

Folk Song & Dance Society
of
Victoria

NEWSLETTER



March

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The Newsletter of the Folk Song & Dance Society of Victoria appears monthly.

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This issue was prepared by Margie Brookes with assistance from Roger's wonderful machine and a great deal of typing by Peter Goodyear and Therese Virtue. A Collating Party, organised by Peter Goodyear at John and Mariette Byrne's, 13 Vincent Street, Coburg is held from noon on the last Sunday of each month. Thanks to Lynne Stone for the mailing list, labels and the What's On.

COMMITTEE OF THE FSDSV 1985 - 1986

President	John Dick	68 4768(h)	616 1810(w)
Vice President	Lucy Stockdale	380 4291(h)	609 9298(w)
Treasurer	Sue O'Leary	481 7268(h)	
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	Sue Harriage	878 5950(h)	890 0677(w)
	Sean McLernon	386 5823(h)	
	John Shorter	383 2706(h)	419 6666(w) ext 316
Membership Sect'y & Public Officer	Jess Dunnadge	469 4078(h)	

POSTAL ADDRESS: PO BOX 1096 CARLTON 3053

FESTIVAL ORGANISING GROUP (FOG)

John McAuslan	370 8647(h)	Co-ordinator
Peter Anderson	387 0962(h)	Programming
Lis Johnston	568 7958(h)	Administration
Garry Clarke	68 5504(h)	Treasurer

FOG POSTAL ADDRESS: PO BOX 251, EAST BENTLEIGH 3165

We would like to invite folk, music and dance clubs and groups around Victoria to write to us about their particular organisations. We want to know how you run your club, what activities you hold, your aims, expectations and anything else you may wish to say.

This newsletter is mailed to people and clubs around Victoria and interstate and is sent to various libraries. There are always people, both the initiated and those new to folk music, who are interested in what you are doing and aiming at. So please write to the Editor, PO Box 1096, Carlton 3053 and I will print it in the Newsletter.

Notes From Above

We are now entering the critical stage in organizing the 20th National Festival and so, at the outset, I stress that considerable assistance will be required over the following weeks and, in particular, during Easter when the Festival is to be held. If you are able to assist, I would be grateful if you would let Lis Johnstone know. The tasks to be fulfilled will not be that onerous and even if you are able to help for only a short while, you can be sure that it will be welcomed. Unless we get some assistance, a small number will be working throughout the Festival and that is unfair.

Whilst on the Festival, there is a possibility of negotiating an agreement to record some or all major events. This may involve a number of us guaranteeing the costs; any payments made would be returned when the master tapes were edited and processed. Obviously, if there are only a few willing to participate, they will be considerably out of pocket for a while, so if any of you are interested in assisting with the project, please let me know.

As the FSDSV is organizing the National Festival this year, the opportunity exists to award the Graeme Sqaunce Award to some person resident outside the State for contributing to the folk movement. If you wish to make a nomination, whether of someone within Victoria or from interstate, please let a member of the Committee know.

I expect that by now all will have heard that John Meredith has been recently honoured in the Australia Day list for services to folk music. So far, as I am aware, this is a first and in congratulating John, I add that it is about time some recognition was given to the folk arts.

It is with regret that I inform you of Lyn Hoare's resignation as one of our AFT representatives due to an increased workload resulting from a new job. I thank her for her commitment to the FSDSV and the contribution she has made as AFT Treasurer on behalf of us. Needless to say, we require someone to take her place, so if you are interested, would you please let one of the Committee members know.

There is also to be a State Co-ordinator as I have previously mentioned, and contact with other folk organizations throughout Victoria will shortly be made to try and develop a coherent policy if we are successful in procuring this position. If anyone is at all interested in helping, please contact Chris Bigby.

In the last Newsletter I mentioned the vacancy on the Committee. Derek Brown expressed interest in serving on the Committee and, accordingly, he has been co-opted. I welcome him to the Committee and feel sure that he will make a valuable contribution over the following months as did his predecessor, Peter Goodyear.

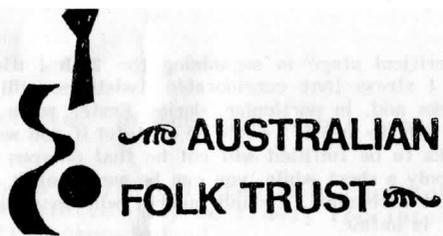
Chris Bigby has been elected Secretary and all general correspondence should, therefore, be addressed to her. I am grateful to Chris for agreeing to accept this position which, in many ways, is the most important and onerous on any Committee.

Kelly Skinner will resume the beginners music classes at the Robert Burns Hotel on Saturday afternoons. If anyone is interested, they should attend with their instruments at approximately 2.00 pm.

Would you please note that on Friday, 7 March 1986, the club night at the Robert Burns will not be held. Not only will the Port Fairy Festival be held that weekend but also the McGarrigles will be appearing in concert. However, the Club will re-open the following Friday.

Finally, at the Club on Friday, 14 March 1986, Talunga Music will have a selection of Irish records available for purchase and also, I understand, a number of excess records which will be sold at much reduced prices.

John Dick
President



AFT Report

By the time this is printed the AFT will have had its' meeting in Melbourne. I cannot predict its' outcome and will be writing a fuller report for the next newsletter.

Unfortunately Lynne Hoare has resigned as one of the Victorian AFT trustees. Lynne has also undertaken the position of Treasurer for the AFT for the past 18 months, and I would like to thank her as the FSDSV committee has done, for all the hard work she has put in. She will be a hard act to follow, but is anyone interested in replacing her as one of the two Victorian Trustees?

The AFT has been successful in increasing its' funding from the Australia Council this year, although it's nowhere near what the Opera gets. There are now three positions funded: a full-time National Administrator, a part time National Co ordinator, and a part-time State Co ordinator.

Adverts appear elsewhere in the Newsletter for the two National positions and applications should be forwarded to me as soon as possible, please. I would be more than willing to discuss this with anyone who is interested. A decision will be made at the meeting as to which State gets the State Co-ordinators' position and the FSDSV has put in an application. If they are successful it is hoped the co-ordinator will be directed by a representative group of all the folk organisations in Victoria.

It is a shame that there have not been more applications from Victoria for funds from the devolved grants scheme, only 4 from Victoria out of a total of 27. The closing date for the next round of applications will be late November.

The AFT has a spot at the Festival on Monday morning and will be putting on a presentation using folk music (not a boring old lecture) to illustrate some of the funding problems that beset folk arts. Phyl Lobl, Keith Mckenry and others will be presenting this and it should be well worth seeing.

Elsewhere in the Newsletter is an article on John Meredith who was honoured for services to Folk Music in the Australia Day honours list. It is worth noting that this is the first award to be made specifically for folk music.

It is very likely that there will be a national enquiry into folk arts this year, so watch out for further details of this, as it would be good if as many people as possible were able to contribute to this.

Chris Bigby

Chook Droppings

Well and truly back into the swing of things. Dave Read, Paul and Kate White and Di and Heather say to say 'Hello' to one and all - they're all flourish- in England's green and not too unpleasant land.

Went to a few sessions, three or four English Country Dances and a skittles night with Old (Bald) Spot and Young (The Spotties) Spot in which we, the Oldies trounced the Young Uns. I have tapes of some English Country Dances (one by 'Edward II and The Red Hot Polkas, which is most of The Old Swan Band), some sessions (both English and Irish) and a video of a documentary on Bert Lloyd if any one would like to borrow/pirate them.

The weather was n't too bad - missed a White Christmas by two days and had a sunny Australia Day party. The Ale was wonderful, needless to say.

So, still a bit jet-lagged second day back and straight into Battlefield Band - oh what transports of delight. Just what Melbourne, nay the whole of Australia needs I reckon - a good shot in the old musical arm. Dave Read was telling me about a dance at Sidmouth, the year before last, where, amongst others, all on stage at the same time were Pyewacket, Oyster Band and Brass Monkey - the dancers just came to a standstill

Battlefield (great support act from John McAuslan and Joe Paolacci) led off a plethora of interstate and overseas guests last month and this - make the most of it Folks - build yourselves up for the Halley's Comet of them all at the National. It never rains but it pours, as they say

The Robbie Burns is steaming along very nicely, apparently 'Carols by Candlelight' was the best yet. Over the next few weeks the alternate Club and Come All Ye nights will be out of kilter due to various factors. There will be no Club night on Friday 7th March, because of Port Fairy Festival, the following two nights will be Club nights with Dave Brannigan and Hayseed (14th) and Roger Montgomery (21st), obviously nothing on Good Friday and the first Friday in April will be a Festival Hangersover Night. The Saturday afternoon muso's learning sessions continue at the Burns and Kelly and George have restarted the beginner's sessions earlier in the arvo - for more information, phone them on 383 5168.

Details of Roger Montgomery's visit can be found elsewhere in this mine of information. I urge as many of you as possible to get to his workshop where he will talk about his experience in the Pilbara and how he went about the job of collecting. The Art in Working Life Project is funded by the Community Arts Board through the A.F.T. and is an on-going programme which a can take place in any State. Maybe here is your chance

Our A.F.T. Delegate, Chris Bigby and Roger will be more than happy to you give you any help and information you may require.

The Dan continues to flourish despite or because of the cosmetic changes - the Saturday night sessions are on again, but I suggest you get there early - it gets a bit claustrophobic after about 10 o'clock. Much more relaxed are the Tuesday night English sessions from about 8.30 on - if you haven't been down yet I can highly recommend it both for listening and playing.

A Phoenix arises, or has already risen. As some of who may already know, last year one of the old 'locals' from the Rainbow won a certain lottery and has bought the lease of said watering hole for his good lady. So it's "Rainbow Revisited" on Wednesday nights. Organised by Brendan Walker, who has returned from South Australia, with a little help from his friends, the club kicked off this week with Danny Spooner and Di McNicol. Further nights this month include Keryn Randall and Meg MacDonald (12th), 'Fine Fettle' and Brian O'Donnaghue (19th) and Roger Montgomery and Rick E. Vengeance (26th). It promises to be a great venue - beware of the 'decor' tho' - it's not Bill or Flo's fault. Talking of watering holes, have you heard about the old Aberdeen, on the corner of Scotchmer and St. George's Roads in North Fitzroy? Now known as 'The Loaded Dog' and in the process of becoming a Pub-Brewery (as opposed to a brewery-pub) - brewing on the premises and into full action within the next few months but at the moment serving draft Cooper's Ale and Toohey's Old amongst other delights. If it's anything like the Sail and Anchor in Fremantle that i've been burbling about for the past couple of years, it's going to be burp!

Brennie's number, by the way is 486 2340 and, if my memory faileth me not, the Rainbow is 419 4193.

The Final Festival Fundraiser at The Dan last Saturday was a great success. Thanks on behalf of F.O.G. to all of you for supporting us and to all the performers for donating their time and talents for such an enjoyable afternoon - and to mine hosts, Bruce and Jurgen. There's a whisper of regular monthly concerts at The Dan after the National, so there is no need for you all to cral back into your shells just because the Festive is drawing to a close.

F.O.G. plans for the National are proceeding apace - the final posters have been printed, the tickets are in the process thereof and the programme is complete. As happens all so often with Things Folk, burden of responsibility has fallen, once again onto far too few shoulders, and some of those afore-said shoulders are beginning to become a wee bit frayed and frazzled around the edges. As F.O.G./F.S.D.S.V. liason body, I have seen at close quarters the amount of time, effort and enthusiasm that has been put in over the past two years to bring this Easter to fruition. Now it needs YOU bods out there to come to the aid of the party to ensure that the 20th National Festival will be the best yet. Helpers, and heaps of 'em are needed both now and at Easter. Now to help the F.O.G. Dispersal Unit (i.e. Publicity) to person their stall(s) and hand out flyers etc. at the various Folk and Community Festivals, Markets etc., Concerts and other venues throughout the month - contact Kathy Burgi 489 0715. At Easter, to help with the running of the show by personing (bloody stupid word), doors, desks etc. at some of the 25 Concerts, 35 Workshops, 7 Dances and 10 Kids' Events that are on over the weekend - contact John O'Leary on 481 7268 or Lis Johnston on 569 7958PleaseNow!

Well, That's All Folks - have a great month - see you there!

Shorter



AUSTRALIAN FOLK TRUST



In the Beginning

The Australian Folk Trust approached Art and Working Life, an organisation funded by the Music and Community Arts Board of The Australia Council. The Brainchild of John Ramshaw and Dave Hults, funding was requested and granted to appoint a co-ordinator whose task it was to find out if Australia's workers were still writing of life's experiences as they did in those good old, bad old days of yesteryear.

Ex-London, ex-Melbourne, ex-Mucky Ducker, ROGER MONTGOMERY landed this job. Followed by gently pessimistic admonitions not to expect too much, nor to be disappointed ("Remember that this is just an exploratory phase of what will hopefully be an on-going programme."), he set forth to search for the hearts, minds and voices of the iron-ore workers and their families who live in West Australia's North-West Pilbara region.

Three months later, gently confounding those friendly sceptics, the project rode happily back into town, clutching four fat folders containing well over three hundred poems, songs and yarns collected from the Pilbara people, plus a firm conviction that this plethora of people's prose must not be allowed to languish on the back burner ... Oh no ... encouraged by the Art and Working Lifers and the W.A. Trades and Labour Council Arts Office Roger set to and produced a Book (from the foreward (sic) of which most of this was filched), a Concert at the Perth Concert Hall and an Album and Cassette, recorded at the A.B.C.'s 6WF Station in Perth and featuring Mucky Duck, The Fabulous Cockroaches and Australian Bite.

F.S.D.S.V. applied to the A.F.T. for a grant to bring Roger over to the East to perform at Clubs and to give a workshop on his experiences and as a result he will be in Melbourne just prior to Easter - be sure not to miss him!

Roger Montgomery - "PILBARA CONNECTION"
 Friday 21st March Songs of The Pilbara Club Night
 Sunday 23rd inst Art & Working Life WORKSHOP
 (1.30 - 5 p.m.) ROBERT BURNS HOTEL

For more information contact: 68 4768 (Chris) or 383 2706 (John).

RECORDS

The following is a list of records currently available at the Melbourne Folk Club on Friday nights - just ask at the desk.

Imported Pressings \$14.00

1. 'Will Ye Gang Love' Archie Fisher
2. 'At The Festival of Perth' Jeremy Taylor.
3. 'Bulletin' Tom Paxton
4. 'Seven to Midnight' Pyewackett
5. 'The Wilson Family Sing Horumarye' The Wilson Family
6. 'Frost and Fire' The Watersons
7. 'Sweet Wivelsfield' Martin Carthy
8. 'Battlefield Band' Battlefield Band
9. 'Tiger Moth' Tiger Moth
10. 'Coppers and Brass' Dick Gaughan
11. 'The Rose of Britain's Isle' John Kirkpatrick and Sue Harris
12. 'For Pence and Spicy Ale' The Watersons
13. 'Along the Coaly Tyne' Louis Killen, Johnny Handle and Colin Ross
14. 'King of The Highland Pipers' John Burgess

Local Pressings - \$12.00

1. 'Songs of Henry Lawson' Ian MacDougall
2. 'A Heart Needs A Home' Denis Tracey
3. 'Forgotten Dreams' Priscilla Herdman
4. 'Turn Ye To Me' Duncan and Alison
5. 'Paths of The Wind' Sirocco
6. 'Traitors' Gate Folk Club Five Years On' Bogle and Others
7. 'Beneath The Smoke - A Gathering of Nations'
8. 'Captain Moonlight' Captain Moonlight
9. 'Carney Bernaise' Bernard Carney
10. 'Cretan Traditional Music in Australia' Kostas and George Tsourdalakis
11. 'Fire and The Spark' Lisa Young
12. 'Freedom On The Wallaby' Dave DeHugard
13. 'In The Tradition' Boys of The Lough
14. 'The Champion String Band' The Champion String Band
15. 'Open Road' Boys of The Lough
16. 'Bullants in Bushland' Chris Duffy
17. 'A Garland For Sally' Sally Sloane
18. 'When The Wind Blows' Eric Bogle
19. 'Now I'm Easy' Eric Bogle
20. 'Plain and Simple' Eric Bogle
21. 'Artesian Waters' Cathy O'Sullivan
22. 'Kind Regards' Charlie Batchelor' Charlie Batchelor
23. 'Yesteryear' The Bulli Bush Band
24. 'The Pipe On The Hob' Shaskeen
25. 'Christy Cooney's Brew' Christy Cooney
26. 'On the One String' Richard Keam
27. 'Bonnie Bands Again' The McCalmans

FOLK VICTORIA

FRIDAY NIGHT FOLK MUSIC

1st, 3rd & 5th FRIDAYS PERFORMERS CLUB

2nd & 4th FRIDAYS COME ALL YE

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28th WITCHWOOD, HELEN BOOTH

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14th DAVE BRANNIGAN, PETER PENTLAND

21st ROGER MONTGOMERY - Songs of The Pilbarra

28th TRAYNOR'S FOLK CLUB et al - AT LA TROBE

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Enquiries: 383-2706

ROBERT BURNS HOTEL

Smith (cnr.) Easey St. Collingwood



Wanderings

Hi Spooks!

Well had my first trip to Tassie although I really didn't see that state! Longford Folk Festival -- not a bad weekend! The festival apparently wasn't as big as other years. My highlight of the weekend was two Vics -- Di McNicol and John Beavis. The funny tale of the weekend came from one of the guys from the Battlefield Band. He was walking through the passage of the hotel when a guy with a small dog under his arm said: "Eh, are you the one that plays the bagpipes?" and with that gave the poor dog a squeeze! Believe me it's a true story!

I wandered Longford looking for a singing session ... sad to relate I didn't find one chorous session. I found a good Irish session going but a lot of those musos were from Vic.

Good to see Andy Rossitter at the club the other week. He sang a few songs with their traditions out of the north of Australia.

Ted Egan's new record in his Faces of Australia series has been released. It's called The Anzacs -- a lot of the material written by Tad. It's well worth a listen.

The noise level around the front door of the club is becoming unbearable for those who come to listen to the music. I actually chatted to one person the other week to be told "I pays me money but I don't come to go into the club." There's a great little room just along the passage -- good for having a drink and a chat-in in.

Phil Day and Tim O'Brien played a good night with a pleasant blend of music, both doing a mix from their own to traditional.

Well you lot, catch you next month.

Jim Smith

A Word

Congratulations to Jenny Boxall and Ray Simpson on the birth of their daughter Rebecca last Sunday.

Hope to see you all at the National Festival shortly!

Margie Brookes



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AUSTRALIAN FOLK TRUST — 2 POSITIONS

The A.F.T., Australia's national representative folk organisation, is seeking applicants for the following full-time limited tenure positions funded with assistance from the Music Board and Community Arts Board of the Australia Council.

A.F.T. NATIONAL ADMINISTRATOR (full-time position - 12 mths tenure)

DUTIES:

Under the direction of the Chairman and A.F.T. Executive, conduct the day to day administration of the A.F.T. including maintenance of correspondence files, financial records and accounts, relevant data bases, preparation and/or typing of correspondence, reports, minutes, A.F.T. publications, liaison with trustees, member bodies and external organisations.

RELEVANT SKILLS & EXPERIENCE:

Secretarial/administrative experience and sound typing skills essential. Arts administrative experience and knowledge of folk arts a distinct advantage. Applicants should be self-motivated and able to work from home if required, access to an electric typewriter or word processor desirable. Location near existing Executive members (Darwin, Perth, Adelaide) an advantage.

SALARY:

\$325.00/wk, 4 weeks annual leave (+ leave loading) and appropriate sick leave. Consideration may be given to part-time employment or job sharing arrangements.

TENURE:

12 months - renewable subject to satisfactory service and future funding.

ENQUIRIES: Apply to J. Corfield, 30 Sowden Street, Jingili, N.T. 5792

APPLICATIONS CLOSE: 21ST FEBRUARY, 1986

LATE APPLICATIONS: 14 MARCH, 1986

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Victoria 3220
Presented by the Geelong Folk Music Club

Anyone interested in helping at Port Fairy Folk Festival please ring Harro : (052) 786 696.

Letters

Geelong Folk Music Club is holding the following dances in 1986:-

Sunday Social Folk Dance (Family Folk Dances)

Geelong West Community Centre, Clarence St. off Pakington St.
\$3.00 per adult, \$5.00 family, kids free. Please bring a plate.
2pm-5pm. March 2nd, May 18th, July 13th, August 31st, November 2nd.

Bullockies Balls

8pm-12pm

Geelong West Town Hall, BYO everything.
May 3rd: Shades of Troopers Creek
June 28th: Yabbies

Colonial Ball.

Saturday, 16th August, Geelong West Town Hall, Pakington St.

A traditional ball in full Colonial dress. Dances will be called by Peter Ellis and the Wedderburn Oldtimers, supported by Diamantina.

Sprinding Peace Bush Ball

Saturday, November 8th.

Please note: Admission to all balls is by prior booking.
Booking available from Music World (052)99652; Basseys Belmont, 438189;
Andrew, 213095; Maureen, 222864. Cost \$8.00
Bulk booking available.

ADVERTISING RATES

\$20.00 Full Page
\$12.00 Half Page
\$ 7.00 Quarter Page
\$ 2.00 Business Cards

All advertisements placed at the discretion of the editor.

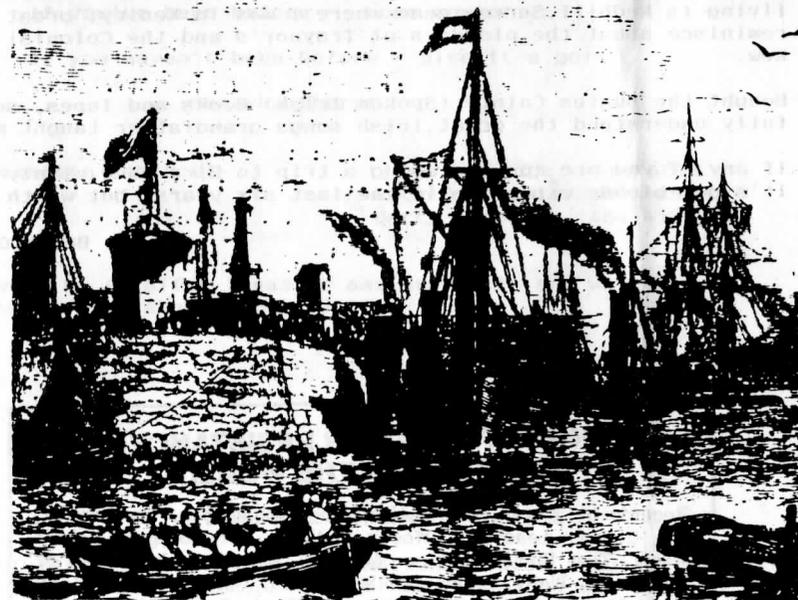


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