

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. AR Spring Come-All-Ye, Roseneath School hall, Sunday 24 September, 7:30 pm

Come celebrate spring at our Come All Ye circle concert.

Bring along songs, tunes, poems, or whatever that relate to the spring or the seasons. Entry \$5



2. President Murray's Musings



Hi Folkies and Others

I'm now your new Acoustic Routes Committee President - for better or worse?

I am surrounded by a very capable, extremely supportive, experienced and enthusiastic committee, namely: Secretary, Kevin Ikin; Treasurer, Sue Ikin and Committee Members Madeline Ashworth, Liz Auchinvole, and Pamela Gerrish Nunn.

Thanks

I'd like to thank the outgoing committee for their very hard work ensuring that Acoustic Routes ran smoothly during the past year - outgoing Committee Members Emma and Annie, and in particular our outgoing President Janette Munneke, who for much of the year managed to run our club via her cell phone, from Great Britain. Quite an astonishing feat! I'm very pleased to announce that at the AGM, Janette was granted Life Membership of our club.

I would also like to thank the following people who assisted the club from outside the committee during the year.

- Kevin Ikin for running our Monthly Sunday afternoon whiteboard concert at the Office, Newtown.
- Roy Mc Guinness for running his monthly Thursday evening whiteboard concert at the Plimmerton Boating Club in association with Acoustic Routes.
- Philippa Gander for compiling, producing and distributing our monthly electronic club newsletter, the Balladeer, and updates when needed.
- John Burnell, our electronic wiz, for ensuring that all our electronic communications operate seamlessly.
- Annie McGregor and Roy McGuinness for running our annual folkie retreat at Riverslea Lodge on the Otaki Gorge Road. In fact Julie, Dom and I have just spent this last, wonderful weekend there, socialising, playing and singing with other folkies. Also for their wonderful Waitangi Day party which is part of the Acoustic Routes calendar.
- Sue and Kim Rose for once again welcoming us to their lovely home for the 2016 Acoustic Routes Christmas party.
- Roseneath School for hiring their lovely, newly refurbished, hall to us.
- Dominic Rowsell for so ably setting up and driving our sound system.
- All the performers and MCs who have entertained us so well throughout this

past year.

- Every one of you who has attended and supported our club in so many ways, throughout the years.

It is my understanding that all of these people are happy to continue in these roles. Once again a huge thanks to all of you.

The AGM

The AGM was well attended and we elected the aforementioned Committee. During the meeting the J A Pan Memorial trophy, awarded annually to the most improved performer, was awarded to Dominic Rowsell (based on strong support for him, despite his family connections!). Also as mentioned before, Janette was awarded a much-deserved Life Membership.

A little about me and what I'd like to see

Although I have been involved with the club right from its inception, this will be the first time that I have served on the committee. I was a member of the steering committee which created "The Folk Center", now known as Acoustic Routes, sometime in the very late 1960s. I want to keep everything that we presently have but I would also like to make some quite big changes. These are my views and not necessarily ones shared by all the Committee Members.

Briefly, I would like:

- To build up the community of the club - the people who feel that they have ownership of, or a stake in the club.
- For the club to become far more active, with events at least weekly and quite a wide range of activities.
- For the club to become more participatory. Yes I want to keep the high quality concerts we currently present, but I also want to see as many of you as possible out there, actively involved with the club's music.
- A much larger involvement from younger people, running events and activities of their own, on their own terms. They are the future of our club;
- To run activities that are family-friendly.
- For Acoustic Routes to have a close working relationship and run shared events with other clubs and groups who are involved with our kind of music. Including but not limited to: Mainly Acoustic, Levin Folk Club, The Wellington Bluegrass Society, The Victoria University Folk Club, The Welsh Dragon session, The Sprig and Fern traditional singing session, the Americana sessions, the many whiteboard concerts around the region, etc.
- For the club to organize teaching sessions, maybe workshops so that we can assist each other to grow.

Your role

I'd like to hear from you if you have ideas and or offers of help.

president@acousticroutes.org.nz. I want this club to be about you, your wishes and needs.

We are only a Committee of 5 - we can't possibly run everything. I would like people from our community, maybe you, to come forward and assist us from outside the Committee. That could include running ongoing or one-off events.

Coming up

We already are in negotiation with a number of overseas, national and local

performers. We had been hoping the Kieran Halpin would have been our Sunday 24 September guest (note the change of night for this month). Unfortunately there were some communication problems and so we have now decided to hold a Come All Ye. We would like as many of you as possible to come along prepared to give us a song or tune. Let's make this a wonderful first night, for our year - one that is all about you.

Love to hear from you and see you soon.

Murray Kilpatrick.

3. AR Open Mic Upstairs at "The Office", Newtown, Sunday 10 September, 5:30-8 pm



The AR Open Mic at the Office in Newton is a regular feature the second Sunday of each month, with Newtown Acoustic Sound hosting the other weekly sessions.

The 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.

Contact: kevin.ikin@clear.net.nz

4. Open Mic, Plimmerton Boating Club, 66 Moana Road, Plimmerton, 14 September, 7 pm

This great night in a lovely venue, hosted by the inimitable Roy McGuinness, is now under the umbrella of Acoustic Routes. 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.



5. Review, Riverslea Revival, 27-29 August

This could be one of the best kept secrets on the yearly Acoustic Routes calendar. It happens just once a year, and has been happening for about a thousand or more. Way up Deliverance Valley (Otaki Forks Road) where the moonshine flows and the banjos twang, is an eclectic group of old baki-spittin' folkies, who huddle together for safety each year.



This year's gaggle was no different - safe, warm and content in their musical turmoil, as the distant pigs squealed and tunes rang through the hollers. The locals stay clear of these annual strangers and there is peace in the valley - some of the time at least! Peace to relax in the comfort of good food, company and soft bunks.

What more could an angst-driven singer/songwriter want but a captive audience to torture?

Riverslea Retreat (the place) - don't tell anyone about it. But if musical torture is your thing, it's the perfect chamber to be strapped down in for a weekend. I thoroughly enjoy it (but I'm wired that way) and come away as happy as the porker in the distance.

Note to dear reader – don't believe anything I say and please don't worry if you do choose to join us next year. The eyes in the bush, with shot guns at the ready, are there for 'your protection'. But I do exaggerate just a little - they could have been 303s this year. I'm just helping to keep Riverlea Revival a dark secret, and so the pig dogs don't get too excited next year when brave new souls arrive. I can tell you for sure a great time was had by the survivors this year. It was just superb in every way and congrats to the organisers, cooks and music makers.

PS Try to arrive when the hurdy gurdys are playing, the locals run for cover and it's much safer.

Brother Julian (Ward)

6. Brookfields Scout Camp, Wainuiomata, 20-23 October



Earlybird bookings now open. To buy your tickets go to the web site:
www.wellingtonfolkfestival.org.nz

This year's amazing guest list includes:



Richie and Rosie from USA: Richie Stearns and Rosie Newton are a dynamic duo performing music rooted in the Americana tradition. Over the past four years they have collaborated in various projects and formed the duo after hours of jamming in Stearns' kitchen, experimenting with traditional and original songs. Richie Stearns and Rosie Newton take the fiddle, banjo combination to new levels as they continue to expand the boundaries of this tradition.

Guilhem Desq from France is an electro-acoustic hurdy gurdy player offering a surprising journey around his unusual instrument. Although he draws his energy from his instrument's tradition, he gets his inspiration mainly from modern music and improvisation. He keeps exploring the endless sound possibilities of the hurdy gurdy to create a universe where places, times and feelings are mixed all together, and in which he invites us to travel, for a few turns of his wheel ...



Guilhem will be at the Festival thanks to funding from the New Zealand France Friendship Fund.

John Leo Carter from Ireland. John Leo's texts have been described as pure poetry, a unique musical experience. He plays a variety of instruments but his voice is his first. In his songs the words come to life with both power and sensitivity. Being on stage and at the same time filling it so completely with the help of his voice, Guitar and a Bodhran, It is an art. He plays a variety of instruments but his voice is his first. In his song the words come to life with both power and sensitivity. John Leo's first solo album "Candyfloss Girl" was very well received and had great reviews in Ireland. His second album No Monsters only toys is currently in the running for album of the year 2017 in Ireland.

Vikki Clayton and Gilly Darbey are Growing Old Disgracefully! Imagine Ab Fab meets the Topp Twins and you have an idea of the fun ahead. But amongst the jokes and stories you can hear the most exquisite music ranging from Trad folk, self penned, blues, jazz. These ladies have impeccable credentials, between them they have worked with Richard Thompson, Taj Mahal, Van Morrison, Jasper

Carrott, Fairport Convention – oh the list goes on. There's not a note Gilly can't sing – nor a style. Her version of Both Sides Now has been described as the "definitive ". Vikki's voice has been likened to Sandy Denny and described by the Guardian as "Peachy " and "Crystal Clear". Add two fine guitars and you have a musical delight to enjoy.

Helen Dorothy & Co. Helen delivers her "beautifully-crafted, intelligent songs" in sparkling and intimate performances, with a unique voice and expressive guitar work. At WellyFest she will be accompanied by PLOT, the gloriously groovy combination of Paul and Lott! Together with guest virtuoso harmonica player Neil Billington, they will be embarking on a musical mission to engage, enthral, amuse, delight, and move the audience, in celebration of her latest album of songs.

Reverie have just launched their first album and it's awesome. They are Victoria Vigers and Tony Hillyard. They share a love of lyrical music, from contemporary compositions to traditional folk song. They are recognised for their uncanny vocal blend, and performances that are liberally laced with strong, emotional melodies and lyrics. You'll be able to see and hear this fabulous duo at Wellyfest plus learn from them! As well as giving a concert they'll be leading the choir... we can expect some awesome harmonies!

Hot Diggity is the only all-female bluegrass band currently playing in New Zealand.



They play original songs by Heather Carrigan (mandolin, guitar and vocals) and Deborah Mackenzie (guitar and vocals) along with plenty of bluegrass favourites. Backed up by Jenine Abarbanel (bass and vocals), Sue Drake (banjo and vocals) and Krissy Jackson (fiddle and vocals), they put out a powerful, lively sound with hot instrumentation and tight harmonies.

Hot Diggity was formed in 2014, but all five members are veteran musicians having played with numerous other bands in a variety of musical styles for years.

The T-Bone Trio present a soulful blend of high-energy Americana music played on guitars, mandolin, banjo and fiddles with close vocal harmonies and fiery instrumentals. Comprising of Gerry Paul, Cameron Dusty Burnell, and Richard Klein, the T-Bone Trio play an eclectic mixture of styles within the Americana genre, drawing on their backgrounds in Old Timey, Bluegrass, Country, Cajun, Zydeco and Blues.

Broken Lexicon Hailing from that place where vocabulary ends and art takes over, Broken Lexicon are an acoustic duo who weave together a Kiwi Russian fusion of music that is lively, heartfelt and original. Crafting songs with a Folk-Funk, Gypsy-Jazz flavour. The duo is made up of New Zealander Brook Davies, with her connective lyrics and catchy melodies, and Russian born Alexey Medvedev with his highly percussive, finger-picking style of acoustic guitar playing, which was developed in the streets and music academies of Moscow.

Fuego Latino may come all the way from Hawkes Bay but they play authentic Italian music.

Ruth Mundy is a musical poet, singing stories of love and loss, politics and protest. Combining frank lyrics with sweet melodies, Ruth will make you laugh and make you cry. Originally from the UK but now living in New Zealand, Ruth has one EP, Don't Be A Monster, and is currently working on a new album

Loads of workshops and themed concerts too. Saturday night ceillidh, on site café, Craft beer and wine for sale.

Great kid's programme organized by **Roadworkz**.

You can just enjoy the concerts and meeting our guest artists or you can bring along your own instruments and play in the open mics and guest concerts.



Or you can join the Irish slow session - learning to play together. Led by Ted Cizadlo and Andy Linton. Always wanted to join in the sessions but not sure how? Join Ted and Andy and learn at Wellyfest 12.30 until 2.30 on Saturday 21 October. For more details check out the group page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/WellingtonSession/>



Overnight camping encouraged in the beautiful surroundings of Brookfield, Wainuiomata. with toilets, showers and kitchen facilities available. Stay over and join in the jam sessions after the performances. Children's programme and dance workshops as well as music workshops led by our wonderful performers sharing their professional secrets.

Weekend passes on sale now: Registration prices have been held to the same as last year we've had to add a processing fee of \$3.80 to cover our banking costs. Adults \$130 for earlybird - book and pay by 30 September. Day passes will be available only on the gate. Check out the programme on the web site.

www.wellingtonfolkfestival.org.nz

7. West Auckland Acoustic Music Festival (WAAMfest), Blockhouse Bay, Auckland, 24-27 November



Welcome in the summer with a fabulous weekend of music, song and dance. WAAMfest is an exciting new event this year, hosted by Titirangi Folk Music Club.

Motu Moana Scout Camp, 90 Connaught Street, Blockhouse Bay, Auckland

Indoor and outdoor venues

- Large kitchen and hot showers

- Outdoor fireplace with built-in seating for late night sessions
- Plenty of space for tents and campervans
- Bunks available at an extra cost
- Opportunities for singing, playing and listening to music and the spoken word
- Invitation concerts, blackboard concerts, workshops, jam sessions, dancing

Prices:

\$65.00 for adults

\$60.00 for TFMC members

\$30.00 15-18 years

\$10.00 under 15

Bunks - Additional \$10.00 per person for the weekend (first come first served)
 Powered sites - A limited number of powered hard standing sites @ an additional \$10.00 for the weekend (first come first served).

One-hour slots can be pre-booked for workshops, concerts or other suitably folkie presentations. The venue for these sessions is totally acoustic (no sound system). If you are attending the festival and wish to book a space let us know what you can offer and provide us with the details. If we receive an abundance of applications, spots will be allocated at the discretion of Titirangi Folk Music Club committee to provide the most balanced programme.

For further information, to request a registration form or to apply for performance space please email secretary@titirangilivemusic.co.nz

8. Balladeer music noticeboard

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

a) An Exceptionally Busy Month for Plimmerton Up Close and Personal



2 September, 7:30 The inimitable **Owen Hugh**, 21 Gordon Road, Plimmerton. BYO drinks, call Annie 0274599376 for bookings \$10.00



9 September, 7:30 All the way from Raglan come 'Wilkie Mac'. 14 Taupo Cres, Plimmerton. BYO drinks, call Jannette 02102361951 for bookings. \$10.00



23 September, 7:30 From the infamous Cardronna we host **Martin Curtis**. 21 Gordon Road, Plimmerton. BYO drinks, call Anne 0274599376 for bookings. \$15:00

**b) Trad Singing Session, Upstairs at the Sprig and Fern,
Thorndon, Monday 11 September, 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

c) Gale Force Gospel, Riverslea Retreat, 8-10 September



Join Galeforce Gospel for a weekend of gospel singing, Friday evening to Sunday afternoon. \$190, including meals and accommodation. Singing

gospel arrangements by Carol Shortis, Eric Dozier, and Tony Backhouse. Places are limited, book through info@galeforcegospel.org.nz

**d) TaKeTiNa weekend with Tania Bosak, Thistle Hall, Cuba Street,
Wellington, 22-24 September**



TaKeTiNa is a rhythm and singing technique for musicians. Places are limited. Enquiries & registrations to Carol Shortis, info@carolshortis.com

Times		Cost
Friday 22 nd	7-9.30pm	Full weekend, 20 early bird places \$160 Concession \$180 Full price \$220 \$25 Friday night taster
Saturday 23 rd	10.30am - 6pm	
Sunday 24 th	10.30am - 5.30pm	

**e) Wellington Tune Weekend with Vic University Folk Club, Aro Valley
Community Hall, 48 Aro Street, 29 September to 1 October**

The Victoria University Folk Music Club is hosting a weekend of music from 29 September to 1 October in Wellington. Headlining in the Friday night concert are the wonderful Gillian Boucher and Bob McNeil, with some material from their new album. Support from a new local band, Buion.

Saturday night features a ceilidh with the Vic Uni ceilidh band and we've booked session space on Saturday and Sunday. Workshops on Saturday to be confirmed, but we'll be offering a crash course in playing for ceilidhs and a chance to join the band on Saturday.

www.vicfolktunefest.wordpress.com Hope to see you there! James McNamara

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

9. Want to perform?



AR Committee would like to hear from you if you are interested in performing at our events, including support acts for our monthly concerts. Contact us performers@acousticroutes.org.nz

10. 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. Check the website or the Balladeer for updates about the venue.

Membership of Acoustic Routes costs \$25 a year for individuals, \$40 for couples or families, or \$15 for students and beneficiaries – and as we're now into the second half of the financial year, all membership rates are now only half price to join from now until June 2017. Membership entitles you to door-charge discounts at Acoustic Routes events, at events put on by most other folk clubs, and at Alistair's Music. 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

11. Acoustic Routes contacts

President: Murray Kilpatrick president@acousticroutes.org.nz

Correspondence: Kevin Ikin secretary@acousticroutes.org.nz

Treasurer/Membership: Liz Auchinvole

treasurer@acousticroutes.org.nz **Balladeer:** Philippa Boy

balladeer@acousticroutes.org.nz

Acoustic Routes update email: Murray Kilpatrick president@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

12. Acoustic Routes membership, July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018

Single	\$25
Double/family (children under 18)	\$40
Other (Student, life member partners, beneficiaries)	\$15

What being a member gives you

- An annual programme of concerts by top-class musicians
- Regular performance opportunities at a range of other musical events
- Regular communications about what's on - all put together by a Committee elected by you
- a Membership Card that provides:
 - Discounted entry to 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. Complete this form and post it with a cheque made out to Wellington Folk Centre, P.O. Box 27-191, WELLINGTON 6141
2. Pay by internet banking to '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.
3. Hand your form plus payment to a committee member at an Acoustic Routes event.

If you do not already get The Balladeer and email update please register for them on the home page of www.acousticroutes.org.nz

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PLEASE COMPLETE: many thanks for your support

Amount paid: \$_____ Choose one: Single, Double /Family, Other Donation:

\$_____ (Wellington Folk Centre is a registered charity and

donations of \$5.00 or more are tax-deductible. A receipt will be issued.)

Payment has been made by cheque/direct credit/other

NAME(S): _____

POSTAL ADDRESS: _____

POSTCODE: _____ Phone number _____

YOUR CURRENT E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

13. Other regular folk events/contacts in the region

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

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 the Pub if you are interested in performing.

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.

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

Bookings: Dale Webb dalewebb@clear.net.nz

Website: www.levin-folk-music-club.org.nz

Facebook: Levin Folk Music

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, 3.00pm to 5pm

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/>

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