



Established 1959

June 2013

**Australian**

# **TRADITION**

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Reg No A2511Y

**NEWSLETTER OF THE VICTORIAN FOLK MUSIC CLUB INCORPORATED**

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**SO CLOSE NOW.....**

**THE WOOLSHED BALL!!!**

**SATURDAY 25TH MAY**

**8.00PM - 12.30AM**

**St David's Uniting Church Hall**

**in Canterbury**

**BILLABONG BAND**

**Tickets: \$20 prepaid, \$25 at door**

**See further details inside (p.13)**

**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 JULY NEWSLETTER**  
**BY: FRIDAY, 21ST JUNE 2013**

## 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
						<b>1st June</b> VFMC Dance Jolly Jumbucks
<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b> Fiddles	<b>4th</b> Club Session	<b>5th</b>	<b>6th</b> By-Ear Session	<b>7th</b>	<b>8th</b>
<b>9th</b>	<b>10th</b> Fiddles	<b>11th</b> Guest Night	<b>12th</b>	<b>13th</b>	<b>14th</b>	<b>15th</b>
<b>16th</b>	<b>17th</b> Fiddles	<b>18th</b> Club Session	<b>19th</b>	<b>20th</b>	<b>21st</b>	<b>22nd</b>
<b>23rd</b>	<b>24th</b> Fiddles	<b>25th</b> Club Session	<b>26th</b>	<b>27th</b>	<b>28th</b>	29th
<b>30th</b>	<b>1st July</b> <b>Fiddles</b>	<b>2nd</b> Club session	<b>3rd</b>	<b>4th</b> By-Ear Session	<b>5th</b>	<b>6th</b> <b>VFMC Dance</b> <b>Shearers</b> <b>Tally</b>

Victorian Folk Music Club Inc.  
**Ringwood East Folk**



**ANDY RIGBY &  
POLLY CHRISTIE**

When one of  
Australia's leading  
folk harp exponents  
(and makers) meets  
the honeyed vocals  
of a world music  
and choral diva,  
you're in for a rich  
feast of music.

**TUESDAY 11th June**

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](mailto:enquiries@vfmc.org.au)  
VFMC Website: [www.vfmc.org.au](http://www.vfmc.org.au)  
Victorian Folk Music Club Inc. (Reg. No A2511Y)



**JULY 9TH - THE HILLWILLIAMS** supported by Journey Bound

## Guest Artist Night, May 2013



The MC for the Reciters' Night was Michael who did a sterling job of keeping things on track.

Chris Healy has written some clever poems and he opened the spot acts with Paddy's Shout. This was followed by a popular Dutch song Daar By Die

Molen—The Windmill is Turning from Sophie and Harry. A Tribute to Tony was presented by Frances, remembering a friend who was a victim of agent orange in the Vietnam War. Visitor Brian, who is president of the Henry Lawson

Society, then recited two pieces reflecting on his contentment while camping at his bush property near Ballarat, the first on poking the coals of the fire at night and the second on the views to be had while looking in different directions. Sounds like a very idyllic place to be!



Rudy van Bovencamp did a medley of polkas and his song Unclouded Day with some skilful accompaniment on blues harmonica. Maggie Somerville then recited her self-composed poem When You Laugh, then turned it into a rather pretty song with harp backing from Maree. Some good laughs followed as Gail explored What Does Your Name Mean. Ever thought how our names can have a second meaning? Think about it: frank, bill, john, sue, nick. Even gale. Or



don.....

Raymond came from across town and presented Slim Dusty's Lights on the Hill, accompanied by his well travelled guitar, and then his

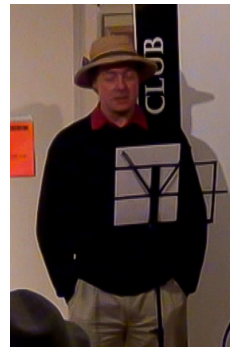


entertaining self-composed poem on trying to get a prayer in at the Corryong church. Thanks for coming over, Raymond. A night of verse would be much the lesser without a contribution from Jim Smith, who held the audience spellbound with the gripping tale of



Bungadell was saved from certain calamity by MacArthur's Fart. Penned by Rob Bath and Andrew Bleby.

**THE MAIN ACT:-** Mac Craig and Stephen Whiteside are two talented fellows with a passionate interest in the works of one of Australia's greatest poets, C.J. Dennis. They have put together an entertaining show combining dialogue about the life and times of Dennis with recitation of some of his work, principally The Sentimental Bloke. Stephen provides the background information and Mac does the reciting.



**Guest Artist Night, May 2013**

Stephen requested that Jim Smith open the show with Dennis' An Old Master, about Dad Magee's experiences as a bullock puncher in the forests near Toolangi. Dennis was born at Auburn, S.A., in 1876 but moved to Melbourne in 1907 at the age of 31. A year later he moved to Toolangi, and it was here that he wrote much of his works including the charming series of linked verse The Sentimental Bloke. The humour and good cheer of these works made his name and did much to improve morale during the First World War. Pocket-sized editions were published for the troops. Stephen gave a history of Sunnyside, a property at Kallista where Dennis also spent much time and from where he gained friendship, support and inspiration. Mac Craig then recited A Spring Song. "Er Name's Doreen" are the famous opening words of The Sentimental Bloke. As the relationship develops we learn about Bill and Doreen spending time at the beach, they see Romeo and Juliet, and Bill is understandably anxious when another suitor to Doreen turns up, one 'Knock-knee'd swivel-eyed twit'. How Bill and Doreen get hitched is beautiful romance in anyone's language but Bill later forgets his higher responsibilities and strays with Ginger Mick etc. With tenderness and patience from Doreen they make up of course, and Bill eventually settles to take up farming. In The Kid he waxes poetical over the joys of fatherhood. Bill's knockabout style of language puts a thin veneer on some very clever perceptions of life and emotions and CJ's exceptional knack for good old storytelling that mark him as a writer of great talent. His other poems show a similar ability to get inside the heads of ordinary people and describe the emotions and feelings going on in there. Dennis died in 1938. His widow was not able to continue living at Toolangi, so their property passed through several hands until the current owners, Vic and Jan Williams, purchased it in 1969. The Dennis homestead is no longer there as it burnt down in 1965, but the gardens have been well maintained over the years and are in superb condition. The Williams re-named Arden 'The Singing Gardens' (in reference to Dennis' final book). They have run the property as a tea-room for many years, and take their role as custodians of the CJ Dennis legacy very seriously. Thanks to Mac and Stephen for a most entertaining evening!



Next month will be an exhilarating concert with Andy Rigby & Polly Christie.

- Don Fraser; photos by Trevor Voake



## The Dance Page

### Diary Dates for June 2013

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

### Diary Dates for early July 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1st</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>5th</b>	<b>6th</b> VFMC Shearers Tally
<b>7th</b> TSDAV Dance Workshop	<b>8th</b> Irish or Scottish	<b>9th</b> English	<b>10th</b> Irish or Colonials	<b>11th</b> Scottish	<b>12th</b>	<b>13th</b> Scottish

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**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 ENGLAND

Determined to do as much different dancing as I could whilst over here, I put our names down to do 'Kentucky Running Sets'. We turned up on the appointed day at a church hall in the Essex countryside along with 14 other people. For most of us it was our first time so we were all a bit curious as to what we were in for. Not having any idea what to expect we blithely got up for the first (only) dance before interval. Les the caller gave a brief history of why we were there - *Cecil Sharp with Maud Karpeles went to America during the First World War and whilst visiting did some field work in the Appalachian mountains, saw this style of dancing and brought it back to England.*

A square set of four couples is required and as the dance lasts a very long time it is best to not sit out! A requirement is also that you need to know the basics. A dance consists of choruses, figures and do-si-dos (there are at least 10 different do-si-dos; thankfully we only learned one), and the figures all have unusual names like 'Buffalo Loop', 'Double Bow Knot', 'Cut Through' and many more. Incredibly we learned 20 different figures and 12 different choruses in the three hours of dancing. The last half hour was devoted to revision and we danced solidly for that half hour before our laughter overcame us and we couldn't dance any more due to so much hilarity. And also, of course, we have forgotten how to do the figures - our poor brains just couldn't cope with so much information in such a short time.





I was given a book of instructions so if there are multiples of eight people interested I would be happy to share my knowledge.



May the 1st and traditionally the Morris dancers are out in force celebrating the dawn of life. Well, the Wednesday ceildh dance fell on this auspicious day and inbetween the general dancing, we had a rest and watched Cockleshell Clog from Leigh-on-Sea do what they do best. They did three dances; the first and second, 'Grenoside' and 'Phoenix' were danced with garlands and the last 'Tingley' was danced with batons. With bells and ribbons flowing they looked beautiful, colourful and exciting. The 'Tingley' dance had a really neat ending which I hadn't seen before but it finished

off their performance; the movement required timing and precision to dance well which they pulled off. We were glad to have been here at the right time.

- by Jane Bullock

## MORE NEWS FROM ENGLAND - Jane Bullock

Just after arriving back in England whilst staying near Manchester with our best man Barry and his wife Hilary, we were in time to go to the Ramsbottom Folk Club. A pair of Scottish girls, Mairearad & Anne, were playing, both exceptionally talented in voice and instruments. Mairearad played guitar, banjo and violin, and Anne played the piano accordion and the bagpipes. Both girls sang but Mairearad sang the most.

The upstairs room of the pub (Grant Arms Hotel) wasn't particularly big and the thought of the bagpipes was a little daunting, but Anne played them so well that I for one was stirred with her playing and didn't notice if they were on the loud side. Our friends were enchanted with their act and hopefully next month they will go back to see the next concert.



## MUSICAL MARKETEERS

Once again on the 6th April at the Ringwood East monthly first Saturday Community Market, three now veteran buskers are playing and singing in good weather alongside the bus stop as market customers walk by.

By now we are getting well-known and traders greet us. The Federal election candidates and their staff encourage us (Now why would they do that?) and from time to time someone tells us about an old violin in the family. Some stop to read our literature and posters. The Kanding Love Song works well with Chinese families.

But we are not achieving our objective, which is to capture the interest of children and invite them to play the accordion, drum and percussion instruments that we display. Only once did we march around the Market ourselves. Mind you, people who display too much interest in children these days could themselves be a subject of attention. Does anyone have any suggestions?

- by *Harry Gardner*

## THE POLKA

### What is a polka?

- It is a popular Set Dance Form said to have been developed in Bohemia in the 1800's
- It is also a popular dance tune.

### Where are Polka tunes most commonly found and played in Ireland?

- Kerry, Limerick and Cork in an area known as Sliabh Luachra.
- However, TV, radio and recordings have spread them throughout the Irish traditional music world.

### Why are tunes in 2/4 time easy to learn?

- They are simple in note structure.
- They have two beats to the bar.
- They have a distinctive rhythm of **One**-two, **One**-two or **Strong**-weak, **Strong**-weak.
- They have a strongly accented rhythm.
- Accenting the main notes causes the pulse that has an up and down feeling to it.
- They seem to have a sound and rhythm that is easy to remember.
- Try clapping the rhythm as an exercise before learning a tune.

### What is the bar structure in each of the two sections of a tune?

- Usually eight bars in each section.
- They have two crotchets or the equivalent.

## CONCERT PARTY REPORT

Since my last report in the February newsletter the Concert Party has been very busy

On 19th April the Billabong Band joined Barry Murnane for a concert at Burwood for Crossroads Christian Fellowship and Disabled Persons. Great fun was had by all of us—audience and band included. Lots of folk songs, action songs, dancing and a puppet show (by Harry). We have already been asked back to do a Christmas in July concert. Thanks must go to Barry, Harry, Don F, Don G, Trevor, Margie Francis, Sophie and me.



On 4th May the Billabong Ban played for the East Ringwood Dance. This was a great opportunity for us musicians practising hard for the Woolshed Ball in May as many of the May bell dances were included in the program. A good number of people attended. A big thank you must go to Luke (a 19-year-old student) who stepped in at

the last minute to provide his sound expertise. And thanks to the following musicians for their hard work—Cameron, Harry, Pru, Maggie, Bill, Katy, Don G, Bryce, Frances, Stan, Trevor and me. A big thank you to all the dance callers on the night - Coral, Cathy and Michael. A special thank you to Coral for organizing the program.

### Upcoming events:

Sat. 25th May - Woolshed Ball (see next page for details)

Sat. 20th July - Christmas in July concert for Crossroads Christian Fellowship at 2.30 pm at Burwood Heights Uniting Church.

*by Maree Buttler, photo by Trevor Voake*



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:

Email:

Website:

Telephone: 03 9885 6109 Mobile: 046873 9761

[ceden@oneseniors.com.au](mailto:ceden@oneseniors.com.au) or [enquiries@vfmc.org.au](mailto:enquiries@vfmc.org.au)

[www.vfmc.org.au](http://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)**

### YET ANOTHER FOLK QUIZ

- 1) What poem by Banjo Paterson was made into a movie?
- 2) What or who was Paterson's pseudonym 'Banjo' named after?
- 3) Which poem by Banjo Paterson do the following lines come from?  
*I am sitting in my dingy little office, where a stingy  
Ray of sunlight struggles feebly down between the houses tall*
- 4) Which of Paterson's poems became very famous as a song?
- 5) Who sang this song in 2000 at the Sydney Olympic Games?

The answers to this quiz will be in next month's 'Tradition'.

#### **Answers to last month's quiz:**

- 1) *Ellen was the name of Ned Kelly's mother.*
- 2) *Songs referring to her include: The Ballad of Ned Kelly, Game as Ned Kelly.*
- 3) *The verse quoted comes from 'Farewell to Greta'.*
- 4) *Ned Kelly's sister Kate is supposedly singing the above song.*

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

### Boite World Music Cafe

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

1<sup>st</sup> 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](mailto:secretary@vfmc.org.au)

**Ringwood Folk Club**

Don Fraser  
 Telephone 0407 737 202  
 Email: [enquiries@vfmc.org.au](mailto:enquiries@vfmc.org.au)

**Family Bush Dance**

Maree Buttler  
 Telephone 9733 0802  
 Email: [dance@vfmc.org.au](mailto:dance@vfmc.org.au)

**Concert Party Engagements**

Maree Buttler  
 Telephone: 9733 0802  
 Email: [enquiries@vfmc.org.au](mailto: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: .....