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TRADITION

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NEWSLETTER OF THE VICTORIAN FOLK MUSIC CLUB INCORPORATED

In This Issue ...

Item	Page
Club Events	2
Next Guest Night	3
Guest Artist Review	4
Dance Page	6
Wattle Day	8
Rhythm	12
CD Launch	14
Concert Party Report	14
Club Information	15

WATTLE IT BE NEXT?!

1ST SEPTEMBER 2012

WATTLE DAY SUCCESS!

See inside for our report on:-

Busking in the street

Workshops galore—on Dance,
Singing, PA, Dance Music, etc.

The best Bush Dance ever!

WATTLE WE DO TO

BETTER IT NEXT YEAR?

KEEP YOUR COPY OF 'TRADITION' COMING

V.F.M.C. Membership fees are due every year on

JULY 1ST - see back page

PLEASE SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

BY: FRIDAY, 20TH OCTOBER 2012.

TO: EDITOR@VFMC.ORG.AU

CLUB EVENT CALENDAR

Club Sessions

Tuesdays, 8.00 pm, East Ringwood Community Hall (enter from Knaith Road, off Dublin Road) (Melway 50B8). All welcome any or every night as players, singers, dancers, or to tell a yarn. Contact Don (0407-737-202)

Ringwood Folk Guest Night

Second Tuesday of the month. Admission \$12 adults, children with adult free. \$10 members and concessions.

Evening commences 8:00pm and finishes with a short session after the Guest Performer around 10:15 pm.

Singing Sessions

First and last Tuesday every month. East Ringwood Community Hall (enter from Knaith Road, off Dublin Road) (Melway 50B8).

If you are interested in learning some new songs, and would like to sing with others in a friendly relaxed environment, come and join us. We start about 7:00pm and go until the start of the main session at 8:00pm.

By-Ear Sessions

Join us to learn how to play by following someone on:

- First Thursday, 8:00 pm (at Harry's place)
- Second Tuesday, 10:15 pm (after the Ringwood Folk Guest Night)
- Every Monday, 8:00 pm, (fiddles and mandolins at Harry's place.)
- Most Saturdays, 11:00am, all instruments and singing, busking opposite the railway station in Ringwood East

Harry Gardner: (03) 9870 8998, 0408 708 998

Ringwood Colonial Dance

Family Bush Dance, first Saturday of every month at the East Ringwood Senior Citizens Club Hall, Laurence Grove, Ringwood East.

Come along and enjoy dancing to live music with all dances explained and called. Contact Jane Bullock (03 9762-1389) or Robin Simpson (03 9723-2453)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1st October	2nd Club Session	3rd	4th By ear Session	5th	6th VFMC Dance
7th	8th Fiddles	9th Guest Night	10th	11th	12th	13th
14th	15th Fiddles	16th Club Session	17th	18th	19th	20th
21st	22nd Fiddles	23rd Club Session	24th	25th	26th	27th
28th	29th Fiddles	30th Club Session	31st	1st November By ear Session	2nd	3rd
4th October	5th Fiddles	6th Club Session	7th	8th	9th	10th VFMC Dance

Victorian Folk Music Club Inc.
Ringwood East Folk



TUESDAY 9th OCTOBER

Danny Spooner



Singer of the traditional and contemporary folk songs of Britain and Australia, solo acoustic singer, guitar and concertina player, Danny's passion is the expression of British and Australian culture through folk. In recent years he's sung at festivals, clubs and house concerts in Europe, England, Canada and the USA. But for 40 years in Australia audiences have enjoyed his concert brackets, workshops and one-man shows, his deep multi-disciplinary understanding of social history, his personal warmth, and his immense repertoire of songs covering the full range of human emotions, endeavours and experiences... He is a spellbinder.

Admission: \$12.00 Members: \$10.00 Children Free
Open Stage from 8.00pm

Ringwood East Community Hall
Knaith Road East Ringwood Melway: 50 B8

Contact Don 0407 737 202
Email: enquiries@vfmc.org.au
VFMC Website: www.vfmc.org.au
Victorian Folk Music Club Inc. (Reg. No A2511Y)



November 13th - AJ Leonard supported by Kalulu

Guest Artist Night, September 2012

For a number of years now the September concerts have been devoted to celebrating the human voice and some very good choirs and a cappella groups have been amongst the guests. This one was no exception with three fine Melbourne choirs entertaining the audience.



Maree was MC and joined Frances and Maggie to open spot acts with two Australian songs: Andy's Gone With Cattle and The Gumtree Canoe. Steve followed with Byker Hill, a song from the north of England, and The



Marching Song of the Ancient Britons, a campfire version of Men of Harlech. Visitor Jess enchanted the audience with her beautiful voice on two songs, including the Woodstock song. Though unprepared for a spot act, Margaret nevertheless brought her voice along and gave another re-jigged version of Men of Harlech, the subject this time being alcohol, then I'll Tell My Ma. The audience then joined Alex with a rousing Jamaican Farewell.



Folkus are a five piece group from the eastern suburbs consisting of three ladies and two gents. Their beautiful voices and harmonies and sensitive use of instruments set them apart as a superb vocal group. The

Beatles song Blackbird displayed this admirably. Chris's gentle guitar introduced The Water is Wide which was another stunningly beautiful demonstration of their vocal abilities. Their accompaniment includes two guitars, a violin and a modern styled electric bass, all used with very effective restraint so as not to detract from their wonderful voices. The Measure of a Man was a gentle song composed by leader Ian about the things that need to be said while the living are still with us.



Earlier in the year Peter Ellis, a Club member from Bendigo, was awarded the Order of Australia Medal for his Australian dance music collating, publishing and dances. The Club took the Melbourne (to revise one of incidentally) to present a award. Congratulaitions



services to the preservation of through a lifetime of collecting, playing the old traditional tunes and opportunity of Peter's visit to his books with Harry Gardner card in acknowledgment of the Peter!

Guest Artist Night, September 2012

Balladry are a four-piece ladies a'ppella choir from Healesville. Most have come from other vocal ensembles in the area and with their clever animations on Don't Fence Me In the audience immediately engaged

broad ranging in a Dream Away, He's Colours My Sunshine, Farnham), the traditional Parting Glass among other fine songs.



They have a varied and repertoire, including All (Neil Young), I'll Fly Gone Away, True (Cindy Lauper), You Are Hurt for You (John



The Barberies also are a local four-piece ladies group led by Barb MacFarlane who has been involved in a great deal of the vocal inspiration in the outer east for quite a while, including Vocallista and various community singing groups. They too did a nice version of

Blackbird before a spirited song That Man, I'm Willing to Change, The Quiet Joys of Brotherhood and other fine songs that make up their repertoire.

Our final guest performers were Voicebox, six handsome young fellows in suits who presented a splendid display of vocal gymnastics/acrobatics on some well-known contemporary songs. A lively The Best Years of Our Lives from Shrek opened their

bracket, Hip to be Believer, and a very Rhapsody not only augment with



then Hughie Lewis's Square, I'm a God Only Knows, amusing Bohemian followed. They are clever vocalists but their performance animated actions, so

they are also great showmen too, good to watch. The Jolly Musketeers(?), another Queen song Somebody to Love and Abba's Take a Chance with some great actions followed. I Can't Stop This was to be their finale but an encore was called for so they finished with Hooked on a Feeling.

Another great night of acoustic music at Ringwood! Thanks so much to all the performers and the spot acts for making it all possible.

The legendary DANNY SPOONER will be guest artist on Tuesday 9th October.



The Dance Page

Diary Dates for October

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1st Irish Scottish	2nd English	3rd Irish or Colonials U3A	4th Colonial Introductory Classes	5th	6th VFMC Borderline Kayleyy (fancy hat)
7th TSDAV	8th Irish Scottish	9th English	10th Irish or Colonials U3A	11th Scottish	12th International	13th VFMC Woolshed Ball Scottish*
14th Claddagh	15th Irish Scottish	16th English	17th Irish or Colonials U3A	18th Colonial	19th	20th
21st Welsh	22nd Irish Scottish	23rd English	24th Irish or Colonials U3A	25th Scottish	26th International	27th
28th Claddagh Contra	29th Irish Scottish	30th English	31st Irish or Colonials U3A			

Diary Dates for November

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1st	2nd International	3rd VFMC Brumbies Bush Band
4th	5th Irish Scottish	6th English	7th Irish or Colonial U3A	8th Scottish	9th T.S.D.A.V. Spring Dance Weekend	10th T.S.D.A.V. Spring Dance Weekend

Claddagh

Irish set dancing at St. Georges Anglican Church, Warncliffe Rd Ivanhoe, Friday 8-10pm. (Sunday 2-5pm)
Contact Rod 9497 1793

VFMC Colonial

dance at East Ringwood Elderly Citizens Hall, Laurence Grove, East Ringwood, 8-11pm
Contact Jane 9762 1389

Irish Monday

dancing at The Quiet Man pub, Racecourse Road, Flemington, 8-10pm. Contact Marie 9471 0690

The Dance Page



- Irish Wednesday** Irish dancing at St. Phillips Church, Hoddle St, Collingwood, 8-10pm. Contact Marie: 9471 0690
- English** Dancing at Bennettswood Neighbourhood House, 7 Greenwood Street, Burwood, 8-10pm.
Contact George: 9890 5650
- Colonial Wednesday** Social dance classes: at Collingwood Senior Citizens Hall, Eddy Crt, Abbotsford, 8-10pm
Contact Coral: 9885 6109
- Colonial Thursday** Australian Colonial Bush/Dance: at Ashburton Uniting Church, 3 Ashburn Grove, Ashburton, 7:30-10pm
Contact Coral 9885 6109
- Colonial Beginners** Dancing at Ashburton Uniting Church, 3 Ashburn Grove, Ashburton 7.30-10pm
Contact Coral 9885 6109
- U3A** Hawthorn at East Kew Uniting Church Hall (Normanby Rd. E.Kew), 1.00-3.00pm Contact Norm 9888 5332
- Welsh Dancing** Church of Christ Hall, 1 The Avenue, Surrey Hills, 2-4:30pm
Contact Ian 9878 2414
- TSDAV** The Eleventh Hour Theatre Hall, cnr. Gore & Leicester Sts, Fitzroy Contact Norm Ellis 9888 5332
- Contra Dance** Northcote Uniting Church Hall, 251 High St, Northcote, 7:30-10:30pm
Contact George 890 5650/Gary 9481 3386
- Scottish Monday** Paton Memorial Hall, Deepdene Uniting Church, 958 Burke Road, Deepdene, 8pm
Contact Deepdene.dancers@bigpond.com
- Scottish Thursday** Taggerty Hall, Maroondah Highway at Taggerty, corner of Thornton Road, 7-9pm
Contact Di Gaylard 5963 3277 or musicman@virtual.net.au
- International Friday** Box Hill Senior Citizens, 780 Carrington Rd. Box Hill, 7.30-9.30 pm Contact jant@alphalink.com.au
- TSDAV Spring Dance Weekend** Parks Hall Community, Portarlington
Contact Marion (03) 9439 7100 or www.tsdav.asn.au
- V.F.M.C. Woolshed Ball:** St David's Uniting Church Hall, Cnr Mont Albert Rod & Burke Rd, Canterbury, 8—12.30 am
Contact Jane: 9762 1389 or Coral: 9885 6109

WATTLE DAY EXCITEMENT

The day dawned fine and the promised showers didn't come so the dance out at the Ringwood East market worked out great. The busking musicians played merrily as the dancers stepped lightly and



even the public were enticed to join in. All the workshops especially the dance ones were well attended and Norm

Elis did a great job at presenting the two dance workshops. (See below for more details.) At the evening

dance Blackberry Jam was the band and Norm with some help from Coral were the callers. There were so many people we had to get more chairs from the store room, but where to put them was a problem! Thankfully Norm didn't allow much time for sitting as had a programme as long as your arm and was determined to get through it!! Supper was demolished as usual in record time but the dishes took a mite longer to wash. Thanks to all those that helped behind the scenes with taking money, putting up decorations, providing supper and helping in the kitchen throughout the afternoon and evening—without you the day wouldn't have been the success it was. The day was a huge success and we will definitely be having another WATTLE DAY in 2013. - *Jane Bullock*

SINGING WORKSHOP: This was held in the Scout Hall from 3.30 to 5.00 p.m. There were eight people present. After warming up our vocal chords we sang a 3 part round then 'Hey Rain' by Bill Scott, which is a well-known Australian unaccompanied song in three-part harmony. Fortunately it wasn't a reflection of the weather at the time. We followed that with 'The Wonthaggi Mine Whistle Song'. Luckily our two bass singers hadn't yet left us for the PA workshop as it had a great bass line. A song about the Snowy River, an aboriginal song, old favourites Botany Bay & Road to Gundagai followed. Many thanks to Margaret Crichton!

DANCE MUSIC WORKSHOP: Peter Ellis, the presenter, commenced by telling the 11 of us how to play for dances as distinct from performance playing. He had us all **tapping our feet** (something I usually get into trouble for doing when I'm playing for dances). He showed us various tricks he uses to help the dancers keep the rhythm by pulsating when playing his button accordion. He explained how you can create the same effect with instruments that don't have bellows. We practised this exaggerated method of keeping a rhythm playing 'The Merry Widow Waltz'. Peter showed us how to end waltz tunes by emphasizing the end of the tune. Next Peter talked about **set tunes**. 2/4 and 6/8 tunes can both be used. We played some 2/4 tunes from Collector's Choice and compared those to a 4/4 reel (Fairy Dance). Sets usually need 32 bars, but occasionally a set needs 40 bars. We played 'There is a Tavern in the Town' and 'Hi Lilly, Hi Low' (examples of 40 bar tunes). We then played some 6/8 tunes e.g. Harry McQueen's Set tune. In **choosing tunes**, Peter suggested we: (a) use tunes that people can sing along with, and (b) use Australian Collectors' tunes where possible instead of Irish tunes as there are a lot of suitable ones available now. Peter also explained how to play



Varsovianas distinct from hold or clip the what the dancers melody percussion. We these styles of dance from Collector's Choice Volume One. Peter then explained the difference between 3 hop polkas and Irish **polkas**. We played 'The Girl with the Blue Dress' and 'Jenny Lind'. There is a lot more that Peter covered. We played many tunes and learned a lot about playing for dances. Thank you Peter! -Maree Buttler



and Polka Mazurkas as waltzes. For varsovianas end of the phrase to match are doing. This applies to instruments, guitar and played examples of both

WATTLE DAY

(Words & music by Maggie Somerville 2012)

- 1) In the early 1900s the Wattle movement was begun
 When acacia pycnantha glowing golden like the sun
 Was included on an Aussie stamp and our brand new coat of arms
 As a flowering symbol green & gold for our cities and our farms.
- 2) But not till 1988 was the golden wattle named
 As our national floral emblem and officially proclaimed
 Then after that in '92 the first day of September
 Was established as our Wattle Day – a day we must remember.

CHORUS: It's the spirit of our country, it's our land of flood & fire
 Where every dawn a dream is born as we keep reaching higher
 It's the spirit of our country, it's our land of work & play
 So let's celebrate Australian life each year on Wattle Day.

- 3) Our Uluru, our Opera House and our muddy Yarra too
 Our Gold Coast and our Nullabor, our boxing kangaroo
 Our Aussie Rules, our "G'day mate" from town to outback station
 Our ethnic mix, our barbeques, our great and golden nation.

CHORUS followed by INSTRUMENTAL

- 4) Now as we watch the seasons change, the heat replace the cold
 Our athletes represent our land so proud in green and gold
 Our history stretches back in time, both black & white our past
 Our present and our future in our golden land so vast.

CHORUS

Wattle Day

composed M. Somerville, 2012

1 D G Em A

7 A D G

13 Em A A⁷ D Chorus D

19 D G Em A A⁷

25 D G Em A

31 A A⁷ D



The VFMC wishes to acknowledge Maroondah City Council for their financial support of the Wattle Day Festival.



RHYTHM

What is the basic component of rhythm?

- * A steady beat.

How can a steady beat be observed, heard and maintained by traditional musicians?

- * There are two methods of “foot tapping” in general use:
 - 1) The heel on the floor and tapping the toe “down and up”.
 - 2) The toe on the floor and the heel tapping “down and up”.

The foot tapping can be heard and seen by participating musicians, giving a Session an element of unity.

How can a beginner practise a steady beat?

* Good recorded music for the purpose of jigs, reels and other rhythms. The aim being a steady beat without speeding up or slowing down.

What are the two basic types of rhythm?

- 1) **Regular rhythm**, e.g. the ticking of a mechanical clock gives a steady pulse or beat. There is equal time between each pulse or beat - a steady rhythm.
- 2) **Irregular rhythm**, e.g. the hornpipe rhythm: Tum ti—Tum ti.

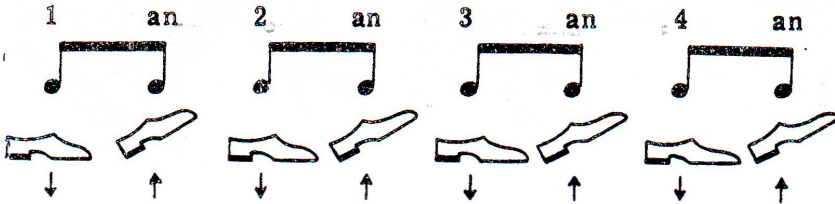
An uneven or jerky rhythm is sometimes called a “dotted” rhythm. There is a pattern of long and short notes. Some rhythms have a mixture of different note values.

How are jerky rhythms notated?

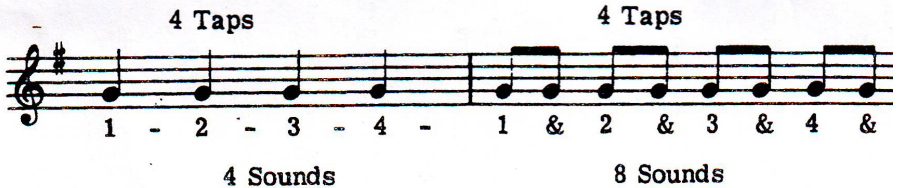
The rhythms are jerky by adding a dot behind a note extending its duration by half..

TAPPING THE FOOT:

Using the tapping foot while playing keeps the time and rhythm moving. You get twice as many sounds with the use of the 8th note.



When the toe is up that is the half beat.



- by Joe Arnold

CORRECTION NOTE AND APOLOGY:

The Editor wishes to apologise to Joe Arnold for printing Country Derry instead of COUNTY Derry in the September edition of 'Tradition' - a shocking error particularly having been to County Derry several times over the years, the last time being for a wonderful wedding which somehow included a lovely week in Rathmullen and a tour of Guinness brewery. The oversight can only be attributed to the small font of my laptop and the lateness of the night—now being dealt with by enlarging the font, donning a pair of glasses, etc. Keep the feedback coming.....

BRUCE WILLIAMS - CD LAUNCH: 'Me and the Walls'**Friday 21st September , 7.30 p.m. at the Newport Bowls Club****Newport Fiddle & Folk Club member, local singer songwriter****Bruce Williams supported by Ukelele Dolls****CONCERT PARTY REPORT (Billabong Band)****RECENT EVENTS:**

26th May: the Billabong Band played for the Colonial Ball at St David's Hall, Canterbury. I hear that all musicians & dancers had a great night. Thank you to Jane, Prue, Harry, Cameron, Margaret, Steve, Katy, Brice, Don G., Frances, Maggie, Ian and Kevin. All those practices paid off in a smooth running night.

3rd August: the Billabong Band had the pleasure of playing for Jane's birthday dance at the Ringwood Elderly Citizen's Hall. We shared the pleasure of playing with two other bands (Brumbies and Delia's Friends). It was great watching the dancers have such a good time. And us too!

Hurstbridge Wattle Day Festival on 26th August: The Billabong Band consisting of Steve, Jane, Ray, Joan, Mick K., Don G., Maggie, Frances, Bill and Maree played at Wattle Place in Hurstbridge as part of their Wattle Festival. Great audiences enjoyed an hour program of Aussie tunes, songs and dances. A large paved area in front of where we musicians were standing made it very easy to get people up to dance. Even the Wattle Queen dressed in her yellow & green ball dress joined in the dancing and fun. They danced the Gallopede, Circassian Circle and Brown Jug Polka. The number of people around were helped by the fact that we followed the local school choir, and the school Marimba group followed us. We finished our day with freshly baked scones at Joan and Ray's place nearby. Thanks Joan. We generated a lot of publicity from this gig, and had quite a few Hurstbridge people come to our workshops and dances on 1st September.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Friday 12th October: Early Christmas concert at Monkami. 11am start.

Monday 22nd October: Australian songs & dances 10.30-11.30 at Donward Aged Care dementia unit, Diana St, Croydon.

Sunday 11th November: 11th Maroondah Festival. Time & more info to come. Please put your name down in the Concert Party book on Tuesdays at Folk Club or contact me if interested in joining the Billabong Band for any of these events.
Maree (Concert Party Convenor) - 9733-0802

REGULAR FUNCTIONS AT OTHER VENUES**Bendigo Folk Club**

Graham Borrell, 0438 437 680
 buzz@bendigo.net.au
 Feature concert on the 3rd Friday of each month 8-11pm, under the grandstand at the Queen Elizabeth oval, Bendigo.

Bush Dance and Music Club of Bendigo Inc

Monthly bush dance at Bendigo East, third Saturday every month. Contact Dianne Pearse (dpearse@inet.net.au) 5442-1715 or Mary Smith 5442-1153 (secretary@bendigobushdance.org.au) for details.

Berwick and District Folk Club

Edward Nass / Christine Trimnell,
 03 9702 1223 /0418 535 264
 badfolk@optusnet.com.au
 Featured artist 3rd Friday February to December, The Old Cheese Factory, 34 Homestead Road, Berwick Vic. 3806
www.badfolk.org.au

Boite World Music Cafe

Therese Virtue,, 03 9417 1983
 boite@boite.asn.au
 Friday & Saturday - March to November, 1 Mark St, North Fitzroy,
www.boite.asn.au

Geelong Folk Music Club

Adam Burke, 0409 409 960
 hexed@iprimus.com.au or
 Peter Fogarty, 03 5229 7887
 Featuring quality acts from around the country and overseas. Sessions every Thursday at the Carlton Hotel, Mercer St, Geelong. Open Mic, walk-up performance events at Irish Murphy's, Aberdeen Street
www.geelongfolkmusicclub.com

Gippsland Acoustic Music Club

Barbara Brabets, 03 5174 7403
 Local musicians and concert opportunities. 1st Sunday at 7:45 pm, Tyers Hall, Tyers
www.musicclub.org

Ranges Burrinja Folk Club

Andrew Jackson, 03 97567398 or
 0402 473 897
 mail@drfolk.com.au
 Guest artist, last Friday of month
 Burrinja Cultural Centre, 351 Glenfern Rd, Upwey Vic (Mel Ref 75B12)
www.rangesburrinjafolk.org/home.html

Selby Folk Club

David Miller, 03 9751 1218
 miller@a1.com.au
 1st Friday every month, at 8:00 pm,
 Selby Community House Minok Reserve
www.home.aone.net.au/~selbyfolkclub

Peninsula Folk Club

First Sunday of each month, at the Frankston Bowling Club on the corner of Yuille Street and Williams Rd, Frankston, from 6:30 pm on.
 Carparking, great facilities, no stairs.
peninsulafolkclub.org.au

Yea Acoustic Jam Session is on the first Friday of the month at the Yea Community House (part of the Library Complex) 7.30 p.m. All levels of musicians and singers most welcome—\$2.00 entry. It is run by Rick and Lee Vengeance, phone 5772 0357 during business hours or see Fairly Folk facebook page for more details.

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

VFMC Postal Address

GPO Box 2025, Melbourne, Victoria 3001.

VFMC Website

<http://www.vfmc.org.au>

CONTACTS

Acting Secretary
 Harry Gardner
 Telephone: 9870-8998
 Email: secretary@vfmc.org.au

Ringwood Folk Club
 Don Fraser
 Telephone 0407 737 202
 Email: donfraseris@gmail.com

Family Bush Dance
 Jane Bullock
 Telephone (03) 9762 1389
 Email: dance@vfmc.org.au

Concert Party Engagements
 Maree Buttler
 Telephone: 9733 0802
 Email: enquiries@vfmc.org.au

To join the VFMC, fill in this Application Form and post to:

VFMC Secretary,
 GPO Box 2025,
 Melbourne, Victoria 3001

Newsletter Delivery: (select)
 (both may be selected if desired)
 By Email
 and / or
 By Post

MEMBERSHIP TYPE	(select <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>)
City/Suburban -	
Single	\$25 <input type="checkbox"/>
Family	\$30 <input type="checkbox"/>
Junior	\$15 <input type="checkbox"/>
Student	\$20 <input type="checkbox"/>
Single Pensioner	\$20 <input type="checkbox"/>
Pensioner Family	\$25 <input type="checkbox"/>
Country -	
Single	\$20 <input type="checkbox"/>
Family	\$25 <input type="checkbox"/>

Name:

Address:

.....

Email: