

Folk Song and Dance Society of Victoria Inc

“Folk Victoria”

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Newsletter August 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 and Malcolm Turnbull (General Committee).

Greetings All

My apologies for this landing in your mail box late yet again. This will be a fairly truncated newsletter and we’ll send another one out soon with lots more news, and details of more events, the Annual General Meeting, membership renewal, and so on.

Folk Club

We’d love you to come along to the Folk Club night at the Clifton Hill this Friday night if you can make it. If you can’t come, make a note of the other dates – don’t miss some great music and good company in a cosy space (see below).

Sympathies

Our sympathies and warmest thoughts are extended to two of our committee members on the passing of family members – Denise on the loss of her brother, and Rebecca on the loss of her mother. We hope the ongoing love and thoughts from friends and family are making things a little easier for you.

Darebin Music Feast

The northern suburbs are buzzing and throbbing with music this month with the fabulous Darebin Music Feast in full swing. There’s an amazing array of performances on offer on just about every night of the week for the next four weeks. For your program, phone Megan Lancaster, Darebin Festival & Cultural Events Coordinator on: 03 8470 8211 or 0419 764 107, or email: megan.lancaster@darebin.vic.gov.au You can also log onto the Darebin Council’s website at www.darebin.vic.gov.au and navigate to the Darebin Music Feast page to download a program and details.

Folk Victoria presents the Melbourne Folk Club at The Emerald Lounge.

Clifton Hill Hotel, 89 Queens Parade, Clifton Hill. 8pm \$12 / \$8

Friday September 1st

8pm: LETICIA MAHER



Leticia Maher is a singer/guitarist/songwriter who performs mainly around Melbourne and surrounds. She is known for her distinctive voice with high clarity and range, her strong guitar playing and her interesting song compositions. After winning many vocal awards such as the Whittlesea Country Music Festival Best Female Vocalist Award 2005, various Vocal Eisteddfods, and becoming a winner or a finalist in various song writing competitions, Leticia Maher is fast gaining recognition around the Melbourne music scene. Leticia primarily performs as a solo artist, but also regularly performs with some outstanding high quality musicians and co-performers. Her songs range from a haunting acoustic folk/pop style to cool-sassy-catchy songs of a jazzy-blues nature. For more information, you can visit her website www.leticia.com.au

9pm: UMANEE

UMANEE was formed in 2004 by Peter Novotnik – composer and multi-instrumentalist from Poland, who gathered few talented musicians with diverse musical backgrounds to create a unique and original sound project inspired by Scandinavian, French, Middle Eastern and Balkan traditions. Band members now include Peter (hurdy-gurdy, baglama, khushtar, oud and kemence), Bill Thompson (rhythm), Dushan Mitrovic (clarinet), Michael O’Connor (flute) and Keryn Lientshnig (cello and viola)

Together with original material, Umanee has made the effort to reintroduce forgotten musical traditions and instruments like hurdy-gurdy, Uyghur Khushtar, Karadeniz Kemence, Turkish Baglama – and blend them with classical ones (clarinet, flute, cello) to give their music new, contemporary level. In 2005 Umanee recorded its first album “**Fravashi**”, which has been selling fast. Website: www.umanee.com



Friday October 6th

8pm: THE BIG SING with DANNY SPOONER & FRIENDS

Have you ever been at a folk festival or other event where big groups of people are singing lustily but you couldn't join in because you didn't know the words? Or perhaps you do join in at festivals but lament not being able to sing with others at other times of the year? Well this is your chance to open the throat, exercise the lungs and sing your heart out for an hour in a cosy venue with lots of fellow music lovers! Danny is renowned for knowing thousands of songs and he is happy to share as many as he can in an hour and help you to sing along with him. He'll be joined by long time singing partner, Duncan Brown, and maybe a few other friends as well.

9pm: CONUNDRUM

After you have sung your lungs out it will be time to dance your feet off (or maybe just tap your fingertips raw if you're not so nimble) with the lively Celtic music of local band Conundrum. Conundrum play both traditional Irish tunes and composed tunes in the Celtic style on a variety of instruments.

Friday November 3rd

Blues Night

CD LAUNCH & CONCERT with KENNY WHITE & FRIENDS

Earlier in the year we had a taste of Kenny White's guitar playing when he accompanied his wife Fiona at her own CD launch. Now it's Kenny's turn – with a very different style of music. Kenny is a BLUES man from way back, playing and singing traditional, composed and original blues material. Though the details haven't been finalised yet, he is sure to have a swag of friends playing on the night – so for those of you not heading up to Maldon Folk Festival on the 3rd, get along and boogie!

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 are an email recipient, log onto: www.tradandnow.com for all the news on how you can subscribe.
- **Log on to www.folktrax.com** to browse through a large selection of folk and acoustic CDs from Australia and around the world.
- **Community Music Victoria Inc.** 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
- **The Boite World Music Café** has a host of activities on offer. Phone: 03 9417 1983. Email: boite@boite.asn.au or log on to: www.boite.asn.au
- **The Albert Park Yacht Club and the Harmony Row Vineyard** in Kyneton both have regular music events. For enquiries, bookings and directions, contact Cliff Ellery, on 9690 1233 or log on to www.harmonyrow.wordpress.com

Festivals

8th – 10th September: Kangaroo Valley Folk Festival, NSW. New folk festival promises loads of great music in a beautiful setting. Website: www.visitkangaroovalley.com.au Email: kvfolk@bigpond.com

15th – 17th September: Guildford Banjo Jamboree, Guildford, Vic. Traditional string band music at the Guildford Pub and surrounding venues. Enq: 03 5473 4544 Website: www.banjojamboree.org

13th – 17th September: Turning Wave Festival, Gundagai, NSW. Another new festival, promising a rich mix of music and styles within the Irish Australian genre. Irish guests Conor Keane and Enda O Cathain plus many Oz artists. Email: turningwave@optusnet.com or visit website at www.turningwave.org.au

30th September – 2nd October: Uranquinty Folk Festival, near Wagga, NSW. An old favourite of many Victorians. Down-to-earth and participatory. Enq: Peter O'Dea: 02 6295 0571 or email: podea@homemail.com.au

3rd – 6th November: Maldon Folk Festival, Maldon, Vic. Victoria's largest folk festival after Port Fairy – but with a friendly country town atmosphere – a National Trust classified town in fact! Enq: 03 5475 1167 or 5476 2527. Email: mail@maldonfolkfestival.com Website: www.maldonfolkfestival.com

