

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. Wellyfest 2019, Brookfields Outdoor Education Centre, Wainuiomata, 25-28 October

Early Bird discounts for Wellyfest 2019 have ended, but you can still book and pre-pay for your tickets at the gate price. Full, half day and evening tickets are available and there are discounts for students and school-age festival goers. There are plenty of camping spaces and facilities available and there are some bunks left too, if you prefer not to camp.

[Click here to go to the booking site.](#)

Wellyfest will have a jam-packed programme of concerts, workshops and dance events, and has attracted an impressive line-up of performers from here and overseas.

The full programme is on the website at: www.wellingtonfolkfestival.org.nz

There is a strong focus on participation at Wellyfest, with blackboard concerts, singarounds, the big Saturday night dance with Vic Folk, a full youth programme and plenty of opportunity for jamming.

Wellyfest has also recorded a couple of 30-minute radio programmes with the help of Access Radio. Listen to the podcasts on the Access Radio website or check them out on the Festival website [here](#).

Help wanted: Festival organisers are still looking for four or five people to help out with Festival cleaning and rubbish duties, and a couple more folks who are prepared to be on First Aid duty for parts of the Festival, in return for a free weekend ticket. Contact the Festival at info@wellingtonfolkfestival.org.nz.



This will be the fifth award event since Acoustic Routes launched the JPA in 2014 and entries have now closed. We've received 8 entries, covering a wide range of music and styles and the scene is set for a full and exciting awards concert at Wellington Folk Festival. The concert will be held in the Maire Hall from 5.00-7pm on Saturday, October 26.

2. Murray's Musings



Hi Folkies

I would like to welcome Gordon Chamley as a new co-opted member of our committee. Thank you very Much Gordon.

One or two other people have expressed a strong interest in joining our committee. In accordance with the instructions given to us at our recent AGM, the committee may decide to co-opt these people later this year. I am greatly heartened by the larger committee. It reduces the load for committee members and we now can have a larger pool of

ideas. It gives the club far greater energy and flexibility to run additional and more varied club events. Having said this, I would welcome any other people, interested working with us, inside or alongside our present committee. I would particularly love to have much younger people on board.

At the club's last AGM, we were instructed to hold an open club meeting, where all members would be given a chance to communicate what they would like to see happening with Acoustic Routes, into the future. We have set Sunday the 17th of November aside as the date for this meeting. Please keep the date free and we will notify you about the time and place in due course. We would like to use a neutral venue that gives adequate time for lots of discussion. I would encourage you to consider what you would like to see happening and attend.

We won't be holding a concert during October, because of WellyFest. I encourage you all to make the most of our local festival. There is a wonderful line up of artists, many of them local, and it promises to be a great event. Our annual Joan Prior Award for young performers will again be a feature.

Our November club night will be a participatory sing around event of parodies, hopefully self-penned. Maybe get the process started and see what you can come up with?

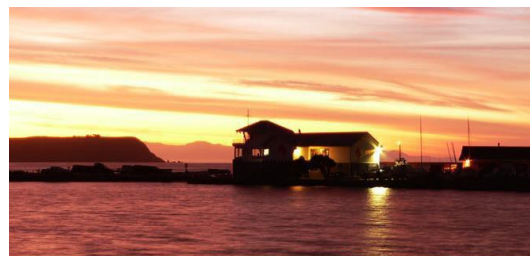
Lastly, I'd like to thank everybody who makes this club function behind the scenes. Our Committee: treasurers Sue and Christine: secretary Kevin Ikin, who also the person who runs our very successful monthly Sunday Open Mic at the Office; and Madeline Ashworth who organises the supper each club night. Outside the committee John Burnell, the guy who secretly manipulates all our electronic communications, Philippa Boy who every month manages to produce this excellent publication the you are reading. On that note, Philippa has signalled, that she would like to hand on this responsibility. I would welcome, anybody who would put up their hand. Finally, I'd like to welcome all of you who make this club worthwhile. Thanks so much.

Cheers, keep Folking

Murray.

3. Open Mic, Plimmerton Boating Club, 66 Moana Road, Plimmerton, Thursday 10 October, 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 13 October, 5:30-8pm



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.

Bring two songs to sing, or a poem or two, some tunes or a story. We have musicians of all levels playing to a listening audience in a great little venue, where you can be totally acoustic or use our small sound system.

No second Open Mic this month because of WellyFest.

Contact: kevin.ikin@supermail.co.nz, newtownacousticsound@gmail.com.

5. Review, the Polly Johnson Set with Toil and Trouble, Annette Esquinet, and Hunter Giltrap, 26 September

This was a cracker of a concert - a true variety show in a pleasantly packed Roseneath Hall.



Opening the night we had Hunter Giltrap, the 2016 Winner of the Joan Prior Award Young Performers Award. Hunter has a deep appreciation of traditional music, as illustrated by the acapella number he ended with, "Time Ashore is Over", a song learned from the singing of Kirsty Bromley. Most of his set, though, was contemporary, including Marlon Williams' song about Minnie Dean, the only woman to be hanged in New Zealand and his own song, another dark tale of death.

Toil and Trouble might be their name, but Mary Hubble, Jude Douglas and Ron Craig are a truly harmonious trio, vocally and instrumentally. They combined their voices, flute, fiddle and guitar in a very satisfying set that included some fine tunes, and songs that included John Tam's "All Is Still", and an audience singalong, "Bright Morning Star".





Annette Esquinet, a local singer-songwriter who is building a growing reputation with her thoughtful and enchanting songs, took us to the break with a set that included my current favourite, "Holy Ground", and two accompanied on her new Weissenborn hollow-necked guitar, a beautiful love song for her husband and one inspired by the Milky Way.

The main act of the evening, The Polly Johnson Set, was quite a revelation - a Wellington band that has evolved its own quirky style that somehow encompasses the idiosyncratic contributions of its five members.

They all write songs which are arranged by the band to produce a repertoire that can bounce from a heart-felt love song to a feisty, tell it like it is number. The instrumental mix of guitars, ukuleles, mandolin, bass and drum kit added to the diversity. After hearing Polly's cute little love song, I'll never regard baked beans, daisies and bread crumbs in quite the same light again. The Pollys showed their acapella capabilities too, ending the night with an encore, "It's a Crying Shame."



With Wellyfest taking centre stage this month, Acoustic Routes won't be running a concert in October, but will be providing plenty of opportunity for provocation and perspicacity in November, with a PARODIES AND P*SS-TAKES NIGHT. So, get writing you lot and let's hear those parodies on the 4th Thursday of the month, November 28. It's continuing a grand folk tradition, and let's face it, there's no shortage of subjects on which to vent your spleen.

Kevin Ikin

6. Balladeer music noticeboard

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

a) Old-Timey Barndance, St Peter's Hall, Paekakariki, Saturday October 12, 7.30pm



Come on down the hill to see friends, meet new people and dance to the foot stomping music. No partner or experience is needed as the dances are taught by the caller. Children are most welcome. BYO and bring snacks to share for the half-time break and enter the husband/wife/child or parent calling contest!

Dress up 'old-timey' or try out your Halloween costume - not required but the more the merrier! Live music by Appalachian Old Time square dance band 'Cotton Daisy Backstep with Helena Faust, calling by Kevin Ikin.

\$10 adult, \$5 child

b) Trad Singing Session, upstairs at the Sprig and Fern, Thorndon, Monday 14 October, 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) Shooglenifty, San Fran Cuba St, Thursday 17 October, 7:30 pm

Shooglenifty stir up a fiery and infectious blend of Celtic traditional music and dance grooves known as 'hypno-folkadelic ambient trad'. Famed for their out-of-the-box performances, fling your frustrations out the door and skip right up to the cèilidh with these inventive and brilliant Scots.



Fresh from a sell-out gig at the world's most prestigious arts event, the Edinburgh International Festival, the Shoogles are on sparkling form. They are introducing a new pint-sized fireball fiddle player Eilidh Shaw to southern hemisphere

audiences.

Tickets online with Eventfinder or in person at the San Fran venue.

d) Up Close and Personal Plimmerton: Vikki Clayton returns, 21 Gordon Road Plimmerton, Saturday 19 October, 7:30

Its so exciting to have Vikki returning home to New Zealand. Book your seat and lets make this a 'great big' welcome home for her.

Tickets \$10.00 per head. Please bring your own drinks and a small plate to share for supper.



Feel free to arrive from 6:30 pm to mix and mingle with convert starting at 7:30pm.

What better way to warm up for Wellyfest.

Book your space by texting or calling Annie on 0274599376

In the early 80's, Vikki was invited to sing with Ragged Heroes, a cult Folk Rock band and the fun began. When this band eventually called it a day, the stars aligned and Vikki's beautiful voice opened the door to the long period of appearing with Fairport Convention, fronting the newly formed Fotheringhay - amusingly known as "The Nerve" and forming her own band featuring stellar performers Clive Bunker, Fred T Baker and Chris Conway.

<https://www.facebook.com/vikkiclayon/videos/1772563396178422/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hm4vFDkRANc>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iQHw9TjziHU>

http://www.goldilox.co.uk/engfolk/frames/vikki_clayton.htm

e) Auckland Folk Festival seeks ephemera

It's our 50th in 2023 and we'd love to be able to show off our full history as we lead up to this, but a computer was lost some years back that held a bunch of things.

We are looking for:

- Posters (especially these)
- Programmes (physical copies especially)
- Photos of the festival and guests (physical or digital)

We'd love to scan physical copies of things also, so don't worry if you only have one and want to keep it! We just want to make sure we have copies of lots of these things.

I'd love to hear from you

artists@aucklandfolkfestival.co.nz

Cheers

Finn McLennan-Elliott

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 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 and <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/](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