

# The Balladeer

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

*Acoustic*  *Routes*

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

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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. 'A Touch of the Blues' with Cindy Muggeridge, Roseneath School Hall, Thursday 26 November, 7:30 pm

Cindy, a member of the amazing Muggeridge family from Taranaki, started out playing with Steve, Janet and the late Alan years ago in a band in London. Often seen now performing with harmonica player Neil Billington and in the Raven Mavens with clarinettist and vocalist Marian Carter.



Cindy is a formidable keyboardist, singer and song-writer in the blues tradition, with a dollop of jazz thrown in to make a scintillating mix.

## Blakewater Blues (Gordon Chamley and Murray Kilpatrick)

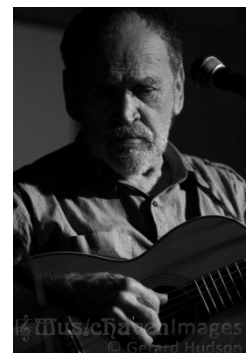


This duo was formed about 4 years ago from two musicians well-known to Wellington music-lovers. Their material comes from such great names as Robert Johnson, Sonny Boy Williamson, Lightnin' Hopkins, and Mississippi John Hurt, alongside Gordon's original compositions in similar traditional vein. Multi-instrumentalist Murray's versatility is well known on the local and national music scene (he also

plays with the dance band The Jimmies) while blues devotee Gordon, originally from England, is a familiar figure in the Wellington area clubs for his singing and blues harp.

## John Sutherland

John has been in this country since the 1960s but learned a love of the blues in his native Aberdeen from musicians such as Sonny Terry and Brownie McGhee, Memphis Slim, Jack Dupree and Ramblin' Jack Eliot. At this point his instrument was the harmonica, though Wellington music-lovers know him as much as an ace guitarist. While the New Zealand folk scene reintroduced him to British traditional music, blues has remained an important part of his repertoire. He describes his guitar style as derivative of all these influences "within the limitations of his skill" – modest as well as talented!



**Entry:** \$15, \$10 members and students

[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.

## 2. Pres sez



At the time of writing, still adjusting to the ordinary working week after the exciting weekend that was Wellyfest. It looked like another successful year for the Organising Committee that works so hard to make this complex event come off. You probably saw members of your own AR committee helping out here and there during the weekend in various ways, and the responsibilities we had in the name of the club, the Saturday morning blackboard concert and the final of the Joan Prior Award, went off well.

And, in a close contest, Daniel White was declared the winner. Daniel is an acoustic guitarist and songwriter born in Greymouth and raised in the wilderness of the Southern Alps. He has followed in the footsteps of his father and uncle playing finger-style acoustic guitar and does a weekly practice busking on the streets of Wellington, where he now lives. Beyond technique/skilfulness, Daniel says 'it matters more to me that my music is pleasant and peaceful and, hopefully, to some ears, beautiful".



Those of you who didn't attend the Festival probably enjoyed the wonderful weather that emerged after that testing carwash of a Friday evening - and there's always the Auckland festival to tempt you away, this time round occurring on Waitangi weekend. But that's away at the end of the summer, and before then there are more AR events coming up on home ground where I look forward to seeing you.

A date for your diaries: the Acoustic Routes Christmas party will be held on Sunday 13th December at the home of Kim and Sue Rose, Paekakariki Hill Road, Pauatahanui. It'll be an afternoon/early evening get-together in the same fabulous rural setting that was enjoyed by so many of us last year. Mark the date now, and we'll have more details for you soon.

Ka kite ano - Pamela

## 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. AR Sunday Singaround, Alfred's Art Space Petone, Sunday 8 November, 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>

#### 5. Tributes to Frank Boardman

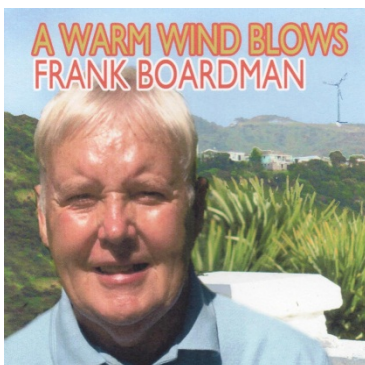
I enjoyed the local festival weekend, in particularly catching up with familiar faces, some I hadn't seen for a while. But I missed seeing the Boardmans this year. Frank and Phillipa have been stalwarts of our local folk scene – attentive listeners, regular performance reviewers and of course Frank, musician and song-writer, a keen participant in many events.

Over the years, it has always been a great pleasure to see Frank's warm and friendly face at Acoustic Routes and the Wellington Bluegrass Society, to catch up with him in the tea-and-biscuit queue, to hear his softly delivered songs at sing-arounds or blackboard concerts. He had a wonderfully unique and gentle touch in his song presentation. His songs could be mellow and relaxing, while others sounded so familiar and catchy yet were completely original, which is quite a craft. Frank's album 'A Warm Wind Blows' is one I value in my collection.

I've also greatly appreciated Frank's honest feedback on my own music. His encouragement was an enormous support in my early performing days.

And so Frank's passing leaves a void, but his music lives on to inspire and enjoy. Wishing Phillipa strength with her loss, which is ours also.

Helen Dorothy



Frank and I met at the Bluegrass Society, and a while later he asked me to record his album. We set up in his music room with Dale Lacey and Liam O'Connor, and had to get several songs down that night as the others were off overseas. A couple of days later Frank called – he'd been diagnosed with cancer, time was short, could we get the other songs down quickly.

You get pretty close when you record someone, and I found a warm, humorous, thoughtful and unpretentious man who saw the best in people. We finished the album,

many of you have it, I think it's a good likeness. And Frank embarked on the physically and mentally gruelling programme of treatment that gave him extra time. He made good use of that time, I feel lucky to have known him.

Tony Ricketts

Frank's memorial service will be held at the Wilson Memorial Home, Adelaide Road at 11.00 am on Saturday 21 November. Refreshments will be provided after the service.

## 6. Review, Wellyfest 2015

First, a big thank you to the Committee and all the other helpers on sound and set up, for putting on yet another very enjoyable event all with volunteer labour and a limited budget. And to the weatherman for putting on just enough rain to fuel the wellington/gumboot jokes and lots of sun for almost the entire weekend. I had a lovely time catching up with friends and listening some new (and old) songs and tunes.

Predictably, a highlight of the 'old' (in that I'd heard it before in Auckland) for me was the Ewan McColl tribute by The Critics. And in Paul Brown's set in the Balladeer, 'All Jock Tamson's bairns are coming home' brought tears to my eyes with the first line. I look forward to the day when that song can truly be a celebration, as opposed to the sadly hopeless aspiration it feels like today. That, along with Fred Smith's pop-up presentation about his time in Afghanistan, added a rather serious tinge to the festival, reminding me of the power of song as a means of both communication and community building.

Another highlight of the Balladeer tent for me was the trio of women singing in te reo - I could have listened to a lot more of that. (See what I did there - trio - te reo?!)



Images Gerard Hudson

And most of the main acts were, if anything, more entertaining, more lyrical, more humorous and more thought-provoking than I'd expected.

So why did I come away feeling a tiny bit deflated? I think somehow the final concert didn't have the 'wow' factor I've come to expect as the culmination of all the

activity during the weekend, even though each individual item was enjoyable. It's probably my age, but if I'm going to travel for miles, stay out late, and sit on a cold plastic seat for several hours, the show has to be pretty special. In most cases I preferred the individual concerts, and I'm glad I got to see Gillian & Bob, the ULC Trio (not in te reo), Kirsty, Kim & Dusty, and Fred & Liz at their daytime gigs.

PS: By the way, as Paul announced at the Ewan McColl tribute concert, the Alistair Hulett Memorial Trust is putting out a Ewan McColl tribute CD in the near future. Keep an eye on the website for developments if you're interested. <http://www.alistairhulett.com/>

Janette Munneke

## 7. 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 12 November, 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 9 November, 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) Michael O'Leary CD Launch Show and Celebration, St Peter's Hall, Paekakariki, Friday 13 Nov, 7.30 to 10.30 pm**

*Livin' Ina Aucklan'* - Songs and performances from the poetry of Michael O'Leary, featuring: Sir Jon Trimmer, Meg Prasad, Francis Mills, Brian Romeril, Hilda Prasad, Michael O'Leary, Sean O'Leary and Gilbert Haisman. St Peter's Village Hall, Beach Road, Paekakariki. BYO. Light supper. Door sales only \$10. CD launch-only discount \$15

### **d) 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)

### **e) Up Close and Personal with Vikki Clayton and Neils Gedge, Mana Little Theatre, Plimmerton, 4 & 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. Niels 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 [mlttickets@gmail.com](mailto:mlttickets@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.

**f) 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.

**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)

## 8. 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)

## 9. 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)

## 10. 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)

## 11. 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](mailto: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: 2nd 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)