

# Folk Song and Dance Society of Victoria Inc

“Folk Victoria”

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PO Box 1096, Carlton,  
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**Newsletter December 2010**

## • From the Editor

### Great News: Folk Victoria Lives On!!

Yes, folks, at our AGM on November 18<sup>th</sup>, hope and optimism prevailed with the election of another year's committee to carry on the work and vision, and the appointment of an enthusiastic new **president**, musician, singer and songwriter, **Tom Bolton**. Tom is keen to breathe new life into the Society and the Folk Club. He will be working with John, Mel and Russell to find a new folk venue, and to find new ways to connect with our own members and other like-minded organisations. Later in this newsletter you will find some information about Tom's background and his music.



Please consider if there is something **you** can offer to keep Folk Victoria viable and vibrant.

I will still be issuing a bi-monthly newsletter, and Rebecca will continue to update you by email.

I **won't** be putting Diary Dates or the Festivals Calendar again in this issue, but if you have mislaid November's newsletter and would like a **Festival Calendar**, please email me at [info@folkvictoria.org](mailto:info@folkvictoria.org) and I will send it on.

**Cheers and Happy New Year to all,**  
**Jeanette Gillespie**

## • Committee 2010/2011:

**President:** Tom Bolton

**Secretary:** Rick Sidgwick

**Treasurer:** Chris Bigby

**Membership Secretary:** Rebecca Marshall

**Web design and upkeep:** Wendy Ealey

**Folk Club and Brunswick Music Festival liaison**

**and Public Officer:** John O'Leary

**Dance Coordinator:** Denise Hibbs

**P.A Manager:** Jamie Johnston

**General Committee:** Ray Hare

## • “Co-opted” Workers:

**Folk Club Organisation:** Mel Robertson and Russell McKenzie.

**Newsletter Editor:** Jeanette Gillespie

## Membership Renewals:

Subscriptions are now due for membership renewal. We are going to make the membership year the same as the calendar year – Jan 1<sup>st</sup> to Jan 1<sup>st</sup> – so if you need to re-subscribe you will find a form attached. Mail recipients will also find an addressed envelope for their convenience.

**As this is close to Christmas and things get easily lost or forgotten, I will send out another membership renewal reminder in January.**

Your subscriptions are essential to keeping the society viable as we receive **no other** funding.

## Graham Squance 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 Squance Award aims to do just that.

In last month's newsletter I gave you some background to the award, which has been presented most years since 1971.

This year's award will be presented to **Andrew Pattison** at the **Troubadour Wine Bar** venue at the **Newstead Live! Folk Festival** in central Victoria. The presentation will be incorporated into a 50 minute **Squance Award Concert**, starting at **4.10pm** on **Sunday January 23<sup>rd</sup> 2011**. Past recipients of the award will be performing so please do come along, even if it is just for the day. It's a wonderful festival, and not too far from Melbourne. See the program at [www.newsteadlive.com](http://www.newsteadlive.com)

## Andrew Pattison

Andrew's award citation reads: *"For longstanding and dedicated support for a wide variety of emerging and established folk and acoustic performers, and for excellence in the promotion and presentation of these performers to audiences throughout Australia."*



**Andrew** and his first wife, Anne, opened the original **“Troubadour”** music cafe in Melbourne in 1978. From the beginning, says Andrew, “we really emphasised that the Troubadour was a listening venue – a concert space as well as a cafe”. The Troubadour presented local musicians, Australia's leading singer songwriters and recording artists, and notable overseas performers. After nine years, Andrew sold the Troubadour and established his **Lancefield Winery** in Central Victoria. His passion for music continued, with many people regularly making the trip for his Sunday luncheon concerts.

Subsequently, Andrew took **The Troubadour** on the road – as a musical **wine bar** at folk festivals such as Port Fairy, Maleny and its successor Woodford, Maldon, and Canberra's National Folk Festival.

Andrew's easy, natural rapport with musicians has helped the travelling marquee gain a special intimacy and quality which – as in the Troubadour of old – attracts the best of both emerging and established artists from Australia and around the world.

In 2004 Andrew relocated to set up **Burke and Wills Winery**, also in central Victoria. Together with his current wife Heather, Andrew not only runs occasional concerts there, but also hosts two festivals at the winery – one in March and one in November. He also runs a **Troubadour Music Lovers Weekend** near Kyneton in August, and the highly successful **"Newstead Live!" Festival** in January. Andrew has in recent years set up a scholarship for emerging folk artists, which is presented at the Newstead festival each year.

### **The Melbourne Folk Club:**

The **Folk Club** is currently in **recess**. The final afternoon was held there on Saturday November 27<sup>th</sup>. Many thanks to Wendy, Rebecca, John and Mel for carrying on the Christmas carolling when I could not be there due to rain, storms, tempest and floods!! The club will **NOT** be going back to that venue next year, nor will it be on a Saturday afternoon. We will let you know when plans are finalised for a new time and venue.

Meanwhile, if you have some ideas, you could contact Mel Robertson on 0413 587 490 or email: [melbournefolkclub@gmail.com](mailto:melbournefolkclub@gmail.com)  
<http://www.myspace.com/melbournefolkclub>  
<http://www.folkvictoria.org.au/melbournefolkclub/>

### **Spotlight on Tom Bolton:**



Tom grew up with singing. Everyone around him sang - his family, and the people in their church community. It was taken for granted that everyone would join in (enthusiastically) on the old-fashioned hymns and choruses of that era, and it was this that gave

him, over many years, a grounding in melody, harmony and song structure.

By age sixteen when he got his first guitar and started work writing his own songs he'd been swept along from those early influences in a broad, chaotic river of musical styles - classical, pop, folk, rock, soul, jazz, funk and electronic.

In 1988 Fay White recorded one of his children's songs on her *Trees, Stars and Other Wonders* album. This gave momentum to an otherwise long and frustrating journey, struggling with the song-writing craft. Later, he had a number of other songs published by Sydney-based Willow Connection.

He'd never had any ambition to be a performer, but sometime around 1998 he realised that it was time to take the songs out and put them to the test in public, and that if he didn't play them, no-one would.

So, for the last ten years he's been playing gigs at folk and acoustic venues around Melbourne, including Selby, Berwick and Melbourne folk clubs, as well as a handful of pubs such as the Clifton Hill Hotel, The Espy and the Drunken Poet. He is often accompanied by Richard Grace on double-bass and harmonies, and more recently by a variety of other players. He's also toured interstate twice, playing at folk clubs and house concerts in Adelaide, Sydney, Brisbane and Darwin (such as Kookaburra, Madass, Redlands, Eastside Music Cafe, The Shack, McLaren Vale and The Hills Folk Club).

In 2003 he recorded his first album of original songs - *Acoustic Caravan*. This was followed up in 2007 by *When I Cross the River*, which gained positive reviews and airplay in Canada, USA and Europe.

In mid-2010 he released his third album - *Dreaming and Dancing* - produced by Nick Charles and featuring contributions by a diverse range of top-notch local musicians (such as Phil Carroll, Liz Frencham, Pete Fidler, Les Oldman, Bruce Haymes and Sarah Curro). He currently holds down a day job in web design and graphics at Monash University. He also draws and paints, and designs lighting. In his spare time he reads science fiction, goes to the occasional movie, and catches up with friends. He used to be a surfer and wishes he still was. He is usually to be found listening to the acoustic acts at the Clifton Hill Hotel on a Wednesday night, or at one of a number of music nights around town. He doesn't have a television and (apart from a music promotional page) is not on Facebook. Album reviews at the following sites:  
<http://www.acousticmusic.com/fame/p04578.htm>  
[http://www.rambles.net/bolton\\_cross07.html](http://www.rambles.net/bolton_cross07.html)  
[http://users.tpg.com.au/folkrag/cd\\_reviews.htm#tb\\_cr](http://users.tpg.com.au/folkrag/cd_reviews.htm#tb_cr)  
<http://www.lunakafe.com/moon143/au143b.php>

### **MORE FOLK NEWS AND VIEWS**

- Join the **Folk Alliance Australia**. Go to [www.folkalliance.org.au](http://www.folkalliance.org.au) for further details and heaps of information about folk music around Australia.
- **Subscribe to Trad&Now Magazine**. Log onto: [www.tradandnow.com](http://www.tradandnow.com) for all the news on how you can subscribe. They also have a huge CD catalogue.
- **Join Community Music Victoria**. For information and membership: Phone: 03 9662 1162. Fax: 03 9662 1197. Email: [cmv@netspace.net.au](mailto:cmv@netspace.net.au) Website: [www.cmv.org.au](http://www.cmv.org.au)
- **Footscray Gypsies World Music Community Orchestra: Starting January 11<sup>th</sup> 2001**  
Klezmer, gypsy and balkan music. Whatever your instrument is, we'll find a place for it. Kicking off on Tues 11 January 2011. Alternate Tuesdays 6.30 to 9.00pm @ the Bigwest Festival rehearsal room, above the iconic Dancing Dog Café and Dog Theatre at Level 1, 42 Albert Street in Footscray (close to the train station). Fees: \$15 casual (\$40 for 4 weeks/2 mths). Conc: \$10 casual (\$30 for 4 weeks/2mths). Supper provided. Bring a music stand, pencil and folder. Sheet music provided.  
**Enquiries: Jen Hawley: 0413 128 052**  
[www.jensmusicsschool.com](http://www.jensmusicsschool.com) or [www.sirenmusic.com.au](http://www.sirenmusic.com.au)