Established 1959

Australian TRADITION

October 2022

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NEWSLETTER OF THE VICTORIAN FOLK MUSIC CLUB INCORPORATED

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WATTLE DAY 2022
BUSH DANCE

Photo by Maggie Somerville

EVENTS COMING UP THAT INVOLVE VFMC MEMBERS:-

MALDON FOLK FESTIVAL AND MAROONDAH FESTIVAL

PLEASE SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER BY: FRIDAY 14TH OCTOBER TO: EDITOR@VFMC.ORG.AU

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

Club Event Calendar

NOTE: PLEASE CHECK IF EVENTS ARE ZOOM, LIVE OR HYBRID!

Club Weekly Sessions

Weekly Sessions

Every Tuesday of the month except the 2nd (Concert night), **Ringwood Uniting Church Hall**, Station St. plus **online access.** From 7.15 Australian Folk Songs; 7.45 - 9.15 main supportive round robin session for singing, playing, reciting, performing, yarns, workshops, etc. The 4th Tuesday is for all-in round robin playing of tunes, dance sets & group singing. $5 members, $6 non members. All welcome. **www.vfmc.org.au**

Guest Performer Concert

On the second Tuesday of the month (instead of the weekly session) a concert is held featuring top acoustic performers. Ringwood Uniting Church Hall and/or online. Concerts start with open stage acts at 7.45pm, finishing 10.00pm. $14, $12 conces and $10 members, kids free.

By-Ear Sessions

To be organised at a future date - hopefully.

Ringwood Colonial Dance

Family Bush Dance, first Saturday of every month except January 8-11pm at the Ringwood East Senior Citizens Hall, Laurence Grove. A different band each month and all ages are welcome. $12, $10 concession and members, kids free. No charge. Contact: Jane 9762-1389 / **www.vfmc.org.au**

Ringwood Children's Dance

Every 3rd Saturday of each month except December and January. 2-3.30pm at the Ringwood East Senior Citizens Hall, Laurence Grove. Live band each month. All school age children welcome. $5 a child, $10 a family. Adults free.

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

Victorian Folk Music Club
at Ringwood

presents

The Zamponistas

with Support Rebecca Jane Howell and Marty McKenna

Next concert 8th November - Maggie Carty Band

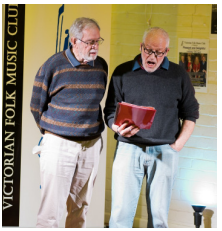
CONCERT NIGHT REVIEW—SEPTEMBER

Our host and MC for the a cappella evening was Tony Kelly.

SPOT ACTS: Pleasant and Delightful is a versatile group of musicians and singers made up of members of our club. Robyn, Kristin, Ken and Don put aside their instruments to entertain us with their beautifully harmonized versions of *Dona Nobis Pacem* and *Sing to our Redeemer*. They followed with two drinking songs, *Let Union be in all our Hearts* and *The Cadgwith Anthem* about old Cornish robbers who evaded capture by retreating to mountain caves.

Kaff and the Caterwauls comprised Maree, Bill, Simon conducted by Kaff. They sang a rather dark Georgian folk song about bodies floating down a river. The mood picked up with a bright rendition of *The Sloop John B.* With guidance from Kaff, the audience happily joined in the chorus of the next song which was an African folk tune, *Come with me for the Journey is Long*. *Wild Mountain Thyme* followed, with the final song being *O Sweet Peace*.

A Barbershop Quartet of Lynette, Tracey, Robyn and Kerry took to the stage next. Their beautiful harmonies filled the hall as they performed an Elton John/Tim Rice song, *Can you feel the Love Tonight.* Then from the forties a song written by Mills/Cole*: Straighten up and Fly Right.* The audience happily played their part in singing harmony along with the group. Then they finished with a poignant farewell folk song, *The Parting Glass.*



Alex and Mike sang a tribute to Aboriginal artist and entertainer Uncle Jack Charles who passed away this week: *Brown Skin Baby They Take Him Away.*

Then Mike sang a salute to Earl Grey tea in a song by Enda Kenny about the delight (or not) of the beverage. It's warm, it's wet, like eau de toilette!

(continued over…)

CONCERT NIGHT REVIEW (CONTINUED)

MAIN ACT: The Velvetones, Claire, Leonie, Stephanie, started out together in 2018 with Jessica joining recently. Since then have risen to become one of the leading a cappella groups in the country. At festivals including the Melbourne International, Adelaide Fringe, Hobart Festival of Voices and many others they have walked away with multiple awards and honours for their sublime performances. Their colourful dresses and hair styles reflected the era of the 1920s, 1930s and 1940s from which they chose most of their songs for the evening.

They began with a bright and breezy rendition of *As long as I'm Singing my Song* and followed up with *Ain't Misbehavin'*. Then using their voices to mimic musical instruments, they performed an Italian jukebox hit from the 1950s. Their beautifully harmonized voices tugged at the heartstrings as the strains of *Danny Boy* whispered throughout the silent hall.

Then with stylish choreographed movements, they upped the mood with some pacier songs, including *Chattanooga Choo-Choo; Rum and Coca-Cola; Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree; and Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy of Company B.* One song performed in German, *Bei Mir Bist Du Schon* (To Me, You are Beautiful) is a Yiddish song dating back to the 1920s. A more modern song from the pen of Paul McCartney in 1966, *For No One,* is a sad tale of a love that didn't last. Continuing the sombre mood the next song was *I'll be Seeing You* popularized by Dame Vera Lynn.

(continued over…)

Then we moved into more modern times with an 1980s classic, *I'm Holding out for a Hero*. Then a gentle love song, *I Can't Help Falling in Love with You,* from Blue Hawaii, a Presley movie. This beautiful tune was based on a French love song dating back to 1874*, Plaisir D'Amour.* From Elvis to Ernie, the next song is a Sesame Street favourite: *I Don't want to Live on the Moon.* With their clear voices pealing like bells, the Velvetones sang *Mr Sandman*. Then concluding the evening they sang a song with a great message for all of us: *The Best Things in Life are Free.* The bright, bouncy style of the four singers combined with their fresh, smiling faces uplifted the mood of everyone in the hall. We wish them success in the Hobart Festival of Voices later this year and hope to see and hear them again soon.

The VFMC extends their thanks to all of the volunteers who worked together to make the evening possible.

Next month: The Zamponistas. A Bolivian Pan Pipe Marching Band.

Report by Bette Martin ; photos by Trevor Voake

The Dance Page

Diary dates for October : ***Please check before going to any of these dances***

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30th	**31st** Scottish					**1st** **V.F.M.C.** **Borderline** **Kaylee**
2nd TSDAV and Contra	**3rd** Scottish	**4th** **English**	**5th** **Irish**	**6th**	**7th**	**8th** Scottish
9th Claddagh	**10th** Scottish	**11th**	**12th** **Irish**	**13th**	**14th** **English**	**15th** **V.F.M.C.** **Children's Dance** **Bendigo East Hop**
16th **Welsh**	**17th** Scottish	**18th** **English**	**19th** **Irish**	**20th** Melbourne Colonial Dance	**21st**	**22nd**
23rd Cladddagh	**24th** Scottish	**25th**	**26th** **Irish**	**27th**	**28th** **English**	**29th**
		1st Nov. **English**	**2nd** **Irish**	**3rd**	**4th**	**5th** **V.F.M.C.** **Family Bush Dance** **Brumbies Bush Band**
6th **English (Old style)** **Contra**	**7th** **Scottish**	**8th**	**9th** **Irish**	**10th** **Scottish**	**11th** **English**	**12th** **Scottish** **Spring Dance Weekend**

THE DANCE PAGE (continued):

SPRING DANCE WEEKEND—Portarlington 12th-13th November
Contact: Norm Ekllis 9888-5332

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

VFMC Colonial Dance at East Ringwood Elderly Citizens Hall Laurence Grove, East Ringwood **7.30-10.30pm** September only. Contact Jane: 9762 1389

VFMC Children's Dance at East Ringwood Elderly Citizens Hall Laurence Grove, East Ringwood **2-3.00pm**. Contact Jane: 9762 1389

Irish dancing at St. Phillips Church, Hoddle Street, Collingwood **7.30-9.30pm**. Contact Marie: 9471 0690

English Tuesday, dancing at Bennettswood Neighbourhood House, 7 Greenwood Street, Burwood **8-10pm**. Contact George 9890 5650

English Friday, dancing at Church of Christ Hall, 1 The Avenue, Surrey Hills **8-10pm** contact George 9890 5650

Melbourne Colonial Dance: Ashbureton Uniting Church, 3 Ashburn Grove, Ashburton. **7.30-10pm**. Contact: secretary@melbournecolonialdancers.org.au

Welsh Dancing at Church of Christ Hall, 1 The Avenue, Surrey Hills **2-4.30pm**. Contact Ian 9878 2414.

TSDAV Sunday, Church of Christ Hall, 1 T he Avenue, Surrey Hills. **1-4.30pm**. Contact Norm Ellis: 9888-5332

Contra Dance: Beckett Uniting Church , 72 Highfield Rd, Canterebury. Info: 0422 932532

Scottish Monday & Saturday: Paton Memorial Hall, Deepdene Uniting Church, 958 Burke Road, Deepdene. **8pm**. Contact: Deepdene.dancers@bigpond.com

Scottish Thursday: Taggerty Hall, Maroondah Highway at Taggerty, corner of Thornton Rd. **7-9pm**. Contact: Di Gaylard: 5963 3277 or musicman@virtual.net.au

Bendigo East Hop Holy Trinity Church Hall, Keck St, Flora Hill, 3550. **8pm** start. Contact Dianne Pearse: 5442-1715 or dpearse@iinet.net.au

- by Jane Bullock

Family Bush Dance

Presented by

Victorian Folk Music Club inc

Saturday 1st October 2022

with Borderline Kaylee

Ringwood East Senior Citizens Hall
Laurence Grove, Ringwood East
(Melways P50 B8)

Advance purchase your tickets at:-
https://events.humanitix.com/vfmc-oct2022-dance

tickets at the door

Cost: $10 - Members, $12 Non Members, Kids free

Dance - 8.00 - 11.00pm - supper included

Contact Jane on 97621389

Victorian Folk Music Club Inc.

(Registered No A2511Y)

Bush Dance
fun for Families

Saturday 15th October 2022
2.00pm - 3.00pm

Ringwood East Senior Citizens Hall,
Laurence Grove, Ringwood East

Band: **Brumbies Bush Band**

Cost: $5 per child or $10 a family and adults free when accompanied by a child

Phone: Jane 9762 1389
Email: dance@vfmc.org.au
VFMC Website: www.vfmc.org.au

WATTLE DAY 2022

The decision whether to stage Wattle Day again was a gamble with possible effects of pandemic restrictions versus the benefits. But in the end it was decided to go ahead on Saturday 3rd December. It turned out to be a well attended day of workshops, singalongs and discussions, ending with the monthly family bush dance in the evening. A long day, but all the activities seemed to fulfil an area of interest for the participants. Thanks to the incredible talents and interesting range of subjects of the conveners, it was one of those days you wished you could attend virtually every session. The conveners produced some very good support material which our techo team was able to make available on the website well before the day. You can still find it there as an ongoing reference resource.

The Committee would welcome feedback as to subject material for future Wattle Days and/or similar workshop style activities, in order to get the best value from them. Even thoughts and suggestions to make the experience even better. We realise there were one or two issues with remote access and displaying which has been noted. The Club has within its ranks a wide range of instruments, knowledge and experienced people, and if that can be shared it will make for a rich experience for all in the long run.

Much credit to the excellent conveners, and to the tech team, the Committee, TSDAV, and The Blackberry Jam Band.

- *by Don Fraser*

Want to look back on Wattle Day workshops?

Are there any Wattle Day workshops you would like to have attended, but couldn't for any reason? Maybe it was on at the same time as another one you were attending. Or perhaps you heard good reports and would like to catch up with the material.

The good news is that the notes, scores and in come cases audio clips for most workshops from the 2022 and 2021 Wattle Day workshops are accessible on the VFMC website.

Just go to the VFMC Home page top menu 'Music Resources' > 'Workshops and Tutorials'.

- *by Michael Hassett (Web team)*

A.F.L. GRAND FINAL—THEME SONGS

Could some of the A.F.L. theme songs actually stem from the folk tradition? Here are the relevant two for this year's Grand Final at the M.C.G.—Sydney and Geelong, although the latter's tune clearly stems from the classical 'Toreador'.

Cheer, cheer the red and the white
Honour the name by day and by night
Lift that noble banner high
Shake down the thunder from the sky

What though the odds be great or small
Swans will go in and win over all
While our loyal Swans are marching
Onward to victory

We are Geelong, the greatest team of all
We are Geelong; we're always on the ball
We play the game as it should be played
At home or far away
Our banners fly high, from dawn to dark
Down at Kardinia Park

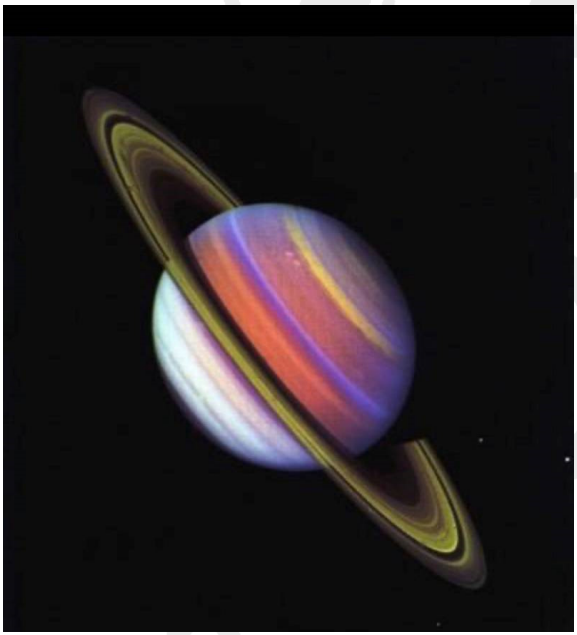
So! Stand up and fight, remember our tradition
Stand up and fight, it's always our ambition
Throughout the game to fight with all our might
Because we're the mighty blue and white
And when the ball is bounced, to the final bell
Stand up and fight like hell!

Following in the tradition of C.J. Dennis writing a poem based on current news items:-

The Accident of Saturn's Rings

Scientists report the likely source of Saturn's rings
Was an accident that changed the equilibrium of things.
One of Saturn's moons approached too close, then gravity
Destroyed it. All that's left now is those rings that we can see.
If I spill a cup of coffee, have a bingle in my car,
Leave my pizza in the oven till the crusts begin to char,
Stub my toe upon a house brick, cut my finger slicing fruit,
Get a nasty dose of sunburn or a blister from my boot;
If I trip upon a shoelace, if I'm bitten by a cat,
If I walk into a pane of glass, or trip upon a mat;
No matter what the accident, the bungle never brings
An outcome half as beautiful as Saturn's magic rings!

© Stephen Whiteside 16/09/2022



APPALACHIAN DULCIMER— QUIZ

1) What is an Appalachian or mountain dulcimer? 2) What country is it mostly associated with? 3) Name a well-known singer who has featured it? 4) How many strings does a dulcimer have? 5) What is a related instrument?

Answers to last quiz:-
1) An Australian singer, songwriter & musician 2) 1963 3) 'I'll Never Find Another You' 4) Left the group to pursue a solo career 5) Victorian of the Year 6) In 2022 aged 79.

BILLABONG BAND REPORT—SEPTEMBER 2022

This month we returned to Donwood Aged Care for the first time in nearly three years.

We had a great time and were warmly received by a large & receptive audience. We played a number of old sing-a-long numbers such as our Pride of Erin set, which had almost everybody joining in, and then as we ran out of time finished off with Botany Bay which again had everybody joining in on the chorus.

They enjoyed it enough to ask us back again in November.

Thanks to Mary, Maree, Margie, Michael, Stewart & Trevor.

Below is a list of upcoming gigs.

Note that the Maroondah Festival & the National Folk Festival are still to be confirmed.

29th October: Maldon Folk Festival
6th November: Maroondah Festival
15th November: Donwood Age Care
3rd December: VFMC Dance
20th-23rd January 2023: Newstead Live Music Festival
Easter 2023: National Folk Festival (Canberra)

by Convenor: Trevor Voake

Regular Functions at Other Venues CHECK IF ON

Bendigo Folk Club

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

Bush Dance and Music Club of Bendigo Inc

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

Berwick and District Folk Club

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

Boite World Music Cafe

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

Geelong Folk Music Club

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

Comhaltas (Collingwood)

Joan and Ray Mundy run a session on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of every month, starts 7.30pm. Supper. Maree: 9471-0690

Gippsland Acoustic Music Club

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

Selby Folk Club

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

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

Peninsula Folk Club

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

peninsulafolkclub.org.au

Creswick Folk Club

Second Friday, from 7.30 pm at the American Hotel in Creswick; and
Fourth Friday, from 7.30 pm at the Old Station in Creswick.
Enquiries: Graeme: 03 5334 5551
www.facebook.com/creswickfolkclub/

Fireside Fiddlers

For fiddles plus other string melody instruments, such as mandolins.

Every Monday evening at various venues. For further information, contact Denise Hibbs: 0402 050 524

Newport Folk Club

Certain Friday nights at 7.30 pm plus other evenings, e.g. Tues Blues and Sunday 2 pm singalongs etc.
See website for up-to-date calendar.

THE VICTORIAN FOLK MUSIC CLUB INCORPORATED

INVITES YOU TO JOIN THE CLUB

Members of the VFMC are entitled to -

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

VFMC Postal Address

P.O. Box 215, Ringwood East, Vic. 3135

VFMC Website

http://www.vfmc.org.au

Contacts

Secretary

Jane Bullock
Telephone: 9762 1389
Email: secretary@vfmc.org.au

Session Co-ordinator

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

Family/Children's Bush Dance

Jane Bullock
Telephone: 9762 1389
Email: dance@vfmc.org.au

Billabong Band Engagements

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

I ……..……..….wish to become a member of the Victorian Folk Music Club Inc. and will

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

Signed ……..

I wish to receive my Newsletter by:
(a) Email or/and
(b) Post
(Cross out whichever is not applicable)

Please post completed form to:
The Secretary
VFMC
PO Box 215
Ringwood East 3135 Victoria

Membership Type (please circle)		
Metro	Single	$25
	Family*	$30
	Junior (u 18)	$15
	Student (full time)	$20
	Single Concession	$20
	Family Concession*	$25
Country	Single	$20
	Family*	$25

*Family – Parent/s & any children under 18

Name: ……
Address……
……
Email ……..
Phone/s……