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Newsletter

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JUNE 1974

Port Phillip Folk Foundation

Newsletter

Vol 1 No 8

June 1974

At the Annual General Meeting of the Port Phillip Folk Foundation, held on the 21st May, the following people were elected onto the Committee: Shirley Andrews, Paul Borg, Robbie Dalton, Fran Davis, Cliff Gilbert-Purssey, Adrienne Gurteen, Jamie Johnston, Richard Leitch, Ken McMasters, Mike O'Rourke, Suzette Watkins and Ross Williamson. At this meeting it was decided to rewrite the Foundation's constitution with the view to becoming a registered society with an official financial membership. As part of this, it was decided, at a general meeting on the 18th June, to change the name of the Foundation to the FOLK SONG AND DANCE SOCIETY OF VICTORIA. (Therefore, subsequent issues of this newsletter will have a new title.) Keep eyes and ears open for the date of the next open meeting for discussion of the new constitution, which will then be up for approval.

A.M.G.

MONTHLY DANCE

The opening dance at the Carlton Community Centre was a most encouraging success, as anyone who was there will tell you. The next one will be on SUNDAY, 30th JUNE at 2.30 pm, with THE RAMBLERS playing again and Shirley Andrews calling the steps. Admission remains at 60 cents (or 30 cents for children). The Community Centre is at 150 PRINCES STREET, (near Drummond Street, and opposite the Woolpack Hotel). Bring your friends along!

C.G-P.

RECORDS
of the
7th NATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL
(Melbourne, Easter 1974)
are still on sale
From the PPF (FSDSV)
and several of the folk clubs.
\$4.50 + 50¢ postage.

Considering the interest of an increasing number of people in dancing, it has been decided to include instructions for a dance, together with the appropriate music, in each issue.

THE TEMPEST (English version)

This dance must at one time have been popular all over England, although its character is of the more recent Quadrille period. There are a number of versions; this one was collected in Wiltshire.

Form: Progressive Double Quadrille. Four couples in a set. Two couples facing two couples in sets down the length of the room. On reaching either end, the fours 'remain neutral' for one turn of the dance. They then turn round and partners exchange places; those who have been 'Outsides' become 'Insides' and vice versa.

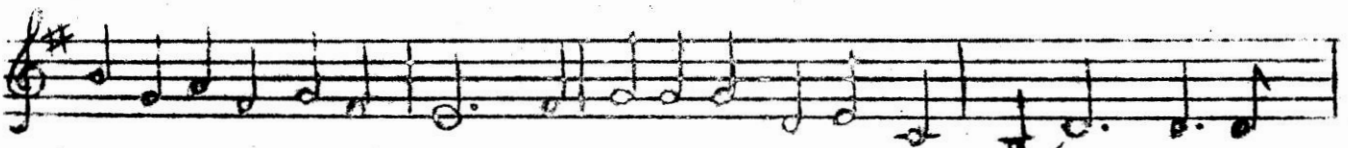
Music: Although a version of the 'La Tempete' tune was collected at Seend, the particular version given here is one played by shepherds near Powburn, Northumberland.

- A.1. CIRCLE EIGHT. Join hands and circle left; then circle back to places. ('Polka' or double-step).
- A.2. Couples take ballroom hold and galop across (men passing back to back). Galop back to places (ladies passing back to back). Repeat galop.
- B.1. INSIDES STAR : OUTSIDES SWING. Centre four form a right hand star while Outsides (opposites) balance to each other four times. Insides left hand star while while Outsides swing.
- B.2. FORWARD, BACK, CLAP and PASS ON. Join hands in lines of four, dance forward and back. Clap hands in position and pass through to meet the opposite line in the next set. Those with their backs to the music make arches.

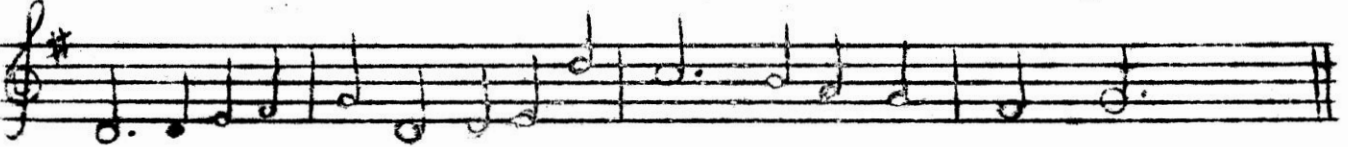
O, GOOD ALE



It is of good ale to you I'll sing And to good ale I'll always cling I



like my mug filled to the brim & I'll drink all you'd like to bring O good



ale thou art my darling thou art my joy both night & morning

It is of good ale to you I'll sing
And to good ale I'll always cling,
I like my mug filled to the brim,
And I'll drink all you'd like to bring.
O, good ale, thou art my darling,
Thou art my joy both night and morning.

It is you that helps me with my work
And from a task I'll never shirk
While I can get a good home-brew,
And better than one pint I like two.

I love you in the early morn
I love you in daylight dark or dawn,
And when I'm weary, worn or spent
I turn the tap and ease the vent.

It's you that makes my friends my foes,
It's you that makes me wear old clothes,
But since you come so near my nose
It's up you comes and down you goes.

If all my friends from Adam's race
Were to meet me here all in this place,
I could part from all without one tear
Before I'd part from my good beer.

And if my wife did me despise
How soon I'd give her two black eyes,
But if she loved me like I love thee
What a happy couple we should be.

You have caused me debts and I've often swore
That I never would drink strong ale no more,
But you for all that I forgive
And I'll drink strong ale just as long as I live,
O, good ale, thou art my darling,
Thou art my joy both night and morning.

FOR SALE:

5-STRING BANJO "KAY" OPEN BACK, SHORT NECK

Good condition \$55

Phone 311 8367
(after 6 pm)

Further extracts from THE DIARY OF S. R. CLARK:

PRICES (The view of an outsider from the great U.S.A.)

Bendigo Feby 15th 1855

There is now and has been much dissatisfaction felt on the part of the diggers towards the goverment. The people have been in every way apressed, they have not been allowed the franchise privaledge or any voice whatever in chosing those who rule over them. the roads have been in so wretched condition that carriage has been enormously high consequently provisions of every description have been at famin prices - The lands have been locked so that the miner who has been so fortunate as to save a fiew pounds to buy him enough for a homestead has been debared from his good purposes - & finaly his fiew pounds has found their way into the coffers of the Public House & dram Shop the consequence of this bad management on the part of the Gov^{nt} has been this to encourage low dissipation & drunkennefs - to enhance the price of every Edible in the shape of Fruit or Vegetables of any kind. My former mates who cultivate a garden last year were the only ones who could bring into the market on these gold fields a single vegetable grown by themselves & for these vegetables they got an almost fabulous price - 7 or 8/- were asked of a cabbage head 25cts for a head of lettuce & 37cts for one pound of Potatoes...

Bendigo April 14th 55

...Gold has depreciated in value to £3.15 pr oz in consequence of an export duty of 2/6 pr oz being talked of in the Legislative Council

Businefs in our store has been very dull the past fiew weeks the prices of provisions are considerably higher in consequence of the rate of Carriage from Melbourne which has rose from £15 to £26 per ton...

(The writer's weekly wage at the time was £4! This works out using \$100 as the current wage as Cabbages \$10 and Cartage to Bendigo \$650 per ton.)

ON THE EUREKA STOCKADE

(The diary was in storage at the time of the uprising (Dec 1854) so these comments are made looking back on events 3 months previous. Keep in mind that S.R.C. was American and unused to Colonial and Monarchial rule.)

Saturday Night Feby 17th 1855

The oppressive system that the goverment has carried on
/over

in every way toward the working classes finally aroused the latter to open rebellion upon the Balerat gold fields with whom the diggers on every gold field deeply sympathised the had long kept quiet & passive under the ill management of an imbecile governor for ten years when he was recalled & the vacancy filled by Sir Charles Hotham K.C.B. whom they received with every demonstration of loyalty & were promised in return that the greviances of which they complained should be spidily redressed But on more aquaintance with their ruler they found that he had not kept his promises & that in fact he was a greater tyrant than their former one they said that he would do to Stand upon the quarter deck but not upon the Floor of the national platform the licence system under Sir Chas rule was enforced with still more rigor untill the miners of Balerat Collected took up arms but were finally put down by superior fource leaving upon the field some 30 or 40 of their no. whose mortal lives were ended in the cause & struggle for liberty, the ring leaders were taken confined & are now undergoing their trial for high treason... an effort is being made to raise funds for the purpose of defending the said State Prisoners...

(Seth Rudolphus Clark (1828 - 1900) left his home in New York State at the age of 24 to try his luck on the Californian gold fields. A year later he sailed for Australia, and eventually made his way to Bendigo, where he worked the 'Diggins' for about a year before engaging himself as a clerk to a general merchant.

These extracts from his diary are annotated by, and published courtesy of his great-granddaughter, Lynne Stone.)



O'NEILL'S MUSIC OF IRELAND

- Eighteen Hundred and Fifty Melodies -

Ever since its original publication in 1903, O'Neill's Music of Ireland has been the standard reference work and source book for traditional Irish musicians, professional and amateur alike.

A friend, on a recent trip to Britain, claimed to have searched all over London and Edinburgh for a copy of the present edition, only to return home empty-handed. The difficulty was that O'Neill's is not published in Ireland or Britain, but in the U.S.A. It is the result of collecting done in the 1890's by one Francis O'Neill, who had run away from his native Cork at the age of seventeen eventually to become, of all things, superintendent of the Chicago police force. Chicago, like several other large American cities, had a tremendous population of Irish immigrants from all over the island, and the Chicago Music Club was the prime meeting place for the traditional musicians among them, Capt. O'Neill included. Tunes transcribed from these musicians, and from older printed sources, form the basis of the collection.

The present edition (like the original) contains no less than 1,850 tunes (count 'em) including 625 airs, 415 double jigs, 380 reels, 225 hornpipes, 60 slip jigs, 50 marches, 20 long dances, and 75 of O'Carolan's tunes. (Born in 1670, O'Carolan is one of the few bards whose work has come to us relatively intact.) The tunes, even though collected in the U.S.A., are genuine Irish melodies, and the work is well known in Ireland, where it is often a possession of those traditional musicians who are able to read music.

For the serious enthusiast of Irish traditional music - or of the folk music of those countries, like Australia and America, that have a strong Irish tradition in their music - the book is an invaluable reference. O'Neill's is at present available from READINGS BOOK STORE in Lygon Street, Carlton (the sole Australian stockists) at a price of \$8.50. For the 1,850 tunes, that works out to better than $\frac{1}{2}$ a cent each. It's well worth it.

- S. Gottschalk.

IRISH AND JIGS

388 Lygon Street Carlton 3053

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FOLK CLUB DIRECTORY

VICTORIA:

The Pricklye Bush, Dan O'Connell's Hotel, Corner Princes and Canning Streets, Carlton. Thursdays, 8-12 pm. Sat. 3-6 pm.

Tavern Folk! Union Hotel, Corner Fenwick and Amess Streets, North Carlton, Fridays, 8-12 pm.

Frank Traynor's, 100 Little Lonsdale Street, City. Sunday to Thursday (except Monday) 8.15 - 11.30 pm, Friday, 8pm-12.30am Saturday 8 pm - 1.30 am.

Outpost Inn, 52 Collins Street, City. Friday - Sunday, 8-12 pm

The Commune, 580 Victoria Street, North Melbourne. Tuesday (Blues) 9-11.30 pm. Saturday 9 pm - 3 am.

Polaris Inn Hotel, 551 Nicholson Street, North Carlton, Wednesday and Friday, 8-11 pm.

Tankerville Arms, Corner Nicholson and Johnston Streets, Fitzroy. Thursday, 8 - 11.30 pm.

Woolpack Hotel, Corner Princes and Drummond Streets, Carlton. Wednesdays 7.30 - 10 pm.

Victorian Folk Music Club. Singabouts on the first Saturday of each month at Armadale scout hall, Cnr. Orrong and Malvern Roads, near Toorak railway station, 8pm-. Workshop nights most Mondays at Alphington Anglers Hall, Cnr. Clarke and Rathmines Streets, Fairfield, 8pm -. Dance nights on 2nd Tuesday each month at Royal Park Hall, Anzac Ave, Royal Park

Ferntree Gully: Royal Hotel, Thursday 8-11pm. Cobblers & guests

Geelong: The Keeper Folk Club, Lord of the Isles Hotel, Fyans Street, Newtown, Geelong. Fridays, 8 - 12 pm.

In addition to these, there are three University clubs, which hold functions at irregular intervals.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA:

Catacombs Coffee Lounge, Hackney Road, Hackney. Every night 8pm

Saints Coffee Lounge, Gordon Street, Glenelg. Saturday nights.

Somerset Hotel, Pultney Street, Adelaide. Saturday 8-10 pm.

Whyalla Folk Den, Toc H Hall, Wood Terrace, Whyalla. Sunday 8-

WESTERN AUSTRALIA:

Governor Broome Hotel, Cnr. William and Roe Streets, Perth. Thursdays, 8 - 10 pm.

Greyfriars Folk Club, Henry St., Shenton Park. Sundays 8 pm.

Mucky Duck Bush Band Club, Victoria Hotel, James Street, Perth. Fridays, 8 pm.

Obelia's, Shafto Lane, Perth. Thursdays.

Smithy's Wine Bar, Cnr. Fitzgerald & Aberdeen Sts., Perth. Thur

Stables Folk Club, Malcolm Street, Perth. Tuesdays 8 pm.

NEW SOUTH WALES:

Darts Kelimocum, Elizabeth Hotel, Elizabeth Street, Sydney. Wednesday, 8-10 pm, Friday and Saturday, 8 - 11 pm.

Edinburgh Castle Hotel, Cnr. Pitt and Bathurst Streets, Sydney. Saturdays, 8 pm.

Kirk Gallery, 422 Cleveland Street, Surry Hills. Sunday 7.30-12

PACT, Cellar, Y.W.C.A. Building, Liverpool Street, Sydney. Fridays & Saturdays, 8 pm.

Red Lion Folk Centre, Red Lion Inn, Cnr. Pitt and Liverpool Streets, Sydney. Friday & Saturday, 8 - 10 pm.

The Shack, Narrabeen. Every second Saturday.

Wagga Wagga School of Arts Folk Club:
Tourist Hotel, Fitzmaurice St., Wagga Wagga. Fridays 8 pm.
Civic Theatre Rehearsal Room, Cnr. Morrow and Tarcutta Sts, Wagga Wagga. Sundays 8 pm.

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FOLK CLUB DIRECTORY (Continued):A. C. T.:

Monaro Folk Music Club, Union Building, Australian National University. Thursdays, 8 - 12 pm. (Public Service pay weeks - dancing; off-pay weeks - singing).

QUEENSLAND:

The Folk Centre, Ann Street, Brisbane. Friday, Saturday, Sunday
 The Barley Mow, Hotel Cecil, George Street, Brisbane. Thursday.
 Mackay Folk Club; c/- Tony Bullen, 10 Streeter Ave, Mackay, 4740
 Mt. Isa Folk Club, c/- C. Buck, 5 Epsilon Ave, Mt. Isa, 4825.
 University Folk Club, c/- Dr. Taylor, Geology Department,
 James Cook University, Townsville, 4810.

TASMANIA:

63 Salamanca Place, Hobart (Chris Cruise). Friday & Sunday, 8pm

Please send details of any additions to The Editor,
 10/55 York Street,
NORTH FITZROY, 3068.

FESTIVALS

During June there have been three festivals - the 4th Annual festival run by the W.A. Folk Federation, the 5th Annual Hunter Valley Folk Festival, presented by the Newcastle Folk Club & Associated Slaves, and the 2nd False Bay Festival in Whyalla. (If anyone reading this attended one of these, and feels inclined to let us know how they went, we would be grateful.) Unfortunately, details of these did not arrive in time to be included in the last issue. Over the next six months or so, a few more will be held which we are able to give notice of.

A mini-festival weekend will be held at CASTERTON, Vic., for both Victorian and South Australian folkies, on Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th July. It will include a workshop, dance, concert, and a sports contest. The last we heard, Carisbrook Hall will be the place to stay. Take sleeping bags and lots of warm woollies.

The WAGGA WAGGA FOLK FESTIVAL will be held at Wagga again this year on the N.S.W. Labour Day weekend (October 5, 6 & 7). More details later.

BROADFORD FESTIVAL: The Foundation is assisting the residents of Broadford in the running of their centenary festival at Christmas time. We'll be taking a hand in the concert on the Sunday afternoon, followed by an open-air dance, Nariel Creek style. In fact, it is very conveniently programmed as far as Nariel Creek is concerned, since it will be on the week-end 28th - 29th December and of course, it's forty-odd miles on the way to Nariel. A (free) camping area will be available and everyone is welcome. Other entertainment will include a ball, sideshows, stalls, pop-dance, etc. More detailed information will be furnished in later newsletters. (C.G-P)

The PPF (or rather FSDSV) is also contemplating running a festival over the Australia Day weekend, 1975. As we would like to organize something perhaps a little different to the general run of festivals, we would appreciate any suggestions. Please communicate any ideas to members of the Committee (see page 1) or to P. O. Box 114, Carlton.

