

The Balladeer

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

Acoustic  *Routes*

www.acousticroutes.org.nz

May 2019: in this issue

1. Rachel Dawick, Roseneath School Hall, Thursday 23 May, 7:30 pm
2. President Murray's Musings
3. Open Mic at The Office, Newtown, Sunday 12 May, 5:30-8 pm
4. Open Mic, Plimmerton Boating Club, Thursday 9 May, 7 pm
5. Review, Himmerland concert, 13 April
6. Balladeer music noticeboard
7. Want to perform?
8. About Acoustic Routes
9. Acoustic Routes contacts
10. Other regular folk events/contacts in the region

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

1. Rachel Dawick, Roseneath School Hall, Thursday 23 May, 7:30 pm



Rachel Dawick, Tui Award Finalist 2015, moves from her work of the women settlers to two new albums to be released in 2019 and 2020. The first 'Gold Pan Alley' is the tale of the travelling troupes who worked the gold rush towns in NZ from 1860-1890. The second 'London Working, London Poor' takes us back to the streets of East London and the array of colourful characters in Henry Mayhew's work - from the acrobat to the crossing sweeper. A wee sneak preview of the two new albums and the stories behind them.

Support Acts



Paddy Burgin has been strumming his way around Wellington for quite a few years now, usually a guitar he's made himself.

In the early 2000s, he started writing more New Zealand orientated songs inspired by the works of Michael King, James K Baxter and many other literary and historically minded figures. The subject matter of the songs is diverse – shipwrecks, McKenzie the sheep stealer, the early inhabitants of the Wairau Bar, and the Pike River Mine all figure. He has recorded multiple CDs with the Wooden Box Band, the latest being 'Far Far Away', launched at the Wellington Folk Festival last year. By day he makes guitars, mandolins, bouzoukis and other instruments for musicians in New Zealand and overseas.

Ko Te Atiawa te iwi
Ko Puketapu te hapū
Ko Makaira Waugh tōku ingoa



Kia ora koutou. I am a kaiako at Te Ara Whānui Kura Kaupapa Māori in Lower Hutt, where I teach a music programme to all of our Y1-8 tamariki, based on the wonderful Orff approach. I've been making musical instruments in the last few years, thanks to the generosity of my friend Murray Kilpatrick who lets me use his workshop and tools, and I will bring some of these taonga to perform on. I will be sharing some of my own waiata and there will be opportunities for the audience to join in on the night!

Ngā mihi,
Makaira

Entry: \$15/\$10 for members. Cash only (no eftpos facilities).

2. Murray's Musings



Hi Folkies

We are really heading into winter now with colder, shorter days.

Last month Roy McGuinness facilitated a very enjoyable Irish sing-around to mark St Patrick's day. A great evening.

Earlier in April we were treated to a marvellous concert by the Denmark-based band Himmerland, who included numerous Scandinavian tunes and songs in their repertoire. They had our audience enthralled the whole evening. Thanks so much guys. For my part, I would particularly like to thank Bruce Carey, Madeleine Ashworth and Janette Munneke for their wonderful help, ensuring that the evening went smoothly.

Last month at our Pukerua Bay club, we were fortunate enough to have Rachel Dawick as our guest, singing some of her own songs about historical Kiwi women. Absolutely fascinating. She will be our main guest in May's NZ Music Month concert. If you missed her at Pukerua Bay make a point of catching her at Roseneath. The supporting performers will be two very skilled musicians and luthiers, Paddy Burgin and Makaira Waugh who, incidentally, have never met. Paddy will most likely entertain us with some of his, self-penned songs. Expect the unexpected from Makaira - it may very well involve you.

I have just returned from the Easter Hamilton Folk Festival. This festival has now built up again to its former glory. Almost all the guests were regular festival goers who would otherwise have very likely been at the festival irrespective of their guest status. Very much our old-style festival. I would have to say that the musicianship, singing and performance standard at the festival's final concert was considerably above what I have experienced from many expensive overseas guests at our major festivals in recent years. A most inspiring, enjoyable and friendly weekend.

Before these musings get published, I will have heard Sadie and Jay performing for us at Roseneath and will have been part of the Tutira Trad festival in Hawkes Bay, north of Napier. I have very high expectations of both these events. During this last month, Kevin Ikin and Kevin McLoughlin, accompanied by their wives, have been touring the South Island, taking their historical songs of the West Coast back home. From accounts that I have heard they have been really well received. Congratulations to both of you.

I would like to thank our committee, Bruce, Kevin, Sue, Madeleine and Janette for their continued very hard work. I'd also like to thank Philippa for producing such a wonderful Balladeer every month.

Cheers and keep folkling

Murray Kilpatrick.

3. Open Mic, Plimmerton Boating Club, 66 Moana Road, Plimmerton, Thursday 9 May, 7 pm

A highly popular monthly event in a lovely venue. Low cost drinks and food, and a sound system. Contact: Roy on (021) 433-878.



4. Newtown Open Mic upstairs at the Office, Sunday 12 May, 5:30-8 pm



Open mic hosted by Acoustic Routes with Newtown Acoustic Sound. It's the friendly little performance space, upstairs at The Office Bar in Riddiford Street.

There's a warm welcome for all performers - singers, songwriters, instrumentalists and poets. Expect to do two items, or three if you open the evening or there's time at the end for more.

Contact: kevin.ikin@supermail.co.nz, newtownacousticsound@gmail.com The Newtown Acoustic Sound Open Mics run twice a month. The second one this month will be on

the Sunday 26 May.

5. Review, Himmerland concert, 13 April

It started with standing outside a closed gate and ended with a standing ovation! We thought the Himmerland gig was going to be one of our biggest events of the year, and the committee had everything carefully planned - the sound man was booked, the catering planned, the stand in for the treasurer fully briefed, the band accommodated, plenty of time allowed to get there on time on a Saturday night in Wellington. Imagine our consternation when we arrived to find the premises had been double booked, a film crew had commandeered the tennis courts where we normally offer off-street parking, and in fact were decidedly reluctant to let this unruly folkie lot on the site at all.

Once we were let in, though, it was a shining example of everybody pulling together to make a great evening happen. Our president worked flat tuck and got the sound sorted by one minute to eight, club members and other local folkies weighed in and got the hall set up, and Mary Hubble deserves a special mention for standing at the top of the drive in the cold and the dark, directing traffic.

Despite the rocky start, Himmerland put on a sterling performance, with traditional and self-penned tunes and songs from Sweden, Denmark, Ghana and

Scotland delivered with great skill, fervour and energy. While showcasing the different traditions that the individual members bring to the band, there were also some great moments of cross-pollination where tunes or songs were



enhanced with a different beat, rhythm or sound – which got more and more mesmerising and energetic as the concert proceeded, until the final number, when some of the audience literally bounced to their feet in a standing ovation. Showing their true versatility, Himmerland then eased us gently back down with Eskil’s beautiful tune for his father.

Since two of their regular members became unable to tour internationally with the band due to other commitments, Himmerland has really made the best of the situation by bringing different musicians on tour with them. This year it is Scottish singer and viola player Mairi Campbell, who added several other traditions to the international sound of the band with her gorgeous renditions of Scottish songs, and her talent for instrumental and vocal improvisation.

The concert was a real highlight of the Acoustic Routes calendar, and after the Christchurch atrocity, there was even more resonance in singing “we’ll tak a cup of kindness yet...”

Janette Munneke

6. 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 13 May, 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

b) Fig Tree Cottage Greytown, Specials for Folkies

Fellow folkies can book our holiday cottage at a reduced rate - \$85 per night - anytime between 7 June and 13 September. You can see the cottage on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/figtreehomestay/> and on Air BnB to get an idea of where it is and what it's like (note that the special rate is not available through AirBnB).

The cottage sleeps a maximum of five people (with three sleeping in the sitting room) and includes a kitchen with two burner stove, microwave and coffee machine as well as a bathroom, separate bedroom and sitting room. We can also make our caravan available (especially suitable for kids!) and that sleeps two in sleeping bags.

The cottage is at the back of our garden with own access and parking. You can be as private as you wish. To book please contact Niels and Janette 0210236 1951 or email: greytowncottage@gmail.com

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 offers 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 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 musicianmurray@gmail.com

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 musicianmurray@gmail.com

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 or <http://www.klmc.org.nz>

Kelburn Pub Live Music

When: Live music every Sunday 3-5pm.

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 Music Club

When: 2nd Friday of month, 7.30 pm, blackboard concert plus guest artist. Entry: Members \$5, Non-Members \$10, Children \$3 (includes supper) Club Night: 4th Friday of month, 7.30 pm \$2 koha.

Where: Horowhenua Scottish Society Hall, cnr Bartholomew Rd and Middlesex St.

Bookings: Bookings: Dale Webb dalewebb143@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: 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

Paekakariki Open Mic

A pleasant user-friendly Open Mic night. Singers, songwriters, poets and musicians welcome. A good sound system and stage. Check in at the door if you'd like to perform, or if you don't need ten minutes of fame, just come and listen!

When: Last Friday of the Month, 730 pm.
Where: St Peter's Hall, Beach Rd, Paekakariki
Cost: Entry by Koha to cover hall and sound system costs.
Contact: tonyfuell@gmail.com or 021 0231 9547

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 04 568 8635, email iain@jumbletree.com