

Australian

August 2023

TRADITION

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NEWSLETTER OF THE VICTORIAN FOLK MUSIC CLUB INCORPORATED

In This Issue ...

Club Exanta

Club Events	
Next Concert Night Guest Artist/s	3
Concert Night Report; Spot Acts	4
Dance Pages and flyers	7
New folk choir forming; joke	11
Review of Zoom facilities	12
Wattle Day (2nd September) poster	13
Quiz; Billabong Band Report	14
Other Clubs	15
VFMC Membership	16

A LIVELY VFMC FAMILY DANCE DURING 2023



Photo by Trevor Voake

PLEASE NOTE: ALL V.F.M.C. EVENTS ARE NOW AT THE HALL - EXCEPT FOR THE FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH WHEN THE SESSION IS HYBRID (VIA ZOOM AS WELL AS AT THE HALL)

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

WHAT'S ON AT VICTORIAN FOLK MUSIC CLUB

<u>Session nights</u>: 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.

<u>Concerts</u>: 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.

<u>Dance Events</u>: 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: Zoom access for Sessions will be available on Week 1 of the month for those unable to attend the venue. Post Event access to Concerts on Week 2 is available. Tickets must be bought in advance via Humanitix.

<u>More information</u>: See <u>www.vfmc.org.au</u> for further information about sessions, concerts and dances.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday	1/10/1444	1st August Club Session HYBRID	2nd	3rd	4th	5th Family Bush Dance
6th	7th	8th Concert Night Guest artist/s HALL ONLY		10th	11th	12th
13th	14th	15th Club Session HALL	16th	17th	18th	19th Children's Dance
20th	21st	22nd All-in Session HALL	23rd	24th	25th	26th
27th	28th	29th Club Session Themed HALL	30th	31st		

Victorian Folk Music Club

at Ringwood presents

Michael Waugh Tuesday 8th August

Michael paints evocative pictures of ordinary Australians, whose lives are celebrated in his songs

Ringwood Uniting Church Hall, Station St. Ringwood 7.45 - 10.00pm Admission \$10 to \$14, kids no charge

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

https://events.humanitix.com/vfmc-august2023-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

12th September - A Cappella Night



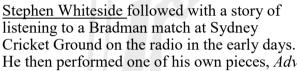
CONCERT NIGHT REVIEW—JULY 2023

SPOT ACTS:

About 55 people were in-hall and a number on Zoom for the July Concert. Robyn Hammond was MC and introduced Wal Tiedemann as the

first Spot Act.

Wal sang two quirky songs: *The Farmer And The Devil*, and *The Vicar And The Frog*.



He then performed one of his own pieces, *Advance Australian Air*, which got a laugh from the audience, and a poem on visiting *Omeo*, where apparently it is always cold.

First timer <u>Brian Elwood</u> with his nice mellow voice and guitar followed, with Kasey Chamber's *Nullarbor Song*, then Redgum's *Diamantina Drover*.

Thanks Spot Acts, great songs.

SUPPORT ACT:

The audience was treated to a Support Act this night with <u>The Limoncellos</u>—four local blokes who love to sing Italian folk songs, both accompanied and a capella. They opened their bracket with *Quando Ero Piccina Piccina*, a father's wish to see his daughter grow up and get married before the ...um... well the inevitable happens.



The Gaylords recorded *Reginella Campagnola* in the 1950's as The Woodpecker Song. And the traditional folk song *La Villanella* is popular with school choirs these days but was released by Dean Martin in 1961 as *Ma Come Bene Bella Bimba*. I remember the Italian ladies in the tobacco sheds singing this song when I was a kid back then.

(continued over...)

CONCERT NIGHT REVIEW (CONTINUED)

Tu Scendi Dalle Stelle is a lovely Italian carol from around the 1750's, the melody closely resembling the Carol Of The Bagpipers. The group found some English words so did a bit in Italian and a bit in English. Andrea Bocelli sings this song very nicely.

Italians had several big emigration events in their history. *Mama Mia Dammi Cento Lire* is a well known folk song about emigration. "Mother, give me 100 lire, to America I want to go". This first event of northern Italians migrating to South America in the late 1800's possibly inspired this song when SS Sirio was wrecked off the Spanish coast on August 4, 1906, while bound for Argentina. Hundreds of Italian and Spanish emigrants lost their lives

The Isle Of Capri, written by Wilhelm Grosz and Jimmy Kennedy, was made famous by the lovely mellow voice of Al Bowly in 1937. The Limoncellos reckon they have a connection to Capri—it's where lemons are turned into their namesake, limoncello. The popular Sicilian tune *Vitti Na Crozza* followed.

Tarantellas are lively 6/8 dance tunes from southern Italy, with regional variations existing in Sicily, Calabia and other areas. *Tarantella Napolitana* is generally played on the mandolin, whereas *Tarantella Calabrese* use the little organetto tambourine.

MAIN ACT:

After a short supper break Main Act <u>Dingo's Breakfast</u>, comprising John Angliss and Roger Montgomery, with friends Ryan Tews and Peter Anderson, provided an entertaining hour of repartee, songs, invective, curses, whinges and entertaining anecdotes.

Being from WA and having travelled extensively over the years to far-flung mining camps and outback towns, they had no trouble keeping the audience transfixed for an hour or more. They started with a great story by Jack Sorrenson on the rhythmic sound, 24/7, of the State Battery. After 13 weeks residency up north, John came back with over 300 poems and songs such as *The Flies*. Then there is the story of Sheila and Bruce and Jellybean, their bean-headed kid and the development of gold camps into fully functioning mining towns, with the influx of women influencing the industry and life of these towns.

CONCERT NIGHT REPORT (continued):-



Belfast Mill is a well-known song, with Ryan playing the harmonium. Dingo's Tour Of Hell would surely outdo Dante's best, an excellent rant on those 'hideous toe-rag mouthpieces of our nation' the media shock jocks. To assert their own poignant and moving instincts they sang the great Tears For Fears song Mad World, with the audience joining in. Roger swung back with a

vitriolic curse on the bankers. And an ANZAC'S version of *Mademoiselle From Armentières* and *Poor Ned Kelly* were two good songs. Another Jack Sorrenson tale of poppet heads and pepper trees being all that remains of the once booming mining towns before the gold ran out and the inhabitants moved on. An interesting theory from Duke Tritton relates to the song, *Lachlan Tigers*, loudly calling for tar being a questionable action if it brings attention to one's own poor performance at shearing, whereas covering up or in the very least getting rid of that bloody animal as fast as possible before anyone sees it would be a much more sensible thing to do.

Wow, what a great night of so many different threads and stories and songs! Many thanks to all who worked so hard to make it all come together: the Spot acts, the Limoncellos, Dingo's Breakfast and friends, and the lighting, Zoomers, door, kitchen, set-up, whatever.

Next month Michael Waugh will be the Main Act. Hope to see you then.

- Report by Don Fraser; photos by Trevor Voake

SPOT ACTS

Every month we commence our concerts with floor spots open to all comers. We generally have space for 3-7 Spot Acts of around 8 minutes each, depending on whether we have a Support Act as well as a Main Act.

We would love to have a greater variety of Spot Acts so we don't have to keep calling on our regular performers at the last minute. If you or someone you know would like to book a floor spot, please email concerts@vfmc.org.au or ring Maree Buttler. We run on a first-in, first-served basis so please try to book early.

The Dance Pages

Diary dates for August and early September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	·	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
						VFMC
			/			Dance
						Melbourne
						Colonial
	-	0.1	0.1	40.1	44.1	Band
6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th
TSDAV Contra	Scottish	English	Irish	Scottish		Scottish
13th	14th	15th	16th	17th	18th	19th
Claddagh	Scottish	11	Irish		English	VFMC
Claudagii	Scottish		111511		Liigiisii	Children's Bush Dance
						Dusii Dance
						Bendigo East
						Нор
						_
20th	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th
English	Scottish	English	Irish			
		J 11				
27th	28th	29th	30th	31st		
Claddagh	Scottish		Irish			
Ciaddagii	200000					
		11			1st Sept.	2nd
		H				VFMC
					English	Dance
						Blackberry
						Jam
3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th
Contra	Scottish	English	Irish	Scottish		Scottish

THE DANCE PAGES (continued)



VFMC Family dance at East Ringwood Senior Citizens Hall, Laurence Grove, East Ringwood. 8-11pm. Contact Bill: 0417 300 682

VFMC Children's dance—East Ringwood Senior Citizens hall, Laurence Grove, East Ringwood. 2-3pm. Contact Bill: 0417 300 682

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

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 at Church of Christ hall, 1 The Avenue, Surrey Hills. 2-4.30pm. Contact Ian: 9878-2414

Contra Sunday—Beckett Hall, 72 Highfield Road, Canterbury.

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 Road. 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



Victorian Folk Music Club Inc.

Registered No. A2511Y

Family Bush Dance

Saturday, 5th August 2023

(and the first Saturday of every month except January)

8-11pm—light supper included

Ringwood East Senior Citizens' Hall Laurence Grove, Ringwood East Featuring live music with:

The Melbourne Colonial Dancers' Band



Entry: \$10 members, \$12 non-members, Kids free.

Tickets available at the door or online at: https://events.humanitix.com/vfmc-aug2023-dance

Phone: Bill 0417 300 682
Email: dance@vfmc.org.au
Website: www.vfmc.org.au



Victorian Folk Music Club Inc.

Registered No. A2511Y

Bush Dance Fun

School age children and Families

Saturday, 19th August 2023

(and the third Saturday of every month except January)

2-3pm

Ringwood East Senior Citizens' Hall Laurence Grove, Ringwood East

Featuring live music with: The Brumbies Bush Band



Entry: \$5 per child under 12, or \$10 per family. Adults free when accompanied by a child.

Phone: Bill 0417 300 682
Email: dance@vfmc.org.au
Website: www.vfmc.org.au

Calling all singers!!!!: A new seasonal Folk Choir in Ringwood

Do you love to sing? Come along to the Spring Singers, a new seasonal folk choir that will rehearse three times leading up to a Spring Folk Concert at Realm in September. The rehearsals are free and people with a range of singing experience are welcome.

The choir will be led by renowned local folk singer, Cora Browne. The Spring Singers will perform with Cora's band 'Play it Martha' supported by legendary folkies AJ Leonard and Jenny Rowland and the Victorian Folk Music Club's Billabong Band.

The Spring Singers is a new seasonal folk choir that will rehearse three times in the lead up to a performance in September co-presented by the Victorian Folk Music Club and Maroondah City Council.

Dates for Spring Singers rehearsals at Maroondah Federation Estate:

- Sunday 27 August, 4.30-5.30pm rehearsal
- Sunday 10 September, 4.30-5.30pm rehearsal

Sunday 17 September, 4.30-5.30pm rehearsal

Spring Folk Concert - Sunday 24 September, 2-4pm at Realm, 179 Maroondah Highway, Ringwood

For enquiries please email <u>enquiries@vfmc.org.au</u> or ring Trevor on 0427 784 296 or Maree on 0411 750 462

(Organised by the Maroondah City Council Arts Activation Program in conjunction with the Victorian Folk Music Club)

- Trevor Voake

MUSICAL JOKE

A folk singer won the lottery. When asked what he was going to do with it, he said "I'll carry on 'gigging' until the money runs out!"

Review of Zoom Facilities

We have been providing online Zoom access to our sessions and concerts since the first COVID-19 lockdown in 2020. We initially started live access so that we could offer our Club members and other participants the opportunity to participate in regular Club events despite the lockdown. Once the lockdowns finished, we continued on a 'hybrid' basis with participants in the hall as well as online. This facility was designed to help those who were not able or reluctant to attend the live sessions in the hall.

Now COVID-19 is impacting less on our day-to-day activities, it is appropriate that we review the concert format. Those of you in the hall will appreciate the amount of setting up and pulling down our technical equipment every week.

Sessions: Following a resolution of the AGM held in July 2023, we will be ceasing Zoom facilities for the 'Round Robin' sessions on the third Tuesday of each month. The Committee has decided to continue Zoom for the 'Round Robin' session on the first Tuesday of every month, subject to review by December 2023, and depending on numbers who attend online. From August 2023, this will be the only session providing Zoom access.

Concerts: The Committee has decided to cease live broadcasts from August 2023, so the July concert was our last concert broadcast via Zoom. Unlike the sessions, the concerts require extensive equipment and setting up, which was difficult to justify for the numbers attending online. We know that the live broadcasts have been appreciated by those who are not able to get to the hall, and it is not a decision we have made lightly.

To lessen the impact, we have decided to record a video of each concert and make it available to our former Zoom audience (and anyone else who is interested) via a new class of Humanitix ticket called 'Post-event Recording' (\$5 VFMC members, \$6 non-members). The recording will generally be available the day after the concert and will be posted for two weeks to give you time to access it. The access link for the recording will be sent to each ticket holder by email, the day following the concert. We hope this alternative approach will enable you to enjoy our future concerts. If you think this would be of interest to you, please let us know via **concerts@vfmc.org.au** so that we can gauge the possible level of interest.

We thank all our online participants over the last few years, and we hope you can join us in the hall again at some stage.

WATTLE DAY Saturday 2nd September 2023

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 day of sessions and workshops on Saturday 2nd September to stimulate interest in music.

Two streams will run in-hall from Ringwood East Senior Citizen's Hall. Sessions last an hour or more, you can attend as many as you like. Stream 2 also on Zoom.

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:

https://events.humanitix.com/v/mc-wattle-day2023

There is a separate admission for the evening Family Bush Dance with Blackberry Jam, that will be \$12 / \$10. Book separately for this at:

https://www.vfmc.org.au/familybushdance.php

Refreshments available throughout the day, Shanty book, Aussie songs, scores etc.available prior to Wattle Day on the website.

Time	Stream 1 Live in hall		Stream 2 Live in hall and on Zoom	
9.30-10.45	Poets Breakfast (free pancakes) Bette		-	
11.00-12.30	Sea Shanty Singalong Tony & The Enterprize Band		Australian Dance Music Trish & John, Denise & Richard	
12.30-1.15	Lunch Break			
1.15-2.45	Premier Vocal workshop Cora		_	
3.00-4.00	Australian Songs Singalong Ray, Joan & friends		Slow Tune Playing Session Kate & Don	
4.15-5.45	Jolly Swagman Dance Workshop Norm		Blackboard Session	
7.30 - 10.30	Monthly Family Bush Da	nce l	ive with Blackberry Jam Band	

Enjoy the day!!

MARY BLACK—QUIZ

- 1) Who is Mary Black? 2) What nationality is she? 3) Where was she born?
- 4) What sort of songs does she sing? 5) What age did she start singing?
- 6) What band did she tour with for many years?

Answers to last quiz:- 1) Four 2) Pete Seeger, Lee Hays, Ronnie Gilbert, Fred Hellerman 3) Greenwich Village, New York 4) 1948 5) Pete Seeger 6) The band was blacklisted during the Red Scare, with Pete Seeger and Lee Hays identified as communists.

BILLABONG BAND REPORT—JULY 2023

The Billabong Band played two gigs in July.

The children's dance on the 15th July which unfortunately no one turned up for; however we had a pleasant ³/₄ hour of jamming amongst ourselves.

The day prior to that was Bastille Day & the band played at the JL Flynn retirement village. We put together a mixture of French songs as well as Australian folk songs and were very well received. Fortunately we do have some French speakers in the band. We started with La Maiseillaise and finished off the concert with Frere Jacques which we sang as a round with the audience wholeheartedly joining in. All in all it was a great concert & we had lots of positive feedback including from one gentleman whose mother was the co-editor (along with Wendy Lowenstein) of 'Tradition' in the 1960s.

Upcoming gigs:

Forest Hill Chase - Sept 15th

Livingstone Gardens – Oct 4th

Seniors Festival – Oct 14th (TBC)

Children's Dance - Oct 21st

Family Dance – Dec 2nd

Forest Hill Chase – Dec 15th

Thanks to everyone who contributed to these gigs: Margie, Maree, Mary, Beth, Rob, Carol, Stewart, Bill, Selina, Maggie & Trevor

- Trevor Voake (Billabong Band convenor)

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 Oueen 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.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. 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 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@yfmc.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

(b) Abide by the rules of the Victorian I (For details see: - http://www.vfmc.org.au/Cons				
Signed		1 -)		
I wish to receive my Newsletter by:	Membership Type (please circle)			
(a) Email or/and	Metro Single	\$25		
(b) Post	Family*	\$30		
(Cross out whichever is not applicable)	Junior (u 18)	\$15		
	Student (full time)	\$20		
Please post completed form to:	Single Concession	\$20		
The Secretary	Family Concession*	\$25		
VFMC	Country Single	\$20		
PO Box 215	Family*	\$25		
Ringwood East 3135 Victoria	*Family – Parent/s & any children under 18			
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