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NEWSLETTER OF THE VICTORIAN FOLK MUSIC CLUB INCORPORATED

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Rob Leereveld at Maldon FF 2016



Photo by Trevor Voake

ALL ATTENDEES AGED 16 AND OVER AT ANY VFMC EVENTS FROM NOW ON MUST BE DOUBLE VACCINATED AND BE PREPARED TO SHOW PROOF OF VACCINATION
HELP WANTED FOR CLUB HISTORY—SEE PAGE 12

PLEASE SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER
BY: FRIDAY 21ST JANUARY TO: EDITOR@VFMC.ORG.AU

The views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor or of the VFMC

CLUB EVENT CALENDAR

NOTE: PLEASE CHECK IF EVENTS ARE ZOOM, LIVE OR 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

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 and/or online. Concerts start with open stage acts at 7.45pm, finishing 10.00pm. \$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

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
			1st Dec.	2nd	3rd	4th Family Bush Dance BB Band
5th	6th	7th Club Session HYBRID	8th	9th	10th	11th
12th	13th	14th Concert Night Guest artists HYBRID	15th	16th	17th	18th Zoom Eve Dance
19th	20th	21st Club Session ZOOM?	22nd	23rd	24th	25th
26th	27th	28th	29th	30th	31st	

PLEASE CHECK BEFOREHAND IF THIS EVENT IS ZOOM ONLY



The Victorian Folk Music Club inc.
RINGWOOD FOLK

presents

Honeyfields

Cat Moser and Corinn and Nicola Strating have been together many years, first as **The Beenies**, now as **Honeyfields**. They are superb harmony singers and multi-instrumentalists.

TUESDAY 14th DECEMBER

Live at Ringwood Uniting Church Hall, and Online via Zoom
7.45 - 10.00pm Admission \$14 to \$8, kids no charge

Limited tickets, **NO DOOR SALES**, pre-purchase all tickets at:

<https://events.humanitix.com/vfmc-december2021-concert>

Spot acts **PRE-BOOK** at concerts@vfmc.org.au

www.vfmc.org.au / Facebook - Victorian Folk Music Club / 0411.750.462

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

Next concert 8th February - The Zampoñistas

CONCERT NIGHT REVIEW—NOVEMBER

The club was pleased to present the monthly concert live in the hall in Ringwood hall with limited numbers in attendance. Other members chose to watch via Zoom.

Our host for the evening was Michael Hassett.

SPOT ACTS:

Maggie Somerville opened the evening with a poignant song she has written and dedicated to her late son: *In My Skin*. Echoing the chorus words (“I wear my heart upon my sleeve”), she now has a personal tattoo on her arm in remembrance. Then a poem by John Shaw Neilson set to music by Maggie—*Under a Kurrajong*.



Stephen Whiteside entertained us with another of C J Dennis’s great children’s poems: *The Long Road Home*. First published in 1921, it is as much a story as a poem with its rhyming tale of Jacky making his way home after visiting his mate Billy. Fitting for the centenary of C.J. Dennis’s ‘Book for Kids’.



Next up **Don Fraser and Dominic Martin** performed on guitars an old English folk song: *Some Tyrant Has Stolen My True Love Away*. Then Don on accordion and Dom on guitar performed *Ess Hambro*—a melodic musical piece which is a Swedish Barn Dance.



Stan Cuichak guitar and vocals, **Bill Buttlar** harmonica and guest artist **Billy Dettmer** on guitar performed a great rendition of *The Wild Place Blues*.

Then **Stan Cuichak** performed solo and unaccompanied *Go Down old Hanna*—an old Texas prison song made famous by artist Leadbelly.



US

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CONCERT NIGHT REVIEW (CONTINUED)

SUPPORT ACT: Billy Dettmer



Billy is a musician, songwriter and poet well-known throughout Melbourne's musical scene. Starting out as part of the Victoria Banjo Club and performing at a very early age at the legendary Traynor's Folk Club, Billy has continued his love of music and words over the years with many nominations and awards for his songwriting. During the performance Billy showed his expertise playing the guitar or harmonica as he shared his stories with the audience.

His first song was for his son reminding him that his Teddy Bear was his best friend and *Never Kick your Teddy when you're Down*. Then a beautiful tribute to his home town: *Melbourne is my town - your town*. Billy's work as an ambo gave him insights into the city which became inspiration for his many poems and songs. Such as the next one about two old shabby people dancing under a street light. Then lovely guitar playing accompanied *Jenny's Holiday*. Billy's next song took many of us back a few years listening to *Poppa's Old Desoto*. It smelt of rolled up cigarettes, ancient leather seats... His use of old Aussie expressions added to the nostalgia. *Doris proud as Madam, sitting up like Jackie in the passenger seat*. The final offering was a Covid inspired song. *But you've got me and I've got you and that'll do*.

MAIN ACT: A J Leonard and Jenny Rowlands

The club was thrilled to have this musical duo back to the club. A J Leonard is a highly-skilled performer, composer and instrumentalist who is considered one of the world's finest ukulele players. Jenny is a classically trained cellist who has paired with A J Leonard in an unusual combination of their chosen instruments. This highly accomplished duo have performed in multiple festivals throughout Australia, the USA and New Zealand.

AJ played a Venuzeuelan ukulele as he sang his own song about the beauty of the Yarra Valley. Jenny provided accompaniment on her Australian-made cello. The next song was about the sudden lockdowns we have all experienced. Like rabbits in the headlights... *we were caught by surprise*. We then heard a song about *The Gaucho*, those skilled Argentinian horsemen noted for their expertise with the leather whip and wearing the poncho. A change of pace with a delightful song, *Barefoot with my Baby*. And then keeping the feeling of sand between our toes, the couple performed *Tropical Island*. For this song AJ switched to the middle child— his name for his concert-sized ukulele.

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CONCERT NIGHT REVIEW (continued)

The audience joined in with a parody on the Petula Clark hit ‘Downtown’ with AJ sharing his own experiences of *Lockdown*. Then back to the tropics with a love song from Hawaii— *Under the Maui Moon*.

An instrumental next, *Dragonfly*, the melodious sounds of the ukulele and cello combining in a light and spritely tune beautifully capturing the feeling of a fluttering insect.

The tenor instrument featured in a song of escapism which echoed the sentiments of many of the audience. Back to South America with a lively song called *Senorita Dance* about a night out on the town by the Vaquero (South America’s cowboys) known for their expertise with the lariat.

There followed a beautiful arrangement of two popular movie themes: *The Bond Theme* by John Barry and *The Pink Panther* by Henry Mancini.

Then an old favourite: *I Can See Clearly Now* from 1971, written and made popular by Johnny Nash.

Then back to 1927 with *My Blue Heaven*. The deep tones of the cello expertly blended with the high notes of the ukulele to present a spine-tingling rendition of the Beatles tune: *Eleanor Rigby*.

The final song presented this evening was the old Louis Armstrong favourite: *What a Wonderful World*.

Such positive words provided a fitting finale to a wonderful night’s entertainment. Thanks so much to Jenny and AJ for brightening up our post Lockdown blues.

Many thanks to the spot acts, Billy Dettmer our support act, and all of the volunteers who work under difficult conditions to keep the club rolling along smoothly. You are greatly appreciated.

Next month: Acoustic trio, The Honeyfields.

Report by Bette Martin ; Photos by Trevor Voake

The Dance Page



Diary dates for December:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1st Irish Colonials	2nd	3rd	4th VFMC Dance Billabong Band Come dressed for the season
5th Contra	6th Scottish	7th	8th Irish Colonials	9th Scottish	10th ECD	11th Scottish
12th Claddagh	13th	14th	15th Irish	16th	17th	18th VFMC Zoom Family Dance 7.30pm
Merry	Christmas	to everyone	with music	in their	hearts,	souls and
feet	and a	Happy	New	Year	for	2022
NO	VFMC	DANCES	AT	ALL	DURING	JANUARY
						February 5th VFMC Dance Borderline Kaylee

THE DANCE PAGE (continued):

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

VFMC Colonial Dance at East Ringwood Elderly Citizen's Hall, Laurence Grove, East Ringwood. Family 8-11pm and Children's 2-.0pm. Contact Jane: 9762 1389

Irish Wednesday: Irish dancing at St. Phillips Church, Hoddle Street, Collingwood. 7.30-9.30pm. Contact Mary: 9435 4435

English dancing at Church of Christ Hall, The Avenue, Surrey Hills. 8-10pm. Contact George: 9890 5650

Contra Dance Beckett Uniting Church, 72 Highfield Rd, Canterbury. 7.45-10.15pm. Info: 0422 932 532

TSDAV Church of Christ Hall, The Avenue, Surrey Hills. 1-4pm. Contact Norm Ellis: 9888 5232

Scottish Monday and Saturday 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.

- Jane Bullock (photo below by Trevor Voake of a VFMC November live dance)



Family Bush Dance

Presented by

Victorian Folk Music Club inc

16 + must be fully vaccinated

**Saturday 4th December 2021
with Billabong Band**

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

Please BYO Mask
tea and coffee provided

Advance purchase your tickets at:-

<https://events.humanitix.com/vfmc-december2021-dance>

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 18th December 2021.

Special Theme Night

Christmas Gifts

dance - 7.30-9.30pm

Your house

Contact Jane on
dance@vfmc.org.au
see

vfmc.org.au

or

victorian folk music club facebook



SESSIONS—DEVELOPMENT

Some good news re Sessions. With the easing of restrictions, and after negotiations with the Uniting Church, we can now meet face to face and make music in the lovely big hall at Ringwood Uniting. And for those who are travelling or cannot physically get there, the intention is to keep the on-line Zoom access going for as long as it is needed. That's good.

Now we have to pay for all this hall rent, technology and bandwidth stuff, and it's not cheap. When entering the hall don't forget to drop **\$5 in the money tin** at the door; that would be much appreciated. **\$6 if you're not an enrolled member.** That's pretty cheap for a good night's entertainment, a choc-top at the flicks is dearer than that and you have to sit through 30 minutes of ads!!.

If you come in via Zoom you can easily make a donation through Paymate, just go to www.vfmc.org.au go to the **Sessions page**, and scroll down on the right side till you see a red **Donate Now** button. Fill in the details and you're done. Thank you very much. You can pay by the week or several weeks if that's more convenient. Like the money tin at the door it's all based on the honesty system, so we leave it up to you to keep a tally.

This is just for Sessions. Concerts and Dances are different as we gotta pay performers, dance bands, callers and so on.

We don't have a stack of resource books to browse anymore, and as people can log in from anywhere, it is really good to have a prepared programme of scores or tunes or songs that all can share in, especially communal stuff. That takes away a bit of the spontaneity but does allow material from anyone to be displayed and helps with sequencing and share-screening your choices.

Scores generally stay on the website for a week (see **Download Scores**), then we archive them, so there's a great collection of fabulous contributions if you ever want to follow up on someone's submission.

Don't forget, if on-line make sure that Original Sound is turned on and also that you remain muted when necessary. If you have a query or suggestion, send a message to sessions@vfmc.org.au or enquiries@vfmc.org.au

- Don Fraser

FOR SALE

Guitar case - hard. Velvet lining. Very sturdy to protect your guitar.

Worth \$200. Selling for \$100. And a soft guitar case for \$15.

Phone Rosemary: 0425 285 506



JOHN SCHUMANN—QUIZ

1) Who is John Schumann? 2) What well-known band was he in? 3) What is his most famous song? 4) What is that song about? 5) Who did he perform with as part of a duo more recently? 6) What political party was he a candidate for in the 1998 federal election? 7) Who did he nearly unseat in that election?

Answers to last quiz:-

1) *An Australian writer & bush poet* 2) *A.B.(Banjo) Paterson* 3) *Bertha Bredt*
4) *Alcohol* 5) *Reedy River, The Waterlily* 6) *Short stories* 7) *Hannah Thorburn*
8) *He was given a state funeral.*

BILLABONG BAND REPORT—NOVEMBER 2021

Currently we have three confirmed gigs to finish off 2021.

With the easing of restrictions we have started practices this month (gee it's great playing live with other musos) for these three upcoming gigs:

Nov 20th - Kiddies dance

Dec 1st - Yarrunga Retirees

Dec 4th - VFMC family dance

National Folk Festival - Easter 2022

The club applied for 5 performances:

Unfortunately, the club was unsuccessful with all these applications.

The club has also offered its assistance with other Melbourne dance groups such as the TSDAV, English Country Dance group & the Melbourne Colonial Dancers. A list of musicians has been supplied and Richard Ayrling is following this up.

- Billabong Band Convenors: Trevor, Stan and 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

Session Co-ordinator

Don Fraser
 Telephone: 0407 737 202
 Email: sessions@vfmc.org.au

Family/Children's Bush Dance

Jane Bullock
 Telephone: 9762 1389
 Email: dance@vfmc.org.au

Billabong Band Engagements

Maree Buttler
 Telephone: 9733 0802
 Email: billabongband@vfmc.org.au

Iwish 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)

Membership Type (please circle)

<u>Metro</u> 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

Please post completed form to:

The Secretary
 VFMC
 PO Box 215
 Ringwood East 3135 Victoria

*Family – Parent/s & any children under 18

Name:

Address:

Email

Phone/s: