

Minutes of the Committee meeting of the

Folk Federation of NSW

Tuesday 22nd April 2008

Present

Christina Mimmocchi (*Chair*)
Dallas Baxter
Wayne Richmond (*Minutes*)

Mary-Jane Field
Terry Clinton

Jim Baxter
Peter Miller-Robinson

Apologies

Pam Davis
Andy Busuttil

Bruce Cameron

Kate Delaney

Meeting Opened: 7.45pm

National Folk Festival

The venue worked very well. Everyone pitched in and helped and the sound people were amazing! It would have been better if Danny's concert had been in our venue. Originally Danny wanted 3 x 3 hour slots which we couldn't have accommodated. However, eventually he was only allocated one 3 hour slot which would have been OK for us but by then it was too late.

The main (major!) problem was that there were no details in the NFF program. Christina has drafted a letter to the NFF management about this.

Motion: "That Christina's letter to the NFF management be sent on behalf of the Federation." (Mov: Mary-Jane Field Sec: Jim Baxter)

Christina

'State of Play' Compilation CD

Motion: "That all non-member performers with tracks on the CD be offered one year's membership." (Mov: Dallas Baxter Sec: Terry Clinton)

Wayne

CD Review – Jim will ask Dawn and Mike Davis to review the CD for Cornstalk and JAM.

Jim

Sydney CD Launch – Café Church was suggested as a venue. Artists will not be paid and only minimal amplification will be used to simplify proceedings. Peter will organize this and ask Greg Bull if he will comper it. Peter will also check Café Church dates for June (Friday night?)

Peter

Lane Cove Shopping Centre Concert

The shopping centre has suggested 17th May (11am-1pm) as a replacement date for the concert which was washed out last year. Peter will organize this too. Christina will send him the list of performers from last time.

Peter &
Christina

Christina Mimmocchi's resignation

Christina explained that due to personal and work related reasons, she was resigning as President and from the Committee.

Motion: "That the Committee accepts, with regret, Christina's resignation from the Committee and from her role as President."
(Mov: Wayne Richmond Sec: Dallas Baxter)

Motion: "That the Committee thanks Christina for all of her creative and hard work as President and wishes her well with her future endeavours."
(Mov: Wayne Richmond Sec: Mary-Jane Field)

Christina thanked the committee for being wonderful, hard-working, enthusiastic and supporting!

Henry Lawson Songbook

Distribution – Contracts have been signed with Gary Allen distributors who will distribute the book through bookshops, libraries etc. We are still allowed to sell the book at concerts & festivals and online but not through bookshops.

Pricing – The Lawson Songbook committee suggests a retail price of \$35 with a \$5 discount to be offered to financial members of the Federation only. There should be no other discounting. (It is incredibly good value at \$35 as it is!)

Website – The name 'lawsonsongs.com' has been purchased and it is intended that a web site will be established. Initially, this will simply promote sales of the book with a description, sample pages, sample audio files etc. and an order form. The entire book will not be put online at this stage.

Launches – There has been some talk about following up the Port Fairy Launch (very successful with over 1,500 people attending!) and the National Folk Festival Launch (not quite so successful largely due to the lack of details in the NFF program) with launches in Sydney and the Blue Mountains.

The New Theatre has agreed to host the Sydney Launch though Hornsby Folk Club has also been suggested as a possibility. The Blue Mountains Unions Council has agreed to launch the book as part of next month's Politics in the Pub at the Family Hotel in Katoomba on Saturday 17th May 2008.

Attempts are also being made to ensure copies of the book are available at the Grenfell Henry Lawson Festival and the Gulgong Henry Lawson Poetry event.

Funds – A letter is being drafted to send to the Folk Federation Committee asking that the funds from the book and the Chris Kempster CD be kept separate and used to fund other such worthwhile folk projects.

Trad and Now amalgamation proposition

Another email has been received from Cec Bucello proposing

"an arrangement whereby we incorporate Cornstalk into Trad & Now so that all you would need to do is provide your editorial on a monthly basis and you would have a page for every 150 members or part thereof to spread your message."

The committee felt that nothing has changed since this matter was last discussed and that it still believed that it was in the Federation's best interests to maintain Cornstalk as a separate publication.

Meeting Closed: 9.40pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday 20th May (if Kate is available) otherwise Wednesday 21st May at the new earlier time of 7pm.

Christina