



NEWSLETTER - OCTOBER, 1981 (Vol.11, No.10)

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P.O. Box 96
CARLTON, 3053

Ed.: Jess Dunnadge
(469 4078)

I'm feeling "Spooky" myself this month, so you may be getting a very short newsletter. There w course the odd "spook" who was definitely going to give me something to put in the newsletter - but somehow it never eventuated.

NUMBER ONE NEWS ITEM. F.S.D.S.V. are in the business of Folk Club running again. Alas, the Committee were not impressed with "Phoenix" as a permanent name. Not being one of the alcoholic "inner circle", I hadn't considered the confusion the name might have caused as there is a pub called the "Phoenix". However we still have a permanent name THE MELBOURNE FOLK CLUB, which is more dignified than some of the suggestions which had to do with the "Chook", in fact, the name grows on you. Simple! Straightforward! Classic! Wherever the "Chook" roosts is the Melbourne Folk Club. O.K.?

The Melbourne Folk Club opens at the Exford Hotel, corner of Lt. Bourke and Russell Streets on Friday, 6th November at 8.00p.m. SHARP. The room is a large comfortable room downstairs (in the basement, would you believe?) which is reached by using the Russell Street entrance. It will be well sign-posted. What we want you "Spooks" to do is turn up in droves every week. We have to finish by 11.00p.m. hence the sharp start. As of now, I can't tell you what the first programme will be, but we are promising a good one - after all, we also have to impress the landlord, as this is a trial period for both parties. One of the benefits of this venue will be that it appears a suitable one for running mini-concerts, and will permit us to use F.T.C. artists in our own right.

Several people have in the past offered assistance, and not been taken up to the extent that they were apparently offering. In part, this was because of the uncertainties inherent in trying to please everyone, but if we are to run a weekly Club, all assistance will be welcomed - even suggestions (provided they are not impolite). John Shorter (481 7979) or myself (469 4078) will be glad to answer any enquiries and/or accept any offers of assistance. We will necessarily be working on a fairly low budget for a while at least, and will be in search of performers for the Club. Any offers? Ideas? Contacts?

Last month, I heard that I should improve this newsletter by breaking it up more, and putting headings on the paragraphs, because in its present format, it means having to wade right through the lot to find out if there is anything interesting in it. That strikes me as an admirable idea. I have to wade through typing the thing, making it up as I go along, cudgelling my brains to fill up the two pages that I have mentally set as the standard. As it is now, I can flip back to something in a previous paragraph and rave on some more. In fact, I chose this format for that very reason. I had the job dumped on me in the first place, and have done it in the way that seems best to me. There is no way I would take on editing a magazine type newsletter - I would be scared witless. This way, I just make believe I am writing a letter to each of the members and ramble on as I would if writing to friends. Already three other people give quite a bit of time to getting it out, and I have at least eight hours work on each issue, including the mailing. This format is the simplest, cheapest and easiest for the four of us (particularly me) and although I know a few members save their copies, I imagine that most of you do not, and I am not about to put in another few hours' work with a set layout and retyping etc. to produce scrap paper. Anyway, you never know what you might learn by wading through it to find something of interest to you.

Just realised that I could have filled up that embarrassing blank on the last page of last month's epistle. There was a really good concert at the Moat Theatre, at La Trobe University on 20th September, as part of the "Open Day" celebrations.

a Traditional Folk Concert, with brackets from "Darkrise", Danny Spooner, and Richard Leitch (first time I have heard "Screech" for ages). Being an open-air concert, I didn't get my usual complaint with the band. It was a lovely day weatherwise as well.

However, the space got filled adequately and imaginatively.

I think we can presume that the Wedderburn Festival is really NOT ON. No-one has heard anything to indicate that it may be. I have heard nothing at all of Walhalla either. F.S.D.S.V. have decided that the Anzac day weekend will not be a "goer" for next year either - not enough manpower as well as being financially somewhat dicey.

The Australian Folk Trust is appealing for posters, programmes, handbills or any other publicity-type reminders of past national festivals, as the Trust wishes to keep a record of all the nationals. If any of you have squirrelled lots of posters or the like you might consider donating one to the A.F.T.

I'm told that the W.A. State Festival at Toodyay was the best yet. Someday I'm going to find a magic carpet and get to all the Festivals. Of course I was to get a report on it, too. And of course I haven't.

Did you know that Australia's top bush band "The Bushwhackers" was featured at the Tanelorn Rock Festival - well, that's how the blurb read. "Redgum" was also featured, and in the entertainment section of the "Age", "Redgum" were described as having "made the transition from an acoustic group to a fully-fledged band". And to add insult to injury, (to us dedicated Trad. Folkies), the transition is spoken of as an improvement. "Redgum" have launched a songbook, "Stubborn Words, Flagrant Vices" - authentic Australian!

Having spoken to John Shorter, I can tell you that our opening night at the Exford looks like having a programme of many performers in short brackets. That last sentence should properly be attached to the second paragraph on the first page, IF the newsletter was formally laid out. Sticking it in here, is one of the advantages of an informal lay-out - hope you have all waded this far.

Brian Mooney is floating around the country somewhere, and will be in Melbourne during the last two weeks of November at Geelong and the Dan (this may not be finalised so please don't quote me - check first). Brian has a lovely voice - even when up to the ears with the amber fluid, and is one of the early Traynor's performers. Did any of you learn that you were "young bohemians who sat round up-turned barrels drinking wine at Frank Traynor's first folk club at the corner of Lt. Collins and Exhibition Streets" When I first became involved with Folk Music at Traynors, the place was the corner of Lt. Lonsdale and Exhibition and we sat round up-turned barrels and drank a foul brew of coffee and a bite of supper in the "Shrewsbury Room" listening to Folk music while Frank and the jazz band took over in the main room. After the motel was built the folk club moved a few yards down Lt. Lonsdale, but we, the audience that is, got no alcohol. We heard some very fine singers and musicians though. Nostalgia! Nostalgia! Looking back now on my first introduction to the place, I was extremely nervous. All these "young bohemians" with their long hair and beards and scruffy jeans, lurking in dim corners round the odd candle in a bottle (wine-bottles maybe?) looked awfully like the den of iniquity that my mother had warned me against. Perhaps it was the wine-bottles that held the candles that gave Granny "Age" the idea of what was drunk there. Of course there were some funny things smoked at various times. Over all, I think the "folk Scene" habitués are somewhat tidier now, although they went through a stage of being even worse before they got tidier. The image still sticks though, in a lot of cases. There were those who never did adopt the "folkie" image and haven't yet, but are still around whenever there's work to be done, along with the few archetypal "folkies" who are also around when there's work to be done. We need more of them - either type.

Cheerio, spooks - see you all on Friday 6th November at the "Exford".

THE WEST AUSTRALIAN FOLK FESTIVAL HELD AT TOODJAY ON 2-5th OCTOBER 1981

As seen through the bleary eyes of Jim Smith and David Alleway

Friday Night

David made it to Toodyay for the Friday evening welcome Ceilidh, by the looks of him and the half finished bottle of scotch next morning when I arrived he had done the Vics proud, music wise it apparently took him four hours to get from the front door to the back door of the pub, which is really only two lurches and a stagger.

Saturday Morning

David sessioned with the Irish, apparently no different to any other Irish Session, the fiddlers were good. I took myself off to one of the three workshops, called 'Pastimes in the Bush' or what to do instead of watching television; Not bad and, of course, all Australian songs and a few recitations. To my surprise they were read out even 'The Geebung Polo Club', but overall the standard was good.

Lunchtime and Morris Dancing, we both retired to the bar!

Saturday Afternoon

David sessioned again, I was off to one of the many 1½ hour concerts that were held that weekend with artists being given 15 minute spots, the standard was much better than the usual Bob Dylans. These concerts were held in a large marquee at the rear of the Freemason's Arms. Our first taste of Ted Egan was at this concert, description: a big man with a cardboard box, big voice and heaps of personality. His songs are of above standard and contemporary in the best of folk tradition. Will return to Ted later.

Saturday Evening

David and self went to Dance for Dancers, where David found to his surprise he was part of the act. His comment about a piano player "Professor Fred Carter" - terrific! The muso's sounded like they had more fun than the dancers, the calamity of the night, my first spin ended up on the floor with torn muscles in the thigh, still limping, next morning St. John's Ambulance Men very helpful but pissed.

Sunday Morning

David ran a workshop on dances from the North-East of Victoria. Comments: a lot of dances were new to them but they readily picked them up and enjoyed themselves. I was off with a limp to a workshop called "North to Tien Tsin" run by the Cossack Folk Club. It was about the town of Cossack, which is now officially a Ghost Town. The workshop told a potted history with songs and poetry - very interesting.

12 noon - 2 pm

The choices being pub session, morris dancing display or song writing competition. Guess which one missed out!

Song Writing Competition: Not bad, a lot of humour and much mention of Toodyay and grog (two of the judges were local publicans).

Pub Session: Good to great, i.e. plenty of chorus, with songs being passed around the circle, not being a singer yes Jess I did "The Bastard", which did not kill the session. A few more songs then Paul Stewart from Darwin did a great Graham Jenkins poem. In all a great session.

Sunday Afternoon

Off to Ted Egan again. 1½ hours of modern day collecting and songwriting; this music seems to be all collected from the Centre and North of Australia, not round the coastal strip where most of our songs come from, his comment about crutching geese in one of his songs was illuminating to say the least. Ted would be a benefit to any festival, some thousand people were enthralled and silent for 1/ hours and he did invite questions from the floor at the end. In the meantime these 1½ hour concerts were in progress all the time.

The pub then re-opened and we strayed between session and the marquee. On the 6 pm concert I was given 15 minutes, very enjoyable, marquee full to overflowing "not my doing", but the reaction to reciting was very interesting, people walking up to you in the street and making comments.

Sunday Evening

Stayed around the marquee and listened to the concert after David struggled back from the Vic Hotel where the publican had been filling him up on free beer for tunes rendered. We then retired back to the camp site and listened from the comfort of bed to the dance in progress on the oval, the band was Rakes Progress, minus concertina (Fred Carter) who had been drinking with David. He did make it to the dance eventually.

Monday Morning

Yes we were still hanging in there. More bloody sessions. David's comment: Freemasons this time turning on the grog for the muso's, I was off to a workshop called "Whaling in the Bend". It was in the form of a folk play held down by the river where damper and black tea was passed to the audience. Some of the old songs of the swag were sung, after this, another concert at the marquee as lines were being drawn for the chorus cup.

Monday Afternoon

And what a Cup! Most songs were original with some of the best antics of the weekend being performed; instruments (boo hiss), theatricals, costumes, and choreography has to be seen to be believed. Yes, the usual bad taste was at its best, comment: Ted Egan was very noticeable as one of the contestants. A lovely end to a lovely weekend, where they even want us to come back and bring a few friends next year.

Tuesday Evening

Rightio, here we go again. We thought we might sneak out of town but for the Lord Nelson Folk Club, run by a very vocal Anne Fitton. As we two timid young men approached we were told, (nay not asked), to do spots on that evening's programme with a lot of other out-of-town people - yea Darwin, Port Hedland and suchlike. The two most memorable were Paul Stewart (Darwin), a reciter whose dig at teachers and Quasimodo defies real description; Kevin Saunders, (Port Headland) whose San Francisco Bay a la Noah's Ark including multiplying rabbits was a novel twist to an old song. A quick mention of Greg Hastings, Welsh, guitar, a pro who hasn't forgotten what folk is all about.

I would like to come back again next year (Jim). David has just looked over my shoulder again and said Yes! Thanks W.A. for a great festival and may your chorus cups be ever overflowing.

OCTOBER 1981

Ed: Jess Dunnadge, 469 4078 P.O. Box 96 CARLTON 3053

Contact the above address if you would like to know more about the F.S.D.S.V., or obtain the newsletter.

PLEASE RING JESS DUNNADGE on 469 4078 IF YOU KNOW OF ANY CHANGE OR ADDITIONS TO FOLK CLUB/DANCE LISTINGS ON THIS SHEET. IF YOUR CLUB IS LISTED HERE PLEASE MAKE SURE THE ENTRIES ARE KEPT UP TO DATE.REGULAR ACTIVITIES & COMING EVENTSCITY

The COMMON OR GARDEN FOLK CLUB is dead! LONG LIVE "THE CHOOK"! GLAD TIDINGS - THE CHOOK WILL PERCH AGAIN! at the EXFORD HOTEL, Cnr. Russell & Little Bourke Streets, (Downstairs, enter from Russell Street) WEEKLY as from Friday 6th November - under the name of MELBOURNE FOLK CLUB. John Shorter (481 7979) or Jess Dunnadge (469 4078)

CONNECTION, 2 Stephenson Street, Richmond Every Saturday night \$2 donation (Sue, 347 1685)

CUPIDS Coffee Shop, 50 Commercial Road, Prahran

DAN O'CONNELL FOLK CLUB, Cnr. Princes & Canning Sts., Carlton Thurs. (Randall Percy 64 0661, ext 847)

FOOTSCRAY ARTS CENTRE 45 Moreland Street Footscray (689 5677) All sorts of Interesting music things. Acoustic concerts each month.

GREEN MAN COFFEE LOUNGE, 1221 High Street, Malvern (20 5012)

LANTERN COFFEE LOUNGE, 9 Burwood Highway, Burwood. Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat, & Sun.

MELBOURNE FOLK CLUB - see first entry

NEW COMMUNE, 183 St. Georges Road, North Fitzroy.
Wednesday & Saturday, General Folk/Blues/Country; Sunday, Jazz with Brian Brown.

NEW LINCOLN INN, Cnr Rathdowne & Faraday Streets, Carlton. Friday & Saturday (Wayne Robinson, 689 3348) Groups - Some Dancing.

RAINBOW HOTEL, 27 St. David Street, Fitzroy (419 4193). Informal Folk Music, Tuesday nights, Folk Club Thursday nights. (Cliff Gilbert-Purssey, Guest Artists, Floor Singers)

ROYAL PARK HOTEL, Queensberry Street, North Melbourne. Fri. night - Acoustic. (John Miovich 480 3695)

SHAKESPEARE COFFEE SHOPPE, 478 Chapel Street, South Yarra

SPAGHETTI THEATRE, 181 Collins Street, Melbourne (63 5787)

TROUBADOUR Coffee Lounge & Restaurant, 4 Bowen Crescent, Albert Park (26 4409)

TWILIGHT COFFEE HOUSE, 234 High Street, Kew. (Wednesday to Sunday)

VICTORIAN FOLK MUSIC CLUB, (Elma Gardner 497 1628)

* SINGABOUT, Curtain Square Annexe, Cnr. Canning & Newry Sts., Carlton. 4th Friday each month, 8:00 pm.

* WORKSHOP Mon. nights Anglers Hall Cnr. Rathmines & Clarke Sts. Fairfield, also Dance Music Workshop nearby.

* SINGABOUT (Eastern Suburbs), 1st Saturday each month, C.of E. Hall, 49 Patterson St., East Ringwood.

COUNTRY

BALLARAT, Students' Union Building, College of Advanced Education, 2nd Tuesday each month (Maureen Jardine, 053 42 8632 AH)

BENALLA FOLK CLUB, Has anyone any information?

BORDER DISTRICT FOLK CLUB, (Albury), Australia Hotel, Cnr. Wilson & David Streets, Every Thursday night (Mary Anderson 060 25 6535)

CHILTERN FOLK CLUB, 4th Wednesday every month

COROWA FOLK CLUB, Every 2nd Wednesday

GEELONG FOLK CLUB, (Jamie McKew 052 65 6123 AH)

* Golden Age Hotel, Gheringhap Street, Geelong - Singalong/Come-All-Ye, Tuesday nights, 8:00 p.m.

* The Gallery, Geelong Performing Arts Centre, Friday nights 8:00 p.m.

KALLISTA FOLK CLUB, Community House, Kallista (750 1222), Informal Folk Music. 2nd Friday each month.

KYNETON FOLK CLUB, C.Y.S.S. Office, Old Methodist Church, Ebdon Street, Kyneton, Thursday nights (Dave Sprigg 054 22 2576 or 054 22 2598)

OVERLANDER FOLK CLUB, Wednesday night, Noble Park Kindergarten. (Bill Graham 059 96 3215)

SHEPPARTON FOLK CLUB Thursdays (Delfina Manor, 058 28 9274 or 21 2150)

WANGARATTA FOLK CLUB, Vine Hotel. Last Friday each month (S. Bridges 057 21 2176)

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See "Age Weekender" for details on regular band gigs - all your favorite bush, folk/colonial, folk/rock, bush/punk and permutations thereof listed under "Folk", "Dance" and/or "Music 81".

MORRIS DANCING

- BALLAARAT MORRIS, Trades Hall, Camp Street, Ballarat, Thursday nights, 7:30 p.m.
- BRITANNIA MORRIS MEN, Curtain Square Annexe, Newry Street, Wednesday nights, 7:30 p.m. (Simon Leverton 481 6379 A.H.).
- PLENTY MORRIS, Lower Plenty Primary School, Practice & Learning every Tuesday 7:30 p.m. (Neil Murray 439 9120 AH)
- SHE-OAKS Ladies' Morris, Wednesday nights 7:00 p.m. Melb. Uni. Sports Centre, Trophy Room (Chris Digby, 527 2993 A.H.)

LEARN COLONIAL DANCING

- COLONIAL DANCERS, Carlton Primary School, Palmerston Street, Carlton. Wednesday nights
Beginners Class: 7:30 - 8:30; Intermediate Class: 8:30 - 10:00 (Norm Ellis 62 7197 BH)
- BALLARAT CURRENCY DANCERS, Uniting Church Hall, Barkly Street, Ballarat, Wednesdays, 8:00 p.m. (Christine Parkin, 053 34 7486)
- SANDHURST DANCE CLUB, Bendigo (Peter Ellis 054 43 2679)
- OVERLANDER FOLK CLUB, Noble Park Kindergarten, first Wednesday each month.

REGULAR DANCES - CITY:

- F.S.D.S.V./COLONIAL DANCERS Sunday Afternoon Dance, Carlton Community Centre, Princes Street, Carlton, 1st Sunday each month (Paul Borg 560 1584) - Doors open 2 pm, Dancing Starts 2.30 sharp
NEXT DANCE: SUNDAY 1st NOVEMBER 1981 with FLYING PIEMAN
- GUMTREE DANCES - Latrobe Uni. Students Union Hall, 28th November, Smith's Gully, Black Sheep, Sage (Brian Moran, 49 4759)
- PARRADIDDLE, Heidelberg Town Hall, 3rd Friday each month. (John Zigimantis, 844 2100)
- Y.H.A., Cnr Church Street & Highfield Road, Canterbury. 2nd Wednesday each month - Patterson's Curse.
- V.F.M.C. COLONIAL DANCE (with instruction) at Carlton Community Centre, 3rd Saturday each month. (Non-licensed) 8:00 pm - 11:00 pm.

REGULAR DANCES - COUNTRY:

- BARANDUDAH BUSH DANCE (6 miles from Wodonga on Kiewa Highway) 2nd Saturday each month (Mary Anderson 060 25 6535)
- BENDIGO, Spring Gully Hall, 3rd Friday every month. (Peter Ellis 054 43 2679)
- BETHANGA, Old Time, Bethanga Hall, 2nd Saturday each month with "Bush Rats"
- WIREENA CENTRE, Croydon. (059 96 3215)
- TALLANGATTA, Old Time, Church of England Hall, 3rd Saturday each month with Nariel Band

COMING EVENTS

- BUSH DANCE, Friday 13th November with Banshee. Collingwood Town Hall 8 pm BYO. (Geraldine 366 4437)
- BUSH DANCES, Kyneton Shire Hall, 8 pm 14th November - "Bush Telegraph", 12th December - to be announced BYO \$6.50. Fruit & paper cups provided. (Sabrina Lethbridge 054 29 1412)
- TRADITIONAL SOCIAL DANCING SEMINAR - BENDIGO. 27th - 29th November. Ball on 27th, Workshops Saturday, Further activities Sunday. Peter Ellis, 27 Reginald Street, Bendigo, 3550 (054 43 2679).
- FOLK TOURING CIRCUIT - "Facial Expressions" from Alice Springs. - Thurs 26th Nov. at DAN O'CONNELL & RAINBOW HOTELS.
- WEDDERBURN FESTIVAL NOT ON
- WALHALLA FESTIVAL ???????????? anyone know ????????????????????

MEMBERSHIP RATES

SUPPORT FOLK MUSIC - JOIN THE F. S. D. S. V.

Single	\$ 8.00	Concession (Country, Pensioner, Student	\$5.00
Family	\$12.50	Group (Clubs & Societies)	\$20.00

Life memberships - Ten times the current applicable membership - not applicable to concession memberships except for certain pensioners.

Membership of the Folk Song & Dance Society gives lower admission prices to all functions run by the F.S.D.S.V. (including Common or Garden Folk Club); Lower admission prices to most functions run by affiliated clubs (such as the V.F.M.C., Dan O'Connell, Geelong Folk Club, Border District Folk Club, Wangaratta Folk Club, Shepparton Folk Club and others at the discretion of the organisers); discounts on records at Fretted Instruments, 333 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy. There may be other concessions available later (negotiations under way), but membership can pay for itself well and truly in less than a year.

Traditional Social Dance Association of Victoria

WEEKEND SEMINAR

BENDIGO 27, 28, 29 NOVEMBER, 1981

In conjunction with the weekend seminar the T.S.D.A.V. are running a dance composing competition:

"A DANCE COMPOSING COMPETITION FOR NEW SOCIAL DANCES IN THE FOLK TRADITION".

The judges for the competition will be Fay McAlinden, John Colville, Pam Gainsford, Harry McQueen and Bette Davis.

A perpetual trophy has been donated by the Victorian Folk Music Club.

RULES AND CONDITIONS

The dance must be SOCIAL, that is, not a display dance requiring particular expertise on the part of the dancers.

The dance must be NEW, and the ORIGINAL work of the composer(s)

The dance does not necessarily have to contain a "NEW" movement.

The dance may be in the style of any of the Social Dance Traditions.

The dance may be entered as a dance being suitable for either children, beginners, a general social dance, or an advanced dance.

The T.S.D.A.V. reserves the right to publish any of the dances in its magazine, or any other of its publications, giving due acknowledgement to the composer(s).

Entries are to be submitted to the Secretary, Karen Pitt, one week before the seminar i.e. Friday 20th November. A limited number of late entries may be accepted up to 3p.m. on Saturday 28th at the seminar, depending upon the number of entries received by the closing date.

Entries must be submitted with COMPREHENSIVE dance instructions including -

- (i) a full music bar count
- (ii) the step or steps to be used
- (iii) the category or standard of the dance
- (iv) the type of music to be used, and timing, and the name of a suitable tune or tunes.

NOTE: An original tune or special music may be submitted to accompany the dance if the music is other than standard folk tunes.

However in this case both a music manuscript copy and a cassette tape of the music must be submitted with the entry.

If the dance has a theme or tells a story, then these details should be submitted with the entry.

MOST IMPORTANTLY the interpretation of the dance must stand as it is written.

The entries will be judged in closed session - the composers being excluded.

The judging will not be declared until the Sunday evening session.

The dances may however be publicly presented by the composer(s) at that session prior to the announcement and presentation.

ENTRIES to: The Secretary T.S.D.A.V., 58 Skene St., NEWTOWN Geelong 3220.

KYNETON FOLK

SPECIAL
FORTH COMING
EVENTS

To raise funds for the staging of Kyneton's 2nd Folk Festival to be conducted on Australia Day Weekend, 1982, two bush-dances have been organized. Details as follows :

B.Y.O. BUSHDANCES

AT THE
KYNETON SHIRE HALL

14TH NOVEMBER

8:00pm

FEATURING :

" BUSH TELEGRAPH "

12TH DECEMBER

8:00pm

BAND TO BE ANNOUNCED

Admittance : \$6:50 ; B.Y.O. food and drink ; fruit and paper-cups provided.

Ticket Secretary : Sabrina Lethbridge (054)291412.

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CELEBRATE THE

AUSTRALIA DAY WEEKEND (JAN. 30TH - FEB. 1ST), 1982

AT THE

KYNETON FOLK FESTIVAL..



A COLONIAL, TRADITIONAL, AND CONTEMPORARY EXPERIENCE

ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES

Featuring : Concerts, Bushdances, Workshops, Bushmarket.

Local camping ground with full amenities.

For those wishing to perform, interested in setting up market stalls, and requiring further details, write to :

 KYNETON FOLK FESTIVAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
P.O. Box 115
KYNETON 

Phone David Sprigg (054) 222598 A.H. for general information.