

Established 1959

Australian

June 2021



# TRADITION

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NEWSLETTER OF THE VICTORIAN FOLK MUSIC CLUB INCORPORATED

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**THE BILLABONG BAND  
AT THE WOOLSHED BALL**  
—our first ball in ages, but  
with social distancing



**A FUN EVENING FOR ALL!**

*Photo by Trevor Voake*

### **ATTENTION ALL VFMC MEMBERS:**

***Please note that the VFMC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING is planned for Sunday 4th July at 2.30 pm. See details, p.11***

**PLEASE SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR JULY NEWSLETTER**

**BY: FRIDAY 18TH JUNE TO: [EDITOR@VFMC.ORG.AU](mailto:EDITOR@VFMC.ORG.AU)**

## CLUB EVENT CALENDAR

**NOTE: MOST LIVE EVENTS ARE NOW COMING BACK—HYBRID!**

### Club Weekly Sessions

#### Weekly Sessions

Every Tuesday of the month except the 2nd (Concert night), **Ringwood Uniting Church Hall**, Station St. plus **online access**. From 7.15 Australian Folk Songs; 7.45 - 9.15 main supportive round robin session for singing, playing, reciting, performing, yarns, workshops, etc. The 4th Tuesday is for all-in round robin playing of tunes, dance sets & group singing. \$5 members, \$6 non members. All welcome. [www.vfmc.org.au](http://www.vfmc.org.au)

#### Guest Performer Concert

On the second Tuesday of the month (instead of the weekly session) a concert is held featuring top acoustic performers. Ringwood Uniting Church Hall plus online. Concerts start with open stage acts at 7.45pm, finishing 10.15pm. \$14, \$12 conces and \$10 members, kids free.

### By-Ear Sessions

To be organised at a future date hopefully.

#### Ringwood Colonial Dance

Family Bush Dance, first Saturday of every month except January 8-11pm at the Ringwood East Senior Citizens Hall, Laurence Grove. A different band each month and all ages are welcome. \$12, \$10 concession and members, kids free. No charge. Contact: Jane 9762-1389 / [www.vfmc.org.au](http://www.vfmc.org.au)

#### Ringwood Children's Dance

Every 3rd Saturday of each month except December and January. 2-3.30pm at the Ringwood East Senior Citizens Hall, Laurence Grove. Live band each month. All school age children welcome. \$5 a child, \$10 a family. Adults free.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1st June</b> Club Sessions Zoom	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>5th</b> Family Bush Dance
<b>6th</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>8th</b> Concert Night Zoom	<b>9th</b>	<b>10th</b>	<b>11th</b>	<b>12th</b>
<b>13th</b>	<b>14th</b>	<b>15th</b> Club Sessions Zoom	<b>16th</b>	<b>17th</b>	<b>18th</b>	<b>19th</b> Children's Dance Zoom Eve Dance
<b>20th</b>	<b>21st</b>	<b>22nd</b> Club Sessions Zoom	<b>23rd</b>	<b>24th</b>	<b>25th</b>	<b>26th</b>
<b>27th</b>	<b>28th</b>	<b>29th</b> Club Sessions Zoom	<b>30th</b>			



The Victorian Folk Music Club inc.

# RINGWOOD FOLK

presents

## Bruce Watson

An icon of the Australian folk scene Bruce Watson's performances are joyful and thoroughly engaging, with witty lyrics and energetic presentation. Enjoy some old favourites and the best of Bruce's '30 Songs In 30 Days' project.

**TUESDAY 8th JUNE**

7:30 - 9:30pm Admission \$10, \$8 members, kids no charge

Online webcast only, pre-purchase tickets at:

<https://events.humanitix.com/vfmc-june2021-online-concert>

Spot acts please pre-book at [concerts@vfmc.org.au](mailto:concerts@vfmc.org.au)

[www.vfmc.org.au](http://www.vfmc.org.au) / Facebook - Victorian Folk Music Club / 0427.784.296.

Ringwood Folk is presented by The Victorian Folk Music Club inc. reg. no. A2511Y ABN 28 668 156 704

**Next concert 13th July - Bhan Tre**

## CONCERT NIGHT REPORT

The May 11th Concert was the first in-hall Concert the Club has held in over 12 months, and the first at the new premises in Ringwood. With considerable trepidation and planning the Concert Committee approached the task, and it turned out to be a very good night with The Jam Tarts as Main Act. Besides the new untried venue other complications were the long list of Covid19 restrictions to adhere to, the first run at testing new technology to enable webcasting for on-line access, the first use of the Humanitix ticketing system on such a hybrid event, and the staging of a Support Act in the form of a tribute bracket to the late member Greg Woodruff, who contributed much to the Club in recent years.



Alex was MC and introduced the first **Spot Act**: Peter Read, who presented two songs accompanied by guitar, the first a Covid-related song, the second I Am A Coal Miner's Daughter. Thanks Peter, good work!

It being around Bob Dylan's 80th birthday, the CRUG ukulele trio (Alex, Noel and Coral) sang To Make You Feel My Love and a bluesy sounding Pearl's A Singer.



Maggie Somerville followed with her catchy whistle tune, Hugh McDonald's Lament, a tribute to her late friend and music icon who recently passed away with prostate cancer. She then sang Purple River, with song lyrics by Stephen Whiteside, about Hugh's compulsion for collecting hard rubbish plus musical instruments.

### SUPPORT ACT:

The late Greg Woodruff left a considerable mark on the Club, the people he met, and the world in general in his comparatively brief 60 years. He joined the Men In Suits group after seeing them at a VFMC Concert several years ago, and formed his own combo, **The Men**, to express his love of music, the Australian landscape in general and its poets. So The Men did a tribute to their late director.

## ONLINE CONCERT NIGHT REPORT

Greg loved the Australian poets and culture and was a talented songwriter and a passionate performer. The Men sang a brief Prelude by AB Paterson with music by Greg. Henry Lawson's poem Knocking Around was put to a fine tune by Greg. Fathom The Bowl is a traditional drinking song, and Tony got the audience going on the choruses.



Banjo Paterson relates the life of a wombat in the quirky Weary Will The Wombat, then followed with the sombre Streets Of Forbes which was written by John McGuire, a relative of the bushranger. Greg used to sing this with much passion and feeling. Lawson's last poem in 1922 was The Night Train which was put to music by Chris Kempster. The Men's last song was possibly Greg's signature piece, Calling Me Home, about his great love of walking in his beloved Tasmanian bush. A nice tribute to Greg by The Men for those who knew him and his songs.



After a short break the **MAIN ACT, THE JAM TARTS**, celebrated the unique role of older women in the music scene, singing mainly 50's and 60's covers to bring a sense of theatre, fun and flair to the night. Karen, Lorraine and Heather as the usual trio were joined by Chris on

double bass and Annie on snare who added a nice full-band sound to their act. They have been performing since 2010 and have played at many festivals in the meantime. They engage well with the audience with good natured banter, animated presentation and great harmonies. Among their many songs were popular favourites like Mr. Postman, Rhythm Of The Falling Rain, an up-tempo Summertime and several Beatles songs which were matched with more traditional Bring Me Little Water Sylvie, Under The Weeping Willow Tree, Wild Mountain Thyme and a rather nice My Sister And Laura And Me, a song by Dark Horses. An encore was requested and The Jam Tarts sang It Don't Mean A Thing If It Ain't Got That Swing. A great foot-tapping bracket by The Jam Tarts. Thanks to all for making this a very good return to live Concerts at VFMC - the live audience and those who viewed it on-line, the Spot acts, The Men and The Jam Tarts. Plus all who worked under difficult circumstances to make the event happen.

Next month features one of the country's most popular folk scene performers, Enda Kenny.

- Review by Don Fraser ; photos by Trevor Voake

## The Dance Page



### Diary dates for June:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday 1st	Wednesday 2nd	Thursday 3rd	Friday 4th	Saturday 5th
		English	Irish or Colonials			<b>VFMC Dance Delia's Friends</b>
<b>6th</b> Contra	<b>7th</b> Scottish	<b>8th</b> English	<b>9th</b> Irish or Colonials	<b>10th</b>	<b>11th</b> English	<b>12th</b> Scottish?
<b>13th</b> Claddagh	<b>14th</b> Scottish	<b>15th</b> English	<b>16th</b> Irish or Colonials	<b>17th</b> Colonials	<b>18th</b>	<b>19th</b> <b>VFMC Children's Dance VFMC Zoom Evening Dance</b> Bendigo East Hop
<b>20th</b> Welsh	<b>21st</b> Scottish	<b>22nd</b> English	<b>23rd</b> Irish or Colonials	<b>24th</b>	<b>25th</b> English	<b>26th</b> <b>Melbourne Colonials Cinderella Ball</b>
<b>27th</b> Claddagh	<b>28th</b> Scottish	<b>29th</b> English	<b>30th</b> Irish or Colonials			
<b>Diary Dates for July:</b>						
				<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b> <b>VFMC Dance Jolly Jumbucks</b>
<b>4th</b> <b>VFMC AGM 2.30 pm</b> Contra	<b>5th</b> Scottish	<b>6th</b> English	<b>7th</b> Irish or Colonials	<b>8th</b>	<b>9th</b> English	<b>10th</b> Scottish?



**Melbourne Colonial Dancers –Cinderella Ball. 8pm**  
**Collingwood Town Hall, 140 Hoddle Street, Abbotsford.**  
**Contact Coral: 9885-6109**

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**VFMC Family dance** East Ringwood Senior Citizens Hall Laurence Grove,  
East Ringwood 8-11pm contact Jane 9762 1389

**VFMC Children's dance** East Ringwood Senior Citizens Hall, Laurence Grove,  
East Ringwood 2-3pm contact Jane 9762 1389

**Claddagh** - Irish set dancing at St Georges's Anglican Church, Warncliffe Rd.  
Ivanhoe. Sunday 2-5pm Contact Rod 9497 1793

**Irish Wednesday** Irish dancing at St. Phillips Church, Hoddle Street,  
Collingwood 8-10pm. Contact Marie 9471 0690

**English Tuesday** - dancing, Bennettswood Neighbourhood House, 7  
Greenwood Street, Burwood 8-10pm. Contact George 9890 5650

**English Friday** – dance. Church of Christ Hall, 1 The avenue Surrey Hills 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 Ashburton Uniting Church,  
3 Ashburn Grove, Ashburton 7.30-10pm.

Contact Coral 9885 6109

**Welsh** Dancing at Church of Christ Hall, 1 The Avenue, Surrey Hills 2-4.30pm.  
Contact Ian 9878 2414.

**Contra Dance** Beckett Uniting Church, 72 Highfield Rd. Canterbury. 7.30-  
10.15pm Info:0422932532

**Scottish Monday and Saturday** Paton Memorial Hall, Deepdene Uniting  
Church, 958 Burke Road, Deepdene 8pm

Contact [Deepdene.dancers@bigpond.com](mailto:Deepdene.dancers@bigpond.com)

**Bendigo East Hop** – Holy Trinity Church Hall, Keck St. Flora Hill. 8pm  
contact [secretary@bendigobushdance.org.au](mailto:secretary@bendigobushdance.org.au)

# *Family Bush Dance*

Presented by

**Victorian Folk Music Club inc**  
**Saturday 5th June. 2021**  
**with Delia's Friends**

**Restrictions allowing we will be at:-**

Ringwood East Senior Citizens Hall  
Laurence Grove, Ringwood East  
(Melways P50 B8)

Please BYO Mask and Mug  
tea and coffee provided

**VFMC's COVID-19 safe plan see website.**

Hall dance - 8.00 - 11.00pm



# *Family Bush Dance*

Presented by

**Victorian Folk Music Club inc**

Saturday 19th June, 2021.

Special Theme Night

*On the Water*

**Your house**

**Zoom ID 757 492 753**  
**Password: VFMC2020**

**dance - 7.30-9.30pm**



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**Victorian Folk Music Club Inc.**  
(Registered No A2511Y)



**Bush Dance  
for  
school children**

**Saturday 19th June  
2.00pm - 3.00pm**

**Ringwood East Senior Citizens Hall,  
Laurence Grove, Ringwood East**

**Band: Jolly Jumbucks**



**Cost: \$5 per child or \$10 a family and adults free  
when accompanied by a child**

**Phone: Jane 9762 1389  
Email: [dance@vfmc.org.au](mailto:dance@vfmc.org.au)  
VFMC Website: [www.vfmc.org.au](http://www.vfmc.org.au)**

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2021

Sunday 4th July 2021 at 2.30pm has been nominated as the date and time for the Annual General Meeting of the V.F.M.C.

The location will be the East Ringwood Elderly Citizens Hall, Laurence Grove, East Ringwood (Melway 50B8).

However, the AGM will also be accessible via Zoom with the appropriate code. Requests should be sent to: [enquiries@vfmc.org.au](mailto:enquiries@vfmc.org.au)

*Our first ball in a long, long time—THE WOOLSHED BALL,  
held on Saturday 22nd May at the Senior Citizen's Hall*



*Photos by Trevor Voake  
and Maggie Somerville*



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## ANOTHER WORD ABOUT BOOKING CONCERT TICKETS:

After some confusion at our first hybrid concert, we are reprinting this article:- It would appear some explanation on obtaining tickets for our monthly Concerts may be helpful to reduce confusion, as it is now a little more involved than just turning up at the door as we have done in the past. Here's why. Overlying everyone's daily lives hangs the uncertainties and regulations concerning the Covid pandemic. The property owners must abide by the Government's ever-changing dictums, and users of the property like the VFMC must submit a Covid management plan to the hirer and abide by it as a part of our hiring agreement.

**An attendance limit of 66 is in place for the hall**, which includes performers of course. The QR code attendance registration system must be used, money is not to be handled, all high-touch areas need to be sanitised and a host of other things. At midnight on any Concert night the Club website automatically updates the publicity for the next month's concert. You should be able to book a ticket from then. You do this through the **Humanitix ticketing system**, it's really quite easy. You can attend a Concert in person at the hall, or if you are travelling or would rather stay at home you can view the Concert anywhere on-line via Zoom. **Either way a pre-paid ticket from Humanitix is required.** Tickets are **not available** at the door. This means we don't have to physically handle cash on the night, we can also have control over numbers.

Don't leave it to the last minute to obtain a ticket, there is a limit of 66 (total) **attendees at the hall**, and you need to be on the list of ticket holders to attend. **Sold out** will appear if 66 sales is reached. Obviously there's no limit to on-line access tickets, the more the better in fact.

Click or **go to the Humanitix link** for all details, it's on the publicity poster or the Concerts page on the website. Click **Get Tickets**, choose either '**Live Concert in hall**' or '**Zoom**' (if you want on-line access), select the **type and number** of tickets with the little up/down arrows, **Enter details**, fill in info then **Save & Checkout**.

Once you have paid for your tickets, notification will be sent pretty well straight away to your email address. **Keep that email handy**, if you are viewing on-line you will need it on the night as the Zoom address is embedded under the **Access Online Event** button. Click it 10 - 15 minutes before the Concert starts and wait to be let in. If attending the hall in person you can bring a paper copy of the ticket but we will have you on the list anyway. But please **don't just turn up without registering on Humanitix**, we are cannot admit more than 66. If you bought a ticket but decide not to come let us know if possible as your seat may be used by someone else.

We apologise for any confusion in this matter, it has been a momentarily unsettling year from normal for the Club, and we have had to adapt to changes in many ways. Communicating all these issues has been a challenge. Please advise us of any issues.

- Don Fraser

**DEATH AS INSPIRATION:**

The death of a friend and musician can, apart from outpourings of grief, also lead to creative efforts at times. The death in 2016 of ex-Redgum member, composer of 'The Diamantina Drover' and much more—**Hugh McDonald**, led Stephen Whiteside to write a song lyric entitled 'The Purple River' about Hugh's love of not only music but also of hard rubbish. This was later set to music by Maggie Somerville and performed as a spot act (along with her tune: 'Hugh McDonald's Lament') at the recent Concert Night in May this year.

**THE PURPLE RIVER**

**CHORUS:**The purple river winds it way beyond the Moon and back.

The purple river plummets through a tiny little crack.

The purple river isn't filled with water, steam or ice.

The purple river takes us to the gates of Paradise.

Its banks are lined with nuts and bolts and small assorted screws.

A washer. Broken drill bits. Rusty nails. A shattered fuse.

Hammers, hand saws, brushes, and a half-forgotten axe.

Pulpy, torn instruction guides. An endless stream of tacks.

You'll find no houseboat sitting in a gently filling lock.

Perhaps you'll see a vacuum cleaner snagged upon a rock.

A slightly worn front-loader tumbling down a great cascade.

A spinning two-stroke mower that could use a little aid.

Up against a great broad bend are seventeen guitars;

Fiddles, banjos, mandolins, all played by ghostly stars.

It might be Django Reinhardt, or it might be John Coltrane,

And every time a tune is done, they start it up again.

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## BEN HALL—QUIZ

1) Who was Ben Hall? 2) When was he born? 3) How many robberies were attributed to him? 4) Which state were these carried out in? 5) Where and how did he die? 6) What famous folk song is about him?

*Answers to last quiz:-*

1) 1919 2) A social activist 3) *The Weavers* 4) *Regarded as communists*  
5) *Where Have All the Flowers Gone* 6) *Banjo* 7) 2014

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## Billabong Band report – May 2021

Saturday 22nd May: THE WOOLSHED BALL was our first real life ball since the pandemic began, and it went off extremely well at the Senior Citizens' Hall in East Ringwood. The dancers were mostly decked out beautifully—women in flashy dresses and men in smart waistcoats etc., and the Billabong Band did a fine job (despite a few glitches, such as Maree's poor health, Steve's missing recorder & some technical hitches). Thanks to band members: Steve Bullock, Maree Buttler, Stan Ciuchak, Selina Goldsmith, Maggie Somerville, Katy Cottril, Bryce Russell, Mick Kearon. A special thanks to Bill Buttler for setting up the Zoom component which included overseas dancers from England and America.

### Upcoming events:

On the 4<sup>th</sup> of June at 2pm we are entertaining residents at Regis Aged Care in Blackburn.

Practice for this gig is the 28<sup>th</sup> May at Stewart's house.

On Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> June between 1.30pm and 2.30 pm we have been asked to entertain the North Ringwood Seniors. Practices will be 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> June.

It's great that we are being asked to play again at retirement homes and social clubs.

The Billabong Band has also been accepted for Maldon Folk Festival Oct/Nov. to perform 'An Empty Chair' as a tribute to Don Gingrich who recently passed away

- *Billabong Band co-ordinators: Stan, Trev & Maree*

**REGULAR FUNCTIONS AT OTHER VENUES (CHECK IF ON)****Bendigo Folk Club**

Graham Borrell, 0438 437 680  
 buzzza@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, at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Keck St, Flora Hill. Contact Mary Smith 5442-1153 or email secretary@bendigobushdance.org.au

**Berwick and District Folk Club**

Edward Nass / Christine Trimmell,  
 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  
 admin@boite.asn.au  
 Friday & Saturday - March to November, 1 Mark St, North Fitzroy, www.boite.asn.au

**Geelong Folk Music Club**

Ade Kelly (03)5241-3749,  
 adenmyra@bigpond.com.au, Pete Fogarty (03)5339-7887. Featuring quality acts from around the country and overseas. Sessions every Thursday at Hotel Max, 2 Gheringhap St, Geelong. Open Mic. Performance events first Tuesday at Irish Murphy's, 30 Aberdeen St & 3rd Tuesdays at Hotel Max. Bookings: Paula Grembka 0401 671 1310. <http://www.geelongfolkmusicclub.com/>

**Comhaltas (Collingwood)**

Joan and Ray Mundy run a session on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month, starts 7.30pm. Supper. Marce: 9471-0690

**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

**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

**Creswick Folk Club**

Second Friday, from 7.30 pm at the American Hotel in Creswick; and Fourth Friday, from 7.30 pm at the Old Station in Creswick.  
 Enquiries: Graeme: 03 5334 5551  
 www.facebook.com/creswickfolkclub/

**Fireside Fiddlers**

For fiddles plus other string melody instruments, such as mandolins.  
 Every Monday evening at various venues. For further information, contact Denise Hibbs: 0402 050 524

**Newport Folk Club**

Certain Friday nights at 7.30 pm plus other evenings, e.g. Tues Blues and Sunday 2 pm singalongs etc.  
 See website for up-to-date calendar.

**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 events
- Discounts on Club publications
- Discounts on Club CD's
- Affiliation with other organizations

**VFMC Postal Address**

P.O. Box 215, Ringwood East, Vic. 3135

**VFMC Website**

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

**CONTACTS**

**Secretary**

Jane Bullock  
 Telephone: 9762 1389  
 Email: [secretary@vfmc.org.au](mailto:secretary@vfmc.org.au)

**Ringwood East Folk Club**

Don Fraser  
 Telephone: 0407 737 202  
 Email: [sessions@vfmc.org.au](mailto:sessions@vfmc.org.au)

**Family/Children's Bush Dance**

Jane Bullock  
 Telephone: 9762 1389  
 Email: [dance@vfmc.org.au](mailto:dance@vfmc.org.au)

**Concert Party Engagements**

Maree Buttler  
 Telephone: 9733 0802  
 Email: [billabongband@vfmc.org.au](mailto:billabongband@vfmc.org.au)

I .....wish to become a member of the Victorian Folk Music Club Inc. and will

- (a) Support the aims of the Victorian Folk Music Club Inc and
  - (b) Abide by the rules of the Victorian Folk Music Club Inc.
- (For details see: - <http://www.vfmc.org.au/Constitution.pdf>)

Signed .....

I wish to receive my Newsletter by:

- (a) Email or/and
- (b) Post

(Cross out whichever is not applicable)

Please post completed form to:

The Secretary  
 VFMC  
 PO Box 215  
 Ringwood East 3135 Victoria

Membership Type (please circle)

<del>Metro</del> Single	\$25
Family*	\$30
Junior (u 18)	\$15
Student (full time)	\$20
Single Concession	\$20
Family Concession*	\$25
<u>Country</u> Single	\$20
Family*	\$25

\*Family – Parent/s & any children under 18

Name: .....

Address: .....

Email .....

Phone/s: .....