Established 1959

May 2013

Australian TRADITION

Print Post Approved PP335169/00012 *Reg No A2511Y*

NEWSLETTER OF THE VICTORIAN FOLK MUSIC CLUB INCORPORATED

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DON'T FORGET

THE WOOLSHED BALL!!!

SATURDAY 25TH MAY

8.00PM - 12.30AM

St David's Uniting Church Hall

in Canterbury

BILLABONG BAND

Tickets $20 prepaid or $25 at door

See further details inside (p.12)

A TRULY GREAT NIGHT!

DON'T MISS IT!

KEEP YOUR 'TRADITION' COMING!!!!

REMEMBER ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE DUE

BY 30TH JUNE 2013 - see back page for details

PLEASE SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR JUNE NEWSLETTER

BY: FRIDAY, 24TH MAY 2013

The views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Editor or of the VFMC

Club Event Calendar

Club Sessions

Tuesdays, 8.00 pm, East Ringwood Community Hall (enter from Knaith Road, off Dublin Road) (Melway 50B8). All welcome any or every night as players, singers, dancers, or to tell a yarn. Contact Don (0407-737-202)

Ringwood Folk Guest Night

Second Tuesday of the month. Admission $12 adults, children with adult free. $10 members and concessions.

Evening commences 8:00pm and finishes with a short session after the Guest Performer around 10:15 pm.

Singing Sessions

First and last Tuesday every month. East Ringwood Community Hall (enter from Knaith Road, off Dublin Road) (Melway 50B8).

If you are interested in learning some new songs, and would like to sing with others in a friendly relaxed environment, come and join us. We start about 7:00pm and go until the start of the main session at 8:00pm.

By-Ear Sessions

Join us to learn how to play by following someone on:

- First Thursday, 8:00 pm (at Harry's place)
- Second Tuesday, 10:15 pm (after the Ringwood Folk Guest Night
- Every Monday, 8:00 pm, (fiddles and mandolins at Harry's place.)
- Most Saturdays, 11:00am, all instruments and singing, busking opposite the railway station in Ringwood East

Harry Gardner: (03) 9870 8998, 0408 708 998

Ringwood Colonial Dance

Family Bush Dance, first Saturday of every month at the East Ringwood Senior Citizens Club Hall, Laurence Grove, Ringwood East.

Come along and enjoy dancing to live music with all dances explained and called. Contact Maree Buttler (03 9733-0802) or Robin Simpson (0447106841).

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1st May	**2nd** By-Ear Session	**3rd**	**4th** VFMC Dance Billabong Band
5th	**6th** Fiddles	**7th** Club Session	**8th**	**9th**	**10th**	**11th**
12th	**13th** Fiddles	**14th** Guest Night	**15th**	**16th**	**17th**	**18th**
19th	**20th** Fiddles	**21st** Club Session	**22nd**	**23rd**	**24th**	**25th**
26th	**27th** Fiddles	**28th** Club Session	**29th**	**30th**	**31st**	**1st June** VFMC Dance Jolly Jumbucks
2nd	**3rd** Fiddles	**4th** Club session	**5th**	**6th** By-Ear Session	**7th**	**8th**

Victorian Folk Music Club Inc.

Ringwood East Folk
RECITERS NIGHT

with

Mac Craig
Stephen Whiteside

featuring

The Poems of
C. J. Dennis

C.J Dennis at Toolangi

TUESDAY 14th MAY

Admission: $12.00 Members: $10.00 Children Free
Open Stage from 8.00pm

East Ringwood Community Hall
Knaith Road Ringwood East Melway: 50 B8

Contact Don 0407 737 202
Email: enquiries@vfmc.org.au
VFMC Website: www.vfmc.org.au
Victorian Folk Music Club Inc. (Reg. No A2511Y)

Supported by Spot Acts

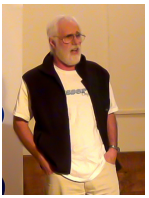
JUNE 11TH - ANDY RIGBY and POLLY CHRISTIE

Guest Artist Night, April 2013

The VFMC is proud to promote and encourage new performers to the world of acoustic music and this idea formed the basis for a theme for the April concert, that of providing a forum for emerging performers to demonstrate their style. We didn't have to look too far to find three worthy, talented local groups to entertain the audience on this night. The audience filled the hall to capacity but enjoyed another fabulous concert.

There is no denying there is a bountiful pool of talented and aspiring singers, songwriters and instrumentalists in the community who are teeming up and forming combos of all sorts that have new and interesting things to present. Many of these are young people with youth, creativity and freshness on their side. They are getting out there with their youthful energy, making great music and in the process influencing others of their generation and leaving the rest of us in awe at their abilities.

Katy Cottrill opened the spot acts with a couple of songs accompanied on her ukulele, 'Still I Love Him' and 'Que Sera', before joining Maree on harp for 'Jamaican Farewell'. Ed Nass runs the Berwick and District Folk Club and is an occasional visitor to Ringwood who has performed with us in the past. He sang some songs from his recent CD including 'The Supermarket Blues'. Thanks for coming over, Ed! Mick Kearon then presented three powerful unaccompanied songs, 'A Man Like Thee', the eerie 'Lord Franklin' and Brendan Behan's 'The Old Triangle'. Great songs, Mick!



The first of the guest performers was Dream Legacy, three young ladies: Jennifer, Jacqueline and Emma, who have an abundance of instrumental and vocal talent. They make sweet harmonies with their mixed repertoire of those sophisticated modern-day classics such as 'Breathless', Dreams', "Orinoco Flow' and 'Hallelujah' plus some foot tapping instrumentals and traditional Scottish songs like 'You're Welcome, Willie Stewart'.

Guest Artist Night, April 2013

Elizabeth McFarlane and Liam Hopkins are two integral members of Miss Lizzy and the Night Owls, a nine piece jazz and jive band. As a duo with Liam's funky guitar playing and Elizabeth's powerful soul voice they are mighty impressive so one can imagine what Miss Lizzy is like in full tilt. They did a mix of some of the old rock'n roll, jazz and soul songs from the past plus self-composed songs and all nicely tied together with linking dialogue. Even Elvis Presley's 'Blue Suede Shoes got a good interpretation from Elizabeth and Liam.

One new young group making a name for themselves on the festival circuit is Tolka who are winning awards and gaining attention with their novel mix of mainly traditional Celtic music, original songs & demonstrations of Irish dancing. The musicianship of the four players is outstanding; each in their own right are highly competent instrumentalists but together are a tight, well-rehearsed outfit. Robert Hillman plays guitar, Hillary Glaisher fiddle, Cameron Hibbs banjo, and Allan Evans plays Irish flute and whistle and is as good as any I've ever heard. They all sing too. Bec Voake and Matthew Harriage provide a vibrant visual aspect to Tolka's performance with segments of Irish dancing interspersed throughout the programme.

Thanks to the spot acts for being part of the program—you had some great talent to share the stage with. In keeping with providing a good spread of genres to our audiences, the theme for next month is RECITATION. We will have Mac Craig and Steven Whiteside along for a programme of CJ Dennis poems, and of course we expect some excellent verse to be coming from the spot acts too.

- by Don Fraser; photographs by Trevor Voake

The Dance Page

Diary Dates for May 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1st May Irish or Colonials	**2nd** Colonial Beginners	**3rd**	**4th** VFMC Dance Billabong Band
5th TSDAV Dance Workshop	**6th** Irish or Scottish	**7th** English	**8th** Irish or Colonial	**9th** Colonial Beginners or Scottish	**10th**	**11th** Scottish
12th	**13th** Irish or Scottish	**14th** English	**15th** Irish or Colonials	**16th** Colonials	**17th**	**18th**
19th Welsh	**20th** Irish or Scottish	**21st** English	**22nd** Irish or Colonials	**23rd** Colonial Beginners or Scottish	**24th**	**25th**
26th Contra	**27th** Irish or Scottish	**28th** English	**29th**	**30th** Colonial Beginners	**31st**	

Diary Dates for early June 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1st VFMC Jolly Jumbucks
2nd TSDAV Dance Workshop	**3rd** Irish or Scottish	**4th** English	**5th** Irish or Colonials	**6th** Colonial Beginners	**7th**	**8th** Scottish

The Dance Page

VFMC Colonial	Dance at East Ringwood Elderly Citizens Hall, Laurence Grove, East Ringwood, 8-11 pm Contact Maree: 9733-0802
Irish Monday	Dancing at The Quiet Man pub, Racecourse Road, Flemington, 8-10 p.m.. Contact Marie 9471-0690
Irish Wednesday	Irish dancing at St. Phillips Church, Hoddle St, Collingwood, 8-10pm. Contact Marie: 9471-0690
English	Dancing at Bennettswood Neighbourhood House, 7 Greenwood Street, Burwood, 8-10pm. Contact George: 9890-5650
Colonial Wednesday	Social dance classes at Collingwood Senior Citizens Hall, Eddy Crt, Abbotsford, 8-10pm Contact Coral: 9885 6109
Colonial Thursday	Australian Colonial Bush/Dance**:** at Ashburton Uniting Church, 3 Ashburn Grove, Ashburton, 7:30-10pm Contact Coral 9885-6109
Colonial Beginners	Dancing at Ashburton Uniting Church, 3 Ashburn Grove, Ashburton, 7.30-10pm. Contact Coral: 9885 6109
Welsh	Dancing at Church of Christ Hall, 1 The Avenue, Surrey Hills, 2-4.30pm. Contact Ian: 9878-2414
TSDAV	Sunday: The Eleventh Hour Theatre Hall, cnr. Gore & Leicester Sts, Fitzroy Contact Norm Ellis 9888-5332
Contra Dance	Northcote Uniting Church Hall, 251 High St, Northcote, 7.30 -10.30pm. Contact George 9890-5650/Gary 9481-3386
Scottish Monday	Paton Memorial Hall, Deepdene Uniting Church, 958 Burke Road, Deepdene, 8 pm Contact: Deepdene.dancers@bigpond.com
Scottish Thursday	Taggerty Hall, Maroondah Highway at Taggerty, corner of Thornton Road, 7-9pm Contact Di Gaylard 5964 3277 or musicman@virtual.net.au
Scottish Saturday	Paton Memorial Hall, Deepdene Uniting Church, 958 Burke Road, Deepdene, 8pm. Contact Deepdene.dancers@bigpond.com

DANCING IN SCOTLAND—a unique experience!

While here to visit our twin folk club in Dunblane, I was very fortunate to go to a Scottish Country Dance in Dunblane itself. The hall is Victorian and looks really stunning inside. It has a floating floor, which was an experience to dance on. We arrived 15 minutes early to find the hall was packed and we were lucky to get the last two seats. Not long after that people who were only watching were encouraged to go up onto the balcony to free up the seats for the dancers. There were not many kilts but lots of tartan trousers for the men, and the women just wore very nice comfortable dresses.

The band for the evening was The Glencraig Scottish Dance Band, a 6-piece comprising 2 accordions, fiddle, double bass, piano and drums. Once the dancing started, the only way you knew which dance was next was to check the programme on the wall. There was only enough time to change partners between the dances (all done with practised speed!). Quite a lot of the dances were danced twice which enabled me and others to get it right. The MC squeezed in an extra dance called 'The Elephant Stampede'. This was one of 2 dances that were walked through first. Quite a few dancers were reading their dance notes as the sets were forming and in some cases actually dancing with the notes. When the dancing finished, I said goodbye to y new friends while introducing Stephen, who had been up on the balcony taking photos.

The very next evening we went into Edinburgh for an English country dance, being run by Nicholas Broadbridge (who my readers will remember we met at the Cheltenham Ball). Nicholas had organised for Simone Verheyen to come over from Belgium to run a weekend of dance workshops and to call the Saturday evening dance. Simone is an excellent caller and with her good command of the English language we had no difficulty in understanding her. Nicholas Broadbridge on the piano accordion and Brian Prentice on the piano were our musicians for the evening. The programme was varied and included a dance called 'Au Revoir'. This dance was choreographed by Simone to a tune composed by Nicholas in honour of a dear friend who had passed away. At the end there was not only resounding applause but also a general clamour for the dance notes which Nicholas had promised to put on his web page soon. All too soon the last dance 'The Cousins' called, which I though was appropriate as we were over here visiting cousins and family.

- *by Jane Bullock*

RINGWOOD EAST COMMUNITY MARKET

In perfect weather on Saturday 6th April five of us (Bill Buttler, Maree Buttler, Don Gingrich, Frances Lester and I) met at 10:15 am near the bush shelter and began playing tunes that we used to think that children would know. However, although the local music schoolteacher knows all about the ABC Song series, the demand from the children includes 'Good Morning Starshine' from the musical, Hair! Also we had competition at the Market in the form of the Wildlife Animal Show with wonderful creatures like crocodiles and snakes to inspect and sometimes handle. Despite all this distraction, some children, with their parents, paused to listen to us , the Chinese families particularly captivated by us knowing 'The Kanding Love Song'. The support of the Market management continues, with the manager describing us as "cool". As mentioned in the March report, we could use a photographer to record these matchless moments for posterity, but not of course the idiot amongst us wearing a clown costume and carrying Club sandwich boards past all the stalls.

However, we must be doing something right with young people elsewhere because one of the young Borderline Kaylee fiddlers, Samantha, joined us old men on stage at the warm-up session that preceded the superb Young Performers' Guest Artist concert on Tuesday 9th April in the Community Hall. Sam led us very ably in tunes from Begged, Borrowed & Stolen and elsewhere. Ta Sam.

- *by Harry Gardner*

Harry and Don at the Australian Settlers session of the National Folk Festival in Canberra over Easter *(photo: Trevor Voake)*

Best dressed child at our April bush dance *(photo: M. Somerville)*

A VISIT TO SOME SCOTTISH FOLK CLUBS

Our visit to Scotland was primarily to visit our twin folk club in Dunblane but we decided to include a wee sightseeing holiday. Our timing enabled us to attend the **Falkirk Folk Club*** as well. This club holds a weekly meeting above a pub. The room is compact and is set up like our concert nights at Ringwood East. On this particular night there was a large group (about 13) of club members who had go together to perform in May and were trying out their programme. Some of you will remember Richard (photo on right), who visited our club in 2011, and is now playing with this friendly crew.

Once we had all been welcomed by Stuart, the programme began and in ones, twos and threes the various members of the band got up to perform. Amongst them were a couple of songwriters who write some amazing songs, my favourites being 'Memory' and 'Your Granny Makes a Lovely Cup of Tea'. Both were humorous songs. Stephen was invited to perform and he sang two songs, 'Aussie BBQ' and 'Byker Hill'. (This last song we also sang as we drove up from Newcastle-upon-Tyne to Scotland; we had been visiting a school friend of mine who happens to live in Byker and Walker was the next suburb.) We had a truly great evening where we were made very welcome and will go back next time we are in the area.

*** Falkirk Folk Club** last year won the [Scottish] Club of the Year award.

Dunblane Folk Club: On our last night in Scotland it was time to visit Dunblane, our twin folk club. We arrived early and helped set up the hall. The set-up is similar to Ringwood East Tuesday nights in that they have a circle of chairs but they also have little round tables for drinks and eats in front of the chairs. As the club members started to arrive, we were introduced and before long the chairs we had put around were all occupied and as more people came they had to find a chair and then some space on the floor to put it. This was like one of our busier nights. The MC for the night went round inviting your participation in song, tune or recitation, just like we do. Stephen sang 'Big Poll the Grog Seller and I sang 'One Misty Moisty Morning'. There were some lovely voices there and the songs included one in Gaelic and a Dutch song. The club is lucky to have amongst its members three good raconteurs, one of whom recited 'Clancy of the Overflow'. We broke for supper and found that Sue (one of the members) had gone to the trouble of baking a 'Crocodile Dundee' cake!!

After the break we again went round the circle. I decided to do 'Brown Jug Polka' and four of us got up to dance with Stephen and the other musicians playing the tune. At the end I was queried on the progression (which I hadn't done) so I showed the progression, and the dance will now form part of Craig's calling repertoire. In exchange, he had given me a dance called 'The Shetland Wedding'. Stephen sang another song, 'Three Drunken Maidens', which was clearly known by many of the audience. Ten thirty soon arrived, but because everyone was having a good time, we continued for another hour. We didn't have to work the next day and our B & B was a mere 100 yards away so we were happy to stay and enjoy. It was a great night, and ended with promises to come back next time we are in Scotland.

It is interesting to note that in both clubs, instrumentation was made up almost entirely of stringed instruments, mostly guitars, supplemented by mandolin, banjo, fiddle, and in Dunblane, piano and harmonica.

- *by Jane Bullock, photographs by Steve Bullock*

Delivery of Irish Traditional Music

What is the best way to deliver Irish traditional music?

* Played solo by a competent player
* Play the tune three or four times
* Introducing new forms of ornamentation each time the tune is played over.
* Introducing melodic variations where appropriate to the player's taste.

How can a player set a base line or foundation on which to build his/her presentation?

* Usually the first time the tune is played through it is not embellished or least embellished. As the tune is played the second or more times through the player adds ornamentation to suit his taste. This may add enjoyment for the listener. A high level of ornamentation is usual when playing solo.

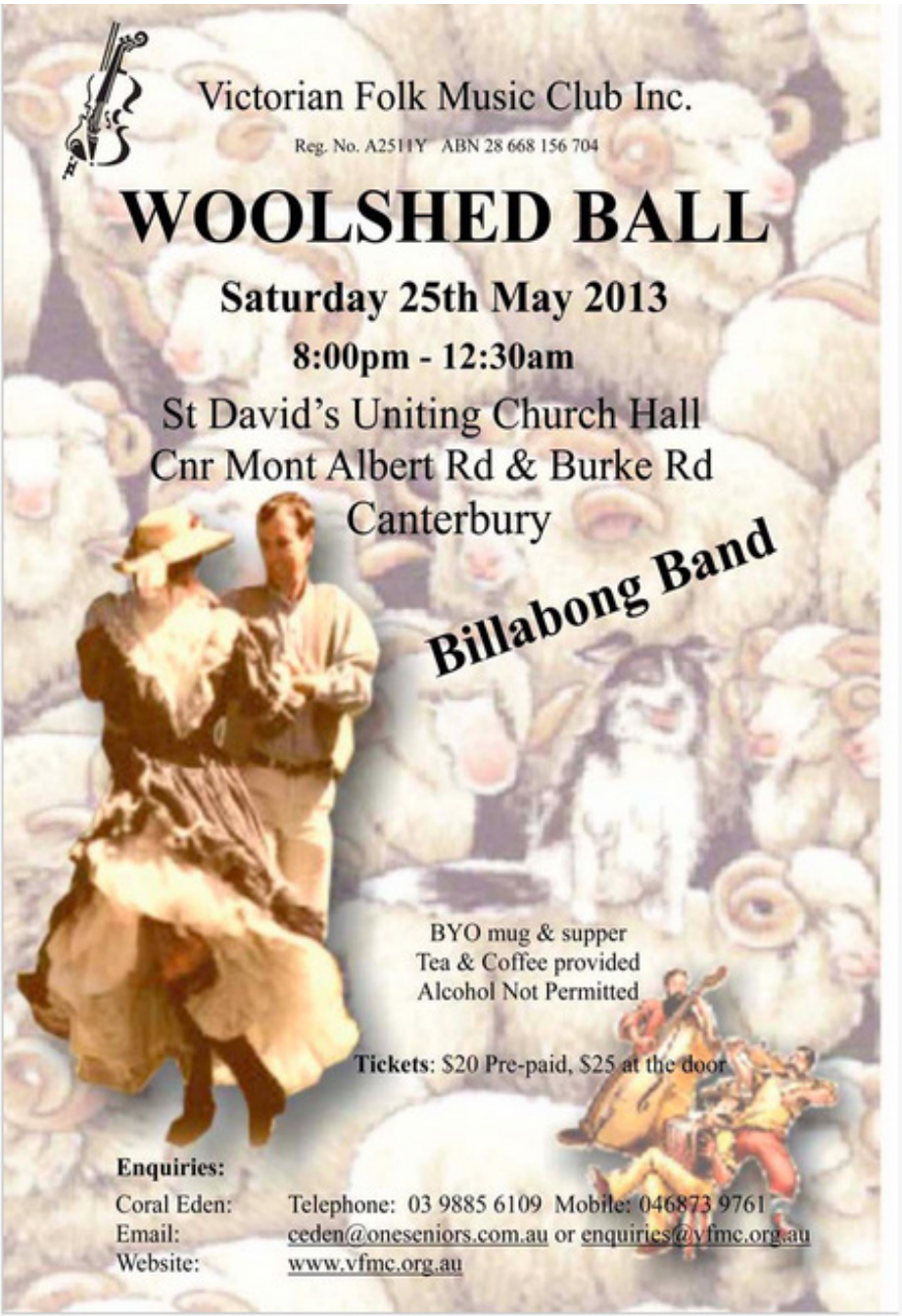
How should slow airs be treated?

* The aim of the performer should be to draw a high level of sentiment out of the tune. No sense of hurry should be noticed.

What do we need to understand before ornamentation of tunes?

* The function of the grace note - because they are a major part of ornamentation techniques such as rolls, cranns, separating notes of the same pitch, emphasising accented notes.
* To give a lift to the music by using the grace note before unaccented notes of a group.
* the filling in of intervals.

- *by Joe Arnold*


Victorian Folk Music Club Inc.
Reg. No. A2511Y ABN 28 668 156 704
WOOLSHED BALL
Saturday 25th May 2013
8:00pm - 12:30am
St David's Uniting Church Hall
Cnr Mont Albert Rd & Burke Rd
Canterbury
Billabong Band
BYO mug & supper
Tea & Coffee provided
Alcohol Not Permitted
Tickets: $20 Pre-paid, $25 at the door
Enquiries:
Coral Eden: Telephone: 03 9885 6109 Mobile: 046873 9761
Email: ceden@oneseniors.com.au or enquiries@vfmc.org.au
Website: www.vfmc.org.au

V.F.M.C - ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Sunday 23rd June 2013

At 2.30 p.m. in the Community Hall

East Ringwood (Knaith Rd)

ANOTHER FOLK QUIZ

1) What was the name of Ned Kelly's mother?

2) Name at least one song about Ned Kelly that refers to her?

3) What is the name of the song from which the verse below comes?

4) And who is supposedly speaking/singing these 4 lines?

To eastward lies great Bogong, towering to the sky,
From east to west and then you'll find that's Gippsland lying by,
You know the country well, Ned, so take your comrades there,
And profit by your knowledge of the wombat and the bear.

(Answers in next month's 'Tradition'.)

Regular Functions at Other Venues

Bendigo Folk Club

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

Bush Dance and Music Club of Bendigo Inc

Monthly bush dance at Bendigo East, third Saturday every month. Contact Dianne Pearse (dpearse@iinet.net.au) 5442-1715 or Mary Smith 5442-1153 (secretary@bendigobushdance.org.au) for details.

Berwick and District Folk Club

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

Boite World Music Cafe

Therese Virtue,, 03 9417 1983
boite@boite.asn.au
Friday & Saturday - March to November, 1 Mark St, North Fitzroy, www.boite.asn.au

Geelong Folk Music Club

Ade Kelly (03)5241-3749, adenmyra@bigpond.com.au, Pete Fogarty (03)5339-7887. Featuring quality acts from around the country and overseas. Sessions every Thursday at Hotel Max, 2 Gheringhap St, Geelong. Open Mic. Performance events first Tuesday at Irish Murphy's, 30 Aberdeen St & 3rd Tuesdays at Hotel Max. Bookings: Paula Grembka 0401 671 1310. http://www.geelongfolkmusicclub.com/

Gippsland Acoustic Music Club

Barbara Brabets, 03 5174 7403
Local musicians and concert opportunities.
1st Sunday at 7:45 pm, Tyers Hall, Tyers
www.musicclub.org

Ranges Burrinja Folk Club

Andrew Jackson, 03 97567398 or
0402 473 897
mail@drfolk.com.au
Guest artist, last Friday of month
Burrinja Cultural Centre, 351 Glenfern Rd, Upwey Vic (Mel Ref 75B12)
www.rangesburrinjafolk.org/home.html

Selby Folk Club

David Miller, 03 9751 1218
miller@a1.com.au
1st Friday every month, at 8:00 pm, Selby Community House Minok Reserve

www.home.aone.net.au/~selbyfolkclub

Peninsula Folk Club

First Sunday of each month, at the Frankston Bowling Club on the corner of Yuille Street and Williams Rd, Frankston, from 6:30 pm on. Carparking, great facilities, no stairs.

peninsulafolkclub.org.au

Yea Acoustic Jam Session

first Friday of the month at the Yea Community House (part of the Library Complex) 7.30 p.m. All levels of musicians and singers most welcome—$2.00 entry. It is run by Rick and Lee Vengeance, phone 5772 0357 during business hours or see Fairly Folk facebook page for more details.

Ballarat Folk Gathering

1st Sunday of the month 2PM(Except January)
At Ballarat East Community House
507 Eyre St, Ballarat.

THE VICTORIAN FOLK MUSIC CLUB INCORPORATED

INVITES YOU TO JOIN THE CLUB

Members of the VFMC are entitled to -

- The monthly Club Newsletter
- Concessions at Club events
- Discounts on Club publications
- Discounts on Club CD's and cassettes
- Affiliation with other organisations

VFMC Postal Address

GPO Box 2025, Melbourne, Victoria 3001.

VFMC Website

http://www.vfmc.org.au

CONTACTS

Acting Secretary

Harry Gardner
Telephone: 9870 8998
Email: secretary@vfmc.org.au

Ringwood Folk Club

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

Family Bush Dance

Maree Buttler
Telephone 9733 0802
Email: dance@vfmc.org.au

Concert Party Engagements

Maree Buttler
Telephone: 9733 0802
Email: enquiries@vfmc.org.au

To join the VFMC, fill in this Application Form and post to:

VFMC Secretary,
GPO Box 2025,
Melbourne, Victoria 3001

Newsletter Delivery: (select ☑)
(both may be selected if desired)
By Email ☐
and / or
By Post ☐

MEMBERSHIP TYPE (select ☑)

City/Suburban -		
Single	$25	☐
Family	$30	☐
Junior	$15	☐
Student	$20	☐
Single Pensioner	$20	☐
Pensioner Family	$25	☐
Country -		
Single	$20	☐
Family	$25	☐

Name: .....

Address: .....

Phone Contact: .....

Email: .....