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NEWSLETTER OF THE VICTORIAN FOLK MUSIC CLUB INCORPORATED

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OUR V.F.M.C. AUGUST BUSH DANCE



Photo by Trevor Voake

**MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE: OUR VFMC
WATTLE DAY CELEBRATION IS FAST
APPROACHING—SATURDAY 7TH
SEPTEMBER. SEE INSIDE PAGES 10-11**



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**PLEASE SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR OCTOBER NEWSLETTER
BY: FRIDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER TO: EDITOR@VFMC.ORG.AU**

WHAT'S ON AT VICTORIAN FOLK MUSIC CLUB

Session nights: The Club meets **each Tuesday** evening at **Ringwood East Senior Citizens' Hall, Laurence Grove**. Sessions run from 7.30 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 \$11 members to \$15 others, 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 at Ringwood East Senior Citizen's Hall. Live bands vary and dances called. Admission is \$10 members to \$12. No charge for accompanied children.

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1st Sept.	2nd	3rd Club Session Round Robin	4th	5th	6th	7th Family Bush Dance
8th	9th	10th Concert Night Guest Artist/s	11th	8th	9th	10th
11th	12th	13th Club Session Round Robin	14th	15th	16th	17th
18th	19th	20th Club Session All in	21st	22nd	23rd	24th
25th	26th	27th Club Session Theme night	28th	29th	30th	31st

Victorian Folk Music Club

Three A Cappella Choirs



Noteworthy Choir

Tuesday
September
10th



Chocolate Lillies



Sweet Sassafrazz

Ringwood East Senior Citizens Hall, Laurence Grove.

7.45 - 10.00pm \$11 to \$15, kids no charge

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

<https://events.humanitix.com/vfmc-september2024-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 8th October - Kathryn Clements

CONCERT NIGHT REVIEW—AUGUST 2024

SPOT ACTS:

Rudy started the Concert off with the Spot acts, singing Join Denver's song Calypso. This was inspired by Denver's visit to Jacque Coustou's vessel of that name. Rudy has played in bush bands over the years and did a medley for the Galopede dance.



Tony and Cathy from the Peninsula Folk Club chose two lovely songs: Mary Black's Katie. and the Dougie MacLean song Caledonia. Both were accompanied by their expertly played guitars.

Margaret Creighton has for many years contributed to the gross national happiness index through running both successful community choirs and ukulele groups, and tonight she brought along her uke group to perform. Constantinople from the music hall era is always popular with the uke players. They then did a parody of These Boots Are Made For Walking - 'One of these days I'll play my uke with someone else, not you'. So there!



SUPPORT ACT:

We had a Support Act this night with Club member Ed Robins performing a number of his own, sometimes quirky, at other times insightful, songs. Harrisville's Annual Young Farmers' Ball was a bit of both, maybe the start of a country romance abruptly coming to an end when a spider appeared on Doreen's dress, set against the monotony and routine of a small farming town. Then a hypothetical question - what if Gog and Magog (in the Royal Arcade) actually come to life after dark when everyone has gone home? A natural question I suppose from any youngster's secret fears. Dance With Me is about thoughts of things in nature that dance.



Ed's dad was at one time a country vicar and had plenty of memoirs to fill his biography, including when the appointed hour for the burial of Henry, a local, unfortunately coincided with a heavy rainstorm which threatened to fill the grave. A Grave Situation has the answer of course, if you have any choice in the matter choose a site up the hill a bit. Watercolours On The Wall; a story of Dougie The Decorator Crab, and Fly To Freedom is a quirky story of the consequences of a bird stuck in the chimney. Thanks Ed, some clever songs.

(continued over...)

CONCERT NIGHT REVIEW (CONTINUED)

MAIN ACT was Green Fieldz, Keith Rea and Sally Carter, who create a storm of high end energy with blazing fiddle, lively guitar work and melodic ukulele. Soaring vocal harmonies add to their unique sound which blends the many musical genres they play into a journey of fun. Based on the Mornington Peninsula, the duo have wowed the crowds at many festivals across the country. The Irish and Celtic Music Festival in Yass, the Celtic Festival in Beechworth, the Girgarre Moosic Muster, and many others including the Yarra Junction Fiddler's Convention, They have just returned from a 4-String Festival in Kawhia in NZ, Two of Sally's tunes started their act, Spring Of Pegasus with some very sweet tinkling and expert fingerpicking on guitar and uke, and included a very nice love song which introduced Keith's richly resonant guitar. They are just as proficient at Irish reels like Drowse Maggie and foot-tapping Music For A Found Harmonium. David Wilcox's Black Dog is an imaginary conversation between a neighbourhood dog and a child, again with rich guitar, and Bill O'Malley's Barn Dance. Tune In G with guitar and fiddle projected really well. Then a NZ love song by Kenneth Ward, a gentle pensive song backed by Sally's tinkling ukulele which included a little bit of Maori culture. The jazz classic Tico Tico followed, expertly played on their instruments. These guys are great vocalists, with a fabulous range of songs, but are also superb instrumentalists, on their rich and tuneful guitar and uke. No guitar thrashing here, each note clearly audible, and without a PA.



The Bluegrass tunes Salt Creek and Sweet Liza Jane are two foot-tapping tunes very well played with every note clearly audible. Then a medley of The Shamrock Shore with Forgiven Not Forgotten. Sally writes tune books and they did another of her lovely little tuneful pieces with well-done harmonics added. Her song Daisy Chain retains a child's wonderment and started with more neat harmonics on the uke. I have to say these two are the most impressively skilled pair of musicians I have seen for a long time. They put on a superb program of masterful guitar and ukulele work. Their repertoire is wide, covering all genres, meticulously performed, including a bit of old ragtime and The Can Can believe it or not. A lively medley of train tunes closed their act. What a fabulous night of top talent!

Next month September we have the traditional A Cappella night and have lined up three local community choirs. It will be a busy night so please arrive early. Thanks to all who contributed to bringing this night's concert to life.

Review by Don Fraser ; photos by Trevor Voake



THE DANCE PAGE

Diary dates for September

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1st TSDAV Contra	2nd Scottish	3rd English (Bennetswood)	4th Irish MCD	5th Scottish	6th	7th VFMC Ringwood Dance with The Brumbies
8th Claddagh	9th Scottish	10th	11th Irish MCD	12th	13th English (Surrey Hills)	14th
15th Welsh	16th Scottish	17th English (Bennetswood)	18th Irish MCD	19th	20th	21st Bendigo East Hop
22nd Claddagh	23rd Scottish	24th	25th Irish MCD	26th	27th English (Surrey Hills)	28th
29th	30th Scottish	1st October English (Bennetswood)	2nd Irish MCD	3rd Scottish	4th	5th VFMC Ringwood Dance Borderline Kaylee

VFMC Family Bush dance at East Ringwood Elderly Citizens Hall Laurence Grove, East Ringwood 7:30-10:30 pm contact Bill 0417 300 682

Melbourne Colonial Dancers (MCD) - Wednesdays at Deepdene Uniting Church Hall, rear 958 Burke Road, Deepdene. Contact Denise Hibbs 0493 219 385.

Claddagh - Irish set dancing at St George's Anglican Church, Wamcliffe Rd. Ivanhoe. Sunday 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 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 Thomson Road

7-9pm Contact Di Gaylard 5963 3277 or musicman@virtual.net.au.

Bendigo East Hop Holy Trinity Church Hall Keck St. Flora Hill 8pm inquiries 5442 1153



Victorian Folk Music Club Inc.

Registered No. A2511Y

Family Bush Dance

Saturday, 7th September 2024

(and the first Saturday of every month except January)

7:30-10:30 pm - light supper included (alcohol-free)

Ringwood East Senior Citizens' Hall

Laurence Grove, Ringwood East

Featuring live music with:

The Brumbies Bush Band



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

Tickets available at the door or online at:

<https://events.humanitix.com/vfmc-september2024-dance>

Phone:

Bill 0417 300 682

Email:

dance@vfmc.org.au

Website:

www.vfmc.org.au



Valé Mary Fraser

We regret to advise Club members that Mary Fraser passed away on the 11th of August following a brief stay in hospital. Mary joined the Victorian Folk Music Club in 2019. Since then, Mary has been a great contributor to our sessions and the Billabong Band, and she recently joined the Sessions sub-committee.

As part of the Billabong Band, Maree got to know Mary at the practices at her house. She lent Mary a piano accordion, which she played at the club and nursing homes. Mary loved singing and she liked singing songs from the Joy Durst song book.

Mary was a quiet person, but as we got to know her better we saw her kind and friendly nature. If a band member was having a problem, she was very quick to step in and help.

Mary will be greatly missed.

Maree Buttler and Trevor Voake



(photo of Mary by Trevor Voake)

A PLEASANT SURPRISE IN THE MAIL

At present our weekly sessions, monthly concerts, dances and other activities are thriving, with enthusiastic performers and dancers as well as large audiences at our concerts.

Below is a thank-you letter received from one of our members and performers after the last concert.

Dear VFMC,

On behalf of the hundreds of happy musicians/singers/poets/audiences who have attended the Victorian Folk Music Club concerts, workshops, dances etc., I would like to say thank you. None of the VFMC Committee Members make anything out of the hard work you volunteer to do week in and week out. Yet you expend unlimited energy and time to allow each of us to express ourselves in a way that makes us feel good about ourselves. You create an environment where we feel comfortable and where we build up a creative community that is so good for our mental health. You also facilitate us improving ourselves in this creative process. From the bottom of my heart, thank you and God bless you.

Rudy Van Den Bovenkamp

* * * * *

WATTLE DAY Saturday 7th September 2024

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 7th September** to stimulate interest in music and dance.

Two streams will run in-hall from 9.30am at **Ringwood East Senior Citizen's Hall**. Sessions last about an hour, and you can attend as many as you like.

A small charge of \$10 will help cover hall rent, guest tutor, printing costs etc. That's for as many sessions as you like. Register and pay online here:

<https://events.humanitix.com/vfmc-wattle-day2024>

There is a separate admission for the evening Family Bush Dance with The Brumbies Band, that will be \$12 / \$10. Kids are free. Book separately for this at:

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

Here's what's on:

Poetry Open Mic convened by Bette Martin; [eng. 0438 049 557](tel:0438049557); local poets plus yourselves are invited to participate in walk up opportunities; tea, coffee, muffins available.

Sea Shanty Singalong Tony O'Neil and friends lead a singalong of traditional Maritime work songs

Premiere Vocal Workshop members will be familiar with guest singer Suzette Herft's delightful voice; she will help you discover the joy in connecting with your voice

Less Familiar Australian Folk Songs introducing some popular but less often heard classic Aussie folk songs; hosted by Ray and various members leading their favourites

Around The World In 3/4 - Adding Spice To The Waltz Bill and Ellen take us on a fascinating look at the rhythms and styles of waltzes around the world

Blackboard Concert for anyone, just put your name on the board at lunchtime and you're in; a great opportunity to put your newly gained knowledge on show and get performing confidence in front of an audience.

VFMC Dance Tunes enjoy a play-along with Joan and Ray of music from the British Isles and Australia; bring your instrument or just sit and listen if you prefer

A Fiddle Session with Regina, she will introduce some great tunes and tips for the fiddle at an easy pace; newbies and harmony players are most welcome

The regular monthly **Family Bush Dance** with the Brumbies Band will be held in the evening from 7.30pm - 10.30. Bring the family along for some lively fun. A separate admission applies to the Dance: \$12 general, \$10 members, kids are free.

Tea, coffee available throughout the day. Shanty book, Aussie songs, scores etc, available prior to Wattle Day will be on the website.

WATTLE DAY Saturday 7th September 2024

Time	Main Hall	Side Room
9.30-11.00	Poets Open Mic Betta	—
11.00-12.00	Sea Shanty Singalong Tony	VFMC Dance Tunes Joan
12.00-1.00	Lunch Break, byo	
1.00-2.30	Premier Vocal workshop Suzette	—
2.30-3.30	Less Familiar Australian Songs Ray	Fiddle Session Regina
3.30 - 4.30	Around the World in 3/4 - Adding Spice to The Waltz Bill & Ellen	
4.30-5.30	Blackboard Concert Maree	
7.30 - 10.30	Monthly Family Bush Dance live with The Brumbies	

Enjoy the day!!

Don Fraser 0407.737.202 Jane Bullock 0407.755.770 Maree Buttler 0411.750.462

I am ashamed to say that when I first joined the VFMC I had never heard of Wattle Day, but when asked to participate in the Club's annual celebration of Wattle Day, I felt inspired to do a little research into this day. The result was the song below, which will be performed (as it is annually) at our Wattle Day bush dance, which this year is on Saturday 7th September (see pages 10-11).

WATTLE DAY

In the early 1900's the Wattle movement was begun,
When acacia pycnantha glowing golden like the sun
Was included on an Aussie stamp and our brand new coat of arms,
As a flowering symbol, green and gold, for our cities and our farms.

But not till 1988 was the golden wattle named
As our national floral emblem and officially proclaimed,
And then after that in '92 the first day of September
Was established as our Wattle Day – a day we must remember.

CHORUS:

It's the spirit of our country, it's our land of flood and fire,
Where every dawn a dream is born as we keep reaching higher.
It's the spirit of our country, it's our land of work and play,
So let's celebrate Australian life each year on Wattle Day.

Our Uluru, our Opera House, our muddy Yarra too,
Our Gold Coast and our Nullabor and our boxing kangaroo,
Our Aussie Rules, our "G'day mate" from town to outback station,
Our ethnic mix, our barbeques, our great and golden nation.

CHORUS (then Instrumental)

Now as we watch the seasons change, the heat replace the cold,
Our athletes represent our land so proud in green and gold.
Our history stretches back in time, both black and white our past,
Our present and our future in our golden land so vast.

CHORUS

© Maggie Somerville, 2012

LAUNCH CEILI!



Saturday 14 September 2024

Doors open 7pm. Dancing from 7:30pm until late
Hurstbridge Hall 975 Heidelberg - Kinglake Rd, Hurstbridge

WITH LIVE MUSIC BY THE MUNDY CEILI BAND

FAMILY FRIENDLY RAFFLE PERFORMANCES DANCING



plus music by special
guest **Rennie Pearson**

\$25 ISDAV members

\$30 non-members

Kids under 5 are free

Student and youth discounts

to book visit isdav.org.au/events



IRISH SOCIAL DANCE
ASSOCIATION VICTORIA

contact: dance@isdav.org.au

WATTLE DAY— QUIZ

1) When was the Wattle Club formed and in which state? 2) When did the Wattle Day movement begin? 3) What is the botanic name for Golden Wattle? 4) What day of the year was settled on as Wattle Day and when? 5) When did wattle become part of our coat of arms? 6) What is celebrated each year on Wattle Day?

Answers to last quiz:- 1) *English folksinger/songwriter, folksong collector, labour activist & actor* 2) *James Henry Miller* 3) *1915* 4) *Communist* 5) *Peggy Seeger* 6) *The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face, Dirty Old Town, Freeborn Man.*

BILLABONG BAND REPORT—AUGUST 2024

There have been no Billabong Band gigs since last report.

UPCOMING GIGS:

Lionsbrae - 23rd August

Gulf Station - 27th October

Maroondah Festival - 10th November (to be confirmed)

One thing that seems to be happening lately is that I get enquiries from various places. For example, JL Flynn retirement village asked if we were available for three different times during the year. I replied that we were and mentioned that we would like a small donation in the order of \$100 ~ \$120 or what they could afford. I heard nothing from them again.

This has also happened with another aged care home in North Ringwood, who were initially quite enthusiastic but then I never heard from them again when I mentioned a donation. Is this a sign of the rising costs of living?

- *by Trevor Voake*

MUSICAL JOKES

What type of music are balloons afraid of? *Pop music.*

Why did the singer climb the ladder? *She wanted to reach the high notes.*

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

Graham Borrell, 0438 437 680
 buzzza@bendigo.net.au
 Feature concert on the 3rd Friday of each month 8-11pm, under the grandstand at the Queen Elizabeth oval, Bendigo

Bush Dance and Music Club of Bendigo Inc

Monthly bush dance at Bendigo East, third Saturday every month, at Holy Trinity Church Hall, Keck St, Flora Hill. Contact Mary Smith 5442-1153 or email secretary@bendigobushdance.org.au

Berwick and District Folk Club

Edward Nass / Christine Trimmell,
 03 9702 1223 /0418 535 264
 badfolk@optusnet.com.au
 Featured artist 3rd Friday February to December, The Old Cheese Factory, 34 Homestead Road, Berwick Vic. 3806
 www.badfolk.org.au

Boite World Music Cafe

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

Peter Kernebone
Telephone: 0408 035 147
Email: secretary@vfmc.org.au

Session Co-ordinator

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

Family/Children's Bush Dance

Bill Buttler
Telephone: 0417 300 682
Email: dance@vfmc.org.au

Billabong Band Engagements

Trevor Voake
Telephone: 0427 784 296
Email: billabongband@vfmc.org.au

Iwish to become a member of the Victorian Folk Music Club Inc. and will

- (a) Support the aims of the Victorian Folk Music Club Inc and
 - (b) Abide by the rules of the Victorian Folk Music Club Inc.
- (For details see: - <http://www.vfmc.org.au/Constitution.pdf>)

Signed

I wish to receive my Newsletter by:

- (a) Email or/and
 - (b) Post
- (Cross out whichever is not applicable)

Membership Type (please circle)

Metro 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: