

Folk Song and Dance Society of Victoria Inc



“Folk Victoria”

PO Box 1096, Carlton, Victoria, 3053 Phone: 0414 732 667

Newsletter December 2006



Committee: Jeanette Gillespie (President and Folk Club manager), Rick Sidgwick (Secretary), Chris Bigby (Treasurer), Rebecca Marshall (Membership Secretary), Denise Hibbs (Folk Club door manager), Jamie Johnston (PA Manager), Wendy Ealey (Webmistress), John O’Leary (Public Officer) and Malcolm Turnbull (General Committee).

Greetings All & Merry Christmas!

On behalf of all of us on the committee, I’d like to wish you a very happy and safe Christmas season. Thanks for staying with us at Folk Victoria – we hope you’ve enjoyed what we have had to offer. There’s plenty more to come in 2007! It’s important to us to keep on with our mission of preserving, promoting and presenting the wonderful diversity of this country’s folk music, song, dance, and oral tradition.

Our thoughts and loving best wishes this Christmas go to those of you who have lost loved ones through the year, and those who are being adversely affected by drought or bushfire.

Membership Renewal

Thanks to those who have renewed their membership for the coming year. If you are receiving this by mail, a red dot on your envelope indicates we have not yet received your subscription and a form is enclosed. If you are an email recipient and have not received your membership card by January, it is very likely that you have not renewed, so we invite you to download a form from the website and send it off. Please email or phone if you are unsure

Annual General Meeting

We had a very congenial AGM on **November 9th** and, as no-one else fought us for the positions, we all duly elected each other back onto the committee (see under the banner above for names and positions). As **President** I would like to acknowledge the work of all the committee members over the past year. **Thanks to:**

- * **Rick** for keeping the admin cogs turning – he actually had to learn to send email attachments so we’ve done him a service! He’s also always available to set up, clean up, and help in any way he can.
- * **Chris** for keeping our financial cogs in order. It’s a big job to keep that side of things together and tidy it all up for the AGM each year!
- * **Rebecca** for her role as membership secretary – a steady ongoing workload – and for helping out at the Folk Club door and with mail-outs and sundry other jobs.
- * **Denise** for always being a cheerful presence at the Folk Club door table – and for organising replacements if needed. Denise also liaises with the dance organisations in Melbourne and helps to organise the annual Tea Dance and other dance events.
- * **Jamie** for being our wonderful talented PA operator for so many years. He has been given a reprieve most nights since the Folk Club migrated to the Clifton Hill Hotel, but is still often there to keep a watchful ear on things!
- * **Wendy** for setting up and maintaining our Folk Victoria website and for being readily and cheerfully available for numerous other jobs.
- * **John** for his role as Public Officer, for his coordination of the Brunswick Music Festival Folk Vic concerts, and his readiness to assist as a door person, with manual labour and numerous other bits and pieces.
- * **Malcolm** for his cheerful readiness to help in any way he can, often at short notice. Malcolm is also a folk historian and his articles in the “Trad and Now” magazine on the early days of the folk revival in Australia make fascinating reading.

At the AGM we **celebrated** the ongoing role of the society, and the achievements of the 2005/2006 year. The **Folk Club** has made a successful transition, via a few venues along the way, from the East Brunswick Hotel to the Emerald Lounge of the Clifton Hill Hotel. Our **website** is now up and running. We participated again in the **Brunswick Music Festival** and hope to do so again in 2007. Our **financial** state is secure, allowing for the ongoing administration of the Society, the Folk Club and our other folk events, for the costs involved in the Graham Squence Memorial Award certificate and book, and for some contributions to other worthy folk projects. We acknowledged the work of all the committee, and expressed hopes

that more folk could become involved. We have had a couple of offers of willing hands already – the more the merrier!

Folk Club

Though numbers were down for our October Folk Club and the Faerd concert, the music was fabulous on both nights. On Friday **October 6th** we sang our lungs out with *Danny Spooner and friends* and danced our feet off to *Conundrum’s* great Celtic music! On **October 10th**, touring Scandinavian band “*Faerd*” were totally spellbinding – don’t miss them if they are back - and “*Grand Junction*” provided a lively support bracket. On **November 3rd** *Kenny White and friends* packed out the Emerald Room for Kenny’s CD launch – fantastic acoustic blues and a great trip down memory lane. **December 1st** was another packed-out evening, with a short but much-enjoyed bracket from *Susan McCarta*, carol singing with *Danny Spooner, Duncan Brown, John O’Leary and yours truly*, the presentation of the annual **Graham Squence Award to Judy Turner** (see below), a bracket from *Judy with Neil Adam and members of the Melbourne Scottish Fiddle Club*, and a lively finish provided by “*The Senile Delinquents*”. It was great to hear a spirited **jam session** still going when I left at 11.45pm!

There will be **NO FOLK CLUB** on **January 5th**. Our **first** for 2007 will be on **FRIDAY FEBRUARY 2nd** at the Emerald Lounge. Artists haven’t been confirmed yet – but as always there’ll be some great music. Check the website or phone me.

Graham Squence Memorial Award

Part of the ongoing tradition of the FSDSV involves honouring those who have made longstanding and valuable contributions to the folklife of our country. The Society’s presentation of the annual Graham Squence Award aims to do just that.

The Award was initiated by the Port Phillip Folk Festival Committee in 1971 in memory of Graham Squence, a blues musician who was killed in a road accident while travelling to Canberra in 1970 to take part in a Folk Festival. Awards have been given every year but two since 1971. The “Roll of Honour” book which records these awards has become a wonderful historical document and makes great reading.

Graham himself was a very fine performer who also involved himself in many aspects of presenting folk music and folklore to the general public. He was actively involved in the organisation of the earliest Folk Festivals held in Melbourne.

The earlier awards were made “to a deserving person” to enable that person to attend the National Festival for that year. The awards were monetary and were the equivalent of a second class rail fare to wherever the festival was being held. (Performers received little or no payment then.)

Over time the award changed to a scroll, then to the current beautifully framed certificate. The range of areas of service for which the award has been made is enormous – from performance of music, song and the spoken word to involvement in dance, folk radio, folk festival organisation and general society involvement and ‘leg work’.

As I mentioned above, the award was presented this year on **Friday December 1st** to fiddle player **Judy Turner**. Her citation reads:

“In recognition of Judy’s skill and enthusiasm as a musician and performer, her dedication to the teaching and promotion of fiddle music of Scottish origin, and the warmth and passion she has demonstrated in encouraging and nurturing fiddle players of all ages and abilities through her role as founder and director of the Melbourne Scottish Fiddle Club”.

Judy has been playing violin and viola since her school days, and has consequently been an inspirational teacher of the



instruments in schools and workshops across the country. Her love of folk music stemmed in part from her family background - her father, Ian Turner, played a leading role in the Australian folk revival in the 1950's. Judy joined her first folk band in 1978. Her most renowned band involvement prior to the Fiddle Club was with the folk/bush band 'Paradiddle', between 1979 and 1986. She has also played with family bands, including 'The Bruce Brothers'. Two years in Boston from 1993-95 saw her falling hook, line and sinker for Scottish and Cape Breton fiddle music. On her return she formed the Melbourne Scottish Fiddle Club, which has seen over 150 players of all ages and abilities go through its ranks. Since 1996 she has also played in a duo with Neil Adam, and in their family band 'New Dogs Old Tricks'. Six CDs have resulted from these involvements between 1999 and 2006. As the citation reads, she has been inspirational as teacher, leader, musician and friend to many. Well done Judy.

Vale Julia Ross (nee Pascoe)

John Ross' beautiful wife Julia sadly lost her very courageous battle with cancer on Tuesday morning, November 28th. She passed away at their home in Yandoit, Central Victoria, and many of John and Julia's family and friends gathered for the funeral and wake on Saturday December 2nd.

For those who didn't know Julia, she was a treasure who shone with vibrancy, integrity, adventure, humour and friendship. After many travel adventures from her native England, she found her way to Brunswick 15 years ago and she and John were drawn together in a strong and loving partnership. John himself was involved in the Melbourne folk scene for many years, including the FSDSV, as a performer, organiser, and PA operator. John and Julia more recently moved to a house on a hill in Yandoit and were married two years ago. They have been familiar figures at Nariel Creek Folk Festival for many years, their beautiful voices and guitar playing wafting through the trees at all hours of day and night. They were also regularly heard in the Guildford Pub and many other places where singers and musicians gather. Our love and sympathies go to John, and his and Julia's friends and family in this difficult time.

Vale Lenore Somerset

Folk Victoria Members and friends with long memories may be saddened to hear of the passing of LENORE SOMERSET, one of the big names on the Melbourne scene during the 60s folk revival. Lenore is perhaps best remembered for her booming alto voice, big 12 string guitar and mighty renditions of 'Ox Driver's Song', 'Hava Nagila', 'Brisbane Ladies', etc. After many years in retirement she reconnected briefly with the "folk community" a couple of years ago when she performed a couple of heartwarming, nostalgic sets at Rhythm & Views and the East Brunswick Hotel. A few months before her death Lenore was honoured with a 'HANDS OF FAME' citation at Tamworth Festival.

(Thanks to Malcolm Turnbull for this tribute)

Vale Wendy Lowenstein

The year has also seen the passing, on October 16th, of prominent folklorist, oral historian, teacher and writer WENDY LOWENSTEIN at age 79. One of the pioneers of the Australian sector of the revival (and a significant behind-the-scenes player), Wendy co-funded the Folklore Society of Victoria in 1955 and was editor of the GUMSUCKER's GAZETTE and its successor AUSTRALIAN TRADITION from 1961-76. In 1969 she and her family spent a year travelling around Australia and collecting songs and folk-tales. She subsequently ran the Boree Log Folk Club at the Pram Factory. Wendy was passionate about her politics, worker's rights and working class history. She was an activist and a fierce campaigner, and was involved in numerous organisations throughout her life. She was driven by her belief in the power and importance of the story of the individual and their direct experiences. Wendy's prodigious research collection and papers are now held by the National Library. Her work and passion will go on touching people and urging them to maintain the fight to keep Australia decent and humane.

(Thanks to Malcolm Turnbull and Richard Lowenstein)

Baby News

Cath Mundy and Jay Turner, who gave us such a joyous concert at the 2006 Brunswick Music Festival, produced a little boy - Joshua Jackson - on November 9th. The family is moving back from Britain to Oz to live in January. They will be living between Brisbane and the Gold Coast so hopefully we will see more of them.

Paul Brady Concerts

Fabulous Irish singer and guitarist. Only two concerts - both this weekend. Castlemaine's a great venue if you feel like a drive!

Saturday 16th December: Theatre Royal in Hargraves St, Castlemaine. Bookings: 03 5472 1196.

Sunday 17th December: The Prince Bandroom, the Prince of Wales Hotel, St Kilda. Bookings: 03 9536 1168.

Martin Hayes and Dennis Cahill

Irish fiddle virtuoso Martin Hayes and American guitarist Dennis Cahill form a memorable dynamic duo not to be missed.

Thurs 11th Jan: Bendigo Folk Club, Park View Hotel. 03 5448 8226

Fri 12th Jan: Meeniyon Town Hall, Meeniyon. 03 5448 3226

Sat 13th Jan: East Brunswick Hotel, Lygon St. 03 9388 9794

James Keelaghan and Oscar Lopez

James Keelaghan is one of Canada's strongest and best known singer/songwriters with roots deep in Canadian folk tradition. **Oscar Lopez** is one of Canada's most acclaimed Latin guitar players.

Together they are **Compadres**. They describe their music as 'celtino', a distinctive blend of Celtic and Latino flourishes that, together, create an entirely new hybrid. The songs and music range from fiery instrumentals to heavenly harmonies and incisive lyrics.

Keelaghan and Lopez have been performing off and on as Compadres since 1993. Mainly because of demanding & solid solo careers, these guys rarely come together but when they do, they're not to be missed! James' website: www.keelaghan.com & Oscar's website: www.oscarlopez.com

Thursday 18th January: FIX Jam Room, Level 1, 119/439 Docklands Drive, Waterfront City, Docklands. 03 9329 0001

Friday 19th January: Rhythm Café & Theatre Restaurant, Foster, Vic. 03 5682 1612

Saturday 20th January: St Andrew's Hotel, St Andrews, Vic. 03 9710 1201

Carols and What They're Not

Thursday December 21st. 7.00 - 9.00 pm. With Danny Spooner, Duncan Brown, Gail Shannon and Beth. "45 Downstairs", Flinders Lane, Melbourne. A night of fascinating carols, gorgeous harmonies, good humour, and a chance to sing along.

Ernie Gruner, Phil Carrol & Bands

BOHEMIAN NIGHTS

Sunday December 17th 12.15pm. St Michael's Church, 120 Collins St, City. \$15/10 at door, 96545120.

With the Austrian Choir and Young Voices of Melbourne

THE KLEZMER TRIO

Thursday December 21st. 4.30-7.30pm.

Chanukah at Federation Square, free.

FLIRTING MAZURKAS

Monday December 25th 12-3pm (XMAS DAY)

Hyatt Hotel, City (book for Xmas lunch and be flirted!)

BOHEMIAN NIGHTS

Sunday December 31st 7.30pm-12 (NEW YEARS EVE)

Southgate roving food court and promenade (+ Mary Thorpe percussion, vocals)

2007 DIARY DATES - updates at www.erniegruner.com/guide.html

* Bohemian Nights: Wed Jan 24: Victoria Market Night Bazaar. 6pm. Free

* Yalla! Wed Feb 28: Victoria Market Night Bazaar 6pm. Free

For More Folk News and Views:

- **Join the Folk Alliance Australia**, Australia's umbrella folk organisation. Go to www.folkalliance.org.au for further details and heaps of information about folk music around Australia.

- **Subscribe to Trad&Now Magazine**. A letter explaining the new format and a subscription form is enclosed if you are snail mail recipient. If you an email recipient, log onto: www.tradandnow.com for all the news on how you can subscribe.

- **Join Community Music Victoria**. A wonderful source of information about all manner of community music and arts events. For information and membership: Phone: 03 9662 1162, Fax: 03 9662 1197. Email: cmv@netspace.net.au Website: <http://cmv.customer.netspace.net.au>

- **Subscribe to the Blarney Bulletin**, a great source of news and views particularly concerning the Celtic connections in Victoria and around the country. Phone Kevin McCarthy on 0411 135 418 or email him at macca@blarneybulletin.com

Cheers all - Jeanette Gillespie

Diary Dates

Regular Events

Many of these events will not recommence until February or March, so if you intend to go, please check the contacts first.

- **Folk Victoria Music Night:**

First Friday of the month. Emerald Lounge, Clifton Hill Hotel, cnr Wellington St and Queen's Parade, Clifton Hill, Melbourne. 8pm. \$12/\$8. Enq: Jeanette: 0414 732 667. Website: www.folkvictoria.org.au
First Concert for 2007 will be on **Friday February 2nd**.

- **Selby Folk Club:**

First Friday of the month. Selby Community House, Wombalana Road, Selby (Dandenong Ranges, Vic). Open stage plus guest artists. 8.00 pm. \$10/\$8. Phone: David Miller: 03 9751 1218. www.home.aone.net.au/~selbyfolkclub/index.htm

- **The Boite World Music Café:**

Every Saturday and some Friday nights. 1 Mark Street, Fitzroy. 8.00 pm. \$15/\$10. Commencing again in Feb or March 2007. Phone: 03 9417 1983. Email: boite@boite.asn.au or website at: www.boite.asn.au

- **The Boite – Other Events:**

A variety of venues and times, including the Box Hill Community Arts Centre, the BMW Edge at Federation Square, and the Northcote Uniting Church. Contact details as above.

- **Peninsula Folk Club:**

First Sunday of the month. Shakespeare's Bar and Restaurant, 101 Young St, Frankston. Session: 7–7.45 pm. Performances: 8.00 onwards. Email: admin@peninsulafolkclub.asn.au

- **Whole Gamut Acoustic Music Club:**

Second Sunday of the month. 3 pm. Brunswick Hotel, 140 Sydney Road, Brunswick. Three featured acts plus poetry. \$5 / gold coin. Enq: Peter Pentland: 9392 4817. Email: ppent@museum.vic.gov.au

- **Victorian Folk Music Club (VFMC):**

Second Tuesday of the month: Ringwood Folk Club Guest Artist Night. 8.00 pm. \$10/\$6. Guest artist plus floor spots. Enq: Maree: 03 9733 0802. Website for this night and all other VFMC activities mentioned below: <http://users.bigpond.net.au/VFMC/>

Third Tuesday of the month is **Singabout!**, a regular group singing session. Singabout runs from 8:00 pm pm sharp until 9:30 pm.

Fourth Tuesday: Billabong Band practice from 8:00 pm. The Billabong Band is the Club's band for Concert Party events. All musicians are welcome to join in for some relaxed playing of traditional Australian music.

Other Tuesdays feature session playing, singalong, poetry and yarns. **All events** at the **East Ringwood Community Hall** ("Red Cross Hall", enter into driveway from Knaith Road). Tea and coffee provided, small cover charge (\$4.00) on all nights except Guest Night.

- **Ringwood Colonial Dances (VFMC)**

First Saturday of every month (except January), 8:00 pm - 11:00 pm at East Ringwood Elderly Citizens Club Hall, Laurence Grove, Ringwood East (Melway 50 B8). Live bands, all dances explained and called. Members \$8.00, non-members \$10.00, children under 16 free. Light supper provided. Contact details as above.

- **Melbourne Colonial Dancers**

Numerous activities on various nights of the week and month. Very informative website at: www.melbournecolonialdancers.org.au
Contact Robin Simpson on 03 9723 2543 or Coral Eden on 03 9885 6109.

- **TSDSAV (dancing)**

The Traditional Social Dance Association of Victoria also presents a variety of dance-related activities throughout the year. Contact Marion Stabb on 03 9439 7100 or Heather Larsen on 03 9808 4869. Website: www.tsdav.asn.au

- **The Quiet Man Singers Sessions:**

Second Wednesday of the month. Singers and musicians welcome. 8 pm at the Quiet Man Hotel, 271 Racecourse Road, Flemington. Enquiries: Kathryn Clements: 9497 3227.

- **Fathers in the Chapel:**

Second Friday of the month. Mainly bluegrass, old-timey, etc, acoustic music and voices, sessions and performances, unplugged. St John's Anglican Church, Childers St, Cranbourne. Enq: 03 5996 8461 or 5996 9544.

- **Berwick and District Folk Club:**

Third Friday of the month. The Old Cheese Factory, 34 Homestead Road, Berwick. 7.30 – 11.15 pm. \$10/\$7. Guest artists plus floor spots. They have a **Christmas Night** coming up on **Friday December 15th**, and a **picnic/BBQ** from 12.30 till 4pm on **Sunday January 21st, 2007**. Enq: 03 9702 1223. Email: badfolk@optusnet.com.au
Website: www.badfolk.org and/or www.badfolk.websyte.com.au

- **Pickin' at the Piggery:**

Third Saturday of the month except Feb and Nov. Bluegrass, blues, old-timey jams and performances. Footscray Community House, Moreland St, Footscray. Enq: Janet Dear: 03 5368 6888, 53681213 (bh).

- **Newport Fiddle and Folk Club:**

Fourth Friday of the month. Newport Community Hall, 15 Mason St, Newport, 7.30 pm. BYO instruments, voices, listening ears. \$5 / gold coin.

- **Harmony Row Vineyard, Albert Park Yacht Club Concerts and Mango Café Sessions**

Various concert and session dates. Two great concert venues – one at a winery in the country near Kyneton, the other close to Melbourne city. Session venue at a great café in the city. For details on Harmony Row, phone 0407 343074 or 03 54235286. Email Cliff for Albert Park and Mango Café:

taxman@bigpond.net.au or Dennis at Harmony Row: harmonyrowvineyard@bigpond.com
Website for all details: www.harmonyrow.com.au

Sunday 17th December at Harmony Row: **Leah Bell Band** – blues, soul, gospel. Lunch at noon, show at 2.30pm.

Boxing Day, Dec 26th: Party at Harmony Row. Food and music. Midday onwards. \$20.

Friday 19th January: Ten Cent Shooters blues band from WA at Albert Park Yacht Club. 7.30 pm.

- **Clifton Hill Hotel Acoustic Nights**

Every Wednesday night, 9:00 pm till 11.45pm. Clifton Hill Hotel, cnr Wellington St & Queens Pde, Clifton Hill. Phone: 03 9489 8705. Website: www.cliftonhillhotel.com
December 20th - Jimi Hocking, Nick Charles Band, Enda Kenny.

- **Melbourne Session Calendar**

(Please let us know if there should be amendments or additions to this list, as I gained the info from 'Trad and Now' magazine.)

SATURDAYS:

Irish: Dan O'Connell Hotel, Princes St, Carlton. 5pm.

Old-Timey: Homestead Inn, Queens Pde, Clifton Hill. 5-8.30 pm.

SUNDAYS:

Irish: Normanby Hotel, Queens Pde, Clifton Hill. 3pm.

Irish: Quiet Man Hotel, 271 Racecourse Rd, Flemington. 5pm.

MONDAYS:

Irish: Lomond Hotel, Nicholson St, Brunswick. 9pm.

TUESDAYS:

Irish Slow Sessions: Father Flanagan's Irish Pub, 484 Smith St, cnr Alexandra Pde, Collingwood. 7.30 till 11.00 pm. Singers and musicians welcome.

WEDNESDAYS:

Irish: The Comhaltas Session – music, song and dance – St Philips Church Hall, 150 Hoddle St, Collingwood. 03 9337 3639. 8pm.

Old-Timey: Railway Hotel, Nicholson St, Fitzroy. 9pm.

THURSDAYS:

Irish: The Corkman Hotel, Leicester Place, Carlton. 6.30pm.

FRIDAYS:

Irish: The Celtic Club, 316 Queen St, City. 5.30pm.

Old-Timey: "Headbelly Buzzard" gigs, Railway Hotel, Nicholson St, Fitzroy.

Festivals

Christmas to New Year and beyond: Black and White Folk Festival - Nariel Creek, near Corryong, Vic:

As of publication date, we have been assured by Ian Simpson that Nariel IS ON, despite the drought situation. A laid-back gathering of people of all ages who flock to camp on the banks of Nariel Creek near Corryong in north-eastern Victoria to relax, socialise, sing, play and dance. Enquiries: Linton on 02 6077 4332 or Ian on 02 6077 1273. Email: poetfarm@corryongcec.net.au
Website: www.narielcreekfestival.org.au

December 27 – Jan 1 - Woodford Festival, QLD.

The largest folk festival in Australia –music, song, dance, the spoken word, food, celebrations, folk culture, etc, etc. Phone: 07 5496 1066. Visit: www.woodfordfolkfestival.com

2nd – 7th January 2007: The Lake School of Celtic Music, Koroit, Victoria. A summer holiday in an "Irish" village, with music, song and dance classes all day and sessions and ceilidhs all night! Top class tutors. Email: felix@bushwahzee.com. Phone: 0413 801 294 or visit: www.bushwahzee.com

12th – 14th January: Cygnet Folk Festival, Huon Valley, Tas. Phone: 03 6295 0202. Website: www.cygnetfolkfestival.org/

12th – 14th January: The Boite Singers' Festival, Daylesford, Victoria. A fantastic weekend of singing and songwriting workshops and concerts in the heart of Central Victoria. Phone: 03 9417 1983. Email: singers@boite.asn.au or log onto: www.boite.asn.au

14th -19th January: Celtic Summer School Not Under the Mountains. Campaspe Downs, Kyneton, Victoria. This fabulous week of music workshops was formerly held in Tasmania. Contact: music@celt.com.au or phone:03 6397 3427
Website: www.celt.com.au/summer.html

17th – 23rd January: Summersong Music Camp, Lennox Head near Byron Bay, NSW. Singing, music, arranging, composing with the likes of Kristina Olsen, Tony Backhouse and Richard Lawton. Contact Alison Pearl: 02 6684 5570 or 0428 845 570. Email: apearl@mullum.com.au
Website: www.summersongmusiccamp.com

19th – 21st January: Georgetown Folk Festival, Tamar Valley, Tas. Phone: 03 6382 1311. Email: diamond5026721@yahoo.com
Website: www.tamarvalleyfolkfestival.com

25th – 28th January: Newstead Folk Festival, Newstead, Central Victoria. (formerly at Chewton). With Kristina Olsen, Ten Cent Shooters, Martin Pearson, Rose Bygrave, Trouble in the Kitchen, Michael Kennedy and many more. Weekend: \$65. Youth and day tickets available. Phone: 03 5425 5400 or 03 9801 2114 or log on to www.wineandmusic.net

25th – 28th January: 22nd Illawarra Folk Festival, Bulli, NSW. 500 performers, 12 venues. Phone: 1300 887 034. Email: info@illawarrafolkclub.org.au
Website: www.illawarrafolkclub.org.au

16th – 19th February: Fiddlers' Convention, Yarra Junction, Victoria. Old-Timey, bluegrass, Cajun, blues, folk, swing, hillbilly, Hawaiian, jug band, etc. Camp Eureka, Tarrango Road, Wesburn. Enquiries: Ken McMaster: 03 9481 7662

23rd – 25th February: Cobargo Folk Festival, NSW. Music, song, dance, poetry, comedy, etc. Enquiries: 02 6493 6758 or email: cobargofolkfestival@bigpond.com
Website: www.cobargofolkfestival.com

23rd – 25th February: Frances Folk Gathering, SA. Just over the border from Victoria. Friendly, do-it-yourself folk festival, with sessions, blackboard concerts, competitions, prizes. Free, with small fee for camping. Phone: 08 8765 1093. Email: folk@francesfolkgathering.com.au
Website: www.francesfolkgathering.com.au

2nd – 5th March: Nannup Music Festival, WA. Music from around the globe in picturesque Nannup, near Margaret River. Enq: 08 9756 1511. Website: www.nannupmusicfestival.org

9th – 12th March: Port Fairy Folk Festival, Port Fairy, Vic. Tickets officially sold out in a couple of days but there are some floating around and there is a "sell and buy" section on the website at www.portfairyfolkfestival.com Phone: 03 5225 1232 for further info. If you miss out and wish to go there is still music galore happening in the streets and some other free venues.

9th – 12th March: Burke and Wills Folk Gathering, Victoria. A more intimate alternative to Port Fairy, at the Burke and Wills Winery, near Lancefield in central Victoria. One stage running all weekend, concerts including the likes of Vin Garbutt, plenty of sessions, food, on-site camping. Phone: 03 5425 5400.
www.wineandmusic.net

9th – 11th March: Womadelaide Festival, Botanic Park, Adelaide. Fabulous festival of the sounds of the planet! Hundreds of artists, six stages. 1300 30 40 72. www.womadelaide.com.au

16th – 18th March: Blue Mountains Folk Music Festival, NSW. Enquiries: 1800 651 322. Email: bmff@pnc.com.au
Website: www.bmff.org.au

16th – 18th March: Yackandandah Folk Festival, Victoria. Friendly music festival in a historic village, featuring international, national and local artists. Email: folkfestival@yackandandah.com
Website: www.folkfestival.yackandandah.com

15th March – 1st April: Brunswick Music Festival. Fabulous feast of music right here in our own city.
For updates: Phone: 03 9387 3376
Log on to: www.brunswickmusicfestival.com.au
Email: johnbmf@vicnet.net.au.

23rd – 25th March: The Basin Music Festival, Dandenong Ranges, Vic. A grass roots folksy and community festival in a beautiful area. See their website for photos of last year's festival. Contact: PO Box 230, The Basin, Vic, 3154. President: John: 03 9761 3670. Programmer: Ray: 0408 314 778.
Website: www.thebasinmusic.org.au

30th March – 1st April: Hawkesbury National Fiddle Festival, NSW. Phone: 02 4576 7023. Email: info@fiddlefestival.com
Website: www.fiddlefestival.com

5th – 9th April: National Folk Festival, Exhibition Park, Canberra. Arguably the best folk festival in Australia! Hundreds of performers, great atmosphere, on-site camping. Pre-bookings are now open. Phone: 02 6249 7755, email: info@folkfestival.asn.au or check out: www.folkfestival.asn.au

13th – 15th April: Fairbridge Festival, WA. Phone: 08 9371 3587
Email: shurmans@inet.com.au
Website: www.fairbridgefestival.com.au

20th – 22nd April: Apollo Bay Music Festival, Vic. Phone: 03 5237 6761.
Email: jane@apollobaymusicfestival.com
Website: www.apollobaymusicfestival.com

