

THE CORNSTALK GAZETTE



Jam jam.org.au

The new 'do-it-yourself' web site for NSW folkies

Folk Federation of NSW

The advertisement features three cartoon characters: a man with a beard playing an acoustic guitar, a woman playing a violin, and a child playing an accordion. They are set against a background of blue concentric circles. The text 'Jam' is in large, stylized letters, with 'jam.org.au' to its right. Below the characters, the text reads 'The new 'do-it-yourself' web site for NSW folkies' and 'Folk Federation of NSW'.

Read all about our new web site on page 8.

inside this issue	
Dates for your diary p4	Introducing JAM, the Folk Fed's new web site p8
Festivals p5	Remembering Tina Lawton p12
Folk News p5	From The Folk Clubs p9

Folk Federation of New South Wales Inc
Post Office Box A182
Sydney South NSW 1235
ISSN 0818 7339 ABN94115759221

Editor, layout and typesetting
Coral Vorbach
Post Office Box 5195
Cobargo NSW 2550
Tel: 02 6493 6758
Email: lyrebird52@bigpond.com

If you have any CD's you would like reviewed -
Please send to
Richard Depledge
Post Office Box 5126
Cobargo NSW 2550
Email: rdepledge@acr.net.au
Telephone: 02 6493 6199

Advertising Rates			
Size mm		Members	Non-Members
Full page	180x250	\$60	\$85
1/2 page	180x125	\$30	\$55
1/4	90x60	\$20	\$45
1/8	45x39	\$15	\$35

Back cover - \$100 first month, \$170 for 2 months, \$220 for 3 months.
Please phone or email the editor for advertisement placement enquiries. Insert Rates: (The Wrapdragon does not like non-folded A4 sheets)
The number of inserts per issue is limited, so please ring first. Contact Julie Bishop, 95240247
Single-sheet DL size or A5 inserts. Mem bers: \$70 Non Members: \$130
Folded inserts (DL-size - A4 folded in 3) Members: \$80 Non Members: \$150
Offers of help for the wrap are regarded kindly by the small team of volunteers.
All cheques for advertisements and adverts to be made payable to the Folk Federation of NSW Inc

Editor

We must thank Wayne Richmond for all the effort he has made to create our new website JAM.

JAM is nearly ready to launch for you to try out. He has given us very clear instructions on how to access the website and how we can insert contributions, articles, etc - how we can contribute. Wayne has made it easy. Anyway have a go. Send Wayne your comments.

The front cover was created by Wayne.

March 2005

How to contribute

Cornstalk is a vehicle for expression of news and views from the folk community in New South Wales and welcomes contributions of news, reviews and other relevant items.

Contributions via email are most welcome. Please forward in plain text or email us in plain text as part of the email. Cornstalk also accepts copy on floppy disk or on paper.

The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Folk Federation of NSW Inc.

Any person, organisation or event herein publicised is not necessarily connected with the Folk Federation.

All copy is required by the deadline date and cannot be accepted after Critical items may be referred to the person or persons concerned and a reply solicited.

The Cornstalk Gazette is printed 11 times annually. Every membership includes a free subscription. Cornstalk is also available at selected outlets.

For a comprehensive listing of regularly occurring folk music and dance events around Sydney and other parts of NSW please check the Folk Federation website www.folkfednsw.org.au.

Copyright - If you wish to use articles etc. that appear in Cornstalk, please note that all work is copyrighted and permission must be sought from Cornstalk and, where applicable, the author, before producing them in any other publication.

**DEADLINE NEXT MONTH:
ADVERTS 4TH MARCH
COPY 11TH MARCH (FIRM)**

Folk Federation of NSW Committee Members 2004-05	President	Christine Wheeler	9401 0322	ChristineWheeler@optushome.com.au
	Vice-President	Ian Macintosh	9918 8390	themax@bigpond.com
	Secretary	Jane Faulkner	9564 0763	janefau@ihug.com.au
	Treasurer/Public Officer	Bruce Cameron	6331 1129	cameron@ix.net.au
	Committee	Patricia Early	9649 6978	pearly@dodo.com.au
		Ben Stephenson	9564 0129	ben@troubleinthekitchen.com
		Margaret Walters	9698 2206	mwalters@mail.usyd.edu.au
		Danny Watson	9427 5892	dannywatson2000@hotmail.com
		Sandra Nixon	9358 4886	kxbears@ozemail.com.au
	Volunteers			
Cornstalk Editor	Coral Vorbach	02 6493 6758	lyrebird52@bigpond.com	
Wrap Coordinator	Julie Bishop	9524 0247	jlsbish@ozemail.com.au	
Membership Secretary/ Webmaster	Wayne Richmond	9913 7788	wayne@humph.org	
Auditor	David Weekes of Weekes and Clements Pty Ltd Bathurst			



**Next Committee Meeting
FFNSW
Please check with
Secretary
9564 0763**

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 and interests to present the folk arts to the widest possible audience.

"OH SUSANNAH" FARM STAY, TARALGA



*Relax in the peace of the Australian bush,
amongst the gum trees, with lovely views*

All the comforts of home, and more!

Self-catering kitchen (incl. microwave)

Barbecue area on balcony

Log fire, and generous woodpile

Ideal for family, or groups, and for music-making
Great for children - and they will love the miniature horses
(but no riding, please)

Sleeps 8 - own linen required

Complimentary bottle of red or white on arrival

All this for flat rate of \$100 per night!



**Contact Susan Hopwood,
02 9526 2994 (mobile) 0417 669 059**
[Taralga is in the Southern Tablelands of NSW:
north of Goulburn, east of Crookwell.]

Dates For Your Diary

Sydney, Central Coast, Wollongong, Newcastle and Blue Mountains

TUESDAY 1ST MARCH

Sutherland Folk Club Session Night - 7.30pm Sutherland District Trade Union Club Gynea. Contact Betty 95282193 or Linda 95271563

THURSDAY 3RD MARCH 2005

Toni and Aitch, North By Northwest Poetry and Folk Club, 8pm. Cornucopia Cafe, Old Gladesville Hospital, cnr. Victoria and Punt Rd, Gladesville. Cars enter by bottom gates in Punt Rd. and first turn left up towards Victoria Rd, then left again at the top. Pedestrian access from Victoria Rd if travelling by 500/501 bus. \$12/\$10. Jenny 9559 3658 (h)/0414 903 259 (m), Email: jdcarter@iinet.net.au Tony 9858 7882 (w), 0409 784 689 (m).

FRIDAY 4TH MARCH

♦**The Transylvaniac** with *Gergo & Florin* at **The Side On Cafe**, 83 Parramatta Rd. Annandale Ph:02 9516 3077.

♦**Tony McManus** (Scottish guitarist and *Tony McManus* and *Alain Gentry*, French bass player. The Harp 900 Princes Highway, Tempe 9559 6300

SATURDAY 5TH MARCH, 2005

♦**One day fiddle and guitar class** with *Jane Brownlee* and *Dave O'Neill* at the Jamberoo Valley Lodge.

Classes will be limited to 15 in each session. Further enquiries to: contact Jane Brownlee - 0414 443 523

♦**Transylvaniacs with Gergo & Florin** at:the Clepton Park Community Hall, Kingsgrove.. Tanchaz (Dance) Ph:02 95971767

♦**Beecroft Bush Dance**, with Stringfiddle, caller Anthony Simon, 8pm-midnight, Beecroft Community Centre, Beecroft Rd. Anthony 9417 4210, www.bushmusic.org.au

FRIDAY 6TH MARCH, 2005

Folk in the Foothills. Book online from www.illawarrafolkclub.org.au or call 1300 887 034.

THURSDAY 10TH MARCH, 2005

Sutherland Folk Club. British folk singer Pete Morton concert at 7.30pm at Sutherland District Trade Union Club (The Tradies) cnr The Kingsway & Manchester Road Nth, Gynea. Contact: Betty 95282193 or Linda 95271563.

FRIDAY 11TH MARCH

Troubadour Acoustic Music Club. *Chloe and Jason Roweth* CD launch and presenting *The Riderless Horse* - An Australian Impression of WW1

8.00 pm - CWA Hall (opposite Fisherman's Wharf), The Boulevarde, Woy Woy. Enquiries: 0243414060 or email frussel@fastlink.com.au

SATURDAY 12TH MARCH 2005

♦**Fogs Is The Problem!** An acoustic concert of environmentally friendly songs and poems All proceeds to The Greens. Tickets \$15 (\$10 conc.) available from The Greens 9519 0877 (office hours) or at the door.

♦**Almost Acoustic.**

Frankie Armstrong (UK) Also *Cliona Molins* - harp player Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre, 665A Darling St, Rozelle. Enq. Margaret (02) 9698 2206 8pm sharp \$18/\$15

TUESDAY 15TH MARCH 2005

Sutherland Folk Club Session Night - 7.30pm Sutherland District Trade Union Club Gynea Contact Betty 95282193 or Linda 95271563

THURSDAY 17TH MARCH

The Transylvaniacs with *Gergo & Florin* at **The Side On Cafe**, 83 Parramatta Rd. Annandale Ph:02 95163077

FRIDAY 18TH MARCH

♦**Hornsby Folk Club** 8.00 pm. CD launch **'The Riderless Horse'** presented by **Chloe & Jason Roweth** Beatrice Taylor Hall Rear Willow Park Edgeworth David Ave Hornsby. Enq. Barry 9807 9497.

♦**Transylvaniacs with Gergo & Florin** will be appearing at the Hawksbury National Fiddle Festival, Clarendon Sydney Ph: 02 45767023

♦**Tony McManus** (Scottish guitarist and *Tony McManus* and *Alain Gentry*, French bass player Blue Mountains Music Festival

SATURDAY 19TH MARCH

♦**Balmain Bush Dance**, with Southern Cross, callers Tony & Helen Romeo, 8pm-midnight, Balmain High School, Terry St, Rozelle. Dot 9876 6166, www.bushmusic.org.au

♦**Loaded Dog**, upstairs Annandale Neighbourhood Centre, 79 Johnston St, 8pm. (3rd Saturday) \$14/12, BYO, supper available. Brian Peters (UK) and Fiona McVicar and Craig Kelly Sandra (02) 9358 4886, www.loadeddog.live.com.au

SATURDAY 2ND APRIL

♦**The Fagans and Nancy Kerr** The Harp Hotel 900 Princes Hwy, Tempe. 9559 6300.

♦**Almost Acoustic** *The Laws* from Ontario, Canada 8pm \$15/\$12 Rozelle Neighbourhood Centre, 665A Darling St, Rozelle. Enq. Margaret (02) 9698 2206 8pm sharp \$18/\$15

The Harp Irish Pub

900 Princes Hwy, Tempe.
Special Appearance
The Fagans and Nancy Kerr
8.00 pm
9559 6300.

SATURDAY 9TH APRIL

BMC Heritage Railway Ball, with *Heritage Ensemble*, 7.30pm-12.30am, Parramatta Town Hall. Tickets (\$45; \$50 from 19th March) from Bush Music Club, Attn Ball Coordinator, GPO Box 433, Sydney 2001.

SUNDAY 10 APRIL 2005

Dang-Lyn-Moon on Dangar Island - Informal jam from 10am. Concert with *Fellowship of the Strings*, *Gael Mor*, *Andrew Browne* 1.30pm \$15 (02) 9985-8309 Jackie

Regional NSW and ACT

Merry Muse

FRIDAY 1ST MARCH

Settlers night, session and dance

FRIDAY 8TH MARCH

Bob Fox UK, Cloudstreet

FRIDAY 15TH MARCH

The Beenies, Vorn Dulette and friends

FRIDAY 22ND MARCH

Damon Davies and Damian Coen, MJ Browne

FRIDAY 29TH MARCH

Craig and Simone CD Launch
The Polish Australia White Eagle Club.
www.traveltv.com.au, 8pm. **Bill Arnett**
Ph/Fax 02 6262 7265



Other Regional Events

SATURDAY 12TH MARCH

Transylvaniacs, Tilley Devine's Cafe, Lyneham, Canberra. 02 6247 7753

SATURDAY 19TH MARCH

Canberra Playford Ball, 7.30pm, St John's Church Hall, Constitution Ave, Reid. Aylwen Garden 02 6281 1098, aylwen@earthlydelights.com.au

Festivals, Workshops, Schools

4th - 6th March 2005

♦**Womadelaide**. World Music Festival botanic Park Adelaide.. www.womadelaide.com.au

♦**Port Fairy Folk Festival**. Enq. pff@portfairfolkfestival.com

6th March 2005

♦Autumn Folk In The Foothills at the Jamberoo Valley Lodge. Ticket booking 1300 887034 or www.illawarrafolkclub.org.au/fitfspring04.php

♦**Australia's Second Shanty and Nautical Festival** onboard the three tall ships, at the Australian National Maritime Museum and on shore. <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/jamescraigshanty> Contact Mike Richter 0419 992 119

8th, 19th, 20th March 2005

♦Hawkesbury National Fiddle Festival, Hawkesbury Showground, Clarendon (near Windsor), NSW For tickets and enquiries phone: 02 4576 7023 or go to www.fiddlefestival.com

♦**Blue Mountains Folk Festival** <http://www.bmff.org.au/>

♦**Yackendandah Folk Festival** folkfestival@yackendandah.com

24th - 28th March 2005

♦The National Folk Festival - Easter 2005 Check out the website at www.folkfestival.asn.au for ticket details or call 02 6249 7755 or e-mail info@folkfestival.asn.au.

16th -22nd April 2005

The Southern Hemisphere International School of Scottish Fiddle, New Zealand www.catherinefraser.com

22-25th April 2005

St Albans Folk Festival. Enq Alison Boyd 02 9748 1034 or alis0n@pg.com



Folk News

Fantastic Fiddlers

Gergely Koncz (Tukros) from Hungary and Florin Codoba from Transylvania/Romania, two amazing violinists, will be touring with The Transylvaniacs in March - including performances at the Hawkesbury National Fiddle Festival, 18-20th March. See Dates For Your Diary for other appearances.

Old Honour

Graham McDonald reports that among the recipients of Australia Day honours was one William Hauritz of Nambour Qld, with an AM for Services to the Community, especially the Woodford Folk Festival.

Scottish Awards

At the Scots Trad Music Awards in Edinburgh, in December 2004, Dick Gaughan was announced as Scots Singer of the Year, while Album of the Year was *Fire and Grace* by Alasdair Fraser and Natalie Haas.

There Was a Scotsman, a Frenchman and..... Acclaimed Scottish guitarist Tony McManus and French bass player Alain Genty will combine their formidable talents for a tour of Australia in March - April this year.

Tony is noted for his skillful guitar interpreter of Celtic traditional tunes but is also a regular guest at the Chet Atkins Festival in Nashville and guitar festivals around the world. Alain Genty, Paris-

born but now resident in Canada, has a formidable reputation as a fretless bass player, for which he adapts Breton and Gaelic melodies traditionally played on the flute or bagpipes. As a duo, he and Tony create music that is nothing short of exquisite.

Playing at The Harp on 4th March, The Blue Mountains Music Festival 19th and 20th March

NFF Dance Floor

Gabrielle Mackey (National Folk Festival Board Member) says the Board has unanimously approved a new wooden dance floor for the Quokka venue, to minimise injury risks and to suit the different dance styles. They budgeted \$10,000, but quotes show the cost will be at least twice that. She hopes that dancers will take buckets around at the Festival, to help the fundraising. If willing to volunteer, contact her at gabrielle.mackey@homemail.com.au



The Bright Star Singers

need a man or two -- but we don't have to be gender-specific, a woman who likes to sing tenor would be fine, too! We are a small, friendly group that meets in Ashfield on Monday nights, with a broad repertoire that includes a lot of folk music. We'd love to hear from anyone interested in joining us. Please contact Mary-Jane Field on 9797-6126 if

Music At The Creek Awarded Event Of the Year

Braidwood Folk Club was honoured this year at the Australia Day Awards in receiving, by default, 3 Australia Day Awards.

The Cultural Achievement Award went to Club Secretary (and pillar of the club,) Alison Smith, for her work with the folk club over many years. Alison has been instrumental in keeping the club going and works, as all volunteers do, tirelessly to get the festival up and running.

Erika Mordek received an award for community service, in which her capacity as President of the club and the dance venue organiser for Music at the Creek played a significant part.

Finally, Music at the Creek Festival was awarded the Event of the Year for its very successful and friendly festival last year.

"It is good to get such positive feedback from one's community; at times, organising clubs and events can seem such an ungrateful job. We hope to continue improving our folk nights and our Festival, while still small enough to remain approachable and friendly to audiences and performers alike."

Radio Labour Start

The easiest way to listen to Radio LabourStart is to download iTunes, and then hit Ctrl + U (or select Stream under the Advanced menu), and type in <http://www.live365.com/play/labourstart> You can download iTunes from <http://www.apple.com/itunes/download/> (fear not you Windows mob iTunes is completely cross platform although you will need Win 2000 or later)

As the streaming sound uses a lot of bandwidth you're better off using broadband rather than a modem Over the last few weeks I've uploaded a lot of Australian material that fits in the broad umbrella (or parasol) of Union Song including CDs with tracks of the following singers songwriters titles (over 300 tracks) - *Jeannie Lewis, The Fagans, Margaret Walters, Maurie Mulheron, Peter Hicks, Phyl Lobl, John Warner, John Hospodaryk, Trade Union Choir(s), John Dengate, Don Henderson, Declan Affley, Ian White, Bill Berry, Paul Kelly, Kev Carmody 'With These Arms', 'Trains of Treasure' 'Union is Strength' Ken Mansell, Glen Tomassetti*

Other singers of note on Radio LabourStart include *Pete Seeger, Ewan MacColl with Faith Petric and Billy Bragg, Woody Guthrie, Phyl Ochs, Barbara Dane, Pierre Fournier, Kali Dasgupta*

There are union songs from across the world including Taiwan, China, India, Canada (French and English), USA, Britain, Ireland, Scotland, New Zealand, Thailand, South Africa and more people are sending me CDs of songs to try to make this a truly international and comprehensive resource (well for those with computer access!!). Any suggestions welcome particularly contacts in other countries.

regards

Mark Gregory

music editor for <http://radio.labourstart.org/>

Dance News

BMC Heritage Railway Ball



The dance programme is drawn from railway ball programs over the years, for this ball on Saturday 9th April. The Bush Music Club's Heritage Ensemble will play specially selected music with railway themes, including W H Paling's The Sydney Railway Waltz, written for the official opening of the

6 The CORNSTALK Gazette - March 2005

CENTRAL COAST CHANGE

The Central Coast Bush Dance and Music Association will move their regular dance to the SECOND Saturday in the month, commencing April. All other details remain the same.

The February dance will be the last held on the fourth Saturday, 26th February, and, following the outstanding success of our previous Irish themed dance, Galimore will again be calling the tune, accompanied, on this occasion by Shayne and Roz from Newcastle. Irish dancers turned out from Sydney, Newcastle and the Central Coast for the last Irish night and it is hoped they will again. The old hall certainly did bounce and it was one of our better attended nights.

There will be no Central Coast dance in March as the second Saturday clashes with Easter and, of course, the National Folk Festival.

Thank you to all the Sydney and Newcastle dancers who have continue to support us as we enter our eighth year and to all those who turned out for our Festival. Again, the dance stream was great and, again, we were still having a beaut time well after the rest of the mob had gone home.

Unfortunately, we are struggling to maintain the dance at East Gosford. We just don't have the resources to continue in the face of low attendances and would be dead in the water already without the support of our fabulous bands.

So we do hope you will continue to hit the freeway and if you haven't been up (or down) yet, pack your water bottle, pickup your dance shoes, hop in the car and give it a go. It's always worth it when you get here.

Robyn Graylin.

Eastside Arts is back!

(On the site of Paddington Markets)

Eastside Arts kickoff this year's activities with concerts and a workshop series:

12 March. Bluegrass banjo at its finest *Bob Carlin (USA) In Concert.* Presenting American banjo:

From Africa to Appalachia - 7.30 pm, Saturday Tickets - \$18/\$12 (\$28/\$22 special concert/workshop package price)

13 March. *Bob Carlin Workshop*

Banjo skills workshop for all levels. A hands-on workshop on the clawhammer banjo style, starting at a basic level and works toward some advanced techniques by the end. 2.30 to 5pm. Tickets: \$15/\$12, bookings essential - minimum number required
The Singing Room is a series of one-off singing workshops:

1st March 'Singing for a better world' with Alistair Hulett (Scotland)

8th March 'Songs from the Pacific with Ora Barlow and Planet Woman'

15 March adventures in sight-singing with Judy Campbell

22 March harmonies and rounds with Christine Wheeler

29 March Latin American songs with Ricardo Andino

5 April melismatic improvisation with Linda Marr.

The Music Room is starting off the year with a Cuban/Brazilian percussion workshop over four weeks from 14th March) led by *Sergio Mulet*. All welcome. Bookings are essential for all these workshops as numbers are limited.

For further information, you can download an enrolment form by visiting www.eastsidearts.org.au or telephone (02)9331 2646 or e-mailing info@eastsidearts.org.au

first rail in NSW, in 1855, running from Sydney to Parramatta.

For the first Sydney Railway Ball, advertised in the *Sydney Morning Herald* in 1855, "It is particularly requested that applications be made early to enable the stewards to conclude arrangements in due time." Supper will feature some special delicacies of the day.

Ball-goers are asked to "dress in colonial splendour, representing your favourite 19th century fashion". The ball will be at Parramatta Town Hall,

7.30pm-12.30am. For tickets (\$45; \$50 from 19th March), send cheque or money order to Bush Music Club, Attention Ball Coordinator, GPO Box 433, Sydney 2001,

Central Coast Bush Dance Cancelled

Please note there will be NO Central Coast Bush Dance in March, as the 4th Saturday clashes with Easter and the National Folk Festival. From April onwards, the dance will be on the SECOND Saturday of the month.

St Albans Folk Festival 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th April 2005

The St Albans Folk Festival is three big days and nights of music, fun and frivolity presented by some of Australia's best folk musicians, dance presenters, poets and singers in a unique atmosphere centred on the historic village of St Albans on the banks of the McDonald River.

Situated less than one hour away from the outskirts of Australia's largest population bases of Sydney, the Central Coast and Newcastle, it presents a real opportunity for day trippers as well as campers to experience a folk festival within a short distance of their own home.

The festival has been held annually for the past 23 years and this year's organisers have made yet another special effort to ensure that the 2005 festival will be even bigger and better than last year's.

Featured artists and the program will be announced in March, 2005 and are expected to include some of Australia's best known folk musicians based on the record number of performer applications received.

Performing in venues around town such as The Barn, The Gallery, The Fickle Wombat Restaurant, the Church Hall and The Settlers Arms Inn (built in 1836), visitors will be able to enjoy a wide variety of music in unique settings.

St Albans 2005 will again feature a Children's' Festival, lots of stalls, nightly informal singing sessions around camp fires, dancing, poets' breakfasts and many workshops, all in a friendly carnival environment.

For all of the above and more surprises, ticket prices have been kept extremely low, with a season ticket at \$60 entitling entry to all events from Friday to Monday being the least expensive way to go and even less at \$50 if purchased as an early bird ticket before the end of Monday, April 11. Weekend tickets for all events from Friday evening to Sunday and single day and evening tickets will also be available and children under 16 are free.

Volunteering is the lifeblood of such festivals around Australia and it offers an opportunity to get to know the organisers and performers and make new friends, as well as experiencing this unique event from the inside. Volunteers who donate seven hours or more to the event receive free entry to the festival.

Camping is available and is the best way to fully experience this special event. A small charge of \$15 for the entire festival applies to campers to cover the cost of providing water and limited camping facilities.

For all further details see our informative website: www.SnAlbans.Iwarp.com or call 02 9528 2193. Volunteering or for tickets call 02 4975 5730, stall holders should call 02 4325 7369 or email: festival@ccbmda.org

Gulgong Folk Festival 2004/2005

Gulgong gave a genial and gentle welcome to 2005. Starting with the traditional dance in Mayne Street, *Home Rule Band* joined by other musicians kept the dancers lively till midnight.

Although there were not the crowds of previous years, the friendly relaxed atmosphere of Gulgong was present. The leisurely pace of events continued over Saturday and Sunday.

The weather was less exhausting than in the past so the dancers made the most of it, led by the untiring Winnetts, Bishops and Orloffs. There were some inspiring workshops and as Di Clifford

and Kath Morgan said after their entertaining workshop on 'Songs of Humour', there were quality audiences listening to every word and joining when invited.

The presentation of songs, verse and Bulletin based rivalry between Lawson and Paterson well presented by John Dengate and Doug Jenner, was warmly acclaimed by the audience and Madd Marianne delighted everyone again. I have enjoyed playing their wonderful CD and it brings back happy memories of the music at Gulgong. Johnny Spillane and James Gibson also lent their fine sound equipment and stage managed for concerts.

Congratulations to Kieron Ryan-Colton, Miffy's son, who deservedly won the Acoustic guitar Competition. The guitar had been generously donated by Gerard Gilet.

Graeme Johnson did a fine job organising breakfasts and lunches for the numbers of enthusiastic poets as well as launching his own popular CD

.Pat Drummond also launched a CD and compered the Saturday night Variety Concert and I compered the 'Elaine Norris Memorial Concert'. Audiences thoroughly enjoyed the fine performances of young Brendon Byron's recitation,

Seamus Duffy in good form, Thalia and Alan's powerful 'Easy Street', Di and Kath's harmonies, the sentiments and vocals of Patrick Harte and Kate Lysiak and the words and passions of Sonia Bennett and Lee Haylen - Norfolk. Doug Jenner, on a brief visit from the US, was welcomed back to the Opera House after ten years absence. Bob McInnes and Alan Musgrove started the evening in lively style and John Dengate finished the concert by leading all in a rousing version of 'Waltzing Matilda'. The concert finished a little after 9pm so the dancers could return to the hall and singers to Red Hill singing sessions led by Bill Berrick; indeed much of people's enjoyment of the Festival depended on events which weren't organised.

Dale Dengate

The Folk Federation of NSW membership application form 2004			
Name			
Address			
Town	P/C		
Tel: (h)	Tel:(other)		
Email (optional)			
do you want to be placed on our members email list?			<input type="checkbox"/>
Family (list family members if joining as a family)			
Affiliate member: Group Name			
Contact person			
Membership: new/renewal only:	\$25	\$30	\$35
(includes subscription to Cornstalk)			
New Membership:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Renewal Membership No	<input type="text"/>
The FNSW membership years runs from 1 May to 30 April, or from 1 November to 31 October (allowances are made in your favour for people joining at other times - contact Membership Secretary)			
PO Box A182 Sydney South 1235			

jam.org.au

The Folk Federation's new web site that is created by you - the Folk Federation's members

JAM is a radically new approach to community web sites. Here is how it works:

JAM is divided up into a number of sections:

About JAM	Articles (including reviews)
Events	Folk Mart
Venues/Clubs	JAM Talk
Dance	Links
Artists	

most of which contain a number of sub-sections.
Financial members of the Folk Federation are able

to request a free account which enables you to add 'articles' to these sub-sections by simply filling in a form in your web browser. In other words, you, the members, will be the ones who create & maintain JAM.

Those of you who already have your own web sites will be able to use JAM to direct traffic your way - simply create brief articles about yourself, events, etc. including links to your site. Those who don't, will put more information into your articles thus giving yourselves a highly exposed web presence for the cost of your annual Folk Fed subs.



Jam Folk Federation of NSW

[About Jam](#) | [Events](#) | [Venues](#) | [Dance](#) | [Artists](#) | [Articles](#) | [Folk Mart](#) | [JAM Talk](#) | [Links](#)

Welcome to JAM!

The 'do-it-yourself' web site for NSW folkies

TOP STORY

[\[In Events\]](#)
Folk in the Foothills
Sunday 6th March 2005



Mar 05 Radio Programs
A guide to March's *Focus on Folk* radio programs [\[In Venues/Clubs\]](#)



Blue Mountains Music Festival
18-20th March 2005, Katoomba [\[In Events\]](#)

MidPoint Music Festival
21-24 September 2005, Cincinnati USA
[\[In Events\]](#)

Roundup

Browse more...
[About JAM](#)
[Events](#)
[Venues/Clubs](#)
[Dance](#)
[Artists](#)
[Articles \(incl. Reviews\)](#)
[Folk Mart](#)
[JAM Talk](#)
[Links](#)

[Want to join in?](#)

JAM's home page - Note: The 'Top Story' and list of articles on the home page changes automatically as new articles are published

Venues/Clubs home page - Top Story & article list generated automatically

Creating articles on JAM is very simple & lots of fun! - full instructions are available on the site. (See 'Using JAM' in the 'About JAM' section.)

New articles are automatically featured on JAM's home page as well as the section home pages.

What can JAM be used for?

As a member of a group you might use the Artists section to introduce yourselves and the Events section to tell about upcoming performances.

Are you the organiser of a folk club? Introduce the club and promote future events (and review past ones) in your own sub-section of 'Venues/Clubs'.

Are you organising a concert or dance? Spread the word by adding an article to the 'Events' section.

Perhaps you would like to **post a review** in 'Articles' about a CD or concert you are excited about.

Looking for a particular sheet of music? Why not ask about it in the 'Music wanted' sub-section of the Folk Mart.

Are you a fiddler looking for others to play with? Tell about yourself in the 'Musicians available' sub-section of the Folk Mart.

Have you been doing some research into a topic that you think other NSW folkies would be interested in

hearing about? Share what you have discovered in the 'Misc articles' sub-section of Articles/Reviews.

Are you looking for a harmonica teacher? Ask for one in the 'Teachers wanted' sub-section of the Folk Mart.

Have you discovered a relevant web site that you think would be of interest to other NSW folkies? Add it to the 'Links' section.

Do you have a strong opinion about a topic relevant to the NSW folk community? Have your say by adding an article to the 'Misc articles' sub-section of Articles/Reviews.

How do I create an article?

Once an account has been established for you:

1. Log on to JAM's admin (jam.org.au/bmadmin).
2. Click on 'New Article'.
3. Fill in the form

Title of article

Text of article

Select which section/s the article should appear in.

Create pullquotes and/or upload images (optional)

4. Click Save. (That's all there is to it!)

How do I get started?

Have a look around the site (jam.org.au). If you are a financial member of the Folk Fed, send an email to jam@folkfednsw.org.au requesting your free account.

Wayne Richmond (0400) 803 804 - wayne@humph.org

An article

Loaded Dog

The 19th March (3rd Sat) we will have *Brian Peters* from the UK for traditional songs and music from England with squeezebox and guitar.

'No singer outside *Nic Jones* and *Martin Carthy* has embraced the tradition and used its well springs in as vivid and ingenious a way' - Rock'n'Reel. 'His playing is inventive and without fault, his vocals are strong and evocative, and his stage patter holds your interest while you are holding your sides. This guy is bloody good' - Enda Kenny.

Support is from Fiona and Craig who turned up at the Dog one night last year for a floor spot and impressed everyone so much that 2 venue operators immediately booked them!! This was their first appearance at a folk club and they have impressed more folks since then with their skilful playing on fiddle (Fiona) and guitar (Craig). They have both spent time in Ireland honing their craft, but also play tunes from other parts of Europe. 'This is instrumental music at it's best - imaginative arrangements expertly

Dang-Lyn-Moon goes to Dangar Island !

The DLM is taking a small break from the regular Friday nights and is instead bringing you a series of concerts around the Hawkesbury River area. The first Concert will be part of the **Dang-Lyn-Moon on Dangar Island** day on Sunday 10th April 2005. Some may remember the Folk Club on Dangar many years ago in the cosy atmosphere of the community hall , and in an effort reach some of our far flung communities we are planning to make a day of it. There will be informal jamming at venues on the island from 10am and a concert in the hall at 1.30pm featuring *Gael Mor*, *Andrew Browne*, and the *Fellowship of the Strings*. Cost is \$15. Food & drink will be available from the shop, and the Bowling Club (tbc). The ferry from Brooklyn will be running every hour from 7.50am and takes 15 minutes. The return ferry leaves 4.20, 5.20 and 6.40pm and is very close to the hall. There are no ferries after 6.40pm. This is a great chance to experience a beautiful part of the world, enjoy some good music and take a boat trip! Inquiries Jackie (02) 9985-8309

Troubadour Folk Club

On 12th February, Duncan Chalmers was the featured guest at the Troubadour Folk Club in Woy Woy. Duncan is one of our regular performers, and is always a pleasure to hear.

Probably the song I liked most was Eric Bogle's Shelter, with Duncan's rendition of No Man's Land, another song by Eric Bogle, being a close second. Genie Sea by Stan Rogers was also on my list of songs I liked the best.

Although Duncan said that he had stopped singing anti-war songs since the illegal invasion and occupation of Iraq, I'm glad that he seems to be singing them again. I think that they do make a difference, even though they didn't prevent this war. Someone being prepared to stand up and protest wrong decisions and actions is inspiring, heartening to others.

Several other musicians provided entertainment as supporting acts. These included regulars Billy Rae, The Usual Suspects and Warren Targett.

Steve Loftus also entertained us with an unaccompanied, humorous song. Jack Ellis performed two original songs, accompanying himself on the guitar.

Fresh from his success in the Golden Dampier Award bush poetry

competition at the Tamworth Country Music Festival, bush poet Peter Mace performed two poems. He recited one by Banjo Paterson, and later an original one titled 'The Court Case'. It was very witty and clever, and got a good response from the audience. Next month on Friday 11th March, featured artists are Us not Them, with Jason and Chloe being well-known to Troubadour audiences. They will be launching a new CD of songs collected about World War One experiences. Over the several years I've been watching them perform at folk festivals, I've always found them a delight, their talent inspiring. For more information about the Troubadour Folk Club and its activities, phone Frank on 4342 9099, email frussell@fastlink.com.au , or check the website www.ccbdma.org Shirley Hotchkiss

Troubadour Folk Club

Special Presentation and the Troubadour on 11th March.

This will be an absolutely fantastic event. (We are truly spoilt at the Troubadour). *Us Not Them* will be our guest performers for 11th March with their CD launch and presenting: *The Riderless Horse - An Australian Impression of WW1 (Running time - 1Hour)*

The riderless horse was led through the streets of Australian towns to the beat of a military drum... "The Empire needs you! Who will fill the saddle?"

This unique presentation of songs and poetry from the time provides a rare insight into a young nation's experience of the First World War, both in the trenches and on the homefront. Intimate, detailed, moving and sometimes surprising these impressions will have a lasting impact on the listener.

This material has the ring of truth for nobody knows better than those who lived through it ... From the rousing songs of nationalistic fervor, to the soldiers' brave faced morale boosters composed on the spot in the trenches and sung by many voices, to the ballads of those left behind to watch and wait - It's the material written by people of the time, those directly affected by

The Sutherland Folk Club

Our guest for March is British folk singer Pete Morton who has been performing to audiences worldwide for nearly two decades. Concert on Thursday 10th March at 7.30PM at Sutherland District Trade Union Club (The Tradies) cnr The Kingsway & Manchester Road Nth, Gympie. Contact: Betty 95282193 or Linda 95271563

St Albans Festival

Looking For Volunteers

St Albans Festival is running from 22nd - 25th April. We are looking for volunteers for before, during, & after the event. A few hours work will get you a full festival ticket.

For more details please visit the website <http://www.snalbans.iwarp.com> or call Alison on 02 9748 1034. People are needed for all sorts of things, from manning the gates to building stages. If you have any specific areas of expertise please let us know, eg. office-work, catering, security, labouring, massage.

From The Folk Clubs

Almost Acoustic

Frankie Armstrong (UK)

A warm welcome to Frankie who will be in Australia for seven weeks mostly working at theatre schools, including NIDA.

Besides being a wonderfully positive and enthusiastic teacher, Frankie has a powerful voice and a profound relationship with the songs she sings - from the big ballads to modern narratives; from poems by Brecht to children's skipping rhymes. Her sense of history, her passion for social justice enrich her performances and make them totally memorable. Recommended cds: 'Till the Grass O'ergrew the Corn' - a collection of traditional ballads - 12 of the child ballads with John Kirkpatrick on accordian and melodeon and Maddy Prior additional vocals; and "The Garden of Love" - some big ballads, and some powerful contemporary songs by Leon Rosselson and Brian Pearson and others. Albums recorded by Fellside in Cumbria. Also performing that night: Cliona Molins - harp player from the northern beaches who has recently produced her first CD, titled Rejigged. It is a bold and beautiful collection of traditional, contemporary and original harp music from countries as diverse as Ireland Africa and Venezuela.

Cliona's passion for the harp started in Ireland with the Irish harp tradition and progressed to classical and jazz and then found another home away from home in the various harp traditions of South America. Her particular favourites are the 6/8 dance rhythms of the llaneros (pronounced yaneros) people of plains of Venezuela and Colombia and also the Jarocho style of harp playing from Vera Cruz Mexico.

Christine Wheeler performs on the album and will be along with whistles, flute and vocals to complement Cliona's renditions on the harp.

Appearing at Almost Acoustic 12th March.

The Laws from Ontario, Canada

The songs of Michele and John Laws are a compelling blend of harmony and heartfelt lyrics. Their music is rooted in country, bluegrass, folk and blues and the harmonies will give you good bumps.. Canadian song writing legend Willie P. Bennett says think of Gram Parsons singing with Alison Krauss ...

Their third CD has recently been released, titled "Another Road", it is chock full of brand new songs with tasteful arrangements and those wonderful harmonies. It is available from their touring agent at www.newsouthfolk.com

Saturday 2nd April at Almost Acoustic
8pm \$15/\$12

North By Northwest Poetry and Folk Club

Having floor spots and a session was a pleasant way to ease ourselves back into 2005 in February. We started with some great floor spots from *John Warner*, *Bill Scott*, *Finbarr* (visiting from London), *Judy Pinder*, *Bob Makinson*, *Chrissie Little* and *Ricarda and Nick* (*Wayward*). Later, fortified with more coffee,

tea, and other beverages, our select group of singers bunched up closer, and had a very enjoyable singing session with some of our favourite chorus songs. What we lacked in quantity, we certainly made up for in quality - there were some lovely harmonies in the air! A gentle and friendly night - pity the rest of you missed out!

This month, on Thursday, 3rd March, our guest artists will be **Lost'n'Found**, a delightful duo of H and Toni Although it is their first time at our folk club, they have been regular performers at clubs and festivals in NSW, including recently The National, Snalbans, Gulgong, Maldon and Tamworth.

Performing a variety of celtic-rooted songs, their traditional and original arrangements and outstanding vocal harmonies have received acclaim from both fellow-performers and audiences alike. They have released two CDs, "Out On The Track", and "Further On". Their repertoire is always growing and they are always on the lookout for new songs. The poems of Henry Lawson are particular favourites and prove very popular with audiences everywhere. H's original songs are catchy, insightful and challenging, and the addition of Toni's lovely harmonies makes these two a joy to listen to. So, if you enjoy a bright, energetic, entertaining experience - don't miss **Lost'n'Found**!

The Cornucopia is one of the best acoustic venues in Sydney. There will be hot and cold drinks and yummy food for sale and BYO's are welcome. We meet at 8pm on the first Thursday of the month in the Cornucopia Cafe, in the grounds of the Old Gladesville Hospital, corner of Victoria Rd and Punt Rd Gladesville. See **Dates for your Diary, or Folk Contacts** for directions. Enquiries, Jenny / John 9559 3658 (h) / 0414 903 259 (m) / jdcarter@iinet.net.au , or Tony 9858 7882 (w) / 0409 784 689 (m).

Jenny O'Reilly

From The Troubadour

Next month at the Troubadour will be an absolutely fantastic event. (We are truly spoilt at the Troubadour). Chloe and Jason (formerly **Us Not Them**) will be our guest performers for 11th March with their CD launch to present 'The Riderless Horse - An Australian Impression of WW1' (Running time - 1 Hour)

The riderless horse was led through the streets of Australian towns to the beat of a military drum... "The Empire needs you! Who will fill the saddle?"

This unique presentation of songs and poetry from the time provides a rare insight into a young nation's experience of the First World War, both in the trenches and on the homefront. Intimate, detailed, moving and sometimes surprising these impressions will have a lasting impact on the listener.

This material has the ring of truth for nobody knows better than those who lived through it ... From the rousing songs of nationalistic fervor, to the soldiers' brave faced morale boosters composed on the spot in the trenches and sung by many voices, to the ballads of those left behind to watch and wait - It's the material written by people of the time, those directly affected by being at war, that really tell the story and provide a glimpse of Australia at the time of the war to end all wars.

Although these songs were never meant to tell the story of one soldier's experience, this presentation has been arranged chronologically and gives a strong impression of continuity, following a potted folk history of Australia's involvement in WW1. This presentation does contain some low-level coarse language (of course).

Marilyn Russell

REMEMBERING TINA LAWTON

[Dr Malcolm J. Turnbull, a Melbourne-based historian, has been researching the Australian folk revival of the 60s for several years, and has published some of the results in *Trad & Now*, *Drumbeat*, *Infolkus*, *Town Crier* and *Australian Tradition*. This profile of the late Tina Lawton is taken from his article 'The Early Years of the Folk Revival in Adelaide', and is reprinted courtesy of *Infolkus*.]

The relative isolation of its population notwithstanding, the Adelaide folk scene more than held its own musically with its bigger east coast counterparts during what is often referred to as the 'folk boom'. A core of atmospheric venues (such as the Catacombs, the Folk Hut, the Nissen Hut, Le Camille and the Purple Onion) fostered a diverse roster of performers including Doug Ashdown, Irene Petrie, Robyn (Smith) Archer, Phil Cunneen, Rob McCarthy, John Munro, The Wesley Three, Phil Sawyer, Roger Cardwell, Patsy Biscoe (for a while) and John Stevens. The leading lady was undoubtedly Tina Lawton.

Born in 1944 into a large and intensely musical family (one of six children), Lawton learned violin and piano from an early age, and later combined voice training at the Conservatorium with three years of graphic arts studies at the South Australian School of Art. According to her biographer (her mother Kathleen), she followed her siblings' lead by taking part in eisteddfods, amateur productions of Gilbert & Sullivan, and a host of other musical activities; including dabbling in jazz (singing with the Uni Jazz Band or the Spiritual Jazz Six) at the Catacombs. It was there (circa 1962) that she heard and met an (unnamed) itinerant East Coast folksinger:

His shabby jacket was crushed-yellow, made, I think of suede or velvet; tight, faded green trousers were patched at the knees; his hair, worn shoulder-length (unusual for that time) was the colour of his tawny moccasins. He sat cross-legged on the floor, plucking at a guitar with woman-hands, and singing ... For several hours we sat and listened to that compelling, sexless voice We never heard what became of him, but he stayed long enough to cast a spell over Tina. All the noisy music ... stopped as suddenly as it began, and she became more and more absorbed not only in this new kind of music, but in the stories and origins of folk-singing [Kathleen Lawton, *Singing Bird*, 1974, p.8-9]

An invitation to sing at a charity concert at Victor Harbour led to an audition for *The Country and Western Hour*, and Lawton became a regular on the show: She quickly built up a large local, and then national, following through appearances on *Adelaide Tonight*, *In Melbourne Tonight*, *Bandstand*, the ABC *Lively Arts* series, Gary Shearston's *Just Folk* and *Dave's Place*. Live appearances encompassed coffee shop stints in Melbourne and Sydney, guest sets at Port Lincoln's Tunarama Festival, a concert at the Woomera Rocket Range, and sharing the Adelaide Town Hall stage with Irish tenor Patrick O'Hagan. She took part in both the Four Capitals Folk Song tour of August 1964 and the Newport (NSW) Folk Festival a few months later, and she was captured on Score Records' memento of the former, *Australian Folk Festival*, singing the American civil war tune 'Buttermilk Hill' and the perennial 'I Know Where I'm Going'. Early in 1965, she teamed with harpist Huw Jones and flautist David Cubbin for her own prime-time weekly segment *The Tina Lawton Interludes*, produced by David Zweck for ABC TV, Adelaide.

Lawton signed with CBS and her first album, recorded in Sydney and Adelaide in the second half of 1965, was duly released in time for Christmas. (Two other LPs followed in little over

a year). She finished out 1965 on a high note by joining Mick Counihan, Gary Shearston, Peter Dickie, Phyl Vinnicombe, Glen Tomasetti, Brian Mooney, David Lumsden, and others, in the 'Songs of Peace and Love' concert at Melbourne's Myer Music Bowl, organised by the Vietnam Day committee. Her uncustomary participation in such a strongly political program came back to haunt her a few months later when she accepted a request by the Australian Forces Overseas Fund to entertain newly arrived troops in Vietnam. Kathleen Lawton recalls that Tina was deeply hurt when colleagues within the folk fraternity accused her of hypocrisy and opportunism in playing at both the Peace concert and travelling to the theatre of war. "I'll protest too", she declared, "but in my own way". That first trip to South-East Asia (early in 1966) opened her eyes to the impact of prolonged fighting on ordinary people. Interviewed by television journalist Joan Disher on her return home, she confided: "I did not think of the 'rights' or 'wrongs'. I was sent there to do a job and wanted to sing my best, just to make those boys happy for a little while. They looked so young". She concluded the interview by singing the traditional ballad 'The Cruel War is Raging' - like 'Buttermilk Hill', the nearest she ever came to protest material. [Lawton, p.46-50, 61-68]

Later that year, Lawton joined Peter O'Shaughnessy, Marian Henderson and jazzman Don Burrows in a superior TV film *The Restless Years*, shot at Sydney's ABC studios. An anthology of



Tina Lawton and Marion Henderson on 'The Restless Years'

song, verse and narrative of the first 60 years of Australian history, it featured Lawton as a convict girl (singing 'Convict Maid') and in duet with Henderson on 'The Springtime It Brings on the Shearing'. One of 32 filmed entries,

The Restless Years won second prize (after Czechoslovakia) at an international folklore competition in Dublin. Lawton left Australia on a second trip to entertain allied forces in South-East Asia in April 1967. She spent several months travelling and/or working in the Pacific before electing to move on and join family members in Great Britain. In 1968 she resumed art studies in Glasgow, where she specialised in printmaking. Tragically, she died in a light plane crash while on vacation in Kenya, on Christmas Eve, 1968.

Youthful, blonde, pretty and vivacious, with a classically-trained soprano voice, Tina Lawton was the embodiment of the innocent, maidenly lady folksinger. "Tina was *the* golden girl" remembers Melbourne singer Chris Lerner. "Tina was a lovely kid with a marvellous sense of fun", remembers Lenore Somerset (who was deputised by Kathleen Lawton to "keep an eye on my little girl" on the Four Capitals tour). For Brian Mooney, any mention of Lawton invariably evokes the memory of a stunningly beautiful, other-worldly young girl effortlessly singing 'Everytime I Hear a Songbird Singing' at Sydney's Temperance Hall (also during the Four Capitals Tour). The ethereal image was undoubtedly reinforced by the singer's untimely death, and it is refreshing to note that she could be irreverently down-to-earth on

occasion. Tasmanian singer Beth Sowter recalls Lawton elegantly (and imperturbably) advising a carload of wolf-whistling hooligans to "Fuck Off" during a season at the Hotel Cornwall in Launceston.

Lawton's legacy rests primarily in the three records she made for CBS. Producer Sven Libaek ensured that Tina had the advantage of skilled back-up musicians, and that she draw on only the finest traditional material available, and the three LPs remain among the most distinguished locally-produced folk recordings of the period. *Tina Lawton* (CBS BP 233277) teamed her with guitarist Andy Sundstrom and harpist Huw



Jones for 15 famous Anglo-Irish songs and laments, notably 'Lord Gregory', 'Marie's Wedding', 'The Spinning Wheel', 'Castle of Dramore', 'The Lowlands of Holland' and an unaccompanied 'She Moved through the Fair'. An enthusiastic *Melbourne Herald* reviewer predicted that a debut album of this calibre must ensure the

singer international recognition. [Lawton, p.64] CBS released two follow-ups, *Singing Bird* (CBS BP233315) and *Fair and Tender* (CBS BP 233394). Considered by many (including the singer herself) to be her best, the latter offered traditional Anglo-Celtic program with backing by Don Burrows, George Golla and Herbie Marks. Released shortly before she left Australia (as it eventuated, permanently), the album's highlights included 'Mary Hamilton', 'Raggle Taggle Gipsies' and 'Lady Mary'. Still extraordinarily beautiful four decades on and, in context, almost unbearably poignant.

Malcolm Turnbull



Welcome to the celebration of 150 years of rail in New South Wales

In 2005 the NSW railways celebrates its 150th anniversary. Since the first journey on 26 September 1855, our railway system has grown from a modest 22km line between Sydney and Parramatta to a complex, state-wide network covering 11,000km.

The Railways Project now has its own website at <http://www.railcorp.info/150years>. This website will contain a calendar of events to commemorate this occasion and enable people to learn more about our railway heritage. A collaboration between a range of rail operators and heritage groups, the calendar is being put together now and we welcome contributions from event organisers.

Planning an event?

If your organisation is staging a railway-related event during the 150th anniversary year we would like to include it in our events calendar. Please use our tell us about your event form to send us details about your plans.

For more information contact Brian Dunnett on (02) 9668-9051 or bdunnett@ar.com.au

Fogs is the problem!

a concert of environmentally friendly folk music & poetry



Sonía Bennett



Denis Kevans
(Australia's Poet Lorikeet)

Loosely Woven

1pm, Sat 12th March, 2005
New Theatre, 542 King St, Newtown



cd reviews

Kit Holmes, Seeing You

This is a first album from a talented young singer-songwriter from the UK, Kit Holmes. Clearly her potential has been recognised by folk music moghuls in Britain as she has recently finished a tour supporting the likes of John Renbourn, Jacqui McShee, Danny Thompson and Nashville guitarist Darrell Scott. She has an agent who is seeking airplay down here in Oz, and the cd is being distributed by Amazon.com. Considering all that, it's a surprise to find that her web page offers almost no information, not even a bio to help a hapless reviewer fit the puzzle pieces together.

Songs and guitar instrumentals share this album. Most of the guitar instrumentals are in considerable contrast to the style of her songs. Two of the original instrumental tracks make good use of variants on standard guitar tuning and two tracks present her own exceptionally musical arrangements of traditional tunes from Scotland, England and Ireland respectively. Her skill and fluency in these quiet, celtic style instrumentals is remarkable for someone who looks to be in her early twenties. The final track, 'Chosen', also an instrumental but with full band, keeps the acoustic guitar sound up front and pursues a simple enough theme through different musical textures and colours. Only the finish leaves this listener wanting for something less abrupt, particularly as the final track.

Holmes is backed by a top class band, which includes renowned double bass player Danny Thompson. Thompson's collaborations span 30 years and include Pentangle, Richard Thompson, Paul Brady, John Martyn and Sandy Denny amongst others. Holmes would likely count that older generation of musical luminaries amongst her influences, as the craft of her songwriting is evident in both the musical forms she uses and her lyrical way of dealing with the existential though standard issues of youth – 'everything's gonna be good when we get there / I don't really know what I want'. Most of the songs use a classic rock/pop 4/4 time with electric or double bass, electric guitar or keyboard and drums. An exception is 'Cheapflights', one of the two tracks on which Danny Thompson plays. A barer, acoustic production in the style of a minor blues featuring acoustic guitar, double bass and strings (does this mean violin?), this song explores the theme of working too hard around a refrain 'pack up your troubles and get on with your ... dreams'. Her singing, while strong and confident, is distinguished by vowel production that in ignorance I can only describe as a native English accent overlaid with American imitation (eg. 'luurv'). Consequently, it took me quite a few listens to tune into some of the lyrics but they are worth the trouble – 'you can't always change the world you love / cause that would make life too easy'.

Eric Bogle, in his address to the Folk Alliance Convention a few months ago, made the point that the music of younger people tends to appeal to younger people, and that's the way it should be. In this case I'm glad I took the trouble as an aging (though not yet bearded) folkie to listen carefully. Kit Holmes may well be one of those special voices amongst younger musicians who becomes vital to the evolutionary process of folk. I've no doubt that Holmes' music and performance will appeal to younger followers of folk and acoustic music in Australia, if she decides to undertake a visit here.

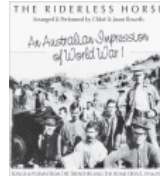
Christine Wheeler

The Riderless Horse an Australian Impression of World War One.

Arranged and performed by Chloe and Jason Roweth.

CD of songs and poems from the trenches and the home front 1914-1918.

Available from: usnothem@speedlink.com.au Mob.0429 911 663



World War One was the most pivotal event in Australia's history. The shock waves passed through the generations; it changed Australia for ever.

Jason and Chloe have delved deeply and successfully to find the songs and poems which distil for us the many [often contradictory] emotions felt by the writers and singers of that terrible time when 60 000 young Australians died and many more were shattered in mind and body.

Jason and Chloe present the songs with great empathy, finesse and spirit.

Their musicianship is of the highest quality, their voices melodic and true while their articulation is excellent. The songs and poems range in mood and context from the correctly-establishment Boys of the Dardanelles obviously written by someone who never went there to irreverent pieces such as 'The Army Song' and 'Dinky D'. There is the deeply moving 'The Riderless Horse', written by John O'Brien and set to music by Denis Kevans and the sentimental, but beautiful, 'Suvla Bay'. Henry Lawson is represented as well.

The diggers of World War 1, the first A.I.F. achieved feats of arms on the battlefields of Gallipoli, France and Flanders that matched those of the Homeric heroes of Greek myths. Out of the trenches, those same diggers performed inspired feats of larrikinism and insubordination that would leave their modern, respectable descendants stunned with disbelief. It's all here on 'The Riderless Horse.'

John Dengate.



Trad & now

The Australian National Folk Magazine

You can subscribe on-line, and also check out over 300 independent recordings by past and present heroes of Australian Folk Music – www.tradandnow.com

Read what some of the current great Australian artists think of Trad&Now....



Bernard Carney

Singer/songwriter, Artist of the Year Port Fairy Folk Festival 2003, WA.

Australia has long been in need of a National high quality magazine which serves the interest of the ever growing market of people interested in acoustic world music. Equivalent magazines in the UK and America serve this market and have become international mouthpieces for musicians and the diverse folk arts of their country. The new Australian magazine 'Trad and Now' is an important publication for professional musicians as it provides a prestigious national network for their work, and can only increase business opportunities. I have been extremely impressed with 'Trad and Now' and would like to see it develop into an Internationally distributed outlet for Australian acoustic music.

Penelope Swales

Singer/songwriter/producer, VIC

I am writing to say that as a professional folk musician, Trad and Now magazine provides an essential forum for the promotion and enjoyment of Australian folk music. I tour internationally quite a lot, and am in the position to observe that Australia has a uniquely vibrant folk culture, which is a valuable cultural resource for this country. Trad and Now magazine is the only magazine in this country catering to the needs of our folk music community.

Greg Bryce

Songwriter, member of JIGZAG, NSW

Trad and Now is the most exciting, essential and professional publication that the Australian Folk scene has ever had. It is undoubtedly the most significant contribution to the growth of Australian folk music, traditional and contemporary, in recent years.



Jeanette Wormald

Performer, House Concert Venue, Lindene Music, SA.

Trad&Now is an important tool in developing and promoting Australia's burgeoning folk music scene. Not only does the magazine keep me in touch with news and events throughout the nation, more importantly it is a rich resource for music, skills development (with articles on playing the fiddle, for example) and the history and heritage of folk music in Australia.

Fred Smith

Songwriter, ACT

The popularity of festivals such as Port Fairy and Woodford, and the growing presence of Folk/Roots music on radio airwaves (even Triple JJJ), is testimony to the strong and growing profile of the music in this country across all generations. Trad&Now is an important document of this part of the Australian cultural landscape. The presentation is professional, the content is considered and interesting, and I have found advertising through the magazine pays dividends in terms of reaching my target market. Dave De Santi and his team are passionate about the enterprise, and are well positioned to continue to provide the service that is this excellent national folk/roots magazine

Mick Thomas

Managing director of Croxton Records and solo performer

In an industry often dominated by commercial fads and trends (often as quick changing as they are insubstantial) I feel that a publication such as Trad and Now is important in providing a creative alternative. Also the fact it is nationally distributed makes it appealing and efficient for those seeking to promote a product no less potent or worthy for lacking in across-the-board appeal.



Home Delivered! Subscribe for a friend!



Trad&Now is published quarterly and available by subscription at the cover price of \$7.90 + \$1.80 postage. Subscriptions for one year (4 issues) is \$38.80 and will be posted out December, March, June, and September. Overseas subscriptions, please allow \$4.95 per issue for postage. One year's overseas subscription (4 issues) is \$AUS 51.40.

If you require clarification or further assistance please call us during Australian eastern standard time business hours on 02-4225 3792.

You can subscribe by fax on: 02-4229 9368

or Post this form to: 230 Corrimal Street, Wollongong NSW 2500

Please Supply me the next 4 issues of Trad&Now:

Name of subscriber:

Address:

City:

State:

P/Code:

E-Mail:

Telephone:

Mobile:

Here is my \$ by Master Card Bank Card Visa Card
 Cheque (payable to Trad and Now Pty Ltd)

Credit Card Details: Number

Name on the Credit Card:

Expiry Date: Signed:

Trad&Now is published by Trad and Now Pty Limited 230 Corrimal Street, Wollongong NSW 2500 Australia Telephone 02 - 4225 3792

focus on folk

*The Program of the Folk Federation of NSW 2MBS
102.5 FM 7.00 PM*



Saturday 5th March, 2005

BLUE MOUNTAINS FOLK & ROOTS FESTIVAL. Prepared and presented by Greg Bull

The Blue Mountains Folk Roots and Blues Festival takes place in the picturesque Blue Mountains next weekend. We preview artists from that festival in today's program.

Saturday 12th March, 2005

THE LUCK OF THE IRISH. Prepared and presented by *Patricia Early* With St Patricks Day coming up, we listen to some familiar and not so familiar Irish Folk Songs and Ballads.

Saturday 19th March, 2005

ST PATRICK'S DAY. Prepared and presented by Kate Delaney Music and song to celebrate St Patricks Day

Saturday 26th March, 2005

SCOTTS, HOME AND AWAY. Prepared and presented by Roger Fyfe Scottish related music from around the world



Folk Trax

Here at Folk Trax we have had a rather busy January and early February. We are receiving quite a few orders from New South Wales and that is pleasing to us. We always try to get the order out of the door within 24 hours, not always possible unfortunately.

The latest news is that Colcannon have finally released their version of the Eureka Suite you may have heard at the National a few years ago.

It has some bonus features such as a full script of the narration. Check it out on our website. We also have now on the site the Borealis new releases for Australia and the James Keelaghan range is also there. The brilliant new CD by Steve and Ross Barnes "Nautilus" should not be missed. Don't forget that members of the NSW Folk Federation get a 10% discount on their purchases but make sure you indicate your membership on the order form. And finally for artists who are looking for an outlet where they can place their CD on consignment Folk Trax is worth having a look at soon. Ask us for consignment details via the website.

Keep on Folking
Henk de Weerd

'A Celtic Cultural Experience'

May 27th, 28th, 29th 2005

In Teralba, Lake Macquarie, N.S.W.

Back by popular demand! The Celtic groups of the Hunter Region are once again combining to present a wonderful weekend of workshops, displays, performances and a Saturday evening Ceilidh featuring Colin Douglas and his band. Included in the weekend will be:

- ◆Dance from Celtic countries - for beginners and experienced
- ◆Music – both instrumental and vocal
- ◆Language – experienced tutors help you master the Celtic tongue
- ◆Strange but tasty Celtic recipes for you to sample
- ◆History, Art, and more, more, more

This will be a weekend not to be missed. Put the dates in your diary now!

Application Forms will be available from late February from:-"A Celtic Cultural Experience"

Post Office Box 34, KOTARA FAIR 2289 Please enclose a stamped self addressed envelope and your Application will be mailed to you as soon as it is printed. Email contact Margaret Kenning westwick@telpacific.com.au

Ph/Fax contact Elma See 4943 3436