

# The Balladeer

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

*Acoustic*  *Routes*

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



Brookfields Scout Camp, Wainuomata, 20-23 October

*No October Acoustic Routes concert due to Wellyfest*

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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. President Murray's Musings



Hi Folkies and Others

The evenings are getting longer and the days warmer. Spring is in the air, or so they tell me? This month, we had a pleasing turnout for our Come All Ye at the Roseneath Hall. It was a lovely evening very ably run by our secretary Kevin Ikin, and really nice to hear so many very talented people contribute in so many varied and interesting ways. I thoroughly enjoyed it.

We won't be holding a concert doing October because of Wellyfest. I'm told preparations are almost complete for what promises to be yet again a fabulous Labour Weekend at Brookfield's Scout camp. Acoustic Routes will be wonderfully represented at the Balladeer Tent concert by Toil and Trouble, Dominic Rowsell and Julian and Diana. Also Kevin McLoughlin and Kevin Ikin (Ktoo) will be presenting a concert of their own, as will Helen Dorothy, Lott and Paul just to mention a few. Acoustic Routes won't be running the Joan Prior Young Performers Award this year, but we intend to take it up again next year.

On Thursday November the 23rd, our concert will feature the Klezmer Rebs. This super band originated in Wellington a number of years ago. They play Klezma Eastern European Jewish music. Wonderful, guaranteed to get your feet tapping. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O1cs8dEkPSA>. Members will get a reduced entry to this concert. We would love you to take out membership of Acoustic Routes. Why not register at this concert?

Sue and Kim Rose have kindly offered to host our club Xmas Party again at their lovely home in Pauatahanui - mark Sunday 10 December on your calendar and check the November Balladeer for more details.

Once again, I'd like to post a big thanks to my Committee for their very hard work and for keeping me on the straight and narrow, Philippa for the Balladeer, and John Burnell for helping me into the 21st century IT world.

Finally thanks to all of you out there for your support. I would love to hear from you about things you would like the club to do.

Cheers

Murray Kilpatrick.

# 2. Immediate Past President's Report 2017

When I put my hand up to be president it was only partly because Emma gave me a choice of president or secretary and as I've done secretary before I thought I'd try something else! It was also because I've wading my way through a book called "The end of work" by Rifkin. There's a lot of talk in it about how automation means there won't be work for everyone in the future

and the job market will become much more constrained. There's evidence of that everywhere, and of the fact that more and more automation or robots are doing stuff that people used to do. One thing that robots can't do for us or instead of us is participate in making music together, so I decided it was important to put some more effort and support into making sure there are opportunities to do that in Wellington.

Unfortunately things changed for me and I've had to spend quite a lot of the year in the UK so I wasn't able to do a lot of the things I'd hoped to do. As a committee we've had quite a few challenges, certainly the saddest being the untimely passing of one of our members, David Fowler. David joined the committee for the first time this year but he's been a very active behind-the-scenes member for a long time, and is a big loss.

Nevertheless in spite of these absences the committee managed to pull off several concerts with the willing support of the membership in general. It was great to have so many members or long-term associates of the club involved in performing at events. Big thanks to the committee members who carried on making sure concerts ran smoothly throughout the year - Liz Auchinvole, Emma Hart, Kevin McLoughlin, and Madeleine Ashworth. Thanks also to Murray and Dom who were always there at the end of a sound board!

Other challenges include the sad loss of folk icon Phil Garland. Not only was his passing a huge loss in general but also the timing of it meant that we had to arrange and then cancel three concerts (his original concert in October, the revised one in April and the proposed tribute concert in April). I mention that only to point out that sometimes what comes off in the events world is not representative of all the background work that goes into it. I'm delighted to note that Niels Gedge's NZ music event at Wellyfest will include a tribute to Phil and that his great contribution to NZ folk will be remembered again.

I'm rewriting this report because I can't find my original and have to head off in a minute to see a couple of days of a folk festival here in the UK - I have to say that we have a terrific bunch of musicians in Wellington and in New Zealand and they are absolutely worth supporting with all possible resources! Another challenge was the closure of Roseneath School Hall for strengthening. I know there are mixed feelings about the hall among members, but having a hall we can use regularly that has parking and is on a bus route, and is also physically accessible, is a huge boon to the concert organisers!

There are lots of opportunities in the Wellington area to hear and play music now; it's great to see Ann McGregor's Up Close and Personal, and Dave Barnes's session at the Sprig and Fern going strong. Acoustic Routes has taken Roy McGuinness's Plimmerton Open Mic under its wing this year - it's nice to have a little outreach on the Kapiti Coast where a number of our members are based. Due to the efforts of one person in particular, our own Open Mic has continued to flourish in Newtown. That person is the amazing Kevin Ikin, who also ran the Joan Prior Award (a terrific event this year) practically single-handed, and has been very supportive of me in my role - many, many thanks, Kevin!

I should maybe say something about the money. We lost a small amount on

the concerts due to generally quite low attendance. Of greater importance I believe is that where we made money, it was because we managed to draw in non-members, not because we got members out. I think we need as a club to do some serious thinking about why this is the case and what we could do to change that. Membership numbers also fell, but that might have been improved if we'd been able to work more on that.

I'll close by saying that I've been reading another book lately, called "Tribe", about belonging, and the benefits, rights and responsibilities thereof. I've come to regard Acoustic Routes as my tribe over the years, and it's been a pleasure and a privilege to help nudge it through another year. I wish the incoming committee every success in their endeavours and hope to be able to support them in whatever ways I can to keep the music and the tribe live in Wellington!

Janette Munneke  
Immediate Past President, Acoustic Routes

### **3. AR Open Mic Upstairs at "The Office", Newtown, Sunday 8 October, 5:30-8 pm**



"The Office" bar is in Newtown's main street, Riddiford St, just south of the intersection with Rintoul St. 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](mailto:kevin.ikin@clear.net.nz)

### **4. Kieran Halpin concert, Mainly Acoustic, Mayfair Café, Upper Hutt, Tuesday 10 October, 7:30 pm**

Don't miss your one chance to enjoy Kieran in our area. Live on stage is where he really makes his mark as one of the leading singer/songwriters on the acoustic/folk scene in Europe today. His songs cover every conceivable subject from love, loss and celebration, to the more global concerns that face all of us today and is often described as a modern protest song writer. He is never afraid to tackle topics that will provoke opinion and debate. If you are a fan of lyrics – then this concert is for you. Admission \$15.00 (members \$10.00)



## 5. Open Mic, Plimmerton Boating Club, 66 Moana Road, Plimmerton, 12 October, 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.



## 6. Vishtën concert, Wellington Museum, Saturday 14 October, 8:00 pm



French Canadian powerhouse trio Vishtën are making their first visit to New Zealand, bringing their upbeat infusion of traditional songs, built on a bedrock of driving foot percussion, fiddle, piano, step dance, and accordion. The group is a leading exponent of Acadian music, which is the ancestor of today's Cajun music, and is centered in the French-Canadian regions

of New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island. Check them out here.

Marie-Moi (Avec Paroles): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E5PZ6AgS-IQ>

Live in Montreal: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UwKKDeJDctA>

A discount code is available for club members, so if you're interested in this fabulous concert email [treasurer@acousticroutes.org.nz](mailto:treasurer@acousticroutes.org.nz) to obtain the code before booking.

## 7. Brookfields Scout Camp, Wainuiomata, 20-23 October



Wellyfest has an even more wide-ranging line-up for Labour weekend. The festival is packed full of concerts by international and NZ artists, workshops, dance, and jam sessions.

 <p>Guilhem Desq brings a French flavour and will entrance you with his hurdy gurdy playing.</p>	<p>Listen to Richie and Rosie from USA will get your feet tapping to violin/banjo old time Americana.</p> 	 <p>John Leo Carter is an Irishman now living in Sweden and carrying on the celtic traditional with a fresh new dimension.</p>	<p>Helen Dorothy &amp; Co launch their new album of thoughtful music with a message.</p> 
 <p>Vikki Clayton and Gilly Darby bring their pure voices, great guitar playing and wicked sense of humour with some well-recognised folk standards and newly released songs.</p>	<p>Hot Diggety are the only all-female Bluegrass band in NZ and they will get the place rocking with their unrivalled style.</p> 	 <p>Reverie are a duo who produce perfect harmonies and they'll be leading the choir workshops.</p>	

By the way did you know singing in a choir is one of the best things you can do for your mental health? Plus loads more performers, a dancing ceilidh on Saturday night, a welcome ceilidh on Friday, and two showcase concerts so you get to enjoy the great performers.

Exciting hands-on workshops - John Leo will be giving a workshop for bodhran Irish frame drum for beginners, so come along and learn to play. Guilhem will be giving a workshop on the history of this 1000 year old instrument and you'll have a chance to try out his style of playing as well as with local enthusiasts.



There's also a youth programme especially for younger musicians and run by younger musicians.

Check out the workshops on our web site: <http://wellingtonfolkfestival.org.nz/> Loads of dance workshops too: Gary Elford will be teaching some South Island Specialties, plus a chance to learn Latin American

Salsa.

We have a rich legacy of songs that evoke the idiom, places, landscapes, history, yarns of Aotearoa/NZ, as well as songwriters who are writing in the tradition today. The NZ Tradition Bearers singaround is on again this year, hosted by Niels Gedge in the Maire Hall from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm on Saturday. Waiata, and songs written or found by our NZ Trad "godfather" Phil Garland, who died earlier this year, are especially welcome.



And of course the jam sessions, camping, Balladeer tent with cafe. Catch-up with friends old and new - Wellyfest is known as the friendly festival.

All in the beautiful surroundings of Brookfield Outdoor Education Centre so you have space to camp over the weekend, on-site cafe and kitchen facilities, toilets and showers. Tickets are priced to be affordable as possible for families with under 5s free. More info at [www.wellingtonfolkfestival.org.nz](http://www.wellingtonfolkfestival.org.nz) or at [Wellyfest](#) on Facebook.

## 8. Balladeer music noticeboard

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

### a) 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](mailto:david.barnes@xtra.co.nz)

### b) 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@titirangilivemusic.co.nz](mailto:secretary@titirangilivemusic.co.nz)

### c) 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)

## 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](mailto: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](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)



## 11. Acoustic Routes contacts

**President:** Murray Kilpatrick [president@acousticroutes.org.nz](mailto:president@acousticroutes.org.nz)

**Correspondence:** Kevin Ikin [secretary@acousticroutes.org.nz](mailto:secretary@acousticroutes.org.nz)

**Treasurer/Membership:** Liz Auchinvole [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:** Murray Kilpatrick  
[president@acousticroutes.org.nz](mailto:president@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/Acoustic-Routes/89128457590/home](http://www.facebook.com/Acoustic-Routes/89128457590/home)

## 12. Wanted: your 2017/18 Acoustic Routes Subscription

If you haven't already done so, please renew your subscription. So far uptake is around 40%. Your sub will help your club fulfil its obligations, like pay the insurance, pay the accounts reviewer, pay for the Post Office Box....all the boring stuff.

What you get: all renewed subscriptions will be entered into a raffle at the end of November. Meanwhile subscribed members can continue to enjoy discounted entry to concerts, including the Bluegrass Society and Mainly Acoustic and discounts at Alistair's Music. There is also a discount for the Vishten concert in October but the promo code will only be made available on application to the treasurer.

Subscription rates are \$40/double and family, \$25/single, with a discounted rate of \$15 each where both partners are superannuitants, students or Community Service Card holders.

To renew just email [treasurer@acousticroutes.org.nz](mailto:treasurer@acousticroutes.org.nz) and tell Sue you've made the deposit to (ANZ) 01 0505 0182241 00. If you've changed address recently tell her the new one, too. If internet banking isn't your thing there's a form on the website [www.acousticroutes.org.nz](http://www.acousticroutes.org.nz) that you can print off and mail with a cheque.

Many thanks

Sue Ikin  
Treasurer

## 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](mailto: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](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 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](mailto:dalewebb@clear.net.nz)

Website: [www.levin-folk-music-club.org.nz](http://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](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, 3.00pm to 5pm

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/>

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)