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# **President's Report.**

## **Folk Federation Of NSW 2009-2010**

That was then, this is now:

The world, it seems, is in a fairly mind boggling state of flux. It reminds me of the way a large wave that has rushed up the beach, collides as it recedes- with another, bigger wave making it's way towards the top of the tide. The waters froth and foam as each battles for it's continued existence, making a clear perspective of where one begins and the other one ends nigh on impossible to perceive. A fascinating and beautifully spectacular sight that when looked at from close quarters leaves little room for visions of the future as the moment is so full of passionate energy, we can not help but be caught up in it's power.

I could wax poetic re this analogy for some time but the point, I guess, I want to make is that in this time of consumer driven excess, 24 hour news cycles, dog whistling and politics driven by the next poll- the folk family provides and reminds us of a sense of community very much needed at this stage in history. There are, I feel, even bigger waves on the horizon and without a strong sense of community we will struggle mightily to ride those waves.

Happy Birthday to us:

I wish to thank all those involved with the Folk Federation of NSW in the last 12 months. Celebrating our 40<sup>th</sup> year has brought together a wonderful array of faces, new and old(ish) and I hope we have "done good" in our attempts to make something special of our 40<sup>th</sup> year.

To the "usual suspects"-

Coral – all things CORNSTALK

Julie – all things FOLK MAIL

Wayne – all things JAM.

We appreciate more than words can say your ongoing work, it's easy to take for granted some things when they are always there -and you are always there – but you are not taken for granted.

To the Committee-

Bruce, Christine, Dallas, Jim, Kate, Margaret, Pam, Peter, Sandra, Terry and Mary-Jane.

Thankyou for a full and rewarding year.

You are responsible for-

Rewriting and updating our Constitution (no mean feat!)

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Taking on and dragging St George bank into the present re our financial needs  
(see Above)

Organising new printers for Cornstalk, saving us substantial moneys.

Organising events in conjunction with Lane Cove Council- entertaining people and raising funds all at once.

Organising a fundraising concert for the Declan Affley Youth Award presented at this years National- \$2000.00 in total including funds held in trust from a previous event.

Workshops and events to help with the sale of the Henry Lawson Song Book ( we also managed to rest back control of all stocks from our previous distributor)

Organising the Monthly singing sessions "Singing Out" at the Gaelic club

2 x 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary concerts (Illawarra and National folk festivals)

A very productive year and one we should be proud of in all respects.

To the performers, who supported and help celebrate our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary,  
thankyou as well-

Jason and Chloe Roweth

John Dengate

Dave Desanti

John Broomhall

Pat Drummond

Karen Lynne

Bob and Margaret Fagan

Bernard Bolan

The Lurkers

Kate Delaney

The Wheeze and Suck Band

Francesca Sidoti

Al Ward

And Danny Watson for helping to MC at the National

And in conjunction with this thanks also go to-

Dave Desanti and his team at the Illawarra Folk Festival

Dave O'Neill and his team at the National Folk Festival

The Gents at the Stockman's Camp (National)

For supporting us with concerts in our 40<sup>th</sup> year.

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## In The Future:

In the corridors of power (more like around the dinner table with a glass of wine, good food and good company) it has been rumoured that a major festival in NSW, possibly on Cockatoo Island is on the drawing board. The committee and other interested parties have been doing research and asking questions re this possibility. There are a number of hoops to jump through and many more questions to be asked and answered but maybe the time has come have a festival of our own again. The Folk Federation of NSW was born out of the Port Jackson Folk Festival and what better way to give to our membership than provide an event where we can celebrate all aspects of "Folk".

With this I'll sign off on another year as President. It has been a pleasure and a privilege. Happy Birthday and many happy returns.

I suppose in the end we do this because we love it- the friendships, the creativity and the community-

Let's go surfing.

Enough said me thinks.

Anthony Woolcott

President

July 2010