

# Folk Song and Dance Society of Victoria Inc "Folk Victoria"

PO Box 1096, Carlton, Victoria, 3053 Phone: 03 9326 4026 or 03 9481 6051

## Newsletter June 2003

### *Greetings to all*

What an amazing few months it has been – once again, though, with the joy and excitement of music and festivals mingled with the sadness of losing friends. Since the last newsletter, the Dandenong Ranges, Port Fairy Yackandandah, Blue Mountains, Apollo Bay and Brunswick Music Festivals, the National Folk Festival in Canberra and the National Celtic Festival in Portarlington have showcased the huge talent we have in Australia, as well as introducing many exciting performers from the world over.

Folk Victoria has been involved in running four successful concerts for the Brunswick Music Festival, two terrific Folk Club nights (all at The East) and the Brunswick Festival Ball at St Ambrose's Hall. Many thanks to all our hard working volunteers.

### *Newsletter*

Apologies to all our faithful supporters who have been eagerly awaiting this newsletter and have probably been thinking that the local dog must have eaten their mail! I am finally giving up being stubborn and I'm asking anyone who could help me get this out on time or even take over the job to please let me know!

Thanks go to Jill Loorham, our membership secretary, for her work in keeping our data base up to date and preparing for each mail-out.

We have together decided that we must have a definite date for each newsletter mailing and therefore a deadline for inclusions of articles or information in each newsletter.

The next newsletter will be mailed on **Tuesday August 19<sup>th</sup>** and any inclusions must reach me either at 225 Rathmines Street Fairfield, or at [gillespie.jeanette.f@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:gillespie.jeanette.f@edumail.vic.gov.au) by **Tuesday August 12<sup>th</sup>**.

Please let us know if you find any mistakes in the events listings, and please help us to build up the list. Reviews of festivals, events, performers or CDs would also be most welcome.

If you are wanting further information about what's on around town, don't forget to look in the Age 'EG' on a Friday and in the Herald-Sun's listings on a Thursday.

### *Vale Derek Brown*

We were recently shocked and saddened to learn of the sudden death of long time FSDSV member, past president, musician, music lover, Morris dancer and beloved friend, Derek Brown. Derek passed away suddenly and unexpectedly of a heart attack whilst chatting to friends

moments before he was to take part in a Morris Dance Display at Kellybrook Winery on Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Many of us were looking forward to Derek's 60<sup>th</sup> birthday party the following Saturday. We instead took part in a funeral and wake to farewell him and to honour and celebrate his life.

Derek had been closely involved with the running of the Folk Song and Dance Society of Victoria in the 1980's and early 90's and was part of the group which organised the 1986 National Folk Festival in Melbourne. As time moved on, his love of the banjo and of Morris Dancing took precedence. Derek and his banjo were familiar sights at the Quiet Man and other Irish sessions around town, and he became a fully fledged member of the Britannia Morris Team, dancing and socialising regularly with them.

Derek's commitment to social justice, equality and peace were among many other areas of his life which were spoken of at his funeral.

Derek's family and partner were of course very precious to him, and we have passed on our condolences and sincere best wishes to his son Andrew and daughter Jacqueline and their respective families, and to his loving partner, Angie McGowan.

Vale Derek. We miss you but we know yours was a life lived to the full.

### *National Folk Festival*

The featured state at the National Folk Festival in Canberra, Easter, 2004, is to be Victoria. A group has been set up to formulate a plan to maximize the input from as many folk-related organisations as possible from Victoria. Folk Victoria has two representatives on that committee, and in the next newsletter we should be able to pass on to you more news of the planning already undertaken.

However, all artists who are thinking they would like to be considered as part of Victoria's special year MUST still individually apply to perform at the festival in the normal way. Applications close at the end of August, so we'd recommend that you obtain an application form soon, by phoning 02 6249 7755 or from their website at [www.folkfestival.asn.au](http://www.folkfestival.asn.au)

### *Songlinks CD*

Over the years, Folk Victoria audience members have enjoyed enormously the songs, music and stories of Martyn Wyndham-Read. Martyn has recently spent a great deal of time, effort and energy putting together a collection of traditional songs from Britain and their Australian "transformations" so to speak. Many artists from both

countries are featured on the double CD, which is beautifully packaged and comes with a booklet of quite extensive notes. Folk Victoria has contributed financially to this project, sponsoring the track "Ginny of the Moor", sung by Dave De Hugar, who currently resides in Maldon. Martyn has written to say that the London launch was a grand occasion, and to pass on his thanks to Folk Victoria for assisting in the project. We should shortly have some CDs to sell at the Folk Club.

### *Tribute to Coralie Collins*

As promised in the last newsletter, we are including this time a collection of tributes which have been sent or passed on to us in honour of Coralie Collins. Many thanks to all those who have contributed. The June Tea Dance run jointly by the TSDAV and Folk Victoria will this year also be in honour of Coralie (see our events listings).

### *Folk Victoria Music Nights*

This month, **FRIDAY, JUNE 27<sup>th</sup>** promises a feast of Brazilian song, music and celebration. **Diana Clark (vocal) and Doug de Vries (guitar)** are well known Melbourne performers who have a special love for Brazilian music. They will be performing the first bracket and then introducing the eighteen voices of the lively Australian/Brazilian choir, **BORBOLETA**, which Diana formed in 2001. Borboleta's songs and rhythms range from the infectious samba grooves of Rio to the sweet soulful bossa nova to indigenous chants to the Afro-percussive sounds of Baiao.

On **FRIDAY JULY 25<sup>TH</sup>** we present the glorious harmonies persuasive lyrics and exciting stage presence of the four women of **AKASA**, led by Melanie Shanahan. Also performing will be local singer and songwriter **Julie Levy**.

**FRIDAY AUGUST 29<sup>th</sup>** will be a "Hot August Night", featuring a number of performers of bluegrass, old-timey and American folk music.

### *Trad&Now Magazine Launch*

Trad&Now magazine is big, glossy, colourful and loaded with information, news, reviews, songs, music, articles, updates, etc about all manner of folk related topics both – chiefly within Australia, but also with news of tours and performers from the world over. Its well worth supporting with your subscription – only \$38.80 for four issues. Please send your details and cheque to 230 Corrimal Street, Wollongong, NSW, 2500, or log on to their website at [www.tradandnow.com](http://www.tradandnow.com). The team will be visiting Melbourne on Thursday July 12<sup>th</sup> to run a Melbourne "launch" of the magazine at the Cornish Arms in Sydney Road, featuring a host of top Melbourne performers.

Cheers all,  
Jeanette Gillespie



## Diary Dates

### **FRIDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> JUNE:**

**Boite World Music Cafe**, 1 Mark St, Nth Fitzroy. **The V5 Tongan Harmony Singers and Dancers**. 8.15 pm. \$14/\$8. Phone: 03 9417 1983, or email: [boite@boite.asn.au](mailto:boite@boite.asn.au) or visit: [www.boite.asn.au](http://www.boite.asn.au)

### **SATURDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> JUNE:**

Rhythm and Views In-Store, 273 High Street, Northcote. – with **Alex and Evy**, and **Czardas**. 2.00 pm. Free.

### **SATURDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> JUNE:**

**Boite World Music Cafe**, 1 Mark St, Nth Fitzroy. **The Green Choir and Neil Murray**. (Details as above)  
*(The Boite presents music every Friday and Saturday night)*

### **TUESDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JUNE:**

**Carlton Folk Club**: The Corkman Irish Pub, cnr Leicester St and Pelham St, Carlton. 8.00 pm. Blackboard spots for up to 6 acts, plus two featured artists. Free entry. Every first and third Tuesday of the month.  
Contact: Peter Pentland: 03 9386 1483.

### **FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> JUNE:**

**Berwick and District Folk Club**: The Old Cheese Factory, 34 Homestead Road, Berwick. 7.30 – 11.15 pm. \$8/\$5.  
Guest artist: **Bernard Bolan**, plus open stage. Spot acts need to book in two days before club on number below.  
*(3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month)*  
Contact: 03 9702 1223 or email: [badfolk@hotmail.com](mailto:badfolk@hotmail.com)  
Website: [www.badfolk.org](http://www.badfolk.org)

### **SATURDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE:**

**Colonial Dancers' Winter Solstice Ball**. Moulin Rouge theme. Music by the **Blackberry Jam** band. Preston Town Hall. Contact Folk Victoria for more details. 9481 6051.

### **SATURDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JUNE:**

**Pickin' at the Piggery**. Bluegrass, blues, old-timey jams and performances. Footscray Community House, Moreland St, Footscray. Enq: Margaret Dear: 03 5368 6888.  
*(3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month.)*

### **FRIDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> JUNE:**

**Folk Victoria Music Night: "Borboleta" Choir**, with **Diana Clark and Doug de Vries**. The spirit and spectacle of Brazilian song and celebration. East Brunswick Club Hotel, 280 Lygon St, East Bruns. 8.30 pm. \$8/\$6. Enquiries: 9481 6051. Meal bookings: 9388 2777.

### **SATURDAY 28<sup>TH</sup> JUNE:**

**House Party and Concert** with harpist, **Susan Graham**. 7.00 pm. Laid back atmosphere. \$15 includes nibbles, finger food, desserts, tea, coffee. BYO drinks and glass. Smoke-free. Northcote location. Must be pre-booked. Contact Rosie on 03 9481 7871 before the 28<sup>th</sup>.

### **FRIDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> JULY:**

**Selby Folk Club**, Selby Community House, Wombalana Road, Selby. Open stage plus guest artist **Chloe Hall**. 8.00 pm. \$7/\$5. Phone: David Millar: 03 9751 1218. *(1<sup>st</sup> Friday of every month.)* [www.home.aone.net.au/selbyfolkclub](http://www.home.aone.net.au/selbyfolkclub)

### **SUNDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> JULY:**

**Peninsula Folk Club**: Shakespeare's Bar and Restaurant, 101 Young St, Frankston. Session: 7–7.45 pm. Performances: 8.00 onwards. *(First Sunday of the month.)*  
Email: [admin@peninsulafolkclub.asn.au](mailto:admin@peninsulafolkclub.asn.au)  
Website: [www.folkclub.asn.au](http://www.folkclub.asn.au)

## TUESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JULY:

**Ringwood Folk Club:** East Ringwood Community Hall (enter from Knaith Road). 8.00 pm. \$7/\$6. Guest artists: “**Tierra Dulce**” (Ellen Hundley and Bill Desailly), plus floor spots. Enq: Maree: 03 9733 0802. (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month)

## THURSDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> JULY:

**“Trad&Now” Magazine Launch Concert:** Cornish Arms Hotel, Sydney Road, Brunswick.  
Contact: [www.tradandnow.com](http://www.tradandnow.com)

## FRIDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> JULY:

**“Fathers in the Chapel”.** Acoustic music and voices, sessions and performances, unplugged. St John’s Anglican Church, Childers St, Cranbourne. Enq: 03 5996 8461 or 5996 9544. (2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of every month)

## FRIDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JULY:

**Berwick and District Folk Club:** Guest artists: **Eddie Cole and Daniel Burton.** (Details as above)

## SATURDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> JULY:

**Pickin’ at the Piggery.** (Details as above)

## FRIDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> JULY:

**Folk Victoria Music Night:** The stunning four part harmonies of the women of “**Akasa**”, along with singer and songwriter, **Julie Levy.** Details as above.

## SATURDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> JULY:

**Folk Victoria / TSDAV Old Time Tea Dance.** A tribute to Coralie Collins. Music by the **Gay Charmers** band. St Ambrose Hall, Dawson St, Brunswick. 4.00 – 9.30 pm. Further details from Folk Victoria: 9481 6051.

## JULY / AUGUST:

**The Boite Winter Festival.** A huge variety of music and dance events throughout Melbourne and Victoria. For a program and other enquiries, phone: 03 9417 1983, or email: [boite@boite.asn.au](mailto:boite@boite.asn.au) or visit: [www.boite.asn.au](http://www.boite.asn.au)

## FRIDAY 1<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST:

**Selby Folk Club:** Annual **A Cappella Festival.** Great variety of artists. (Details as above)

## SUNDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST:

**Peninsula Folk Club:** (Details as above)

## FRIDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST:

**“Fathers in the Chapel”.** (Details as above)

## TUESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST:

**Ringwood Folk Club:** Guest artist: **Bob Ballantyne,** plus floor spots. (Details as above)

## FRIDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JULY:

**Berwick and District Folk Club:** Guest artists: “**Come Alive**”. (Details as above)

## SATURDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST:

**Pickin’ at the Piggery.** Bluegrass, blues, old-timey jams and performances. (Details as above)

## FRIDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST:

**Folk Victoria Music Night: “Hot August Night”** – a night of bluegrass, old-timey, blues and American folk music. Various artists. Details as above.

## FRIDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER:

**Selby Folk Club:** Selby Folk Club’s **25<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party.** Great variety of artists. (Details as above)

## SUNDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER:

**Peninsula Folk Club:** (Details as above)

## TUESDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER:

**Ringwood Folk Club:** Guest artist: **Bernard Carney** (WA), plus floor spots. (Details as above)

## FRIDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER:

**“Fathers in the Chapel”.** (Details as above)

## SATURDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER:

**Pickin’ at the Piggery.** (Details as above)

## FRIDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER:

**Folk Victoria Music Night: Open Stage.** East Brunswick Club Hotel. 8.30 pm. \$8 / \$6. Enquiries and Open Stage bookings: 9481 6051.

\*\* **Most Saturdays:** In-store music at **Rhythm and Views** music and book store, 273 High Street, Northcote. 2.00 pm. Free. Phone: 03 9486 8877

\*\* **Every Wednesday:** Traditional Bush Dancing with the **Colonial Dancers.** St Michael’s Hall, cnr MacPherson & McIlwraith Sts, North Carlton. 8.00 – 10.00 pm. \$4 (includes supper). Musicians welcome. Enq: Robin: 03 9722 9171 or Coral: 03 9885 6109.

\*\* **Every Wednesday: Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann.** Irish music and dance session. St Phillips Hall, 156 Hoddle St, Abbotsford. 8.00 pm. Enq: Paddy O’Neill: 03 9312 6058.

# Festivals

## 28<sup>th</sup> June: Kilmore Celtic Festival, Victoria.

Five heated venues. Loads of great artists.  
Contact: 03 5781 1711.

Email: [kilmorecelticfestival@yahoo.com](mailto:kilmorecelticfestival@yahoo.com)

Website: [www.geocities.com/kilmorecelticfestival/](http://www.geocities.com/kilmorecelticfestival/)

## 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> September: Illawarra Folk Festival at

**Jamberoo, NSW.** Over 350 performers, 130 events! Phone 1300 887 034 or email: [desanti@illawarafolkclub.org.au](mailto:desanti@illawarafolkclub.org.au) or visit: [www.illawarafolkclub.org.au](http://www.illawarafolkclub.org.au)

## 26<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> September: Rose’s Gap Folk Music Camp,

**Vic.** A great weekend in the beautiful Grampians National Park – whether family or single, young or old. Workshops, concerts, sessions. Contact: Jill Findlay: 03 5475 1556 or Mandy Place: 03 9529 7893 for registration forms & info.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> October: Uranquinty Folk Festival, NSW.

A low key festival in a country town, with loads of good music and sessions. Contact Peter O’Dea: 02 6295 0571

## 31<sup>st</sup> October – 3<sup>rd</sup> November: Maldon Folk Festival, Vic.

One of the country’s best and friendliest festivals, in the heart of central Victoria. Music, song, dance, poetry; concerts, sessions, workshops.

Enq: 03 5475 1167, 5475 2166 or 5476 2527.

Email: [maldonff@telstra.easymail.com.au](mailto:maldonff@telstra.easymail.com.au)

or visit: [www.penscape.com.au/maldon](http://www.penscape.com.au/maldon)

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# VALE CORALIE COLLINS

## With thoughts of Coralie From Colleen Harte

Coralie and I were friends through many years and shared our lives in big things and small: happiness and heartbreak, laughter and tears, achievements and disappointments, music and books, meals and shopping...and so much more...even on one week-end last year, her dancing shoes! The friendship between us, we realised, was a gift, and we treasured it. Yet now, as so many memories fill my mind, I find myself struggling to write about her...and I feel overwhelmed. How impossible it is, to try to encapsulate nearly two-and-a-half decades of friendship in only a few lines.

So I share with you something of what Coralie shared with me. I wrote it, for myself, in December 2002, after Coralie told me she felt lucky to have been diagnosed with cancer...lucky because the diagnosis had given her time – and given those whom she loved and who loved her time – to fulfil life-long dreams, to share special times, and for her to come to a sense of peace.

### *My Lesson From Coralie*

*When life grows tough, don't be forlorn  
Don't let its trials make you feel torn  
Accept the changes that must be  
And try to reach a peace, to see  
They're part of His big plan.*

*Life can be rough, can seem unfair,  
When the burden, it seems, is hard to bear  
So seek what you have in each special day  
And try to see the way we all play  
A part in His big plan.*

*Tears that come, in time will cease  
So let them flow and let them ease  
The pain of things you cannot change  
Accept all things can't be explained  
They're part of His big plan.*

\* \* \* \* \*

## From Jimmy Young & Denny Stanway New Zealand

Hey Jeanette, we were very sorry to hear the news about Coralie. She was a wonderful brave woman. I had thought that the last time I was on tour there in 2001 would be the last I saw her, as did she. She definitely won the battle for a couple more years of life. We were very grateful to have been at her 'wake' last year and spend a bit of time with her that week.

We had a great time together when either Rua or James and I were over. Always staying with her, sipping whisky and eating curries! I loved and respected her sense of justice and gracious hospitality. Many fine memories originated in Clyde St, The Brunswick and The Retreat. Our sympathies and best wishes to her children, fine people and Coralie's legacy.

Ah well, we're all on our way down the long road. Thankfully, it has been made shorter and brighter by people of Coralie's compassion. Go well, Dear Coralie!

\* \* \* \* \*

### **From Colin Gibbs**

My contribution to honouring Coralie was made during her illness (with her agreement) in the form of a dance named in her honour – the Coralie Reel. This dance was entered in the 2001 TSDAV Dance Composers' Competition.

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### **From Carleen and Michael Thoernberg**

When Michael and I first turned up at Colonials (Colonial Dancing) we felt very nervous and alone. We spent a lot of the first night sitting on the sidelines. One week later we turned up at the ball and again felt very alone. We didn't know anyone and we didn't know the dances. Coralie and Margaret Monkhouse made us feel really welcome. At that ball they talked to us throughout supper and made us feel wanted. Their friendliness was the reason we decided to give the Wednesdays another go, and now Colonial Dancers and the dance scene are central to our lives. We love all the people and can't imagine what life was like before we joined.

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### **From Margot Hitchcock**

What a wonderful Soiree Coralie gave us – that is, her “wake”, which she organised and attended herself on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2002 at the East Brunswick Club Hotel. She thought she had not long to live, but lived on through Christmas and her birthday in January until her body finally gave up the struggle on Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2003.

So many friends came to her Soiree. Many travelled miles to see her and wish her all the best in her struggle. It was a joy to see her dancing and enjoying herself with the wonderful music of so many friends. Silently, we wished her a safe and painless journey.

What a courageous spirit she had! Her will to live was signposted by goals which she set herself – with the aim to complete as many as possible in the time she had left. She carried out these goals with an amazing amount of strength.

This is how many of us would like to remember Coralie – dancing, socialising, achieving, and enjoying herself despite all the odds against her in her sickness. We all appreciate sincerely her continuous support for music and dance. She contributed so much and left a legacy to the lives of others.

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### **From Robin Simpson President, Melbourne Colonial Dancers Inc.**

VALE Coralie Mackie-Collins, a person very much at the cutting edge of the folk movement. Her involvement with the Folk Song and Dance Society of Victoria and the Bendigo Bush Music Club have been well documented by these organisations. She was also very active in the Melbourne Colonial Dancers, being a stalwart of our Wednesday night classes as well as performing with our display teams through much of the 1990's.

For much of the time with the Display Team she danced as my partner and in this capacity it's been a case of “not knowing what you had till it's gone”. I remember often being annoyed when she would forget routines we were working on (understandable when you consider everything else that was going on in her head!) But now when dancing some of these dances with other people, I find myself thinking that this used to be smoother with Coralie and now things don't feel exactly right. She is greatly missed in this capacity as well as in everything else in which she was involved.

I hope that, wherever she is, she will have a spot on her dance card for me.