

Established 1959

Australian

July 2023



# TRADITION

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Reg

NEWSLETTER OF THE VICTORIAN FOLK MUSIC CLUB INCORPORATED

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## NEW LIFE MEMBERS:

JOAN AND RAY MUNDY



*Photo by Trevor Voake*

**SEE PAGE 11— THE LIST OF NEW OFFICE BEARERS  
AFTER OUR RECENT ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**PLEASE SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR AUGUST NEWSLETTER  
BY: FRIDAY 14TH JULY TO: [EDITOR@VFMC.ORG.AU](mailto: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:** In July Week 1 Tuesday will be available via Zoom for those unable to attend the venue, and Week 2 Concert 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](http://www.vfmc.org.au)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30th	31st					1st July Family Bush Dance
2nd	3rd	4th Club Session HYBRID	5th	6th	7th	8th
9th	10th	11th Concert Night Guest artist/s HYBRID	12th	13th	14th	15th Children's Dance
16th	17th	18th Club Session <b>HALL(?)</b>	19th	20th	21st	22nd
23rd	24th	25th Club Session HALL ONLY All-in	26th	27th	28th	29th

# Victorian Folk Music Club

at Ringwood presents

## Dingo's Breakfast



Roger Montgomery and John Angliss are WA's kings of zany yarn spinning, rambles, whinges and repartee. An electrically eclectic dialectic of Oz music, poetry and comedy. With Ryan Tews and Peter Anderson. Support act **The Limoncellos**.

## Tuesday 11th July

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-july2023-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 / 0411.750.462

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



8th August - Michael Waugh

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

Our intended guest artists for the evening Sarah and Silas were unable to perform for the club at the last minute due to illness. We look forward to enjoying the duo at our December Concert.

The day before the concert Maree Buttler drew upon the wide range of musical talent of our own club members and put together a night of great entertainment.

**The Billabong Band** took centre stage and Rob was first, playing the mandolin as he sang a traditional folk song, *All for me Grog*. Originally a sea shanty, the song has been adopted into the folk world as a song of a man's ruination due to his love of beer and tobacco.

This was followed by Maree singing *On the Road to Gundagai* accompanied by Trevor, Margie and others.

Margie then sang about *Grandfather's Piano*, a man of eighty-seven playing his eighty-eight note piano.

Next, Michael Hassett sang a song written by Pete Titchener about his mother, *The Girl in the Photo*. The pretty dancer in the pretty white dress.

Maggie finished off the set with a rousing rendition of *Dumbarton's Drums*.

**Mick Kearon**, prize-winning songwriter and folk singer, entertained with three songs. The first was about the paddle boats which brought the wool clip down the country's river system from the outback to the coast, from where the cargo was then sent off to England.

Then *Farewell my Emerald Isle*, a poignant song about immigration, leaving behind all you love for the promise of a better life far away.

Finally, a song about Boydtown in southern New South Wales, the site of a whaling station in the past when men chanced their luck whale hunting in the Southern Ocean.



(continued over...)



## CONCERT NIGHT REVIEW (CONTINUED)

**Joan and Ray Mundy** have always been enthusiastic members of the club and supported the VFMC in many different ways over the years. Their contributions to the success of the club's many activities including dances cannot be underestimated. It is fitting indeed that recently this wonderful couple was awarded Lifetime Membership. After very short notice as they were on their way home from attending the Portarlington National Celtic Festival, they came along to play for the concert. With Ray on guitar, Joan on accordion and accompanied by Mick Kearon on bodhran (Irish drum), they began their set with *Farquhar's Waltz* followed by *Josephine's Waltz*. Then a typical song from the gold era about a young girl trying to steal gold from a miner in Nuggetty Gully. They finished off with a Flemish polka and a couple of jigs, including *Kilkenny Girl*.



**Bill and Maree Buttler** began their performance with *The Calton Weaver*, also known as *Nancy Whisky*. A song about the weavers of Calton, a town which today has been absorbed into the city of Glasgow in Scotland. Maree's beautiful harp playing, accompanied by Bill's guitar, presented *Will You Go Lassie Go/Wild Mountain Thyme*, always a favourite of the audience, who enthusiastically joined in the singing and continued singing along in the next popular tune, *Caledonia*.

**Maggie Somerville** sang about one of her most favourite places, *Waratah Bay* in South Gippsland. Her words express her joy in the magic beauty of the bay at different times of the day until the hush at the end of the day. Then Maree accompanied Maggie on the harp as she sang a John Shaw Nielson poem which she has set to music: *When are the Angels Nearest?* Next, a tribute to Maggie's greatest friend in winter, her hot water bottle. The words to the chorus for *How I Love My Hottie* were passed around and everybody raised their voices and sang about how they love their hottie on a chilly wintry night and how when they hug their hottie bottie they feel alright.



(continued over...)

*CONCERT NIGHT REPORT (continued):-*

Michael and Max sang a beautiful song by Johnny McEvoy, *The Town I Left Behind*. It's about Banagher in Co Offaly, which is his home town. Johnny's brother went to America and the song is a reminder of the town of his birth which he says... You'll be my town until the day I die.

They followed with Michael on harmonica and Max on guitar playing a traditional American gospel song, *Lonesome Valley*.



Dominic Martin was the final artist for the evening. He began with a Ewen McColl song *Come me Little Laddie*. A mother explains to her son how his absent father loves them enough to spend so much time away earning money building the English Motorway. Then a Woodie Guthrie song *The Deportees* about a truly terrible plane crash in Los Gatos Canyon in the USA in 1948. Migrant Mexican fruit pickers died in a crash in the canyon and Woody immortalized them in his song. Dominic finished off the evening with a rousing rendition of the old sea shanty, *Santiano!* with the audience singing along enthusiastically.

Thank you to all of the artists who worked together to present an entertaining and well-rounded evening of folk songs and tunes.

Thanks also to all of the volunteers who worked together to make the evening run on oiled wheels.

Next month: the great bush band, Dingo's Breakfast. The support act for the evening will be The Limoncellos.

*Report by Bette Martin ; photos by Trevor Voake*

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## MORE MUSICAL JOKES

What musical key do cows sing in? Beef flat.

Why did the pianist keep banging his head against the keys? He was playing by ear.



# The Dance Pages

## Diary dates for July:

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1st	2nd	3rd VFMC Dance Jolly Jumbucks
4th Contra	5th Scottish	6th English	7th Irish or Colonials	8th	9th English	10th Scottish?
11th Claddagh	12th Scottish	13th English	14th Irish or Colonials	15th Colonials	16th	17th VFMC Children's Dance VFMC Zoom Eye Dance Bendigo East Hop
18th Welsh	19th Scottish	20th	21st Irish or Colonials	22nd	23rd English	24th
25th Claddagh	26th Scottish	27th English	28th Irish or Colonials	29th	30th	31st
1st August	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th VFMC Melbourne Colonial Dancers Band
8th Contra	9th Scottish	10th English	11th Irish or Colonials	12th	13th	14th Scottish?

**THE DANCE PAGES** *(continued)*

**Due to Covid PLEASE check before going to any of these dances to make sure they are on.**

**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

**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 Auburn 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 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](mailto:deepdene.dancers@bigpond.com)

**Bendigo East Hop:** 14 Keck Street, Flora Hill. 8pm. Enquiries: 5422-1153 or [secretary@bendigobushdance.org.au](mailto:secretary@bendigobushdance.org.au)

- by Jane Bullock



Photo by Trevor Voake —



# *Family Bush Dance*

Presented by

**Victorian Folk Music Club inc**

**Saturday 1st July 2023**

**with Jolly Jumbucks**

**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**

**See [vfmc.org.au](http://vfmc.org.au) for more information**



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



**Bush Dance**  
fun for  
**school children & families**

**Saturday 15th July 2023**  
**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](mailto:dance@vfmc.org.au)  
VFMC Website: [www.vfmc.org.au](http://www.vfmc.org.au)

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Victorian Folk Music Club was held on Sunday 18th June at the Senior Citizens Hall in Ringwood.

There was a good turn-up, with both long-term members and newer members in attendance. Reports were read, office bearers were elected and there was general discussion on several matters.

The **OFFICE BEARERS** for the next year are as follows:-

<b>President</b>	<b>Mike Hassett</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Bill Buttler</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Robyn Hammond</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Don Fraser</b>

### Ordinary Committee Members:

**Maree Buttler**  
**Trevor Voake**  
**Maggie Somerville**  
**Peter Read**  
**Peter Kernebone**  
**Colin McLaren**

### Appointment of positions:

<b>Membership</b>	<b>Trevor Voake</b>
<b>Concerts</b>	<b>Maree Buttler</b>
<b>Newsletter</b>	<b>Maggie Somerville</b>
<b>Publicity</b>	<b>Don Fraser</b>
<b>Sessions</b>	<b>Don Fraser</b>
<b>Dance</b>	<b>Bill Buttler (Jane Bullock)</b>
<b>Billabong Band</b>	<b>Trevor Voake, Margie Voake</b>
<b>Website</b>	<b>Steve Bullock</b> <b>Mike Hassett</b> <b>Bill Buttler</b>
<b>Youth Outreach</b>	<b>Peter Read</b>
<b>Wattle Day</b>	<b>Jane Bullock, Maree Buttler, Don Fraser</b>

## A NOTE FROM THE NEW PRESIDENT

I am honoured to have been elected president of the VFMC for the coming year, at our AGM held on 18th June. I am now fortunate to be part of a new committee comprising Bill Buttler as Vice President, Robyn Hammond as Secretary and Don Fraser continuing as our very able Treasurer. Our committee has continuing members, Maree Buttler, Maggie Somerville, and Trevor Voake and also some very welcome 'new blood' in Colin McLaren, Peter Read and Peter Kernebone.

I pay tribute to outgoing President Stave Bullock and Secretary Jane Bullock. Both have served the club with dedication and invaluable expertise over many years - going back well before I joined in around 2017. Steve has been a pivotal figure in the club in office bearer roles and as webmaster for many years. Jane has been the driving force behind the club's dance activities and events for a similarly long period. Both are having a well-deserved break but no doubt we will call on their experience and knowledge from time to time.

The club has some issues and challenges over the coming year. In the wake of the Covid pandemic, we are evaluating the future of Zoom for our concerts and sessions. We are also looking at policies and practices around the use of amplification at concerts. I think we also need to address the longer term direction of the club, noting that many of us are in a rather senior age bracket and that our future lies in bringing a younger demographic along to our functions and, over time, the running of our club.

We welcome suggestions from all members. Contact details can be found on the club website.

- Michael Hassett (President)



*June Family Dance (photo by Trevor Voake)*

## Plans for Sessions from July

Zoom access was set up to maintain continuity over the Covid lockdowns, and has worked really well. With a return to face to face in-hall meetings this year Zoom access has been continued, with the result that a number of people still ‘attend Sessions’ on-line.

However, the provision of Zoom takes a lot of time, effort and expertise. We feel that some rationalisation has to take place as the human resources are well over-stretched, even though some still use it.

The proposal at present is that Zoom access be available for the Session on July 4th and the Concert on July 11th. There will be no Zoom for the other Sessions on weeks 3, 4 and 5, which will be in-hall only and which may be modified to accommodate the changes.

The Committee decided in October 2022 that a trial would run until June 2023. Attendance statistics would be kept, after which discussion would take place on whether Zoom should be reduced, modified, cancelled or continued.

So at present the **Session on July 4th**, and the **Concert on July 11th** will both be available on Zoom. A decision will be made soon on continuing Zoom access to both Sessions and Concerts past July.

- *Don Fraser, Sessions Coordinator*

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*The Woolshed Ball, 2023*

*(Photo by Trevor Voake)*



## THE WEAVERS — QUIZ

1) How many members were in The Weavers? 2) What were their names?  
 3) Where were they based? 4) What year were they founded? 5) Who was their most famous member? 6) What happened to the band in the 1950s?

*Answers to last quiz:- 1) South-west Louisiana 2) France and Africa  
 3) American pop music, especially country 4) Accordion & fiddle 5) A metal triangle 6) Louisiana Man.*

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## BILLABONG BAND REPORT—JUNE 2023

The Billabong Band played 4 gigs in June, albeit one was impromptu when we played a spot at the VFMC June concert night when the main act had to pull out due to illness. The other 3 booked gigs were:

Cherry Tree Lodge – We initially had a poor attendance (i.e. more in the band than the audience) however as the concert rolled along we had a good number of attendees. Apparently there was a breakdown in their advertising & most of the residents weren't aware we were playing. A pity because those that turned up seemed to enjoy singing along with us.

Forest Hill Chase shopping centre. They have a community room (opposite the Post Office for those who shop there). This was very well attended thanks to some astute advertising from Agnes. People joined in on all the songs & at the end of the concert a few people came up & asked when we were coming back. We are booked to play there again in September & December.

Kirkbrae Retirement Village, which gave everyone a lift for our Winter Solstice. An attentive and responsive audience sang along with well-known songs like 'Road to Gundagai' and 'Cockles and Mussels' and provided some positive feedback to the band afterwards, which was pleasing.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to these great gigs – they were a lot of fun: Mary, Maree, Maggie, Margie, Michael, Stewart, Rob, Beth & myself.

### Upcoming gigs:

John Flynn retirement village – July 15<sup>th</sup>

Children's Dance – July 15<sup>th</sup>

Forest Hill Chase – Sept 15<sup>th</sup>

Livingstone Gardens – Oct 4<sup>th</sup>

Children's Dance – Oct 21<sup>st</sup>

Family Dance – Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>

Forest Hill Chase – Dec 15<sup>th</sup>

- Trevor Voake (Billabong Band convenor)

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

Graham Borrell, 0438 437 680  
 buzz@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/](http://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)

**Session Co-ordinator**

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)

**Billabong Band 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)

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: .....