

The Beat

February 2006

Volume 1

Macquarie Towns Music Club Inc Newsletter



Coming Events

Blue Mountains Folk Music Festival.
17-19 March
Enq. 1800 651 322

Hawkesbury National Fiddle Festival.
7-9 April
Enq. 02-4576 7023

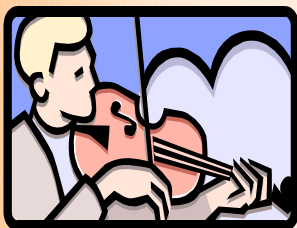
National Folk Festival.
13-17 April (Easter)
Enq. 02-6347 0906

Four Winds Festival.
16-17 April
Enq. 02-6493 3414

St Albans Folk Festival.
22-25 April
Enq. 02-9528 2103

Our next Newsletter will have space for a couple of jokes, a short poem, lyrics for a song or a short yarn.

If interested in supplying one of these please submit in writing by end of March.
Details on next page.



Welcome

Dez

As the newly elected club president I would like to welcome you to this inaugural edition of the Macquarie Towns Music Club Newsletter nicknamed 'The BEAT'. Welcome also to a part of Hawkesbury History as our club was established in 1975 and it is arguably, the second oldest registered music club in NSW

Commencing with this edition, the newsletter will be issued on a quarterly basis. The newsletter will assist in communicating news and events that may be of interest to our club members and I hope it will eventuate into a successful instrument (pardon the pun) for all our members to contribute information relevant to the club's interests.

January 2006 Club Committee meeting

Dez

The first Macquarie Towns Music Club Committee meeting in 2006 was held on January 17 and all committee members attended except for Garry, who submitted apologies because of a performance engagement. It was decided that committee meetings would be held every two months and this schedule will be reviewed

after three meetings.

Agenda items that were discussed included:

- * cost of entry to club meetings
- * regularity and fees of guest artists
- * arrangements regarding an annual concert
- * public liability insurance
- * Ideas for advertising and promotion.

Discussion on the advertising and promotion conceived the idea for this newsletter as well as new posters, fliers and newspaper articles.

The folk federation web-site www.jam.org.au also offers a page specifically for our club to advertise and promote our events and members.

Meetings, Workshops & Guest Artists

Ellen

The first club night of 2006 was a great success. We had six adults and three young visitors as well as several regular members. Our three new members are Paul Cattanach, Barbara Clout and Frank Kohegyi. Welcome to you all. As usual, we had a wide range of music including folk, bluegrass, blues, old time, popular and a few original compositions performed as well.

Our next two club

meetings will be held February 18 and March 18, with a 'round robin' format as usual. Dez plans to take some photos at these meetings to load on our web-site and also to place in the next edition of 'The Beat'

It's a long way off but we have invited Maureen O'Brien from Newcastle to perform as a guest artist at our meeting on May 20. Maureen is a singer who specialises in Blues styles

and has appeared several times at the St. Albans Folk Festival.

On July 15 Garry and Sue Ragen will provide a blues workshop in the late afternoon, this will be followed by pizza for those who wish to stay and then a normal club meeting will follow.

We hope to line up more guest artists during the year and we will keep you all posted.

Summer Edition



Newsletter Contributions

We invite all members of the Macquarie Towns Music Club to contribute information, news or articles relevant to our club's interests.

Please address correspondence to

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or
Ellen Manning
(02) 4578 2975
E-MAIL
ellen@myisp.net.au

We are on the WEB.
[Click Here](#)



Member's News

Ellen

Ellen and Taia, two of our members, recently trekked to Paddington for a Peggy Seeger workshop. This member of a famous musical family, and half-sister to Pete, is on a worldwide tour prior to taking up a teaching position at an American university. The workshop was advertised as "women's songs", but this was not the actual format.

For the first half, questions from the audience were invited and answered in word and song. The question that prompted the most interesting answer was

"How do you develop a repertoire?". Peggy explained that singing for an audience was not the same as singing for yourself, as mixture of alternate fast, slow, funny, sad songs was needed to keep the audience from becoming bored. She then proceeded to demonstrate songs from each category in different styles of singing voice. Some of these singing styles were outside her comfort zone eg. low Appalachian traditional or very high British traditional styles and these would need to be thoroughly practiced

before taking to the stage. Following requests, the second half did consist of women's songs including Peggy's "Gonna Be An Engineer". She told stories of her childhood, of growing up in a musical family, her political activism, and her marriage to Ewan McColl (who wrote "The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face" for her). Taia and Ellen came home clutching autographed CDs and Ellen also had her rare and precious double audio tape of Peggy and Ewan from 1976 that Peggy also autographed.

Blow your Trumpet

This section of the Newsletter is for club members to inform other members of any event or gig that they are associated with, organising or performing in.

1. Garry & Sue Ragen 25.3.06

'Bushrangers' are playing a Bush Dance at Blaxland Ridge Bush Fire Shed, 7.30 to 11.30. Food may be provided for purchase. We will keep you informed.



Sponsors

River Music (formerly Blakes Music)

14 Bridge Street, Windsor
Ph. 4577 3355

River music has agreed to a **10% discount** for our club members. This will apply when purchasing any of their vast range of **quality instruments and equipment** available for the professional or amateur. This will also incorporate associated paraphernalia including music books covering all styles of music and song.

Please ensure that you have your **membership card** with you as the friendly staff may be asked to prove membership.

Community Be\$t

Kevin Roby Dip FS (FP) SAAIMB
Ph. 4633 6700 Mb. 0419 286 622
www.communitybest.com.au

Kevin Roby offers **lifestyle financial services** to our club members and will waive the brokerage fee of the contract thus saving the client up to 0.6% of the financial package. Kevin's services include **Loans** (home, commercial, personal and business); **Financial services** (real estate, deposit bonds, insurance and credit repair services)

Kevin states that he can better any existing contract and my own dealings with Kevin in regards to a home loan has found him to be honest and helpful as well as highly professional.