

The Balladeer

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

Acoustic  *Routes*

www.acousticroutes.org.nz



Merry Christmas and every good wish for 2018

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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. Acoustic Routes Christmas Party, Sue and Kim Rose's home, 329a Paekakariki Hill Road Pauatahanui, Sunday 10 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 Pauatahanui shops. (It's about the same distance from Wellington as Plimmerton - see map below).

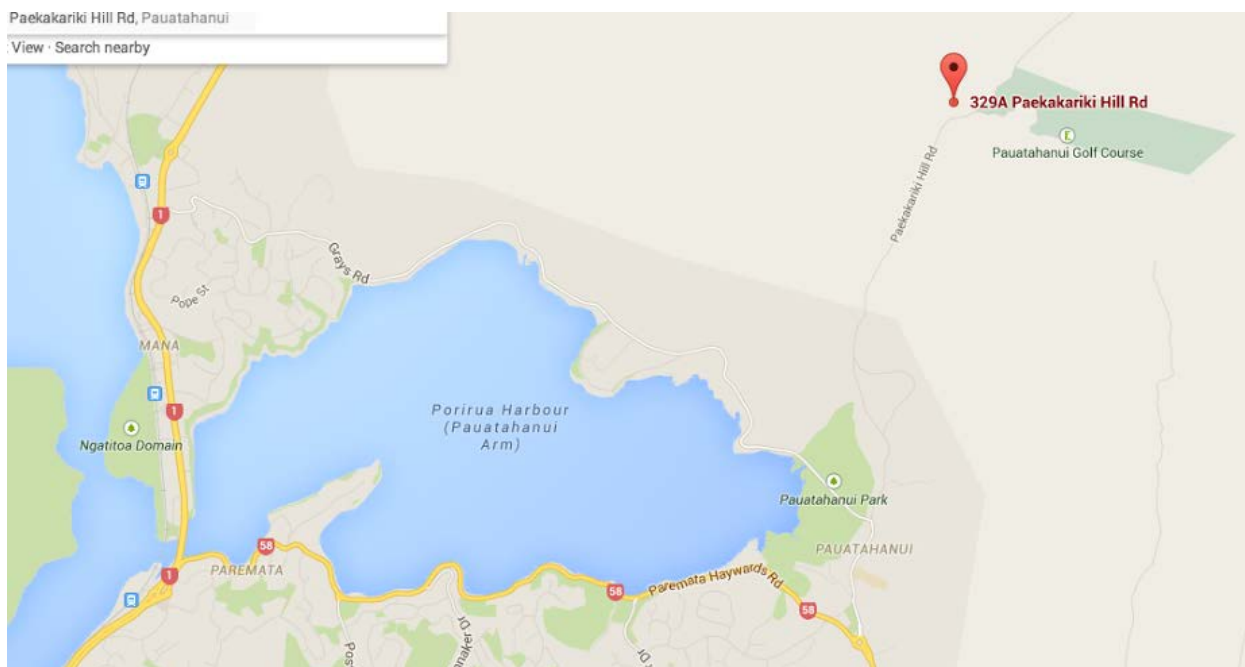
What To Bring

In lieu of a secret Santa this year, we will be collecting koha for the Wellington City Mission's Christmas Star appeal. Please bring a plate of food, a bottle of what you like to drink, 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.

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.



2. President Murray's Musings



Hi again Everybody

This year's quite unbelievable spring seems to have morphed into summer.

Last month we were treated to a well-attended, wonderful and lively concert by the Klezmer Rebs, equally wonderfully preceded by Liz and Tim. A real delight.

Because Christmas is fast approaching, with all its pressures, we won't present a concert during December or January. However we are looking to get into the swing of things in February 2018 with some exciting line-ups.

Kim and Sue Rose have kindly invited all of us to their country estate, for Acoustic Routes annual Christmas Party. It would be wonderful to see each and every one of you, with instruments, voices, and good cheer. I'd like to thank Sue and Kim very much for once again hosting this event.

I am really pleased to note that the 'Youth' section of Acoustic Routes are having their first meeting this coming Sunday. We hope that they will run regular meetings in their own style during 2018 and beyond. Matt Jansen is co-ordinating that group at present. If you are younger, or know younger people who may be interested in being involved, please get in touch with me and I'll put you/them in contact with Matt.

I would also still like to get a families' event started during 2018. I'm thinking a semi-autonomous monthly, weekend afternoon event that caters both for the little ones and their parents. If you would like to be involved and help get this going, please get in touch with me.

During 2018, I would like the club to begin running workshops. I need to know what your needs are. Please get in touch with suggestions or if you would like to be involved running a workshop. I would like the club to strengthen as a musical community where we all help and support each other to grow together.

We have been considering changing our concert nights from Thursdays to Sundays. I mentioned this in last month's Balladeer and asked for feedback. I haven't received any as yet, so I will presume that we are free to make that change in the future, if we see fit. If you do have opinions about this, please get in touch. Historically we ran our concert nights on Sundays for many decades and only changed to Thursdays at the request of the then venue manager. Reverting to Sundays, would give us the flexibility to run Sunday afternoon events that then ran into evening concerts.

There are a number of festivals over the summer period, including Tahora, Whare Flat, Tui, Te Rangī and the Auckland festival. I think that there may be several other events, in other parts of Kiwi Land.

There are a number of people I would especially like to thank for their contribution to Acoustic Routes activities in 2017.

- Kevin Ikin for running the very successful monthly Acoustic Routes Open Mic at the Office in Newtown.
- Roy McGuinness for running the very successful monthly Plimmerton Open Mic in association with Acoustic Routes.
- Annie Mc Gregor for once again so ably organising and running the 2017 Riverserlea Retreat weekend during the winter months. A wonderful social musical weekend.
- John Burnell for managing our IT problems. John is often almost invisible, but so vital to our lines of communication.
- Our previous president Janette Munneke for helping and supporting the transition to the present committee so well, from so far away.
- Gerard Hudson, Julie Lamb and our treasurer Sue Ikin for sorting to our finances.
- Philippa Boy for the great job she does every month, compiling and sending out such a wonderful Balladeer and not the least, in sorting my ramblings into something readable

A very big thanks to all of our very dedicated and hardworking Committee for the wonderful job they do.

Lastly, a really big thank you to all of you for supporting Acoustic Routes. Without you we wouldn't have a club. Have a wonderful Christmas, a safe summer and a very happy new year

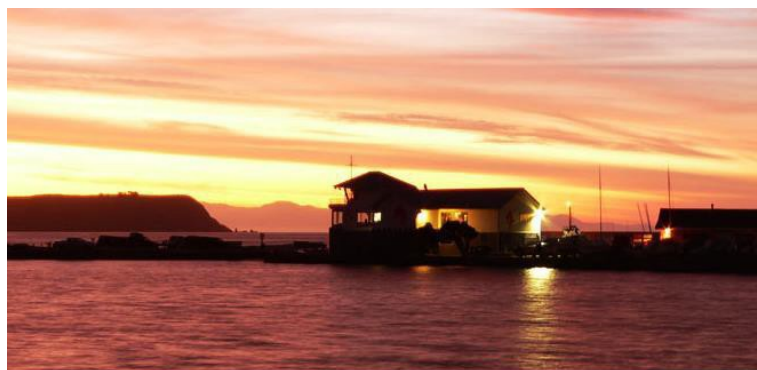
Merry Christmas

Murray

3. Open Mic, Plimmerton Boating Club, 66 Moana Road, Plimmerton, Thursday 14 December, 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. Review, Klezmer Rebs concert, 23 November

This was Acoustic Routes' final concert for the year and it was a cracker. It was the Rebs' single concert outing in Wellington this year, I understand, and they attracted a goodly-sized audience to the spruced-up Roseneath School Hall, in a show that took us on a bit of a musical world tour.

The Klezmer Rebs have been part of the Wellington music scene for about 15 years. They didn't have their full line-up for this concert, but the five on stage still pumped out a big sound on accordion, keyboard, double bass, guitar and mandolin, trombone, percussion and a rather large brass instrument, sort of like a sousaphone, called a halicon (if I've got the spelling right).

They started with one of their own songs, "Kumpt ,Kumpt Khaverim", with lyrics from a band-member's mother set to music by their ace clarinet player, Urs Signer.



Their wide ranging set-list spanned from traditional songs drawn from the Eastern European Jewish culture where Klezmer had its roots, to modern numbers touching on many other musical genres that Klezmer has connected with along the way. So, we had during the course of the evening, Klezmer Charleston, a Klezmer Tango, a 1940s Klezmer pop hit covered by the Andrews Sisters, country swing Klezmer ("Blue Klezmer Moon") a Roma (gypsy) love song and Andy Statman's "Flatbush Waltz" done Klezmer style.



The Rebs' musical trip around the world was augmented in fine fashion by the opening act, Liz Merton and Tim Barrie, who also crossed a fair number of cultural bridges in their set.

They performed songs and tunes from Arabic, Jewish and Eastern European sources, as well as three new songs of their own, accompanied on an array of instruments you don't get to hear every day: ud, fiddle, clarinet, ukulele and drum. The songs were just as varied: an invitation to bring a plate to a neighbourhood gathering that might include elves, wizards, dwarves and hobbits; exploring the contents of other peoples' bookshelves; and a song evoking the Wellington landscape.

If you weren't there, you missed a treat, but if you are going to Auckland Folk Festival in January, you can catch the Klezmer Rebs there.

Kevin Ikin.

5. Summer Festivals Coming Up

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

Lovely people, lovely venue, a great wee festival. www.tuifarmfolk.co.nz for details on how to get your tickets.

Whare Flat Folk Festival, 30 December to 2 January 2018

Four days of music and dance concerts, workshops, entertainment and relaxation <http://www.whareflat.org.nz> and follow the link, or buy tickets directly through eventfinda

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

Lead by Carol Shortis. <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

<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

6. Balladeer music noticeboard

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

- a) **Up Close and Personal in Plimmerton presents Victoria Vigenser, Annie and Roy's home, 21 Gordon Road, Plimmerton, Saturday 9 December, 730 pm**



This is definitely one not to be missed. Victoria holds both traditional and classical song at her musical core and there is a spell binding quality to her voice that she weaves into every performance and any genre. Accompanying herself on guitar, dulcimer or bodhran, she combines voice and instrumentation to conjure images that cannot be ignored.

Contact Anne McGregor annemcgregor@xtra.co.nz (04)2338567

b) Trad Singing Session, Upstairs at the Sprig and Fern, Thorndon, 11 December, 630 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) Ceilidh with Buíon, Tuatara Third Eye, 30 Arthur St Wellington 16 December 7-10 pm.

Buíon (BWEE-un) is a young Celtic band emerging out of the local Wellington Irish session scene. Reuben, Wynton, James and Gillian masterfully blend accordion, uilleann pipes, and twin fiddles (and the rhythmic beat of their feet!) into a traditional Irish sound coloured by their various musical backgrounds, including Scottish, English, Ontario Old-Time and French Canadian, and contemporary music styles.

High-energy tunes, and a mix of traditional ceilidh dances with a few dances influenced by the contemporary French bal folk scene. All the dances will be explained by the callers, and it'll be the easiest and most fun night of dancing you'll find anywhere! Calling by James McNamara and Gemma Potaka

Tickets \$12 general admission, \$5 students, Bookings online at Eventfinda

d) Folk Gathering 2018 Breaking News!!

There will be no Elstow Folk Gathering next year! Fear not, though, lovers of folk music. There will still be a Folk Gathering in 2018 – it's just the venue that's changed.

Where: Tauhei Memorial Hall, 854 Tauhei Road, Tauhei
When: Friday 16th to Sunday 18th February 2018
Cost: \$30.00 pp for the weekend if paid before 31st January 2019.
\$40.00 pp if paid after 31st January.

Plenty of camping space, kitchen facilities etc. Pre-registration is recommended. For further information or to register please email thefolkgatheringnz@gmail.com

e) 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.

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

7. 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

8. 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

9. Acoustic Routes contacts

President: Murray Kilpatrick president@acousticroutes.org.nz

Correspondence: Kevin Ikin secretary@acousticroutes.org.nz

Treasurer/Membership: Sue Ikin 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

10. 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