

FOLK FEDERATION OF NSW – COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY 8th FEBRUARY 2007 at 46 Heighway Ave., Croydon
7.30pm – 9.30 pm

MINUTES

1. Attendance : Chris Wheeler, Carol Hirt, Jennifer Lee, Kate Delaney, Pam Merrigan, Christina Mimmocchi, Mary-Jane Field, Wayne Richmond, Sandra Nixon, Pam Davis

Apologies : Bruce Cameron, Jim & Dallas Baxter
Rosemary & Francis Liu – resignation from the Committee accepted with regret.

2. Minutes of the meeting held 16th November – tabled & accepted.

3. Followup of Action Items

3.1 Email distribution of Cornstalk – link to be established to 'hidden' section of the website; subscribers will receive an email each month with the link & the option to 'opt out' from receiving mailed copies.

4. Financial Report

4.1 Bruce to resend spreadsheets to Cttee (copies circulated 10 Jan have not arrived)

5. Matters for Decision

5.1 Payment of subscriptions - agreed to authorize Bruce to set up arrangements for payment of subscription by direct debit from member's bank account with no surcharge to members; review in 6 months. Bruce to advise Committee of any costs in his next report.

6. Portfolio Reports

- **Concerts** – Carol, Christina – *Agreed at last meeting that Almost Acoustic would no longer be a Folk Federation activity. Christina & Carol reported on the program planned for the next 6 months at Eastside & tabled the new Eastside promotional CD. Eastside is trying to present a balance of well known & new artists. Ideas, inspiration, assistance sought.*

Chris noted that there appears to be a perception around Australia that international folk artists bypass Sydney because of the difficulty of getting gigs. Our mission should be to turn that perception around.

Some ideas raised during discussion :

- *Semi-annual FF gig at Eastside Arts*
- *Showcase event*
- *Sampler CD (Eastside Arts' CD cost \$1 per copy)*
- *Fundraiser for FF*
- *Headline artist + new artists*
- *NSW Folk Week?*
- *Invite all the folk clubs – 15 minutes each.*
- *Sunday afternoon concert*
- *3 events during Folk Week – Emerging Artists, Folk Clubs, Showcase Event*

Subcommittee formed to discuss development of NSW Folk Week in July – Pam M, Jennifer, Carol, Christina, Kate

- **Radio** – Chris advised Danny Watson former Pres of FF has started a radio program in Narrabri area. All Committee members encouraged to send CDs to Danny at TRALEE, Maules Creek via Boggabri NSW 2382. Chris also advised that Bruce is intending to produce 6 programs by the end of the year, to be available for use by any folk radio presenter.

- **Magazine** – Mary-Jane has edited & amended the choir list in Cornstalk. Chris suggested running Folk Club ads in Cornstalk without cost; this idea was rejected by the committee.
- **Website** – *nil to report*
- **Folk clubs** – *nil to report*
- **Outreach** – *nil to report*
- **Social Event** – Pam M, Kate, Mary-Jane
 - *Sunday 29th April – Committee to confirm availability of venue, or choose alternate date*
 - *Elkington Park, Balmain*
 - *Committee authorised to pay \$141 for hire of venue*
 - *No cost to participants for attendance*
 - *Games for kids*
 - *Invitations to all Folk Clubs*
 - *Chorus Cup*

7. New Business

- NSW Folk Library – repository for print music, books, cds, records etc. Chris Wheeler has spoken to NSW Mechanics Institute about hosting our folk collection, ideally in a room dedicated to this purpose. They have library space, funding, a librarian, a stage, space for workshops etc – a potential city “home” for the FF. FF will seek \$3k establishment costs plus \$2k annually to fund project. Advice needed from Committee re likely volume of material.

Committee enthusiastically endorsed the concept. Chris & Mary-Jane to investigate further.

- Chris has made contact with Carriageworks (new performance space in Wilson St, Redfern) with a view to establishing a partnership relationship.

8. Next Meeting / Future Meetings

March – subcommittees to meet – THIS MEANS YOU!!

10am Thursday 19th April 2007 at Eastside Arts

10am Thursday 17th May 2007 at Eastside Arts

10am Thursday 14th June 2007 at Eastside Arts

2pm Sunday 24th June 2007 (AGM) – venue to be confirmed