

Established 1959

Australian

June 2023



TRADITION

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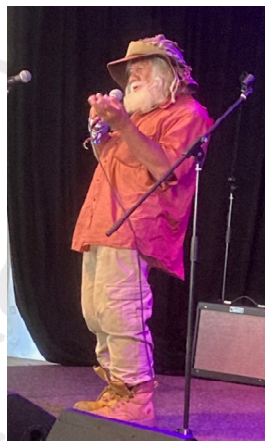
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NEWSLETTER OF THE VICTORIAN FOLK MUSIC CLUB INCORPORATED

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CAMPBELL THE SWAGGIE



AT THE NATIONAL
FOLK FESTIVAL 2023

(Photo by Maggie Somerville)

**ATTENTION ALL VFMC MEMBERS:-
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING—18th JUNE**

**PLEASE SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR JULY NEWSLETTER
BY: FRIDAY 16TH JUNE TO: EDITOR@VFMC.ORG.AU**

WHAT'S ON AT VICTORIAN FOLK MUSIC CLUB

Session nights: The Club meets **each Tuesday** evening at **Ringwood Uniting Church Hall**, 30-32 Station Street. Sessions run from 7.45 pm to 9.15 pm.

The format varies each week of the month, and visitors are welcome to attend and join in, or just sit and observe if preferred.

Week 1 & 3 **Round Robin:** singing, playing, reciting, yarns, solo, group, etc.

Week 4 **All-In Session:** group playing of set tunes, dance sets, group singing

Week 5 **Theme Night:** workshops, 'Hot Spots' or open stage nights

Admission for **Round Robin** and **All-in Sessions** is \$6 for members, \$7 non-members. Cash at the door or pay by card. Accompanied children no charge.

Concerts: Tuesday of Week 2, featuring top acoustic performers plus floor spots. The concert is from 7.45 to 10pm with a supper break at 8.45pm. Same hall as the sessions. Admission is \$10 members to \$14, cash or card at the door or purchase tickets online from Humanitix. Accompanied children no charge.

Dance Events: Family Bush Dance 1st Saturday evening each month except January, Ringwood East Senior Citizen's Hall. Bands vary and dances called. Admission is \$10 members to \$12. No charge for accompanied children.

Children's Dance is 2-3pm on 3rd Saturday during school terms. \$5 per child or \$10 per family. Accompanying adults no charge.

Online access via Zoom: All Tuesdays except week 4 currently available via Zoom for those unable to attend the venue. Concerts also broadcast via Zoom. Tickets must be bought in advance via Humanitix—see website to book.

More information: See VFMC website for info on forthcoming weekly **SESSIONS**, monthly **CONCERTS** or **DANCES:** www.vfmc.org.au

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1st June	2nd	3rd Family Bush Dance
4th	5th	6th Club Session HYBRID	7th	8th	9th	10th
11th	12th	13th Concert Night Guest artist/s HYBRID	14th	15th	16th	17th Children's Dance
18th	19th	20th Club Session HYBRID	21st	22nd	23rd	24th
25th	26th	27th Club Session HALL ONLY All-in	28th	29th	30th	

Victorian Folk Music Club
at Ringwood

Sarah and Silas

Exciting duelling fiddles and sweet vocal harmonies which dance to the strum of a ukulele and the stomp of a drum. Over the course of the pandemic, this duo kept the spirits of Australians high with their uplifting songs defining the times.

Tuesday 13th June

Ringwood Uniting Church Hall, Station St. Also webcast.

7.45 - 10.00pm Admission \$10 to \$14, kids no charge

Cash or card at the door, or pre-purchase all tickets at:

<https://events.humanitix.com/vfmc-june2023-concert>

Spot acts please 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 11th July - Dingo's Breakfast

CONCERT NIGHT REVIEW—MAY 2023**SPOT ACTS:**

The May Concert was very well attended with around 64 in-hall and 15 online. It was MCd by Maree.

Maggie Somerville opened the Spot Acts part of the evening with the Australian folk song *Convict Maid*, sung unaccompanied. Then followed an original song entitled *Journey*, which was written in 1991 while awaiting the birth of her second child—a moving speculation about what might lie ahead as the day of arrival approaches.



Bill Buttler then entertained the audience with some lovely instrumental playing. Bill is a fine guitar player in the flat-picking style, and this was well demonstrated with a medley of four tunes on the guitar—Le Voyage pour Ireland, Merrily Kissed the Quaker, The March to Fingal and The Last Pint.

Julia and Rob followed with Rare Old Times, with guitar accompanying Julia's exceptional voice. Rob backed her with bass ukulele. This was followed by an equally lovely Scottish song, The Gowden Locks Of Anna, one of Burns' many love poems and inspired by Tony McManus.



(continued over...)

CONCERT NIGHT REVIEW (CONTINUED)*CONCERT NIGHT REPORT (continued):***SUPPORT ACT:**

The audience was treated to an impressive Support act this night in the form of Nerida Cuddy from the central NSW town of Canowindra. Nerida, who like Maggie, and Bill, and Julia is a skilled guitarist. As a music and drama teacher she has led an active life musically, attending festivals and events across the country. She is founder of the Canowindra Folk Club and has produced a number of cds of her self-penned reflections and stories of rural life and as a mother of three.

Once on a trip to Central Australia she was inadvertently introduced to the spectacular country around the Ali Carung indigenous community in NT when her car broke down. She took good advantage of the situation and wrote a song which led to her discovery of that country.

Beautiful Boy celebrates some of the things that might drive one quietly nuts, such as a little boy who is a cyclone of activity yet a loving and treasured part of the family.

Nerida is drawn to writing story-songs and presented a very interesting one called The Daring Kate Kelly, who apparently was a skilled horse-rider but unfortunately drowned in a lake near Forbes - 'cold cold water, wash away my tears'.

The Drover's Wife was made into a movie and is a nice song of triumph over the trials of a farming wife from the country such as the daily demands of being a mother of three, running a household and occasionally slipping into brain fog when mental capacity fails us.

Thanks Spot acts, a showcase of fine guitar playing. And thanks Nerida for some lovely music.

(continued over...)

CONCERT NIGHT REPORT (continued):-**MAIN ACT:**

Maria Forde is well-known in the Australian folk music world and has appeared at VFMC a number of times in previous years. She is a teacher by profession but also organises tours to Ireland and is deep into spiritual reflection and inspiration. Her songs generally have a strong spiritual theme. She has so far released nine albums.

She opened her bracket with *Amazing Grace* sung a cappella. Stephen Foster's *Hard Times Come Again No More* followed, and like the previous performers she accompanies herself very well with guitar. Indeed, the whole night was a good demonstration on the versatility of the guitar.

Lay Me Down By The River written for a friend, and the traditional *Wild Rover* got everyone clapping and singing along.

She spoke in depth of the 'lonesome gene', the unsettled feeling of being born in Ireland yet living somewhere else, and how the pull of one's land of birth is ever present. Running occasional tours to Ireland allows her to indulge in the culture there while living in this relatively peaceful country.

Deep Thinking is another reflective song, a gentle song inspired by an aboriginal lady. And her song *Will You Dance With Me* was written for a friend's wedding while she was staying in a retreat in Ireland and has become a popular choice at many a wedding across the world.



In My Father's House, In My Mother's House was another thoughtful song. And the Mary Hopkin song *Those Were The Days* got a good response from the audience. Appropriately Maria finished her bracket with the old favourite *Londonderry Air*, of which *Danny Boy* is possibly the best known of a number of songs coming from that tune.

Thanks to all who contributed to make the evening such a success.

Next month: Dingo's Breakfast.

Review by Don Fraser ; photos by Trevor Voake



The Dance Pages

Diary dates for June:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1st June	2nd	3rd VFMC Dance Contradition
4th TSDAV Contra?	5th Scottish	6th	7th Irish	8th Scottish	9th English	10th Scottish
11th Claddagh	12th Scottish	13th English	14th Irish	15th	16th	17th VFMC Children's Dance Bendigo East Hop
18th Welsh	19th Scottish	20th	21st Irish	22nd	23rd English	24th
25th Claddagh	26th Scottish	27th English	28th Irish	29th	30th	
						1st VFMC Family Dance Jolly Jumbucks
2nd TSDAV Contra	3rd Scottish	4th	5th Irish	6th	7th English	8th Scottish

THE DANCE PAGES (continued)

- VFMC Family** dance at 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 George's Anglican Church, Warncliffe Rd, Ivanhoe. 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 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 dancing** at Church of Christ hall, 1 The Avenue, Surrey Hills. 2-4.30pm. Contact Ian: 9878-2414
- TSDAV Sunday**—Church of Christ Hall, 1 The Avenue, Surrey Hills, 1-4pm. Contact Norm Ellis: 9888-5332
- Contra Dance**—Beckett Uniting Church, 72 Highfield Road, Canterbury. 7.30-10.15pm. Info: 0422 932 532
- Scottish Monday and Saturday:** Paton Memorial Hall, Deepdene Uniting Church, 958 Burke Rd, Deepdene. 8pm.
Contact: deepdene.dancers@bigpond.com
- Scottish Thursday:** Taggerty Hall, Maroondah Highway at Taggerty, corner of Thornton Rd. 7-9pm
Contact Di Gaylard: 5963 3277 or musicman@virtual.net.au
- Bendigo East Hop:** 14 Keck Street, Flora Hill. 8pm. Enquiries: 5422-1153 or secretary@bendigobushdance.org.au

- by Jane Bullock

MUSIC BOOKS FOR SALE

Several great folk music books are available for sale from the VFMC, including Collectors' Choice, Volumes 1-3, compiled by Peter Ellis, The Joy Durst Memorial Song Collection (3rd ed.), Music Makes Me Smile by Peter Ellis & Harry Gardner, and Music for Colonial Dancing. For prices and further information and/or ordering, see Victorian Folk Music Club website: VFMC Information—Publications.

Family Bush Dance

Presented by

Victorian Folk Music Club inc

Saturday 3rd June 2023

with Contradition

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

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

Dance - 8.00 - 11.00pm - supper included

Contact Jane on 97621389



Victorian Folk Music Club Inc.

(Registered No A2511Y)



Bush Dance fun for school children & families

Saturday 17th June 2023

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

VFMC Website: www.vfmc.org.au

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING—18th JUNE

A quick reminder, the Annual General Meeting of the Victorian Folk Music Club will be held at 2.30pm on Sunday 18th June, at Ringwood East Senior Citizens Hall, Laurence Grove, Ringwood East, and on-line via Zoom. Formal invitations were recently sent out.

The Committee wishes to advise that, as usual, all positions will be declared vacant and we will call for nominations for new office-bearers. We also advise that Steve and Jane Bullock will not be nominating for their positions this year and, as a result, we will be seeking nominations for a new President and Secretary. We thank Steve and Jane for their stalwart service over many decades, and encourage other members to consider joining the Committee.

As Jane was also the Dance Convenor, we will be seeking a new Convenor and 3-4 members to join the Dance Sub-Committee this year. If you are a dancer, here's your chance to get involved and help continue the excellent work done by Jane and others over the years.

Last year it was decided to carry out a review of the Constitution. This has been completed and checked by the Committee, ready for consideration at this meeting. You can find it here, see Draft Update near the bottom:

<https://www.vfmc.org.au/constitutionvfmc.php>

Other documents and reports will be available in due course at:

<http://www.vfmc.org.au/AGM2023.php>

If you can, please consider joining the committee and contributing to the operation of your club. Speak with a Committee member to discuss how you can participate.

Once the formalities are completed, there will be afternoon tea and some music-making. See you there.

- *VFMC Committee*

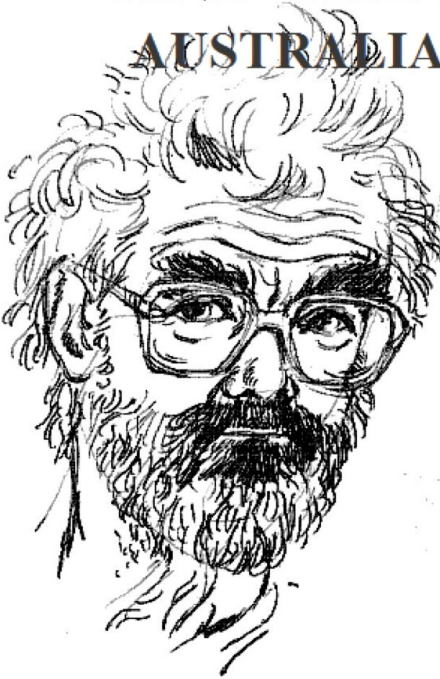
MUSICIAN JOKES

- 1) How do you make musicians complain? *Pay them.*
- 2) What is the difference between a banjo and an onion? *Nobody cries when you chop up a banjo.*

Book Launch ...

The Victorian Folk Music Club is pleased to host the Melbourne launch of Keith McKenry's biography

RON EDWARDS AND THE FIGHT FOR AUSTRALIAN TRADITION



Jan Wositzky
Dingo's Breakfast
Ellen Hundley
Bruce Watson
Graham Dodsworth
Ray & Joan Mundy

A free concert celebrating an amazing life, one dedicated to saving Australia's songs, bush crafts and ancient rock art. There is no need to book and light refreshments will be provided.

Saturday June 3rd, 2-5 pm

East Ringwood Senior Citizens Hall
2-8 Laurence Grove East Ringwood

FIFTH TUESDAY COMING UP—30TH MAY:

Around The Campfire

Favourite singalong songs

Remember the youthful nights of sitting around a campfire on cracker night, or at a Scout camp, singing songs and telling scary stories. Poking sticks in the fire, making damper, playing pranks.

I don't know if kids do that sort of thing anymore, do they?

Probably my first exposure to folk music was doing just that.

Tuesday 30th is a 5th Tuesday theme night so thought we should build a humungous campfire (imaginary of course) right in the middle of the hall, and relive those happy times. Dig out your old Pete Seeger or Burl Ives books, or The Bushwhackers. Whatever. Jumping through the (imaginary) fire is not clever, be a campfire hero by leading a song of your own. Bring a few copies if it's unknown, or reply to this message with a pdf. On-liners are welcome to join in too.

Fifth Tuesday theme night 30th May

CAJUN MUSIC— QUIZ

1) Where is Cajun music based? 2) What are its origins? 3) What music has it influenced? 4) Which two melodic instruments does it feature? 5) What other (percussion) instrument is usually also used? 6) What is the name of the famous Cajun song written by Doug Kershaw that has been covered by over 800 artists?

Answers to last quiz:- 1) A well-known Australian folklorist, artist & author 2) In Geelong, Victoria 3) Swinburne Art School 4) Rams Skull Press 5) Keith McKenry 6) 'The Big Book of Australian Folk Song'

BILLABONG BAND REPORT—MAY 2023

The Billabong Band hasn't played any gigs this month, although June has now become a bit busier:

Upcoming Gigs:

May 27th - Woolshed Ball
 June 15th - Cherry Tree Soup & Paint event
 June 16th - Forest Hill Chase
 June 21st - Kirkbrae Retirement Village
 July 15th - Children's Dance
 Sept 15th - Forest Hill Chase
 Oct 21st - Children's Dance
 Dec 2nd - Family Bush Dance
 Dec 15th - Forest Hill Chase

Although not strictly a Billabong Band Concert, I'm including this here:-

As reported last month we've had further follow up meetings with Rosemary from Maroondah Council;

A date has been set in late September for a concert which will consist of 3 spot acts, 1st main act & 2nd main act.

The 2nd main act will be Cora Browne & her accompaniment plus the folk choir.

The 1st main act is one that Maree & I are following up & hopefully will be a well-established performer from the Eastern suburbs (to keep the local feel).

- by Trevor Voake

REGULAR FUNCTIONS AT OTHER VENUES CHECK IF ON**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 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

Theseire Virtue 03 9417 1983
 admin@boite.com.au
 Friday & Saturday - March to November,
 1 Mark St, North Fitzroy, www.boite.com.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	<u>Membership Type</u> (please circle)	
(b) Post	<u>Metro</u> Single	\$25
(Cross out whichever is not applicable)	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: