

The Beat

Feb 2009

Issue 10

Macquarie Towns Music Club Inc Newsletter



Coming Club Events

Richmond Neighbourhood
Centre, West Market St,
Richmond

7.30 – 10.30

- February 21 *'Marcus Sturrock'* all the way from WA and *'Fergusson'* a former member of *'Creel'* will appear as guest artists. These are two must see performers. They will also be supported by a *'Variety Concert'* of talented local performers.
- March 21 will feature another *'Round Robin'* session night.
- On April 18 *'Tom Hamilton'* will launch his latest CD with his backing band *'Navan'* direct from the recording session. They will be supported by a *'Blackboard Concert'*.
- On May 16 it is time for another *'Round Robin'* session night.

Coming Festivals

(This page)

Anyone interested in contributing to *'The Beat'* contact Dez or email the info.

Phone. 4578 5215
Email. dwilliams@tpg.com.au



Welcome

Welcome to another New Year 2009 and another 4 month look ahead for Macquarie Towns Music Club and I hope you, your families and your friends are all healthy, happy and staying true to any New Year resolutions.

Please find time to read this issue of *'The Beat'* so you are updated on what's going on between February and May 2009. We are still seeing some excellent guest artists and an assortment of wonderful new acts emerging from our audience. We also encourage and welcome learners and new performers to participate in our sessions and concerts.

Our October 18 Guest Artists drew a good sized crowd and the night was a great success. Karen Lynne and Pat Drummond, two well known and award winning soloists, while performing as a duo, combined their talents to entertain us on a night of first class entertainment. Apparently when Pat arrived he was concerned about the lack of amplification and Karen had to put him at ease. Nevertheless, Karen's sweet and soft vocals and Pat's full and powerful vocals were very appreciated by all. Feedback from that concert was "let's get them back".

Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held on September 20 at 7 pm prior to the September meeting and many members attended. Annual reports were presented by the executive committee and new nominations and voting

was undertaken for members of the club committee. Patrick Smith stood down because of other commitments and Phil Upton was nominated and elected as a new committee member.

All other committee members reign on for another year. I wish to thank Taia, Richard, Selina, Karen, Kathie and Patrick for all the hard work and club support through 2008. Thank you team

Festival Dates for your Diary

12th to 15th February
Australian Blues Music
Festival, Goulburn NSW
ph. 1800 353 646
www.australianbluesfestival.com.au

20th to 22nd February
Cobargo Folk Festival
ph. 6493 6758
cobargofolkfestival@bigpond.com
or
www.cobargofolkfestival.com.au

5th to 8th March
11th Dunedoo Bush Poetry
Festival Dunedoo NSW ph.
66528266
dddgroup@bigpond.com or
www.abpa.org.au/bush_poetry

13th to 15th March.
14th Annual Blue
Mountains Music Festival
Katoomba NSW
info@bmf.org.au or
www.bmf.com.au

2nd to 5th April.
The Man From Snowy
River Festival Cudgewa
Valley NSW ph. 6077 4332
www.manfromsnowyriverbushfestival.com.au

**9th to 13th April National
Folk Festival ACT** ph.
62497755 or email
info@folkfestival.asn.au or
www.folkfestival.asn.au

19th April. Acoustica
Balmain NSW ph. 9367
9359 or Email
katieb@lmc.nsw.gov.au

25th to 27th April.
St Albans Folk Festival, St
Albans NSW ph. 0418 264
709 www.snalbans.iwarp.com or
alis0n@tpg.com.au

May - To be announced.
Berry Celtic Festival –
Berry NSW ph.4234 1346
coldot@shoal.net.au

Marcus Sturrock – February 21st Guest Artist

Marcus Sturrock is a musician from Western Australia and is currently on tour at various festivals and venues throughout the East coast of Australia between January through to the end of June. Marcus was recently a main bill at the 2009 Illawarra Festival as well as other Sydney venues.

One thing is for certain is that this guy is a high calibre act. He has played at the largest and the smallest festivals worldwide and also played with the likes of members from Pink Floyd, David Bowie and Phil Collins. On the folk

music side, Marcus has played alongside Tony McManus, Jeff Lang, Lucky Oceans, Bruce Mathiske, Phil Manning, Nick Charles and Peter Grayling to name a few.

Further to that he has played with members from the John Farnham Band, Bee Gees, John Butler Trio, Wendy Matthews, Grace Knight and Vince Jones. Make sure you come out for this bloke as he doesn't leave WA very often and he is highly talented and will surely entertain.

Check out the website
www.marcussturrock.com



Fergusson – February 21st Supporting Guest

Fergusson is a solo artist specialising in acoustic, original music that is influenced by the folk music genre and is a one time member of the popular Australian folk group 'The Creel'. He has performed at Woodford, the National Folk Festival, Port Fairy, Illawarra and Blue Mountains folk festival. After a hiatus of 9 years, Fergusson eventually returned to stage with a solo album called 'Sam', a collection of original songs, embracing the increasingly popular genres of acoustic/folk/rock/roots. His album was released in December 2008 to critical acclaim.

While his style is a blend of genres

appealing to folk fans it also reaches a new generation of young audience members for whom the Irish Bouzouki is something new and exciting. While incorporating multiple guitar tunings to increase diversity of expression, it is Fergusson's use of the Irish Bouzouki as a solo and accompanying instrument for his voice in a contemporary sense that is creating interest from audiences. Most recently, Fergusson has included the use of Loops and the Stomp Box to enlarge his sound, allowing for a greater intricacy, harmonization and rhythmic drive.



Tom Hamilton – April 18th Special Guest Artist

Tom Hamilton will be launching his new album called 'Glasnevin's Grey Walls'. Glasnevin is the main cemetery of Dublin and the title of his CD comes from one a song that he wrote in Dublin in 2007 and performed at his mother's funeral. Tom has played and sang at various places in Ireland, Canada and the USA. In Australia he has sang his songs in Adelaide, Melbourne, Brisbane and Cairns. He has also sung his songs throughout the Hawkesbury, the Hunter Valley and most Irish pubs in Sydney.

Tom's music reflects his Irish birth, his growing up in Australia and his twenty-one years in the military. The backing musicians on the CD is 'Navan Road' and comprises of Rachel Dillon; Wendy Kilroylan; Ian Henry, Richard Galluzzi and Patrick Smith. Tom was born in Dublin and came to Australia as a child.

In 1996 he started an Irish Music Session in the pubs around the Hawkesbury that is still going today.

Enquiries to:
Tom Hamilton on 4578 4982



Festival Reviews

Harrietville Bluegrass and Traditional Country Music Convention, November 2008.

By Richard Galluzzi

This year was my second pilgrimage to the holy event that is the Harrietville convention, where all things Bluegrass and Old Timey from Australia and overseas guests meet for a weekend of banjos, fiddles, guitars and a lot of fantastic music. This was the 20th anniversary of the event, and the first year in its new location. It was set up with a number of marquees for performance, workshops and instrument makers. The sunny and warm days of Harrietville provided a relaxing backdrop for jamming, watching bands, checking out new instruments from the local Luthiers and also meeting new people. As the sun went down so did the temperature, so the tents, pubs and various places of accommodation around the place became the place to be for after hours jamming or catching that band that you missed earlier on in the day. Overseas guests this year were the Pautuxent Partners, RFD Boys, Ross Nickerson (bluegrass) and brothers Tim and Mike Bing with Charlie Walden (old timey). The Bing Brothers were my favourite, being

the old timey guests. Tim, a champion claw hammer banjoist, was over here last year as well but to see him perform with his brother was a treat.

As well as the main performance marquee there was regular *Blackboard* concerts at the local pubs that featured established or spontaneously formed bands that were a lot of fun to watch. The standard of the local bands was high and it goes to show how much talent we have in this country of ours. I'm hoping to be up there some day, maybe next year. The main attraction for me was jamming, and the chance to catch up with old friends and also meet new ones from all over Australia (and the rest!) who share an interest in the same music. Included in this bunch was a claw hammer player from NZ who began making banjos as his post-divorce hobby, a semi retired teacher who played in his first jam (who was grinning for the rest of the weekend), and a whole herd of old timey musicians from Victoria playing a repertoire of tunes that I had never come across. Reminds me of how much music can bring people together.

1, 2, 3, 4; I just love it more & more!
Richard



Country Folk Sundays at Lynwood Country Club – Pitt Town

Country Folk Sundays 4th Sunday of the Month 12am to 4pm -

Here is another Hawkesbury venue for musicians to gather, network and perform. The organiser of this Sunday afternoon event, Lydia Clare changed the meeting from 3rd Sunday to 4th because it was the 3rd morning after our Saturday night meeting.

On Sunday 25th January I visited the new Lynwood Country Club (located on Pitt Town Road - close to McGraths Hill) and I was very

impressed with the beautiful new club. There was a crowd of people spread around the large clubhouse dining and enjoying a variety of entertainers, who included 'The Mustard Seeds', 'Bowen & Clare' and 'Anne Ridgeway'. Try and get there on Feb 22 and hear 'Johnnie Russell' and 'Wild Honey'.

Lydia is looking for 4th Sunday afternoon acts as well as organising acts for Saturday nights at the club. If anybody is interested she can be contacted at doozi-do-z@hotmail.com or 4576 0521.





Club Meetings
3rd 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

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

dwilliams@tpg.com.au

More club information can be found on the Web at:

jam.org.au



More Pictures



Blow your own Trumpet

At the NSW Bush Poetry Performance Championships at Morisset in October 2008 **Terry Regan** achieved 2x First places and 2x Second places to give him an aggregate score high enough to become the NSW Male Champion for the second time - The first time was in 2003.

James Norton was a finalist in the 'Traditional' section of the 2009 Tamworth Bush Poetry Competition for his recital of 'The Fencer's Yarn' by Graham Jenkin. The overall winner was Greg North. James was winner of the 'Amateur' section of the 'Hohner Golden Harmonica Championships' held in the West Digger's Club Showroom.

Well done to both these champion poets.

Our MySpace website – Check out a great assortment of club pics at <http://www.myspace.com/macquarietownsmusicclub>

Read old news and past issues of '**The Beat**' at <http://jam.org.au/moxie/venues/macquarie/index.shtml>



Sponsor



Ph. 4577 3355 - Bridge St Windsor
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.