Bushwackers will headline launch concert.

## 9. **Meeting Schedule 2007**

12<sup>th</sup> September – 22 Grafton St, Balmain

10<sup>th</sup> October – 46 Heighway Ave, Croydon

14<sup>th</sup> November – 33 Pine St, Cammeray

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December, Katoomba (venue t.b.a.)

January – NO MEETING

Action	Person Responsible	When
Review passing on transaction costs for credit cards	Bruce / all Committee	Before next AGM
CD sales by credit card	Bruce	Ongoing
Invite Andy Busuttill to join Committee	Christina	asap
Contact Coral re suggestions for Cornstalk	Christina	asap
Draft Membership Survey questionnaire	Pam	For discussion at September meeting
Proposal to be developed for National Folk Festival	Christina, Terry, Bruce	Proposal due ?? Project ongoing
Invite Dave O'Neill & Warren Fahey to participate in Nat'l proposal	Christina	asap
No non-traditional Tim Tams at future meetings	All members to note	Urgent and ongoing