

The Balladeer

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

Acoustic  *Routes*

www.acousticroutes.org.nz



Mark the calendar

Acoustic Routes AGM

3.00 pm Sunday 16th August 2020

at The Third Eye, 30 Arthur Street, Te Aro

Food available and singaround afterwards

July 2020: In this issue

1. Acoustic Routes Concert, Roseneath School Hall, Thursday 23rd July, 7:30 pm featuring The Melling Station Boys, Chris Prowse, Barry and the Crumpets
2. Jam Sessions at The Office, 1st Sunday of the month 5:30-8pm
3. Open Mic, Plimmerton Boating Club, Thursday 13th August, 7 pm
4. Open Mic at The Office, Newtown, 26th July and 9th August, 5:30-8 pm
5. Riverslea Retreat, Otaki Gorge Road, 21st – 23rd August
6. Murray's Muses
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13. Acoustic Routes membership form 2020-2021

We are on the lookout for someone to compile the monthly Balladeer.
Please contact one of the committee if you are interested

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

1. Acoustic Routes Concert, Roseneath School Hall, Thursday 23rd July, 7:30pm

The Melling Station Boys

It was a dark and stormy night back in 2014 when Todd Foster, Alastair McCarthy and Derek Kirkland who, amongst others, had put their names in a hat to perform at a blind date concert at Acoustic Routes. Some weeks following this chance meeting, Murray Kilpatrick suggested they get together with Ian Smith, who at the time was an indisposed mandolin player, also known to the folk community. They met up to jam some bluegrass.

Derek decided he was too busy with shearing to continue, so Andrew Bicknell joined the band on bass fiddle. Over the following few years the group percolated and their playing improved slightly, but noticeably slower than their ability to drink tea and eat date loaf. They didn't have a name, so after many a thought and a few train rides, they came up with the Melling Station Boys. Following this, luck was in their favour, as they were asked to perform at the Levin Folk Club following an appearance at WellyFest in 2017. For this gig the Boys thought they needed to up their game a little, so made two changes - first their name to The Melling Station Boys, as they thought this made them sound much more important, then they advertised for a female to join the band. They only had one reply, not a female, but at least he played an instrument not already in their lineup - Giacomo Giorli on resonator guitar. To this day The Melling Station Boys have absolutely no idea as to why they have been unable to get a female interested in joining the band. Maybe this appearance at Acoustic Routes will shed some light on that conundrum.



Chris Prowse is both a performer and composer who enjoys working within a variety of musical genres.

His first two solo albums cover aspects of New Zealand social history. The Tui Award winning album *Trouble On The Waterfront* was a collection of original songs about the 1951 waterfront lockout. *There Goes The Shiner* was inspired by John A. Lee's stories about the swagman Shiner Slattery. This latest *Sweet The Bleep* is an album of guitar instrumentals.



Chris will perform tunes from these albums - and perhaps a few others as well. For more info check out his website: <https://chrisprowse.co.nz/>.

Barry and the Crumpets are a foot-stomping, barn-romping country dance extravagance playing old-time classics, breakneck bluegrass and swampy blues. All played as toe-tapping fast and knee-slapping rowdy.

It all started in Wellington when three friends started jamming together with banjo, mandolin and cajon on a dark midwinter night in 2017. As the night wore on, the

tunes got stompier, their friends danced faster and before they knew it, a band was born.

After 18 months of gigging around markets, bars and house parties in Wellington, a fiddler joined the fray. The band have since been honing their particular flavour of upbeat, old-fashioned mountain music and three-part harmonies with a smattering of celtic roots.

Barry and the Crumpets are Brendan Schenk - Vocals, Mandolin; Rachel Evans - Fiddle; Donald James - Vocals, Cajon; Simon Carryer - Vocals, Banjo, Cello Banjo.

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

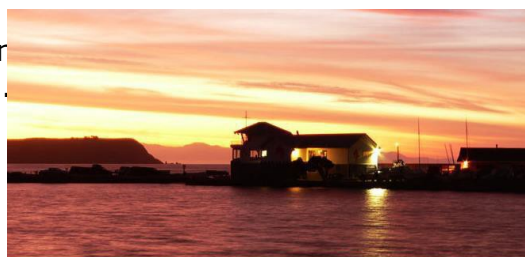


2. Jam Sessions at The Office, first Sunday of every month, 5.30pm-8pm

Bring itchy fingers, twitching antennae and acoustic instruments for harmonic, melodic, improvisation, shredding, jazzifications. Should be fun!

3. Open Mic, Plimmerton Boating Club, 66 Moana Road, Plimmerton, Thursday 13th August, 7pm

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 26th July and 9th August, 5:30-8pm

NEWTOWN ACOUSTIC SOUND
Live Music,
Singer Songwriters
& covers - All Welcome.

Upstairs at
THE OFFICE BAR
124 Riddiford St, Newtown

EVERY 2ND and LAST Sunday
of the month
5.30pm to 8pm

Contact: newtownacoustic@gmail.com
facebook.com/NewtownAcousticSound

Open mic hosted by Acoustic Routes and 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.

Newtown Acoustic Sound has been going since 2015. They aim to support musicians of all levels to play to a listening audience. We love original songwriters and give them an opportunity to craft their songs. We enjoy covers and are likely to sing along if we can. The Office is a great little venue, you can be 100% acoustic but there is a small sound system as well.

Come and join us - world famous in Newtown.

There is always something happening in Newtown on Sunday nights!

A BIG THANK YOU TO THE OFFICE BAR FOR THEIR CONTINUING SUPPORT

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

5. Riverslea Retreat, Otaki Gorge Road, 21st - 23rd August



The Riverslea Retreat is an annual highlight of the Acoustic Routes calendar. A great opportunity to drive away the winter blues with warm company and wonderful music.

Located on the Otaki Gorge Road, Riverslea can accommodate up to 37 people, including people with disabilities and mobility problems.

Tea, coffee and milo are provided and there will be a shared meal on Saturday night. Pillow, pillow case and bottom sheet are provided on the bunks.

Charges are \$60 per night and \$30 for a day visitor. Please contact Anne McGregor to register: annemcgregor@xtra.co.nz or (04) 233 8567.

6. Murray's Muses



Hi everybody. It seems almost yesterday that I wrote my last muses. Covid-19 has compressed our newsletters somewhat. I hope you're all enjoying getting back to normal, whatever that is?

We have an exciting concert coming up in July - three great acts as mentioned earlier.

Acoustic Routes will be holding its AGM in the Third Eye, starting at 3pm on Sunday 16th August. After the AGM there will be a jam session, so please bring instruments, voices and if need be, your dancing shoes.

Let's make it a party to remember. Food and drinks also available.

There will be a number of vacancies to fill for the new committee. I will be standing down because initially I said I would give three years. I'm holding to that, because I believe that I must make way for new blood, ideas and enthusiasm to enable the club to move forwards. I would encourage each and every one of you to consider getting involved on the committee.

These may well be my ultimate, or penultimate Muses. I want to thank all the people, within and outside the committee, who have worked so hard to keep Acoustic Routes functioning, in the time that I have been president.

In particular, I would like to thank Kevin who is really the one who has carried the load for many more years than we often realise. I'd also like to thank him for running our monthly open mics at the Office. Thanks so much, Kevin, you have constantly gone beyond the call of duty.

I'd like to thank Sue Ikin for her long-standing commitment to Acoustic Routes, much of it as Treasurer, and also for keeping us all on the straight and narrow. Thanks Sue.

I'd like to thank Madeline for organising and running tea/coffee and supper for many years and for her positive attitude about everything. Thanks Madeline.

I'd like to thank Chris Riordan, a recent member of our committee, who will sadly soon be moving on. She recently took on both the role as treasurer and the production of the Balladeer. Both very substantial roles that she has put a lot of dedication and effort into. Thanks so much Chris, you will be missed.

In relation to the Balladeer, I want to thank John Burnell, our IT expert from outside the committee. I do know that he has recently put in a lot of time helping us with IT problems as they have presented themselves. Thanks so much John.

Also. I want to thank Philippa Gander for all her hard work over the years to produce the Balladeer.

I want to thank all the other committee members who have put in so much hard work over my time as president; Pam, Gordon, Bruce and Karen. To all of you, thanks so much.

Lastly, I want to thank each and every one of you who have supported Acoustic Routes. Without your support, there would be no point in the club.

Enjoy this month and your music. Happy Folking, Murray

7. From the Treasurer

A preliminary treasurer's report for the 2020 year - it looks like we're going to come out in front so that will give the new committee something to work with. Essential operating costs (PO Box, insurance and accountancy) are covered by membership and donations. Membership has increased from last year with the total number now 74. Attendance at monthly concerts has improved recently too.

Memberships are due for the new financial year and the form is included at the end. When you pay, can you please email treasurer@acousticroutes.org.nz so that your membership number can be sent back to you.

For this financial year there has been a reduction in membership fees because of Covid-19 lockdown. As requested by members, there will be less concerts and more participatory and social events.

Cheers, Chris Riordan

8. Want to perform?

The 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 at performers@acousticroutes.org.nz.



9. Balladeer music noticeboard

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

a) The Wellington publisher, Roger Steele, a long time supporter of New Zealand folk music, is closing down his publishing business and has made stocks of music books available to Acoustic Routes. The club greatly appreciates Roger's support and generosity and we will be doing our best to find good homes for them.

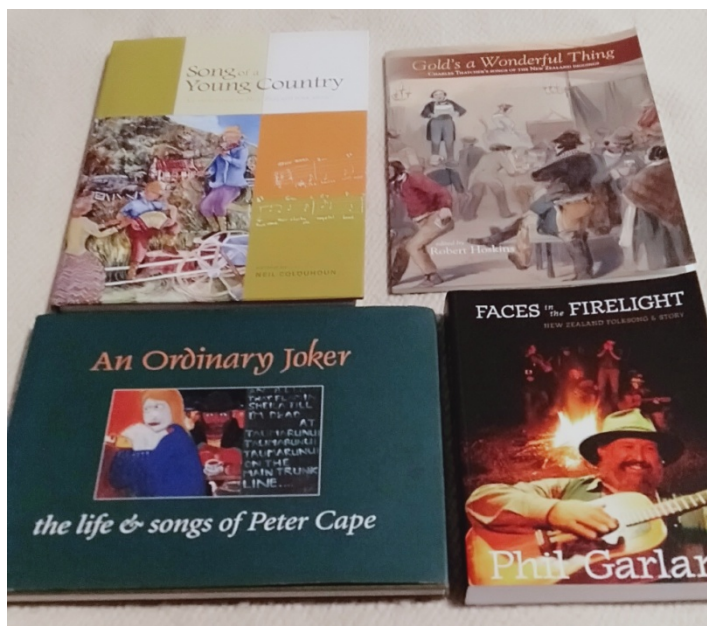
The books, all New Zealand folk music gems, are:

- (1) Neil Colquhoun's revised edition of "Song of a Young Country";
- (2) "An Ordinary Joker – The Life and Songs of Peter Cape";
- (3) Phil Garland's "Faces in the Firelight"; and
- (4) "Gold's a Wonderful Thing" - Charles Thatcher's songs of the New Zealand diggings, edited by Robert Hoskins.

Some of the books will be set aside as prizes or gifts for performers, but we are also offering them for sale, with proceeds to go towards funding the Joan Prior Young Performers Award.

We are charging \$20 each for the books, except for the smaller Charles Thatcher book which is \$10. You can get two books for \$30 or all four for \$50.

We will have the books available at our events, or you can contact Acoustic Routes' secretary Kevin Ikin (kevin.ikin@supermail.co.nz) to place an order.



b) Vicfolk is back 8th August at 7:30pm -- CEILIDH!!! At St Andrews on the Terrace.

Exciting that we are able to dance and play music together again. Looking forward to seeing anyone and everyone at all the different things.

c) Marcus Turner CD: Live at Cardrona

This live recording will be welcomed by Marcus Turner's many admirers. Recorded in 2014 at the Cardrona Folk Festival this was one a handful of solo concerts that Marcus performed around this time which were so powerful and accomplished that those of who were present felt privileged to be there. The album has 14 songs, twelve of which have not appeared on earlier recordings.

The CD costs \$20 and you can get a copy from Linus Turner: linuscturner@gmail.com.

10. About AcousticRoutes

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.

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 musicianmurray@gmail.com

Correspondence: Kevin Ikin secretary@acousticroutes.org.nz

Treasurer/Membership: Chris Riordan treasurer@acousticroutes.org.nz

Balladeer: Chris Riordan 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

12. Other regular folk events/contacts in the region

Trad Singing Session with Dave Barnes hosting

When: 2nd Monday of the month, from about 6.45pm

Where: Upstairs at the Sprig and Fern, Thorndon. 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

Ceol Alba Scottish Music Club

When: 4th Friday of the 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 9.15pm

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 7:30pm

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 3pm-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: 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, 3pm to 5pm
Where: Metropolitan Restaurant and Bar, Lydney Place, Porirua
Cost: Free
Contact: Phil McConnell: musicandpoetryatthemetrometro@gmail.com
Phone 237 9902 or 027 786 5542. www.facebook.com/music.metrobar

Paekakariki Open Mic

Singers, songwriters, poets and musicians welcome. A good sound system and stage. Check in at the door if you'd like to perform, or just come and listen!
When: Last Friday of the month, 7.30pm.
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 the month, 8pm
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 the month, 8pm
Where: 54 Richmond Street, Petone
Contact: Andrew Bicknell, (04) 477 0069, bluegrass@xtra.co.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

13. Acoustic Routes membership, 1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021

Single	*\$20.00
Double/Family (children under 18)	*\$40.00
Other (Student, life member partners, beneficiaries)	*\$10.00
Where one person is over 65 and the other is under the membership is	*\$30.00
Where both parties are over 65, or receive benefits the membership is	*\$20.00

What being a member gives you

- A programme of concerts by top-class musicians
- Regular performance opportunities at a range of other musical events
- Regular communications about what's on
- Discounted entry to club events and concerts
- Discounted entry to participating folk clubs
- Discounts on selected items at Alistair's Music, Cuba Street, Wellington
- Voting rights at the AGM or any subsequent SGM

Payment options

1. Complete this form and post it with a cheque made out to Wellington Folk Centre, P.O. Box 27-191 Marion Square WELLINGTON 6141
2. Pay by internet banking to 'Wellington Folk Centre Inc.': ANZ account 01 0505 0182241 00 (**ensure your name is included** for reference) and simultaneously forward your details (as below) to treasurer@acousticroutes.org.nz .
3. Hand your form plus payment to a committee member at an Acoustic Routes event.

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PLEASE COMPLETE: Many thanks for your support

Amount paid: \$ _____

Choose one: Single, Double /Family, Other Donation: \$ _____

(Wellington Folk Centre is a registered charity and donations of \$5.00 or more are tax-deductible. A receipt will be issued.)

Payment has been made by cheque/direct credit/cash

Name(s): _____

Postal Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Phone number: _____

Your current E-Mail Address: _____