

The Balladeer

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

Acoustic  *Routes*

www.acousticroutes.org.nz



Acoustic Routes Christmas Party

Saturday 12 December, 3 pm

Sue and Kim Rose's home
329a Paekakariki Hill Road, Pauatahanui

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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 Monthly Concert featuring Vic Folk and the Flukes

Vicfolk



This vibrant club has been running at Victoria University of Wellington since 2017. For students and public alike, the club offers opportunities to learn about and get involved with Celtic folk music. If you're of a musical inclination, they teach tunes from the ground up, serving as a gateway into the weekly Wellington Irish Session and Vicfolk's very own ceilidh band. For those who just want to dance they hold regular dance workshops and public ceilidhs - pandemic-permitting!

Fresh from performing at the Wellington Folk Festival, Vicfolk will bring a taste of what they do to the Roseneath School Hall on November 26th. The concert will include a selection of their favourite toe-tapping tunes, interspersed with songs from a broad range of folk traditions.

The Flukes

Fluke (*flook*) *n. pl (s)*: A happy coincidental collection of ukuleles and women.



Take Mary's kitchen table, Thursday evenings, a dozen ukuleles, 1 teapot, many cups, handmade pastry, wine and many more cups and you have the essence of this Brooklyn community uke mash up.

Hot on the heels of their success at WellyFest, AR is proud to present this fun group who 'ukefy' old favourites for their enjoyment and yours.

The concert will also feature a guest spot from **Stephen Riddell**, this year's winner of the JAPAN Trophy for most improved performer.

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

2. Newtown Open Mic upstairs at The Office, Sunday 8 November 5:15-8pm



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. In keeping with our names, we've gone totally acoustic, so we don't run a sound system.

Newtown Acoustic Sound has been going since 2015 and has just celebrated its 5th birthday. It aims 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 too and singing along.

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

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

3. Open Mic, Plimmerton Boating Club, 66 Moana Road, Plimmerton, Thursday 12 November, 7pm

A highly popular monthly event in a lovely venue with a sound system.



Contact: Roy on 021 433-878.

4. Mark Laurent & Brenda Liddiard (aka Millenium Hippies), Up Close and Personal Plimmerton, Saturday 14th November, 7:30pm



For 3 decades Mark and Brenda have been playing music together, part of the secret army of 'indie' musicians who fly just below the commercial radar, playing grass-roots, mostly un-plugged music throughout New Zealand, Australia and the UK. Songs, poetry and humour are ways to talk about "life, the universe, and everything".

Together or separately Mark & Brenda have recorded or contributed to around 30 albums, written

hundreds of songs and instrumentals (some of which have been covered by other artists or used in movie soundtracks), with a range of styles including blues, reggae, acoustic rock, ambient, folk ballads and alt. country. Instruments include guitars, mandolin, ukulele, rowan lute, harmonica and vocals, "...weaving a tapestry of sound and feeling that is both entertaining and moving". Mark has published 3 collections of poetry, so their concerts are often peppered with poems and stories.

To find out more

www.marklaurent.co.nz; www.brendaliddiard.co.nz

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M15E_i52l7I&feature=youtu.be

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qyWAgOMxuBM&feature=youtu.be>

Tickets are \$15.00 each. Please bring a small plate to share for supper. Tea and coffee are provided and you are welcome to bring your own choice of other drinks.

Feel free to arrive from 6.30 to mix and mingle Please text or phone Annie on 0274599376 to reserve your ticket as spaces are limited.

5. Acoustic Routes Christmas Party, Sue and Kim Rose's Home, Saturday 12 December, 3 pm

Sue and Kim have once again very kindly offered to host this year's AR Christmas party at their gorgeous rural retreat nestled in a little valley about 3 km from the Pauahatanui shops. (It's about the same distance from Wellington as Plimmerton.)

What To Bring

Please bring a plate of food for supper, a bottle of what you like to drink, and of course instruments and songs. We ask that you give a Koha, which will be donated to a charity in time for Christmas. Disposable plates, etc., will be provided but those of you who have picnic sets could bring them too, to help reduce the waste. Sorry no dogs.



We warmly invite you, your family and any like-minded and/or musical friends.

Instructions for 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. There is a lot of bamboo on their roadside boundary.

The nearest train stations are Paremata and Plimmerton if you are being picked up by a driver. Cell phone coverage is marginal but if you have any problems phone 2379029.

6. Wellyfest 2020 - A Few Fond Memories

Wellyfest 2020 – What a joy to be there!

The joy of greeting old and new folkie friends, face to face; not quite believing that we could be there, at beautiful Brookfield, with the apple trees in full blossom, the kereru, tui, ducks and ducklings adjusting to our presence for a few days.

The joy of watching folkies flocking in when the gate opened



at 3 o'clock on a perfect Friday afternoon; the Balladeer bursting into life with the first concert and the Fletcher Hall warming up for the weekend with the welcome ceilidh.

The joy of feeling the energy radiating through the festival site when each new day began, even on a rainy Sunday when people streamed through the gate, undeterred by the weather.



Sharing the joy of the dancers who packed the marquee on Saturday night, pumped up and vitalised by the calling and playing of the awesome Vicfolk musicians, and then a glass or two or fine home brew and a singsong in the Fletcher.

The joy of cramming into the Maire Hall to share our New Zealand songs and stories with Mike Harding late on Sunday afternoon; then squeezing into the jam-packed Marquee one last time for the fabulous final concert, on our feet and dancing the night out with Gumboot Tango.

A long night and day of packing up ahead, with the crew of helpers and volunteers, but what bliss to be there!

Kevin Ikin (almost recovered)



Photos courtesy of
Gerard Hudson

It really was one that will continue to bring a smile to my face for years. Family, friends and music all together, what more could one ask for. Thank you to Gerard, all the other hard-working committee members and volunteers (Ed).

7. More Wonderful Festivals Coming

After a wonderful Wellyfest, there's even more musical magic on the horizon.

The (delayed) **Canterbury Folk Festival** is taking place 13/`16 November at Waipara and you can get tickets through the website

<https://canterburyfolkfestival.org.nz>

Next up is **Whare Flat Folk Festival** from 30 Dec to 3 Jan. The headline act is Nadia Reid. Tickets are on sale now and can be booked through the link <https://www.whareflat.org.nz/book-now>

Mid January sees the start of Ethno New Zealand at Piritahi Marae, Waiheke Island; a week long youth global music gathering, which culminates in a concert at the Auckland festival. More info at <https://www.ethnonewzealand.com/>

<https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2021/auckland-folk-festival-2021/auckland/kumeu> is the link for buying tickets to next year's **Auckland Folk Festival** at Kumeu from 29 January/1 February. Tickets are on sale now for a homegrown festival.

And last, but by no means least, Kiwigrass takes place the following weekend 5-7 February at Lake Karapiro.

8. Balladeer music noticeboard

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

a) VicFolk Ceilidh, St Andrews on the Terrace Hall, 30 The Terrace, Saturday 7 November, 7pm



Somehow we've all made it to the end of year and it's still safe to dance! Fresh from hosting the Saturday night ceilidh at Wellyfest, we will bring you an evening of lively social dancing. Live music will be provided by our very own ceilidh band, and our dance callers will guide you every step of the way. No experience or dancing skill required!

Book your online **tickets** here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.nz/e/vicfolk-end-of-year-ceilidh-tickets-124498980803>

Door sales (cash only): \$15 adults/\$10 unwaged

Health note: if you are experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19, however mild, then please stay home. There will be plenty more ceilidhs in the future, and we will see you there.

b) Legacy Books for Sale

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.

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

There are still a few for sale, so be in quick. \$20 each, except for the smaller Charles Thatcher book which is \$10. Two books for \$30 or all four for \$50. Proceeds to go towards funding the Joan Prior Young Performers Award.

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

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, it is one of a handful of solo concerts that Marcus performed around this time which were so powerful and accomplished that those 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.

9. 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.



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: Ruth Birnie president@acousticroutes.org
<mailto:ruthlbirnie@gmail.com>

Correspondence: Kevin Ikin secretary@acousticroutes.org.nz **Treasurer/Membership:** Karen Munro treasurer@acousticroutes.org.nz
<karenguitarist@hotmail.com>

Balladeer: Philippa Boy balladeer@acousticroutes.org.nz
gurdyphilippa@gmail.com

Acoustic Routes update email: Kevin Ikin secretary@acousticroutes.org.nz

Performance opportunities: performers@acousticroutes.org.nz
<mailto:ruthlbirnie@gmail.com>

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

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 of Mazengarb Road as it changes name and turns toward Kapiti Road.
Contact: enquiry@klmc.org.nz
Website: <http://www.klmc.org.nz>

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/>

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, musicianmurray@gmail.com

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
<https://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