

# The Balladeer

Monthly newsletter of Acoustic Routes, Wellington's folk music club

*Acoustic*  *Routes*

[www.acousticroutes.org.nz](http://www.acousticroutes.org.nz)



*Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to All*

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This newsletter can be printed out from a pdf located on the website  
[www.acousticroutes.org.nz/balladeer](http://www.acousticroutes.org.nz/balladeer)

# 1. Acoustic Routes Christmas Party, Sue and Kim Rose's Home, Paekakariki Hill Road Pauahatanui, Sunday 13 December, 4 pm



Sue and Kim have once again offered to host this year's AR Christmas party at their gorgeous rural retreat nestled in a little valley about 3 km from the Pauahatanui shops. (It's about the same distance from Wellington as Plimmerton - see map below).

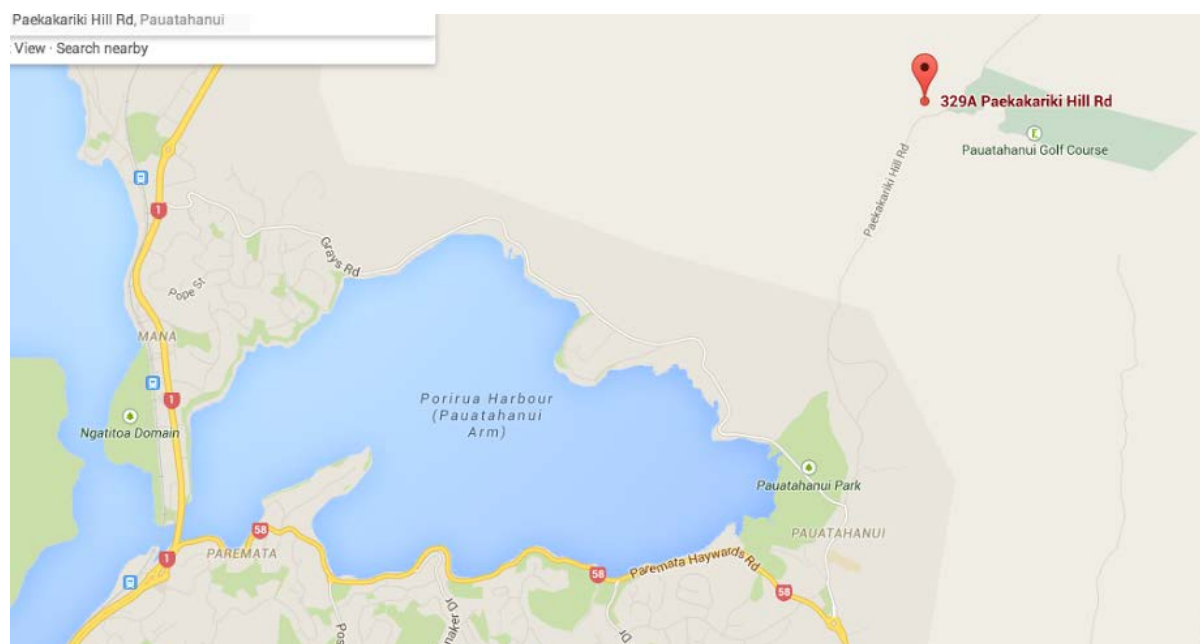
## What To Bring

Please bring a plate of food, a bottle of what you like to drink, and a wrapped gift (no more than \$10) for the secret Santa. A koha of items of unperishable food or toiletries for donation to the Wellington City Mission's Christmas Star appeal would be appreciated, and of course instruments and songs. Disposable plates, etc., will be provided but those of you who have picnic sets could bring them too, to help reduce the waste.

## Instructions for Getting There

Sue and Kim's home is 3.29 kilometres from Pauatahanui village, heading north up the Paekakariki Hill Rd. At the end of a long straight you'll find the golf club on the right. Turn left into the drive just past that, cross the bridge and take the left hand fork to the house.

The nearest train stations are Paramata and Plimmerton if you are being picked up by a driver. Cell phone coverage is marginal but if you have any problems finding it, phone landline 2379029.



## **2. Next AR monthly concert 'Not Quite Burns Night', Roseneath School Hall, Thursday 28 January 2016, 7:30 pm**

A come-all-ye style evening of Scottish music and verse accompanied by suitable refreshments – yes, that does mean haggis... Bring your Scottish songs, music and poems to see in another year of great music with Acoustic Routes.

**Admission \$5 members, \$10 non-members**

[Roseneath School](#) Hall is a beautiful little space with proper stage, lighting, etc. Access is down a short lane off the street (Maida Vale), next to a church and a small row of shops. There's parking in the school grounds and the number 14 bus goes right past.

## **3. AR open mic, Thunderbird Café, Sunday 6 December, 1-3 pm**

Open to all acoustic performers. Drop in, put your name on the list and do a couple of numbers for the customers. In this friendly and hospitable setting you'll see some familiar faces from other AR occasions, and get some good conversation, eats and drinks as well as music. Turn up promptly if you want to be sure of getting on the list.



Contact: Kevin Ikin [kevin.ikin@clear.net.nz](mailto:kevin.ikin@clear.net.nz)

## **4. Post Waitangi Day gathering, Anne and Roy's home, Saturday 13 February, 4 pm**

With the 2016 Auckland Folk Festival being Waitangi weekend, Anne and Roy's wonderful annual party to wind up the holiday season will be the following Saturday at 21 Gordon Road, Plimmerton. All folkies and musos are welcome.

The party starts at 4 pm, and the barbecue will be going from 6 pm. Bring something for the barbie, salads etc., your drink of choice and of course instruments and voices to celebrate the day.

## 5. AR Sunday Singaround, Alfred's Art Space Petone, Sunday 14 February, 5-7 pm



Those of you who have been to the singaround before already know about the wonderful gallery which has also proved to be a marvellous performance space for the monthly singaround. If you haven't been yet, come and share a song, a tune, a poem or a story. Coffee and tea will be available. Entry: a gold coin for the koha bowl

<http://www.facebook.com/Alfred.Memelink.Artist>

## 6. Pres sez



Here we are with the end of the year in sight, and a summer break from the usual routine for most of us to look forward to. A lot of us will be including music in our summer calendar, and there's always space in the Balladeer for your commentary and reviews of the folk festivals and such-like that you may find yourself at over the next couple of months, whether it's Whare Flat (Dunedin) over New Year, Auckland on Waitangi weekend, or something a little more out-of-the-way (across the ditch, maybe?). Meanwhile we have already lined up for you lots of good music in 2016, extra to our regular schedule, including concerts by bluesman Paul Ubana Jones (February 11), the Danish band Himmerland (March 20) and Scotland's Claire Hastings (April 14), so there's no danger at all that the fun will end once the summer is over.

Ka kite ano, Pamela

## 7. Review, 'A Touch of the Blues' with Cindy Muggeridge, Roseneath Hall, 26 November

First up was John Sutherland, direct to us from Aberdeen, via a fair few smoky dives and lonesome train tracks. His assured set was accompanied by Jenny Kilpatrick on bass. Highlights were the Viagra song *I'll be up some day* and *Train 'n gone* by Ralph McTell with some excellent whistling (got to love a man who whistles), and *You bring out the boogie in me*.

Blakewater Blues are Gordon Chamley and Murray Kilpatrick, again showing that effortless musicality and ease with an audience gained from years of practice. Their rootsie blues went down a treat, especially *Winin' Boy* and *Nobody's blues but mine*.

In the second half Cindy Muggeridge led an exuberant dance to the end of the evening, sometimes skipping, at other times a slinky strut. Cindy Muggeridge, Marian Carter and Neil Billington are a charmingly slick act, performing Cindy's own funny and thoughtful songs and some spirited covers. The excellent *Keep a coming round* has the well-earned prospect of a recording in its future. Marion's clarinet and

vocal accompaniment was moody and rich, and as always Neil Billington on harmonica was all class. Standouts were the sublime *Cry me a river*, and *Wild women don't get the blues*, ending up with the flirty naughty *Don't you feel my leg*. These are generous, relaxed and musically top notch performers, warmly received by the audience on an evening where outside it was blowing like billy-o.

The concert was watched over by a fantastic portrait of John Lee Hooker by Susan Dixon and ably compered by Pamela Gerrish Nunn. Sound by Murray and Barry who also assisted on drums.

Emma Hart

## 8. Notes from the Wee Marquee

As one of the sound crew, I spent much of this year's Wellyfest in the small marquee, so in a way I saw a festival within the festival and was able to focus on the offerings in just one of the half dozen performance venues. With so much going on at the festival at any one time, the performers in the wee tent played to smallish audiences at times, which was a pity considering some of the fine things happening there. What we got was a fascinating microcosm of the festival, with a mixture of concerts, workshops and other participatory events.

Veteran local singer songwriter, Rob Joass, broke the ice with the opening concert there on Saturday morning and was able to warm up the tent by attracting curious passersby, many of whom liked what they heard and stayed for the rest of his set. For Ewan MacColl fans, it was the only place to be, later that morning, when Paul Brown led a nicely put together tribute to the life and songs of MacColl, with the help of a bunch of performers who gave us the songs to illustrate the story.

As well as looking back, there was a strong emphasis on looking forward at that venue too, with a Saturday afternoon concert featuring young singers starting to make their mark - Albi from Auckland doing a solo set and Wellington singers Keely Turuwhenua and Michael Muggeridge. Michael was back later that afternoon as part of the super talented Muggeridge family, who gave us a dynamic and heart-warming set, mostly of Muggeridge originals.

We got to see more of the emerging local talent on Sunday, too, with the final of the Joan Prior Young Performers Award, won by guitarist and composer Daniel White. Seeing all that, and the enthusiasm and some seriously good playing in the children's concert on Sunday, left me in no doubt that the music's in good hands.

Add in the illuminating discussion at the song-writers' forum in Sunday and the festival choir sessions and you have to say that the wee marquee was a pretty good place to hang out at Wellyfest.

Kevin Ikin.

## 9. Acoustic Routes 6-month subscription deal, December 1, 2015– June 30, 2016

Single	\$12.50
Double/family (children under 18)	\$20
Other: Student, life member partners, beneficiary	\$7.50

### What being a member gives you

- An annual programme of concerts by top-class musicians (international and local)
- Regular performance opportunities
- A range of other musical and social events
- Regular communications about what's on - all put together by a Committee elected by you

### plus

- a Membership Card that provides:
  - Discounted entry to most club events and concerts
  - Discounted entry to participating folk clubs
  - Discounts on selected items at Alistair's Music, Cuba Street
  - Voting rights at the AGM or any subsequent SGM

### Payment options

1. Post cheque (made out to 'Wellington Folk Centre Inc.') and your details (below) to Acoustic Routes WFC : P.O. Box 27-191 Marion Square WELLINGTON 6141
2. Pay by internet banking to account payee 'Wellington Folk Centre Inc.': ANZ account 01 0505 0182241 00 (*ensure your name is included for reference*) and simultaneously forward your details (as below) to [treasurer@acousticroutes.org.nz](mailto:treasurer@acousticroutes.org.nz) .
3. Hand your form plus payment to a committee member at an Acoustic Routes event.

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PLEASE COMPLETE

Amount paid:    \$\_\_\_\_\_Choose one: Single, Double /family, Other

Payment Method. Choose one: posted cheque/internet banking/other

NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

POSTAL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

POSTCODE: \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR CURRENT E-MAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

***Many thanks***

## 10. Balladeer music noticeboard

Where you can advertise your music-related items—lessons, instruments, gigs, band members wanted, etc.

**a) Monthly Blackboard Concert, Plimmerton Boating Club, Thursday 10 December, 7 pm**

Hosted by the inimitable Roy McGuinness, this is a great night in a lovely venue with low cost drinks and food, and a sound system. Put this one on your calendar as a regular event. If you want to find out more, contact Roy on (021) 433-878.

**b) Trad Singing Session, Upstairs at the Sprig and Fern, Thorndon, Monday 7 December, 6:30 pm**

With Dave Barnes hosting, this session celebrates unaccompanied singing in traditional style. Fine beer and food to be had at the bar. Contact: Dave Barnes [david.barnes@xtra.co.nz](mailto:david.barnes@xtra.co.nz)

**c) The Thistle Traditional Folk Music Session, Monday 29 November, 6:30-8:30 pm**

Here's an open invitation to musicians (and listeners) to gather to play together in the main bar of this historic pub. Contact: Liz Auchinvole [thistle.session@gmail.com](mailto:thistle.session@gmail.com)

**d) Up Close and Personal with Vikki Clayton and Neils Gedge, Mana Little Theatre, Plimmerton, 5 December, 8 pm**

Vikki Clayton is regarded as one of the finest singers of her generation and adored by audiences and peers. Her voice is clear, sweet and beautiful, the guitar work astounding. She's sensitive, clever, witty and great fun. Neils Gedge, singer/songwriter in Plimmerton, will be performing his acclaimed latest song Southern Land and songs from his CD "Maui's Whale" and there will be a few Christmas themed songs to get us all in the spirit for summertime. A delightful and relaxing night of songs, stories and celebrations. \$20, \$15 for seniors. Tickets at the door or bookings at [mltickets@gmail.com](mailto:mltickets@gmail.com), phone/text 021 0257 7648.

For a really great night out, have dinner before the concert at Torpor Polish Bistro in Plimmerton with a generous 25% discount.

**e) Women's Voices Summer Camp, Waihoanga Lodge, Otaki, 8-10 January 2016**

Women singing, eating and adventuring together in a relaxed and nurturing environment. We'll share delicious vegetarian meals together, sing under the stars and in a yurt, take a weed walk and picnic in the woods. All songs are taught by ear, by our sensitive and supportive song leader, Carol Shortis. Cost including all meals, singing and adventures, is a sliding scale of \$215 - \$270, depending on your financial circumstances. Accommodation is in shared bunk rooms, or you can choose to bring camping gear and use the lodge's facilities. Registration enquiries to [te.ao@clear.net.nz](mailto:te.ao@clear.net.nz), 04 904 0580, 027 813 6207.

**f) Availability of Neil Colquhoun's "Songs of a Young Country"**

Acoustic Routes has sold out of Neil Colquhoun's fabulous book, "Songs of a Young Country". We know that some people are disappointed at missing out, but if you

contact the publishers, Steele Roberts, in Wellington, they may be able to help. They're at 75 Guznee St, (04) 384-4222, or email: [info@steeleroberts.co.nz](mailto:info@steeleroberts.co.nz)

#### **g) Want To Review For The Balladeer?**

We have a handful of willing writers who regularly get shoulder tapped to review AR concerts and we are very grateful to them. The AR Committee is offering a free concert ticket to anyone who reviews a concert for the Balladeer. It is great to hear a range of voices and opinions, so if you are interested please contact Philippa [balladeer@acousticroutes.org.nz](mailto:balladeer@acousticroutes.org.nz)

## **11. Are you ready to perform?**



Are you interested in performing at Acoustic Routes events, including support acts for our monthly concerts? Contact us [performers@acousticroutes.org.nz](mailto:performers@acousticroutes.org.nz)

## **12. About Acoustic Routes**

Acoustic Routes (Wellington Folk Centre Incorporated) is a club for people who enjoy playing and listening to folk and acoustic styles of music.

We have several regular events each month. The first Sunday of the month is an open mic session at the Thunderbird Café in Featherston Street, from 1-3 pm.

The second Sunday of the month we host a singaround at Alfred Memmelink's Artspace on the Petone foreshore, from 5-7 pm.

The fourth Thursday of the month generally features a concert, usually with a visiting artist and support acts from amongst our membership. These concerts are at Roseneath School Hall, Maida Vale Road, Wellington.

Membership of Acoustic Routes costs \$25 a year for individuals, \$40 for couples or families, or \$15 for students and beneficiaries. It entitles you to door-charge discounts at Acoustic Routes events and also at events put on by most other folk clubs. Members get priority access to performance opportunities, and can have input into the club's activities. To join, email [treasurer@acousticroutes.org.nz](mailto:treasurer@acousticroutes.org.nz).

Acoustic Routes publishes this newsletter (The Balladeer) at the start of every month, and also an acoustic gig guide for the Wellington region (Acoustic Routes update). You can [subscribe online](#), or contact [publicity@acousticroutes.org.nz](mailto:publicity@acousticroutes.org.nz)

## **13. Acoustic Routes Contacts**

**President:** Pamela Gerrish Nunn [president@acousticroutes.org.nz](mailto:president@acousticroutes.org.nz)

**Correspondence:** Emma Hart [secretary@acousticroutes.org.nz](mailto:secretary@acousticroutes.org.nz)

**Treasurer/Membership:** Sue Ikin [treasurer@acousticroutes.org.nz](mailto:treasurer@acousticroutes.org.nz)

**Balladeer:** Philippa Boy [balladeer@acousticroutes.org.nz](mailto:balladeer@acousticroutes.org.nz)

**Acoustic Routes update email:** Gerard Hudson [publicity@acousticroutes.org.nz](mailto:publicity@acousticroutes.org.nz)



**Performance opportunities:** [performers@acousticroutes.org.nz](mailto:performers@acousticroutes.org.nz)

**Postal address:** PO Box 27-191 Marion Square, Wellington, New Zealand.

**Website:** [www.acousticroutes.org.nz](http://www.acousticroutes.org.nz)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/home.php#!/pages/Acoustic-Routes/89128457590](http://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/pages/Acoustic-Routes/89128457590)

## 14. Other regular folk events/contacts in the region

### Americana Jam Session

**When:** Meow on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, from 4 to 6 pm. Join Richard Klein and friends and enjoy some of the Wellington region's finest players and singers of country, blues, Cajun, old-timey, boogie-woogie and all-around good-time American music, and it's an open session so you can join in.

### Ceol Alba Scottish Music Club

**When:** 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of month, 7.30 - 9.30pm. A club for playing and/or listening to (mostly) traditional Scottish music. Sheet music supplied or downloadable.

**Where:** Lower Hutt.

**Cost:** \$5 per night

**Contact:** Lynne Scott, 04 565 0164 [lynne@scott.gen.nz](mailto:lynne@scott.gen.nz)

### Contradance with Chilli Jam

**When:** 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month, 7:30 pm

**Where:** St Michael's Parish Hall, Kelburn

**Cost:** \$15 waged adult, \$10 unwaged adult or child and \$30 for a family.

**Contact:** kevinmcl12@gmail.com

### Finn's Cafe Open Mic Nights

**When:** 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month, 7.30 pm. This is a really popular night and a great way to meet other musicians. Hosted by Danilo.

**Where:** Finn's Cafe Bar, 2 Beach Rd, Paekakariki.

### International Folkdancing

**When:** Every Wednesday from February to December, 7.30 to 9.15

**Where:** Tarrant Dance Studios, 125 Cuba St, Wellington

**Contact:** Cashy Yates (04) 569 1618 [cashy@ihug.co.nz](mailto:cashy@ihug.co.nz)

### Kapiti Live Music Club

**When:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month, an acoustic social evening for listening and/or singing and playing, from 7:30.

**Where:** Paul and Kimbra's; 3 Jade Lane, Paraparaumu. Off the east end Mazengarb Road as it changes name and turns toward Kapiti Road.

**Contact:** [enquiry@klmc.org.nz](mailto:enquiry@klmc.org.nz) and <http://www.klmc.org.nz>

### Kelburn Pub Live Music

**When:** Live music every Sunday 3-5 pm.

Sunday Roots on the first Sunday of each Month, 4-7pm. Hosted by Pip Payne and featuring a different guest artist each month. Details 'Sunday roots' on Facebook.

Contact: Pip Payne if you want to perform - 027 654 5419.

#### Levin Folk Club

When: 2nd Friday of month, 7.30 pm, blackboard concert plus guest artist.

Entry: Members \$5, Non-Members \$8, Children \$3 (includes supper)

4th Friday of month, 7.30 pm, acoustic night. \$2

Where: Horowhenua, Scottish Society and Pipe Band hall, cnr Bartholomew Rd and Middlesex St.

Contact: Barbara Lucas [bmserendipity@gmail.com](mailto:bmserendipity@gmail.com)

Website: [www.levin-folk-music-club.org.nz](http://www.levin-folk-music-club.org.nz)

#### Mainly Acoustic Music Club

When: (Mostly) every 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7.30pm

Where: Mayfair Cafe, 116 Main Street, Upper Hutt

Contact: Kevin & Sue Meehan (04) 970 4008

For enquiries or newsletter email [harrier@paradise.net.nz](mailto:harrier@paradise.net.nz)

Morris dancing: Dave Barnes <http://www.morrisdancing.org.nz/>

#### Music and Poetry at the Metro

When: Second Sunday of the month, 3.30pm to 6pm

Where: Metropolitan Restaurant and Bar Lydney Place Porirua

Cost: free

Contact: Phil McConnell: [musicandpoetryatthemetro@gmail.com](mailto:musicandpoetryatthemetro@gmail.com) Phone (04) 237

9902 or 027 786 5542 [www.facebook.com/music.metrobar](http://www.facebook.com/music.metrobar)

#### Pukerua Bay Folk Club

When: 1st Thursday of month, 8 pm

Where: 9 Donlin Rd, Pukerua Bay

Contact: Murray or Julie Kilpatrick, (04) 239 9951, [julmur@paradise.net.nz](mailto:julmur@paradise.net.nz)

#### Wellington Bluegrass Society

When: 3rd Friday of month, 8.00 pm

Where: 54 Richmond Street, Petone

Contact: Andrew Bicknell, (04)477 0069, [bluegrass@paradise.net.nz](mailto:bluegrass@paradise.net.nz)

[http:// wellingtonbluegrass.net.nz/](http://wellingtonbluegrass.net.nz/)

#### Wellington Scottish Fiddle Club

When: Varies, but mostly monthly around the first Sunday

Where: Depends on who is hosting it this time! A club for learning tunes in the traditional "by ear" style, it welcomes fiddlers of all levels.

Cost: Mostly free

Contact: Iain Matcham, ph 04 568 8635 email [iain@jumbletree.com](mailto:iain@jumbletree.com)