

The Balladeer

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

Acoustic  *Routes*

www.acousticroutes.org.nz

AR Christmas party, December 10

Sue and Kim Rose's Home, Paekakariki Hill Road Pauahatanui

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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. Klezmer Rebs concert, Roseneath School Hall, Thursday 23 November, 730 pm

Klezmer Rebs are a 7 piece Wellington band formed in 2002 that plays (mostly) klezmer music, an engaging style of world/folk music born out of the Yiddish/Jewish culture of eastern Europe in the 1800s and 1900s. Klezmer then went to America and in the early 1900s began to fuse with jazz and swing. There has been a worldwide revival of klezmer music since the 1980s.



With instruments including guitar, mandolin, clarinet, violin, accordion, keyboards, trombone, helicon (like a tuba), string bass and vocals, the Klezmer Rebs capture the true klezmer spirit with songs of joy, sorrow and rebellion. Expect big band and vocal arrangements of genuine old klezmer tunes – from the lively genuine Yiddish wedding music (freylachs and bulgars) to the delicate slice of life stories from the east European shtetl (ghettos).

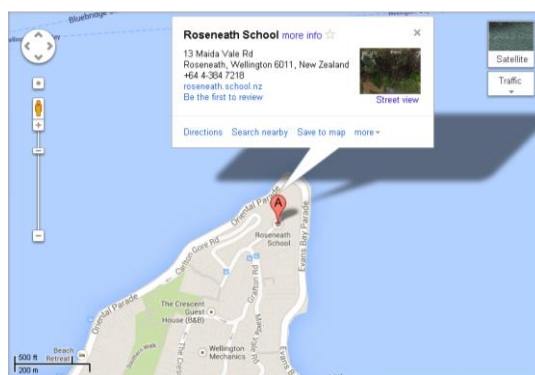
The Rebs world music appeals to everyone. While many of songs are sung in Yiddish (that mostly-Germanic and very onomatopoeic language), they also perform partisan songs from Italy, Russian folk tunes, French chansons, Latin cowboy love songs, Argentine Yiddish Tangos and 1940s swing vocal songs. Their own quirky, politically charged multi-lingual originals are some of the most popular crowd tunes.

The Rebs are a performance band – full of story songs and interaction with the audience. The songs are portrayed dramatically as well as aurally.

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. President Murray's Musings



Hi Folkies

What a full on-month October has turned out to be. Because of Welly Fest, we didn't run a concert. However, that was well and truly made up for with other events involving our Acoustic Routes Community.

Friday the 13th, Helen Dorothy launched her third CD at the Blue Grass Club, with her band of Lott Larsen (string bass), Paul Symons (on a variety of instruments including pedal steel) and Neil Billington (harmonica). What an amazing concert it was. Helen has grown enormously in confidence and she was fully in control of her extremely talented band.

Saturday the 14th there was a concert by Vishten. Although I didn't attend myself, I'm told it was also a really wonderful concert. Words like amazing were being used frequently. As if that wasn't enough, on Sunday the 15th Catherine Bowness (BB to her older friends), our Kiwi virtuoso five string banjo player, brought her youngish United States based Bluegrass Band, Mile Twelve, to play at the Blue Grass Club. BB's whole band were musically at her level. Another amazing concert by a very smooth and professional band.

Wellyfest. What can one say! The weather was kind to us, a wonderfully organised and enjoyable festival with a sensational guest line up. Our own Helen presented yet another stunning performance. Guilhem Desq, the French hurdy gurdy player was just astonishing. The T Bone Trio got the crowd onto their feet dancing at the end of the final concert. There was so much more going on, it is really hard to cover everything. Congratulations to a very hard working festival committee for a brilliant festival.

On a more grass roots level at Wellyfest, Pamela Gerrish Nunn organised what I'm told was a wonderful concert for Acoustic Routes on Saturday, in the Balladeer tent. We were represented by Toil and Trouble - Ron Craig, Jude Douglas and Mary Hubble; Diana Bastion and Julian Ward, and Dominic Rowsell, our 2017 J A Pan Memorial trophy winner, who brought with him the 2016 Joan Prior award winner Hunter Giltrap and a young woman from north of Auckland, Aurelia Torkington. They later played a half hour spot in the Balladeer to great acclaim. Chilli Jam ran the Saturday night ceilidh, which I'm told was great and Victoria University folk club members could be heard playing tunes frequently throughout the festival. Wellington Youth are on the rise!

Club matters. We are considering, gradually changing our concert nights at Roseneath to Sundays. This arrangement would give us greater flexibility for future club events. We would welcome your feedback about this.

We want to get a youth section of our club running on their own terms. We need a critical mass of interested people, say less than 40 years of age. A younger group of folkies are the future of our club. We want to begin building. If you are interested, please contact Matt Janssen at mattjanssen88@gmail.com or phone him on 0273371985

We also want to get a family friendly section of the club operating - events that will encourage children and also give parents, who otherwise find it difficult to be involved with our other events, a chance to participate and enjoy music. Sunday afternoon events are one possibility. Once again we need a critical mass of people and some potential leaders. If you are interested, please contact me president@acousticroutes.org.nz or (04) 239 9951.

We would like to begin running workshops in 2018 and would appreciate feedback about topics members are interested in. We are also looking for people who would like to offer their expertise and skills to run workshops.

Our November concert is very exciting. The Klezmer Rebs will be supported by two very fine musicians, our own Tim Barrie and Liz Merton.

December 10th Sue and Kim Rose have kindly invited us to their home in Pauatahanui for our Club Xmas Party. Please bring a plate, bottle, a small present for Secret Santa, lots of good cheer and instruments.

Cheers and happy Folking

Murray Kilpatrick.

3. Open Mic, Plimmerton Boating Club, 66 Moana Road, Plimmerton, Thursday 9 November, 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.



4. AR Open Mic Upstairs at “The Office”, Newtown, Sunday 12 November, 5:30-8 pm



“The Office” bar is in Newtown’s main street, Riddiford St, just south of the intersection with Rintoul St. Newtown.

Newtown Acoustic Sound runs open mics here every Sunday, except once a month when this event is hosted by Acoustic Routes. The sessions attract a regular core of performers and listeners, as well as new faces and we get to hear a comprehensive range of singers, musicians and poets too, who come from as far afield as Wairarapa to be there.

It's a great venue for acoustic music, separated by stairs and walls from bar-room clatter and chatter, with nice staff to serve you drinks and food.

Contact: kevin.ikin@clear.net.nz

5. Acoustic Routes Christmas Party, Sue and Kim Rose’s home, 329a Paekakariki Hill Road Pauahatanui, Sunday 11 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).



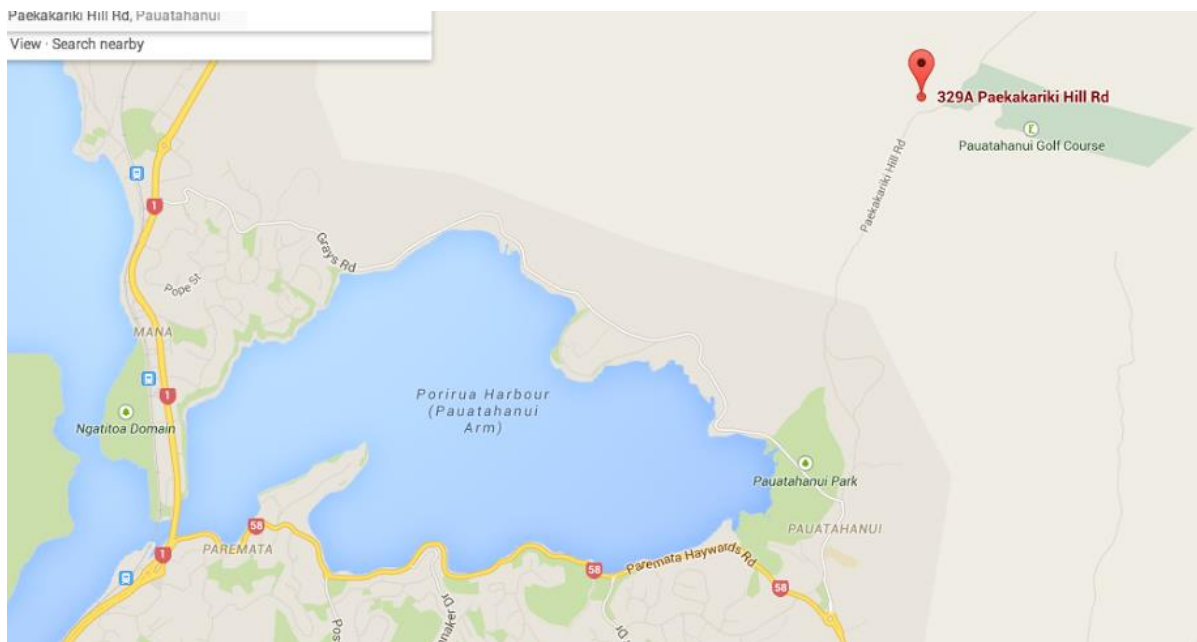
What To Bring

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 for Kaikoura 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.



6. Review, Wellyfest 2017

Looking back on another great Wellyfest, what struck me was the really strong “P” factor that’s a feature of this festival. That’s “P” for Participation. Workshops, blackboard concerts and dancing have always been part of the festival line-up, alongside the concert programme, but there are lots of other events that festival-goers can participate in. That’s what helps to make Wellyfest such a stimulating gathering.



An example of that is the welcome ceilidh on the Friday night. I had the job of hosting this one, but it was the people who attended who made it. They stepped up to call a dance, sing a song, tell a story or recite a poem, and we had a wonderful band of musicians who turned up to play for the dances as well as instrumental sets.

The festival choir, this year run by Reverie, is another case in point. Lots of people joined up for the workshops that culminated in the choir’s fine performance in the Balladeer before the Sunday night concert.



Speaking of the Balladeer – it’s the heart of Wellyfest, where you go to eat, meet and listen to an ever shifting line-up of acts. While some of the Balladeer entertainment is planned, such as the sets by local folk clubs, much of it is contributed by performers who step up or are shoulder-tapped during the weekend to do a spot. There were lots of treats, including a surprise appearance by “Into The East”, and the poets trading verses in Gary Elford’s poetry slam.



Niels Gedge's New Zealand tradition bearers session attracted local song-writers as well as collectors and singers of New Zealand songs (not to mention a family of ducks that quacked their way through the Maire Hall at one point).



There was plenty for young festival-goers to participate in, as well: the youth programme run by Rhodeworks, and younger folk with energy to burn flocked to the Saturday night ceilidh. Young singers too, were among those participating in Dave Barnes's late night singing session, which I understand was still going at 5am.

All these things make it possible for people coming to Wellyfest to be truly part of it. Then, as a reward, we could relax and enjoy the final concert, listen in open-mouthed wonder to the musical pyrotechnics of French hurdy-gurdy virtuoso, Guilhem Desq and up on our feet one last time to absorb the energy unleashed by the T-Bone Trio.

Kevin Ikin

Photos courtesy of Gerard Hudson



7. Summer Festivals Coming Up

Tui Farm Folk Festival, 29 December 2017 to 2 January 2018.

Featured guests so far are Molly's Remedy from Christchurch, RoseAnna from Nelson, Don Milne from Dunedin and Rural Mail from Nelson with still more to come. Once again, we have a great bush poetry session with Roger Lusby and workshops will include the choir with Anna Heinz, Banjo with Don Milne, Ukulele with Mike Gough, Wind at Tui with Marguerite Clubb and a couple of others still to be confirmed. Go online now to www.tuifarmfolk.co.nz for details on how to get your tickets.

See you there.

Cheers, Carol Rose

Whare Flat Folk Festival, 30 December to 2 January 2018

Four days of music and dance concerts, workshops, entertainment and relaxation in the superb Waiora Scout Camp just outside of Dunedin. Guests include Neil Adam and Judy Turner (Aus), Nadia Reid, Across the great Divide, The Chaps, Victoria Vigenser, and many others. Early bird tickets are available until 1 December. <http://www.whareflat.org.nz> and follow the link, or buy them directly through eventfinda

Women's Voices Summer Camp, Riverslea Lodge, Otaki Gorge, 12-14 January 2018

Lead by Carol Shortis, a teacher experienced in teaching "natural voice" singing to a wide range of abilities. Join her for a magical weekend of singing, delicious food, adventure and picnicking under the stars. <http://www.carolshortis.co.nz> or contact her on 04 904 0580 or 021 813 6207 for further details, including price.

Ethno New Zealand, Piritahi Marae, Waiheke Island 20-29 January 2018

10 days of intercultural connection, music workshops, growth and inspiration, new friendships and great laughs for young folk, cultural and traditional musicians aged 17-30 years. For more information email ethnonewzealand@gmail.com, Facebook is Ethno New Zealand
<http://www.ethnonewzealand.wixsite.com/ethnonz>

Auckland Folk Festival, Kumeu Showgrounds, 26-28 January 2018

The line-up includes Alan Reid (Sco; ex Battlefield Band), The Lonely heartstring Band (USA), Reverie, Neil Billington, The T Bone Trio and lots more. Early bird tickets are on sale now. <http://www.aucklandfolkfestival.co.nz>

Boxwood New Zealand, Waipu, 15-20 February

Featuring tuition in wooden flute, pipes and song by Chris Norman, James Kelly on Irish fiddle and Rennie Pearson with guitar, flutes and whistles.
<http://www.boxwood.org> or email hello@boxwood.org

8. Balladeer music noticeboard

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

a) A note from the Treasurer

A reminder to all those who are changing your email address (thanks Vodafone!) Don't forget to notify treasurer@acousticroutes.org.nz to amend the membership list so you continue to get the Balladeer and the updates.

b) Mehana at the Moon, 167 Riddiford Street, Newtown, Saturday 11 November 8.30 pm. \$10.00

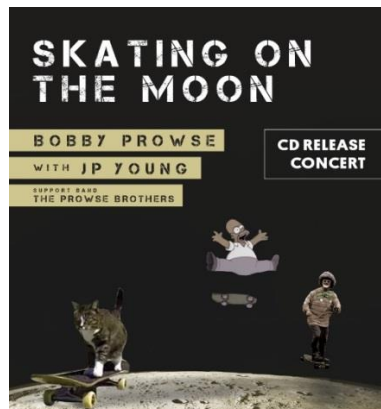
Mehana is a six-piece Balkan Ethno-Blues Folk band who will entrance you with an evening of urban gypsy outlaw music. Be swept away with ancient harmonies and dance the night away to your favourite Balkan rhythms.

c) Trad Singing Session, Upstairs at the Sprig and Fern, Thorndon, Monday 13 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

d) Bobby Prowse with JP Young, 'Skating On The Moon' CD Release Concert, Aro Valley Community Hall, Friday, 17 November 7.30pm

Support band: The Prowse Brothers.
Free entry with a koha for the use of the hall.



e) West Auckland Acoustic Music Festival (WAAMfest), Motu Moana Scout Camp, 90 Connaught Street 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.

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

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

12. 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 pm

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: Mary Khalil 021 02314505 mary.khalil@xtra.co.nz

Club committee email: info@mainlyacoustic.co.nz

Website: <http://mainlyacoustic.co.nz/coming-attractions/>

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/](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 04 568 8635, email iain@jumbletree.com