



Australian

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NEWSLETTER OF THE VICTORIAN FOLK MUSIC CLUB INCORPORATED

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VALÉ RICK GARRICK



Dressed up for the 1992 Christmas Dance (photo courtesy of Katy Cottrill)

Please send your contributions for the September Newsletter by: Friday 19th August 2022 to: editor@vfmc.org.au

Club Event Cal endar

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Club weekly sessions

Every Tuesday except the 2nd (concert night), Ringwood Uniting Church Hall, Station Street, Ringwood, plus online access. From 7:15pm Australian Folk Songs; 7:45-9:15pm 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 and 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 concession and \$10 members, children no charge. All welcome. Tickets available at www.vfmc.org.au.

By-ear sessions

On hold for possible resumption at a future date

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 is featured each month and all ages are welcome. \$12, \$10 concession and members, children no charge. Contact: Jane 9762-1389 / www.vfmc.org.au

Ringwood Children's Dance

Every third 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 or \$10 a family. Adults free.

Dates for August 2022						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1st	2nd Club Session	3rd	4th	5th	6th Dance Colonial Dancers' Band
7th	8th	9th Guest Night with Saoirse	10th	11th	12th	13th
14th	15th	16th Club session	17th	18th	19th	20th Ringwood Childrens' Dance
21st	22nd	23rd Club Session	24th	25th	26th	27th
28th	29th	30th Club Session	31st			



Guest Artist Night Tuesday, Jul y 12th 2022

Robyn Hammond was our host for the evening introducing the performers to the members in the hall and those who chose to Zoom from home.

The first act was an emotional tribute to Rick Garrick a former member of the club who passed away in June. Trevor, Maree, Katie and Bill played mandolin, accordion, bass and guitar presenting three waltzes Rick wrote: Coldstream Caper, Warrandyte Gold and Lauriston Lotto.



Stephen Whiteside recited two very old poems he discovered while searching through old newspapers on Trove. Dating from the 1870's the poems give two different representations of life on The Wallaby Track. Then he read a recent one of his, describing all of the wonderful moves he could make at the current Wimbledon competition - if only he could hit a ball!



Don Fraser and Ken McGregor on ukulele and accordion sang a bracket of very old English folk songs about hunting stags and warning hunters not to drink too much as they need to rise early to prepare the hounds. Then the men switched to a cappella, their two voices blended in sweet harmony for The Angler's Song. They finished with Call George Again.



Traditional folksinger Mick Kearon sang Wild Goose a song written by Sammy Horner and Alex Legg. In the time of the Jacobites, the wild goose is seen as a warrior bird, which carries wounded to safety. Then borrowing a tune from Phil Coulter, Mick sang about his memories of walking the dogs with his father along the docks as his father described the workings of a busy dockyard. His last song was the well-known Fiddlers Green, where the fishermen go if they don't go to hell.



Guest Artist Night (continued from page 4)

Dominic Martin sang a folk song from 1961 by Ian Tyson considered the best Canadian folk song of all time, Four Strong Winds. This song is considered a glimpse into the unpredictable lives of itinerant agricultural workers.

Then the rousing Mingulay Boat Song had the audience joining in with gusto. Abandoned since 1912 this island in the Outer Hebrides was once the home of a thriving fishing industry.



Ed Robins presented his song about domestic violence from a male perspective. About Bob the JP and how only the death of his wife set him free. Then a light-hearted look at a lucky find in an Op Shop - a 1970's retro sofa.



Nick Charles

The VFMC welcomed the always popular artist Nick Charles back to the club this month. Nick is a master of the acoustic guitar and stands alone in his mastery of finger picking style of play. Nick started his career in the folk clubs of Melbourne and expanded over the years to encompass a wider spectrum including country blues, as well as folk. A talented composer, he is well known in the United States and tonight presented us with a mixture of his own originals and classics from other well-known artists.

The lively Victory Rag opened the session and was followed by the blues song-Three lines Deep and Twelve Bars Down. The third was one of his favourite pieces from his album Guitar Music written by David Graham

Then a tune Nick wrote after a drive through Monument Valley in Colorado, the background for so many American Western movies. He stopped for a great cup of tea in a small cafe and was inspired to write the beautiful, Mexican Waters. A change of beverage and Nick sang and played a well-known sad drinking song by Liz Frencham, Wine, Wine, Wine, Nothing Sweeter than Wine. Nick then performed a lovely piece of music inspired by the views over Bermagui Bay and the sacred Mount Gulaga near Cobargo in Southern NSW.

A complete change of scenery was provided by a song by country blues singer Mississippi John Hurt, Monday Morning Blues.

On a more personal note, Nick and his sister Paulette Gittens wrote a tribute to their mother. The Girl from Tingha. It's the story of a blue-eyed girl from a tiny

Guest Artist Night (continued from page 5)

country town where the cattle were free to roam the streets, who moves to Sydney then eventually to Melbourne.

Off to Tasmania for a medley of a piece composed about Georgetown a blended with the traditional, The Water is Wide. Nick sang another John Hurt song, Frankie and Albert, considered to be the original basis for the more well-known Frankie and Johnny song about the tragic consequences of betrayed love.

The VFMC wishes to extend their thanks to our main guest Nick Charles, the spot act performers and acknowledge all of the volunteers who work together to produce the evening's entertainment.

Next month: Irish vocal group Saoirse.

Photo of Billabong Band: Margie Voake Other photography: Trevor Voake Story: Bette Martin



A request from an audience member was for a piece composed by Nick about the small town of Las Cruces, USA. Nick calls it a Travelogue Tune. Las Cruces is considered to be the oldest Spanish settlement in New Mexico and Nick's song is still played in the jukebox in the Brewery in Las Cruces today. Nick finished the evening with a great rendition of Little Martha written by the late American musician Duane Allman. The audience members were delighted with the jam-packed hour of music and song from one of their favourite performers.





The Dance Page

Diary dates for August and early September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th August VFMC Dance The Melbourne Colonial Band
7th TSDAV Contra	8th Scottish	9th English	10th Irish	11th Scottish	12th	13th Scottish
14th Claddagh	15th Scottish	16th	17th Irish	18th	19th English	20th VFMC Childrens' Bush Dance Bendigo East Hop
21st English	22nd Scottish	23rd English	24th Irish	25th	26th	27th
28th Claddagh	29th Scottish	30th	31st Irish	1st Sep	2nd Sep English	3rd Sep VFMC Dance Blackberry Jam
4th Sep Contra	5th Sep Scottish	6th Sep English	7th Sep Irish	8th Sep Scottish	9th Sep	10th Sep Scottish

COVID-19 restrictions will apply for all dances listed above

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

VFMC Family Bush dance at East Ringwood Elderly Citizens Hall Laurence Grove, East Ringwood 8-11pm contact Jane 9762 1389

VFMC Children's Bush Dance East Ringwood Elderly Citizens Hall Laurence Grove, East Ringwood 2-3.00pm contact Jane 9762 1389

Irish dancing at St. Phillips Church, Hoddle Street, Collingwood 8-10pm. Contact Mary 9435 4435

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

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

Contra Sunday Beckett Hall, 72 Highfield Rd. Canterbury 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

Victorian Folk Music Club Inc.

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(Registered No A2511Y)

12+ attendees must be fully vaccinated

Bush Dance for school children

Saturday 20th August 2022 2.00pm - 3.00pm

Ringwood East Senior Citizens Hall, Laurence Grove, Ringwood East

Band: Billabong Band



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 VFMC Website: www.vfmc.org.au

Family Bush Dance Presented by

Victorian Folk Music Club inc

Saturday 6th August 2022 with Melbourne Colonial Dancers Band

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

Advance purchase your tickets at:https://events.humanitix.com/vfmc-aug2022-dance
or purchase your tickets at the door
Cost: \$10 - Members, \$12 Non Members, Kids free
Current Covid restrictions apply
Dance - 8.00 - 11.00pm - supper included

Contact Jane on 97621389



WATTLE DAY Saturday 3rd September 2022

Hello music fans,

Wattle Day is a day to celebrate all things Australian, and to celebrate Wattle Day the Victorian Folk Music Club with the TSDAV is planning a whole day of sessions and workshops on Saturday 3rd September to stimulate interest in music and dance.

Two parallel Session streams will run in the Ringwood East Senior Citizen's Hall. Sessions last an hour and you can attend as many as you like. You can also attend on-line if preferred. Stream 1 will be webcast and Stream 2 will be interactive on Zoom. Swap streams if you like at any time, just pre-book so we can send resources and follow-up.

A small charge of \$10 will help cover hall rent, printing, data costs etc. That's for as many sessions as you like. Register and pay online here, and a Zoom address will be sent if you require it:

https://events.humanitix.com/vfmc-wattle-day-2022

An additional admission for the evening Family Bush Dance with Blackberry Jam will be \$12 / \$10. Book separately for this at: https://www.vfmc.org.au/familybushdance.php

The two streams will run simultaneously, with Stream 1 oriented to singalongs and dance, and Stream 2 more for workshops. Prepared notes and song sheets will be available for most sessions on the website, and can be downloaded and printed off. Find them here: www.vfmc.org.au/wattleday2022.php

Starting at	Stream 1 Live in hall and webcast on Zoom	Stream 2 Live in hall and interactive on Zoom		
10:15	Tootling with Tin whistle Maggie	Diatonic reed instruments Don		
11:30	Sea Shanty singalong Tony	Putting chords to tunes Bill B		
12:30	Break			
1:00	Dance tunes w'shop John & Trish	I got rhythm, Uke got rhythm Bruce		
2:15	Aust songs singalong Ray & Joan	Slow session Denise		
3:30	Dance workshop Norm	The other Spain Bill &Ellen		
4:45		Scots Gaelic song w'shop Linn		
7:30-10:30	Monthly Family Bush Dance live with Blackberry Jam Band			

Programme for Wattle Day 2022 Saturday 3rd September Stream 1

Can also be viewed via webcast on Zoom. The address will be provided when booking through Humanitix.

10:15 Tooting With Tin Whistle

Maggie Somerville

The tin whistle is probably the cheapest musical instrument you will find, and is pretty easy to play. This workshop will set you on the right track to get a tune out of the penny whistle. Bring a whistle in the key of D.

11:30 A Sea Shanty Workshop

Tony O'Neil and friends

Experience a taste of shipboard life with Tony O'Neil and friends, singing and discussing sea songs. Words and music provided.

1:00 Dance Tunes Workshop

John Tomlin & Trish Williams

John and Trish (aka 'Fiddle & Squeeze') are enthusiastic players of traditional Australian dance tunes and play a wide range of genres at dances, festivals, busking, concerts etc. including a regular session in Hobart for six years. This is an all-in 'at speed' session with handouts to play along with. Includes a brief explanation of the historical background and sources. Tasmanian tunes are a feature this year. Suits reasonably confident dot / chord players so bring your instrument or just come and listen.

2:15 Australian Songs Singalong

Ray, Joan and friends

A session of singing traditional and contemporary Australian folk songs.

3:30 Festive Frolics and Fancies Dance Workshop

Norm Ellis

A fun selection of dances to welcome in the Spring, to delight the seasoned dancer and novice alike. Norm is one of Victoria's leading folk dance callers, and a long time organiser in the Traditional Social Dance Association of Victoria.

7:30 Family Bush Dance

Blackberry Jam Bush Band

In the evening the Blackberry Jam Bush Band will host the monthly Family Bush Dance. Bring the family for a lot of fun. A separate Family Bush Dance admission to Wattle Day applies: \$12 general, \$10 members, kids free

Programme for Wattle Day 2022 Saturday 3rd September Stream 2

Interactive participation is also available via Zoom. The Zoom address will be provided when booking through Humanitix

10:15 An Introduction To Diatonic Reed Instruments

Don Fraser

Diatonic reed instruments like the harmonica, button accordion and anglo concertina all work in much the same fashion. Understand one and you'll have a good handle on the others. Bring a C harmonica, one of those cheap little 10 hole ones will do fine. Other instruments welcome.

11:30 Putting Chords To Tunes

Bill Buttler

A refresher of last year's workshop concentrating on the practical examples of harmonising tunes and songs in major keys. For all chord producing instruments, music reading is not essential. Attendees should be familiar with last year's material, but a brief recap will be provided.

1:00 I got rhythm, Uke got rhythm

Bruce Watson

Whatever your age or musical experience the ukulele is a fabulous way to get into music. Easy to play, light to carry and it is so much fun when you can vary the rhythms - they don't have to be complex to add impact. Bruce is an expert on this wonderful little instrument and will guide you through some simple but effective ways to bring out the best in the ukulele.

2:15 Slow Session Denise Hibbs

Learn some new dance tunes played slowly by Denise on fiddle. A variety of dance forms will be presented and all instruments are welcome to join.

3:30 The Other Spain

Bill Desailly & Ellen Hundley

When we think of Spain, we tend to think of Flamenco. In this fascinating session we will explore the enduring Celtic roots which can be found in Northern Spanish and Portuguese music. Bring your instruments, three easy tunes to try.

4:45 Scots Gaelic Folk Song Workshop

Linn Phipps

Online from the UK, Linn will host this workshop on her particular interest, Scots Gaelic folk songs. Linn will teach us the lovely song It Was On Islay, in Scots Gaelic and English. Explanatory materials supplied and no prior knowledge of Gaelic is required.

Val é Rick Garrick

Cedric (Rick) Garrick 26 August 1926 - 22 June 2022

When Maree and I joined the Club in the early 1980s, Rick called himself Ced, and was a regular at the Tuesday sessions. He played bass guitar in Graeme Higman's band Bush Remedy, and also played guitar and tin whistle at the sessions. Although I don't think I ever heard him play piano, he was apparently a pretty good jazz pianist, and there was evidence of this in the chords he added to the Club dance sets for the Charmaine and Maxina

Rick was also the Club Concert Party coordinator (what we now call the Billabong band coordinator), and was involved in the National Trust. He was instrumental in getting us gigs at Gulf Station and Ripponlea.

Rick was a composer of tunes and songs. We still use his beautiful set of tunes for the Circle Waltz. In our early years with the Club I also remembered a few other tunes that have disappeared from the Club repertoire. I called Graeme Higman to let him know of Rick's passing, and we discussed some of those old tunes. A few minutes later, Graeme called back to say he had found a thick sheaf of Rick's compositions, including many I had never heard of. We will endeavour to get copies and introduce some at our Tuesday sessions.



At Gulf Station (far left)

Farewell to a great supporter of the Club and an all-round good bloke.

Bill Buttler



With Bush Remedy (centre) (photos from VFMC website archive)

Rick was a widower for over 10 years after his first wife Narelle sadly passed away after a long illness. He lived in Ringwood East, across the road from Harry Gardner, however moved to the Oakleigh area after meeting Sylvia at a concert party and marrying in 1998.

Sylvia is a singer who enjoys singing songs from musicals or songs from Vera Lynn's era. Rick accompanied Sylvia on the keyboard and they spent 20 years performing at the local church, charity events, PROBIS clubs, retirement villages and senior citizens' events. They had an agent and performed up to 5 gigs per week. Rick was still playing the piano and organ in church until COVID-19 began in 2020.

Rick and Sylvia also travelled to the UK 6 times and also back to Queensland (where Rick grew up) several times.

Rick was a true gentleman with a great sense of humour, who excelled professionally and musically.

Billabong Band Report - July 2022

Very little has happened since the last report.

I've been in contact with Newstead Live & what they were calling a workshop is what we call a themed concert. I was able to tell the organiser (Kelly) that we've done a number of themed concerts at the NFF & also locally. The most recent performance being "Celts in Australia" at Williamstown.

I've been in contact with Livingstone Gardens in Vermont who are having group entertainers. Hopefully they will get back to me in the next week – still waiting

John Flynn Retirement Village – one of their members has contacted me to see if we would be interested in doing a concert for them. He has to check it out with their entertainment coordinator before we can go ahead & make plans.

Future gigs

Aug 6th North Ringwood Senior Citz

Aug 20th Children's Dance

Aug 28th Hurstbridge Wattle Day – to be confirmed – still waiting

Sept 13th Donwood Aged Care

Oct 28th Maldon Folk Festival

Dec 3rd Club Christmas Dance

Jan 20 – 23 Newstead Live Music Festival

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 performer's web page.

We will need to update the spiel at an appropriate time, and keep an eye on workshops that we volunteer to present.

Trevor Voake

AGM Report

The meeting was held in the Ringwood Senior Citizens' Club, with a total of 16 members present (8 physical attendees and 8 online). Michael Hassett (Vice President) chaired the meeting in the absence of the President (Steve Bullock).

The following new Committee and other office-bearers were elected:

President Steve Bullock

Vice President Michael Hassett

Secretary Jane Bullock
Treasurer Don Fraser
Other Committee Members:

Maggie Somerville

Maree Buttler

Trevor Voake Bill Buttler

Domenic Martin

Tony O'Neil

The Treasurer recommended that there be no change to the current rates of member subscription. The recommendation was accepted by the meeting.

The final business of the meeting was to consider a motion proposed by Colin McLaren. The motion was to reintroduce the use of proxy votes as per the original Club constitution (the current constitution is based on the new 'model rules' as part of new community organisation regulations introduced in the past few years). The motion was carried on a show of hands.

Thanks to both the outgoing and incoming Committee for their hard work on behalf of members.

Regul ar Functions at Other Venues

(Information is the latest available to us. Please check availability before attending)

Bendigo Folk Club

Graham Borrell, 0438 437 680 buzza@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 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 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. Maree: 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 kin Creswick, and fourth Friday from 7:30pm at the Old Stationin 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 Fiddle & Folk Club

Certain Friday nights at 7:30pm plus other evenings e.g. Tuesday Blues and Sunday 2pm Singalongs etc.

See website for up-to-date calendar: https://www.nffc.org.au/

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
- Affiliation with other organizations
- Access to the Club PA system

VFMC Postal Address

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

VFMC Website

http://www.vfmc.org.au

Contacts

Secretary

Jane Bullock

Telephone: 9762 1389

Email: secretary@vfmc.org.au

Session Coordinator

Don Fraser

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

Family / Childrens' 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

I, wish to become a Member of the						
Victorian Folk Music Club Inc. ('the Club') and I will:						
(a) Support the aims of the Club; and	(a) Support the aims of the Club; and					
(b) Abide by the Rules* of the Club.						
* For details, see http://www.vfmc.org.au/Constitution.pdf						
Signed						
I wish to receive my Newsletter by:	MEMBERSHIP TYPE (please circle)					
(a) Email and / or	Metro Single	\$25				
(b) Post	Family **	\$30				
	Junior (U18)	\$15				
(Cross out whichever is not applicable)	Student (full time)	\$20				
D1 11 1 1 C 4	Single Concession	\$20				
Please mail your completed for to:	Family Concession	\$25				
The Secretary, VFMC Inc.	Country Single	\$20				
PO Box 215,	Family**	\$25				
Ringwood East, Victoria 3135	**Family - Parents and any children under 18					
Name:						
Address:						
Email:						