

Established 1959

Australian

February 2022



TRADITION

Print Post Approved PP335169/00012

Reg No A2511Y

NEWSLETTER OF THE VICTORIAN FOLK MUSIC CLUB INCORPORATED

In This Issue ...

Item

Page

Club Events	2
Next Concert Night Guest Artist/s	3
Concert Night Report—December	4
Corryong over Christmas Holidays	6
Dance pages and flyers	7
Gay Charmer Turns 80	11
Financial members ; fun activities	12
For Sale: Guitar case \$15	13
Quiz ; Billabong Band Report	14
Other Clubs ; VFMC Membership	16

PHOTOGRAPH OF CLUB PHOTOGRAPHER (elf?)



Photo by Carol Griffiths

PLEASE NOTE: DUE TO COVID, THE CHILDREN'S DANCE WILL BE CANCELLED FOR FEBRUARY AND THE NORMAL FAMILY DANCE AT THE START OF THE MONTH WILL BE VIA ZOOM ONLY (WITH BORDERLINE KAYLEE).

PLEASE SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR MARCH NEWSLETTER BY: FRIDAY 18TH FEBRUARY TO: EDITOR@VFMC.ORG.AU

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 February Club Session HYBRID	2nd	3rd	4th	5th Family Bush Dance ZOOM
6th	7th	8th Concert Night Guest artists HYBRID	9th	10th	11th	12th
13th	14th	15th Club Session HYBRID	16th	17th	18th	19th Zoom Eve Dance
20th	21st	22nd Club Session HYBRID All in	23rd	24th	25th	26th
27th	28th					



Victorian Folk Music Club

at Ringwood

Geoffrey Graham

Tuesday 8th February

With a great love of the Australian bush poets, particularly Banjo Patterson, Geoffrey Graham combines comedy, bush poetry, and music in a well researched performance

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

No door sales. Pre-purchase all tickets at:

<https://events.humanitix.com/vfmc-february2022-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 March - Anita George Trio

CONCERT NIGHT REVIEW—DECEMBER

Our final concert for the year was near sell out Steve Bullock was MC and as is his wont, opened with a song, the quirky English folk song: 'The Christmas Hare'.

SPOT ACTS:

Dominic Martin was first up beginning with the well known Ralph McTell song, *Streets of London*, followed by a lovely quiet rendition of *Little Drummer Boy*. The audience clearly appreciate both songs by joining in the choruses.



Ruth, usually one of our regular poets, showed her versatility with two songs accompanied by guitar. First was the Pete Seeger / Joan Baez classic *We Shall Overcome* where Ruth led the audience to sing along with her. The second was *Brave*, a song of courage in adversity - "walk tall and hold your head up high".

Bill Buttler entertained us with a blues rendition of *Ryback Shearer* - accompanied by some deft finger style and slide work on a resonator guitar. He followed up with a Bob Dylan song about the folly of humanity, *License to Kill*.



Alex and Noel performing as the Croydon Recreational Ukulele Group - CRUG - combined to present firstly, a vocal version of the well-known favourite *Dark Island*. They followed with *The Black Muddy River*, a song by 1960s American rock band, The Grateful Dead.

Maree Buttler treated us to a lovely rendition of *Carol of the Birds*, singing and playing harp. She then switched to piano accordion and, accompanied by husband Bill on guitar, presented Bushwackers classic *Old Sydney Town*.



Mick Kearon, started with a powerful rendition of the Luke Kelly song *School Days Over* that tells of the transition of school boys from childhood to the harsh and dangerous life of a miner "time you were doing a miner's job and earning a miner's pay". His second song, *Parcel of Rogues*, is the story of treachery where wealthy Scots in the 17th century sold out Scottish sovereignty for money.

Pleasant and Delightful, comprising Don, Robyn, Kristin and Ken, rounded out the first part of the concert with two Christmas themed songs. The first, *Christ was Born in Bethlehem*, was sung with lovely harmonies and guitar, flute and mandolin accompaniment. They followed this with an a cappella presentation of *Sing Sing All Earth*.



CONCERT NIGHT REVIEW (CONTINUED)

MAIN ACT:

Our main act this month was the all female trio, **THE HONEYFIELDS** - Nicola Strating, Cat Moser and Corinn Strating - three talented multi-instrument musicians and songwriters. They presented the songs from their latest album, 'Fortune's Wheel', to formally launch the album.

The repertoire included traditional and contemporary songs, three of which were written by group members. The vocal harmonies were delightful but what impressed your reviewer most of all, was the range of instruments that the group could play. These included, guitar, bouzouki, banjo, flute, low F whistle, accordion, violin and lap dulcimer.



The program opened with *Lovers Lane* written by Corinn. about a beachfront lane of her childhood, now called an esplanade but then, Lovers' Lane. Cat followed up on banjo with a 1960s Jean Ritchie song '*The L&N Don't Stop Here Any More*'. Stepping back further in time came *The Rose of Allendale*, with the audience happily joining in the chorus.

Switching to a capella, save for drone on accordion, came *The Auchengiech Disaster*, a song about a Scottish mining disaster, in the 50s that killed 47 miners. Some sound advice was proffered to all young ladies to never trust the hearts of men: *Come All You Fair And Tender Ladies* followed by a delightful Gram Parsons song from the late sixties: *Hickory Wind*.

The *Fatal Rose of Red* told the tale of a lovers' tiff gone wrong when a signal to wear a rose of white to indicate reconciliation was altered to red by an unscrupulous rival, so as to indicate the opposite, so they did not live happily ever after. *Beware and Take Care* followed, offering good advice to young women, with fabulous instrumental accompaniment on dulcimer, guitar and whistle.

Which Way Will We Fall, written by Nicola and Corinn, included a waltz dedicated to their late uncle, and was followed by *Lonely the Moon* written by Corinn. To conclude, we had a Marjy Plant song *Wheels Of Love* beautifully sung by Cat.

Thank you to the Honeyfields for a wonderful evening. Well done, all spot acts, and also our technical experts and stage designers for running a very professional Zoom webcast and concert.

Next concert (February): Zamponistas.

Review by Michael Hassett ; photos by Trevor Voake

CORRYONG OVER THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

We were off; the car was absolutely chockas and was very heavy to drive (my thoughts). We set off at about 11am (were aiming for 9am!) and went via Yea, Seymour, Hume, Tallangatta and thence to Corryong. The drive was uneventful, roads not too busy and we found a pleasant spot for lunch en route. Arrived at the caravan park, we dumped the bags, boxes, sound equipment, computers, food and drinks into our cabin and headed off for 'Happy Hour'. Here we received the sad news that due to Covid up there the 2 dances that were going to happen in a hall were cancelled. Oh well, dreams aren't meant to be real.

We did run a dance by request of the caravan park owners at the caravan park on their oval. Ray and Joan, Stephen, John from Orange, Mick from Albury, Stuie and Ron from Lake Charm, Marg, John and Eric from Bendigo, and if there were others - thank you for the great music but apologies for missing you out on this list. I called the dances and adapted them for just partner holding and we had a lovely crowd of very enthusiastic dancers.

Fran took the pictures. We lazed away our days playing music, socializing and making the most of 'Happy Hour'. New Year's Eve and we had mulled wine on the verandah and special this year was Judy and Malcolm's pancakes, a perfect match with Stephen's special mulled wine which was extra smooth this year and every drop went.

New Year's Day saw everyone (folkie) at the caravan park plus a couple of extras getting together for our annual chicken, champagne and joke session. I told a joke about millipedes and everyone laughed. (Very happy to share the joke: just ask me.)



All too soon it was time to go so we farewelled our folkie friends, loaded up the car minus food and drink (all gone) and set off for home.

- by Jane Bullock

The Dance Page



Diary dates for February: *Please check before going to any of these dances*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1st English	2nd Irish Colonials	3rd	4th English	5th VFMC Dance Borderline Kaylee ZOOM
6th TSDAV Contra	7th	8th English	9th Irish or Colonials	10th	11th	12th
13th Claddagh	14th	15th English	16th Irish or Colonials	17th Colonial Bush Dance	18th English	19th VFMC Zoom Family Dance Bendigo East Hop
20th Welsh	21st Scottish	22nd English	23rd Irish or Colonials	24th	25th	26th
27th Claddagh	28th Scottish					
		1st March English	2nd Irish or Colonials	3rd	4th English	5th V.F.M.C. Family Dance Brumbies Bush Band
6th Contra	7th Scottish	8th English	9th Irish or Colonials	10th Scottish	11th	12th Scottish

THE DANCE PAGE (continued):

- Claddagh** Irish set dancing at St George's Anglican Church, Warncliffe Rd. Ivanhoe. **Sunday 2-5pm** Contact Rod 9497-793
- VFMC Family Bush Dance** at East Ringwood Elderly Citizen's Hall, Laurence Grove, East Ringwood. Family 8-11pm. Contact Jane: 9762-389
- VFMC Children's Bush Dance** East Ringwood Senior Citizens hall, Laurence Grove, 2-3pm. Contact Jane: 9762-1389
- VFMC Zoom Dance**—7-9pm. Visit www.vfmc.org.au for more details
- English Tuesday** Dancing at Bennettswood Neighbourhood House, 7 Greenwood Street, Burwood. **8-10pm** Contact George: 9890-5650
- English Friday** Dancing at Church of Christ Hall, 1 The Avenue, Surrey Hills. **8-10pm** Contact George: 9890-5650
- Irish Wednesday** Irish dancing at St. Phillips Church, Hoddle Street, Collingwood. 7.30-9.30pm. Contact Marie: 9471-0690
- Colonial Wednesday** Social dance classes at Collingwood Senior Citizens Hall, 8-10pm www.melbournecolonialdancers.org.au or contact Coral: 9885-6109 or Peter: 9848-5852
- Colonial Thursday** Australian Colonial/Bush Dance, Ashburton Uniting Church, 3 Ashburn Grove, Ashburton. 7.30-10pm. Contact Coral: 9885-6109
- Colonial Beginners** Ashburton Uniting Church, 3 Ashburn Grove, Ashburton. 7.30-10 pm. Contact Coral: 9885-6109
- Welsh Dancing** at Church of Christ Hall, 1 The Avenue, Surerey Hills. 2-4.30pm. Contact Ian: 9878-2414
- Contra Dance** 7.30-10.15pm. Info: 0422-932532
- 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
- TSDAV Dance Workshop** C church of Christ Hall, 1 The Avenue, Surrey Hills. 1.30-4.30pm Contact Norm Ellis: 9888-5332 or George Ansell: 9890-5650
- Bendigo East Hop** Keck Street Hall, Flora Hill. Contact: dpearse@iinet.au

- Jane Bullock

Family Bush Dance

Presented by

Victorian Folk Music Club inc

Saturday 5th February 2022

with Borderline Kaylee

Due to Covid this dance will be Via Zoom

Advance purchase your tickets at:-

<https://events.humanitix.com/vfmc-feb2022-dance>

Cost: \$10 - Members, \$12 Non Members

Time: 7.30 - 9.30pm

see

vfmc.org.au

or

victorian folk music club facebook

Contact Jane on dance@vfmc.org.au



Family Bush Dance

Presented by

Victorian Folk Music Club inc

Saturday 19th Feb. 2022

Special Theme Night

Romance

Your house

Zoom ID 757 492 753
Password: VFMC2020

dance - 7.30-9.30pm



CHIEF CHARMER TURNS 80



It was appropriate that the candles were mounted on a miniature model piano which, fittingly, related rather pointedly to the 62 years that Stuart has been playing the piano at the helm of the ever-popular Gay Charmers dance band. Celebrations were held over two days, 18th and 19th December.

Charmer band member, Ron McFarlane, joined in with visiting musicians and added plenty of drive to items with his banjo but, unfortunately, it was not possible for accordionist Maurie Gierisch to be in attendance.

The first day's activities were held at the cosy Lake Charm hall where a capacity crowd of friends and well-wishers gathered to congratulate Stuart, and to share a story or two about old times, including an occasional good natured quip or two 'just to keep Stuart on his toes'.

After continuous offerings of delightful eats and drinks, and accompanying speeches, the celebrations turned to a pleasant cross-section of traditional and Old-Time music and dancing until almost 'Cinderella Hour', making it a very long day for some.

Sunday saw the celebrations relocate to Kerang and continue with further revelry and sustenance where having fun with music was again the prime focus. This continued until early-evening thoughts of homeward journeys and Monday work commitments reluctantly intervened.

It was a wonderful weekend of laughter, fun and music enjoyed by friends from as far afield as Melbourne, Upper Murray and the western part of the state.

Well done, Stuart, hearty congratulations, and we hope you have many more birthdays to follow.

(Stuart's actual birthdate is 21st December.)

- by *Stan Alexander*

MESSAGE TO ALL V.F.M.C. MEMBERS

Members are reminded that they must be financial in order to vote or stand for office at the AGM. However, currently there are a number of members whose membership expired in 2019. These memberships will be cancelled prior to the AGM. If you are in doubt of your membership status, please email membership@vfmc.org.au or enquiries@vfmc.org.au or secretary@vfmc.org.au

SOME FUN VFMC ACTIVITIES POST LOCKDOWN, 2021

Club picnic 18/12 —



Joan on piano —



Santa?

Last dance in 2021—



- photos by Trevor Voake

FOR SALE

Guitar case for nylon string folk guitar. Soft vinyl. Good condition. \$15.

Phone 0425 285 506. Rosemary



ZAMPONISTA—QUIZ

- 1) Who or what is Zamponista? 2) What is their main instrument 3) Where did that instrument originate? 4) What is different about how Zamponista perform? 5) How do they dress to perform? 6) What do they all love besides their music?

Answers to last quiz:-

- 1) *Australian singer-songwriter & guitarist* 2) *Redgum* 3) *'I Was Only Nineteen'* 4) *The physical & mental effects of the Vietnam War on soldiers* 5) *Hugh McDonald* 6) *Australian Democrats* 7) *Alexander Downer*

BILLABONG BAND REPORT—JANUARY 2022

The Billabong Band played at two functions in December:

- Yarrunga Retirees Christmas break-up. This was the second time that we played for them & we were warmly received. A good afternoon was had by all. Thanks to Tony Kelly for organising this one.
- December VFMC family dance. The Billabong band played at the annual Christmas dance. The numbers may have been low but the enthusiasm was certainly high. A happy night!

With the easing of Covid restrictions, bookings for 2022 have started to come in. Of course these will be dependant on the Covid situation.

Jan 26th Regis Blackburn (Australia Day)
 Feb 25th Regis Blackburn
 May 6th Regis Blackburn
 Jul 1st Regis Blackburn
 Sep 23rd Regis Blackburn
 Nov 4th Regis Blackburn
 Dec 2nd Regis Blackburn

Some club members will be helping out with the Melbourne Colonial Dance Band at the National Folk Festival at Easter but that is still to be confirmed.

Maldon Folk Festival, 28th to the 31st October 2022: The Billabong Band agreed to the Maldon Folk Festival's invitation for our 2021 application to apply for 2022, and we are listed amongst the performers on the Maldon performers web page. We will need to update the spiel at an appropriate time, and keep an eye on workshops that we volunteer to present.

- *Maree, Trevor and Stan (Billabong Band Convenors)*

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: