

Folk Song & Dance Society of Victoria

'FOLK VICTORIA' is the registered trading name of the Folk Song & Dance Society of Victoria, and is used in fund-raising appeals and for Public Relations, Publicity and advertising purposes.

The Society is incorporated under the Associations Incorporated Act (1981).

The Society is recognised as representing Victoria in matters involving all forms of Folk Arts, and as such is a member body of the **AUSTRALIAN FOLK TRUST** which is the National body through which Federal Government funding is devolved via the Australia Council for the Arts, to the various State (member) bodies to assist in the promotion, preservation and presentation of the Folk Arts.

The Society is affiliated, or has reciprocal membership benefits, with other groups whose aims are in accord with the aims of the Society, such as the Victorian Folk Music Club, the Colonial Dancers, Geelong Folk Club, Shepparton Folk Club, Wangaratta Folk Club, 'U.T. Creek Folk Club' (in Alexandra) and others, at the discretion of their organisers, including Folk Clubs run by our equivalent organisations in other states.

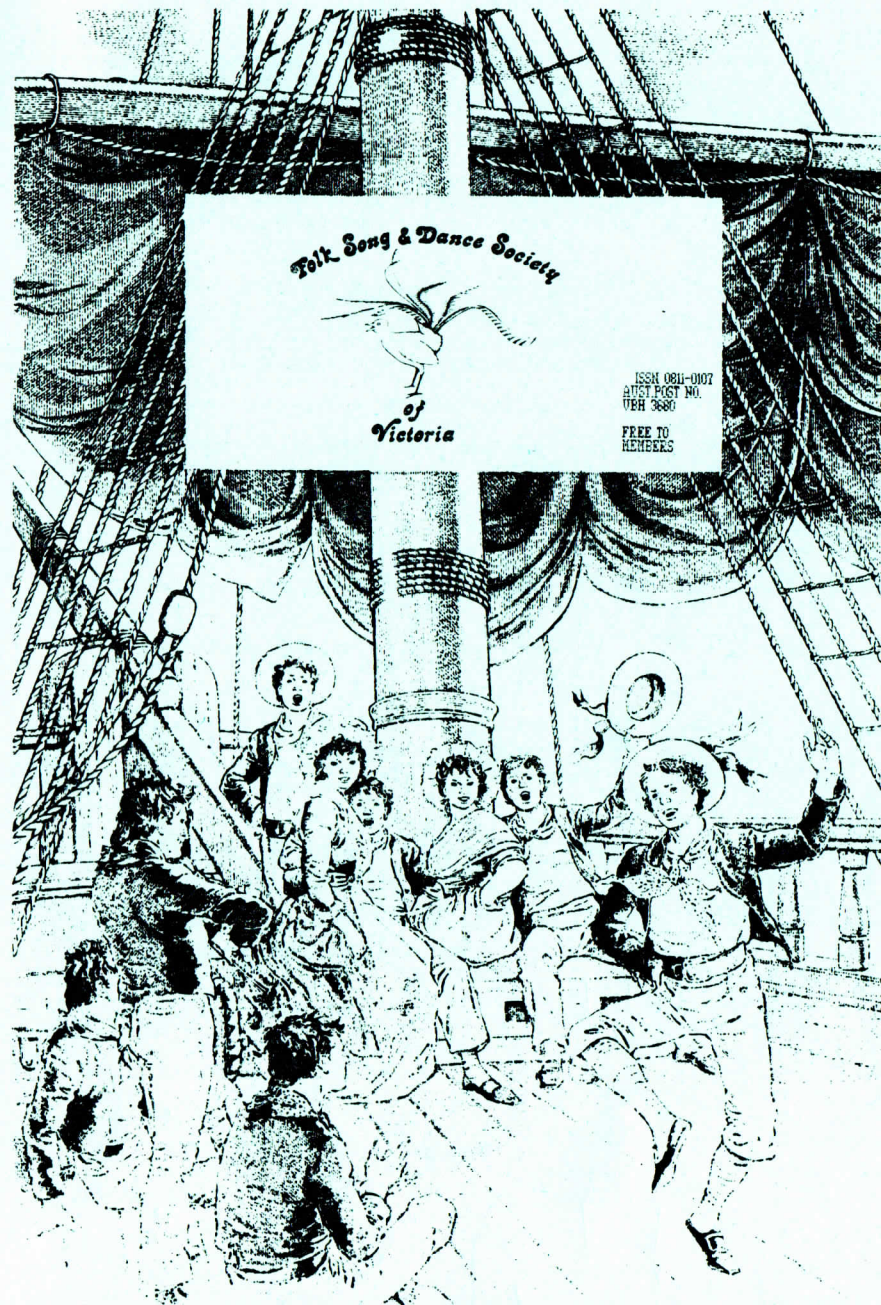
The Society's Folk Club is the **MELBOURNE FOLK CLUB** (at whatever venue) but the Society also sponsors other Clubs & functions.

The Society's **MEETINGS**, held monthly (1st Monday of the month, subject to change occasionally), are open to all interested people, whose views and suggestions will be heard, but voting rights are limited to members of the Committee.

Annual Membership fees : Single \$18.00 Concession \$11.00
Family \$28.00 Concession \$16.00

SUPPORT FOLK MUSIC, SONG & DANCE - JOIN THE F.S.D.S.V.
Write to :- P.O. Box 1096, Carlton Vic. 3053.

or phone the Membership Secretary :- (03)469 4078



From the Editor

The Newsletter of the Folk Song & Dance Society of Victoria appears monthly. Except where it is indicated that copyright is reserved, all articles in the Newsletter may be freely reprinted provided source and author are clearly acknowledged. Views expressed herein are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Society or the Editor.

The bulk of this issue was kindly prepared by Peter Goodyear (providing Kathy with a break from editorial tasks). Thanks must go also to Lynne Stone for the mailing list & labels.

COMMITTEE OF THE F.S.D.S.V. 1987 - 1988

President : Lucy Stockdale (03) 380 4291 (H)
Vice President : Jim Smith (03) 729 4228 (H)
Treasurer : Sue O'Leary (03) 481 7268 (H)
Secretary : Brendan Walker (03) 387 3043 (H) / 606 1213 (W)
Editor : Kathy Burgi (P.O.Box 327, Clifton Hill 3068)
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Membership Sec'y
& Public Officer: Jess Dunnadge (03) 469 4078 (H)
Committee : Derek Brown (03) 497 3321 (H) / 267 4155 (W)
Committee : Pam Connell (03) 481 7349 (H) / 347 2322 (W)
Co-opted as :-
Club Organiser : Sean McLernon (03) 386 5823 (H)
Legal Adviser : John Dick (03) 68 4768 (H) / 653 0231 (W)

POSTAL ADDRESS : P.O. BOX 1096, CARLTON, VIC. 3053.

Victoria's A.F.T. (Australian Folk Trust) Representatives are :
Chris Bigby (03) 68 4768 (H) / 689 7455 (W)
John O'Leary (03) 481 7268 (H)

Victoria's State Folk Arts Co-ordinator is :
Randal Pound (03) 650 5772 (Mon & Fri - or Answer-phone)
18 St. Andrew's Place, East Melbourne, Vic. 3002

******* DEADLINES *******

the 15th of each month

As long as items are ON TIME, LEGIBLE & PHOTOCOPY-READY, an attempt will be made to include them. Please send either to F.S.D.S.V. (as above), or direct to:- 'F.S.D.S.V. Editor'
P.O. Box 327,
CLIFTON HILL, VIC. 3068

Handbills for insertion : Minimum of 300 copies required.
Advertisements : Must be supplied as bromides,
or as clear black & white copies.

ADVERTISING RATES

| MEMBERS | | NON-MEMBERS |
|---------|-------------------|-------------|
| \$20 | Full Page | \$25 |
| \$12 | Half Page | \$15 |
| \$7 | Quarter Page | \$9 |
| \$3 | 'Classifieds' | \$4 |
| \$2 | Business Cards | \$3 |
| \$10 | Inserts (A5 size) | \$13 |

Dear readers, I'm sorry about all the stuff I got wrong in last months issue and I'll make sure it doesn't happen again. There are a couple of items where I promised to get more news for you for this month, but nothing turned up.

There are a lot of things happening or about to happen, like the Port Fairy Folk Festival, and the National Folk Festival, both of which look very good. Most of the good information on those appeared in last months issue, although there are a few snippets of news about the National around somewhere.

The Folk club is going well at the Dan O' Connell pub, due to a lot of hard work by Sean. Folkies are moving back there again, and last Saturday I went in to the Dan and there was a session going on like the good old days. The Poteen concert should be a great afternoon, too. I made their advert up in a bit of a hurry. The concert is from 2.00 to 6.00pm if you can't read it on the ad.

The Colonial Dancers are working hard to raise enough money to go to the Edinburgh Military Tattoo. The Melbourne Council has donated them a free night's use of the Town Hall for their Ball. Please help them, or they'll only be able to afford one-way tickets.

Finally, thank you to everybody who contributed to this and last months' editions. This is your magazine, and I'm sure Kathy would be delighted if you would write it all for her. So if you've been to a folk festival or a concert, or have bought a new record, write and tell us about it. If you've found out something new or different about folk music please let us know, and if you've written a song or poem and are tired of collecting rejection slips, send us your manuscript. I can't guarantee that Kathy will print everything you send her, but we want this magazine to be more than just a guide to what's on.

Peter Goodyear

A LETTER FROM JESS

Hi Folks,

After all this time I didn't expect anyone to remember me, but Peter (Editor, Pro Tem) asked me to write a letter that he could put in the Newsletter to let people know that I am still around. It seems that a few people have been asking after me. Thank you very much Peter, and thank you very much people.

I am still alive but kicking with great care and some trepidation. I haven't been doing any dancing since before Christmas, but one of these days I'll "up and into the pen" again. I'd better - and soon while there is still a dance to go to here and there. At present we are planning a holiday through NSW and up to Grafton, where we hope to see Mazza Spence. I'm almost too ashamed to write and tell her we hope to see her before Easter. This will be the third time we have made these plans and been unable to carry them out. We hope to take in the National Festival of course. I know I have said repeatedly that I would avoid Sydney like the plague this year, but I hope Sutherland is far enough out of the city proper that rickety old ladies won't get trampled underfoot.

Went to the opening (re-opening) night of the Melbourne Folk Club, back at the Dan O'Connell last Friday and hope to go again for the next two at least. The place still feels the same, except that there is less noise from the people behind the bar than there was the last time I was there. I think the changes round the entrance are improvements as far as the noise level goes, but of course the basic shape has not changed, so if you want to listen go up front and if you want to talk stay toward the back looks like still applying. We have however got very nice "Mine Hosts" who we are assured put on very good meals as well. We also had a very good programme - thanks to Sean's planning and di McNicol's singing, and a couple of rousing brackets from Paolacci, Lavin, and no Dwyer. Cheerio for now folks, and I'll see you round.

JESS DUNNADGE

JESS: (and readers)

If you want to get to a couple of good dances, the Colonial Dancers are holding the Convicts Ball on Saturday, the 19th of March, at Melbourne Town Hall, and the VFMC Ball is on the 28th of May at Central Hall, Brunswick Street, Fitzroy.
(Ed.)

22nd NATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL

THE POETS' DINNER

Not a come-all-ye, but one of the most exclusive events of the Festival
8pm, Friday, March 31, in the Sutherland Bowling Club

Cost will be \$16 a head which will cover the three-course dinner
Drinks available at very reasonable club prices

Advance bookings are essential

ROB EDGAR is the person to contact for reservations. Write to him at 13 Moree Avenue, Westmead, NSW 2145, enclosing your cheque for \$16 per person (payable to 22nd National Folk Festival) or phone (02) 635-5673

THE CRAFTS FAIR

In the closed-off main street of Sutherland, Eton Street, outside the Entertainment Centre. Friday April 1 to Sunday April 3

Some stall space is still available for demonstrations of traditional craft skills and sale of goods as well as food and refreshments

DANNY WATSON is the Fair Co-ordinator. Write c/- Post Office, Dangar Island, NSW 2253, or phone him on (02) 455-1375

THE FESTIVAL FOLK CLUB

Afternoons and evenings throughout the Festival and into the wee hours of the morning
in a fully-licensed marquee in the grounds of Minerva Street School

JONATHON MITCHELL will be co-ordinating a non-stop program by folkies for folkies.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED in helping with the running of the club as an MC, or if you would like to perform, drop Jonathon a line at 5 Leichhardt Street, Glebe, NSW 2037, or phone him on (02) 660-4702

TURRAMURRA FOLK WEEKEND

One of the events in the folk scene that I look forward to most each year is the Folk Music Bush Camp in mid-January at Turramurra Park near Deans Marsh in the Otways. For a start, the setting is beautiful; a small valley surrounded by wooded hills echoing with kookaburras and other birds, a creek flanked by grassy areas which are great for camping and impromptu sessions, and a tame kangaroo - I have a great photo of Jill playing her flute with the 'roo sniffing the other end!

They seem to have worked out the ideal mix of formal and informal activities. There are workshops for all kinds of instruments and musical styles; from guitar to percussion, from Irish to African - not to mention singing and street theatre. The quality of these workshops depends on the teacher, of course, but most are excellent. One big advantage of this weekend is that the workshops are small enough for you to get individual attention, and they're scheduled so that there's plenty of time between them for chatting with the teacher, or going off and practising what you've learnt - or joining a session, or whatever. Some of us spent a bit of time trying to master the secrets of unicycle riding this year!

What I like best is that the number of people there (limited to around 100) means that you get to know lots of them. There is always a good mix of seasoned performers and rank beginners, and everything in between, so you get scintillating sessions interspersed with easy tunes and songs - so everyone can get involved.

They have concerts on the Friday and Saturday nights. There are some brilliant acts, and for many this is their first experience of performing before an audience - and they are the most supportive audiences I have ever seen, I think because many of them have just performed an item or two, or are about to do so, so they understand! Many of the workshops culminate in a performance at the farewell concert on the Sunday, so everyone gets a go if they want. This concert ends with the now traditional "Folk Camp Ensemble", which comprises **everyone**, either singing or playing such standards as "The Skye Boat Song" or "Amazing Grace". With 50 or 60 instruments, and as many voices, it really **does** sound amazing, and always sends a tingle up my spine.

If this sounds like a bit of a rave, that's because it **IS!** There have been complaints in this newsletter in the recent past about festivals being too large and too organised; this isn't a folk festival, but a gathering which seems to bring out the best in people - both musically and socially. It's organised just enough to make it kick along nicely.

Numbers this year weren't quite up those of past years, I suspect because they had less publicity due to too **many** people the previous couple of times. I think the smaller crowd was fine, but I don't know how it affected the financial viability of the weekend. I know the Chiltern Folk Club tried to run a winter version of it last year, and had to cancel it due to lack of numbers, which was a real shame. Anyway, watch out for info about next summer's folk weekend.

And by the way, congratulations to the people who put this newsletter together. It's great.

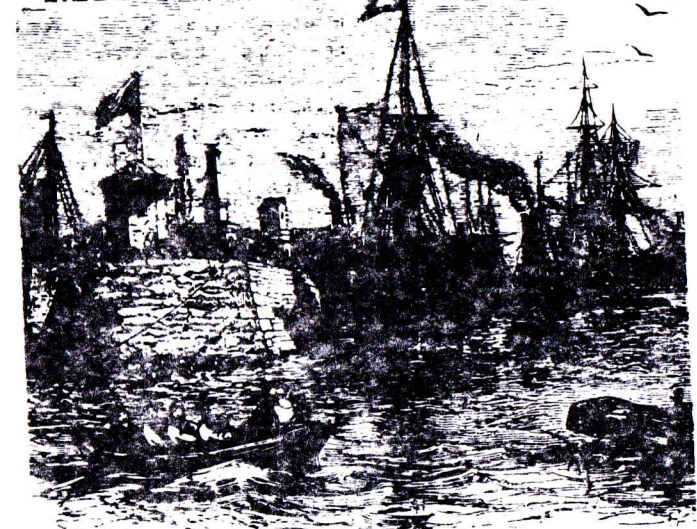
BRUCE WATSON

PORT FAIRY FOLK FESTIVAL

JOHN McCUTCHEON LEON ROSSELSON FRANKIE ARMSTRONG
MARTIN WYNDHAM-READ

MUSIC

MARCH 11-14 1988



• CONCERTS • WORKSHOPS • CHILDREN'S FOLK CIRCUS • DANCES • MUSIC CLASSES • FOLK THEATRE

JUDY SMALL, MARGRET ROADKNIGHT, CONWAY BROTHERS, MARA, BALLYHOO THEATRE COMPANY, ROGER MONTGOMERY,
LUNA-C, SIOCCO, JOHN BROOMHALL, TED EGAN, BANK STRANGERS, MANGROVE JACK, ROSE BYGRAVES,
CAPTAIN ACCORDIAN BAND, WILD PUMPKINS AT MIDNIGHT, BRENT PARLAME, YASMIN & THE TEA LEAVES, COUNTRY EXPRESS,
"MUSIC DELI CONCERT", SQUEEZEBOK, AND MANY MORE TOO FAMOUS TO MENTION !!!

DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE TILL FEBRUARY 12th - - - BOOK EARLY & SAVE !!!

WEEKEND TICKET PRICES
January 10 - February 12: Adults \$35.00; Adult Concession \$30.00; Children (12-17 Years) \$15.00; Family Tickets \$85.00.
February 13 - March 11: Adults \$40.00; Adult Concession \$35.00; Children (12-17 Years) \$15.00; Family Tickets \$85.00.

BOOKINGS: ALL VICTORIAN AND SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BASS AGENCIES, MUSIC WORLD, GEELONG, PORT FAIRY NEWSAGENCY,
PORT FAIRY: WIMMERA MUSIC CENTRE, MORSHAM; REIDS MUSIC, WARRNAMBOOL

Presented by:
GEELONG FOLK MUSIC CLUB
INCORPORATED
ENQUIRIES: (052) 21 7264



ACCOMMODATION ENQUIRIES
PORT FAIRY TOURIST OFFICE
(055) 68 1002

MAIL BOOKINGS: BASS VICTORIA, 7626, G.P.O. MELBOURNE, 3000.
PHONE BOOKINGS: MELBOURNE 1150 COUNTRY (TOLL FREE) 008 136036.

(Performers and programmes subject to alteration without notice)

COLONIAL DANCERS NEWS

A major fund-raising event for the Colonial Dancers' Edinburgh trip is the CONVICTS BALL on Saturday, 19th of March at 8.00pm at the Melbourne Town Hall.

An excellent night of music, dancing and entertainment is planned, and you can add to the enjoyment by coming along in "convict" or "colonial" costume.

Dance music will be played by the "Iron and Shackles Band", and you'll also be entertained by juggling, didgeridoo playing, rapper sword dancing, Morris clogging, Scottish pipe & drum playing, and sea shanties. What an evening! If that isn't enough, prizes can also be won during the night.

So please come along and help to make the Ball a great success. Families are welcome, BYO supper and drinks. Tickets are \$9.00 each and are available from the Colonial Dancers. Phone Jennie Simpson on 754 2249.

Maureen Beggs.
Colonial Dancers.

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CLASSIFIED ADS

WANTED TO BUY OR BARTER

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Singabout Vol 1 No 1 | Australian Tradition Vol 1 No 3 |
| Vol 3 No 2 | Vol 2 Nos 1 & 2 |
| Vol 5 No 1 | Vol 3 Nos 1 & 2 |
| | Nos 14 & 15 |

| | |
|--|-----------------------|
| Bill Bowyangs Reciters Nos 1 to 5 | All Wattle recordings |
| Gumsuckers Gazette----- All issues | |
| Bushwhacker Broad-sides-----All issues | |

Sundry other Australian Folklore (list available).

Keith McKenry
5 Bonney St.
AINSLIE ACT 2602
ph. (062) 479 565

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Peter Goodyear's new address: 4/11 Belmont Avenue Glen Iris 3146
Phone 25 8329 (home) or 288 2000 (work)



COME TO THE

CONVICTS' BALL



BUSH DANCE

SATURDAY
MARCH 19th
8-12.30pm

MELBOURNE TOWN HALL

\$9.00 per head

INFORMATION: JENNIE SIMPSON

ph. 754 2249

BYO SUPPER & DRINK



Proceeds for the Colonial Dancers to represent Australia at the 1988 Military Tattoo Edinburgh.

Bluegrass at the National

BLUEGRASS fans will find a wealth of talent at the 22nd National and the evening concert series will be kicking off with blues and bluegrass on the Friday.

From Adelaide we'll have **Country Express**, the renowned group of Brent Miller, John Munro, Mike O'Callaghan and Mike Smith who have been performing together since 1972 - something of an achievement when you consider that they are not a "professional" band.

In fact their music roots go back even further, with both Brent and John having been members of The Skillet Lickers, a bluegrass band formed in 1967. As Country Express they have two early albums to their credit - *Country Express*, released in 1974, and *Bluegrass in the Bulldust* (1975) - and two more recent releases, *Another Lonesome Morning* (1985) and *A Place in the Choir* (1986).

As individual performers, John and Brent in particular have made their mark. Brent has been playing bass with Eric Bogle for the past six years and John was for four years Eric's accompanist and musical arranger. Watch for their workshops at the Festival as well as their concert appearances.

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SYDNEY will be represented by the **Hotfoot String Band**, a traditional line-up comprising Rod Jones (fiddle, guitar), Judy Jones (banjo, autoharp),

Len Newland (mandolin), Brian Burke (guitar) and Dot Newland (double bass).

They play the music of the Appalachian area, American traditional music, stringband music, early country music and and traditional bluegrass.

Judy won first place in the clawhammer banjo section at the Galax Festival in Virginia in 1986 and in 1984 Rod was 4th in the fiddle competition at Macksville.

Their performances usually include a display of Appalachian clogging and as well as concert appearances they'll also be presenting a workshop at the National.

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THE Rank Strangers Bluegrass and Gospel Band is a group of Melbourne musicians whose LP *Dust on the Bible*, released last year, has met a very favourable reception and who made something of a hit at last year's Mittagong Bluegrass Festival.

Members are Eddie Rambeaux, Andrew Hook, Peter Somerville and Philomena Carroll.

And from Perth we'll have **Scott and Louisa Wise**, with a wide range of material encompassing oldtime American mountain tunes, blues, bluegrass, country, ragtime and an increasing number of original compositions. Their second LP, *Faraway*, was released in 1986.

- ROY HARBOUR

VICTORIAN FOLK VENUES - MARCH 1988

["*" items are managed or sponsored by the F.S.D.S.V. - see back page]
['Phone' = At the venue ; 'Contact' = Contact people are NOT at venue]

Music Venues - Metropolitan

- SMTWTFs
- F * **MELBOURNE FOLK CLUB** Fridays 8.30 pm - 12
Dan O'Connell Hotel, Chr.Princes & Canning Streets, Carlton
Contact Sean McLernon (03)386 5823 (a.h.)
- S tF **CELTIC CLUB** ev.2nd Thursday approx.10 pm - 12
Fridays & Sundays 7 pm - 12
Cnr.LaTrobe & Queen Streets, Melbourne - phone (03)67 6472
- Fs **CLIFTON HILL HOTEL** Fridays & Saturdays 8 pm - 12
Queens Parade, Clifton Hill - ph.(03)489 8705
- t **DAN O'CONNELL HOTEL** Thursdays - Celtic Band 'Tara'
Chr.Princes & Canning Streets, Carlton - phone (03)347 1502
- S **ELSTERNWICK HOTEL** 1st Sund.ea.month 'Tara' 4 - 8 p.m
Cnr.Glenhuntly Road & Nepean Highway - phone (03)531 3400
- S TWTFs **FAT BOB'S CAFE** Tuesday - Sunday 8 pm - "late"
Also MC Rick E.Vengeance on Sundays - 'Open Talent Night'
741 Glenhuntly Road, South Caulfield - phone (03)523 9054
- s **FOLKLORE COUNCIL OF AUST.** 3rd Saturday ea.month from 8 pm
Eastern suburbs (venue alters). Monthly Social/Meeting
Contact Maxine Ronnberg (03)20 4136.
- SMTWTFs **GREEN MAN COFFEE LOUNGE** Every Night - Acoustic/Folk.
1221 High Street, Malvern - phone (03)20 5012.
- s * **INSTRUMENT WORKSHOPS** Saturdays - 1.30 pm Beginners
with Chris Wendt & Malcolm Fitzmaurice - 3.00 pm Advanced
Robert Burns Hotel, Chr.Smith & Easey Streets, Collingwood.
Contact Ellen Burke (03)489 2441.
- T **LEINSTER ARMS HOTEL** Tuesdays - English 'session'
Chr.Gold & Botham Streets, Collingwood. Contact (03)859 9583
- S Wt s **NORMANDY HOTEL** Acoustic Wed Maria & Fran 8 - 12
Thurs Singing 'session' 8 - 12
Sat Irish bands 8 pm - 12
Sun Irish 'session' 3 pm - 11
Cnr.Queens Pde. & Gold St., Clifton Hill - phone (03)481 3332
- S **'ONE-C-ONE'** (Recommences March 1988) 8 p.m. - 12
held at 'The Troubadour', 388 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy.
Acoustic/Blues/Folk Contact Ivan Repak (03)481 2965
- F **'PICKIN AT THE PIGGERY'** 3rd Friday ea.month
held at the Footscray Community Arts Centre, 45 Moreland Street.
- S * **SINGING WORKSHOPS** 2nd & 4th Sundays ea.month from 2.00 p.m
Contact Laurie Stowe (03)429 2993 (a.h.) / (03)565 3972 (b.h)
- SMTWTFs **THE TROUBADOUR** Ev. Night - Acoustic/Blues/Folk
Cafe/Restaurant, 388 Brunswick St, Fitzroy - phone(03)419 4563

NATIONAL FESTIVAL PROMO

Saturday, February 6, at Grace Brothers, Miranda

Festival performers will be appearing throughout the day

Come and support them - and help with distribution of Festival publicity

S TWtFs TWILIGHT COFFEE HOUSE Tuesdays - Thursdays 9 pm - 12
 Fridays & Saturdays 9 pm - 1 am
 Sundays - Classical Guitar Soc.
 (03)861 6587.
 234 High Street, Kew - phone

M VICTORIAN FOLK MUSIC CLUB Mondays - Workshops 8 p.m.
 4th Mondays - 'Singabout' 8 p.m.
 Anglers Hall, Cnr.Rathmines & Clarke Streets, Fairfield.
 Contact Elma Gardner (03)497 1628

s WINDSOR CASTLE HOTEL Saturdays 'Tara' 3 pm - 6 pm
 Albert Street, Windsor.

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Learn Dancing

[N.B. Various folk dance and instrument classes are also conducted]
 [through the Council of Adult Education, & Melbourne & Monash Uni's.]

BALLARAT MORRIS DANCERS Thursdays 7 pm - 9 pm
 Trades Hall, Camp St., Ballarat. Contact Peter Waugh (053)31 5365

BRITANNIA MORRIS MEN Wednesdays 7.30 pm
 Jika Jika Community Centre, Plant Street, Northcote.
 Contact Peter Cartledge (03)481 2337.

COLONIAL DANCERS Every Wednesday. 8 pm - 10 pm
 (Live music ev.first Wed.) Aust.Colonial,British Isles,Old-Time.
 Carlton Community Centre, 150 Princes Street, Carlton.
 Contact Lucy(03)380 4291(ah)/609 9296(bh)//Heather(03)235 3358(bh)

INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING WORKSHOPS Tuesdays 8 pm \$3.00
 Carlton Community Centre, 150 Princes Street, Carlton.
 Beginners to Advanced. Contact Therese Virtue (03)489 6173.

ISRAELI & INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCING [Enrolment required]
 (214 Inkerman Street, East St.Kilda) - Mondays - Beginners.
 (St.Stephens Hall,158 Balaclava Road,Nth.Caulfield) Thurs - Adv.
 Contact Sheffi Shapira (03)817 1632.

OLD THUMPER NORTH WEST MORRIS TEAM alt.Thursdays 8-10 p.m.
 Dance Studio, Collingwood Education Centre, Harmsworth Street,
 Collingwood. Contact Colin (03)654 1333 (b.h.)/(03)267 1113 (a.h.)

PLENTY MORRIS DANCERS Tuesdays 7.30 pm
 Melbourne Uni.Sports Centre.Contact Rae Traethen (03)417 6505.

SHE-OAKS Ladies Morris Dancers Wednesdays 7.30 pm
 Melbourne University Sports Centre Activities Room.
 Contact Kathy Gausden (03)489 2554 (a.h)/(03)608 1911 (b.h)

SQUARE DANCING CLASSES Wed's - Beginners/Ev.2nd Fri - Advanced
 St.Matthews Church Hall, Nepean Highway, Cheltenham.
 Contact Steve (03)383 2414.

VFMC DANCE CLUB (Esp.for beginners) 4th Wednesday ea.month - 8pm
 Contact Graeme Hignan (03)890 6890 or Jane Bullock (03)762 1389.

WELSH DANCING CLASSES 2nd & 4th Thursdays 7.30 - 9.00 p.m.
 Cambrian (Welsh) Church Hall, LaTrobe Street, Melbourne.
 Contact Liz Hardidge (03)386 6686/Michael Williams (03)489 5415

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Regular Dances - Metropolitan

COBBERS 'GUMTREE' BUSH DANCES Every 2nd Saturday 8 - 12.
 LaTrobe University Union Hall. \$10. Contact (03)497 3227.

FAMILY FOLK DANCES 4th Saturday each month 7 - 9 pm
 Uniting Church Hall, Cnr.Normanby Road & High St, East Kew.
 Contact Beth Rankin ('Parents for Music') (03)859 2009.

PARADIDDLE BUSH DANCES BYO Supper, non-licensed. 8 pm - 12
 Hawthorn Town Hall. Contact (03)844 2476 for details. \$7/\$5/\$2

SHENANIGANS DANCES 2nd Saturday each month 8 - 11 pm
 St.Josephs Hall, Fitzgerald Street, South Yarra.
 Special guest ea.month. \$6 & \$5. Contact Gary King (03)528 6189

'UP TO SCRATCH' SOCIAL DANCE 1st Wednesday each month 8 - 10.30
 Carlton Community Centre, 150 Princes Street, Carlton.
 Musicians and Dancers welcome.
 Contact Bruce Watson (03)478 0130 (a.h.)

VFMC COLONIAL DANCE 3rd Saturday each month 8 - 11 pm
 Carlton Community Centre, 150 Princes Street, Carlton.
 Contact Elma Gardner (03)497 1628

VFMC EASTERN SUBURBS DANCE 1st Saturday each month 8 p.m.
 Uniting Church Hall, Station Street, Ringwood. (Melways 49 H9)
 Contact Elma Gardner (03)497 1628.

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Regular Dances - Out of Town

BENDIGO DISTRICT 'The Sandhurst Dance Club'.
 Colonial Dance Workshop. 1st Thurs ea. month. 8 - 10 p.m.
 Bush Music & Song Workshop. 3rd Thurs ea. month. 8 - 10 p.m.
 The Old Bendigo Fire Station, View Street, Bendigo.
 Contact Mary Smith (054)421 153.

BERWICK DISTRICT 'Old Time Dances' 8 pm - 12 around \$3.00
 1st Sat.each month Mechanics Hall, Clyde
 2nd Fri.each month Public Hall, Heads Road, Yannathan
 3rd Sat.each month Masonic Hall, Princes Highway, Berwick
 4th Sat.each month Memorial Hall, Worsley Road, Bangholme
 Contact Alf Johnston (03)707 2327 (a.h.)

FRANKSTON BUSH DANCES Saturday every 10 weeks - from 7.30 pm
 BYO & Supper. TAFE Hall, Quality Street, Frankston.
 Different bands playing. Contact Noel (03)781 4794.

GEELONG Colonial Balls & regular 'Bullockies Balls' 8 pm - 12
 Venues vary. Different bands at each event. BYO everything.
 Contact Andrew (052)213 095 (a.h.)or phone (052)99 652 (b.h.)

TALLANGATTA - Church of England Hall 3rd Sat each month.
 'Old Time Dance' 8.15 pm - 11.30 pm Contact (060)71 2545.

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Music Venues - Out of Town

ALEXANDRA 'U.T. Creek Folk Club' Ev. 2nd Thursday
Special Guest nights occasional Fridays Shamrock Hotel, Grant St.
Contact Jim Catterwell (057)72 2157 (a.h.)/(057)72 1293 (b.h.)

CHEWTON FOLK CLUB 8.30 p.m. 3rd Friday each month
Chewton Town Hall. (Near Castlemaine).
Contact Mick Ahearne (054)742 511(bh) or Helen (054)723 990 (ah)

FRANKSTON 'Peninsula Folk Club' 1st & 3rd Sundays 7 pm - 11 pm
'Central Coffee Lounge', Nepean Highway.
Contact Evan Webb (03)783 8820 or Lyn Hornibrook (03)754 6057

GEELONG FOLK CLUB Club Night Tuesdays - 8.30 pm
at The Sir Charles Hotham Hotel, Cnr. Mercer & Brougham Streets.
Special Concerts on Fridays - 8.30 pm
at The Newtown Club, 12 Skene Street, Newtown.
Contact Andrew Morris (052)213 095(a.h.)
or 'Music World' (052)99 852(b.h.)

GIPPSLAND ACOUSTIC MUSIC CLUB 1st Sunday each month
Tyers Hall Supper Room, Main Road, Tyers.
Contact Lyndal Chambers (051)74 5680.

HEALESVILLE FOLK CLUB 8.00 p.m. 2nd Friday each month
'The Brojga Room', Healesville Sanctuary, Badger Creek Road.
Contact Hugh (059)62 4371.

HORSHAM FOLK CLUB last Friday each month
Contact Rick (053)82 1520 (a.h.) or Barbara (053)82 3284.

LILYDALE 'Montrose Folk Club' 7.30 3rd Friday each month
Jam Sessions 8.30 - 10 p.m. every Tuesday
Lilydale Hotel, (next to Post Office) Main Street, Lilydale.
Contact Brian (03)754 2967 or Chris (03)725 2248.

MT. GAMBIER FOLK CLUB 2nd & 4th Fridays each month
Upstairs Lounge, Macs Hotel, Penda Road, Mt. Gambier.
Contact Dorothy (087) 253 767 or Phil (087) 250 965 (a.h.)

SELBY FOLK CLUB 1st Friday each month
Community House, Wombalana Road, Selby.
Contact Rob Freethy (03)754 7314 (a.h.)

SHEPPARTON FOLK CLUB 2nd & 4th Thursdays each month
Junction Hotel, Toolamba. 8 pm - 12 midnight
Contact Bill Blackall (058)25 1236.

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For further information regarding Folk events/news/etc, in Victoria
and interstate, please see the full Newsletter of the F.S.D.S.V.

For further information regarding specific events, please check the
local papers, e.g. Friday's 'Age' newspaper's 'Entertainment Guide'.

The information contained on these pages appears courtesy of the Folk
Song & Dance Society of Victoria, as part of the monthly F.S.D.S.V.
Newsletter. Please assist in keeping it up-to-date by letting us know
of any changes - contact Kathy at P.O. Box 327, Clifton Hill 3068.

SUPPORT FOLK MUSIC, SONG AND DANCE - JOIN THE F.S.D.S.V.
Write to : P.O. Box 1096, Carlton 3053.

WHY MACEDONIA?

A good question and one that various people have asked me. There are two answers: the real one, which is "because I want to", and another answer for people who don't like that one.

As for the first answer, I first heard traditional Macedonian music back in 1973. Despite its' exotic character, there were intriguing and subtle similarities to the Irish music I was into at the time (given that I'm English, it's strange that people have never asked me "Why Irish?"). So it got added to that list of music that I love to listen to but never even dreamed of playing (like modern jazz and symphonies!).

Later, of course, Andy Irvine started playing Macedonian and Bulgarian music, which inspired me to try my hand at it too. Success was elusive until I came to Melbourne (in 1983) and met Dave Hicks who gave me some sheet music collected in Bulgaria by Henry Gardner. At the same time I diversified my involvement in Colonial Dancing to include the European dancing being taught by Rae Marnham, Bev Barnes, Therese Virtue and their disciples.

I became aware that the process of handing dances on from one to the other was inevitably causing a dilution of the style and feel of the original. This was through no fault of the teachers, although every so often a ghastly inaccuracy would find its way into the process (like "Siege of Venice" or "Thady Uganda - an African dance", both of which have appeared in print). For example "Skopska Crnogorka", a dance and tune from Skopje, the capital of Macedonia, is included in a tape put out by a well-known Melbourne dance teacher as "Ornogorka - Israeli with Arab influence!"

This led me to seek out the originals where they could be found here in Melbourne. I danced with the pan-Yugoslav dance group Jug-Kolo and another dance group, mainly Serbs, performed with a Serbian dance band and attended Yugoslav community functions, in short I had a bloody good time! From this it was but a short step to go to Yugoslavia, which I originally intended to do totally under my own steam.

However, last year I was recommended by my teacher of the Macedonian language (which I was studying in preparation for going) as a candidate for the "Titov Fond" scholarship, which is set up to enable emigrant Yugoslavs to return and study the folk culture of their original home. Apparently there is nothing to stop them awarding it to a non-Yugoslav; I believe I am the first Australian of English origin to get one.

I leave for Skopje in April and will be away for about 6 months. Of course, Tin Pig, my current band are having to find a temporary replacement for me, so if you, dear reader, play keyboards, bass & cittern (or mandolin), feel at ease with odd rhythms, and can teach dances, please ring Adrian Coleridge on 557 6525

What of the other reason? I have to confess, there's a cause involved. The Macedonians, like the Irish have had their home carved up, in this case between Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Greece. In Yugoslavia, they have their own republic, in which their language is the official, literary, and entertainment medium. Not so in Bulgaria and Greece, where their language, culture and church are suppressed (shades of Ireland not so long ago).

This injustice has now been brought to Australia by the Greek government, which has set up an Australian Institute of Macedonian studies. This body has as its self-confessed aim the dissemination of the myth that there is no separate Macedonian cultural identity, that they are merely Greeks who have chosen to speak "a dialect of Serbian".

Unfortunately, Medibank Private has chosen to sponsor the opening seminar of this institute. In effect, a quasi-government body is supporting a foreign government in activities which run directly counter to stated Australian Government policy on the rights of ethnic groups in this country.

And so, if you like, I'm going to lend my support for a cause. But the first reason is the more honest!

Graham Witt

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Troubadour Sold

The Troubadour Restuarant and nightclub was recently sold for an undisclosed amount to well-known folkie and broadcaster Raymond Mow. Raymond will be familiar to many of you for his programme on 3-PBS FM, especially his recordings of the Melbourne Folk Club when it was at the Robert Burns Hotel.

In an exclusive telephone interview with a FSDSV reporter Raymond said he would not be making any major changes immediately, and that the Troubadour would continue to provide the best possible folk and accoustic music. He intends to make it possible for people to come along for the music without having to have a meal there, and hopes to record some of the performances live.

The One-C-One folk club will be continuing on Sunday nights, with no change, although they will be closed down on the Labour Day long weekend.

I am sure everybody wishes Raymond well in his new venture.

POTTER REUNION SAT. MARCH 19TH AT THE DAN O'CONNELL PUB TO WELCOME THE RETURN OF IRON FRANCES

Fiddler Extraordinaire SPECIAL GUESTS:

Purple Dentists,
Paolacci and Lavin,
Ramblin' Rab Mitchell
Guest M.C.: Louis Mc Manus Snr

2.00 Pm to 6.00Pm

FRAGMENTED FOLK

Did anyone spot the deliberate mistake in last months' leaflet advertising the Port Fairy Folk Festival? According to the latest advert I've seen, the festival is on from the 11th to the 14th of March. My diary agrees that March the 14th is the Labour day holiday. Any other weekend, and you may miss out on a fine festival.

If you would like to get away from the tens of millions who will be going to Port Fairy, you might try the Black and White Festival at Nariel Creek, which is in almost the opposite direction, near Corryong, close to the Vic/NSW border. Head to Wodonga and turn right then drive for an hour or so. The supporters of the festival claim that it is the longest running festival in the country, having been going for 25 years. There will be a dance, and possibly a concert, and the location on the banks of the Nariel Creek is superb. No accommodation, camping only.

For more information 'phone Neville Simpson on (060) 77 1241.

Technology hits folk music. Larrikin has released Eric Bogle's record "Now I'm Easy" on compact disc. If you're one of the three or four people who hasn't yet got this recording, maybe now is the time to buy it. As well as his two best-known songs, "Now I'm Easy" and "The Band Played Waltzing Matilda", there are a few other goodies. According to the review I read, (in the Age) the quality of the sound is excellent.

The Boite has been putting on concerts in Toorak Uniting Church. On the Australia Day long weekend there was a multi-ethnic one with Danny Spooner and his Sea Shanty Choir, followed by Greek, Brazilian, Macedonian and South African performers and groups, (nice to see that someone out there thinks Poms are as ethnic as anyone else) and a couple of weeks ago they presented Frankie Armstrong in Concert with Witchwood and the Melbourne Short Women's Choir.

The Church is a very good venue with a good view of the performers, and the accoustics and PA system were great. Definitely worth a visit if they've got someone you like.

Danny Spooner and the Sea Shanty Choir mentioned above recently recorded an LP of shanties. I haven't seen or heard a copy yet, although I heard them in concert, and with a cast (or crew?) including Brennie Walker, Brian O'Donoghue, Jamie Johnston and George Stephen, it would be enough to shiver anybodies' timbers. Good work lads, and splice the mainbrace!

VICTORIAN FOLK ARTS CO-ORDINATOR

REPORT FOR DECEMBER 1987 - JANUARY 1988

Dear Members

I hope you all had a very merry Christmas, a happy New Year and that those of you that took holidays had a pleasant time. I stayed in Melbourne during the holiday season pursuing the many activities in which I have become involved as the State Co-ordinator. My planned attendance at the Hamiltons Crossing and Nariel folk gatherings did not eventuate due to a slight indisposition after Christmas; chronic hayfever, not the aftermath of over indulgence, made the long, lone drive during the exceptionally hot weather undesirable.

Last year ended on a rather sour note with the disastrous attendance at the public meeting to discuss the Co-ordinator position on December 16. I have always believed and advised that such a public meeting would not yield any positive results but, having succumbed to pressure and spent considerable time and energy organising the event, the lack of response, particularly of those who had requested the meeting, was more than dissappointing. My thanks to those who made the effort to attend.

Some more positive aspects of Januarys activities were the meeting with the Association of Regional Arts Development Officers on the 14th. and a trip to the Latrobe Region on the 8th. and 9th. These both served to increase awareness of my position and of folk arts activities and enabled me to gather valuable information and contacts.

Despite the depressed ending of 1987 this year has started on a positive note. The requests for information about folk arts are increasing in number, a trend which continued during the holiday period contrary to expectations. The requests have mainly come from musicians, story tellers and people organising events. Assistance has been given as referrals for contacts, help with publicity and general information or advice. Two interesting aspects that I have noted are that organisers of events are mainly interested in obtaining dancers, and that story tellers seem to believe that their contribution to the folk arts is not being supported.

Some of you may have attended the 'Japanese Bush Dance' at the North Melbourne Football Club on January 31st. This fascinating and enjoyable evening saw Japanese and Australians sharing their folk dances and was a good example of the Japanese Governments efforts to support their folk arts and export them as part of their cultural exchange program. I believe that examples such as this should be presented to the Victorian Government to support future proposals for support for folk arts. During January, following a suggestion made at the last Co-ordinators Committee meeting, I began writing to various embassies and consulates requesting information about their respective Governments endeavours in this area.

Lobbying of the Victorian Government continues and I began the year by writing to introduce myself and recommend the folk arts to the State Ministers for the Arts and Education. Currently the only response has been from Ian Cathie, the new Minister for the Arts, who wrote that he 'looked forward to acquainting himself with the folk arts as the year progresses.' I shall continue to keep the Minister informed and, hopefully, shall elicit a more personal response or involvement.

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The education sector is an important area for activity if we hope to achieve ongoing support for the folk arts. Unfortunately the new Minister for Education, Caroline Hogg, has not responded to my correspondence as yet, no doubt because she has been kept busy overseeing the restructuring of her Ministry that has made dealing with them so difficult during the last six months.

Some success in the education sector was achieved late last year with the filming of various folk dance groups for inclusion in a video production for schools. Margaret Walker of the Margaret Walker Folk Dance Centre in Sydney flew to Melbourne to provide the dialogue to accompany this video. The video footage taken is more than what is needed for the production 'Dance Dance Dance' and I have discussed the possibility of a further production, dealing exclusively with folk dance, with a representative of TV ED. The Education Media Department are enthusiastic about this project and I have written a further letter to Caroline Hogg attempting to gain her support.

In an attempt to gain access to another sphere of educational endeavour in Victoria I have written to the Director of Catholic Education, so far with no response.

The current big music showcase with a strong educational emphasis is the State Bank Melbourne Music Show at the Royal Melbourne Showgrounds. During the past few months I have had numerous discussions in an attempt to get a good representation of folk music in this event but the results have been disappointing. Folk clubs initially seemed reluctant to have any involvement, perhaps seeing the event as inappropriate to folk music, but the Boite and the Victorian Folk Music Club have organised information booths and the Music Show has presented some folk music. I feel that the Victorian Rock Foundation (it's all in the name) the organising body for the Melbourne Music Show, have been a bit tokenistic in their presentation of folk and acoustic music. Despite their promotion of the event as 'an overview of music in Victoria', and the resources put at their disposal by State Government and private sponsors, little has been done to facilitate or promote music other than 'rock'. I have attempted to create as much publicity for the folk aspects of the show as my time and resources allowed, and also wrote to radio stations asking them to rectify the imbalance in media coverage. I also plan to contact the Rock Foundation, the Premier's Department and the Music Show's corporate sponsors asking for a more balanced representation of music in Victoria in future Music Shows.

A national conference entitled Cultural Democracy, Towards a Multicultural Arts Policy for Australia is to be held in Adelaide next month. The recommendations made by this conference will potentially have an effect on Federal and States policies relevant to the folk arts and I have been attending meetings in order to follow the Victorian contribution. Already controversies have arisen about the organisation and the proposed emphasis of the conference and my involvement will depend on discussions with my steering committee and the Australian Folk Trust representatives.

My work to promote awareness of and support for the folk arts is continuing on a broad front. I am liaising with the Ministry for the Arts on established issues such as the review of policy and guidelines concerning the preservation of cultural heritage, and on new initiatives such as proposals for a 'folk arts fair' at the Victoria Market, a register of schools interested in programs involving musicians or dance groups, and on policy matters concerning the various folk arts. Other possibilities for support for the folk arts are continually being investigated.

I have been able to keep abreast of most folk events through personal contacts, the steering committee, press releases and the club newsletters that I receive. It would be of great assistance if any of you who are involved in, or are organising events in the near future could notify me, this would both save me time and enable me to pass on information about your event more quickly. I would also like to be informed of any favourable response or good contact made within the media or any support group so that I can share these resources with other folk arts organisations.

There are only four and a half months left of the current funding for the State Co-ordinator position. During this remaining period I would appreciate any assistance that you can give me to increase the efforts I am making to promote folk arts interests and to enhance the prospects for refunding for the Co-ordinator position. In the current depressed economic climate and time of cutbacks in Government expenditure such refunding appears to be unlikely, any assistance that you can give would enable me to make the most effective use of the time still remaining.

Randal pound.

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