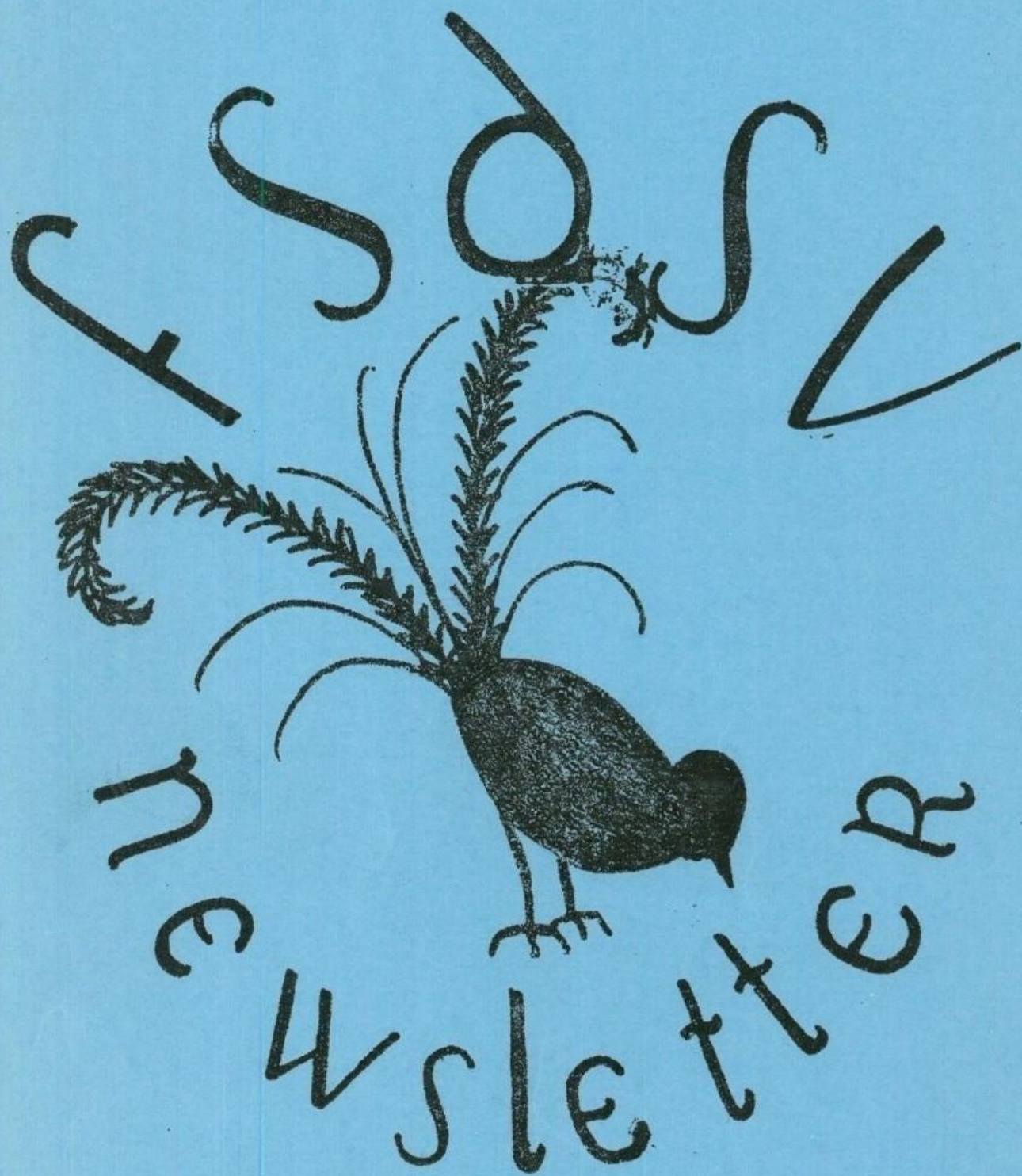


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This newsletter is produced by the  
FOLK SONG AND DANCE SOCIETY OF VICTORIA  
P. O. Box 114, Carlton. 3053.  
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Opinions expressed in reports, etc.  
are not necessarily those of the  
Society. Views of the Committee  
are communicated in the editorials.

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# Folk Song and Dance Society of VICTORIA

(fmlly Port Phillip Folk Foundation)

## Newsletter

VOL 2 No 1

JULY 1974

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As you can see, we now have a new title to go with the new name of the Society. By the time you read this, you will probably know all about any other changes which go with it, as by then the new Constitution should have come before a General meeting. Any opinions would be welcome!

Speaking about changes, the next issue of the Newsletter will be a rather special one, and will appear early in September to cover the August/September period.

People keep asking when material is due, but the date of issue always seems to be a day or three later each month. The definite deadline for the next issue is Thursday 22nd August, as it must be out on time. Co-operation in this (+ articles, poems, stories, etc.) would be greatly appreciated.

Ed.

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FOR THE DAN O'CONNELL:

"'Twas just a bit of fun,  
'Twas just a little joke, a trifle overdun!"

Rob & Chris



A

F A R E W E L L   C O N C E R T

for

D A N N Y   S P O O N E R   &   G O R D O N   M C I N T Y R E

will be held

on

S A T U R D A Y   14TH   S E P T E M B E R

at the

F I T Z R O Y   T O W N   H A L L

featuring

T H E   R A M B L E R S

D E S I D E R A T A

C A N T E R B U R Y   F A I R

D A N N Y   S P O O N E R

G O R D O N   M C I N T Y R E

S H A Y N A   S T E W A R T

oooooooooooooooooooo

Tickets will be available from

DAN O'CONNELL'S HOTEL

and the

F. S. D. S. V.

P. O. BOX 114

CARLTON

3053



## SPENCER THE ROVER



These words were com - pos - ed by Spence the Rov - er who



travelled Great Britain and most parts of Wales He had



been so re - duc - ed which caused great confusion And



that was the reason he went on the roam.

These words were composed by Spencer the Rover,  
Who has travelled Great Britain and most parts of Wales,  
He had been so reduced which caused great confusion  
And that was the reason he went on the roam.

In Yorkshire near Rotherham he had been on his rambles,  
Being weary of travelling he sat down to rest.  
At the foot of yonder mountain there runs a clear fountain,  
With bread and cold water he himself did refresh.

It tasted more sweeter than the gold he had wasted,  
More sweeter than honey and gave more content,  
But the thoughts of his babies lamenting their father  
Brought tears in his eyes which made him lament.

The night fast approaching to the woods he resorted,  
With woodbine and ivy his bed for to make.  
There he dreamt about sighing lamenting and crying,  
Go home to your family and rambling forsake.

On the fifth of November I've a reason to remember  
When first he arrived home to his family and wife,  
They stood so surprised when first he arrived  
To behold such a stranger once more in their sight.

His children came around him with their prittle-prattling  
Stories,  
With their prittle-prattling stories to drive care away.  
Now they are united like birds of one feather,  
Like bees in one hive contented they'll be.

.../ over



At  
 SAN REMO  
 on  
 SATURDAY 3RD AUGUST  
 a  
 COLONIAL DANCE

will be held

at  
 8 pm

in the

SAN REMO HALL

featuring

COBBLERS

RICHARD LOCHINVAR LEITCH

THE COLONIAL DANCE TEAM

and others

Admission: \$ 2.50

DON'T FORGET  
 the  
 MONTHLY DANCE  
 run by the

F. S. D. S. V.

in conjunction with  
 and at the

CARLTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

on the  
 LAST SUNDAY EACH MONTH

at 3 pm

Adults 60c : Children 30c

WITH:  
 THE RAMBLERS!

NEXT ONE: SUNDAY 25 TH AUGUST. BE THERE!



INNOCENTS ABROAD:

Bushwhackers,  
London.

Dear People,

Greetings from London from us all. Having finally got over the fact that we're more or less starting all over again we've settled down to some hard practicing and starting to do some work.

CLUBS

Clubs over here were a bit of a shock - so small and so many. There are 80 odd clubs in London and apart from a few which are strictly traditional and a few that are strictly contemporary, the rest are very cosmopolitan and you're likely to see anything from a totally unaccompanied traditional bracket to electric to a drama group performing a play in the one night - most remind one of O'Connell's but about  $\frac{1}{2}$  the size, mainly 'cause the pubs are so small. This size thing also makes for a very basic problem, i.e. money. There's been a big row over here recently about admission prices to clubs - there are those who say that the top artists can't afford to play in the clubs because the money isn't there, and there are the others who say that wages are so low that they daren't charge more 'cause people couldn't afford to come. Argument is as yet unresolved with artists claiming that they can't afford to play in clubs and clubs saying that without them the artists couldn't have got on and so they owe a debt. Result is that those who've risen to the top (apart from solo performers who can still afford to play in most clubs) are mainly outside the club scene doing concert tours, etc. We went to see the Boys of the Lough at a club in London - cost the club £70 - no way they would make that on the door (40p - 65p, and capacity of 100 - some less); so they just do it for prestige, in the hope that other nights will be better attended.

There is also another problem - quality! Because the clubs only take so much at the door they can only afford to pay a booked guest. Therefore the rest of the evening can't be booked as at O'Connell's but relies on floor singers who either arrange a spot or arrive early and tee it up. Is good for those trying to get a start but also makes for the odd atrocious performance - fortunately in such cases you're restricted to three numbers - O.K. for solos but a bit hard for groups. We've done a few and got bookings from them but as nearly all are booked 3 months ahead we thought the prospects  
.. / over



of club work were fairly remote - but then - <sup>!!</sup>poof - up popped Martin Wyndham-Read like the good fairy. On his recommendation we've been given some bookings without having to go through the audition stage. He sends his love to all and he's been a great contact. Like everyone here he has been extremely helpful and very patient - the logistics involved in moving 9 people from place to place in a strange place sometimes prove a major operation. We now boast an ex-ambulance which is ideal for people and gear, which is now bigger than ever so we'll return stronger if nothing else.

We're enjoying playing and, with Aidan's inimitable help, we've quite a lot on our plate. Have just got a week at Edinburgh Festival with John & Sue Kirkpatrick - Planxty and J.S.D. will be there too - and prospect of a week in Germany. Aidan left for Ireland today to try and arrange some work - we'll go anyway - how could we not? - but would be nice if the trip could pay for itself. Unfortunately will miss the Frand Fla as is on at same time as Edinburgh, but the provincial ones seem to be a little more relaxed and probably quite enough to handle first time.

The English Folk Dance and Song Society (hereafter the E.F.D.S.S.) are going through a pretty bad patch at the moment financially and had a very interesting chat about it all to one of the folk journalists from Melody Maker. His story is this -

Up until 2 or 3 years ago the E.F.D.S.S. was going great guns - they had a unique set up with Cecil Sharp House being the world's best example of organised folk tradition - the facilities are really good now - record and book libraries, listening rooms, shop and extremely efficient information centre. Seems that the increasing bureaucracy was proving a problem, particularly as most of the office bearers are in their 50s and onwards. But wasn't too much of a problem and the major events were still those either organised directly by the EFDSS or by a body with their help. With the resurgence of traditional folk in this country from about '70 onwards, you would have imagined that EFDSS would have become more important - but just the opposite is the case, as witnessed by their worsening financial position. With the resurgence came changes - notably that of electrification and the increasing importance of good quality amplification. While accepting the resurgence EFDSS seemed to be unaware of the change; of the .. / over



importance that Fairport, Steeleye, etc would eventually have. So now we find a lot of people who see EFDSS as a lot of old dodderers unable or unwilling to accept change, and festivals springing up not quite in opposition but definitely not relying on EFDSS for assistance. This has got to the stage where Cambridge and Norwich are now the biggest in the country both in terms of attendance and variety. The dichotomy seems also to exist on geographic and demographic planes - clubs in the large cities seem to be more independent in their thinking - most have PA's despite their small size and also engage electric groups - clubs in the country are mostly still very strongly tied to EFDSS and seem more conservative in approach. We went to the Berkshire festival last week and the difference between it and Norwich were quite marked.

Berkshire is strongly EFDSS affiliated and the atmosphere was very relaxed. Organised in a number of marquees set in a meadow, was quite beautiful and the accent was on participation rather than observance. There were of course several concerts but a great deal of informal/organised singing arounds and workshops also slanted the same way - great emphasis on dancing. Whole place also seemed infested with Morris men. The groups also used amplifiers, etc. but the playing was strictly traditional - no embryo Fairports there. Norwich very different with greater accent on organised performances from a long list of invited guests who cover the whole spectrum of folk music and a bit besides. The gap doesn't seem to be very wide but both sides seem at present unprepared to compromise in their attitudes, though also officially unwilling to criticise one another too severely in public. Result is that at the moment a lot of people who used to pay their dues to EFDSS aren't and they're feeling the pinch a bit.

We've got ourselves an agent which proved very hard at first; as was explained over here most clubs book through agencies and nearly all work on the "star" system - no one rings up and asks the agency to suggest a performer, they all know who they want. After much persuasion we finally convinced one to take us on and he's now getting enquiries about us.

Guess we must have reached the heights of respectability - the Times today ran an article on the band and the lagerphone - sure they think it's a rather jolly novelty but then again it's publicity. Have just had a phone call - seems there's a possibility of us playing on next Hyde Park free concert -

.../ over



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went to first one for three years on Saturday - 70,000 people!  
Would be great.

Will write some more soon when we've been around a bit more. Love to everyone from us all -

Dobe.

---

AND ANOTHER ONE...

Have heard Graham Smith is well into things in England too. What with playing and dancing with the Angel Morris Men, doing the rounds of the clubs (it didn't take long to adapt to English beer), especially those fascinating ones in pubs open on Sunday mornings, digging into BBC tapes in Cecil Sharp house, and selling I.S. newspapers in the markets, he seems to be having a busy time. On top of all this, he has taken a job teaching at the Dame Alice Owen School in Islington, starting in September.

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CANBERRA NEWS:

The Monaro Folk Music Society recently held another of their popular dances, this time at Albert Hall, their venue for the winter months. Not quite as many people this time, but still, nevertheless, well attended. The reduction in attendance I think was due to two factors; the fact that being on a Friday night and at Albert Hall they were unable to have the usual barbeque and children's dancing, and also being on a Friday it was difficult for the usual interstate visitors to get there. This did not deter from the success of the evening. Music was provided by two groups - "Joe Wilson's Mates" (remnants of Colonial Experience plus a few others) and "The Reel Tradition" (formerly String Fiddle Tradition, give or take a few).

The next two dances will be 26th July and 23rd August, both Friday nights at Albert Hall, and then perhaps a break in September before resuming in October at Yarralumla Woolshed. More about that later.

Besides the regular folk club every Thursday night at ANU, the MFMS is now assisting Jimmy Batherson in Irish Dancing Classes on Tuesday nights for free. Sounds good!

R.L.L.

---

A FOOTBALL MATCH will be played on the 11th AUGUST, between the F.S.D.S.V. and the Combined University Folk Clubs.  
See clubs for further details



13th. AUSTRALIAN  
SCIENCE FICTION & FANTASY CONVENTION

August 16th - 18th

**OZCON '74**  
at

THE VICTORIA HOTEL

215 Little Collins St., Melbourne.

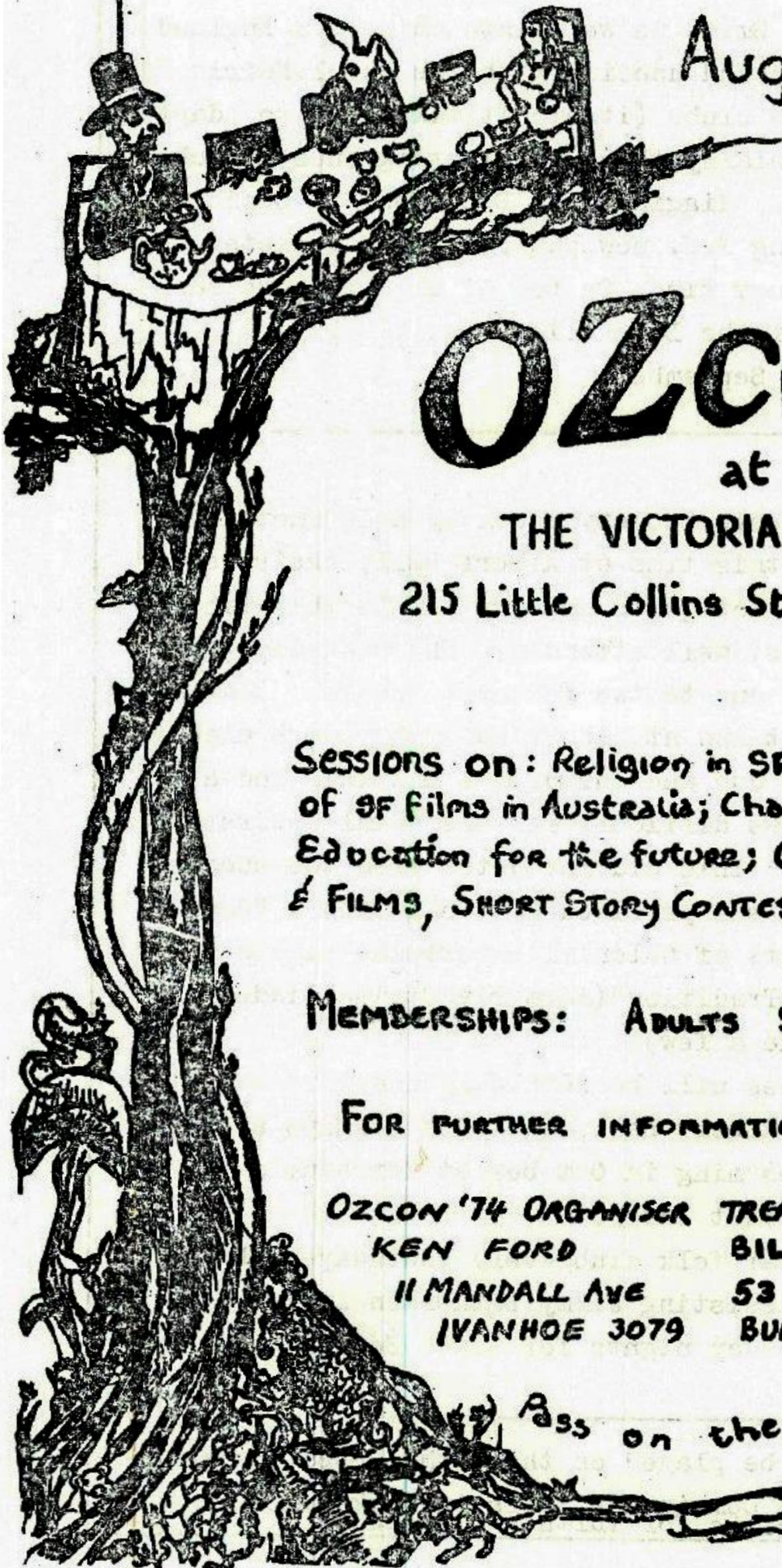
SESSIONS ON: Religion in SF & Fantasy; Production of SF films in Australia; Changing face of SF; Education for the future; Childrens fantasy. & FILMS, SHORT STORY CONTEST, AUCTION, AWARDS.

MEMBERSHIPS: ADULTS \$8 : STUDENTS \$5

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT :-

OZCON '74 ORGANISER	TREASURER & M'SHIP SEC.
KEN FORD	BILL WRIGHT
11 MANDALL AVE	53 CELIA ST
IVANHOE 3079	BURWOOD 3125

Pass on the word!





2

become the guide for many years of Eyres Rock. In his young days he lived on the banks of the Darling and could swim across it in moderate flood - his sister was better than him. And she was nine at the time! The search for Lasseter's expedition, the first of which was led by Aussie, the 2nd by his brother. I have only come to know him this last year by working in his ward as a medical orderly. Although we had many long talks, his memory was patchy and it was usually the same story - this due mainly to a disease.

Maybe I have waffled on a bit but I would like to share with you the sorrow I feel at the passing of such a wonderful kind-hearted and excellent bushman, Aussie Andrews. One of the last of his kind before mechanization destroyed a tradition.

And thank you for your magazine, especially the directory.

Yours in and for tradition,

Robert Cox.

Port Pirie.

PS: Do you know of anybody who may have a pair of Irish bagpipes tucked away in their cupboards, also if any Gibson mandolas exist in Australia?

(Can anybody help with this? - Ed.)

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WAGGA: Don't forget the 6th Annual Wagga Folk Festival, which runs from Friday night 4th October to Monday 7th (N. S.W. Labour Day weekend). This will be quite an informal effort as festivals go, with the usuals workshops, come all ye's, etc, and including a concert in the Civic Theatre on the Sunday night and a barbecue at some stage of the piece. Details of programme, etc., as they come to hand. R.L.L.

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YES IT'S ON! TENNANT CREEK FOLK CLUB presents the 4th Annual GOLDRUSH FOLK FESTIVAL, 3RD, 4TH, 5TH AUGUST, 1974.

August 3rd: T.C. Hotel 2 pm, Warrengo Club 8 pm. The MAIN CONCERT on Sunday 4th August at C.W.A. Hall, 8 pm (\$ 1.50)

CONTACT: Smokey (Ph. 242) OR TENNANT CREEK FOLK CLUB,  
P.O. Box 593, TENNANT CREEK.

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NARIEL FILM:

On FRIDAY, 9th AUGUST, there will be a screening of the ABC Big Country on the NARIEL FESTIVAL, at 186 Old Eltham Rd., LOWER PLENTY. So if you missed out on it the last couple of times, now's your chance!



LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Dear Sir, (?)

When on holiday in Melbourne last June thanks to some Melbourne Folkies I had a fantastic time. Never had I realized that the Melbourne scene was so big and friendly. Congratulations to the organizers I say and three rowdy "Aye, mun, aye" to that

Just a few current corrections to your back page to help Eastern and Non-croweating states to cook crows and digest what other native folk food they can catch.

"Ambassador Hotel, King William Street, Adelaide, Friday 8-12 pm" can be added to the tombstone where lies other doomed folkie haunts. Instead add:

Mile End Hotel, West Beach Road, Mile End (near Mile End Railway Yards). Dancing and singing, 8-12.30 pm. Admission free. This is a real family show - I feel better than Dan O'Connell on Saturday afternoons.

Also at Flinders University on Tuesday, Sometimes Fridays at 8pm-10pm. But a little irregular.

With help of the Bog a Duck Bush Band (Dave Moss's crowd) in South Australia we have had very successful and most enjoyable folk festivals in our larger country towns. The 2nd False Bay Folk Festival (June 15, 16, 17) went off extremely well, the most enjoyable part being a woolshed dance in a genuine woolshed, complete with sheep dog darting crazily between the dancers' feet.

Soon we are hoping to have a festival at Pt Pirie with two workshops, a concert-cum-dance-cum-supper as there's only from Saturday - July 20th noontime - to Sunday afternoon to complete. As yet affairs of when and where aren't complete. So if any fellows and gals would like to come over I'd like to say that Pirie hasn't had a folk festival yet, but if still game then when they get there to ring Mrs Sawyer, 6 Harrison Crescent, Pt Pirie, Phone 32 3216.

Pirie is a smelting town like Whyalla, and is also where I work. But despite searching I have found only - a family; one plays the bagpipes, one who is an English traditional dance teacher (should boost Adelaide's dancing a bit), and one who is interested in old sailing ships. I am sorry to say that there was only one old man who has gathered any tradition at all, and that was Aussie Andrews. One time owner of Curtain Springs Station, encompassing the Olgas and Eyres Rock. In earlier days drought forced him to sell the property and .. /over



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.
- 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) 9-11.30pm. 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.
- Tavern Folk, Tankerville Arms Hotel (as above). Friday 8-11.30.
- 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, 8 pm - . Workshop nights most Mondays at Alphington Anglers Hall, Cnr Clarke and Rathmines Streets, Fairfield, 8 pm -. Dance nights on second Tuesday of each month at Royal Park Hall, Anzac Avenue, Royal Park.
- Bendigo: Bendigo Folk Club, c/- Janet and Brendon Fensling, 11 Ophir Street, Golden Square. (Ph. 43 6487)
- 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
- Mile End Hotel, West Beach Road, Mile End. 8-12.30 pm, Fri.
- Saints Coffee Lounge, Gordon Street, Glenelg. Saturday nights.
- Flinders Uni. Folk Club, Union Building, Tuesday, Friday 8-10pm
- 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 Street, Shenton Park. Sundays, 8pm.
- 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. Thurs.
- 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 and Saturdays, 8 pm.
- Red Lion Folk Centre, Red Lion Inn, Cnr Pitt and Liverpool Streets, Sydney. Friday and Saturday, 8 - 10 pm.
- The Shack, Narrabeen. Every second Saturday.
- Wagga Wagga School of Arts Folk Club: Tourist Hotel, Fitzmaurice



FOLK CLUB DIRECTORY (Continued):

Street, Wagga Wagga. Fridays 8 pm. Civic Theatre Rehearsal Room, Cnr Morrow and Tarcutta Sts, Wagga Wagga. Sundays 8pm

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 or alterations to the Editor, 10/55 York Street, NORTH FITZROY, 3068.

P L E A S E C O M E !

to the

M O N T H L Y S I N G A B O U T S

run by the

V I C T O R I A N F O L K M U S I C C L U B

on the

F I R S T S A T U R D A Y I N E A C H M O N T H

at

A R M A D A L E S C O U T H A L L

(-Corner Orrong and Malvern Roads-)  
( - near Toorak Railway Station - )

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The next one will be held on

S A T U R D A Y 3 R D A U G U S T

at

8 p. m.

ADMISSION 60c

P L E A S E C O M E !

ALL WELCOME.



