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**NEWSLETTER OF THE VICTORIAN FOLK MUSIC CLUB INCORPORATED**

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## RINGWOOD FOLK CLUB

Guest Artist:

**Gerry Hallom**

Tuesday 9th April



Fresh from the National Folk Festival, Gerry is a veteran on the world folk scene. Great guitar playing and sensitive singing, including his own arrangements of Henry Lawson poems. Should be a terrific night.

East Ringwood Community Hall  
(Melway 50 B8) with Spot Acts from  
8:00 pm. Admission \$7.

Contact Maree Buttler on  
(03) 9733 0802.



## The Club on Channel 31

At very short notice, five Club members (Steve Bullock, Ray and Joan Mundy, Brian Venten, and myself) convened in the lovely grounds of Wyreena community centre, Hull road, Croydon, on the mild morning of Saturday, 23 March, to describe the Club's activities and play a few tunes for a TV camera man.

The segment was scheduled for Tuesday 26 ultimo at 10:00 pm as part of regular weekly slot hosted by Bill Page on local activities.

... Harry Gardner

## CLUB EVENTS



### Ringwood Folk Club

Tuesdays, 8.00 pm, East Ringwood Community Hall (enter from Knaith Road, off Dublin Road) (Melway 50 B8). All welcome any or every night as players, singers, dancers. April 2nd, 9th (Guest Night), 16th, 23rd and 30th (Bush Dance): sessions, music, song & Verse.

### By-Ear Playing session

Thursday, April 4th at 8:00 pm, at the East Ringwood Community Hall. Contact Harry Gardner on (03) 9870 8998.

### Fiddle Workshop

Wednesday, April 17th at 8:00 pm, at the East Ringwood Community Hall. Contact Harry Gardner on (03) 9870 8998.

### Ringwood Colonial Bush Dance

Saturday, 6th April, at East Ringwood Elderly Citizens' Hall, Laurence Grove, East Ringwood (Melway 50 B8), with the Brumbies,

And

Saturday, 4th May, with Barcoo.

### Guest Artists, March 2002

In their second visit, Eve Speak, now comprising Charmaine Schmidt, Sharon Kershaw and Arabella Davison, were the Guest Artists on Tuesday, 12 March, 8pm in the East Ringwood Community Hall. What utter vivacity! They sang a cappella (and presented with much action) a Maori welcome Nga Iwi E/ Rona, together with Awake, The Cart, Dreaming (composed by Arabella), Fire Fire, Foolish, Sao Roma, Tihore Mai, Time After Time, We're All Free (by Tracy Chapman), White Wings (an award winning song by Charmaine), and The World We Believe In. Finally there was a Maori blessing, Wairua.

In the preceding blackboard concert, the a cappella group, Alchemy, comprising nine women and one man, sang By The Rivers Of Babylon, Eleanor Rigby and Where Shall I Go.

Steve Dooley sang his own tunes, My Town and The Black Swan and was presented with the encouragement award by the MC, Alex Rushanow.

Maurie Foun read CJ Dennis's poem Wheat. Ted and Julia Konig played duets on their harps. Lyell Sayer sang his compositions to his guitar accompaniment, Burke And Wills and McGabbitt.

The Wayfaring Strangers, (Paul Bennetts and Carl Dedic) sang The Wabash Cannonball and the song from which they have take the name of their duo.

### Port Fairy Folk Festival 2002

The 26th Festival was held in perfect weather 8-11 March, i.e. the usual mandatory storm failed to occur.

With 11,000 adults attending, the Festival has outgrown its accommodation. The program booklet states that about 7,000 applicants were balloted out and states also that there was a total of about 25,000 people in the town. The organisers have considered changing the venue. There were 500 artists and 700 volunteers.

Within the Festival activities, only the one playing session was scheduled, but with application of the recent no-smoking rule, city pubs became much more pleasant for this purpose.

The formerly annual street parade was not held, but there was a small lantern light procession.

Maddy Prior, formerly of Steeleye Span, was the nominated Artist Of The Year, and Maddy, with her band, presented her own memorable composition, Arthur The King, which describes the life of Arthur in a folk tone poem-oratorio lasting for perhaps forty minutes.

International artists included Burach, Fairport Convention, Kristina Olsen, accompanied by our own Ringwood lad Peter Grayling, and the Wrigley sisters, Jennifer and Hazel.

Club Guest Artists who performed included Maria Forde, Jugularity, Dennis O'Keefe, Danny Spooner and Wongawilli. Wongawilli also played for a dance tribute to Shirley Andrews which was compered by Peter Ellis.

... Harry Gardner

### Dandenong Ranges Festival 2002

In miserable weather, the festival generated its own warmth in the quality of the acts in five tents high on the mountain top at The National Rhododendron Gardens, Olinda, 1-3 March. The Borderers were splendid as ever and Jennifer Wrigley played free of amplification in her workshop which allowed the mellow tones of her violin to be heard to great advantage.

The children's activities tent kept our grandchildren absorbed as also did the Morris dancers in it and also the dynamic Mike Jackson. The Festival parade was oriental in overall appearance and quite engaging.

Our Club Guest Artists, Graeme Fletcher and Cyril Moran were among the performers, who also included a relative of one of us, namely Mundy-Turner.

However, I missed the lack of participation by our Club in the festival although I was grateful for not having to soldier on at session in the cold evenings in an unheated tent.

... Harry Gardner



# Billy, Black Ant

Anne Partridge

*Verse*

G C G Bm  
 Bil - ly, black ant, will you lis - ten to me? The  
 C G D G  
 corn in your field is rea - dy to pick.  
 Em C G Bm  
 Soon my fa - ther will harv - est, then plough.  
 C G D G  
 Please, Bil - ly, please, will you shift your nest?

*Chorus*

C G D F#o Em  
 Here, un - der the fence is sa - fer for you, And  
 C G D D G  
 all of your friends can live in peace.

**BILLY, BLACK ANT****Verse 1**

Billy, black ant, will you listen to me'?  
The corn in Your field is ripe to pick.  
Soon my father will harvest, then plough.  
Please, Billy, please, will you shift your nest'?

**Chorus**

Here, Under the fence is safer for you,  
And all your friends can live in peace.

**Verse 2**

Billy, I see you are shifting your nest.  
Your friends are bringing eggs so white.  
Others they can dig the soft soil 'neath the fence.  
Rush, Billy, rush, for your time is close.

**Chorus**

Under the fence is safer for You,  
And all your friends can live in peace.

**Verse 3**

Billy, black ant, we will harvest today.  
The nest is re-built with time to spare.  
Soon my father will plough the field.  
Thanks, Billy, thanks, you have moved your nest.

**Chorus**

Here, Under the fence is safer for you,  
And all Your friends can live in peace.

## Bayswater gig

On Tuesday 20 November (2001) at 1:30 pm, a group comprising Steve Bullock, Bert Gibson, Arthur Hammond, Chris Healy, Peter Hill and myself, on behalf of the Club, entertained about forty elderlies (Some were younger than ourselves.) at the Bayswater Community Centre.

The programme opened with the Posties Jig set of tunes, followed by a history of Waltzing Matilda, Galopede tunes and several other brackets. The Group sang Bound For South Australia, unaccompanied. Bert sang about Ahrenry and Jindabin, Peter Hill sang Whack For The Daddy O', Steve did the song about Pat, Mick and the belfry ropes, and Chris played Irish hornpipes on the button accordion. Arthur and myself played Patterson's Air on fiddles in unison and in harmonies.

All agreed that it went well. I suggest that it would bear repetition elsewhere, perhaps on a quarterly basis, not only for its own sake but also to promote the aims of the VFMC.

... *Harry Gardner*



## REGULAR FUNCTIONS AT OTHER VENUES

Belgrave Folk Club, Tin Shed opposite Cameo cinema. Melannie.

Bush Dance & Music Club of Bendigo, Spring Gully Hall. - Mary Smith, 5442 1153.

Churinga Restaurant, Mt Dandenong, - Chris O'Connor, 9751 1242.

Colonial Dancers, Saint Michael's Hall, MacPherson Street, Carlton N. - Robin Simpson, 9723 2453 or 0413 209 334, or Coral Eden, 9885 6109.

Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eirann, Saint Phillip's Church Hall, Collingwood. - Paddy O'Neill, 9312 6058.

Cumquat Tree Restaurant, Maldon. - Andy Rigby, 5476 2691.

Dandenong Ranges Folk Club, Olinda Hall. - Dave McFarlane, 9754 3201.

DR Folk Music Café, 2nd Wednesdays 8:00 to 12:00 pm. Open stage at Uncle Neil's, 351 Glenfern Road, Upwey.

Geelong Folk Club, 3rd Friday of each month at Cafe Go! Bellarine Street Geelong, -from 7:30 for singing and session. Contact: Marie Goldsworthy 5221 1813 or Jamie McKinnon 5261 3443.

Geelong Folk Dance Club, Old Court House. - Andrew Morris, 5224 1428.

Geelong Irish Dancing. - Kathy Gurney, 5243 4276

Guildford Folk Club, Guildford Hotel. - Duncan Browne, 5473 4201.

Ivanhoe Irish Dancing. - Ina Bertrand 9439 9991.

Melbourne Folk Club, E. Brunswick Hotel. - Last Friday of every month (except March), 8:30 pm - \$8.00/\$6.00. Jeanette Gillespie, 9481 6051.

Melbourne Scottish Fiddle Club, Saint John's Church Hall, Heidelberg. - Judy Turner, 9435 3243.

Peninsula Folk Club, first Sunday of each month at St Andrew's Hall, 16 High Street, Frankston, 7:30-10:30 pm - details Rob 9776-7879 or Mike 9772-4023.

Pickin' At The Piggery, Footscray Community Arts Centre. - Margaret Dear, 5368 6888.

Scottish Box and Fiddle Group, 23 Fuller St, Mitcham. - Malcolm Fitzmaurice, 9874 5577.

Sedgwick Dance, - Julie Manypeney, 5439 6317.

Selby Folk Club, Community Centre. - David Millar, 9571 1218.

Stonehouse Folk Club, Yarren Dheran Centre, Ashburton Drive, Mitcham. - Felix Meagher, 9874 8542.

Victorian Dance Assembly, Frank Tate Building, Melb. Univ. - Lucy Stockdale.

Traditional Social Dance Association Of Victoria, St Michael's Church Hall, MacPherson St, Carlton N. - Marion Stabb, 9439 7100.



**THE VICTORIAN FOLK MUSIC CLUB INCORPORATED**

**INVITES  
YOU TO JOIN  
THE CLUB**

- Members of the VFMC are entitled to
- - The monthly Club Newsletter
  - Concessions at Club dances
  - Discounts on Club publications
  - Discounts on Club CD's and cassettes
  - Affiliation with other organisations
  - Access to the Club PA system

**To join the VFMC, fill in this Application Form and post to:**  
 VFMC Secretary, GPO Box 2025S, Melbourne, Victoria 3001

Name: .....

Address: .....

**MEMBERSHIP FEES**

City/Suburban -

Single	\$20
Family	\$27
Junior	\$11
Student	\$14
Single Pensioner	\$14
Pensioner Family	\$18

Country -

Single	\$14
Family	\$18

**CONTACTS**

**VFMC Postal Address**

GPO Box 2025S, Melbourne, Victoria 3001.

**VFMC Website**

<http://users.bigpond.net.au/vfmc>  
 Email: [vfmc@bigpond.net.au](mailto:vfmc@bigpond.net.au)

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 Steve Bullock (03) 9762 1389

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**Ringwood Colonial Bush Dance**

Jane Bullock (03) 9762 1389

**PLEASE SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE APRIL 2002 NEWSLETTER BY FRIDAY, 19 APRIL 2002.**

*The Editor reserves the right to alter or to not publish material.*