

The Balladeer

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



www.acousticroutes.org.nz

Applications to perform at WellyFest 2021 close on Sunday 7 February

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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. AR monthly concert 'Butter wouldn't Melt', Thursday 25 February, Roseneath School Hall, 7:30 pm



This exciting trio features Andrea Reid (dulcimer, whistles, vocals), Nick Burfield (guitar and vocals), and Derek Burfield (double bass). Their music draws on many influences but remains firmly rooted in Americana, and they are in the process of recording their first album.

Andrea Reid has attended the Auckland Folk Festival since before her first birthday and in 2010 won the Martin Blackman Young Folk Performer's Award. In addition to her instrumental skills, she is known for her wonderful vocal harmonies - she is, after all, the daughter Jean Reid (think Celtic Ferret). Andrea describes herself as being 'inspired by many wonderful women of the folk scene throughout her life'.

Nick Burfield has been a guest at both the Auckland and Wellington folk festivals. He has always gravitated towards blues, country and americana, but a stint at jazz school and a heavy interest in groups like The Band and The Grateful Dead have left their own mark on his music. He has landed somewhere in between and has returned to his acoustic roots after a brief stint in the rock band Skinnybone Tree.

Derek Burfield has been around long enough to remember Poles Apart and he's been lugging his distinctive double bass around the New Zealand folk scene ever since. He was one of the founding members of Railway Pie and has played in bands with Neil Finlay, the Christiansons, Al Young, and many more.

Butter wouldn't Melt will melt your heart with soulful stories, soaring harmonies, far-away fables and not so sappy love songs.

The concert will be opened by **Stephen Riddell**, the 2020 winner of the Acoustic Routes JA Pan Trophy, with his great combinations of harmonica, guitar and vocals.

Next up, look out for **Head Full of Bees** - Henry Burton-Woods, Jay Kenyon, and S R Harnden. The three came together for the Wellington Folk Festival of 2020, performing a combination of Celtic instrumentals and sea shanties on The Balladeer stage. Henry (bouzouki/voice) won the Joan Prior award at the Wellington Folk Festival in 2019, is an avid multi-instrumentalist, and currently studying classical violin at the New Zealand School of Music. Jay (cello/voice) has sung in several choirs over the years, also plays the bass guitar in a Wellington-based rock band, and thoroughly enjoys folk music and the community it brings with it. Simon (voice) learnt sea shanties with his crew in the London Sea Shanty Collective and enjoys an enthusiastic singaround. Hoist the sails, tap your feet, and join in with all the choruses.

Entry: \$20/\$15 for members. Cash only (no eftpos facilities).

2. Roger Steele honoured for services to publishing and music

Roger Steele, a life member of Acoustic Routes and supporter of New Zealand music, has been recognised in the New Year Honours. He has been made an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to the publishing industry and the arts and will receive his ONZM at a ceremony at Government House later in the year.



Roger's Wellington publishing company, Steele Roberts Aotearoa, has been responsible for producing about 600 books since it started in the 1990s, supporting hundreds of authors and poets.

They include some legacy New Zealand folk music books:- 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 goldfields (edited by Robert Hoskins).

(Note: Acoustic Routes still has some stocks of those books which Roger made available to the club. They are \$20 each, except for the smaller Charles Thatcher book which is \$10. Two books for \$30 or all four for \$50. Proceeds will help to fund the Joan Prior Young Performers Award. Contact Acoustic Routes' secretary Kevin Ikin (kevin.ikin@supermail.co.nz) to place an order.

3. Annual Waitangi Day Celebration deferred

With Auckland festival finishing on February 1 and lots of the folkie whanau planning to be away, Anne and Roy have decided to defer the annual Waitangi Day party at their home. Best wishes to all for 2021 and they look forward to hosting this annual event in 2022.

4. Open Mic, Plimmerton Boating Club, 10 Moana Road, Plimmerton, Thursday 11 February, 7pm

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

Contact: Roy on 021 433-878.



5. Newtown Open Mic upstairs at The Office, Sunday 28 February, 5:15-8pm



Open mic hosted by 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. 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.

6. The 2020 AR Christmas Party, a great celebration

After all the uncertainties and challenges of 2020, the Christmas party at Sue and Kim Rose's lovely home really felt like a celebration of our community and how lucky we were to be able to gather in such a beautiful place.





The koha for Atareira was greatly appreciated, with the letter of thanks from Nick Armstrong stating.

'On behalf of Atareira Transitional Housing, I would like to warmly thank Acoustic Routes for their incredibly generous donation of \$546.

The team will be buying gifts for each of our residents (a card, toiletries and Warehouse vouchers) for Christmas this year, so this donation has come at just the right time.

It is very heartening to know that people are so generous, and willing to share with those in society who are struggling. Please extend our gratitude to the very kind and caring people who are a part of Acoustic Routes and wish them all a Merry Christmas on behalf of the housing service.'

Kia kaha and our warmest wishes to Kim and Sue for Kim's journey back to health.

Philippa Boy

7. Want to perform at WellyFest 2021?



Happy New Year from the Wellyfest Committee
Remember - Guest applications for the 2021
Festival close on 7 February!!

Thanks to those of you who have already submitted applications, but don't miss out if you haven't. If you have a great offering for our festival next October, we'd love to hear from you. Variety is the spice of festival life and we'd love to hear from you even if you think you sit outside the traditional expectations of "folk music" - whatever they are! After a blast at the 2020 festival, we remain up for the challenge of repeating the successes this year.

To do that we are looking for great talent to perform, host workshops and lead our kids' and dance programmes. If you'd like to be in the programme in any of these capacities (or know people who might), here is a link to our online application form.

<https://form.jotform.com/203071709496863>

Feel free to forward this email and link to your friends or anyone you'd like to see on our guest list. Applications are encouraged in any of these areas:

- Concerts or other performance

- Dance in a variety of traditional and modern styles
- Workshops on dance, musicianship, performance, specific instruments, cultural and historic influences and evolution of folk music and dance
- Learning (and fun) activities for kids

The application form has specific guidance on how to put together your application. It's important to complete the form in full so we have a consistent basis for comparing potential guests and preparing a rough programme. The application form is not for village green (stallholders and traders) or catering. We'll arrange those separately. Because the world is still affected severely by Covid-19 we are working on the basis that we are highly unlikely to be able to consider applicants from outside New Zealand (and possibly Australia). We will keep you informed by email, Facebook and our web site of any developments that affect our planning.

We look forward to reviewing all the applications. Subject to pandemic constraints, we expect to be in contact with shortlisted guests by the end of April.

Cheers

Gerard
for the Wellington Folk Festival Committee

8. Balladeer music noticeboard

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

a) **Greytown Up Close and Personal Valentine's Day House Concert, 'Raven Mavens', Janette and Niel's home 75 North Street, February 14, 5pm**

Four wonderful women who are individually terrific musicians, the Raven Mavens will rock the barn. They have just finished recording their first CD and with a bit of luck may have a few advance copies available, but they will certainly be giving us a taste of what's on it.

Loads of space in the barn - just in case you feel like a boogie. They will definitely have your feet tapping. Please BYO wine and beer. We will serve some nibbles as well as tea, coffee, and water.

Please book by texting Janette on 0210236195

\$15 on the door

b) **'Begotten Not Made' – announcing Pat Higgins' first novel**

This is a true story of two sisters, Winnie and Tessie Kelly, set in rural county Galway in the aftermath of the Irish struggle for Independence. The country has made its choice for freedom from British rule and now in their late twenties, Winnie and Tessie both have choices of their own to make. Their decisions separate them until eventually they are brought together again in tragedy, loss, love and a kind of redemption.

Print copies are valuable from Pat Higgins at RudallCarte@gmail.com or from Another

Raven Mavens Quartette



Chapter Bookshop in Riddiford St. Newtown. \$35 + 5\$ postage.

c) Instruments for sale

Peter Denee, a long-time Acoustic Routes stalwart and precious friend, left an amazing assortment of instruments that his family are keen to find new homes for, with people who share his love of eclectic instruments and music. Contact Philippa Boy if you are interested. 021 464640, gurdyphilippa@gmail.com



Well-crafted Tahitian ukelele with case



Set of jaw harps ('Jews harps')



Large handmade didgeridoo, great sound.

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. 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.

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.

10. Acoustic Routes contacts

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

Correspondence: Kevin Ikin secretary@acousticroutes.org.nz **Treasurer/Membership:** Karen Munro treasurer@acousticroutes.org.nz

<karenguitarist@hotmail.com>

Balladeer: editor Philippa Boy, producer, Stephen Riddell

balladeer@acousticroutes.org.nz

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

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

Postal address: PO Box 27-191 Marion Square, Wellington, New Zealand.

Website: www.acousticroutes.org.nz

11. Other regular folk events/contacts in the region

Trad Singing Session with Dave Barnes hosting

When: 2nd and 4th 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 and <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 (no club night in January)

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
<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