

# The Beat



May 2008

Issue 8

## Macquarie Towns Music Club Inc Newsletter

### Coming Club Events

Richmond  
Neighbourhood Centre,  
West Market St,  
Richmond  
7.30 – 10.30

- May 17<sup>th</sup> will be a 'Round Robin' jam session format. Don't miss another fun night.
- June 21<sup>st</sup> 'John Hospodaryk' will perform as club Guest Artist and will be supported by a variety concert of talented club members and friends.
- July 19<sup>th</sup> will feature another 'Round Robin' session night.
- August 16<sup>th</sup>. 'Denizon' will feature as a Main Act in the final hour from 9.30-10.30pm following a 'Blackboard Concert'.

### Coming Festivals

(This page)

Anyone interested in contributing an advert, poem, story, lyrics etc to 'The Beat' contact Dez.

Phone. 4578 5215  
Email. [dwilliams@tpg.com.au](mailto:dwilliams@tpg.com.au)



## Welcome

Welcome to another 4 month look ahead for MTMC and I hope that you, your families and your friends are well and happy. I also hope you are keeping yourselves and your instruments (including vocal) in tune and active.

Try and find time in the coming weeks to read this issue of 'The Beat' as it is meant to keep you updated on what's going on around the traps from May to end of August 2008 and also review some past club events.

We are consistently seeing wonderful new acts emerging from our audience of members and friends and we also still encourage learners and new performers to participate in our sessions and concerts. Our recent concerts held in February and April both achieved 50 to 60 attendees and the great feedback I received substantiated the talent and the enjoyment that I witnessed and experienced.

Well done to all those who participated in St Albans Folk Festival because after all the rain we still had numerous members performing and conducting workshops throughout this enjoyable weekend of camping and music. Thank you and big congratulations to the 13 club members who performed in our grand finale in the church on Anzac Day as part of our club concert. Well done.

Don't forget that you are all welcome to contribute to all future issues of 'The Beat'. Just send your news to me...

## Committee Meeting – May 19 2008

A committee meeting was held on May 19 and all committee members attended. Discussion was raised on numerous subjects and some actions were closed. Future guest artists were discussed in depth and consideration given to the numerous applications our club has received. A standard fee for guests was also discussed and approved.

The committee also voted in favour of conducting a Major Concert featuring club members as guest artists in a concert session to be held in 2009.

Actions to be performed by committee members are:

- Expressions of interest to be sought for a Banjo workshop conducted by Richard
- Quotes to be sought for the manufacture of Club

T-Shirts

- Raffles and door prizes to be trialled at future Concert nights
- Club funds to purchase new tea / coffee cups to increase and also replace the existing supplies.

All members are invited to contribute any ideas or submit correspondence that can be discussed by the committee.

## Festival Dates for your Diary

**31<sup>st</sup> May** Berry Celtic Festival, Berry NSW ph. 02-4234 1346 or email [coldot@shoal.net.au](mailto:coldot@shoal.net.au)

**6<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> June** Sessionfest Swansea

NSW ph. 0421 412 358 or email [sessionfest@gmail.com](mailto:sessionfest@gmail.com)

**14<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> June** Winter Magic Festival Katoomba  
[martin@wintermagic.com.au](mailto:martin@wintermagic.com.au)  
[www.wintermagic.com.au](http://www.wintermagic.com.au)

**11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> July.** Redlands Bluegrass Convention; Kindilan Qld ph. 07 3206 9226  
[nswills@optusnet.com.au](mailto:nswills@optusnet.com.au)  
[www.redlandscountry.asn.au](http://www.redlandscountry.asn.au)

## 'Duffy the Dancer' Concert Review



A large crowd ventured into town for this wonderful concert held in February. Although most of us never had the pleasure of hearing 'Duffy the Dancer' perform prior to this night, they did not disappoint the crowd. Johnny & Tinker Duffy with Simon Watts entertained the 50+ crowd with an assortment of compositions and instrumentals.

I remember one tune where Johnny played a whistle to the accompaniment of three bodhrans and another tune where they had us all footstompin' to three fiddles. When considering that most of the Duffy's music is performed at home because of their young family, the night's entertainment was very high quality.

## Yuri 'The Storyteller' Concert Review

With candle in hand and hall lights dimmed, master storyteller Yuri held us entranced with his tales. Supported by the beautiful background music of Alex Nolf on zither and / or John Coombs on harp or bagpipes, Yuri related wondrous stories of spirits and other imaginative things from different parts of the world. Yuri also had us in stitches with his

sense of humour when reciting a funny poem or recount using a different accent.

If you get to hear of Yuri the Storyteller at any festivals you may visit in the future then I advise you to take the time and attend his act as you will be pleased and rewarded that you did.

More news on Yuri at his website: [www.folkclub.com/huldrefolk](http://www.folkclub.com/huldrefolk)



## John Hospodaryk – Guest Artist June 21



### John Hospodaryk - 9.30 – 10.30

Blues, roots and heritage; Singing and accompanying himself on guitar and banjo, John Hospodaryk has for over four decades collected various traditions, chiefly from Australia and America: blues, rags, shanties, bush ballads, old timey, bluegrass, country and western and rock and roll. All these styles have

fed his song-writing ability. You can get something of that versatility on his 2007 album 'Railway's Coming Through'. John has performed at various music festivals and clubs and pubs. In 2001 he won the MUA song-writing award, and in February 2007 participated in the only organised concert ever staged on top of Mt Kosciuszko

## Denizon – Guest Artist August 16

### Denizon - 9.30 – 10.30

Denizon consists of Tim Kendall (vocals, acoustic guitar); Miffy Ryan (fiddle, viola) and Johnny Spillane (vocals, whistle, digital bagpipes and bodhran). Their repertoire embraces songs and tunes of Celtic, American and Australian origins and blends them with the traditional flavours and instruments of these countries.

Members of Denizon have toured with overseas performers such as **The Furey's, Foster & Allen** and

**Daniel O'Donnell**. The group has toured extensively as part of the **Geraldine Doyle Show** and has shared the stage with many other recognised National & International performers.

The talent of the individuals in the group have been expressed in projects such as co-writing the music for the video '**Legends of the Surf**' which was released worldwide and Channel seven's recent "**Reincarnation Experiment**" hosted by Warwick Moss.



# Benefits of Drumming

Drummer and researcher Layne Redmond, in her book *"When the Drummers Were Women - a Spiritual History of Rhythm"*, explains that 'the rituals of early religions evolved around the beat of the frame drum' and that sacred drumming by women was a powerful tool for community bonding and transformation of consciousness in early cultures. She shows that the banning of women's frame drumming in patriarchal religion in the 4th century A.D. was directly related to the disempowerment of women in western culture.

Until recently, drumming was considered a male prerogative in western society, associated with loud drum-kits, and complex drum beats. With the increasing interest in spirituality, individual and cultural healing, and world music, many women are becoming captivated by the sound, power and magic of the frame drum and are incorporating

this gentle, subtle drum into their lives.

Some physical and mental benefits of drumming are:

- Connects us to our own inner rhythms (physical and psychological)
- Can simultaneously energise and relax us
- Boosts our immune system (1 hour of drumming increases natural immune cells that seek and destroy viruses and cancerous tumours)
- Releases emotional blocks and negative emotion (play the feeling)
- Can quiet our inner voices (of worry, self-criticism, self-doubt)
- Gets us out of our head and into our body (feel the rhythm)
- Allows us to play, have fun and feel a sense of freedom (honours our inner child, keeps us mentally flexible)
- Encourages us to dance
- Helps us focus our attention, and

to listen more precisely. Puts us right 'in the moment'

- Helps us attain higher states of consciousness (meditative or trance state)
- Helps connect us to Spirit and to something Magical
- Adds power to carry our prayers and to amplify our intent (Sound is a powerful force with transformative capabilities.)
- Develops our creative expression, fine motor skills and co-ordination
- Builds self-confidence, increases self-esteem.



## Member's News

### Battlefield Band

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2pm** – The Battlefield Band are back in Australia and will be performing at St Marys Leagues Club.

Club member Ian Henry and the **Hawkesbury City Pipe Band** will be playing a support act; Adults \$33; Pensioners and Under 18 \$28. Tickets: 9677 7777 or 9623 2250

### Singing Workshop

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June 10am – 3pm** Chorella Community Choir invites you to a singing workshop with **Rachel Hore** in the HVB Church at 14/26 Terrace St, Nth Richmond. Contact: Tony 4576 7023; Martha 4572 1778; Sue 4572 1140. Refreshments provided. There are shops nearby or BYO Lunch.

'Terry Regan' club member and current Australian Bush Poet has recently released a CD of his own poetry called '**Through the Horse's Eyes**'. When in the studio Terry recorded the poems from memory because he said "I cannot express the full meaning of a poetry recital while reading". Interested members can contact Terry on 4739 1793 or [terryregan@y7mail.com](mailto:terryregan@y7mail.com)

## Request for donation of used and / or old Instruments to Vanuatu children



The above photo was taken in the village of Sola on the island of Vanua Lava in Vanuatu. Vanua Lava is an

island in the far north of Vanuatu with a population of around 1400 people and 300 of these attend the Arep School. The Arep School is a project of the **Windsor Rotary Club** where the club have undertaken to refurbish the school over a 5 year period (Ongoing now for two years). There are many bands called "string bands" and their Instruments are normally a guitar or two, a homemade ukulele (with no sound box), lagerphones and tea-chest bass. Sometimes they also have a seka (shaker). There is a great deal

of musical talent among these children but they are limited in their choice of instruments. The average weekly income there is less than AU\$15 per person. The Windsor Rotary Club is asking for donations of old and/or unused instruments to help these gifted children develop their musical talent. If any members can help please contact:

Greg Hoile on 0418 245 743 & [hoiles1@bigpond.com](mailto:hoiles1@bigpond.com) or Mal Roughley on 4576 3327 & [hedgeline@bigpond.com](mailto:hedgeline@bigpond.com)

# St Alban's Folk Festival

## Kathie McMahon – music brings local history alive

This workshop was the brainchild of Kathie and Steve Rawling and was delivered by them with the assistance of differing musicians and friends. This workshop has also been presented at 'Dorrigo Folk and Bluegrass Festival', the 'National Folk Festival' and most recently at St Albans - The purpose of these workshops are to demonstrate how folk songs from the local area may be adapted to illustrate how local

teachers, musicians and history enthusiasts can work together to use songs as the basis for teaching children about local history. Kathie states "young children remember a lesson easier through interactive singing than through reading a book". A substantial crowd came over to the Workshop Cabin and sang along to songs from Steve's songbook and CD "Memories of Kurrajong".



## Ellen Manning – a short, sharp review of folk music

Although only allocated an hour to deliver a history of folk music, Ellen skimmed through the many music genres and styles that have inspired and instigated modern folk music. Assisted by fellow club members Kathie McMahon,

Barbara Clout and Paddy Smith; Ellen took us back to the middle ages, to the jungles of Africa, through the migratory periods of 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century and up to the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Ellen explained, explored and expressed through

song, through music and verse what has found its way into the folk music of today. Considering the muddy conditions of the venue a good sized crowd ventured over to the Gallery to enjoy this very interactive and enjoyable workshop.

## Richard Galuzzi – claw hammer banjo workshop

Richard delivered another banjo workshop at St Albans this year and this time he concentrated on the Claw Hammer style. Although earlier downpours of rain (I mean downpours) had flooded out the usual Workshop space at The Gallery, Richard assisted by Patrick Smith still presented a well received

lesson to the many banjo learners interested in picking up the specialist licks and tips. As well as this programmed workshop, Richard and Lee Tame also conducted an informal banjo workshop of tuning, skin maintenance and banjo repair for a small group.



## MTMC Concert St Albans Church 2008

### Thanks to all members who performed at the Church for Macquarie Towns Music Club at the Festival

Patrick Smith; Inge Scott; Barbara Clout; Kathie McMahon; Lee Tame; Chris Anderson; Ellen Manning; Ray Scott; Selina Rowe; Karen Williams; Jan Tame; Dez Williams; Terry Regan.



## Terry Regan wins at St Albans

Club member and current Australian Bush Poet, Terry Regan added another trophy to his substantial collection when out at St Albans this year. Terry won the Tall Stories Competition that was held in the Marquee an early Saturday evening. We have all heard Terry recite, relate or recount some very

good stories at our club but now it does make me wonder if they were actually true. How can I now believe that his poems 'The Leaf War' and 'Blackbeard's Leap' are really true yarns. This picture shows Terry and his wife Dulcie, his trophy and their camper van at St Albans Folk Festival. Well done Mate.





### Club Meetings

3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday every Month  
Richmond Neighbourhood  
Centre, West Market St.  
Richmond.  
7.30 -10.30pm

### 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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7 Katrina Close  
RICHMOND NSW 2753  
(02) 4578 5215  
E-MAIL:

[dwilliams@tpg.com.au](mailto:dwilliams@tpg.com.au)

More stuff on the Web.  
[jam.org.au](http://jam.org.au)  
(Sorry, our website probably needs updating)



## Pictures



## Blow your Trumpet

'Dez Williams and the Denim Agents' are booked to play a 40 minute spot at 'The Shack' in Narrabeen on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July. The band will be performing Dez's original songs. **Mic Conway's National Junk Band** is booked as the main act on the same evening. Dez & the Denim Agents are a support act.



**MTMC MySpace website** – Check out a great assortment of photos and a bit of news at [myspace](http://myspace)

## Sponsors



Ph. 4577 3355 Windsor  
[www.rivermusic.com.au](http://www.rivermusic.com.au)

River music has agreed to a **10% discount** for club members. This applies when purchasing any of their vast range of **quality instruments and equipment**. This discount does not apply to products already discounted.



Ph. 4633 6700 Mb. 0419 286 622  
[www.communitybest.com.au](http://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 service includes **Loans and Financial services**.