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Email: info@tradandnow.com

Web: www.tradandnow.com

Publisher & Editor: Cec Buccello

Sub-editor: Trudy Van Laar

Design & production: The Elixir Creative

Front Cover: High Fidelity

See page 26 for the story

APPRECIATED CONTRIBUTORS:

Lars Brandle
Emily Bostock
Maureen O'Brien
Wayne Richmond
Lucy Rowe
Ben Knight
Bridget Rees
Liz Kitney
Nick Hartgerink
Jo Corbett
Janno Scanes

Keith Preston
Norma Murphy
Thea Taylor
John Elder
Christine Boulton
Lindsay Mar
Pete James Dawson
Bill Quinn
Paul Cashmere
Mark Griffin
Wayne Richmond

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MusicNSW welcomes NSW government's \$1.66 billion pledge

by Lars Brandle, Head of Content, The Music Network

Announced on June 18, the NSW State Government will pump \$18.5 million into Sound NSW, and has allocated \$26.9 million for the Office of the 24 Hour Economy Commissioner and almost one third of a billion dollars for Destination NSW.

Those are some of the music industry's main takeaways from the NSW Government's 2024-25 Budget, one that should help restore a live entertainment and late night scene that suffered badly under previous administrations.

Budget highlights include \$324.5 million for Destination NSW to deliver the events calendar across metro and regional NSW, including Vivid Sydney, SXSW Sydney, Mundi Mundi Bash, Parkes Elvis Festival, and a range of sporting events, and drive the refreshed Visitor Economy Strategy 2030.

There was \$73 million for the Arts and Cultural

Funding Program to support grassroots and community arts organisations.

Also included was \$35 million for Screen and Digital Games for their Made in NSW Fund, as well as ongoing investment to provide certainty for the Post Production and Visual Effects rebate scheme.

The Night Time Economy will receive \$26.9 million to support the development of vibrant, safe, and diverse night time precincts across the State and the delivery of the refreshed NSW 24-Hour Economy Strategy.

Sound NSW will have \$18.5 million to deliver programs that drive audience and international market development, strengthen the live music industry, and champion NSW artists.

Formed in 2023, Sound NSW's role is to promote contemporary music in NSW, and is led by Emily Collins, working alongside an advisory board comprised of artists and industry figures including Chair, Jessica Ducrou, and Deputy Chair, John Watson.

All told, \$1.66 billion is set aside for the arts, night time economy and tourism.

MusicNSW has warmly welcomed the support.

"This budget reflects the NSW Government's ongoing commitment to contemporary music and support for Sound NSW as its dedicated contemporary music office," comments Joe Muller, Managing Director of MusicNSW.

"We eagerly anticipate the government's 10-year contemporary music strategy and look forward to supporting Sound NSW to see a thriving contemporary music sector in the State."

The NSW Labor Party swept into power in 2023 with a \$103 million pledge, including a commitment to establish Sound New South Wales and a 10-year strategy for contemporary music.

Later, in a sign that Minns, Minister for the Arts, Music and the Night Time Economy, John Graham, and their team meant business, the so called Vibrancy Bills were tabled in Parliament.



The are reforms that would unwind the inherited bureaucratic mess and create a streamlined system which should put the era of lockouts and over-regulation in the past.

The Budget delves into its "Vibrancy agenda," for which the NSW Government will "deliver further reforms to support venues, event organisers, and councils," including legislating to make it easier to host events and festivals, and streamlining planning processes that are restricting cultural activity.

Also, the State will reform the Arts and Cultural Funding Program to "deliver a simpler, fairer, and faster model for arts funding that will drive long term growth and sustainability" for the sector.

Muller and MusicNSW commends the continued support for the Office of the 24

Hour Economy Commissioner, "whose regulatory reforms and programs supporting venues underscore the integral role of music in vibrant night time economies."

Earlier in the year, Labor claimed a fresh win for live music, with the publication of data pointing to the number of venues hosting live performances lifting by 84%.

That followed the worrying report last year from APRA AMCOS which found 1,300 music venues nationwide had been lost since the pandemic.

"Finally, we welcome the refresh of the Destination NSW Visitor Economy Strategy 2030 which we expect will expand on investments in SXSW Sydney, Vivid Sydney and Great Southern Nights to see continued government support for local cultural events," adds Muller,



Emily Collins

"and unlock further opportunities for NSW based artists and the music industry as a key driver of the visitor economy."

"MusicNSW looks forward to continuing to collaborate with these agencies and the industry to maximise the impact of this funding in the coming year."



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Is there a singer in all of us?

by Emily Bostock



Paolo Fabris

A Charles Darwin University (CDU) Lecturer in Vocal Studies, Paolo Fabris, is proving that with the right skills, almost anyone can learn to sing.

Paolo Fabris has recently used his nearly 30 years of expertise to train local Hot 100 Breakfast Show host, Lauren "Davo" Davidson, to live out her dream of singing in a competition at the Fred's Pass Rural show.

Davidson turned to Fabris, who has been lecturing at CDU for 16 years, for training, with the lecturer saying success is in part accepting and liking your voice.

"With singing, you need to first become familiar with your voice and learn to love it.

"The hardest thing to do is

listening and accepting your voice and you must have a sense of critique," Fabris said.

"You also must focus on developing your muscles.

"It is like going to the gym everyday but working your vocal muscles and developing different postures to help project your voice.

"It is also important to learn the different vocal structures and which ones make specific sounds so you can modify and adjust as you need," Fabris said.

Once you have the above techniques, Fabris says it is then all about connecting with the audience.

"In singing, you need to have an artistry, you need to be able to read the room and create performance magic," Fabris said.

"That is about finding a

link and connection with the audience, it is rare that this happens, but when it does it is magical," he said.

For Fabris, one of his passions is musical theatre, having directed and starred in several productions including Footloose, Jesus Christ Superstar, Sound of Music, Fame and the Lion King.

He is excited to see Darwin's musical theatre scene exploding.

"There are some big productions starting to happen in Darwin, such as Evita, and some new theatre companies beginning, which is really great to see," Fabris said.

"Here in Darwin, we do need to see the artistic level start to rise, but we have limited resources, and our productions can only run for a short time, but things are really starting to take off and I am so happy about that."

In addition to his work at CDU, Fabris is currently working with the Darwin Chorale as musical conductor for the new production "Heros and Villains", which ran in July at CDU's Theatre.

He is also leading new Musical Theatre classes run by CDU's Academy of the Arts specifically for teenagers and adults with an interest in learning more about the craft of musical theatre.

CDU's Academy of the Arts offers several courses across a range of areas including the Arts, Screen and Media and Music.



Federal funding welcomed

APRA AMCOS, the largest music industry body in the region representing over 119,000 songwriters, composers, and music publishers, applauds the Australian Government announcement of \$8.6 million in critical funding to support festivals and live music venues.

"This urgent funding comes at a crucial time, Australia has lost more than a quarter of its live music venues and stages across the nation since the pandemic," said APRA AMCOS Chief Executive, Dean Ormston.

In May's federal budget, the Australian Government announced \$8.6 million in 2024–25 for Revive Live, aiming to bolster Australian live music venues and festivals showcasing local talent, while also enhancing accessibility and inclusion at live music performances.

"We applaud Treasurer, Jim Chalmers and Minister for the Arts, Tony Burke for their commitment to music, which also includes ongoing funding for music through the new national music development, Music Australia.

APRA AMCOS also welcomes the vital \$53.8 million investment in two new First Nations Language Centres, \$7.9 million to support people with disability to access and participate in the creative arts, \$14.5 million for the production of children's television and \$117.2 million for Australia's arts training institutions including NIDA and the Australian Film,

Television and Radio School.

"The \$8.6 million investment in Revive Live is timely.

"We know there are many reasons for the continuing closure of iconic venues and festivals across the country.

"These include substantial increased costs associated with supply chains, soaring public liability insurance premiums, as well as changes in consumer behaviour with cost-of-living pressures.

"Live music venues, especially smaller establishments, find themselves squeezed between rising operational expenses and diminishing profit margins.

"As a result, many venues are forced to either pass on the increased costs to patrons through higher ticket prices or cut back on live music events altogether.

"Or worse, they shut their doors and turn off the lights",

Ormston said.

"APRA AMCOS once again calls for a sustainable long-term measure to ensure the viability of live music venues and festivals.

"Australia urgently requires a national catalyst in the form of a tax offset to revive Australian live music."

In an APRA AMCOS survey of live music venues, nightclubs and promoters this month, almost 80 per cent said support through a tax offset was the most important solution to the current crisis.

"A tax offset to support the growth of live music would not only be a catalyst for the social and cultural development of live music, it would also provide an injection of confidence across the tourism and hospitality economy," Dean Ormston said.

"The role that live music plays in the economic, social, and cultural fabric of Australia

Trad Time Live



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www.tradandnow.com

and Bandcamp.



cannot be overstated.

"A healthy live music scene in our cities, suburbs, regional centres, and towns provides a competitive advantage and is the feeding ground for Australia's fast-growing musical exports.

"When a venue closes and gigs and festivals are cancelled, the artists, DJs, supply chains, and local economies that support live music are affected.

"There is also that intangible cost when artists are unable to bring communities together, connect with their fans, and when they miss out on the career development that literally can only happen on stage.

"As the Treasurer said in

his speech, we need to ensure that we secure a future for the nation that taps our 'confidence, compassion and creativity'.

"It is songwriters, artists and creators that will help create that future."

RMIT University music industry expert, Associate Professor Catherine Strong, further added: "The current Labor Government has done much to reverse the constant cuts that music sector funding faced under the previous Liberal government.

"It showed through its Revive music policy last year that it does take music of all types seriously as part of the arts.

"This year's budget builds on this with \$8.6 million to support live music, which, with venue closures and festival cancellations becoming all too common recently, is in desperate need of help.

"The big question is how this money will be spent.

"Finding ways to target creating sustainable futures for Australian artists and venues – particularly grassroots and small venues – will be vital.

"Throwing money at failing venues to prop them up without fully understanding and addressing why they are failing will not give us the outcomes we need.

"Similarly, if the money goes to big ticket events or sponsoring overseas touring artists, the support for local artists – who are currently doing it very hard – may be lost.

"This is an opportunity to support live music from the ground up, and to reshape the ecology to make it healthier in the long run."



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Trad&Now Live! is ideal for listening to while working, walking, driving or relaxing. It can be heard on your phone, computer, laptop, car radio or any device with internet access.

New album from Mollimor



Gippsland Vic based Mollimor have released their new album, Trad Time Live

It was recorded at Wombat Rd Studios, Valencia Creek, Victoria in January, 2024.

The Album includes quite a number of original tunes and songs.

Band members are: Frank O'Dowd, guitar and vocals; Pete Foote, bass and bouzouki; Kate

Haines, accordion, flute and backing vocals; Ben Sim, fiddle; and, Steve Schulz, djembe.

Mollimor have been active in Gippsland for a couple of decades, evolving from a group of friends getting together for a social event, originally known as the Molly Maguires, to the current line-up who have been together over a decade, producing a rich and varied sound.

Mollimor is now a high

energy Celtic/Irish band, with a wide repertoire ranging through traditional songs and tunes from all parts of the Celtic world, to covers of more contemporary artists.

Mollimor have played at music festivals throughout Victoria, as well as local community events, pubs and clubs, Gippsland Acoustic Music Club and many private functions.



Woman Loves Jazz

by Maureen O'Brien

For some 15 years of her nearly 30 year songwriting journey, Maureen O'Brien has been promising to write a Woman's Jazz album.

No more procrastinating Maureen – it's done!

This is a 5-track album, originally fashioned as an EP until the guidelines of the Recording Academy were double checked and found that this one qualified as 'album' status of original pieces.

Typically Maureen, the tracks are flavoured with hints of Folk Jazz, Jazz Blues and Latin Jazz.

She says: "I've never had

much taste for 'white bread'!

"I love my music fused with many musical flavours."

This album was recorded at the new Lampstand Studio in Maitland, NSW, using the talents of studio engineer Zac Limon.

"Zac brings young talent, a fresh perspective, and multiple skills to the table and he's done a great job with this recording."

CDs are available through Trad & Now.

Downloads are available via Maureen's Bandcamp page: <https://maureenobrien.bandcamp.com>

Maureen now has seven

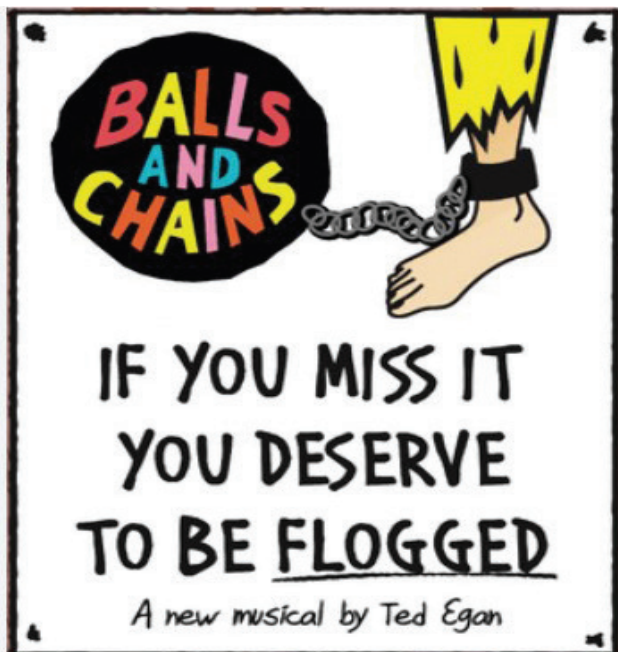


albums available from the Trad&Now website, all of which can be heard on Trad&Now Live! from time to time.



Loosely Woven presents a World Premiere of **Balls & Chains**

by Wayne Richmond



One of Australia's National Living Treasures, Ted Egan, has written a remarkable music theatre piece about our convict heritage.

Ted, who has been for decades a very popular singer/songwriter in the Australian country/folk scene, was also the Administrator of the Northern Territory (2003-2007).

Ted is well known for his prolific musical works.

Ted is podcasting *Balls and Chains* with a view to making it available to people who wish to perform or present it.

Balls and Chains is a musical set in the convict era in Australia and the British Isles.

There is an audio version of 'Balls & Chains', but Loosely Woven's upcoming production will be the first time it has ever been staged as a full production.

Enjoy this wonderful music and engaging storytelling complemented by a vibrant selection of traditional English folk melodies.

It's an opportunity not to be missed.

Loosely Woven is a community based group of people who put together and perform two to three new shows each year and is the main reason Gail and I bought the former Allambie Heights Uniting Church and established Humph Hall in

the first place.

'Balls & Chains' is by far the most ambitious project undertaken by Loosely Woven since it performed Gilbert & Sullivan's comic opera, *Trial by Jury*, in 2019.

Once again we are very fortunate to have the amazing Christine Logan from Endangered Productions directing us as well as the amazing Maria Dunn who has adapted and arranged the musical for us.

There will be a number of performances around the state including two at Humph Hall.

The performance will be accompanied by a 7 piece band with two violins, viola, cello, two flutes and piano.

A very special event not to be missed!

Loosely Woven perform together because they love music and want you to love it too.

All of the performances are free and are scheduled for Avalon on August 11, Narrabeen and Concord August 18, South Turrumurra August 23, Penrose August 24, Wentworthville August 31, Eastwood September 1, Allambie Heights September 7 and Dee Why September 8.

Visit the Loosely Woven web site for details about the performances or contact Wayne Richmond for more information (0400 803 804).



UK online radio now more popular than AM/FM

by Lucy Rowe

In a good sign for Trad&Now Live!, for the first time in UK history, listening to the radio online is more popular than listening to AM & FM according to a recent Radio Joint Audience Research Ltd (RAJAR) report.

RAJAR was set up in 1992 to align, design and operate a single audience measurement system for the UK radio industry, serving both the BBC and licensed commercial stations.

The company is jointly owned by the BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation) and by the RadioCentre (the trade body representing the vast majority of Commercial Radio stations in the UK).

The RAJAR 2024 Q1 results show that when it comes to listening to the radio in the UK, 27.8% is done online.

That's compared to only 27% for AM/FM.

Online radio listening is made up of listening on websites & apps (11.2%) and smart speakers (16.6%).

This may only be a slim lead for now, but there's a trend emerging: Online radio's share of listeners growing while AM/FM's share is declining.

This time in 2023, the RAJAR results showed that online radio listening had a 24.4% share and AM/FM Radio had a 32.4% share.



And throughout 2023, online radio's share has increased while AM/FM's has decreased, culminating now as online radio has overtaken AM/FM's share for the first time ever.

RAJAR results also show the majority, 62%, of radio listening happens at home.

This is followed by listening in vehicles at 58%, and at work

13%.

This majority of home listening may be partly to thank for online radio's growing share.

Listeners have more options regarding stations to listen to and how to listen and they can use home internet packages to stream audio at no extra cost.



Club and Venues Directory

If you are a functioning club or venue and would like more people to know about you, then become included in this Directory. See pages 76 and 77 for more information.

Directory entry is free to subscribers.

See 'What's On Around the Clubs' for specific event detail

ACT – Monaro Folk Society (932-165)

Run a variety of folk music and dance workshops and other events in Canberra. Tuesday night music group session

info@MonaroFolk.org.au
www.MonaroFolk.org.au

NSW – Bowral Folk Club (1952-164)

Local performers sign up to a white board and take turns with songs, poems and stories.

Candlelight atmosphere.

BYO refreshments. \$5 donation

4th Tues Feb – Nov, 7pm

13/40 Station St

Ph: 0406 939 309

brian@haydons.com

NSW – Bush Music Club (1115-178)

Founded 1954 to promote Australian folk tradition through collecting and popularising songs, dances, music and folklore.

Music & song sessions Mon 5-9pm

Beecroft Bush Dance – 1st

Sat most months

Pennant Hills Dance

Workshop – each Mon night.

Ph: 0466 877 423

www.bushmusic.org.au

bmcmail1954@gmail.com

NSW – Goulburn Club (2054-171)

The Goulburn Club is a heritage venue promoting music and art, focusing on local and touring performers presenting alternative music, folk, blues, jazz and roots.

Bush trad sessions – 2nd Fri 7.30pm

Celtic trad sessions – 4th Fri 7.30pm

secretary@goulburnclub.com.au

Ph: 02 4821 2043

www.goulburnclub.com.au

NSW – Hornsby Ku-Ring-Gai Folk Club (127-166)

Presents traditional and contemporary folk and acoustic music and poetry.

A cosy and welcoming atmosphere with floor spots welcomed.

Every 3rd Friday from 7pm.

Team@hkfolkclub.au

NSW – Humph Hall (2288-171)

Humph Hall at Allambie Heights, is used as a rehearsal and performance space for Loosely Woven.

Since opening in 2009, it has also hosted performances by hundreds of artists from around Australia and across the globe.

Wayne@HumphHall.org

NSW – Illawarra Folk Club (1765-169)

Club comprises local musicians, dancers, poets, storytellers and culturally minded folk.

Concerts 1st Fri City Diggers Club, Wollongong.

Ph: 1300 887 034

info@IllawarraFolkClub.org.au

NSW – Loaded Dog Folk Club (1726-173)

Sydney's finest acoustic folk venue, showcasing the best acoustic folk music.

4th Sat 7pm

Back hall, Annadale Community Centre, 79

Johnston St.

Ph: 0492 977 202

KXBears@Gmail.com.au

NSW – The Shack (1700-166)

Presents folk, world and acoustic music in a cabaret atmosphere.

1st Sat, Ted Blackwood Hall, Warriewood.

Ph: 0413 635 856

RhondaLMawer@Gmail.com

www.ShackFolk.com

NSW – Sutherland Acoustic (2311-165)

Folk club operates out of GyMEA Tradies.

Concert night with invited guest artists and walk ups on

2nd Thur.
Session night on 4th Thur.
JG.Watson@Hotmail.com

NSW - Toongabbie Music Club (2148-191)

Welcome all performers from beginners to professionals. Musicians, Singers, Poets and yarn spinners.

Since 1983 performed at festivals, charities, etc.

Meet 2nd & 4th Fri (except Jan) 7:30pm and 3rd Wed 11am at Scout's Hall, Northmead

Ph: 0439 831 531
allendavisuitar@gmail.com

NSW – Troubadour Central Coast (2028-174)

Folk and acoustic music and spoken word running for over 23 years.

Regular concert – 4th Sat
 Club performer's night – 2nd Sat

Sessions – 1st and 3rd Sun
 Ukulele group – the Troubalukers – weekly practice
TroubadourFolkClub@gmail.com

www.Troubadour.org.au

NSW - Wagga Acoustic Session (1935-170)

Not meeting at present.

Ph: 0431 246 023
Hootwhistle@gmail.com

Qld – Brisbane Unplugged Gigs (the BUG) (1362-167)

Music concert held every Tues evening featuring two acts after a 30 minute blackboard concert.

Has been running for 20 years in various venues but

now at New Farm Bowls Club.
www.BrisbaneUnpluggedGigs.org

Qld – Folk Redlands (1602-176)

Folk club running for over 17 years.

2nd Sun from 11.30am at Cleveland Bowls Club.

FolkRedlands@yahoo.com
https://folkredlands.org

SA – Hats Inc. (2307-168)

Hats Courthouse (Auburn) is a multi-award winning organisation delivering a curated program of cultural events and regular live music concerts.

Ph: 08 8849 2420
Admin@HatsIncSA.com

SA – Port Pirie Folk Club (2204-169)

Meet weekly in homes to play music.

Also 3rd Wed from 1pm at Arts Now Here, Warnertown.

Ph: 0408 334 086
Mabiena.mb@gmail.com

Vic – The Boite (347-169)

Presents a regular program of concerts featuring fabulous culturally diverse music from around the globe.

See website for upcoming events.

www.Boite.com.au

Vic – Newport Bush Orchestra (1334-163)

Community group which welcomes new players and encourages the playing of Australian tunes and songs through performances and dances.

2nd & 4th Mon 7.30pm

Newport Community Hub.
daveisom@bigpond.com

Vic - Newport Fiddle & Folk Club (2253-166)

Has numerous ongoing musical groups and runs a range of monthly and annual events, with a focus on participation.

Various sessions most Fri nights, plus annual bush dance / 3 day festival and Xmas carols show.

www.nffc.org.au

Vic – Victorian Folk Music Club (2231-164)

Practising Australian traditional dance, music, poetry and song since 1959.

Meets every Tue for round robin session, all in session or concert night.

Family Bush Dance 1st Sat.
www.VFMC.Org.Au
Enquiries@VFMC.org.au

WA – Wanneroo Folk Club (1418-175)

Meets 2nd Fri, Donchester Hall, 2 Dugdale St, Warwick
www.WAFolk.org.au

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WWW.TradandNow.com

Why do we like songs that make us sad?

by Ben Knight

A new study proposes a novel theory of why listening to sad music can make us feel good.

Many people report that the music they love can also make them feel sad.

It's something that has puzzled music researchers, who have long wondered how an activity that produces a negative emotion can be so eagerly sought out.

Now, a new study suggests that for some of us, it could be that we might actually enjoy the sadness.

The research, published in the journal PLOS ONE, suggests negative emotions felt when listening to music can produce pleasure.

"It's paradoxical to think that you could enjoy something that makes you feel a negative emotion," says Professor Emery Schubert, the author of the study from the Empirical Musicology Laboratory in the School of the Arts & Media, UNSW Arts, Design & Architecture.

"But this research shows the first empirical evidence that sadness can positively affect the enjoyment of music, directly."

For the study, 50 participants, consisting primarily of undergraduate music students, self-selected a piece of sadness evoking music that they loved, which included classics from Ludwig van Beethoven to the modern hits of Taylor Swift.

They were not explicitly

instructed to choose music where they enjoyed the sadness.

Participants were then asked to imagine if their sadness could be "removed" when listening to the music, which the majority self-reported they could do.

"We know that many people are quite apt when it comes to thought experiments, so it's a reasonable approach to use and, at worst, it should produce no results," Prof. Schubert said.

After the imagined removal of sadness, participants asked if they liked the piece of music any differently.

82 per cent said that removing the sadness reduced their enjoyment of the music.

"The findings suggest that sadness felt when listening to music might actually be liked and can enhance the pleasure of listening to it," Prof. Schubert said.

Prof. Schubert says there could be many reasons why people enjoy music that makes them sad.

"One explanation relates to play," Prof. Schubert said.

"Experiencing a wide range of emotions in a more or less safe environment could help us learn how to deal with what we encounter in the world."

The research also discusses the implications for findings of previous studies that suggest sadness cannot be enjoyed when listening to music but is instead mediated by a complex feeling with positive aspects

called "being moved."

"Previous studies refer to an 'indirect effect hypothesis', which means that people may experience sadness, but it is something else they enjoy, which is being moved," Prof. Schubert says.

"Because being moved is a mixed feeling with positive and negative aspects."

A further 53 participants in a control group were asked to report music they loved that they deemed "moving".

The control group participants reported feeling sadness in addition to being moved.

"It was previously thought that when people felt sadness in response to music they enjoyed, they were really experiencing being moved," Prof. Schubert says.

"But the findings of this study suggest that being moved and feeling sadness have overlapping meanings.

"In other words, being moved triggers sadness, and sadness triggers being moved."

Some limitations of the study are associated with allowing the participants to self-select pieces of music.

"It's always risky to ask a participant to choose music that they both love and makes them feel sad, as it may give them a cue about the aim of the study," Prof. Schubert says.

"But we did take steps to minimise this in our method, including not mentioning the

concerns of the study during recruitment, screening the self-selected pieces and having a control condition."

Approaches where experimenters select music (which previous studies have mainly been based upon) also

have limitations, which future research can address.

"The main limitation of previous studies is that the experimenters select the 'sad' music rather than the participants, which means participants might not

necessarily 'love' the pieces," Prof. Schubert says.

"Therefore, future research should have more participants to ensure enough happen to love the pieces."



Illawarra Folk Club has launched an open mic night



Illawarra Folk Club President, Russell Hannah has advised Trad&Now that they have launched and open mic night, The Railway Sessions.

If you feel like singing a song, playing an instrument (ukuleles accepted), reciting a poem, telling a woolly yarn, singing along, having a drink (You have to bring your own), a snack (BYO again but we will give you tea and coffee), and/or just sitting and listening to any or all of the above, then, the Illawarra Folk Club can satisfy these cravings.

It started on May 15 at the Railway Heritage Hall on the Thirroul Railway Station at 7 PM and goes to 10 PM.

But you don't have to stay the whole time and can come and go as you please.

You don't have to book, but if you are playing it will be first in

best dressed.

"We will have a blackboard", Russell said.

"We have the folk club's sound system so you will be heard.

"Yes, we even welcome banjos, bagpipes and accordions!"

The open mic sessions will

be held every third Wednesday of the month and it is free, as nobody gets paid, though, as we have to pay for the hall hire, we will put a hat at the door and if you could throw in five bucks then that will assist with costs, but it is not compulsory, it is a mere donation.



What's on around the clubs?

Following is a list of acts booked at venues listed in the Clubs and Venues Directory. For time, place and contact detail, see the entry in the Directory

NSW

Hornsby Ku-Ring-Gai Folk Club – 7pm

Aug 16: Isabel Palethorpe and band

Sep 20: Ami Williamson

Oct 18: Adder's Fork

Nov 15: Beautifully Mad

Dec 20: Traditional Graffiti

Goulburn Club – 7.30pm

Aug 23: Midnight Mojo Blues band

Sept 27: Mike & Ruby

Oct 4-7: Bush Traditions Spring Gathering

Humph Hall – 7pm

Sep 7: Balls & Chains, the Musical (1pm & 5pm)

Loaded Dog – 7pm

Aug 24: The Other Noonans; Nerds & Music

Sep 21: Ten Quid Poms; Ami Williamson

Oct 26: Dingos Breakfast (WA); Rheinberger & Wilson

Newcastle & Hunter Valley Folk Club - 6.30pm (new venue)

Aug 3: Cap In Hand

Troubadour Central Coast 7pm

Aug 24: Cap-in-Hand; The Peppercorns

Sep 28: Rare Treats; Jack n Jel n Mac n Wal

Oct 26: Mimosa Duo

Dec 1: 2pm The Bushwackers

QLD

Unplugged Gigs (the BUG) 7.30pm

Aug 6: The Borough; Judy Small Songbirds

Aug 13: Sue Ferrers Trio; Michael Fix

Aug 20: Mircha Mangiacotti; Melody Graves & the Hokum Redemption

Aug 27: Simon Wells (CD Launch); Those Folk

Sep 3: Marita Mangano (Tas); Songwriters in the Round with Alan Kelly

Sep 10: Karen Law Duo; Taraf Tambal

Sep 17: The Swing Beans; Don Burnham (USA)

Sep 24: Mick McHugh; Matt Kealley

Oct 1: Noel Gardner & Alex Bridge; Blue Stockings

Oct 8: Tracey Hammell; Keeping North

Oct 15: Wheatley and the Undergarments; The Jar

Oct 22: Marcus and Paul; Zumpa

Nov 5: Delilah Rose; Jumping Fences

Nov 12: Mundy-Turner

Nov 19: Tim Woodz and the Dirty Shoes

Nov 26: Innessa; Absolutely Scandalous

Dec 3: Allan Caswell

Dec 10: Tennyson King (Can)

Dec 17: Greska

All clubs and venues listed in the Clubs and Venues Directory are welcome to have their upcoming specific events listed here

Trad&Now Live! celebrates first year of operation

Trad&Now Live! is a free international streaming service for Australian folk music in its broadest sense.

It has been live on air since July 2023 and has gone ahead in leaps and bounds since then.

There are already over 11,000 tracks programmed with many more to be added as time permits.

One or more albums from over 550 different acts are currently included.

Trad&Now Live! can be heard 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and all music heard was originally recorded in Australia and is available on a CD available from the Trad&Now website.

It is uniquely Australian and has attracted listeners from around Australia as well as overseas, particularly the USA, UK, Japan, South Africa, Indonesia, South America and New Zealand.

We've clocked over 61,500 hours of broadcasting Australian recorded folk music, in its broadest sense, to the World.

Genres included are traditional and contemporary folk music, bluegrass, acoustic blues, roots, Australiana, Americana, Celtic, World music, and traditional dance music with a little bit of bush poetry, all as heard in many folk festivals around Australia.

Each month averages 581 listeners, 135 of which are unique each month, and they

listen for an average of 1 hour and 10 minutes each.

More music is added every week.

Artists submitting albums for inclusion on the Trad&Now website for sale and for uploading to Trad&Now Live! receive guaranteed airplay.

This is the first such service for Australian folk music and is an ideal medium for making Australian folk music available to everyone at any time all around Australia and anywhere in the world as well.

It's like a Spotify or Folk Alley for Australian recorded folk music.

Constantly updating playlists and other content information are available on the home page of the website.

One hour long specific genre programs are scheduled on the even number hour from 4AM until 10PM every day.

Following is the current schedule:

4AM: Traditional Folk Music Hour

6AM: Celtic / British Music Hour

8AM: Comedy, Poetry and a bit of Protest Music Hour

10AM: Contemporary Folk Music Hour

12 Noon: Recent Arrivals (18 months) Hour

2PM: Australiana Music Hour

4PM: Instrumental Music Hour

6PM: World Music Hour

8PM: Bluegrass & Old-Timey Music Hour

10PM: Blues and Roots Music Hour

During odd numbered hours, and between 11PM and 4AM daily, music heard is randomly selected by the computer programme following specified instructions regarding repeats etc.

Trad&Now Live! is ideal for listening to while working, walking, driving or relaxing.

It's also perfect as background music in reception areas, offices, supermarkets, dental surgeries, and any other workplace where music is allowed to improve atmosphere.

51% of listeners are listening using their desktop computer, 42% listen on their smartphones, leaving 7% using other means.

Trad&Now Live! complements the Trad&Now magazine and the Trad&Now website.

The Trad&Now website has the world's largest selection of Australian recorded folk music listed and available for sale and Trad&Now Live! helps to expose this vast catalogue of music to the world.

Trad&Now magazine is Australia's longest continually running national magazine covering those genres of folk music and is available mostly by subscription and from all good newsagents around Australia.

Eight (8) editions are published every year, it only

costs \$55 and includes a free compilation CD.

The following artists all have one or more albums currently being broadcast on Trad&Now Live! Some have as many as eight different albums. The number after each name indicates how many albums that artist has currently uploaded on Trad&Now Live! More are added every week.

8 Ball Aitken 1
A. J. Leonard 1
Acoustic Shock 2
Adrian Kosky 1
Akasa 3
Alan Musgrove & His Watsaname Band 1
Alan Musgrove with Bob McInnes & Friends 2
Alanna and Alicia 4
Alex Chudnovsky 1
Alistair Hulett 2
All Star Gospel Review 1
Ami Williamson 1
Andrea Soler 1
Andrew Clermont & Parris Macleod 1
Andrew Clermont 2

Andrew Clermont and Friends 1
Andrew Hull 1
Andrew Veivers 2
Andsome Friends 1
Anita George 1
Anna Glynn 1
Anne Ridgway 2
Annie Kennedy & Friends 1
Appalachian Heaven Stringband 4
Asleep at the Reel
Asleep at the Reel 2
Austral 1
Azadoota 1
Babaganoush 1
Bajaly Suso 1
Ballpoint Penguins 1
Band Who Knew Too Much (The) 4
Barleyshakes (The) 1
Barry Skipsey 1
Beeswing 1
Ben Scott 1
Bernard Carney 4
Black Bear Duo (The) 1
Black Water 1
Blackwood 1
Blue Mosquitoes (The) 1
BluesAngels 2
BluGuru 1
Bob Campbell 2
Bohemian Nights 2

Bond Traps 1
Born Again Pagans 1
Bowen and Clare 1
Braemar 1
Brett Robin Wood 1
Brian Dubb 1
Bronnie Ware 1
Bruce Hearn & the Machinists 2
Bruce Hearn 2
Bruce Mathiske 2
Bruce Watson 5
Buck and Deanne 1
Buckley's Chance 1
Burach 1
Bushwackers & Bullockies Bush Band 1
Calum MacDonald 1
Cantolibre 2
Cap in Hand 1
Carl Cleves 2
Carmel and the Mites 1
Carmel Charlton 1
Carol Heuchan 1
Cath Connelly and Greg Hunt 2
Catherine Fraser and Duncan Smith 1
Cathie O'Sullivan 1
Celtaclysmic 1
Chaika 1
Chloe and Jason Roweth 2
Chloe Hall 1
Chorus of Rebel Voices 1



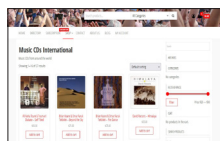
www.tradandnow.com

Did you know that the world's largest range of Australian recorded folk music and related genres available for sale is featured on the Trad&Now website, www.tradandnow.com ?

Quantities of many hundreds of titles, collected for nearly 20 years from performers around the country, are there for you to choose from. If you want to hear something that you recall fondly from a performance on a stage, at a club or at a festival, it's very likely to be still available for purchase from the website.

If it's out of stock, we will try and source it for you from the original performers.

Take a look now!
You'll be amazed at how extensive
a range of CDs, books and some
DVDs is available.



Phone 0410 522 070 or email info@TradandNow.com if you need more specific information.

Chris Aronsten 1	Doris 2	Hannah Gillespie 2
Chris Gillespie 2	Doug de Vries and Diana Clark 1	Hat Fitz 5
Chris Gillespie and the	Down by the Billabong 1	Hat Fitz and Cara Robinson 2
Wandering Hands 1	Dr Taos 1	Heather Frahn 1
Chris Gudu 1	Drongo and the Crow (The) 1	Helen Begley 1
Chris O 2	Ecopella 1	Helen Rivero 1
Chris O'Connor 1	Eilean Mor 2	Helen Rowe 1
Christiaan Willems 1	Eleanor Angel 1	Herb Superb 1
Christine Wheeler and Friends 1	Enda Kenny 3	Heritage Ensemble & Southern
Christopher Cady 1CJ Shaw 1	Eric Bogle 2	Cross Bush Band (The) 2
Clark Gormley 1	Eric Bogle with John Munro 2	Hither & Yon Music 2
Cloudstreet 1	Evan Mathieson 2	Hobart Smiths (The) 1
Coda 1	Ewan MacKenzie & Kay Sullivan	Home Rule 1
Collector 2	1	Homebrew 1
Coolgrass 3	FI KA 1	Hottentots (The) 1
Costas Tscaderis 1	Fagans (The) 2	Houseprouds (The) 1
Cow2	Fergusson 1	Hoya 1
Craig Dawson 1	Fiddle Chicks (The) 1	Humbug 1
Craig Dawson and Simone	Fiddlers' Feast 2	Hussy Hicks and Raphael White
Olding 2	Fiddlers Festival 3	1
Crooked Fiddle Band (The) 1	Finding Joy 1	i Viaggiatori 1
Czardas 1	Fiona 1	Ian Dearden 1
Dale Jones 1	Fiona Beale with Mike Deacon	Ichi 1
Damian Howard & the	and Friends 1	Inka Marka 2
Ploughboys 1	Fiona Joy Hawkins 2	Innes & Present Company 1
Dan Burt 2	Fiona Joy Hawkins and the Blue	Isaac Paddon and the Tides 1
Danny Spooner 2	Dream Ensemble 1	Jack Mancor 2
Dark Clouds (The) 1	Fiona Ross & Shane O'Mara 1	Jack Nolan 1
Dave & Julie Gittus, Ian White 1	Flamenco Fire 2	Jack Thompson 5
Dave Arden 1	FourPlay String Quartet 3	Jamie Clark 1
Dave Mann & Friends 1	Franklyn B Paverty 1	Jamie McKinnon, Colin Macleod,
David Goding & the Tortured	Fred Smith 8	Rory Sinclair, Rachael Gadd 1
Artists 1	Frencham Smith 2	Jan Preston 3
David Hyams 1	Full Circle Band 1	Jane Brownlee 1
David Isom 1	Gareth Hoch 1	Jane Germain 2
David Johnson 1	Garry Rose & Briagolong 1	Jane Sage 1
David O'Connor 2	Gary Banks 2	Jeanette Wormald 2
Davidson Brothers 2	Gary Banks with Rudi Katterl 1	Jeff & DeeJ 1
Dean Haitani 2	Gary Shearston 5	Jeff Aschmann 3
Dear Orphans 1	Geoffrey W. Graham 2	Jenny Biddle 1
Dennis O'Keeffe 1	George Jackson & Davydd	Jenny Gall 1
Des Knedy - The Blues Band 1	McDonald 1	Jeremiah 1
Di Khupe Heybners 1	Glenn Cardier 3	Jigzag 3
Diana Anaid 1	Glenys Anderson 1	Jim Green 1
Diana Clark 1	Golden Fiddlers 1	Jim Low 2
Dinesh Moylan 1	Good Tunes 1	Jim Low with Chloe & Jason
Doc Jones and the Lechery	Goodwills (The) 1	Roweth 1
Orchestra 1	Greg Bryce 1	Jim MacQuarrie 1
Dog Trumpet 2	Greg Hastings 2	Jim Stubbs Backing Band 1
Dogg'n It Blues 1	Gregory North 1	Jimmy Dowling 1
Don Brian 1	Habibis (The) 1	Joe Dolce 1
Doot 1	Hannafords (The) 1	Joel Smoker 5

John Boothroyd 1	Linda Campbell 1	and Friends 3
John Egenes 3	Lis Johnston Memorial Award 1	Melisma 1
John Fegan 2	Liz Frencham 2	Melissa Robertson 2
John Hall and Rick van Krugel 1	Lizzie Flynn 1	Merrilyn Simmons 2
John Kennedy 1	Loaded Dog 3	Merri -May Gill 1
John Munro 1	Lonely Horse Band (The) 1	Method 3
John Ralph 4	Looking for Lawson 1	Mic Conway's National Junk
John Warner 2	Los Caracoles 1	Band 3
John Williamson 1	Louisa Wise 1	Michael Fix 3
Jose Luis Sepulveda 1	Lucie Thorne 2	Michael Waugh 1
Josh Johnstone 1	Lumsden and Evelyn 2	Michael-John Azzopardi 2
Judy Pinder 1	Lyell Sayer 1	Mick Ahearne 1
Jugularity 2	Madd Marianne 1	Mick McHugh 2
Julia and the Deep Sea Sirens 1	Maggie Murphy 1	Mick Thomas 1
Julie McGonigal 1	Maggie Somerville 4	Mick Thomas and The Sure
Junior 2	Maireid Sullivan 3	Thing 1
Kara Grainger 1	Malcolm Turnbull 3	Mihirangi 1
Karen Hanna 1	Mama Juju 1	Mike and Greg 1
Karen Lynne 3	Mandy Breeze & Doug Kelly 2	Mike McCarthy 1
Kate and Ruth 1	Mara! 1	Milk2
Kate Delaney 1	Mara! and Marrenitsa Choir 1	Miriam Lieberman 2
Kate Fagan 1	Marais Project and Lang born	Mohona 1
Kate Maclurcan with Tim	and Wendel 1	Mollimor 1
Connellan 1	Marcus Holden 2	Morgan McKay 1
Kate Miller-Heidke 2	Marcus Sturrock 2	Mothers of Intention 2
Kate Rowe 1	Margaret & Bob Fagan 1	Mulligan's Flat 1
Kathryn Clements 2	Margaret Bradford 3	Murphy Family (The) 1
Kathryn Jones 2	Margaret Walters 2	Murrumbidgee Jones 1
Kavisha Mazzella 5	Marilla Homes 1	Musica Prima 1
Kazoobafak 1	Mark Cryle & Carmel Newman 1	Myriad 2
Keith Glass and Mick Hamilton 1	Mark Cryle 2	Mzaza 1
Keith McKenry 2	Mark Davidson 1	N.Rich.M 1
Keith McKenry and Friends 1	Mark Lucas 2	Naked Poets (The) 2
Kelly Andrew 1	Mark Lucas and the Dead	Neil Adam & Judy Turner 1
Kenny White Project (The) 1	Setters 3	Nerds & Music 2
Khristian Mizzi 1	Mark Pengilly	Nerida 3
Kim Sanders and Friends 2	Mark Pengilly 1	New Empire Ballroom Ragtime
Kim Sanders with Peter Kennard	Mark Thomann 1	Dance Orchestra 2
1	Mark Wilkinson 2	New Holland Honey Eaters
Kirsten Mackenzie 1	Marni Sheehan 2	(The) 1
Klezmer Connexion (The) 2	Martin Doherty & Leigh Birkett 1	Ngarukuruwala 1
Klezmeritis 1	Martin Pearson & the MP3 1	Nick and Liesl 1
Kristina Olsen 4	Martin Pearson 1	Nick Charles 8
Last Drinks 1	Mat Brooker 2	Nick Lock 1
Lauren Lee Williams 1	Matt Bentley 2	Nigel Foote 1
Le Blanc Bros 1	Matt Moline 1	Niksta 1
Leah Cotterell and Jamie Clark 1	Matthew Fagan 2	Noel Gardner 3
Leaping Lizards 2	Maureen O'Brien 7	Nood Uit Gang (The) 1
Leigh Sloggett 1	Maurie Mulheron 2	Nougat 2
Leroy's Layabouts 1	McMahon and Short 1	Nyalgodi - Scotty Martin 1
Lil' Fi 1	Mei Lai Swan 1	O'Donnells (The) 1
Lime and Steel 1	Melbourne Scottish Fiddle Club	Okapi Guitars 1

- O'Leary & Hildebrand 1
 Paddy Conno lly with Colin Smiley and Friends 2
 Pam and Norm Merrigan 1
 Paris Dreaming 1
 Parissa Bouas 1
 Pastance 1
 Pat Drummond 3
 Pat Drummond and Karen Lynne 2
 Paul Lawler and the Just Desserts 1
 Paul Robert Burton 1
 Paul Robert Burton's Band of Gypsies 1
 Penelope Swales 1
 Penny Davies and Roger Lott 9
 Penny Larkins and Carl Pannuzzo 1
 Pete Hawkes 7
 Pete Hawkes and Phil Emmanuel 1
 Pete Lashley 1
 Pete McMahon 1
 Peter Baxter 1
 Peter Campbell 2
 Peter Christie 1
 Peter Franche 1
 Peter Harvey 2
 Peter Mace 1
 Phil & Trudy Edgeley 1
 Phil Bates 1
 Phil Edgeley 1
 Phyl Lobl 1
 Platform 9 34 1
 Pluckers (The) 1
 Poachers (The) 2
 Pons From Oz 3
 Psallite 1
 Queen Juanita and the Zydeco Cowboys 1
 Rachel Dillon 1
 Raelene Bruinsma 1
 Rafe Morris 1
 Ragged Band (The) 1
 Raglan Road 1
 Rare Treats 1
 Rattlers (The) 1
 Raw Honey 1
 Rebecca Moore 3
 Rebecca Wright 1
 Red Crow 1
 Rendall Wagner 2
 Reynardine 1
 Rhiannon and Monique 1
 Rhonda Mawer 1
 Rhymer From Ryde 2
 Rhythm Hunters (The) 2
 Ricketty Bridge 1
 Rincewind 1
 Roaring Forties (The) 3
 Robbie Long 1
 Robyn Archer 1
 Roman Astra 3
 Rose Bygrave 2
 Rose Bygrave and Michael Letho
 Rose Turtle Ertler 1
 Rosie Ann Paul Trio (RAPD 1
 Rosie Burgess 1
 Ross Ryan 1
 Rough Red 5
 Round Mountain Girls 2
 Roy Charles Abbott 1
 Ruby for Lucy 1
 Ruth Hazleton and Kate Burke 3
 Sacred Earth 1
 Sadie & Jay 2
 Sal Kimber and the Good Ole' Boys 1
 Sam Burke and the Wifeys 1
 Sameera 1
 Sancha & the Blue Gypsies 1
 Sandro Donati and La Banda di Sandro 1
 Saoirse 1
 Sarah Jane Spillane with Soular Spill 1
 Sayon Square 2
 Selalu 1
 Selkies (The) 1
 Senor Cabrales 1
 Sensible Tom 1
 Shades of Brindle 1
 Shawn Lidster 2
 Sheehan, Smith and Sheehan 1
 Shekel & Hide 1
 Shimhor 1
 Shiny Bum Singers 1
 Silvia Entcheva 1
 Silvia Entcheva Trio 1
 Simon Nield 2
 Skirl 1
 Skorba 1
 Slightly Off 1
 Solidarity Choir 2
 Soursob Bob 4
 Spondooli Brothers 1
 Spooky Men's Chorale (The) 1
 Spoot o' Skerry 1
 Springtide 1
 St Elmo 1
 Stanley Greenthal 1
 Steve and Marjorie Gadd 1
 Steve and Rosalind Barnes 2
 Steve Bevis 2
 Steve Case and the Common Trees 1
 Steve Tyson & the Train Rex 1
 Steve Tyson 2
 Steve Williams 1
 Stormcellar 3
 Strathmannan 1
 String Contingent (The) 1
 String Theories 1
 Stringbeans (The) 1
 Stringybach 3
 Sundowners (The) 2
 Swoon 1
 Sydney Balalaika Orchestra 1
 Tabasco Tom Rogerson 1
 Taliska 1
 Tamarisque 1
 Tamas Wells 1
 Tangocentric 1
 Tapestries of Sound 1
 Tecoma 1
 Tehai 1
 Telenn Tri 2
 That's That 1
 The Streets of Forbes - Various Artists 1
 Thomsons (The) 1
 Tibet2Timbuk2 1
 Tiffany Eckhardt 7
 Tiffany Eckhardt and Dave Steel 1
 Tin Shed Rattlers (The) 1
 Tolka 1
 Tom Bolton 2
 Tom Richardson 1
 Tomas Hamilton and Naven Road 1
 Tony Eardley 1
 Totally Gourdgeous 2
 Touchwood 2
 Tracey Roberts 5

Traditional Graffiti 1
 Triantan 1
 Triple Aspect 1
 Troubadour Tracks 1
 Trunk Road 1
 Tulca Mor 3
 Two Bees (The) 1
 Two Girls Will 1
 Urban Chiefs (The) 1
 Urban Excent rics 2
 Urban Gypsies 1
 Us Not Them & Friends 1
 Us Not Them 1
 Usual Suspects 1
 Van Sereno 1

Vanessa Craven & Lunar Dust 1
 Vanessa Craven 1
 Vardos 1
 Various - Australian
 Contemporary Blues 1
 Various Artists 21
 Veli Toprak and Andy Busuttill
 Velvet Sledgehammer 1
 Vic Manuel 1
 Vincent Brophy 3
 Walters and Warner 1
 Warralakin 1
 Warren Fahey 4
 Warren Fahey and Luke Webb 1
 Watling & Bates 1

Waveney 1
 Wayward 1
 Waywood Folk 1
 Wendy Ealey 1
 Wendy Holman 1
 Wheelers and Dealers 1
 Wheeze and Suck Band 4
 Wise Family Band
 Wongawilli 7
 Wyatt Moss-Wellington 1
 Yellow Monday 1
 Yhan Leal 1
 Yours Truly 1
 Zulya 2

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Festival Directory

See pages 76-77 for more information on how you can have your festival listed in this Directory. Entry is free to subscribers.

Most of the festivals in this directory also have a separate entry at www.Trad&Now.com where you will find the latest advertisement for that festival and any published previews and reviews.

AUGUST

NSW - Sydney Folk Festival (92-166)

A World of Music in the Heart of the City to be held on 15-17 Aug, 2025. Join the e-News list: www.sydneymusicfestival.com.au
Ph: 0427 958 788
See WWW.tradandNow.com/festivals for more detail

SEPTEMBER

NSW - Folk by the Sea (17-173)

Annual event based in beautiful Kiama on the south coast of NSW and held on 22-24 Sept.
35 acts in venues within walking distance of each other.
Ph: 1300 887 034
WWW.FolkByTheSea.com.au
See WWW.tradandNow.com/festivals for more detail

NSW - Irish & Celtic Music Festival (2315-169)

Annual event held on the 3rd week of Sept celebrating the arts across traditional Celtic and Australian music, poetry, spoken word and dance.
Enjoy Celtic markets, performances, crafts, exhibitions and buskers.
Ph: 0429 608 566
Janno499@Bigpond.com
See WWW.tradandNow.com/festivals for more detail

Qld - OzManouche Festival (2290-169)

Festival celebrates jazz manouche and is held on the last weekend in Sept annually in Brisbane. The festival presents concert performances and

masterclasses featuring Australian musicians and international guests.
Ph: 0418 113 7831
info@ozmanouche.com

WA - Manjimup Bluegrass & OldTime Music Weekend (2126-175)

Annual bring your instruments weekend and learn from and jam with professional and amateur bluegrass and old-time musicians – make music and friends.
Sept long weekend.
info@ManjimupBlueGrass.com
www.manjimupBluegrass.com

OCTOBER

NSW - Kangaroo Valley Folk Festival (1873-170)

A 3 day celebration of music, poetry and dance in Australia's most beautiful valley on 20-22 Oct
www.KangarooValleyFolkFestival.com.au
See WWW.tradandNow.com/festivals for more detail

NSW - Dashville Skyline (2313-170)

Long weekend annual folk/country festival near Maitland.
Mail@Dashville.com.au
www.Dashville.com.au

NSW - Dorrigo Folk & Bluegrass Festival (2212-169)

Dorrigo comes alive with 3 days of concerts, workshops, dance, jamming, impromptu performances and children's entertainment. 27-29 Oct.

Features some of the very best performers in the Folk, Bluegrass and Old-Time genres.

Festival@DorrigoFolkBluegrass.com.au
www.DorrigoFolkBluegrass.com.au
See WWW.tradandNow.com/festivals for more detail

NSW - Wingham Akoostik Music Festival (1955-169)

The festival brings a burst of activity to the mid-coast for three brilliant days on Wingham Showground with on-site camping and walking distance to town centre.
Three day event on the third weekend Oct.
hello@akoostik.com.au

SA - Fleurieu Folk Festival (1134-169)

An annual three day family friendly multi-staged event set in the historic township of Willunga SA
admin@fleurieufolkfestival.com.au
See WWW.tradandNow.com/festivals for more detail

Vic - Out on the Weekend (2348-169)

Annual Americana extravaganza highlighting amazing local and international artists at Seaworks, Williamstown on Oct 14.

Denise@LovePolice.com.au
See WWW.tradandNow.com/festivals for more detail

Qld - Tablelands Folk Festival (1310-164)

Held on 4th weekend at Yungaburra near Cairns. Presents music of all origins and genres, and spoken and written word, dance, environmental awareness, well being and education.

President@
TablelandsFolkFestival.org.au
See WWW.tradandNow.com/festivals for more detail

NOVEMBER

Vic – Maldon Folk Festival (1323-169)

Annual intimate four day festival always held over the weekend before Melbourne Cup Day, continuing into the Mon.

Maldon is a historic, National Trust Classified township.

Quality folk, bluegrass, a little jazz, and a little blues music, and dance and interactive workshops at affordable prices.

Ph: 0421 643 478

www.maldonfolkfestival.com
See WWW.tradandNow.com/festivals for more detail

NSW – Northern Beaches Music Festival (1700-166)

Sydney's only World folk music festival held in the Northern Beaches area. Annually on the first weekend of Nov.

WWW.

NorthernBeachesMusicfestival.org

See WWW.tradandNow.com/festivals for more detail

Vic – Mountaingrass (1569-164)

For over 30 years players and lovers of Bluegrass & Appalachian Old Time Music have gathered in November in the high country of Victoria, near the NSW border.

Presented by Australasian Bluegrass & Old Time Music Assoc. on the 3rd November weekend in beautiful Bright.

Info@ABOTMA.org.au
See WWW.tradandNow.com/festivals for more detail

NSW – Majors Creek Festival (1594-166)

A well-known, family friendly event with an interesting and exceptional line up of performers held in a delightful rural village annually on the second weekend.

Majorscreekfestival@gmail.com

SA – Wirrina Bluegrass & Acoustic Roots Festival (2314-169)

Acoustic music festival (Nov 22-24) within a few hours' drive from Adelaide held on the 4th full weekend in November.

Music camp 19-24 Nov.

Ph: 0428 263 795 (Text preferred)

WirrinaBlueGrass@Gmail.com

See WWW.tradandNow.com/festivals for more detail

Qld - Maleny Music Festival (2330-169)

Folk, country, blues, poetry, sessions, camping, stalls, bars, street performers.

Ph: 0492 076 881

Mail@MalenyMusicfestival.com

DECEMBER

NSW – The River Folk Festival (1571-165)

3 day music Festival held in Warburton, Vic, celebrating the diverse creativity and culture of the area, showcasing local, national and international acts.

Held annually, 1st week Dec

Info@TheRiverFolkFestival.com

Qld – Woodford Folk Festival (2329-166)

Australia's biggest Folk Festival held annually from Dec 27 until January 1 inc.

Also produce The Planting, Lake Gkula Camping & Festival of Small Halls.

Reception@Woodfordia.com

www.Woodfordia.org
See WWW.tradandNow.com/festivals for more detail

JANUARY – 2025

NSW – Illawarra Folk Festival (1950-165)

NSW's largest folk festival includes the sounds of folk, indie, world, roots, bluegrass, Balkan and Celtic music as well as poetry, comedy and dance.

Held at the Bulli Showground in mid January.

Ph: 1300 887 034

info@IllawarraFolkClub.org.au

See WWW.tradandNow.com/festivals for more detail

NSW – Numeralla Folk Festival (968-177)

A free, homespun festival in the beautiful Numeralla Valley where the rivers meet.

Held around the Australia Day weekend.

Music, dance, poetry and relaxing by the rivers.

Fran.Numeralla@Gmail.com

Tas - Cygnet Folk Festival (2241-165)

Showcases local and international music, dance, poetry, workshops, kids' entertainment and a festival marketplace; set in the breathtaking scenery of Tasmania's Huon Valley.

2nd weekend of Jan each year.

info@cygnetfolkfestival.org

See WWW.tradandNow.com/festivals for more detail

Vic - Newstead Live Music Festival (2269-169)

A celebration of traditional and original folk and acoustic music and spoken word, including kids' shows and sessions around the town.

Held in a welcoming village in Central Victoria on the last weekend in January.
newsteadlive@gmail.com

See WWW.tradandNow.com/festivals for more detail

FEBRUARY

Qld – Agnes Blues, Roots & Rock Festival (2026-165)

Three days in mid Feb of music in the town of 1770 in the deep south of the Great Barrier Reef.

All weather event.

Info@AgnesBluesandRoots.com.au

www.AgnesBluesandRoots.com.au

MARCH

NSW – Cobargo Folk Festival (2328-169)

An annual festival event since 1996 (Covid excepted).

Held on the first weekend of March.

ZenaJArmstrong@Gmail.com

NSW – Blue Mountains Music Festival of Folk, Roots, Blues (1128-166)

Annual Folk festival in Katoomba held in mid March. Has around 40 acts with around 15 international artists on 7 stages over 3 days.

info@BMFF.org.au
www.BMFF.org.au

SA – Penola Coonawarra Acoustic Music Gathering (1206-165)

Three day feast of music emphasising original music.

Fabulous facilities with camping among the vines. Held weekend before the long weekend.

PCMUSICGathering@Gmail.com

www.PCMUSICGathering.com.au

Vic – Port Fairy Folk Festival (100-169)

Established in 1977 and has grown to become one of the highest regarded festivals both in Australia and on the international

festival circuit.

Has won numerous awards and is inducted into the Australian National Tourism Hall of Fame.

Held on the March long weekend every year.

Admin@PortFairyFolkFestival.com

Vic – Lake Bolac Eel Festival (2364-168)

Biennial festival held in Autumn to reflect the traditional eel migration.

Family friendly days by the lake featuring live music, art, environment, history and culture.

Festival@EelFestival.org.au
www.EelFestival.org.au

APRIL

ACT – National Folk Festival (1226-163)

The heart and home of folk culture, music, dance and art in Australia, an immersive experience and celebration of all things folk.

Held every Easter, Thursday to Monday, Exhibition Park, Canberra
info@FolkFestival.org.au

NSW – St Albans Folk Festival (1265-169)

Always held on the weekend closest to ANZAC Day and is home to quality traditional and contemporary folk music, sessions, workshops, dance, poetry and children's activities.

www.StAlbansFolkFestival.com.au

AntWoolcott@Gmail.com

Vic – CresFest (1309-169)

Three day celebration of life and music in one of Central Victoria's most picturesque towns, 1.5 hours from Melbourne.

Features great acts and plenty of chances to sing and dance – a folk'n roots festival for all.

JudyTurnerMusic@Gmail.com

Vic – Wimmera Steampunk Festival (2365-165)

Blends Victoriana and imagination.

Set in the 19th Century town of Dimboola, the event is a celebration of the weird and wonderful.

Biennial festival – next held April 12, 2025

[Chan@](mailto:Chan@DimboolalImaginarium.com)

DimboolalImaginarium.com

MAY

Qld – 1770 Festival (1581-165)

Annual event commemorating the landing of Captain Cook on the East Coast at a point now named 1770.

Presented by traditional custodians, the Gooreng Gooreng, they join with locals to share their culture.

Events@DCTC.com.au
WWW.1770Festival.com

JUNE

NT – Top Half Folk Festival (329-164)

Join us from 7-10 June to celebrate the 52nd THFF. Ross River Homestead, Central Australia.

<https://www.facebook.com/tophalffolkfestival>
See WWW.tradandNow.com/festivals for more details

Vic – National Celtic Folk Festival (1331-168)

June 7-11, Portarlington, Victoria

This winter folk festival showcases some of the world's most culturally rich performers.

Held on the June long weekend, the program offers a diverse range of art forms, along with the many interpretations of Celtic and Folk culture within the Australian setting.

Mail@NationalCelticFestival.com

Festival News & Reviews

World-class event promised for Dorrigo

by Bridget Rees



Jacob Jolliff and Michael Daves

The time has come to let everyone know just who is coming to Dorrigo, NSW, this year.

Announcing the final line up is a time for jumping up and down with happiness and trying to put a lid on what possibilities lie in store as far as programming awaits.

It is a process that has its beginnings very early on as performers start to send in their applications, the phone calls, the emails and preferably when you get to see someone in person!

It is a time of magic and inspiration and collaboration which builds into the festival programme that we will present to you in late October.

The performers we have

chosen to join you this year represent our vision to bring you some of the very best in the genres of bluegrass, old-time and folk music.

This is a selection of music that we have found to work very successfully side by side and all mixed up into one pot.

2924 is no exception, with bluegrass aficionados Jacob Jolliff and Michael Daves travelling from New York.

Also from the USA, we are delighted to have High Fidelity, presenting classic bluegrass, and Kolkata-based Indian duo, Grassy Strings, who are sharing their love of bluegrass music across India and beyond.

We are thrilled to announce that Nokosee Fields, a

provocative, significant and capable voice in the North American traditional scene, will bring his trio to the festival and will be tutoring at our 6th Old-Time music school.

Jackson Cunningham from South West Virginia and Australian Kat Mear will join Nokosee as tutors.

If you have ever wanted to immerse yourself in old-time music, the school is a perfect way to do so.

It offers three days of inspiring workshops that share traditional music with a rich and varied heritage.

We are incredibly excited to announce a fantastic lineup of artists, as featured on our poster, including Rain of Animals,

Festival News & Reviews



Grassy Strings

Michael Waugh, The Haystack Mountain Hermits, Wild Thyme, The High Street Drifters, Jordie Lane, Charlotte Le Lievre, The Inadequates and Jumbaal Dreamin, just a small taste of who will be coming.

As you take in the full lineup, imagine what fun it will be developing the program for this year, expect the unexpected!

There are five concert venues, two dedicated workshop venues, a kid's area with a puppet show and creative workshops.

If you have ever wanted to get up on stage and share a few songs, then our blackboard venue is the perfect place to start.

With concerts and workshops running throughout the weekend, you will create lasting memories as you immerse yourself in this world-class event.

We have some incredibly gifted songwriters and performers, so be prepared to be inspired.

The dances are very popular and fun, great for the whole family.

We will have a great selection this year.

If you have ever thought about playing an instrument or wondering how to write a song, there will be a workshop that suits you.

A festival choir and a beginner's bluegrass group are both beautiful ways to participate in the festival, and we will have plenty of lovely food and refreshments.

You can camp on the grounds, where everything is at your fingertips.

Plus, there is the magic of impromptu jams as punters get together to share their music.

It is just a short walk up to the town, where the lovely cafes will be hosting breakfast concerts featuring artists from the festival.

After each festival, we receive wonderful feedback from our patrons, who leave with a deep sense of connection to the music, the friendships made, and the knowledge of how important it is for us to come together to support creative arts and make this world a better place.

Please visit the website at www.dorrigofolkbluegrass.com.au for the complete list of performers, ticket and camping links, and to book for the Old-Time Music School.

We hope you can join us as the hills and valleys resound with music.



Festival News & Reviews

There's much more to a ukulele festival than you think

by Liz Kitney

"If I asked you to pick up a ukulele, it would make you smile", says Liz Kitney, founder of the Central Coast Ukulele Club/Festival.

The Central Coast Ukulele Club has been hosting ukulele festivals on the Coast since 2012.

It's always been a popular community event and has attracted music lovers and families from around Australia and overseas since then.

In a world that often feels chaotic and hurried, there's something undeniably soothing about the gentle plucking of ukulele strings.

Imagine a festival where this calming sound fills the air, accompanied by laughter, music, and a sense of community.

You need look no further than The Central Coast Ukulele Festival held at The Diggers at Entrance, and Gosford, NSW.

The dates are from Thursday September 19 to Sunday September 22.

The Central Coast Ukulele Festival promises to be a celebration like no other.

This festival is inclusive of all genres of music, all cultural backgrounds, it transcends all ages, and musical expertise.

Whether you are a complete

beginner or a seasoned player, this festival welcomes all.

Music has the ability to bring people together and this festival will inspire you to pick up a ukulele and smile, or you can sit back and enjoy over 40 acts and a diverse array of music styles.

Why the ukulele?

It's compact, affordable and seriously fun.

The Central Coast Ukulele Festival satisfies all tastes of music and with the likes of headlining acts, The Nukes from New Zealand, with their original, quirky, brilliant funny songs, to the amazing Connor Wink, a blind ukulele player with a heavenly voice, to the rock legends, Terry Murray and Gillian Eastoe, plus rhymers and poets' breakfast.

There is something for everyone.

It's a chance to witness performances by talented musicians, join in the jams, singalongs, or hone your skills and enjoy a feast for your senses at the many workshops available over the weekend.

A song writing competition is available Sunday afternoon for those inspiring budding writers and composers.

Don't miss your chance to be part of something special and make unforgettable memories

after the final chord has been played.

The festival kicks off on Thursday night, September 19, at the Fun Haus Gosford with the fabulous Nicky Bomba from Melbourne's Ska Orchestra.

Friday night, September 20, is our dinner show, featuring The Nukes and Paul Jonson, all from New Zealand, Terry Murray and Gillian Eastoe, Connor Wink and Shawn O'Friel, Cameron Murray and Mirrabooka.

The Central Coast festival has always been a popular community event featuring a variety of live music all weekend.

Workshops include, Bass, Singing, Artistry, Drums, Ukulele, all levels Harmonica, a song writing competition plus merchandise tables and raffles.

There's a Poet's Breakfast, community collectives, jams, singalong, open mic and much more!

See the full program at <https://centralcoastukuleleclub.com>

Tickets from just \$12 are available at <https://www.trybooking.com/CRIVM>

For more information you can contact us at info@centralcoastukuleleclub.com

See you there and bring the family!





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20-22
SEPTEMBER



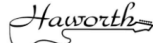
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Festival News & Reviews

Don't miss Eric Avery at Folk By The Sea

by Nick Hartgerink



Festival Director, Neil McCann, is delighted with the 44 acts signed for the 10th annual Folk By The Sea Festival in Kiama, NSW, in September, but there is one act that has him especially excited.

That's Indigenous violinist and singer, Eric Avery (Marrawuy), one of the headline acts for the annual folk festival to be held at Kiama Showground on September 20-22.

"I can't go past Eric Avery as the act that I am most looking forward to seeing perform live.

"He is a unique performer and I think he will give our festival something very special," said Neil, who this year has taken on the Festival Director's role after previously performing regularly at Folk By The Sea with South Coast folk band, The Water

Runners.

A talented and versatile classically-trained violinist, Eric has played with some of Australia's leading orchestras, as well as with prominent artists ranging from Pop Diva Tina Arena to celebrated Chinese-American classical cello player, Yo-Yo Ma.

He works with his family's custodial songs and his haunting compositions often feature him playing violin while singing, predominantly in the Ngiyampaa language.

Other Indigenous acts at Folk By The Sea include the award-winning Shellie Morris and Victorian singer-songwriter, Pirritu.

The 2024 festival will offer a great cross-section of musical styles, from the baritone of "The Black Sea Gentleman" Mikelangelo to talented young

female singer-songwriters like Hedy Blaazer and Isobel Knight, and up-tempo folk bands like Cigany Weaver.

There will also be comedy from festival circuit favourites Glover and Sorrensen, comedian, comic singer and story-teller, Peter Willey, and Illawarra musical comedy duo, Rheinberger and Wilson.

The full Folk By The Sea line-up for 2024 is:

Apolline, Broken Creek, Bruce Watson, Carefree Road Band, Cigany Weaver, Cymbrogi, Eric Marrawuy, Fiddledance, Fred Smith, Glover & Sorrensen, Good Tunes, Hedy Blaazer, Isobel Knight, Jessica Allen, Kelly Brouhaha, Kiama Pipe Band, Kiama Sea Shanty Club, Marco and Rusty, Mariah McCarthy, Mark Martin, Mikelangelo, Penny Davis & Roger Ilott, Penny Hartgerink, Peter Willey, Pirritu, Rare Birdz, Redfern Shanty Club, Rheinberger and Wilson, Robyn Sykes, Russell Hannah, Santa Taranto Trio, Shellie Morris, Southern Cross Bush Band and friends, Speranza Starburners, Stonybroke, The Bottlers, The Butter Trackers, The Con Artists, The Don't Be Too Polite Girls, The Gleaners, The Go Twos, The Groove, The Other Noonans, The Pie Eaters, and, Tribal Jewels Dance Co.

Ticket information and other details at www.folkbythesea.com.au





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2024



Irish



&

Celtic

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YASS

13, 14, 15 September



irishcelticmusicfestival.com



Festival News & Reviews

Dashville Skyline announces bumper line up for 10th anniversary

By Jo Corbett



Hurray for the Riff Raff

It's going to be one helluva show when Australia's very own Cosmic Country Weekender, Dashville Skyline, celebrates its 10th anniversary this NSW October Long Weekend.

The festival has just announced 16 more acts who will be joining the already stellar class of 2024.

Included is an exciting collaboration with MusicNSW, where two regional NSW acts will join the festival line up as the final stop on the MusicNSW-supported 'Golden Highway'

regional tour.

Please welcome as part of the second announcement: soul country powerhouse Emma Donovan; the eclectic, esoteric, Ella Hooper from Killing Heidi fame; a big hell yeh for Tamworth alt-country party boy Andy Golledge; well swung two-steppin' country outfit James Ellis & The Jealous Guys; raucous Austin based Buck Owens tribute band Buck N Stuff (US); loveable Aussie larrikin Watty Thompson; rising indie folk singer Camille Trail, the incredible Americana vibes of Jeb Cardwell & The Dream Deal; local bluegrass legends Good

Corn Liquor; western swing pros Hunter Valley Ramblers; sexy angsty folk prowess of Kingsley James; and, the deep-end flow of local Andy Abra & The Big River Band.

Oh! and how could we forget the incredibly fun and virtuosic talents of the biggest band to ever hit the stage at Dashville, the Dashville Progress Society.

These acts will join one of Australia's greatest, Ross Wilson with his killer band The Peaceniks playing mega hits from the Daddy Cool and Mondo Rock vault.

Already announced are Legendary US act Hurray For The Riff Raff, country rock legends Kingswood, legendary front man from Goanna Shane Howard, local folk ruffian William Crighton, popular up-beat blues trio 19-Twenty, Melbourne spaghetti-western super group The Counterfeit featuring Freya Josephine Hollick, who will also be performing her own set, as is exceptional folk troubadour, Emily Barker.

Other international acts include the psychedelic country excellence of Portland's Rose City Band, Texan legends from Yellowstone fame Uncle Lucius, and UK based folk protest singer, Grace Petrie.

The small music loving team at Dashville are no slouches,

Festival News & Reviews

eloquently and independently showcasing some of the best in Australian alternative folk and country music over the past decade.

Always doing things in their own special way, offering up a magical space to enjoy well-considered festival programs, full to the brim with heart and soul performances from across the country and the world, and this year is no exception!

Held over the October Long weekend, from Friday October 4 to Sunday October 6, on the hallowed 'island in the stream', Dashville, in Wonnarua Country, Hunter Valley, NSW, the festival offers a weekend musical camping experience akin to no other.

Dashville Skyline is a well-orchestrated musical feast which casually meanders its way across a vast open country landscape, with a sky above full of stars and songs and every step below another rabbit hole.

This family friendly camping festival is a favourite for those who like their music a bit more



James Ellis & the jealous guys

laid back, perhaps a bit of cool oozed over their country, or feel in their folk.

The popular festival is chock a block full of amazing live shows from hand-picked artists from around Australia and the

world, with a myriad of artistic collaborations, family activities and laid back old school country inspired fun.

It's a favourite for music purists out there and for anyone looking to discover their next



Shane Howard & band

Festival News & Reviews



Buck N Stuff

favourite band and a favourite for young families looking to get back into an easy camping festival adventure.

Dashville Skyline is a celebration of alternative country music and the surrounding roots culture in its varied forms.

The festival gives music lovers the option to purchase single day tickets, or full event three-day passes.

The ultra-chilled countrified camping festival will host over

40 live performances across three stages.

Savor mouth watering American inspired food and bevies, trawl the boutique vintage market stalls, visit the music history exhibit, join the animal petting zoo, partake in a guitar-and-car show and shine.

These are just a few of the things this great family orientated, long weekend festival offers.

Held at the same location

as The Gum Ball, Dashville Skyline is a popular alternative to its predecessor, providing an amazing experience for alt-country music lovers and those who like to partake in an ultimate weekend escape, full of laid-back music and family fun.

The festival's name derives from that of Bob Dylan's 1968 release, Nashville Skyline, which lends an impression of the vibe of this festival.

It's a celebration of alternative country, its birth in America during the '60s-'70s, the culture that surrounds the music and the evolution that continues to inspire modern-day songwriters.

One of the main spectacles of the festival is the immensely popular Sunset Super Round.

On Saturday at nightfall, artists on the bill merge around the main stage in spontaneous collaboration, to pay homage to their favourite songs of the "golden era".

Tickets for Dashville Skyline 2024 are on sale now at the Dashville Store.



Dana Gehrman



22nd Dorrigo Folk & Bluegrass Festival 25, 26, 27 October 2024

6th Dorrigo Old-Time Music School 23, 24, 25 October 2024



Scan to purchase festival tickets,
school passes and camping.

Presenting:

- Michael Daves & Jacob Jolliff USA
- Nokosee Fields Trio USA
- High Fidelity USA
- Grassy Strings IND
- Kat Mear & Jackson Cunnginham AUS/USA
- Rain of Animals SCOT
- Ashlee Watkins & Andrew Small USA

- Andrea Kirwin & Claire Evelyn
- Apolline
- Charlotte Le Lievre
- Craig Woodward & Kat Mear
- Dorrigo Restrung
- Double Dole Stringband

- Emmy Ryan
- Gallie
- Hannah Day
- Haystack Mountain Hermits
- Jhana Allan
- John Flanagan
- Jordie Lane
- Jumbaal Dreamin'

- The Eight-String Social Club
- The High Street Drifters
- The Inadequates
- Two If By Sea
- Watkins & Montgomery
- We Mavericks
- Wild Thyme

- Lucy Wise
- Lyrebird
- Maggie Rigby
- Marcus & Paul
- Mic Conway & Robbie Long
- Michael Waugh
- Montz Matsumoto & Voicestrings
- Mundy-Turner

- Old Folk
- Pirritu
- Rocky Bottom Girls
- Roman Jean
- Sarah Humphreys
- Shake Shake Theatre
- Steel City Sue
- Sunburnt Celts
- The Dempsey Brothers

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www.dorrigofolkbluegrass.com.au



Festival News & Reviews

Not long to go now

by Janno Scanes



As I write this in mid-July, it is 8 weeks until the CRAIC in Yass begins.

There has been much planning gone into the 2024 festival, albeit with some anxiety.

As many of you know, life in general is not as easy as we would like it to be.

The 'Irish & Celtic Music Festival' in September on 13th-15th is shaping up to be grand.

The performers chosen are diverse in many ways.

Age, genre, nationality, soloists to groups, some are well seasoned folkies and trads, others finding their feet.

Many of our favourites will return, mixed with exciting

newcomers to our festival.

The well seasoned Bushwackers will bring joy to the festival, bringing talented younger performers to the CRAIC.

Our face book page and website are where you can find the whole line-up of performers.

Local Daniel Kelly plus 'almost locals' Mad Kelpie Playdates will definitely entertain the punters.

Along with musicians, there will be Poets, Dancers, Buskers, workshops and Celtic Markets.

There will no doubt, as usual, be many a good Session in various venues.

The Junior Fleadh will

again be held, encouraging the youthful to keep the traditions alive.

There is no cost to the participants and it is supported by the Irish National Association.

Our focus on youth is a very important aspect of our festival.

There is so much evidence to show how important the arts are for all of us.

Come to Yass and marvel at our historical venues and enjoy the colourful decorations of the town.

Tickets are available on the website through Humanitix.

Let's keep this regional festival keep on keeping on.



Festival News & Reviews

Australia's folk festivals coming together in solidarity and sustainability

by Keith Preston

More than 40 of Australia's folk festivals from every state will be represented at a conference in Melbourne on September 28 and 29.

NZ's Auckland Festival is also being represented, giving the conference an ANZAC element.

Australia's folk festivals are an important part of the fabric of cultural life in Australia and include major festivals such as Woodford, Port Fairy and the National Folk Festival through to the myriad of regional festivals such as Illawarra, Maldon, Dorrigo, Townsville and many, many more highly regarded regional and grass roots music festivals.

At a time when music festivals face a myriad of challenges, the Australian folk movement is coming together to support and network in order to ensure the ongoing sustainability of our important festivals.

Many of Australia's Folk Festivals have been running for 30+ years and they program a wide variety of music, dance and cultural expression.

Musically, you will experience Blues, Bluegrass, Country and Americana through to Celtic, World Music, Acoustic Singer-Songwriters, Choirs, Ensembles, Youth and Children's artists and everything in between.

The key elements of folk festivals are the focus on participation, access, community, traditions and community heritage, collaboration, diversity

and sharing music and culture.

For many Australian communities, the annual folk festival is an important arts, tourism, community and social event.

Many leading acts start their journey in music in the folk scene and at our festivals.

Folk Alliance Australia has convened this conference to bring this sector of the music, arts and community festivals together to look at the sustainability of our festivals and specifically at ways we

can raise skills and knowledge, collaborate, attract resources, build our cultural capacity, grow and attract audiences and continue our unique role in the musical and cultural life of Australia.

The conference will be held at the Abbotsford Convent Arts Centre in Abbotsford, Melbourne.

It will be presented by Folk Alliance Australia and supported by Creative Australia.

Participation is by invitation or request.



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+ check out our website for the amazing ukulele bands, duo's,
and collectives performing over two days!

Program available soon on our website:
centralcoastukuleleclub.com

Diggers



Festival News & Reviews

St Albans Folk Festival 2024

Photos by Peter Campbell



Anousha



Black Joak Morris



Fagans



Felicity Dowd



Fred Smith



Water Runners

Festival News & Reviews



Kejafi



Macbeth



Meshky



Martin



Campsite



Stalls

Festival News & Reviews

Bony Mountain Folk Festival

by Norma Murphy



Tyrone

Bony Mountain Folk Festival is a delightful little Festival held from September 20 to 22 on Queensland's Darling Downs, a bushland setting on 50 acres surrounded by wildlife, even koala and wallaby.

Immerse yourself for a wonderful experience.

Our program is an exciting one again this year.

Lots of fresh faces, new ideas, a new feature artist in our gallery and new stalls.

Our Camp Oven team are returning, we know you love the Camp Oven cooking.

Our big new marquee, all undercover, was much appreciated.

We love to spoil our crowd.

We have some great bands over the weekend including Celtic, Country, Folk, Bluegrass, Songwriters, Bush Poets, even a dance group.

Steve Passfield, one of the best soundmen in the business, returns.

He's also a very fine performer!

We are planning on quite a big Dance program featuring International and Traditional Dance.

There'll be fire twirling, some vintage cars and a great line up of artists.

Visit our Bazaar, with boutique coffee, pre loved clothes and

Festival News & Reviews

much more!

Our Ukulele School runs all week.

Bookings are open now on our web site and early bird prices are available.

Our campfires will be burning, our pipers will be piping.

We invite you all to our big Walk Up program, from Tuesday 17th until Thursday 19th and including Sunday.

This year backing will be available!

BYO chairs and doggies are welcome on leads.

Our great tucker team are on the ready with fillet steaks, hot chips, fish and chips, Camp Oven dinners, ice cream, Kickin' Chicken wings, chicken tacos and much more!

Our Boutique Coffee will be available from Wednesday.

Do come & join us for our



little Festival in the bush.

It was voted in the top ten of

the most popular festivals!



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Three full days of music tuition, jamming & fun!

Join other players of stringed instruments in tuition from experienced tutors. Daytime classes, evening jams. Suitable for adults and older teens with some skills. Family groups welcome! Improve your skills and learn new styles in guitar, fiddle, mandolin, banjo.

Located at Wirrina Cove Holiday Park, on the beautiful Fleurieu Peninsula of South Australia.

Accommodation: Camp on-site or book other holiday accommodation nearby.



Wirrina
Bluegrass
Festival
© Acoustic Roots

Camp dates

Tues 19 —Thurs 21
November, 2024

Festival dates

Fri 22 —Sun 24
November, 2024

Interested?

For further info and to register your interest please email:

wirrinabluegrass@gmail.com

Stay on for the Wirrina Bluegrass & Acoustic Roots Festival: Fri 22–Sun 24, Nov. 2024

Festival News & Reviews

Newport Folk Festival 2024

Photos by Bill Field and Michael Costa



Festival News & Reviews



Festival News & Reviews

Wirrina Music Camp and Festival are the go to events in SA this year

by Thea Taylor



The Cartwheels

Get ready for an intense 3 days in South Australia.

Tuesday November 19 through to Thursday November 21 is music camp, followed by the 12th Wirrina Bluegrass & Acoustic Roots Festival which opens on Friday November 22.

We're particularly planning this year to improve and provide more learning opportunities throughout the week, in addition

to the scheduled classes.

We do welcome hearing from you about what else you'd like the camp week to contain.

How can we help you pack the most into your time with us?

Planned instruments are mandolin, fiddle, guitar, banjo, uke.

We may have options for anything else (eg bass, or something different), if enough of you ask for it and are willing

to commit and pay so we can confidently book a tutor and venue space!

We're so excited to announce that Golden Guitar winners, The Cartwheels, Wendy Phypers, Dave Patterson, and Pete Fidler, are appearing at our festival this year.

These folks are marvellous, with real high energy original bluegrass, swing and string band music.

Listening to their albums feels just like being in the sitting room with them as they play.

I remember hearing them at the Yarra Junction Fiddlers' Convention.

I was utterly captivated, distracted from whatever I was doing at the time (that does seem to happen at Yarra Junction regularly), and just had to sit and listen outside the Rec Hut with my co-operative young retriever.

There's no space left inside when the Cartwheels are playing and besides, tails might get stepped on with all the crowds and dancing.

And we're poised for more announcements.

By the time any of you are reading this, we will have a few more names on our web page for performers and tutors, so please go read about it there. www.wirrinabluegrass.com.

Festival News & Reviews

In the folky tradition, the construction and maintenance of our web site, like leaflet delivery, radio interviews and so on, is done on a voluntary basis.

Jacquie from Red Ripple Design has contributed her personal time for about 5 years now in building and maintaining a site, and dealing with some of the modern world's problems in keeping it there for you to see, particularly this year.

Like all the rest of you who use your technical skills to keep the folk arts and traditions in touch with as many as possible, this work is much appreciated.

This year we repeat the Wirrina Young Musicians Contest, which is for musicians under 18 in instrumental (string) and vocal categories (traditional music).

More details at www.wirrinabluegrass.com

Taking place during the festival weekend, the contest is open to all under 18s, including any who have attended the camp.

Young musicians are also welcome at the 3 day camp.

We invite families with children or teenagers to make contact.

Remember, if we don't hear from you, we don't know what you need!

There are options for family payment to reduce the cost of bringing a family; please let us know and we can discuss how to make it happen for you.

To run the camp, we must have enough committed enrolments to pay tutors properly and in a timely manner.

We need minimum numbers by the end of September to be sure that we can actually run each class.

If you know someone who

might want to come (or send students), please do share this with them, and invite them to get in touch.

No question is the wrong question, particularly if it's about encouraging people further in their music life.

As always, please do contact us with any questions

Email is best if you can, wirrinabluegrass@gmail.com, or TEXT 0428 263 795 (text preferred, but you can leave a message and someone will call back).

DASHVILLE SKYLINE
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4th - 6th OCTOBER 2024

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How dancing builds resilience

by John Elder



There's new evidence that dancing is great for your mental health, and for sociability.

Evidence further supports the idea that dancers are happier and less troubled people than non-dancers.

This is the case for professional, recreational, and perhaps even lounge room dancers.

Moving to music, as previously reported, may be the best exercise for mental health and for preserving cognitive function.

This doesn't mean that dancers have no problems or down days.

They just bounce back better.

This is the essential finding

of a study from the Max Planck Institute for Empirical Aesthetics (MPIEA) in Frankfurt, Germany.

Dancers are less neurotic than people who do not dance.

They are also more agreeable, more open and more extroverted.

The researchers analysed data from 5,435 people from Sweden and 574 people from Germany.

Participants included dancers and non-dancers.

In Sweden, the research team was able to rely on an existing database that included data about peoples' creative engagement and dance achievements.

To collect dancer data in Germany, the researchers developed an online survey that

was widely shared by dance institutions.

They were looking at what's known as the Big Five Personality Traits.

These are openness, conscientiousness, extroversion, agreeableness and neuroticism.

Scoring high on the first four is usually a positive, although unbridled extroversion can be exhausting.

Scoring high on neuroticism though, suggests difficulty with coping with what life throws at you.

What does it mean, to be neurotic in the first place?

And less neurotic?

The term neurosis, around since the 1700s, was made famous by that compulsive pipe smoker, Sigmund Freud.

According to modern-day followers of Freud, the father of psychoanalysis, neurosis is a condition caused by past anxiety, a fear that has often been repressed.

For example, you might have wet the bed as a kid or have been yelled at too many times.

Since then, you've grown up, and have since tainted every day living with the unconscious fear of once more soaking the sheets.

Non-Freudian psychologists regarded neurosis as a condition that amounts to not coping well with everyday life.

Neurosis involves symptoms of stress, such as anxiety, obsessive behaviour and hypochondria.

Dancers scored better on all the positive traits, suggesting that in the main, they're friendlier and easier to get along with than non-dancers.

Previous research had found that musicians were more agreeable and more open to

others, except maybe their bandmates when they've been on the road too long, but not necessarily less neurotic.

Dancers were, however, less neurotic.

How can it be explained?

Studies suggest that dancing is the best exercise for your mood and your thinking.

University of Sydney researchers have found that dancing, particularly structured dancing in a class for example, can be successfully prescribed to "significantly improve psychological and cognitive health outcomes equivalent to other forms of structured exercise interventions".

A six-week intervention is all it takes, they found.

"Preliminary evidence suggests that dance may be better than other physical activities to improve psychological wellbeing and cognitive capacity," said lead author, Dr Alycia Fong Yan, from

University of Sydney's Faculty of Medicine and Health and Sydney Musculoskeletal Health.

"These findings were not just seen in older adults, but also younger populations and people with clinical conditions as well."

She said that "learning dance sequences may challenge cognition, partnered or group dance may benefit social interactions, and the artistic aspect may improve psychological wellbeing".

The benefits of dance don't end there.

Dancing might be the menopausal woman's best friend.

A 2021 study from Brazil (home of the saucy Samba) found that dancing may "effectively lower cholesterol levels, improve fitness and body composition and in the process, improve self-esteem".

These are all issues that can be directly related to menopause.



Dance Directory

**If you are a dance class or dance event organiser and would like to be included in this directory, see pages 76 and 77 for more information.
Directory entry is free to subscribers.**

Australian Historical Dance (840-166)

Specialise in historical and folk dance (Anglo/Celtic/bush).

Research, publications, heritage talks, exhibitions, performances, teaching and dances. Two regular monthly dances in Brisbane (Samford & Arana Hills).

Annual Jane Austen Ball in October.

Ph: 0422 067 392

Heather@

HistoricalDance.au

Australian Social Dance Network (840-166)

Preserves and promotes Australian social folk dance. Free listings for all dance groups.

Ph: 0422 067 392

**Heather.Clarke40@
Yahoo.com**

**www.AustralianSocial
DanceNetwork.com**

Stringfiddle (264-163)

Fiddles and piano – Play for Scottish Country, Ceilidh, colonial and bush dances. Perform concert brackets at festivals.

**Stringfiddle@gmail.
com**

ACT – Monaro Folk Society (2225-167)

Run a variety of folk music and dance workshops and other events in Canberra.

Monday night: Bush Dance Workshop with Bush capital Band.

Tuesday night: Contra dance and band- English Country Dance – alternate weeks

Wednesday night – Irish set dance

**info@MonaroFolk.org.
au**

**www.MonaroFolk.org.
au**

NSW – Bush Music Club (1115-178)

Dance workshops at Pennant Hills, Mondays Feb to Dec except holidays, 7.30pm.

Learn bush dances in a friendly atmosphere.

**BMCMail1954@Gmail.
com**

NSW – Sydney English Country Dancers (2194-176)

Group aims to teach and learn traditional and contemporary English

country dances.

4th Saturday, Strathfield.

ChristineTherese

Miller@Gmail.com

**www.SydneyEnglish
CountryDancers.org.au**

SA - Australian Traditional & Bush Dance Society (553-169)

Have fun and stay fit with a group of singles and couples who enjoy bush and folk dancing and other social activities. Meets late January to mid-December - 2nd, 4th & 5th Tuesdays, 7.30 - 9.30pm, Prospect Town Hall, 128 Prospect Rd (cnr Vine St), Prospect.

enquiries@

atbdsdancesa.com.au

http://www.

atbdsdancesa.com.au/

Vic – Victorian Folk Music Club (1471-168)

Family dance 1st Sat; Concerts 2nd Tues; Sessions every other Tues.

Enquiries@VFMC.org.

au

EXAMPLES, AND CASTS.—Extreme caution should be shown in regard to printed examples. Fortunately, the representation of the

FOLK FORUM

Festival loss blamed on change of direction

I've just heard that the National Folk Festival made a very substantial loss on its last event, yet the duo responsible for this calamity retain the Board's confidence.

What did this duo inherit?

A festival that has been multicultural for over thirty years.

A concert program so left wing you'd think the audience were all wearing red shirts.

A full, noisy, smoke-free session bar where beginners were welcome.

A complex and varied dance program from which none were ever excluded.

A poetry program in which,

Letters to the editor welcomed. See page 3 for address and contribution conditions. Opinions expressed are those of the writer and not necessarily those of the magazine

under the present tutelage, almost no traditional material was performed.

Yet this was clearly insufficient for this duo, seduced as they have been by Critical Mass Theory.

They obviously think that previous National Folk Festivals had too many old straight white people having too much old straight white people fun, and that if they didn't stop this, all their friends would cancel them.

Previous National Folk Festivals even used to feature performers from different States to reflect that the event had not always been held in Canberra, but perhaps this duo are too young to remember that.

Note to the Board: If the National Folk Festival dies, it will not be a murder, it will be a suicide.

Cameron Ritchard,
Harris Park, NSW

Trad and now

www.tradandnow.com

Did you know that the world's largest range of Australian recorded folk music and related genres available for sale is featured on the Trad&Now website, www.tradandnow.com ?

Quantities of many hundreds of titles, collected for nearly 20 years from performers around the country, are there for you to choose from. If you want to hear something that you recall fondly from a performance on a stage, at a club or at a festival, it's very likely to be still available for purchase from the website.

If it's out of stock, we will try and source it for you from the original performers.

Phone 0410 522 070 or email info@TradandNow.com if you need more specific information.

Performers' Directory

See pages 76 & 77 to see how performers can have their information added to this directory

Alanna and Alicia (1924-170)

Twin sisters Alanna and Alicia sing original folk, jazz songs. Known for their fine songwriting and sweet harmonies they regularly perform around the festival circuit.

0416 546 410
maudeesmail@iinet.net.au

Asleep at the Reel (629-173)

Join the dots between Celtic music and contemporary Australian song in a wonderful melding of Celtic influences and Australian stories.

M.Cryle@UQ.Edu.Au
www.

AsleepAtTheReelBand.com

Barry Skipsey (1575-165)

Singer Songwriter, story teller & deft guitarist from Alice Springs.

Latest album voted traditional Album of the Year at 2023 AFMA.

Skip@BarrySkipsey.com
www.barryskipsey.com

Bruce Watson (217-175)

Multi-award-winning singer/songwriter whose performances are highly entertaining as well as moving.

Bruce is a regular at festivals and is a folk icon.
jandbwatson@gmail.com
www.brucewatsonmusic.com

Cameron Jones (2290-169)

Guitarist, composer, festival director and educator

specialising in the percussive rhythms and bright, expressive melodies of gypsy jazz music.

He introduces songs with tales of original time and place and brings a rare depth of understanding and authenticity to his performances.

www.cameronjones.co
cameron@cameronjones.co

See www.TradandNow.com for more info

Carl Cleves (2368-165)

Singer, songwriter, author, musicologist, traveller.

Carl@CarlCleves.com
www.CarlCleves.com
See www.TradandNow.com for more info

Chasing the Moon (2309-166)

Sydney based 6 piece band delivering a feast of hot club swing infused with Latin sounds and a dash of folk and blues.

Regulars at Leichhardt Bowling Club and at Foundry 616.

PPK@ChasingtheMoon.com.au

WWW.ChasingtheMoon.com.au

See www.TradandNow.com for more info

Chloe & Jason Roweth (940-163)

Performing and recording artists of traditional and original Australian music. Regular on-line performances.

0429 911 663
JasonRoweth@me.com

Chris O (222-164)

Singer songwriter based in Tas.

Pens originals and plays vintage music with an acoustic folk, blues and roots flavour.

Plays on lap-slide, banjo, uke and guitar drawing on a lifetime of encounters echoing global traditions.

COKunbor@Hotmail.com

CJ Shaw (2297-169)

ARIA Award nominated musician and educator who has spent 20 years writing, recording and performing songs.

'All Sorts' is his latest album.

CJShawMusic@Gmail.com
www.CJShawMusic.com

Craig Sinclair (2320-164)

Contemporary folk/blues singer songwriter and composer currently based in Sydney.

CraigSinclairMusic@Gmail.com

Enda Kenny (649-168)

Multi-award winning singer, songwriter and guitarist.

Touring nationally and internationally for over three decades.

Professional entertainer. 8 albums.

Ph: 0402 280 430
www.endakennyMusic.com

Evan Mathieson (1773-167)

Singer of songs, builder of

autoharps.

Player of autoharps, guitars, blues harps and the kazoo!

Evan loves to share his wide range of worthy songs, both in performance, and/or leading sessions, from the unaccompanied tradition to Jug/Jazzy/Blues.

www.evanmathieson.com.au

Lyn curates the whaling songs and other insightful writings of folk icon, Harry Robertson.

www.harryrobertson.net

Fred Smith (101-170)

Write songs, cracks jokes.

"Fred Smith is simply the best folk/country musician working in this country" (Bruce Elder, SMH).

0403 816 311

FredSmith100@Yahoo.com

Gary Banks (1967-176)

Australian singer songwriter who lives between Australia and Ireland each year. Released four critically acclaimed CDs since going solo in 2012.

Banks.Gary.K@Gmail.com

Glenys Anderson Duo (314-164)

Award-winning singer-songwriter. She is warm & witty with a great voice. Her songs will move you to tears one minute and make you laugh the next.

0428 329 926

glenys@counsellor.com

Hoya (20-164)

Sydney based quartet made up of Margaret and Sonya Bradford, Gwyn Cleaves and Ian Knight.

Their CD, *Inspirational Women*, includes songs and stories of remarkable Australian women, many of

whom remain unknown.

The CD is an excellent resource for women's studies.

MargieB639@Gmail.com

Ian Dearden (210-164)

Passionate and entertaining singer, songwriter, composer and multi-instrumentalist.

IDearden@icloud.com

Jackie Marshall (1015-168)

Fully independent songwriter, performer, recording artist, writer, producer, composer for experimental and hybrid theatre, mentor, educator and experienced creative project manager with a keen interest in therapeutic applications for music making.

Community@

JackieMarshall.com

John Ralph (1420/167)

Guitar. Mandolin, banjo, voice. Original and traditional music from the UK and Oz played with a contemporary feel but with roots firmly in the tradition.

Ph: 0405 523 144

JohnDRalph@Hotmail.com

Joni Mitchell Tribute duo (2239-166)

Husband and wife duo, Grant and Mary McLean, pay tribute to musical genius Joni Mitchell, presenting a cross section of Joni's music over four decades, intertwined with stories of her life.

Mary_McLean@optusnet.com.au

Kavisha Mazzella (2295-167)

Story telling singer songwriter with songs and tales of immigration and folk stories.

Singing in Italian and

English with audience participation.

Choir and songwriting workshops.

www.Kavisha.com
Kavisha@Kavisha.com

Leigh Sloggett (1843-163)

Singer-songwriter and musician playing blues-roots, contemporary folk and guitar instrumental music.

Contact@LuckyLeigh.com

Maggie Somerville (2238-163)

Singer songwriter who performs regularly at the VFMC as well as various folk festivals.

Performs her own material usually solo but sometimes with others.

Ph: 0429 386 044

Maggies88@Bigpond.com

Mandy Breeze & Doug Kelly (1954-166)

Beautiful 'handmade' traditional music of the British Isles performed on trad and modern instruments – Irish Bouzouki, nyckelharpa, guitar synth, bodhran

0402 685 744

Simplefolk@Soundcolour.com

Mark Lucas and the Dead Setters (1718-169)

Australian roots music, a sense of place.

In singer songwriter Mark Lucas' world, you'll encounter ghosts of the past and yearning spirits of the present, making themselves known in a variety of familiar locales, together with a motley cast of misfits and dreamers who could fit in just about anywhere that there's people and stories to tell.

Info@songsmyth.com.au

Mark Thomann (2343-168)

Writes and performs folk,

country, roots and blues songs.

Mark.Thomann@Outlook.com

See www.TradandNow.com for more info

Mary-Jane Field (2265-168)

Writes and performs songs based on folk music traditions from South America and Australia, drawing on her life there. Also recites her poems and has a collection of short stories and vignettes on offer.

0402 961 329

MJMartha@Optusnet.com.au

Maureen O'Brien (1405-164)

Award winning singer-songwriter, performer, 10 albums recorded, Folk, blues, jazz, comedy.

Also a published author, playwright and stage director / producer.

www.Maureen.com.au

Bookings@Maureen.com.au

See www.TradandNow.com for more info

Mic Conway (568-170)

ARIA Award winning multi-talented performer also known for his work with Captain Matchbox, Circus Oz, ABC for Kids, National Junk Band and more.

**Mic@MicConway.com
www.MicConway.com**

Mollimor (802-170)

Blend Celtic traditional and original tunes and songs with driving, edgy or mellow rhythms to produce a unique and varied sound.

Ph: 0410 080 806

Mollimor.KH@gmail.com

Neil Murray (944-165)

Singer, songwriter available

for tours and concerts.

ClintonP@

TheHarbourAgency.com

Ph: 02 9331 5888

Nerds & Music (425-168)

Original wordy comic songs by Novocastrian nerds led by Clark Gormley.

GormleyClark@gmail.com

New Holland Honey Eaters (2011-168)

Play and sing a wide range of roots music from the old time southern tradition from string bands to jubilee quartet and more.

Stan@StansPage.com

Nick Charles (744-168)

Performs acoustic 5roots and blues guitar instrumentals and songs. Has a 20 album, 40 year career with 13 US tours. Port fairy Artist of the Year and twice winner of the Australian Song Contest.

Pac50@Bigpond.net.au

www.CharlesGuitar.com

Penelope Swales (87-167)

Strong female fuelled contemporary folk.

Punchy, topical material with infectious loopy grooves as well as tender thoughtful songs.

Currently featuring Mal Webb and Kylie Morrihan.

Penelope@

PenelopeSwales.com

See www.TradandNow.com for more info

Penny Davies & Roger Ilott (7892-167)

Acoustic folk duo featuring 12 string guitar, mandolin and harmony vocals.

Original songs and folk songs, songs of substance.

Ph: 07 4683 7184

Restless_Music@yahoo.com.au

Pete & Sue McMahon (249-173)

Full time professional folk and country musicians, bush poets and producers.

Over 80 years' experience in all aspects of the acoustic music industry.

Ph: 0414 319 588

www.PeteMcMahon.com.au

Peter Campbell (1127-166)

Infectious indie-folk that brings audiences uplifting, challenging, vulnerable and often hilarious calls to healing and connection as much as calls to action.

Music@PeterCampbell.au

www.PeterCampbell.au

Phil Bates (2040-167)

Sings traditional and contemporary folk songs with fingerstyle guitar and occasional banjo accompaniment. Based in Newcastle.

Philip.Bates6@Bigpond.com

Ph: 0427 543 474

Rare Treats (2000-199)

Beautiful vocal harmonies in a mixture of rare mostly undiscovered songs, some originals and songs for you to dance and sing to.

Trio with sometimes a fourth member featuring a wide range of instruments including keyboard, banjo mandolin, guitar, ukulele, percussion, slide guitar and mandolin.

0418 649 477

HurleyST@Bigpond.net.au

Ryebuck Band (52-171)

Have been playing for concerts and dances for longer than they would like to admit.

0400 786 494

G.Alex.Bishop@gmail.com

Simple Folk (1954-166)

Trad British and Celtic ballads featuring the singing of Mandy Breeze, trad and modern instrumentals – Irish Bouzouki, nyckelharpa, guitar synth, bodhran
0431 427 898

Simplefolk@Soundcolour.com

Steve Tyson (52-170)

Singer/songwriter, member of Rough Red, has released four solo albums to date, tours and plays solo or with his band The Train Rex.

www.stevetyson.com.au
steve.tyson411@gmail.com

Swing Beans (1623-164)

A 4-piece acoustic swing and western swing band with 2 acoustic archtop guitars, fiddle & double bass & harmony vocals.

Playing regularly around Brisbane, SE Qld.

0402 504 099
Julie.witney@bigpond.com

Ted Egan – (54-165)

An old bushy who talks and sings effectively around his

350+ registered songs.
 Available! **0427 849 555**
Ted@TedEgan.com.au

Traditional Graffiti (2294-165)

Evolved out of the Wheeze and Suck Band, 'The Trads' formed in 2016 and continue their performances of traditional and contemporary roots material.

JMilce@Sherborne.com.au

Tripple Effect (2312-164)

Award winning Newcastle based acoustic trio performing original contemporary folk songs with tight harmonies informed by social and environmental issues as well as songs that speak to the heart.

TrippleEffect.Band@gmail.com

See **www.TradandNow.com** for more info

Vanessa Craven (2059-169)

Award winning musician, performer, poet. Performs solo, duo as 'Lake Mist' and in a band as 'Lunar Dust'. Silky, soulful, imaginative,

mysterious. Originals and covers.

AcousticSessions@Mmnet.com.au
www.facebook.com/VanessaCravenMusic
 See **www.TradandNow.com** for more info

Warralakin (1357-166)

Hear the music, listen to the stories, smell the dust.

Warralakin music is Australian song and verse from the road less travelled.

Ph: 0404 629 125
WarralakinMusic@Gmail.com

Waveney Ayscough (731-167)

Singer songwriter, plays guitar and piano and just released her debut album.

Waveney46@Hotmail.com

For more information on these artists, most have CDs for sale at **www.TradandNow.com** with independent reviews on those CDs included.

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Poetry and the written word

Bush poets at the Bunbury Sea Shanty Festival

by Christine Boulton



WA Bush poets

The WA Bush Poets and Yarn Spinners were lucky enough to be included in the inaugural Bunbury Sea Shanty Festival.

A hearty "Hats off" to Captain Colin Anker and his crew.

This festival was exceptionally well organised, lots of fun and highly inclusive.

We had three local poets, including our organising maestro, Ian Farrell from the Bunbury Bush Poets, Roger Cracknell from Rockingham, Peter Rudolf from Ravenswood (Pinjarra), Greg Joass (Noggerup) and Christine Boulton (Perth).

We performed a wide range of poetry including original works, classics – Banjo and Lawson, Bill Kearns, Peg Vickers and other contemporary poets.

I felt the two hour Saturday morning slot was best received and we all were given positive feedback.

By Sunday afternoon, several people had begun their drive home so we had less of a crowd at the Mission to Seafarer's.

Being a folkie from way back, I was very enthusiastic about our inclusion in this festival and it surpassed all of my expectations.

A friendly volunteer greeted me at the door to the Bunbury Sailing Club.

Although the festival was well attended it was always fairly easy to find a seat.

The opening included a welcome to country by Noongar elder, Dennis Jetta, a welcome from Mayor Miguel and the most beautiful blessing from Father Cotton of the Mission To Seafarer's.

Colin Anker informed us that only one thing was better than a single shanty and that was as many shanties as possible.

This set the tone for the weekend, a celebration of as many shanties and songs of the sea that could be fitted in over the next three days.

If there was repetition, who cared?

We all just kept singing.

Over the weekend, at least 12 shanty groups regaled us with rousing choruses.

There were The Anchormen (Bunbury), The Saltlake Shanty Men (Kalgoorlie), The Lost Quays (Fremantle), She Shants (Fremantle), Salty Sirens (Brisbane), The Original Foc'sl Firkins (Perth area), The Amity Rogues (Albany), Rum Jungle (Geraldton), The Salty Sea Dogs (WA), Stigwood (Bluegrass influenced Shanties – Bunbury), Dunn Bay Wailers (Dunsborough area), The Sunset Coast Shanty Crew (Perth Northern Suburbs) and Rum Skull (WA).

With only one interstate shanty group, you can see that shanty singing is alive and well in WA.

Noticeable absences were the Albany Shanty Men and the Mandurah Mariners Shanty Group.

However, I assumed they were making ready for the Albany Folk and Shanty Festival the following weekend.

The two Shanty Festivals have been moved closer together in the WA school holidays.

This will make it easier for travelling Shanty groups to attend both festivals.

While the Bunbury festival was predominantly a Shanty festival, there were several folk acts from WA.

These included Warralakin, Duality, The Mucky Duck Bush Band, The Mad Tatters Morris, International Dance, Boodji Creek, Spirit of Alba, Phil Beck, Peter Bugden and several others.

Poetry and the written word

Fiona from Spirit of Alba reminded us how important it was to support live music and praised WA's South West for its amazing proliferation of talented artists.

There were also tours of the Marine Rescue Vehicles, a water cannon display, a bush dance, a virtual Pirate Tavern and several other community events.

Sunday lunchtime was the Write Your Own Sea Shanty Competition.

Colin and crew were blown away by the enthusiastic participation.

Most of the Shanty groups wrote a shanty.

The Bunbury writers group had at least four entries.

Sadly, I had to head off to perform, so I missed several entries.

The competition was won by James Culverhouse.

His prize was a recording session in Bunbury.

I didn't hear his entry but I loved the Dunn Bay Wailers' "1, 2, 3 Sheets to the Wind."

Their group includes a couple of young French lads who really engage the audience with their sheer joy of performing.

It is hard to single out individual Shanty groups, as many of the groups were informal and practised weekly at the hotel.

Quality was definitely mixed but all groups delivered their shanties with joy and enthusiasm.

I think the mental health aspect of Shanty singing is vital and evident.

It's sort of like a vocal men's shed.

However, The Original Fo'c'sle Firkins from Perth deserve a special mention.

This was deemed to be their last festival as after 40 years of shanty singing, they are hanging up their vocal chords.

Their four part unaccompanied singing and comic patter was mesmerising.

The noisy crowd became silent whenever they performed.

Their influence, friendship and mentorship of other groups was evident.

They will be sadly missed from future festivals.

The good news for Perth audiences is that there is a special farewell concert planned for October.

If we are lucky, they may also sing at some informal folk events.

Thank you Peter Bugden, Murf (Peter Murphy), Greg Hastings (absent to ill health), Jon and Steve Cope, and all your many members over the last forty years.

Of course, the majority of shanty performers were male.

The shanty groups ranged from four to twelve in number and the wall of sound when the performers sang was fantastic.

Most groups had some instruments, but the human voice reigned powerful and dominant throughout the festival.

There were also several shanties that mentioned place names from WA.

I particularly like one from Geraldton's Rum Jungle that talked of a wreck near Cervantes and Jurien Bay.

The final big sing at the Sailing Club was reminiscent of

folk festivals from the seventies.

The rafters rang.

Each group was asked to contribute a song and they were compiled into a booklet.

While some booklets were passed around, most people accessed the songs by a QR code on their phones.

Very efficient.

One favourite moment of the evening was when Lee (Bill) Shore offered a beer to anyone who wanted to go up and help him with a chorus.

I think he had about 24 shanty folk.

Wonderful.

Attendance at the festival was anticipated at over 400, including the participants.

However, when I was in the shuttle bus, one of the committee said that there had been many door sales and they had reached about 800 attendees.

The Bunbury Sea Shanty Festival grew from Colin Anker's dream.

He began the festival as Captain Colin and was promoted, at its finale, by his committee to Vice Admiral.

Colin and his committee have demonstrated what a small city can achieve with enthusiasm and teamwork.

I wouldn't like to see the festival become much bigger.

However, the good news is that it will definitely go ahead next year.

Well done and thank you Bunbury.

I've already booked my camp site.



Poets Directory

If you are involved with Bush Poetry and would like to be included in this Directory, see pages 76 - 77 for more information.

Directory entry is free to subscribers.

Keith McKenry (22-169)

A leading member of Australia's small clan of folklorists.

An award winning performance poet, his unique amalgam of humour and biting social comment defies stereotype.

FangedWombat@Bigpond.com

Peter Willey (144-168)

A comedian with an arsenal of sharp tongued stories, poems, jokes, original songs and parodies.

His jokes have not been tested on animals. Hilarious!
0411 697 532

Peter@PeterWilley.com.au

Poets at the Petersham Bowlo (NSW) (2289-169)

Open mic soiree – 3rd Thursday. 6.30PM
Poems, short stories, comedy & music.
Free admission.

Facebook: Poets at the Petersham Bowlo Rhymer from Ryde (663-174)

The Rhymer from Ryde's bush poetry is 98% fat free, low in salt, good for your cholesterol and best enjoyed sitting down. In true larrikin style his reciting covers everything from the silly to the serious, traditional, contemporary and original verse. Crowds around the country enjoy his easy going manner and theatrical style of delivery.

Ph: 0419 415 137
TheRhymerfromRyde@Bigpond.com

www.

TheRhymerFromRyde.com

Vanessa Craven (2059-169)

Award winning musician.
Has a published book of poetry.
AcousticSessions@Mmnet.com.au

www.AcousticSessions.com.au

WA Bush Poets (1071-169)

1st Friday 7pm Bentley Park Auditorium, Bentley Park
www.wabushpoets.asn.au/

Albany Bush Poetry Group

Last Tuesday 7.30pm 1426 Lower Denmark Rd, Elleker
Ph: 9844 6606

Bunbury Bush Poets

1st Monday The Parade Hotel, 1 Austral Parade, East Bunbury

PH: 0400 249 243 636
Goldfields Bush Poetry Group

1st Wednesday 7.30pm
Kalgoorlie Country Club
Ph: 0419 943 376

Peel Poetry Group

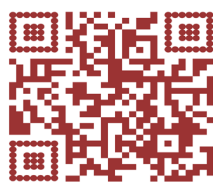
1st Tuesday Ravenswood Hotel
Ph: 0417 099 676

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is a free international streaming service for Australian folk music. It can be heard 24 hours per day, 7 days a week and all music heard was recorded in Australia.



Use the QR code to listen anytime night or day. A constantly updating playlist and any scheduled programming are available on the Trad&Now website.

Trad&Now Live! is ideal for listening to while working, walking, driving or relaxing. It can be heard on your phone, computer, laptop, car radio or any device with internet access.

Bluegrass News



Story and photos by Lindsay Mar



Nokosee Fields fiddles with band Boojum

Manjimup weekend

Manjimup Bluegrass & Old-Time Music Weekend, WA, organisers have announced that their 2024 weekend will be Sep 20-23, on the WA King's Birthday Weekend.

Each year, a band is invited to lead workshops for each of the Bluegrass instruments, and this year the invited band is the Melbourne / Adelaide band, the High Street Drifters, with Justin Vichez, mandolin, Gage Stead, double bass, Mae Traeger, fiddle and Daniel Watkins, guitar.

The weekend will also include a Saturday night concert at the Tall Timbers Brewery and accommodation may be found at the Manjimup Hotel, Manjimup Motor Inn and Manjimup Caravan Park, all of whom will

offer a Bluegrass discount.

The weekend is organised by the Warren Arts Council and see manjimupbluegrass.com for more information and tickets via trybooking.

Dorrigo school news – Nokosee Fields Trio

Dorrigo Old-Time Music School organisers, Oct 23-25, have confirmed that their tutors from the USA this year are the Nokosee Fields Trio (Nokosee Fields, fiddle; Reed Stutz, mandolin & banjo; and, Ryan Nickerson, guitar, vocals) and Kat Mear & Jackson Cunningham (Kat Mear Vic, fiddle player and Jackson of the USA who can teach you anything and everything, including how to build your own instrument).

Nokosee is a fiddler who is new to us, and his bio states that he is the great nephew of Cherokee fiddler, Sam O'Fields, and that Nokosee himself is not only part of many bands, but also a member of the Osage, Creek and Cherokee nations, whose fiddling he performs.

The Dorriggo Old-Time Music School is all about discussing culture as well as the mechanics of playing, so what Nokosee brings to that table is going to be extremely interesting to say the least.

Having watched them perform for a "Focal Point" video via the Dorriggo website, we hope his fiddling will cause some discussion amongst Australian fiddlers.

Nokosee is a big man and



The Dempsey Brothers

uses more bow than most, and with a deliberation and authority that is almost unique amongst fiddlers.

Although the bio claims that he is a fiddler of the Cherokee style, it is clear that Nokosee incorporates ideas from elsewhere, his bowing immediately reminded us of Howdy Forrester and his Grey Eagle quotes voluminously from Texan fiddlers.

Having said all of that, his repertoire is also carefully chosen to suit his style and the incorporation of Reed Stutz's two finger backup and Ryan Nickerson's dare we say, solid guitar style, will hopefully have some minds thinking at the Dorrigo Old-Time Music School and again at the Festival.

Dorrigo Festival news

Organisers of the Dorrigo Folk & Bluegrass Festival, Oct 25-27, in northern NSW, have announced their artist lineup for the event, although final timetabling is still taking place.

For Bluegrassers and Old-Time and Stringband fans, this includes High Fidelity (USA),

Ashlee Watkins & Andrew Small (USA), Michael Daves & Jacob Jolliff (USA), Nokosee Fields Trio (US), Grassy Strings (India), Craig Woodward & Kat Mear, Double Dole Stringband, Haystack Mountain Hermits, Lyrebird, Marcus & Paul, Montz Matsumoto & Voicestrings, Old Folk, Rocky Bottom Girls, The Dempsey Brothers, The Eight-String Social Club, The High Street Drifters, The Inadequates, Watkins & Montgomery, We Mavericks, Wild Thyme.

Festival and camping tickets are now on sale online via dorrigofolkbluegrass.com.au and stall holder sites are still open to applications.

Mountaingrass news

Organisers of Mountaingrass, Nov 15-17, at Bright Vic, have announced the following and we quote: "The full lineup for Mountaingrass 2024 is nearly complete.

"The Committee has selected acts across the wide spectrum of Bluegrass and Appalachian old-time music.

"From traditional old-time tunes we have Nokosee Fields,

Fiddle We Must and Gary Crockett.

"From our old-time legends we have John Boothroyd and the My-T-Fine Trio in Gary Crockett's Acoustic Takeover of the Old Bright Court House Theatre on Sunday, the home-spun tunes of Ross Smithard & The Big Island String Band, the pre-war country blues of Meridian, the country duets of Rhiz, Pete & The Taggin' Along Band, the mix of old-time, vintage country and swing from The Watershed Stringband, the old school bluegrass duets, westerns swing and alt country of The Quarry Hillbillies, Collin Weight's Saturday Afternoon Acoustic Session (also at the Bright Old Court House Theatre), high energy bluegrass from Davidson Brothers and The Borough, ranging to new grass with Marcus and Paul.

"Traditional Bluegrass will be well represented by High Fidelity and Ashlee Watkins & Andrew Small from the US and The Dempsey Brothers from Illawarra.

"Add a dash of Japanese infused Bluegrass with Pete Denahy's Wide Island, the latest

releases from The High Street Drifters and, that's before we add the workshops and jamming.

"Mountaingrass in Bright 2024 will surely fill your cup up to the brim."

Volunteers are still sought to help with wristband checking, raffle ticket selling and bump-out, noting that 6 hours of volunteering can be exchanged for a festival pass.

Audience tickets are now on sale online at mountaingrass.com.au.

Mountaingrass would also like to acknowledge the assistance of Dorrigo Festival's support of the Nokosee Fields Trio.

ABOTMA Songwriting Competition

A question we have pondered for quite some time is whether or not it is possible for an Australian to write a Bluegrass song.

For that matter, given interstate highways, Walmarts, social security schemes, and a



Ashlee Watkins and Andrew Small will return to Dorrigo

high level of interconnectivity via the internet, is it even possible for someone in modern day Appalachia to provide the high-lonesome that defines a Bluegrass song.

But in an attempt to answer the first question at least, there is a new song writing competition being hosted by the same folks that bring you Mountaingrass.

The Australian Bluegrass

and Old-Time Music Association (ABOTMA) is hosting the 2024 Songwriting Competition with entries open now until Aug 31, with the winner (\$500 prize) and runner up (\$100 prize) being announced at the Nov 15-17 Mountaingrass 2024 festival.

Of course, competition rules will apply and these can be found online at Mountaingrass.com.au.

Competition rules include performance guidelines, song structure, recording and publishing stipulations.

Thirroul benefit

The Thirroul Railway Institute Hall at the southern end of Platform 1 at Thirroul Railway Station, NSW, has been the scene of many a concert.

In 2023 there was the Kody Norris Show, and before that, Peter Rowan, Laurie Lewis and Australian bands such as The Company.

Faithfully restored in the 70s, the hall is under the caretaking of TRIPS, the Thirroul Railway Institute Preservation Society.

A benefit concert for the preservation of the hall will be held at the hall itself on Aug 18,



The High Street Drifters play Manjimup, Dorrigo and Mountaingrass this spring



Nokosee Fields Trio - Reed Stutz, Nokosee Fields, Ryan Nickerson

4pm with local Bluegrass bands, The Dempsey Brothers and Meridian.

Other Bluegrass news

The Golden Fiddle Awards are open to nominations via email goldenfiddleawards@gmail.com and winners will be announced on Jan 24 at the Capitol Theatre, Tamworth, during the Country Music Festival, with categories for Best Fiddler, Best Band with Fiddler, Lifetime Achievement and Community Service Award.

Kristy Cox has released her eighth album "Let It Burn", 11 songs, on the Billy Blue Records

label.

The Double Dole String Band host a new, all-inclusive (although we do not know if "inclusive" includes harmonicas and Bluegrass banjos) monthly jam at 6:30pm on the last Sunday of the month at the Retreat Hotel, Brunswick Vic.

Australian artist dates

The Borough, Brisbane's Bluegrass band, play Aug 6 the Brisbane Unplugged Gig, New Farm Bowls Club.

The Go Twos (Rosie McDonald & Nigel Lever) and friends perform Aug 3,

Jerry (Garcia) Day, at the Gumboramorra Hall, Addington Community Centre, Marrickville NSW; Sep 13-15 Irish & Celtic Music Festival Yass, NSW; and 20-22 Kiama Folk By The Sea NSW.

Marco and Rusty (Mark Ballesi and Russell Churcher) are part of the line up at the Sep 20-22 Kiama Folk by the Sea.

Transcription

This month we have the old standard, Liberty, and we wonder what Nokosee might do with it.

Liberty

Traditional



Trad&Now Live! has a one hour Bluegrass and old-timey music hour at 8PM every evening. The music changes every day.

Folk Radio Directory

Attention radio presenters. See pages 76-77 for more information on how you can have your program listed in this Directory. Entry is free to subscribers

Australia Wide – Trad&Now Live!

Free 24/7 streaming service of all genres of Australian folk music recorded in Australia and available for sale from the Trad&Now website.

Available anywhere that has an internet connection.

See a constantly updating playlist and programming information on the website.

Specific genre one hour programs on the even number hours from 4AM to 10PM.

www.tradandnow.com

NSW – Australian Spectrum Show Alive 90.5 FM

A Northwest Sydney radio show with featured artists weekly from the blues, roots, folk, country, instrumental, jazz, surf rock and alternative rock genres.

Broadcasting for over 12 years and streaming worldwide on www.alive905.com.au/

shows/aus-spectrum/
Every Tuesday 9pm-12mn
australianspectrum@gmail.com

NSW - Classic Folk 2NURFM 103.7 Newcastle

Classic songs and emerging artists from the Australian folk scene and around the world.

Presented by Phil Bates and Jane Klein.

Wednesdays 9 – 10 pm

<http://www.2nurfm.com/programs.html?classic-folk>

NSW - Focus on Folk 2MBS 102.5 FM Sydney

Folk Federation of NSW radio show presented by various local performers bringing you their choice in Folk music.

1st Saturday at 5PM for 1 hour

paul.jackson@sumnet.com.au

NSW - Folk 4 U/ 2 Way 103.9FM Wauchope

Australian & overseas folk/ bush, festival & performer updates

Every Saturday 2-4pm

rodworthing1@gmail.com

NSW – Lake Macquarie FM 97.3

Presents a variety of music featuring Australian, Indigenous and overseas artists.

Genres include Celtic, Country, Blues, Folk and Contemporary.

Sunday 9am-noon.

LMFMRadio1@gmail.com

NSW – One of the Folk 92.3FM Bathurst

“Music for Folk” program.

Every Saturday 12-2pm

FestivalofFolk@gmail.com

NSW – Worldwide Folk – VOX FM 106.9

Illawarra Folk Club presents a wide variety of folk style songs and tunes from Australia and beyond.

Every Sat. 2-4pm

RustyBucket@Live.com.au

SA – Radio Adelaide Folk Show 101.5 FM

Presents a selection of Anglo/Celtic, North American and Australian traditional, retro and contemporary folk music.

Presenters include informative notes on tracks played and often invite guest musicians.

5-6.30pm (SA time)

Saturdays. Also on Radio

Adelaide website

Jane.Bower@Bigpond.com

SA – Some Folk 5ZZZ 91.1FM

Eclectic selection of folk music presented every Thursday from 3-5pm ACST from McLaren Vale by David and Julie Cavanagh.

DavCav42@gmail.com

Vic – Mostly Folk, Fun & Friends 94.1FM Melbourne

Focuses on Australian performers in the folk genre featuring music, poetry, artist interviews, folk events and CD launches.

Every Wednesday 6-8pm and streamed on 3wbc.org.au

WBCRFolk@Hotmail.com

Vic - Radio OCR FM 98.3 FM Colac & District

Australian smorgasbord is airs in South Western Victoria. Presenter plays Australian folk and blues artists.

Every Tuesday, 11am-1pm.

(03) 5232 1991

moonlightau@gmail.com

Vic – Southern Style PBS 106.7 FM Melbourne

Presented by Jan Dale live and archived on www.pbsfm.org.au

Bluegrass, Old-Time and some Blues, Cajun and Western Swing.

Tuesdays 1-3pm (AEST)

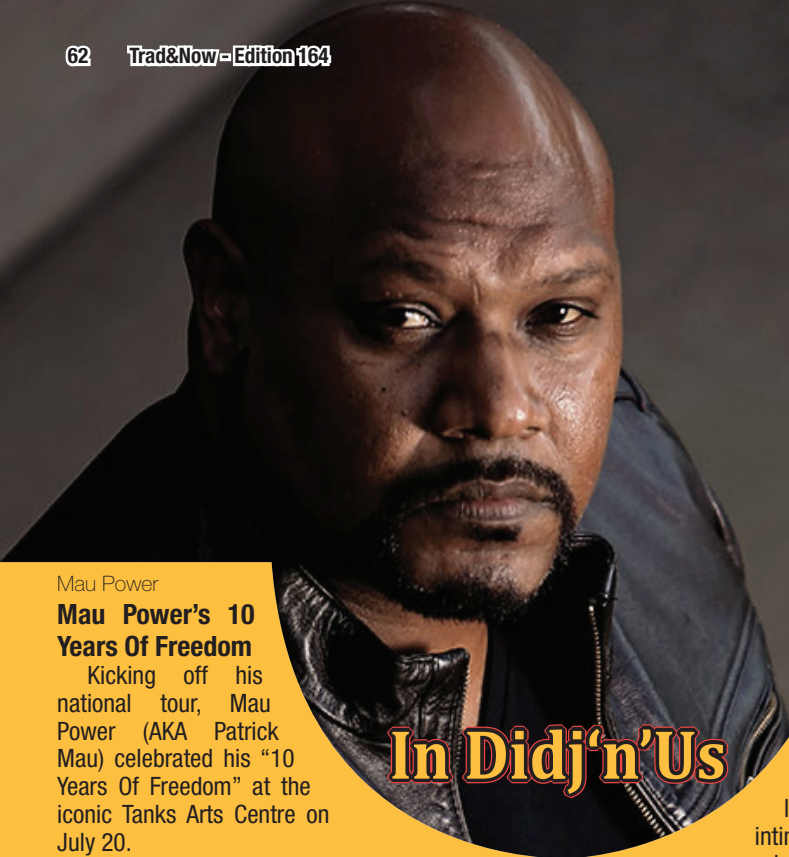
ozbluegrass@gmail.com

WA – Radio Fremantle 107.9 FM

A mix of Australian, International and local WA folk music presented by Frank Hodges.

9-11pm Mondays

www.radiofremantle.com.au



by Pete James Wreford
Dawson

Mau Power

Mau Power's 10 Years Of Freedom

Kicking off his national tour, Mau Power (AKA Patrick Mau) celebrated his "10 Years Of Freedom" at the iconic Tanks Arts Centre on July 20.

As it's the 10th anniversary of the release of his debut album featuring the single 'Freedom', recorded with the legendary Archie Roach, he decided a tour was on the cards.

As well, the release of the latest Mau Power single 'The Gift' from his upcoming album 'Enigma Decoded', need an airing.

An expressive Torres Strait teller of tales from Thursday Island, Mau Power's struggle for redemption and freedom is its own story.

Guided by two cultures, including Blek Bala and Hip Hop, Patrick's music has progressed through the man's own changes in himself and the world around him.

Dan's Blackbird sings

Sold out shows in July at

In Didj'n'Us

Naarm's Hamer Hall celebrating the 10th anniversary of releasing Blackbird, saw Dan Sultan say "see yer" to OZ for a while as he takes his show to London in August.

Dan has made a name as a passionate singer and guitarist, but he also has a sensitive side and has won an ARIA Award for Best Children's Album.

Nali & Friends is his sixth studio album and first for children, Dan having previously performed with The Wiggles and on Play School.

Jungaji's tribute

From deep in the rainforest regions of Far North Queensland comes 'Gummy Bamarra', the first single sung in Gugu Yalanji language, on which Jungaji Troy

Brady pays tribute to his grandsons and the profound impact they have had on his life.

Jungaji elucidated, "They unfortunately lost their father but I know intimately that he guides them and navigates the road for them in the spiritual realm.

"Throughout life, as much as their father is no longer here in the physical realm, there's comfort in understanding that he walks with and hears them.

"All they have to do is call out to him."

As a part of Clancestry, WARRIORS was staged at the QPAC (Queensland Performing Arts Complex) on July 31, featuring Jungaji, Andrew Gurruwiwi Band, J-MILLA and Radical Son, with these world-class artists performing their music and sharing their astonishing mental health journeys woven together with visual recordings.

In 2024, men's mental health continues to be a growing concern, particularly within First Nations communities, where

people experience a higher rate of suicide than their non-Indigenous counterparts.

First Nations males account for seventy five percent of this horrendous problem, with data showing this number is on the rise.

As a man who has had more than his fair share of personal catastrophes, Jungaji explained, "It's a blessing to talk about mental health, the black dog."

"You know its impacts and how it affects our community, and it doesn't discriminate."

"To sing about that on stage, to have illuminating conversations and put in place measures to ensure that the losses within our community are minimised, it's a place of responsibility."

Yirrkalá's songman, Andrew Gurruwiwi said, "There's something special about music; how it can make Yolngu (people) feel happy, as it has the power to connect and to fill people's hearts with the stories the music carries."

Ngaire for Town Folk Festival

Performing @ Town Folk Festival in Castlemaine will be Ngaire Laun Joseph (born 1984, in Lae, PNG), known by her stage name NGAIIRE (pronounced ny-ree).

Based in Australia, she is a Papua New Guinea born soul diva whose musical career commenced in 2003 with an enrolment in a bachelor of Jazz Studies at the Central Queensland Uni.

Australian Idol 2004 saw NGAIIRE compete in the second season as a semi-finalist, before finding her voice as a session vocalist with Blue King Brown and Paul Mac, before honing her solo career in 2008.

John Butler asked NGAIIRE to



Ngaire

precede his set at the 2009 East Coast Blues and Roots Festival and supported her professional development with management training and funding via his JB Seed Fund.

In 2013 she contacted PNG jazz pianist and producer, Aaron Choulai, via email, starting with, "Hey, man, I just really love what you do."

"Can I come over to Japan and hang out with you a bit and write some music?"

Choulai agreed and they spent two weeks working together, which she described to Kate Kingsmill of The Music as, "You just had to keep cracking and keep cracking until it burst open."

"Once you got there it was the best feeling."

"Nothing could really replace the feeling of having completed a song."

The album came to fruition in May 2021 released with the third single 'Closer', so NGAIIRE proclaimed, "The process of

creating 3 started in 2017 with the aim of extracting unique visual aspects of my culture to present in a contemporary context".

"The project was meant to deconstruct people's misconceptions of what a Papua New Guinean is because of how I constantly had to field useless enquiries from white people who wanted to know if we all still ate people or why I was so pretty for a Papua New Guinean."

"The album is about letting go and accepting that everyone isn't going to get me."

This album is about just three things - myself, the people I love and my country."

In November 2023, NGAIIRE and the Sydney Symphony Orchestra presented an orchestral recital that drew on Ngaire's own journey and career, from her ancestral villages in Papua New Guinea to her critically-acclaimed album, "3".

A record of the show was



Yirmal

released this year on April 26 and the full concert is available on YouTube.

Chillin' @ The Coolroom

Having established itself as Castlemaine's community cultural centre, The Coolroom at the Northern Arts Hotel has become a great venue for First Nations artists.

Yolgnu Rirratjingu songman, Yirmal Marika, is a young dynamic singer from Yirrkala in Eastern Arnhem Land who recorded his self-titled debut album, produced by INXS keyboardist, Andrew Farriss, in Tamworth.

'Marryuna' is a collaboration with 2022 ARIA award winner, Baker Boy, who is his cousin, and Yirmal has participated in the Yothu Yindi Treaty Project and sung 'Treaty' on stage with Midnight Oil and didgeribone master, Charlie McMahon.

'Dhaliwuy Bay', 'Promised Land' (featuring Dami Im), 'Shining Light' and 'Love Sweet Love' were the first singles

released over the past year or so.

Yirmal will perform his country inspired repertoire on September 6.

Trudy Fatnowna Edgeley has recently completed an album, engineered by blues maestro, Jeff Lang, and will launch it at The Coolroom on September 21.

It combines her stories of growing up in north Queensland

as a descendant of ancestors blackbirded from Malaita Island in the Solomons.

Songs also cover her family life with other mob being from Yidinji Country near Cairns, and even Jamaica.

Mexican guitarist, Razieli Soto will be playing October 11, where he will be exposing the audience to his traditional Aztec heritage and his dexterous finger-picking style.

Coming up on November 16 is Solomon Islander, Charles Maimarosia, who will be collaborating with multicultural musician, Kavisha Mazzella.

Charles is part of the Wantok Musik Foundation and has performed with Tim Cole & Bao Bao Chan's Small Island Big Song project and at WOMADelaide 2024.

Kavisha is a solid ally of First Nations musicians, and has worked with Archie & Ruby, Tiddas, Kev Carmody, Lou Bennett, Richard Frankland, Joe Geia and others.

Along with Neil Murray, with whom Kavisha has toured, she has played to aboriginal communities.



Charles Maimarosia and Kavisha Mazzella

Music Industry and Organisations Directory

ACT – Monaro Folk Society

Run a variety of folk music and dance workshops and other events in Canberra.

Tuesday night music group session

info@MonaroFolk.org.au
www.MonaroFolk.org.au

Australasian Bluegrass and Old Time Music Association (ABOTMA)

NFP organisation formed in 2013 to support the teaching, performance and promotion of these genres of music in Australia and New Zealand.

Present the annual Mountaingrass Music Gathering in Vic.

Info@ABOTMA.org.au

AustralianBluegrass.com

A website bringing Bluegrass & Old-time music news and event information from all over to Downunder.

Editor@AustralianBluegrass.com

Blues Portrait

Blues Portrait is a series of books.

They are a profile of Australian blues and have interviews with over 170 musicians, providing an insight into the modern Australian blues scene.

Ph: 0427 835 798

BaileyPauline38@Gmail.com

Concertina Shop Australia

Buy, sell, consign, trade your concertina.

Ph: 0432 346 821

www.ConcertinaShop.com.au

Damien Gerard Studios

Recording studios est. for over 30 years recently moved to West Gosford, NSW – SSL Console, Neve 1073s, Pro Tools, 2" tape, mastering, large live rooms, huge amount of outboard, backline, classic instruments.

Ph: 0416 143 030

Marshall@DamienGerard.com.au

Foghorn Music Group

Record label, PR company, music publishing, music consulting, CD and vinyl manufacturer.

0416 143 030

Marshall@FoghornRecords.net

Folk Alliance Australia

Umbrella organisation for folk music in Australia. Offer bespoke insurances for folk music, deals for websites, advocacy and information, small grants, youth development present the Australian Folk Music Awards.

Secretary@FolkAlliance.org.au

Folk Federation of NSW

Champions the folk arts in all their diverse forms, supporting folk artists and bringing folk music and folk arts to the widest possible audiences.

FolkFederationofNSW@gmail.com

<https://FolkFedNSW.org.au>

Fusion Boutique

A multi-award winning booking, producer, promotion and event management business presenting premier live music in a wide range of Blue Mountains NSW venues.

info@FusionBoutique.com.au
www.FusionBoutique.com.au

Greyrose Photographics

Festival event photographers and writers with 25 years national and international experience.

No event too small or too far away.

Greyrose3@Bigpond.com

Guitar Factory Gladesville

Guitar specialist store. Agents for most leading brands including Lowden, Collings, Dana Bourgeois, Ome Eastman, Gold Tone, GFI.

Ph: 02 9817 2173

www.GuitarFactory.net

Listening Through The Lens

Roots music website – news & reviews

Team@ListeningThrough

TheLens.com

www.ListeningThroughTheLens.com

MAD CDs

Have been providing world class packaging and disc replication for independent musicians since 1999.

Ph: 03 5762 5490/ 02 9557 9622

Melinda@MadCDs.com.au
www.MadCDs.com.au

No Daggy Music

Provide live music from a variety of musicians, bands or duos performing blues and roots, 60s – 80s classics, multiple harmonies and dance music for any function in the Sydney, Central Coast and Hunter area.

Ph: 0418 649 477

WilmaVanLaar@Yahoo.com.au

Rouseabout Records

Part of Undercover Music and is home to Eric Bogle, Gary Shearston, Warren Fahey, Marcus Holden, Robyn Archer & many more.

RouseAbout@UnderCoverMusic.com.au

www.Undercovermusic.com.au

Trad&Now

National folk music and dance magazine published every 6 weeks. Website has the world's largest selection of Australian recorded folk music for sale as well as books and DVDs.

Ph: 0410 522 070

Info@TradandNow.com
<http://TradandNow.com>

WA Folk Federation

Umbrella organisation est.

1970 promoting folk music, dance and spoken word in Western Australia.

WAFolk@Hotmail.com

www.WAFolk.org.au



by Bill Quinn

FOLK ON THE ROAD

Jasmine Beth



In April this year, I made a first return to St Albans Folk Festival in 12 years.

It's a festival that seems like the years barely touch it with mainstays like the church, the Fickle Wombat, the Settlers Arms Inn, and the Chorus Cup.

Yet there are, for this returnee, some welcome additions like the stunning Welcome To Country by the riverside and the reconfiguration of the festival hub.

One venue I'd not seen used before was the space alongside the St Albans Rural Fire Service where I caught a very enjoyable set from Sydney singer-songwriter Jasmine Beth and spoke with her briefly afterwards.

Bill Quinn: Tell me about the

Jasmine Beth story.

Jasmin Beth: I started playing guitar and singing in my late twenties when I was living in London, and I just really enjoyed it.

But I did have a background in music.

I grew up playing classical piano when I was younger and I was also trying, at the time, to write poetry.

BQ: So what drew you into wanting to pick up an instrument? (As opposed to sitting at one.)

Jasmine Beth: I think, living in London at the time, that I missed playing the piano and because pianos are so hard to cart around and hard to access, so maybe I'll try the guitar.

I'll just try learning, and that's

how.

BQ: So when did you come back to Australia?

JB: I was just in London for a couple of years and I've been based in Australia since then, although I've done a fair bit of travelling as well.

BQ: And how about recording?

What does your back catalogue look like?

JB: Not as much as I'd like.

I've made one EP, and then I've recorded one, two, three singles.

I'm hoping to have another CD out soon.

BQ: You must do a lot of performing because you waft across my social media all the time.

You must get a lot of

performing gigs around Sydney, do you?

JB: I do lots of gigs.

Last year was a little more quiet, for family reasons, but before that yeah, I'd generally do a lot around Australia and over in the UK.

BQ: So you go back over there quite often, do you?

JB: Yeah, I usually try to go once a year.

As I said, last year's been a bit different but I will be getting back into it.

I go once a year and do a month, two months' worth of gigs over there too.

BQ: Tell us about your engagement with St Albans [Folk Festival].

JB: This is actually my first time of being on the program at St Albans.

I have attended before and really enjoyed it.

It's such a nice festival.

It's small, it's a beautiful atmosphere, it's always friendly - a very friendly crowd.

The program's quite interesting, quite varied, and you might hear someone you haven't seen before.

BQ: [I mentioned what a respectful, listening crowd had

been at her Fire Brigade gig.]

JB: They were a really good crowd, really responsive.

Really responding to the lyrics - I could hear that and see that.

BQ: Yeah, they weren't having side chats - they were listening to the lyrics.

You write some political stuff and you've got the Julian Assange t-shirt on.

Is that a mainstay of what you write about?

JB: I do write political songs quite frequently.

With Julian Assange, I've just written the one song about him so far.

But at the moment, I do a lot of activism around the campaign to get him out of gaol.

There's a little gathering at Town Hall every Friday, so I go to that in Sydney, and I also write for the monthly newsletter for the campaign his father and brother run.

It's something that's very important to me at the moment, and very upsetting.

BQ: It seems like every week the feeling changes about whether he'll be let out, whether he won't.

How do you feel it's going at

the moment?

JB: It's so hard to know, because it seems like there'll be one development that sounds promising, whether it's from the American government or it's something in the court, and the next week, it'll be something disappointing, so it's really, really hard.

I don't know how he and his family cope.

I can't believe he's still in there.

We go around telling other people to have freedom of the press then we lock away one of our own publishers for no other reason than those publications about the [United] States.

There's no other reason why he's in there.

It's just outrageous.

A big shoutout to Jasmine Beth and all the protestors and agitators because two months after that recording, Julian Assange landed back on Australian soil a free man.

You can keep up to date with where Jasmine Beth is playing next at her Facebook page: www.facebook.com/jasminebeth



Trad&Now is lucky to have a large panel of voluntary reviewers

They are people who have been involved with the folk music community for a long while and/or they are performers in their own right.

They spend a great deal of time listening to CDs very carefully and then sharing their thoughts with the rest of us.

This helps readers decide whether they should

purchase a CD or not by giving them some idea as to what to expect.

However, as with movie reviewers and with any critics generally, the review published may not be the same as what you would personally feel about a CD.

Everyone has their own taste in music and the range of tastes seems to be endless.

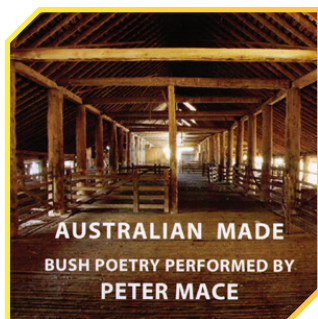
Reviews are the opinion of the reviewer only and not necessarily that of Trad&Now

or its editorial staff.

Performers submit CDs without any guarantee of a favourable review and readers should always form their own opinion, preferably by hearing the CD under review for themselves or seeing the performer at a live performance.

If you are interested in joining our review panel, please contact Trad&Now at info@tradandnow.com

CD book Reviews



Peter Mace - Australian Made

CD Review by Ian Dearden
TN1829-79 - \$20

Presenting a spoken word album is an interesting challenge.

This delightful album from Peter Mace meets that challenge with skill and charm.

Each recitation commences with a brief musical interlude.

For some poems, it's a single instrument, such as a concertina, a digeridoo or whistle, for other poems it's a duo, a larger ensemble or even a full brass band.

This is not, however, an album of recitations backed by music, but rather, introduced by music.

The twelve poems come partly from Peter's own pen 'Solving The Dingo Menace', 'Lost With All Hands', 'Size Does Matter', 'Men Of league', 'Over The Fence And You're Out', but also from the likes of John Dengate ('Australian Made'), Duke Tritton ('The Sandy Hollow Line') and Veronica Weal ('Spirits Of The Outback').

The subject matter ranges from the hilarious ('Surrogate Dad', 'Size Does Matter', 'Solving The Dingo Menace') to the poignant ('Waiting For The Train', 'Lost With All Hands', 'I Killed A Man At Graspan', 'Spirits Of The Outback'), the nostalgic ('Over The Fence And You're Out', 'All Gone') and patriotic ('Australian

Made', 'Men Of League').

It's a truly satisfying and wide ranging collection, and if you happen to be a reciter, an excellent repository of potential material for your set.

If you have the slightest interest in bush poetry, this is an album for you, superbly recorded by Norm Merrigan and beautifully recited by Peter Mace!!

Ed. This album is available from the Trad&Now website and can be heard from time to time on Trad&Now Live!

Trad&Now

All of the CD reviews published in Trad&Now are also published as part of the CD description for each title in

WWW.Tradandnow.com



Clark Gormley – Turn Of Phrase

CD Review by Ian Dearden
TN780-78 - \$25

Newcastle's very own Clark Gormley is probably best known these days as one half of the duo 'Nerds & Music', but he has many musical, theatrical and authorial strings to his bow!!

This CD, 'Turn Of Phrase' and its accompanying book 'Turn Of Phrase: poems, stories & stuff', is a fascinating wander through the windmills of Clarke's mind, which can be an interesting and delightful journey.

Clark comes from a line of singer/songwriters/poets who trade in whimsy, eccentricity and quirkiness, and he does all these things with his own special twist.

The clearest example is "The William", which manages to turn a standard UK police warning to a suspect, into a song that combines a distorted guitar, sweet backing vocals and Clark's deadpan delivery, and in the process spits out something quite hypnotic.

Then shortly after on the CD, we have a showcase of Clark's tasty harmonica talents on "Blueberry Jam" which, tongue in cheek title aside, delights with its innovation.

The two spoken word pieces

are both delightful gems.

"Joketown" is a fascinating wordplay of a poem, twisting and turning on itself, in a fascinating and deft example of Clark's clever use of language and love of storytelling.

"Advice Song" is a poem, not a song, although it does have sweetly picked acoustic guitar accompaniment from Lynden Thomas.

It also twists, turns and gyrates through various left field observations and sudden non-sequiturs which leave the listener pondering each new step through the verbal maze.

All this deadpan quirkiness comes with a good heart and a generous spirit.

The album closer, "The Herbal Tea Waltz" is a panegyric for anyone lost in this sad old world.

What more could we want from those who bring music and love and friendship into our lives!!

Let the CD keep playing once that track finishes to catch the hidden track lurking at the end!!

Ed. This album is available from the Trad&Now website and can be heard from time to time on Trad&Now Live!

The book of the same title is also available from the Trad&Now website.



Damian Howard & The Ploughboys – Out Of My Hands

CD Review by Ian Dearden
TN1637-80 - \$15

CD book Reviews

Damian Howard comes from a family of extraordinary talent.

Older siblings Shane and Marcia Howard were both members of legendary Oz band Goanna.

This three song EP is a showcase for his equally extraordinary talents, as a singer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist (guitar and keyboards).

The EP's final track, the gorgeous "Love Will Always Lead You Home" is a co-write with both Shane and Marcia, and is a fabulous showcase for Damian's vocals and some sweet, sweet harmonies.

The music falls into the rockier end of the country rock spectrum, with superb playing, a great sense of rhythm, and some very tasty lead guitar from Jason King.

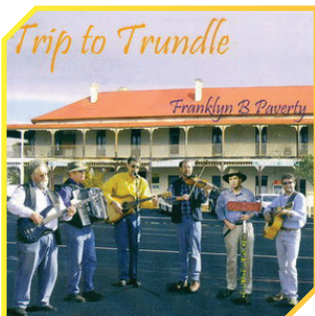
The Ploughboys are clearly well in sync with Damian's songwriting ambitions.

"Out Of My Hands" features prominent Hammond organ textures from Richard Tankard, and the rhythm section (Jon Emry/Declan O'Neill- drums and James Rust- bass) anchors the bottom end with appropriate weight and style.

"All I Ever Wanted" features some sweet fiddle from Peter Denahy and the EP's country rock styling benefits from Murray McDowell's pedal steel.

Ed. This album is available from the Trad&Now website and can be heard from time to time on Trad&Now Live!

CD book Reviews



Franklyn B Paverty – Trip To Trundle

CD Review by Ian Dearden

Tracing their roots to a group of ANU students who formed “Franklyn B Paverty & the Platte Valley Crooners” in the early 1970s, this Canberra-based group of musicians, operating variously under that name, or shorter versions including ‘Franklyn B Paverty’, ‘Paverty Bush Band’, ‘Paverty or ‘The Pavs’, and with a long list of alumni, are one of the great survivors of the Australian bush music scene.

Currently, you can find them still performing in and around Canberra and the region under the Paverty Bush Band monicker.

‘Trip to Trundle’ is the second last of seven albums they have released since their debut album, ‘Paverty Stricken’, was issued in 1976.

The repertoire draws squarely from the bush band tradition, drawing on the strictly traditional

(‘Broken Down Squatter’, ‘Lachlan Tigers’, ‘Convict Maid’, ‘Tomahawkin’ Fred’, ‘Billy Of Tea’), and the likes of Henry Lawson (‘Never Never Land’, ‘Break Of Day’, ‘Scots Of The Riverina’), Slim Dusty (‘When The Rain Tumbles Down In July’), Eric Bogle (‘Shelter’) as well as some very tasty traditional and original tunes (‘Trip To Trundle/Beyond Bogan Gate’, ‘Pine Tree Flat/ Sweet Marie’).

What is most striking about the band, though, is the musicianship.

The vocals, shared amongst all of the line up on this album (Mal Bennett, Bob Buckley, Graham Chalker, Peter Hobson, Peter Logue, Bryan Rae) are superb, both as solo and harmony singers, and the instrumental playing is equally impeccable, with band members (all of them multi-instrumentalists) variously playing acoustic guitar, banjo, fiddle, bass, flute, tin whistle, mandolin, snare, lagerphone, bouzouki, accordion, piano, harmonica and spoons.

All of this has been delightfully produced (by the band) and superbly recorded and mixed (by Tony Hunter at Artsound FM in Canberra).

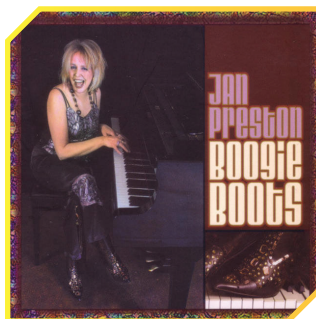
This is a terrific addition to the collection of anyone with an interest in Australian bush music.

Ed. This album is out of stock and no longer available from the Trad&Now website. It can be heard from time to time on Trad&Now Live!

One other album of theirs however, “With a Swag on my Shoulder” is available from the website

All of the CD reviews published in Trad&Now are also published as part of the CD description for each title in

WWW.Tradandnow.com



Jan Preston – Boogie Boots

CD Review by Ian Dearden
TN 795-78 - \$25

I have a never-ending fascination with people’s journeys – real, personal, metaphorical or otherwise.

Jan Preston’s journey is quite extraordinary – growing up in Greymouth on the West Coast of New Zealand’s South Island, falling in love with the piano as a young child, eventually graduating from Auckland University with a five year classical piano degree.

Then came a left turn into theatre and rock bands, a No. 1 hit in New Zealand, followed by a move across the ditch to Sydney, where she has resided since 1980.

New Zealand’s loss, Australia’s gain.

Although Jan grew up listening to an aunt playing honky-tonk piano, and recalls hearing Winifred Atwell on the radio, it was some years after shifting to Sydney that she re-discovered boogie piano, and found her songwriting “voice”.

From there, along with a parallel career as a film and television soundtrack composer, Jan has become Australia’s queen of boogie piano, readily acknowledging her debt to Winifred Atwell, Fats Domino and that New Orleans sound!!

This album is relatively early in her discography.

She's kept up a regular recording output to the present, some ten albums in total.

The talent oozes through everything she turns her hand(s) and voice to, from the covers 'Ugly Papa', 'Rockin' Pneumonia', 'The Big Beat', 'She Walked Right in And She Walked Right Out' and 'Goodnight Irene', to the originals 'Boogie Boots', 'Eat Chocolate And Cry', 'Driving Back To Sydney', 'Angel Having Trouble With My Wings', 'You're The One For Me', 'Small Town Girl', and 'Winnie Played The Rag'.

Of those originals, my ear

was particularly taken by the musically autobiographical 'Small Town Girl', and the loving tribute to Winifred Atwell, 'Winnie Plays The Rag', which is a fabulous showcase for her boogie piano skills and always tasty, jazz-inflected vocals.

And you've got to love any song that name-checks the writer's favourite pair of boots ('Boogie Boots')!!

Not only is Jan continuing to record and release superb boogie-based music, but she's out there touring on a regular basis, in Australia, her native New Zealand and in Europe.

As I write this review in late June, 2024, she has shows

CD book Reviews

booked in Queensland, NSW and Victoria over the coming months.

Do yourself a favour, catch her live, buy the albums, and keep the spirit of boogie alive.

Ed. There are three Jan Preston albums currently available for sale on the Trad&Now website, all of which have been uploaded to Trad&Now Live! and can be heard from time to time.



Valé Ron E. Sparks

by Paul Cashmere in news,noise pro



Ron E. Sparks, one of Australia's most respected and professional broadcasters, has died from cancer at age 72.

Born Gregory James Sparks,

as Ron. E Sparks, he became a voice of Sydney on top rating Top 40 radio station 2SM in the 70s before the days of FM.

Sparks left 2SM for rival 2UW where he was Program Director.

He then worked for six years

at Sydney's Triple M FM before moving to 2DAYFM in 1994.

In 2001, he moved to Nova 96.9 and then in 2002 to WFSM where he remained until retired in 2017.



We don't pay enough for music

by Mark Griffin, Music News

I do not know what life must have been like for people born before recorded music was widely available.

Music has always been a part of human lives to be sure, and I am certain in those pre-recorded music times, people still filled their days with song and melody.

I am sure they gathered around whatever instruments they had at night to sing and listen.

I am sure they spent their days whistling and humming and tapping out tunes.

But when I think of them, I realise our enormous privilege, to be able to access more recorded material than one could listen to in a lifetime at the touch of a button.

I think of them and, as someone who cannot sing to save myself, I am horrified at the thought of being dependent on my own voice to provide a soundtrack throughout the bulk of my day.

My life has always had a soundtrack, first on cassette and via the radio, then CDs and iPods, and now through streaming and all the various musical corners of the internet.

Live music too, but there is something special about being able to listen to the exact song that you want to hear, exactly when you want to hear it.

I think about the soundtrack of my life sometimes.

There are books that I can't even think about without hearing the CD I had on repeat when I

first read them.

There are songs that immediately pull me back to people and places long since forgotten.

I hear any track from *Only By The Night*, and I am 17 again, riding shotgun in Kate's car with a bunch of friends crowding the back seat, on our way to Macca's for late-night sundaes.

Stop by the Spice Girls comes on and I'm seven, playing kiss and catch in the playground, too fast to be caught, to my enduring disappointment, watching the girls perform an elaborate dance routine to the song and singing it at me more than to me.

There are deeper and more personal memories too.

Morningtown Ride is my mother singing a lullaby and Spangle Road, well, that one is just for me.

All of this has me thinking about the value we place on music.

Increasingly, it is becoming difficult for musicians at any level below the very top to make a living from music, and our live music scene is clearly in trouble with venue closures and festival cancellations.

Much of this is outside of our control as consumers, but I think the value we place on music just might be.

Given the importance of music in many of our lives, maybe \$13.99 a month for access to essentially all recorded music is a bit, well... insulting.

Maybe we should be willing to pay more.

This was all driven home to me over the past 12 months.

Last year, my brother died.

It had been a long time coming, and at the end, it seemed like it might never come but just drag on forever, but in the end it came.

I spent much of the last year of his life down at my parents' house, helping them care for him and just generally hanging out.

That also meant commandeering my dad's sound system and saving us all from listening to the same tired playlist on repeat ad nauseam.

I tried, sometimes successfully, to introduce my family to new music.

In those last few months, I went and saw a smallish Australian band play in Wollongong.

They were called Winterbourne.

I went into the show with fairly tepid expectations.

I was there to write a review, I hadn't heard of them before, and the two white guys playing folk had a knock-off Mumford & Sons vibe that I figured could be fun enough, but wasn't exactly going to set the world on fire.

But my friends, SULT, were opening, and they were always good, so I went happily.

I went in uncertain, but I left a convert.

Winterbourne were amazing.

James Draper and Jordan Brady had incredible live vocals and are the sort of nauseatingly talented musicians who can play every instrument better than you

can play the one you've been taking lessons on for years.

The songs were a kind of happy-sad, melancholy sweetness that leached into me, and the harmonies played in my head for hours afterward.

They were less Mumford & Sons and more Simon & Garfunkel, but decidedly modern.

I couldn't understand why they weren't in bigger venues.

I guess the style of music they played was a little hard to pin down and not quite of the moment.

The next day I was down at my parents' place, and within a couple of hours I had made them converts too.

And so, over the coming months, as my brother slipped further and further from us, Winterbourne became the soundtrack.

I think it was that blend of melancholy and joy.

It allowed us to feel the sadness circumstance required but without having to feel maudlin or overwhelmed.

One song in particular became quite important, especially to my mother.

I used it under a montage of photos I put together for the funeral.

It's called Long Distance Runner.

I've actually actively avoided trying to puzzle out what James is singing about.

I can tell from what of the lyrics I've absorbed that it doesn't really relate to my brother at all.

But there's something in that title line that my mum latched on to.

My brother was a fighter, he was meant to be dead before he turned five, he died shortly



Winterbourne

before he could turn 28.

He was also unable to walk and spent much of his life zipping about in a wheelchair, and I think my mum liked the irony of 'long-distance runner'.

A few months after he left us, Winterbourne were playing in Sydney.

I'd organised tickets to see them for both my parents.

It was quite a sight watching them navigate the Factory Theatre.

But then Winterbourne came on and I swear they both became young again.

I chose not to look at my Mum during Long Distance Runner.

If either James or Jordan spotted her from the stage, she must have been quite the sight, tears streaming down her face as they played one of their more upbeat songs.

But that night was a moment of catharsis for all of us.

It didn't end our grief, that's an ongoing process, but it bookended it somehow.

For whatever reason, Winterbourne had connected with us in a vulnerable moment and has become inextricably linked with my brother's life and death.

And being at that concert, it wasn't quite a moment of

healing, but it was a profound shared experience, the likes of which only music can provide.

Both my parents now want to start a campaign to help James and Jordan achieve the level of success they believe they deserve.

Now, a year after his death, whenever my parents want to think about their son, they just have to put on a Winterbourne song.

That's not to say they can't listen to them without sadness, they can, and they do, but that music connects to us in ways that are deeply profound and beyond my ability to fully express in words.

What I am saying is this.

Maybe at a time when musicians both here and abroad are struggling, at a time when many are sounding alarm bells about our local industry, there need to be solutions.

Many of these solutions need to come from people with far more power than most of us.

They need to come from the labels, from regulators, from governments.

But for our part, as consumers, maybe \$13.99 a month is far too little to pay for something as powerful as music.



Happy 15th birthday Humph Hall!

by Wayne Richmond



Humph Hall, based in Allambie Heights in Sydney, held its Opening Concert 15 years ago on Sunday, June 21, 2009.

Everyone who had been involved in its creation was invited to celebrate its opening with an informal concert by Loosely Woven and lots of yummy refreshments!

During the last 15 years Humph Hall has been the home of both Loosely Woven and, since 2020, The Corona Ensemble.

We have also seen hundreds of wonderful artists from across the globe come and perform in our wonderful hall!

Built as a Methodist Church in 1960, at which time Wayne was living as a 9 year old at the bottom of the hill, it consisted of the church plus two outside toilets.

The adjacent hall, 10 square metres with a kitchen in the

corner, was added 10 years later.

In 1977, it became part of the new Uniting Church and then specifically, a few years later, a Tongan parish.

It was put on the market in 2006 so that the Tongan congregation could contribute

towards the building of a large Sydney-wide Tongan church elsewhere.

After a gruelling 6 month process, we finally purchased it and moved in on August 23, 2007.

We slept in the church's storeroom, used the minister's room as our kitchen/laundry and had one of the outside toilets turned into a shower.

Architect Colin Filmer drew up plans to turn the hall into a two storey home and Council approval was given before Christmas.

However, it was to be another 6 months before a builder, Petar Pasalich, was found and building began on July 24, 2008 and was completed ready for the opening concert in June 2009.



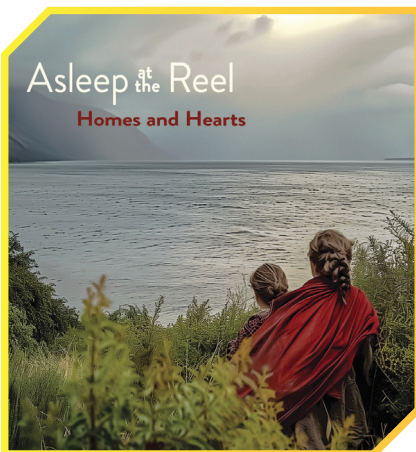
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TN2566 - 84 - \$20.00

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**Attention all Musicians, Music Venues,
Dance Teachers, Folk and Blues Clubs, Radio
Presenters, Poets, Festival Organisers,
Music Shops and Music Industry People.**

If you fit into any of the above, you need to read this.

Trad&Now is the longest running and only national magazine that regularly includes folk, blues, roots, bluegrass and world music and festival contact information to enable audiences to locate the music events that they may want anywhere in Australia. It does this in its news and festival pages, in the Gig Guide, and in the past in a National Club, Dance and Radio Network Directory at the back of the magazine. This has been replaced by a series of seven separate bespoke directories strategically placed in relevant parts of the

magazine.

Each directory includes a great deal more information about each entry and the information will be kept up to date by ensuring that each contributor is also a subscriber.

The seven separate directories are categorised under: Music Industry and Organisations; Musicians and Performers; Venues and Clubs; Festivals; Dance; Radio; and, Bush Poets. If you fit into any of these categories and would like your additional information included in the new expanded directory, please complete the form

on the next page and return it to us, and we will include the information in the next available edition.

Entries in the new expanded directory are completely free but we require someone connected to each entry to be a subscriber to the magazine to ensure that the information is kept up to date.

The entry will remain in the directory for as long as the subscription remains current and a subscription only costs \$66 for 12 months (8 editions) and includes a free compilation CD.

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Email: info@tradandnow.com - Website: www.tradandnow.com**

Also, talk to us about how you can have your festival programme published in full in Trad&Now and as a separate publication for use at the festival at our special price

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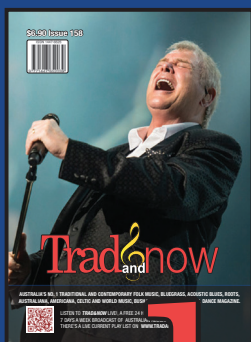
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