

PPFF

NEWS LETTER.

August Issue  
1973

Free

CHAIRMAN'S LETTER.

This being our first newsletter in eighteen months, I feel it would be a good idea to outline our objectives.

I will not write an apology, as there is no excuse for the paucity of our publications, but the newly elected committee feels honour-bound to repair this situation. Although the national festival went off with a fair degree of success, the Port Phillip Folk Foundation fell down in the presentation of pre-festival functions, and we intend to remedy this situation also. Functions of varying types will be held regularly throughout the year, including dances, barbecues, workshops and concerts. The first, a barbecue, will be on Sunday 26th August; others are now in the planning stage.

We are also in the process of producing a record of the 1973 festival. All tracks will be the live recordings made either at the concerts or workshops. This should be available in about two months, at folk clubs and a few selected record shops.

In the past, the P.P.F.F. has come under criticism for a lack of communication to the people who elected them, and the public in general. Open meetings of the committee have always been a part of the P.P.F.F. policy, but due to the organisation of the national festival, the number of open meetings last year was somewhat limited. We intend to give everybody a chance to let us know what they feel we ought to be doing. With no guarantee we will agree with them. The more suggestions and encouragement the P.P.F.F. receives, the better job we can do for you.

In order to do the job we were elected for, we need the support of all the people with a love of folk music and lore. We can organise as many functions as you want, but to make a success of them, it's up to you to be there.

Mary Traynor.  
Chairman,  
Port Phillip Folk  
Foundation.

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1973/74 COMMITTEE.

CHAIRMAN:	Mary Traynor.	SOCIAL SECRETARY:	Noel Mitchell.
SECRETARY:	Hugh MacEwan.	OTHERS:	Cliff Gilbert-Purssey.
TREASURER:	Jamie Johnson.		Shirley Andrews.
VICE-CHAIRMAN:	Fran Davies.		John O'Leary.
PUBLICITY OFFICER:	Mick Crichton.		Kate Millard.
NEWSLETTER:	Phillip Day.		Paul Borg.

Any of the above people will be more than happy to give you information about any of the functions, meetings or responsibilities of the committee.

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NATIONAL FESTIVAL 1974 - BRISBANE.

At the National Folk Trust meeting held at the Easter festival, it was decided that Brisbane would hold the next national festival. One of the plans the P.P.F.F. has this year is to book a special plane to Brisbane for this event.

To do this as cheaply and effectively as possible, all fares and bookings

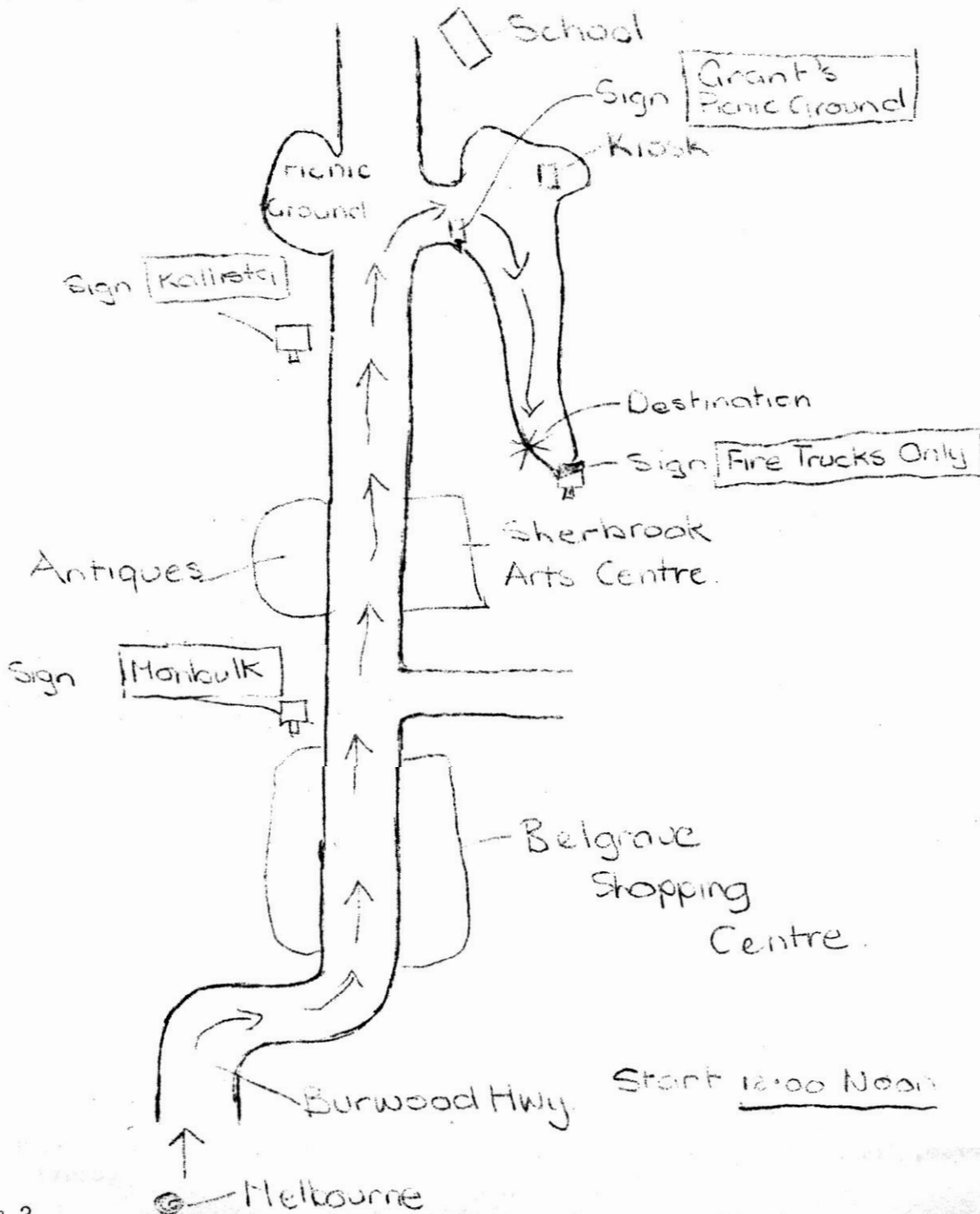
must be finalised long before Easter. Similar plans have been formulated in the past, but fell through because people refused to make definite commitments in time to book a plane.

Those of you interested should inform the Secretary of the P.P.F.F., Hugh MacEwan, as soon as possible **IN WRITING**. We should know the probable final date for seats for the next edition of the newsletter on 19/9/'73.

P.H.K.D.

P.P.F.F. BARBECUE.

The first official function to be run by the P.P.F.F. for 1973/74 is a barbecue-singalong at Sherbrook Forest on Sunday 26th August (see map below). It's bring your own food, grog and music, and is an attempt to combine a very informal social atmosphere with spontaneous music. There will be no effort to "organise" the music - that's totally up to those who come. The 50¢ donation will come back to you in the form of financing future P.P.F.F. projects - in particular a library, of which more is said elsewhere in this edition. Come as early as your hangover permits.



## MU-FOLK : AN INSIDER'S

### VIEWPOINT.

The Melbourne University Folk Music Club operates from a desk and two lockers in the Union House, Melbourne Uni. It is one of the largest University clubs with about 235 members. Not all members are active, but there is a large core of enthusiasts. Most people when they first join have heard little if any traditional music, being more acquainted with Peter, Paul and Mary, Bob Dylan and Cat Stevens.

It is our aim to stimulate an interest in serious folk music, with particular emphasis on participatory activities. To this end we run regular singalongs, dance sessions, and concerts (usually free). Other activities include a ball, weekends at Blackwood, a football match, and fairly regular newsletters, about six during the academic year. Singalongs and dance sessions are our regular "contact" activities; musical standard and attendance are, of course, variable, depending on such things as proximity of exams.

We try to acquaint people with as wide a range of folk music as possible. We are not formally associated with any of the other folk clubs, although an increasing number of our members patronise clubs such as Tavern Folk, O'Connell's, the Woolpack Traditional Music Club, and Frank Traynor's. All Melbourne folk clubs are publicised in our newsletter for the benefit of both the clubs and our members.

Mufolk activities are advertised in most of the other clubs, either by individuals or by distribution of the newsletter. Non university people are welcome to attend most of our activities.

The A.G.M. was held in July, and the executive is as follows.

1973.	President:	Cliff Gilbert-Purssey.	96-2960
	Vice-president:	John Ross.	3474185
	Secretary:	Peter Auty.	347-6696
	Treasurer:	Rose Measom.	
1974 (Taking office in February)			
	President:	John Ross.	
	V-president:	Marion Spence.	
	Secretary:	Ann Warburton.	
	Treasurer:	John Sear.	

If you have any questions or suggestions about the club, contact me, Cliff, or Pete.

John Ross.

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### THE UNIVERSITY HOTEL.

A new club has opened at the University hotel, cnr Lygon and Grattan Sts., Carlton. It is open on Saturday nights from eight to ten p.m. Tariff is 60¢.

The club, run by Geoff Hollings and Hugh MacEwan, caters for those who are interested in hearing folk music and other aspects of folk lore without having to strain their ear-drums over a background of conversational buzz. Silence is strictly enforced during performances, and movement is restricted to breaks between songs. The club has had two nights to its credit, and both have been successful in attracting attentive audiences.

One singer is booked for the night, and floor singers comprise the rest of the program, for which services they have free entry. The back room used for the

club is slightly larger than the one at the Woolpack, and it can accommodate forty comfortably. Despite the provision of heaters, the atmosphere is still rather cold and austere, primarily attributable to the seating arrangements, somewhat schoolroom-like. This is one of a few details which are still in the experimental stage, and it is to be hoped that the arrangement finally settled on will allow a greater ease of movement and the avoidance of spillages, and the noise currently involved in moving to and from seats.

The club is not catering to a ready-made demand, but is rather trying to introduce a new format which contrasts with the social club nature of most other clubs in operation. The new format will probably take time to find widespread favour, and I suspect it will suffer a slump for a while which won't be helped by the somewhat inflated price of sixty cents for two hours. Nevertheless, it is worthwhile for the interested listeners, and if the club can keep to its goals and carry on regardless, I think it will gain a great deal of solid support and interest and will be making a worthwhile contribution to the advancement of folk lore and its appreciation for its own sake. Certainly no other club is attempting to instigate new ideas such as this. Definitely a club which should have a significant future.

Marion Spence.

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EDITORIAL.

As our chairman has mentioned in her letter to the readers, this is the first P.P.F.F. newsletter in eighteen months, so I'd like to give you some idea of our plans for it.

Firstly, content. Our prime objective is to promote folk music, and to this end we will have advance news of all forthcoming folk activities, both local and interstate. Articles, providing, of course, that people will contribute them, will make up as large a proportion as possible of the content. We will have at least one song in each issue. There will be a directory of folk clubs, Australia-wide if possible, and as complete as we can make it. As this is to be a monthly publication, we naturally won't be able to tell you who's performing at them, but we can tell you where and when to find them.

This issue is coming to you free, a sort of introductory offer. It is being distributed at most folk clubs around Melbourne, and will be on sale at these clubs from next month at the nominal fee of five cents.

Folk music and lore being what it is, basically a participatory activity, rather than a spectator sport, this newsletter, and all the other activities the P.P.F.F. has planned for this year, can only be as good as you make them. Any and all contributions will be gratefully accepted, be it in the form of an article, song, drawing, or offer of typing fingers (mine are developing callouses).

So it's up to you, the people who elected this committee either by voting or by tacit acceptance. Get to it.

P.K.D.



COMING ATTRACTIONS.

August 26th, 1973. P.P.F.F. Barbecue, Sherbrook Forest.  
October long weekend. Wagga Wagga Folk Festival.  
November - last weekend. P.P.F.F. weekend away (details to be finalised.)  
December/ New Year. Mariel Creek festival.  
January 1974 long weekend. Adelaide Folk Festival.  
Easter 1974. National Folk Festival, Brisbane.  
Further dates and details will be published as they come to hand.

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P.P.F.F. PUZZLE NO 1.

There are the names of at least fifteen singers known around the Australian folk scene in this square. To find them, use only adjoining letters. The same letter can be used more than once in an answer, but only if there is at least one other letter used in between. E.g., the state of Alabama can be found on line six and seven, using the same 'A' four times. The answers will be in the next issue.

S O R N P H N D  
E P O E K A I G  
D O L U R I U S  
N W E T L D C Y  
G E I S C O R U  
R L A M H I R Y  
A S B R E N D A  
H A M Y T E N G

Anyone wishing to contribute similar types of puzzles will be greatly appreciated.

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7th National Folk Festival-  
Melbourne, 1973.

Although the '73 festival is now four months past, it is far from dead, and, due to the efforts of the out-going P.P.F.F. committee, it will never die. For the first time for some years, a record of a National Festival is being made, and will be complete, hopefully, by the end of the year.

The unusual factor in the making of this particular record is that it is not being produced by 'outsiders', but by the P.P.F.F. itself, a distinct departure from the norm. All the official musical activities at the festival were taped, the workshops, concerts etc, and these tapes are currently being edited. As soon as the sub-committee concerned is satisfied with what remains after editing, a selection of as broad a coverage as possible will be made, and the record can go into production.

The estimated cost, at this stage, is around the \$4.00 to \$4.50 mark, by no means a high price. A lot will depend on the number of copies pressed, and this will, to some extent, depend on the amount of interest shown by the potential buyers. Orders may be placed at most Melbourne folk clubs or with the P.P.F.F.

## FOLK CLUB DIRECTORY.

### VICTORIA.

- The Prickly Bush, Den O'Connell Hotel, Princes and Canning Streets, Carlton.  
Thurs. 8-00 p.m. to 12-00 p.m., Sat. 3-00 p.m. to 6-00 p.m.
- Tavern Folk. Union Hotel, Fenwick and Amess Streets, North Carlton.  
Fri. 8-00 p.m. to 12-00 p.m.
- Frank Traynors, 100 Little Lonsdale Street, City.  
Sun. to Thurs. 8-15 p.m. to 11-30 p.m. Fri. 8-00 p.m. to 12-30 a.m.  
Sat. 8-00 p.m. to 1-30 p.m.
- The Woolpack Folk Music Club, Princes and Drummond Streets, Carlton.  
Wed. 8-00 p.m. to 10-00 p.m.
- The University Hotel, Lygon and Gratten Streets, Carlton.  
Sat. 8-00 p.m. to 10-00 p.m.
- The Dorset Gardens Hotel, 335 Dorset Road, Croyden.  
Tues. 8-00 p.m. to 12-00 p.m.
- The Outpost Inn, 52 Collins Street, City.  
Fri. to Sun. 8-00 p.m. to 12-00 p.m.
- The Commune, 580 Victoria Street, North Melbourne.  
Sat. 9-00 p.m. to 3-00 a.m.
- The Polaris Hotel, 551 Nicholson Street, North Carlton.  
Wed. and Fri. 8-00 p.m. to 11-30 p.m.

In addition to these there are the Victorian Bush Music Club and the three University clubs, which hold their functions at relatively irregular times. In the next issue we will have details of who to contact if you are interested in these clubs.

- The Keeper Folk Club, Lord Of The Isles Hotel, Eyns Street, Newtown, Geol.  
Fri. 8-00 p.m. to 11-45 p.m.

### South Australia.

- Lord Raglan Hotel, Waymouth Street, Adelaide.  
Fri. and Sat. 8-30 p.m. to 10-00 p.m.

### Western Australia.

- The Governor Broome Hotel, William and Rose Streets, Perth.  
Fri. 8-00 p.m. to 10-00 p.m.
- The Stables, Malcolm Street, Perth.  
Tues. and Sat. nights.

### NEW SOUTH WALES.

- P.A.C.T., Y.W.C.A. Building, Liverpool Street, Sydney.  
Elizabeth Hotel, Elizabeth Street, Sydney. Thurs. and Fri.  
The Shack, Narrabeen.

### Queensland.

- The Folk Centre, Ann Street, Brisbane.  
The Barley Mow, Cecil Hotel, Brisbane.

There are also clubs at Whyalla, Alice Springs, Albury, Wollongong, Newcastle, Cairns, details of which should be available in the next couple of issues. It is not claimed that this is, at the moment, a complete or up-to-date list, and if anyone knows of clubs we have left out, please contact the editor at P.O. box 114, Carlton, and let me know the name, address, and times of operation. As it stands, this list will be much closer to completion by the next issue.

## FOLK LORE LIBRARY.

Another of the tentative plans the P.P.F.F. has for the future is the setting up of a library of tapes, records, manuscripts and books of folk music and folk lore. There are many problems involved in such a scheme, not least of which is finance, not only to stock the library, but also to provide a suitable place to store it.

It goes without saying that such a library is an important contribution to folk music, and this will be the basis of an application for a grant from, perhaps, one of the Arts Councils. However, it is far from certain that such a grant will be forthcoming. Your support of P.P.F.F. functions can go a long way towards making us independent of outside help.

P.H.K.D.

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