

Established 1959

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TRADITION

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NEWSLETTER OF THE VICTORIAN FOLK MUSIC CLUB INCORPORATED

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**VFMC BUSH DANCES -
FIRST SATURDAY OF EACH
MONTH—COME ALONG!**



Photo by Trevor Voake

**URGENT MESSAGE TO VFMC MEMBERS:-
ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE DUE IN MARCH 2023**

**PLEASE SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR APRIL NEWSLETTER
BY: FRIDAY 17TH MARCH TO: EDITOR@VFMC.ORG.AU**

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
			1st March	2nd	3rd	4th Family Bush Dance
5th	6th	7th Club Session HYBRID	8th	9th	10th	11th
12th	13th	14th Concert Night Guest artist/s HYBRID	15th	16th	17th	18th (no children's dance)
19th	20th	21st Club Session HYBRID	22nd	23rd	24th	25th
26th	27th	28th Club Session HYBRID All in				

Victorian Folk Music Club at Ringwood

Martyn Wyndham- Read

Martyn has a silkie voice and a big bag of yarns and anecdotes. A unique opportunity to see one of Britain's great folk performers.

Tuesday 14th March

Ringwood Uniting Church Hall, Station St. Also webcast.
7.45 - 10.00pm Admission \$10 to \$14, kids no charge

Tickets at the door, or pre-purchase all tickets at:

<https://events.humanitix.com/vfmc-march2023-concert>

Spot acts please **PRE-BOOK** at concerts@vfmc.org.au

www.vfmc.org.au / Facebook - Victorian Folk Music Club / 0411.750.462

Presented by The Victorian Folk Music Club Inc. reg. no. A2511Y ABN 28 668 156 704

Next Concert 11th April - Kristian Mizzi



CONCERT NIGHT REVIEW—FEBRUARY

SPOT ACTS:

The opening act on this Valentine's Day concert was birthday girl Julia playing guitar accompanied by Rob on a ukulele base. They played and sang a traditional song, *Rathlin Island*. Then the beautiful soft ballad *Star* by the award-winning Australian songwriter, Sarah Storer.



Very talented poet Ruth entertained with a poem, *The Other Side*. She explains with a string of popular Aussie clichés why she barracks for England at test matches as a tribute to her English father. Then *Being Held in a Phone Queue*—a humorous look at a situation we have all found ourselves in many times.

Tripple Effect is a group all the way from Newcastle in New South Wales. Carrie, Lynden and Len, playing ukuleles and guitar, sang a protest about tree removal in *The Concrete Jungle Blues*. Their voices then blended in sweet harmony as they sang about the beauty of whales.



John Sutton is a songwriter whose aim is pursuing social justice for misunderstood people. He strode onto the stage in the persona of a grizzled gruff pirate and recited a poem describing how he lived by the Code of the Road, the letter of the law. He even tore open his shirt to expose the most dreaded letter of all - R - emblazoned on his shirt.

(continued over...)

CONCERT NIGHT REVIEW (CONTINUED)**SUPPORT ACT:**

Tony Eardley is a traditional folk singer originally from the UK and very well-known and respected in the Australian musical community. Tony writes his own songs, many included on his CD, *Desire Lines*, written from personal experience travelling over the years and others which reflect strong social justice themes. He opened his performance singing unaccompanied *Where Will You Go?* A comment on the consequences of state sanctioned gambling, *Game Over*—bread and jam for tea again. Then a slower, softer song about an accidental meeting and lost love, *On Days like This*, followed by a tale of love gone wrong, *Sailing across the Water*—a woman escaping from domestic violence. Staying with the Valentine's Day theme, Tony then sang a humorous technology love song entitled *The Algorithmic Blues*.

Tony's last song was a reflection on his songwriting skills. *Fallow Field* asks the question: Will there be another song in a field which has been un-farrowed too long? I am sure the audience hopes there will be many more beautiful songs by this accomplished award winning artist.



(continued over...)

CONCERT NIGHT REPORT (continued):-

MAIN ACT: Anita George is a bubbly, bright entertainer who lights up the room with her infectious grin. She has collected awards and accolades as she's moved between folk festivals in such diverse places as France, Canada, North America and home here in Australia in Bendigo, Bruthen, Healesville and Newstead, to

name a few. She has brought the richness of her life experiences into the words and tunes of her songs. Based in Hobart, Anita has come to Victoria to perform with her two very talented friends as the Anita George Trio.

Catherine Leslie plays violin, glockenspiel and sings backup. Daniel McCracken-Hewson plays cello and also sings backup. Anita dedicated this performance to Friendship.



Storm to the Moonlight, one of her most successful releases, was the first song Anita presented tonight. She followed with a song inspired by her three years living in Paris: *Tout Autour de Moi (All Around Me)*. *Candlelights*, a song inspired by travels, was followed by another on tonight's theme, *Love is all it Takes*. Then a change of tune with a tale of love gone wrong, *Oh, my Lover*. *You break my heart when you keep changing your mind*. A sombre song told of the aftermath of the tsunami in Sri Lanka, *3 Fingers*. Hitchhiking throughout the USA gave Anita many memories and inspired her favourite song, *Broken Strings*. Catherine's violin and Daniel's cello provided rich musical depth which enhanced the overall emotion in many of the songs. Moving to Melbourne to make her home amongst the skyscrapers resulted in the lovely song of reflection, *Small Town Girl*, followed by another of her successful releases, *The River*. The next offering was as much a prayer as a song entitled *Never Quite Home*. The last of Anita's own songs was *In my Bones*.

In the final song for the evening, the three voices blended in harmony as they performed this classic Paul Kelly song/hymn: *Meet me in the Middle of the Air*. This performance was a wonderful ending to a really interesting evening.

Thank you to the spot acts and Tony Eardley, our support for the night. Thanks to all of the volunteers who band together to make a successful evening for the performers, the in-hall and Zoom audiences.

Next month: English folk legend, Martyn Wyndham-Read.

Report by Bette Martin ; Photos by Trevor Voake



The Dance Page

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1st March Irish	2nd	3rd ECD	4th VFMC Family Dance
5th TSDAV Dance for Dancers Contra	6th	7th ECD	8th Irish	9th	10th	11th
12th Claddagh	13th	14th	15th Irish	16th Colonial Bush Dance	17th	18th VFMC Children's Bush Dance Bendigo East Dance
19th Welsh	20th	21st ECD	22nd Irish	23rd	24th	25th
26th	27th	28th	29th Irish	30th	31st ECD	
						1st April VFMC Family Bush Dance
2nd TSDAV Dances for Dancers Contra	3rd	4th ECD	5th Irish	6th	7th	8th

THE DANCE PAGE *(continued)*

VFMC Family Dance at East Ringwood Elderly Citizens Hall, Laurence Grove, East Ringwood. Family **8-11pm**. Contact Jane: 9762-1389

VFMC Children's Dance at East Ringwood Elderly Citizens hall, Laurence Grove, East Ringwood. **2-300pm**. Contact Jane: 976d2-1389

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

Irish dancing at St. Phillips Church, Hoddle Street, Collingwood **8-10pm**. Contact Marie: 9471-0690

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

English Country Dance—**Friday** at Church of Christ Hall, 1 The Avenue, Surrey Hills. **8-10pm**. Contact George: 9890-5650

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

Contra: Beckett Uniting Church, 72 Highfield Road, Canterbury. **7.30-10.15pm**. Info: 0422 932 532

TSDAV Dance for Dancers—Church of Christ Hall, 1 The Avenue, Surrey Hills. **1-4pm**. Contact Norm Ellis: 9888-5332

Bendigo East dance: 14 Keck Street, Holy Trinity Church Hall, Flora Hill. **8pm** start. Contact Dianne Pearse: 5442-1715

- *by Jane Bullock*

MORE MUSICAL JOKES

Q. How do you make a band stand?
A. Take away their chairs.

Q. What's the difference between a piano and a fish?
A. You can't tuna fish.

Family Bush Dance

Presented by

Victorian Folk Music Club inc

Saturday 4th March 2023

with Brumbies Bush Band

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

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

Dance - 8.00 - 11.00pm - supper included

Contact Jane on 97621389

see

vfmc.org.au

or

victorian folk music club facebook



Victorian Folk Music Club Inc.
(Registered No A2511Y)



**Bush Dance
for
school children**

**Saturday 18th March
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**

FOLKWHACKED?

The Victorian Folk Music Club and the Sydney Bush Music Club would appear to have the same brief. So why is it 'bush music' north of the border, and 'folk music' south? (And why is it just Sydney, and not New South Wales?) Does 'folk music' reflect Victoria's more genteel origins? Is 'bush music' a better reflection of Sydney's wild hedonism? (Then why do we have the saying 'Sydney or the bush'? And why did Paul Keating say "If you don't live in Sydney, you're just camping out?")

The English and the Americans (and most other countries) have folk music, but not bush music. I don't think, for example, the music of 'Steeleye Span', 'Fairport Convention' or 'Pentangle' could ever be described as 'bush music.' The Americans have their Smithsonian Folkways Recordings. There is no Smithsonian Bushways Recordings. Is 'bush music' simply a subset of 'folk music', found only in Australia? Is it just a rougher form of 'folk music'? Is it true to say that all 'bush music' is 'folk music', but not all 'folk music' is 'bush music'? Is there some Australian 'folk music' that is not 'bush music'?

To further complicate matters, the Bushwackers are a Melbourne, not a Sydney band. The Oxford Dictionary tells me that 'bushwhacked' (the band decided to drop the second 'h') means 'exhausted or worn out.' (Its origins are actually North American.) The Oxford Dictionary does not list a definition for 'folkwhacked,'

OLD TIME /

A free bush dance to celebrate
Dominic PAN'S 80TH BIRTHDAY
Music by Emu Creek Bush Band



Saturday 18th March 2023

8 pm – 12 pm

Keck St. Anglican Church Hall

Flora Hill, Bendigo

Bring a plate. No Alcohol.

No cards or gifts please

RSVP : 08/03/2023

dominicpan@bigpond.com

(03) 5447 8859

FOR SALE

100 year old piano accordion, Settimio Soprami 80 base in good working order. If interested, please contact Barbara 0437946246.



LILTING— QUIZ

1) What is lilting? 2) What are some other names for it? 3) What countries is lilting performed in? 4) Why is the history of lilting unclear? 5) How did lilting change in the 20th century? 6) Which annual Irish music festival is lilting performed at today?

Answers to last quiz:- 1) A wind instrument played with vibrating lips to produce a drone 2) No, it may be onomatopoeic 3) Hardwoods, especially eucalyptus 4) Termites 5) Women 6) Circular breathing.

BILLABONG BAND REPORT—FEBRUARY 2023

Firstly, our January performance at Newstead was cancelled – by mutual agreement. What they wanted was a repeat of a performance done by Eddie Scott many years ago. They supplied me with a taping of his concert & wanted us to repeat it. We had very little wriggle room in what & how we would do it. National Folk Festival – our application was unsuccessful.

Australia Day concert at Donwood Aged Care – after a bit of a rough start it got underway & was very successful.

REALM – Rosemary Joy (Maroondah Council) – some committee discussion required.

Rosemary Joy has approached Maree & myself and discussed some ideas re a folk choir & folk entertainment.

From Rosemary: *(a) A concert at Realm curated by the Victorian Folk Club showcasing some of the great acts you have been performing. This could be a terrific way to let more locals know about the folk club and you would be welcome to have a table display if you like. The concert could go for approx. two hours on a Sunday afternoon in June, July, August or September.*

(b) A seasonal choir that could rehearse 3 times and then perform a few songs at the concert. This idea was suggested by Felix Meagher and could be led by Cora Browne. If we go ahead with this idea, I suggest the folk concert is in September so there is plenty of time to get a choir together.

UPCOMING GIGS:

1) St Patrick's Day Friday March 17th – at Forest Hill Chase shopping centre community centre. This gig has a very real possibility of becoming a regular gig. They are hoping to make Fridays a regular day of music entertainment. I suggested that the B/B play every 2nd or 3rd month. This suggestion was well received provided we do a reasonable job on the 17th.

2) Melbourne Highland Games & Celtic Festival – March 26th – TBC - more details to follow.

3) VFMC Children's Dance – Saturday July 15th

4) VFMC Children's Dance – Saturday Oct 21st

5) VFMC Family Dance – Saturday Dec 2nd.

Convenor: Trevor Voake (with assistance)

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

Boite World Music Cafe

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

Geelong Folk Music Club

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

Comhaltas (Collingwood)

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

Gippsland Acoustic Music Club

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

Selby Folk Club

David Miller, 03 9751 1218
 miller@a1.com.au
 1st Friday every month, at 8:00 pm, Selby Community House Minok Reserve
 www.home.aone.net.au/~selbyfolkclub

Peninsula Folk Club

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

Creswick Folk Club

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

Fireside Fiddlers

For fiddles plus other string melody instruments, such as mandolins.
 Every Monday evening at various venues. For further information, contact Denise Hibbs: 0402 050 524

Newport Folk Club

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

THE VICTORIAN FOLK MUSIC CLUB INCORPORATED

INVITES YOU TO JOIN THE CLUB

Members of the VFMC are entitled to -

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

VFMC Postal Address

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

VFMC Website

<http://www.vfmc.org.au>

CONTACTS

Secretary

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

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

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

Signed

I wish to receive my Newsletter by:

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

Membership Type (please circle)

<u>Metro</u> Single	\$25
Family*	\$30
Junior (u 18)	\$15
Student (full time)	\$20
Single Concession	\$20
Family Concession*	\$25
<u>Country</u> Single	\$20
Family*	\$25

Please post completed form to:

The Secretary
 VFMC
 PO Box 215
 Ringwood East 3135 Victoria

*Family – Parent/s & any children under 18

Name:

Address:

Email

Phone/s: