

* **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, Echuca Folk Club, 'Peninsula' Folk Club, Shepparton 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.

The next Meeting of the Folk Song & Dance Society of Victoria will be held at 7.45 p.m. on Monday 2nd May, 1988 in the lounge of The Dan O'Connell Hotel, cnr. Princes & Canning Streets, Carlton.

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 (Jess) :- (03)469 4078

Folk Song & Dance Society
of
Victoria



NEWSLETTER



CLANNAD

ISSN : 0811 - 0107
REGISTERED BY AUSTRALIA POST
PUBLICATION NO. VBH 3680
Free to Members

MAY 1988

VOLUME XVIII NO. 4

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.

This issue was prepared by Kathy Burgi (with many thanks to Chris & Pete for the use of their 'P.C.'). A collating party, organised by Peter Goodyear, is generally held on the last Sunday of each month (please contact Peter on (03)258 329 (H) if you can assist with collating) - our thanks to Peter, and of course 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 1242 (W)
 Publicity : Ellen Burke (03) 489 2441 (H)
 Membership Sec. & Public Officer: Jess Dunnadge (03) 469 4078 (H)
 Committee : Derek Brown (03) 497 3321 (H) / 267 4155 (W)
 Committee : Pam Connell (03) 481 6051 (H) / 347 2322 (W)
 Co-opted as :-
 Club Organiser : Sean McLernon (03) 417 6051 (H)
 Legal Adviser : John Dick (03) 68 4768 (H) / 653 0231 (W)
 Newsletter Ed. : Kathy Burgi (059) 643 783 (Answer-phone)

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

Victoria's A.F.T. (Australian Folk Trust) Representatives are :
 Hugh MacEwan (03) 489 2441 (H) / 369 2266 (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

**** CONTENTS ****

	Page
Editorial.....	3.
President's Report..... (Lucy Stockdale).....	4.
Tamworth Country Music Festival.. (Richard Keam).....	5.
'Grace's Lament'..... (Richard Keam).....	8.
..... (Supplied by Lynne Tracey).....	
The Australian Heritage Series... (Brendan Walker).....	9.
Folk Activities In Victoria.....	11.
Forthcoming Festivals & More Dates For Your Diary.....	15.
Radio Programs.....	16.
22nd National Folk Festival..... (Jess Dunnadge).....	17.
Letters.....	20.
'Around Australia'.....	21.

-*-* EDITORIAL *-*-

Greetings,

No space & no time for this editorial leads me to say only three things : (1) Make sure you read everything ; (2) Enjoy the reading ; (3) Contribute next month !! Oh yes, and while it seemed appropriate to include one of Richard Keam's songs, it's not the one he entered at Tamworth.

Kathy

WANTED ITEMS FOR RESALE

To help raise money for their trip to the Edinburgh Military Tattoo, the Colonial Dancers will be holding a Garage Sale in early July.

If you can contribute goods or if you want further info. please contact

Lisa & Nick ph. 458 4157



COLONIAL DANCERS

TAMWORTH COUNTRY MUSIC FESTIVAL
January 14 25, 1988

Dear Folks,

Well, the National Folk Festival is over for another year. It was a good festival although I do have a couple of gripes about it. The organisers had the right idea in having a beer tent but the wrong idea about the times when people get together & do their drinking - they turned the beer off around midnight! Let's hope that the organisers of the next one at Maleny in Q'ld will have different ideas.

The bad weather didn't really affect the festival although the Arts & Crafts Fair held in conjunction with the festival was outside and the rain made it a bit of a non-event. Fortunately my tent was okay - only a small amount of water got in - but a lot of folkies had to either move out to crash pads (Terry Hunter swears he will never share another one with Hugh MacEwan due to snoring!); sleep in their cars (at least John Ottery was drier and warmer there after arriving back late one night and discovering everything was under water because someone had fallen on his tent and snapped one of his tent poles!); or slept in wet surroundings (Lynne Stone got to bed on Sunday and then discovered her tent was awash and "floated on a raft" all night!).

One disappointment of the festival was that Bruce Watson's song, which was selected as a finalist in the Declan Affley Songwriting Award was not able to be presented because he had not been notified that he was a finalist. Hopefully this sort of thing won't occur again in the future. A report on the festival is included elsewhere in this Newsletter.

The report of the 'Inquiry Into Folk Life in Australia' was released in late February, and will be presented in Parliament in early June. Responses to the recommendations made in the report are needed - you should by now have received the 'between Newsletters' information we sent out to you regarding this. It is essential, if any of these recommendations are to be acted upon, that as many people as possible respond to it - otherwise the Government will think that no-one supports or cares about the recommendations. Copies of the report are available - on loan - from the F.S.D.S.V., for anyone wishing to read it. If you have any queries about it, either contact one of the committee members, or one of our A.F.T. Representatives. Yes, we do now have two Reps. again, with Hugh MacEwan taking on the job as from March, replacing Chris Bigby who resigned late last year. Chris did a great job and I'm sure that Hugh will also prove to be an excellent Rep.

Starting in May we are running a series of Workshops - the 'Australian Heritage Series' - which we hope will be an ongoing series. The Workshops will cover a whole range of topics (see info, elsewhere in this Newsletter) and is run in conjunction with The Boite and the Brunswick Folk Club. It's great to put on these workshops.

Hope to see you at either the club or workshops some time.

Lucy.

Once upon a time, country music was produced by cowboy-hatted yodellers who sang in American accents and strummed on guitars, and folk music was produced by long haired city kids who sang in American or Irish accents and fingerpicked guitars. Or so the stereotypes went. They weren't true, of course, were they? Well, we won't go too far into that one. I comment only that the devotees of particular musical scenes are usually the last people to realise that the devotees of other musical scenes, and indeed the inhabitants of the world at large, don't see them as they see themselves.

In the last few years, what has amounted to a revolution has been happening in Australian country music. The barriers of genre have been substantially broken down, as witnessed by the rise of performers such as Ted Egan, John Williamson, the Flying Emus, the Dancehall Racketeers, the Three Chord Wonders, the acceptance of 'bush bands' as a legitimate part of the country scene, the emergence of Eric Bogle as a regular and well-loved performer at Tamworth, the coverage of songs by Bogle and Judy Small by country artists Slim Dusty, Deniese Morrison and Reg Poole, and various related developments.

One way of looking at this is to see it as a jettisoning of the 'western' accretions and a corresponding new growth in the indigenous Australian product. It should also be said that although this is true of Tamworth, and of the country as a whole - if the national audience is gauged by album sales, then John Williamson's 1987 double platinum, outselling Michael Jackson (the American one) to rank 5th nationally, must say something - it is unfortunately true that in Melbourne at least, 'country' is still advertised as 'country and western' and much of the country scene seems to consist of city kids on a macho cowboy identity kick.

Off I went, then, to Tamworth to see what was going on and as a finalist in the Capital Country Music Association songwriters' contest.

Tamworth hasn't changed much in the 13 years since I last saw it; still your hot (40 degrees plus most January afternoons), busy, big country city, with here and there a bit of cosmopolitan style showing through. It is a long drive - 750 miles, but the country from Wellington through Gulgong and Coolah to Gunnedah was beautiful. I was later to find out that Seamus Gill, John and Dale Dengate, Denis Kevans and others had been at the Gulgong (Henry Lawson) festival a fortnight earlier. It would be possible to take in the Lawson festival, then head off to the North Coast beaches for a couple of weeks and then return south via Tamworth. Gulgong, as all folkies will know (won't you?!) is the birthplace of the poet and a great little place it is too - a miniature Maldon.

The first day nearly turned me off for good, as of approximately 20 buskers I saw perform, about 18 were singing with pseudo American accents, including the indefatigable local group of buckskin-fringed teenaged sisters who performed for five hours straight outside K-Mart. You therefore have to temper any promising developments with the realisation that lots of people

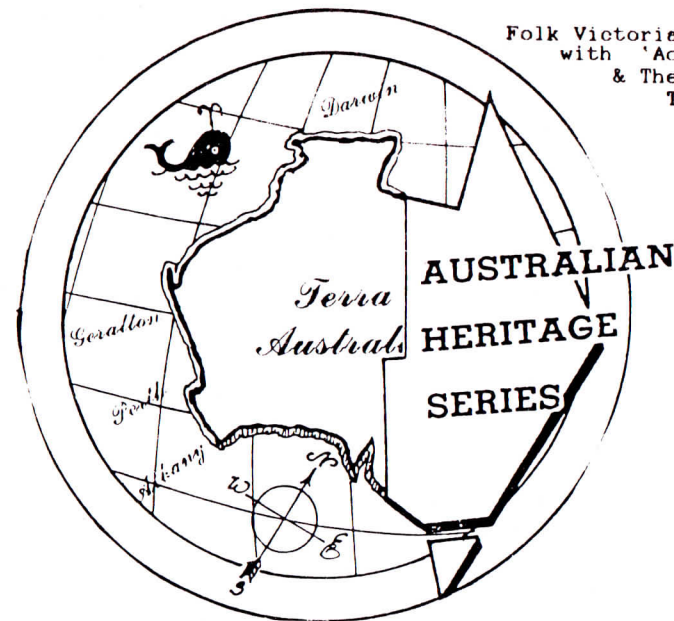
actually seem to like this, and that many diehard country and western followers don't like what you and I would probably regard as the positive changes which have hit the scene, and that the dedicated followers of Nashville regard their kind of country as progressive and the indigenous Oz variety as shit. On the other hand the strongest street audience approval was definitely for those acts which were Australian in flavour and the \$500 buskers' prize went to well known (notorious ?) folk festival phenomenon Campbell Irving of S.A. Additionally, what you see on stage is generally very different from what you see on the street.

Day Two arrived with the Sydney Shock Horror headlines screaming "Country Star Snubs Royals". John Williamson had declined to perform for Charles and Di at the Command Bicentennial Concert. He had nothing against them personally, but felt that the whole idea of a 'command' performance was a perpetuation of colonial assumptions which it was time to abandon & what was needed was a forward looking outlook and a new start for a new century, with special reference to the aboriginal people. Now, this may be par for the course as far as folk scene attitudes go - something not unduly exceptional. What you must realise is that it's a gutsy and significant thing for a country entertainer to say, because many country people and traditional country music followers are extremely conservative. As a Mr. Byrne of West Tamworth wrote to the Northern Daily Leader apropos of republicanisim generally : "Hawke wants to poison the minds of children by having schools teach them that we came from spes. (he) would abolish religion along with burial rites and marriage ceremonies"; or as Mr. Clark of Coffs Harbour wrote to Capital News, the Williamson boycott was "... a veritable blessing for the Royal Couple", and his music was "excrement" which was "suitable only for club smokos and blood house jukeboxes".

A festival of this size and duration, worth, on ballpark estimates, \$15 million to the city, is not centrally organised and ticketed. Artists' arrangements are handled by the venues and so some performances are free and others will cost, say \$7 or so. My rounds of the venues left me most impressed with the Longyard Hotel, a new complex built with performance in mind and with an audience capacity akin to The Troubadour. Do not be put off by the Big (Electric) Guitar at the entrance. The place has good atmosphere, is the venue for the Tamworth Folk and Country Music Club, and now has its own boutique brewery on site, mercifully minus all the trendy hordes infecting a place like the Loaded Dog. Performers included program host Ted Egan, John Williamson, Norma Murphy (watch out for this lady - you'll be hearing more), Anne Kirkpatrick, and Riverina duo Luhrs and Crawford. For the most part, the performance style and content wouldn't be out of place at any folk festival, nor would 'folk' performers feel out of place at the Longyard; indeed the audience was practically identical to audiences at, e.g. Port Fairy. The bush bands contest was held in a natural bush amphitheatre a few hundred yards to the rear. It attracted a very big crowd but was terminated by a violent electrical storm which also created havoc at the pub itself; Norma Murphy and band, however, just went right on singin' until the amps came back on...

I missed the National Bluegrass Championships and hence Justin Price-Rees' win in the fiddle section. Some of you may recall Justin as the knee-high to a grasshopper kid from Bendigo who used to bob up at folk festivals a few years back and showed a ton of talent.

cont on p.17...



Folk Victoria, in Association
with 'Across The Border'
& The Boite, presents
THE AUSTRALIAN
HERITAGE
SERIES.

29/5/88 The first event in the series will be our concert, featuring a representative sampling of music, song and dance from our diverse Australian community, performed by some of the best performers of the Folk Arts.

19/6/88 'Black and White Australia'. Presented by Across The Border and featuring Ted Egan among others, this workshop concert will look at historical and contemporary relations between Aboriginal and European Australia.

10/7/88 'Images of Australian Women'. Presented by Across The Border, this concert/workshop will explore the historical and contemporary place of women in the Australian community. Featured will be Margret Roadknight and Judy Small.

31/7/88 'Flogged and Flayed : Transportation, its Background & History'. Presented by Folk Victoria and featuring Danny Spooner, folk artiste extraordinaire, this exploration will illuminate episodes in the history of modern colonial settlement.

21/8/88 'Indo-Chinese Music in Australia'. Presented by The Boite, this practical workshop will develop a better understanding of the music and culture of one of the newer additions to the Australian community.

11/9/88 'Fleecing the Jolly Jumbuck'. Presented by Folk Victoria, and featuring the raw boned Eddie Scott, we will celebrate the growth of the wool industry and its Folklife.

2/10/88 'South African Connection'. Presented by The Boite and unfortunately not featuring Paul Simon, this event will explore the power and the beauty, the passion and the pain of South African music.

23/10/88 'Unions and Blisters : A Dance Workshop'. Though unfinalised at the time of writing, this event will explore some aspects of the experience of Dance in Australia.

The Australian Heritage Series aims to illustrate the enjoyment that can be had in the extraordinary breadth of culture in Australia. With over 130 cultures represented in Australia, we have a lot to enjoy.

While entertaining, the series will explore some of the cultures here and try to assess their contributions to the broader Australian mosaic. We will also look at some of the earlier influences. Are they still relevant? Do the old stories of shearers and shearing sheds still have something to tell us? Is our convict past still relevant now we have got over the shame of it?

This then is The Australian Heritage Series. It is an exploration. It is an exuberance. It is a celebration.

For further information about the series, watch out for further outpourings or ring Brendan Walker on (03)387 3043 (a.h.) or (03) 606 1242 (b.h.).

====>====>====>====>====>====>====>====>====>

----**--**--**--**--**--**--**--**--**

As a result of last month's meeting regarding the Instrumental Workshops run by the F.S.D.S.V., the following details should be noted :-

The Workshops will be held every Saturday, from 2 - 5 p.m. at the Dan O'Connell Hotel, cnr. Princes & Canning Streets, Carlton under the expert tutelage of Graeme Smith, Chris Wendt, Malcolm Fitzmaurice, Kelly Stephen et al.

Anyone interested in playing a folk music instrument, or in lending skills on a teaching basis, please contact Ellen Burke after hours on (03)489 2441.

----**--**--**--**--**--**--**--**--**

VICTORIAN FOLK VENUES - MAY 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, Cnr.Princes & Canning Streets, Carlton
Contact Sean McLernon (03)417 6051 (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

tFs DAN O'CONNELL HOTEL Thursdays - Celtic Band 'Tara'
Fridays - 'Melbourne Folk Club'
Saturdays - Irish 'session'
Cnr.Princes & Canning Streets, Carlton - phone (03)347 1502

S KLSTERNWICK 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 2.00 - 5 p.m.
With either Chris Wendt, Malcolm Fitzmaurice or Graeme Smith.
Dan O'Connell Hotel, cnr.Princes & Canning Streets, Carlton.
Contact Ellen Burke (03)489 2441.

T LEINSTER ARMS HOTEL Tuesdays - English 'session'
Cnr.Gold & Hotham Streets, Collingwood. Contact (03)859 9583

S Wt s NORMANDY HOTEL Wed Acoustic Music 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' 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

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

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.

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 (a.h.); or Heather (03)235 3358 (b.h.)

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)854 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 Higman (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

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

'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.

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 Occasional Saturdays - from 7.30 pm
 BYO & Supper. Venues & bands vary. Contact Carla Rea (03)786 0800.

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.

Music Venues - Out of Town

ALEXANDRA 'U.T.Creek Folk Club' Kv. 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)

ECHUCA 'River Folk Echuca' Once a month - night varies
 Special Guest nights only. The Pastoral Hotel, Sturt Street.
 Contact Lisa Vinnicombe (054)825 740 (ah)

FRANKSTON 'Peninsula Folk Club' 1st & 3rd Sundays 7pm - 11pm
 'Central Park Coffee Lounge', off Thompson Road (near Library).
 Contact Evan Webb (03)783 8820 or Carla Rea (03)786 0800.

GEE LONG 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)99 652(b.h.)

HEALESVILLE FOLK CLUB 8.00 p.m. 2nd Friday each month
 'The Brolga 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 3289.

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.

TYERS 'Gippsland Acoustic Music Club' 1st Sunday each month
 Tyers Hall Supper Room, Main Road. Contact Lyndal Chambers (051)74 5680.

=====

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.

+//+ FORTHCOMING FESTIVALS +//+

June 10 - 13 18th Top Half Folk Festival, Alice Springs, N.T. Phone Joyce Malins (089)500 248 (b.h.) (089)529 570 (a.h.).

June 10 - 13 Newcastle Folk Festival, N.S.W.

June 10 - 13 Coffs Harbour Folk Festival, N.S.W.

Aug. 19 - 21 Mena Creek Folk Festival, North Queensland.

Oct. 28 - 30 7th Tablelands Folk Festival, Yungaburra, Q'ld.

+//+

++ MORE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY ++

May 5th onward 'THE CELTIC SPECTACULAR'
 8.00 p.m.
 THURSDAYS
 \$8
 Featuring : Joe Fitzgerald, Jimmy Fitzgerald, Paddy O'Neill, 'The Purple Dentists' (Dan Bourke, Louis McManus and Tony O'Neill).
 The Retreat Hotel, 280 Sydney Road, Brunswick.
 Enquiries : (03)380 3301.

May 7th
 7.30 - 12
 SATURDAY
 \$8/\$6/\$2
 Peninsula Folk Club's BUSH DANCE.
 Featuring 'Jindivic'. All dances called.
 BYO Drink & Basket Supper (tea, cordial etc. free)
 Bookings : Central Park Coffee Shop, Frankston (near Library), or call (03)783 8820//786 0800.

May 8 & 9
 8.00 p.m.
 SUN & MON
 'CLANNAD' on Australian Tour.
 Melbourne Concert Hall.
 Bookings through Bass outlets.

May 28th
 8.00 p.m.
 SATURDAY
 \$10
 'WOOLSHED BALL'
 Run by the Victorian Folk Music Club.
 Central Hall, 20 Brunswick Street, Fitzroy.
 BYO Liquor, Glasses & Basket Supper.

June
 'The Fureys & Davey Arthur' on Australian Tour.
 Supported by John Schumann.
 Bookings at all BASS outlets.
 Sun 5th MELBOURNE Town Hall
 Tues 7th Twin Towns Services Club, ALBURY
 Sat 18th BALLARAT Civic Hall
 Mon 20th WARRNAMBOOL Performing Arts Centre
 Tues 21st SHEPPARTON Town Hall
 Wed 22nd GEELONG Ford Theatre

September
 'Guinness Celebration of Irish Music'.
 Details to follow in later editions.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON ANY OF THE ABOVE EVENTS, WATCH IN FRIDAY'S 'AGE' NEWSPAPER'S ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE FOLK LISTINGS

+//+

***** RADIO PROGRAMS *****

3AR	= 621	on the AM dial (National Radio)
3CCC-FM	= 103.9	on the FM dial. (Central Victorian area)
3CR	= 837	on the AM dial. (Melbourne metropolitan area)
3EA	= 1224	on the AM dial. (Melbourne metropolitan area)
3GCR-FM	= 103.5	on the FM dial. (Gippsland area)
3MBS-FM	= 93.7	on the FM dial. (Melbourne metropolitan area)
3PBS-FM	= 107.7	on the FM dial. (Melbourne metropolitan area)
3RIM-FM	= 95.5	on the FM dial. (Melton area)
3RPC-FM	= 106.3	on the FM dial. (Portland area)
3RPP-FM	= 94.3	on the FM dial. (Peninsula area)
3RRR-FM	= 102.7	on the FM dial. (Melbourne metropolitan area)

MONDAY TO FRIDAY

3MBS 1.00 - 2.00 pm 'Music a la carte' (often has folk content)

MONDAY

3CR 1.00 - 2.00 pm 'Mundi Lunch' [Ian Paulin]

3CCC 7.00 - 8.00 pm 'The Organic Swagman' [Kerry McDonald]

3CCC 8.00 - 9.00 pm 'Open Door' [Roddy Willaton]

3CR 10.30 pm - 12.00 'That's All Folk'
[Michael Moran, Seamus Gill, Peter Leman, Peter Goodyear]

TUESDAY

3RRR 2.00 - 4.00 pm 'Rick E. Folk' [Rick E. Vengeance]

3AR 7.15 - 9.00 pm 'On The Wallaby Track'
[Producer - David Mulhallen; Presenter - Murray Jennings]

3RIM 9.00 pm - 12.00 'Folk & Acoustic Smorgasbord'
[Gerard Hanrahan]

WEDNESDAY

3RPC 9.00 - 11.00 pm '40 Shades of Green' alt. 'Folk & Beyond'
[Alternating weeks - Jeanette Brennan & Tony Hudson]

THURSDAY

3GCR 8.00 - 10.00 pm 'What the Folk'
[Geoff Harris, Lyndal Chambers, Hans Strating]

FRIDAY

3AR 8.00 - 10.00 pm 'Music Deli' [Steven Snelleman, Paul Petran]

SATURDAY

3RPP 11.00 - 1.00 pm [Various Peninsula Folkies]

3PBS 10.00 am - 12.00 'Mainly Acoustic'
[Suzette Watkins, David Heard, Chris O'Connor]
Includes, at 11.00 a.m. 'What's On In Folk & Acoustic' segment
[Compiled & Presented by Raymond Mow]

3EA 11.05 pm - 12.00
[1st Sat - Irish Gaelic Program. 3rd Sat - Scots Gaelic Program]

SUNDAY

3CCC 9.30 - 10.30 pm 'Singers, Songwriters & Troubadours'
[Andrew Pattison]

... cont from p. 6

Your correspondent doesn't know where he (i.e. me) finished in the song final, nor do the 33 other participants apart from the winner. He did however knock off Campbell Irving for the Australian Bush Recitation Prize sponsored by (wait for it) Kentucky Fried Chicken. There were over 100 entrants in the three sections of the Bush Poetry Contest - a great development. The standard in all talent quests was extremely high and the depth of female vocal talent in particular was incredible; there were strong contingents from Bairnsdale, Bendigo, the Mallee and other regions.

Is it worthwhile for a folkie to attend? If you have an open mind and a strong feeling for things Australian, especially if there's a bit of bush in your background, you should have a bloody good time. But take wet weather camping gear as well as your shorts and thongs, or make a motel booking a year in advance. And the cowboy hat? Leave it for the Yellow Rose Honky Tonk in Melbourne and take your Akubra.

- Richard Keam.

[For your interest readers, a quote from 'Capital News' re Justin Price-Rees: "...he practices two hours each day and [all Saturday, apart from taking trains down to see his] teacher, "perfectionist" in Melbourne, Tony O'Rourke, who [plays five instruments & loves Irish music." Good on you] [Justin and Tony - having seen Justin years ago & having been] [suitably impressed at the time, I am not surprised at his] [success, it is certainly well deserved. - Ed.]

THE 22nd NATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL
(A Report Thereon)

A pox on the weather !! At least it wasn't cold and wet - just muggy and wet. To add insult to injury, I'm told Melbourne was just perfect all the time we were away.

I didn't get to any of the dances at the festival, but by all accounts they were GOOD. Of course that should have been no surprise considering the bands concerned - 'Reel Tradition', 'The Olde Empire Band', the 'Champion Moreton Bay Band', 'Emu Creek Bush Band', 'Ryebuck Bush Band' and 'Shenanigans'. Two dances on each of three nights, with 'Reel Tradition' playing on two nights (they launched their record on one of them).

Friday night's Poets' Dinner was heading up to be a very good night indeed when an unsympathetic venue-host rather spoiled the spirit of it in spite of Rob Edgar's heroic salvage efforts - on top of the work he'd already done in the organising. As usual some very good reciting and presentation of original (and impromptu) material and some absolutely shameless "rationalising" and "justifying".

{...cont. from previous page}

As usual, choosing which one of five or seven or eight excellent workshops to attend was a frustrating experience, commonly occurring at all National Festivals. I found Warren Fahey's 'Songs of Old Sydney Town' an interesting start. Martyn Wyndham-Read's was a very enjoyable concert (in no way a workshop). I flitted from one to another of the next group that morning so can only say that they all seemed as good as promised, except that the volume of 'Bloodwood' - 'Driving Australia' sent me scuttling for shelter - however I have ordered a tape of it so I can hear it at a volume that I can cope with.

Keith McKenry and friends' 'The Scallywags' Retreat' was, as might be expected, quite irreverent and perhaps a trifle shallow but very well put over. I wonder when Australians will cease to be portrayed as admiring only rogues and killers ?

The production of Peter Bellamy's 'The Transports' by the Monaro Folk Music Society was terrific. Everyone concerned, on-stage and/or behind the scenes deserves heartiest congratulations.

Danny Spooner's concert/workshop was predictably good, as was Denis Tracey's 'Traditional Easter'. I slept most of Saturday afternoon and evening and missed Tom Hanson's workshop. I'm told it was a great sing-along of religious songs which can be beefed out with great gusto. The Sally Army would agree with Tom's ideas.

The Shanty workshop was another good excuse for a hearty sing-along, with a little information and some anecdotes thrown in, as well as questions and comments from the audience.

I'm afraid the Music Hall programme proved a bit rich for my blood - and ears, but the last half of the concert was pretty good even if we did get well soaked going from one place to the other.

For me, the highlight of the Festival was, along with 'The Transports', Ken Ferguson's workshop 'Singing Wire'. Ken's songs and music, along with songs from Harry Robertson, Barry Skipsey and David Evans, written and produced by Ken, made a magic musical documentary. Backed up by the combined vocal and musical talents of 'Bloodwood' it gave us a great indication of the rich talents we have here in Australia - I can't say "home-grown" but surely lovingly adopted.

The weather though - oh dear ! If ever I hear a New South Welshman suggest retiring to sunny New South Wales, I'll go for him with a pitchfork. That Festival deserved better !

Jess Dunnadge

P.S. Mazza sends her love to all - we found her and spent a lovely two days in her bushland retreat.

See P.15 FOR DATES

THE FUREYS & DAVEY ARTHUR



CELTIC IRISH PRODUCTS FOR THE MUSIC OF THE CELTS

Records, Cassettes, Books, Sheet Music, Irish Posters, Video Cassettes, Cards, plus a variety of other Irish gift items.



CELTIC IRISH PRODUCTS Pty. Ltd.

288 Queen Street (Cor. Little Lonsdale), Melbourne
Mon-Fri 9a.m. - 5p.m., Sat 9a.m. - 12 noon.

Ph. (03) 602 4460

AGENT FOR HISTORIC FAMILIES LTD. DUBLIN

Heraldry & Genealogy Room 16, 9th Floor, 37 Swanston Street, (Cor. Flinders Lane) Melbourne 3000.



W.A. Folk Federation Inc.

P.O. BOX 198
NORTH PERTH 6006
381 FITZGERALD STREET
NORTH PERTH 6006
(09) 328 7195

Dear Editor,

Only six months to the Toodyay Folk Festival- what? Is it here again?

Those with an ear or two to the ground may have heard that the W.A. Folk

Federation has had its financial problems, and has had to pull in its

horns somewhat. As a result, we'd like to tell all your readers that the Toodyay Folk Festival will indeed be on again (September 23-26) but we

cannot afford to 'buy' our interstate talent. We'd love - really love -

to have visitors from interstate, but cannot afford this year to pay fees.

We can offer accommodation to approved performers, but no more.

So this is an appeal: if any of your readers wishes to perform at the best folk festival in Australia - Toodyay - and gain a whole new galaxy of fans - then please write and ask us. All for the glory, folks, all for the glory, 'cos we're a touch strapped.....but we do remember favours, you know - so come one, come all - especially audience!

Yours

David O'Connor
David O'Connor
Chairman
non typos!

***# AROUND AUSTRALIA ***#

Following are extracts from the March 1988 edition (just to hand) of the 'Australian Folk Trust Newsletter' prepared by the outgoing National Folk Arts Co-ordinator, Isabel Margrett, with assistance from Irene Petrie. [If you wish for a full copy of the five-page Newsletter, please contact one of our A.F.T. Trustees - see inside front cover of this Newsletter].

This is the first A.F.T. Newsletter for 1988. The two vacant, paid, A.F.T. positions have been filled on a full-time basis by the employment of Pamela Rosenberg as National Folk Arts Co-ordinator, and of De Waite as Administrative Assistant. They can be contacted at present via the Monaro Folk Music Society, P.O. Box 482, Civic Square, A.C.T. 2608.

THE COLLECTORS' FORUM : This forum was held at the University of N.S.W. in December 1987. Over 30 collectors and folklorists attended from all over Australia. Conservation and storage, dissemination & ethics were major topics of discussion & debate.

ARTS POLICY FOR MULTICULTURAL AUSTRALIA - Towards Cultural Democracy

Hosted by the Multicultural Art Workers Committee in association with Community Arts Network (S.A.), and sponsored by the Community Cultural Development Unit of the Australia Council, the S.A. Department for the Arts, and the Office of Multicultural Affairs (Dept. of Prime Minister and Cabinet). Held in March, it featured a broad programme of speakers and workshops covering such areas as -

- Towards Cultural Democracy
- Broadening Cultural Participation and Expression.
- Culture For Whom and By Whom
- Access and Distribution of Cultural Endeavour.
- The Role of Education and Media in Cultural promotion & Development.
- Development of Arts Policy for a Multicultural Australia.

Enquiries re working papers and resolutions should be directed to : M.A.C. , Living Arts Centre, 68-78 North Terrace, ADELAIDE S.A. 5000 Ph. (08)231 6090.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY INTO FOLKLIFE IN AUSTRALIA

This has now been tabled in Parliament. The tabling means nothing without follow-up response from the country at large. It does not commit this government or any other to do anything. If we don't write, put our opinions on paper - the Inquiry could well be dismissed.

It is crucial that written responses to the report reach the Minister for the Arts by JUNE 1st (not July 1st as incorrectly reported in some newspapers).

- I. (a) Get hold of the Report and read it.
(b) or persuade any interested group to appoint someone to read it and summarize the recommendations. It's a long report, but it's clearly written, and contains lots of interesting photographs. [F.S.D.S.V. is currently doing this, but so could others. - Ed.]
- II. If you've written a submission, it's imperative that you respond - otherwise it's easy to claim that the initial interest has disappeared.
- III. If you didn't write a submission, it doesn't matter. It's very important that your voice be heard in writing.

IV. Ways to write :

1. Write individual letters. not co-signed ones - each letter received is noted separately therefore the more the better.
2. Think about petitions also. but make this in addition to individual letters - and make sure that the correct set form for petitions is strictly followed, otherwise they're invalid. Try your local MP's office for the correct form to address through petition.
3. Send letters to and through your local federal member, stating your opinion about the recommendations, and asking that he or she follow this up in Parliament. Try to make an appointment to see your local member as well to discuss the issue and put your opinion. Letters sent requesting action on the Inquiry through local members carry weight. Don't neglect this method.
4. Don't overlook the opposition parties - make a point of contacting the opposition as well.
5. Please don't photocopy 50 copies of the same letter and get all your friends to sign them and send to Gary Punch. His staff will suss that one very quickly. It is important that the letters express individual response if they are to be taken seriously. It doesn't need to be long, in fact 1-2 pages maximum is probably better than another submission, unless you feel you need space to do justice to respond to each recommendation. But please keep it succinct, brief, typed if possible (and don't forget to make your name and address legible).
6. Responses to the Folklife Inquiry are being dealt with by the Department of Arts, Film, Heritage and Territories via the Heritage Branch. It is therefore important to stress the heritage aspects of folklife not just its relevance to arts.
7. Copies of the Report should now be in the hands of all those who sent submissions [F.S.D.S.V. has some - Ed.] Individual copies are available from the Australian Government Printing Office in Melbourne for a cost of \$39.95.
8. As a rough guide for actual letters :
 - a. Stress the positive first. Acknowledge the relevance of the National Inquiry into Folklife in Australia as an important step by the Government towards recognising the needs of the Folk Community. Congratulate the Minister for tabling the report.
 - b. Go on to briefly list your responses to the recommendations. You don't have to agree with all of them, or even mention all of them. You may strongly disagree with some or many. But again voice the positive first.
 - c. Cite numbers if possible. Don't lie or exaggerate. If you belong to a band containing six members or Folk Club containing 20 or 50 members, say so - and indicate that each person involved also has an interest in the follow-up action taken on the report. (Each of us represents a vote - and votes count ! Also don't just say so, make sure that the people you're citing do know about the Report, and about your letter - encourage them to write also. Talk about it, at home, at rehearsals, at your local Folk Club - wherever, and keep talking until you get a response.)
 - d. You might want to include just a sentence (optional) on the importance of folklife to you personally, e.g.

- e. Close by anticipating a favourable response to the recommendations of the Inquiry. If you wish, again commend the Government on its timely and eagerly awaited action on this matter.
9. Newspapers, Magazines and Electronic Media. Articles, interviews whatever go for it. Your state Folk Society is probably best equipped to organise this. Again please think about implementing committees or sub groups in your state to organise this and remember it all has to happen before June 1st 1988. If you happen to see a media comment on the Folklife Inquiry, write a letter to the editor about it - if it's radio or TV, ring in as soon as possible, to register your comment and possibly follow this up with a letter.
10. Other Groups and Organizations. The Folklife Inquiry Report is not the exclusive property of the English speaking Australian folk community. Australia as a whole, as an entity composed of lots of groups, has a stake in this. We are, however, in a position to initiate some contact and action. It is important that other groups who placed submissions also respond. We now spend a lot of time sharing music and dance and stories with folk artists from non-English speaking backgrounds. (The A.F.T. also funds a number of N.E.S.B. projects which reflect shared Australian experience). It seems a good time to initiate shared social action and response to an issue which concerns all Australians, regardless of our parentage or country of origin. It is important to recognise that we may not all agree on all of the recommendations. It is nevertheless vital that we all response to the Inquiry, clearly, concisely and fast !

FAREWELL FROM OUTGOING CO-ORDINATOR & ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT :

The last twenty months of our employment by the A.F.T. have been eventful, productive, sometimes exciting and frequently stressful. For myself, and I believe for Wendy Peckover, A.F.T. Administrative Assistant based in Darwin, the pluses have far outweighed the minuses. Thank you for the positive feedback on the job and particularly this Newsletter (and I speak too for my former co-worker in the National Co-ordinator's position, Bob Petchell). Thank you to all those who took the trouble to give us feedback, positive and negative; we needed all of it, and acted on as much of it as was humanly possible, given our geographic distance from most of you and minimal resources. We are pleased with the job we did and most of all really grateful for the opportunities which the position gave us to meet so many members of the national folk community and other interested individuals and groups. I guess we three are in a unique position, in that we've had the chance to get a broad overview of the Australian folk scene in a relatively short time. And from that vantage point, for those of you who may not realise it, you've a very special and very warm kind of people. We feel privileged to have met and worked with you. Thank you. We wish our successors in Canberra every satisfaction, support and co-operation in their task. 1988 is going to be a crucial year for folklife development in Australia. We are now at the cross roads. And it's mainly up to us which way we go from here.

Best regards.

Isabel Margrett.

#####