

The Balladeer

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

Acoustic  *Routes*

www.acousticroutes.org.nz



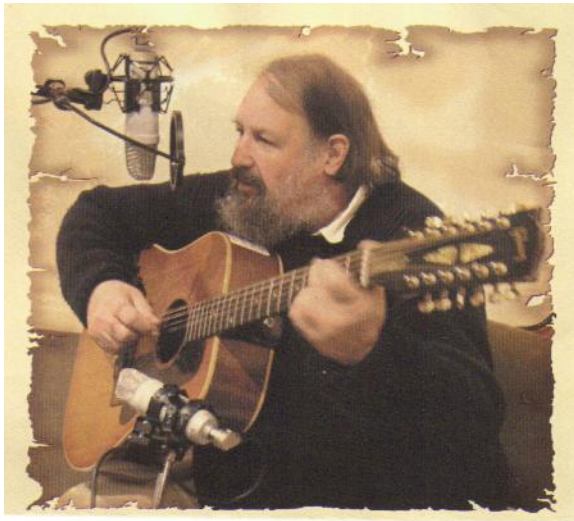
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This newsletter can be printed out from a pdf located on the website
<http://acousticroutes.org.nz/news/the-balladeer/>

1. Phil Garland's Farewell Tour concert, Thursday 13 October, 7:30 pm



Phil Garland is a highly respected Kiwi balladeer, singing historian and entertainer, Life Member of the Christchurch Folk Music Club, who has spent a lifetime researching, collecting, writing and performing. He has often been described as a National Living Treasure and New Zealand's foremost and finest heritage balladeer. Over the years he has recorded some eighteen albums – winning Folk Album of the Year at the New Zealand Music Awards three times. Phil has performed extensively around the world promoting the Kiwi musical heritage with a blended presentation of songs, stories, yarns that introduce audiences to the musical heart of New Zealand and its

people. Garland's entertaining performance prompted one American reviewer to say: "his songs transport you to New Zealand so effectively you may be inspired to take up residence there!"

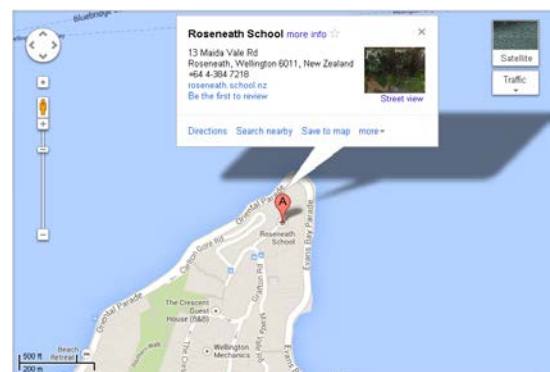
Phil will be promoting the digitised re-release of his 1970 album "Down A County Road", which highlights New Zealand's story and the way people have lived and recorded it in homespun balladry. These songs were collected from both old timers and younger people that Phil met as he travelled thousands of miles into the remoter parts of New Zealand. The album is of great historical significance. Two of the original backing musicians are no longer with us, having passed on in recent times. The album serves as a tribute to the huge musical talent of the late great Alistair Hulett, along with the late wonderful musician and friend Dave Hart.

Rumour has it that something a bit different is brewing for the first half and this may well be your last chance to hear Phil in person. It promises to be a great celebration of New Zealand music.

Admission \$10 members, \$15 non-members

[Roseneath School](#) Hall is a beautiful little space just out of the central city with good acoustics and a 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

Hi Everyone

It's been a folk-music-free month for me here in the UK after my blitz last month, but by all accounts the September concert with Karen Jones and Tony Burt was a terrific event as promised – see the review in this issue. And I believe the first Open Mic session in the Office in Newtown was very successful; many thanks to Kevin Ikin for hosting that event for us. It will be a regular event on the second Sunday of each month until further notice.

Unusually for October we **are** hosting a concert this month – we couldn't pass up the chance to be part of what may be Phil Garland's last tour. It's not every day you get the chance to see a national treasure perform live, and I look forward to seeing you there. We hope to have a special opening act – more about that on the night!

Also of course, October is Wellyfest month, so it's time to dust off your gumboots and get ready for some more great music at Labour Weekend.

Keep the music live,

Janette

3. AR Open Mic Upstairs at “The Office”, Newtown, Sunday 9 October, 5:30-8 pm.



Our first Open Mic at the Office in Newton was a success, following the invitation from Newtown Acoustic Sound to host one of the weekly music events that they run there. We are hoping for another good turnout for the next one, and are aiming for consistency in making it the second Sunday of each month, with Newtown Acoustic Sound hosting the other weekly sessions.

The usual venue is the upstairs room at “The Office” bar in Newtown's main street, Riddiford St, just south of the intersection with Rintoul St. It's a very good space for live music, with food and drink available from the bar downstairs.

There will be open mics at The Office every Sunday during October, except for Labour Weekend, October 23, when Wellington Folk Festival is running.

Contact: kevin.ikin@clear.net.nz

4. Strong Interest in the Joan Prior Young Performers Award 2016

Acoustic Routes has received nine entries from performers aged from 15 to 25, covering a wide range of musical styles and instruments. As well as singers and song writers, there has been a strong showing from instrumentalists who make up half of the entries this year.



They will perform at the Joan Prior Award concert at Wellington Folk Festival on Saturday, October 22, where the winner of the \$500 prize will be decided. The line-up of young talent is going to make this a very exciting event.

Thank you to all the young singers and musicians who have entered and to everyone who helped to spread the word about the award.

5.



Brookfields Scout Camp, Wainuomata, 21-24 October

It's going to be an amazing festival again this year. Guests Include Jojo Smith from Australia, who is a wonderful singer songwriter and who will also be leading the festival choir. She's promising singing with Passion! We've also got WAI.TAI who play contemporary Maori music, just wait til you hear their amazing sounds. Robin Kamira, musical director, designs a special lineup for each event they play.



Frank Burkitt Band



Crossing Borders

Crossing the Borders has some very familiar faces in a new collaboration, and the Frank Burkitt Band will astound with their original blend of Buegrass, country and traditional sounds. Roadworks will be showing us what the next generation sounds like! and more performers include Bill Morris and the Hinterland Band, The Remarkables, CatGut and Steel, the Goodland Trio from Sweden.....There's a full programme of dance, workshops, kids and a special Monday morning Master Class for Fiddle and mandolin with Lindsay Martin. Check out the full programme on the Web site <http://www.wellingtonfolkfestival.org.nz/> or follow us on Facebook at Wellyfest.



Goodland Trio



Jojo Smith



Roadworks

You can still buy tickets online with credit card or internet banking for the weekend or day/evening/final concert. Special day passes available for families this year. Buy online and save time at the gate. We cannot process EFTPOS at the gate. On the day at the gate it has to be cash only.

6. Review, Tony Burt and Karen Jones concert, 25 September

You couldn't complain about lack of variety at this show. It was another cracker, almost a mini-Womad in as way, with a programme that included Chinese tunes and French chansons, as well as the broad palette offered by the main act of the evening, Tony Burt and Karen Jones and their musical mates.

Our first treat of the night was an intriguing set from, Chintz, a Wellington trio with Moggie Grayson on guitar, Emily Clemett on violin and Jingyuan 'Cici' Kong on the pipa, a Chinese stringed instrument. They blended eastern and western traditions with a mixture of music from Chinese and Celtic sources. They included some traditional Scottish tunes, a touch of Irish with "O'Carolan's Draught", and two Chinese melodies – "Silver Moonlight" and "The Girl from Ali Mountain". The audience was fascinated with hearing familiar Celtic tunes beautifully played on an instrument most of us had never heard before.

Then we moved to France and a lovely set of mostly Edith Piaf songs from Sans Souci, who are Rachel France on vocals, accordion (and kazoo on one song) and Tom Callwood on double bass. They have a great feel for these songs and their bitter-sweet character and by the time they wrapped up with a Piaf classic, "No Regrets", had won the hearts of the audience.

Acoustic Routes had been trying to book Tony Burt and Karen Jones to perform for some time and when the planets finally lined up it was worth the wait, with a set that ranged from Tony's own melodic tunes to trad and contemporary songs. One of the things that makes this duo different is the unusual combination of dobro and harp, which created some magical moments, especially on Tony's compositions, including a new one, "The Patriot", given its first public airing that night.

Tony and Karen varied their instrumental line-up with keyboard and guitar and the duo became a full-blown band, with guitarist Jim Perkins adding some classy picking and Garrett and Sharon Evans filling out the sound with bass and backing vocals.

The repertoire was largely instrumental pieces, but the duo and the band did a fine job as well with a traditional song, "Billy Taylor", A Nancy Griffiths song, "Across the Great Divide", and a nice David Francey song as well.



Among the highlights for me were the gorgeous sound of Tony's dobro on the tunes and Karen's guitar work on The Penguin Cafe Orchestra's "Music for a Found Harmonium", a tricky little tune to pull off.

Their encore, a different version of "Auld Lang Syne", was a fitting end to a concert that gave me a big buzz.

Kevin Ikin.

7. Balladeer music noticeboard

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

a) **The Thistle Traditional Folk Music Session, Monday 3 October, 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. This month's session is Americana. Contact: Liz Auchinvole thistle.session@gmail.com

b) **Monthly Blackboard Concert, Plimmerton Boating Club, Thursday 13 October, 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.

c) **Trad Singing Session, Upstairs at the Sprig and Fern, Thorndon, Monday 10 October, 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

d) **Wai Tai House Concert, 76 Phillips Line, Greytown, 15 October, 7 pm**

Wai Tai is at last heading to the Wairarapa. We will be treated to the harmonies and rhythms of traditional Maori songs and chants, fused with World music including Celtic, Polish, Middle Eastern, Jamaican and more. The songs are embodied by the call of the feminine voices and delicate strings. The arrangements are a carefully crafted soundscape. "Emotive, subtle and heartening".

Parking and camping may be possible if we get some fine weather. \$15 adults \$5 children. Contact Jo Foster on 027 332 3777 for bookings.

e) Next NZ Trad Session at the Thistle, 7 November, 6:30

Our next Traditional NZ Folk session at The Thistle will be held on Monday 7 November, at 6:30 pm. It is part of a monthly series organised by Liz Auchinvole, held usually on the first Monday of the month, encompassing traditional NZ, Scottish, Irish and Balkan folk music, and Americana. You can access these by joining this Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/thistle.session/> .

Our definition of trad now includes "songs that evoke the idiom, places, landscapes, history, yarns of Aotearoa/NZ." So modern songs (including your own songs) that fit the definition are welcome, and waiata are especially welcome. I guess *Loyal* is still out, but *6 months in a leaky boat* has crept in!

I will bring a BOSE sound system, which takes one microphone and one amplified instrument, so we can have some cut-through over the pub noise. It also means that you will be singing to the whole pub, rather than into the circle with backs to the crowd. For those doing duets, we will go un-miked when the pub quietens. If you would like to 'claim' a song so now one else sings it, feel free to contact me. Otherwise try and bring a song someone else is unlikely to sing.

Wellyfest have also asked me to host a *Tradition Bearers* session in the Nelson Lounge, from 3 to 5pm, on Sunday 23 October. Look forward to seeing you.
Niels Gedge niels.gedge@gmail.com

f) 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

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

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.

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.

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

10. Acoustic Routes Contacts

President: Janette Munneke president@acousticroutes.org.nz

Correspondence: Emma Hart secretary@acousticroutes.org.nz

Treasurer/Membership: Liz Auchinvole treasurer@acousticroutes.org.nz

Balladeer: Philippa Boy balladeer@acousticroutes.org.nz

Acoustic Routes update email: Gerard Hudson publicity@acousticroutes.org.nz

Performance opportunities: performers@acousticroutes.org.nz

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

Website: www.acousticroutes.org.nz

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Acoustic-Routes/89128457590/home

11. Other regular folk events/contacts in the region

Americana Jam Session

When: Upstairs room of The Third Eye – the Tuatara temple of Taste, 4th Sunday, from 4 to 6:30 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: 4th 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

Contradance with Chilli Jam

When: 4th 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: 4th Thursday 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

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 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 \$10, 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
Website: 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

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 Phone (04) 237 9902 or 027 786 5542 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

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
[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