

The Balladeer

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

Acoustic  *Routes*

www.acousticroutes.org.nz



**Brookfield Outdoor Education Centre
21-24 October**

October 2022: In this issue

Note: no AR monthly concert because of Wellyfest

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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. Newtown Open Mic upstairs at The Office, Sundays 9 & 30 October, 5:15-8pm.



Newtown Acoustic Sound's "Open Mic" is back, upstairs at The Office Bar in Riddiford Street, Newtown, on Sundays 9 and 30 October.

Usual Covid common sense – please don't come if you have ANY symptoms.

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

2. Open Mic, Plimmerton Boating Club, 10 Moana Road Plimmerton, Wednesday 12 October, 7pm

To help support the Plimmerton Boating Club, we have agreed to move the open mic to the second Wednesday of the month from now on.

Spread the word.

Same Ole MC.
Roy McGuinness 021433878



3. Announcing the Winners of the 2022 Joan Prior Young Performers Awards



We have had a very positive response to our call for entries for this year's Joan Prior Young Performers Award and are presenting the Awards this year to eight young singers and musicians - four solo performers and two duos.

- * Sofia Machray and Alex Hoare (singer songwriter, guitar and cello).
- * James Hunter (singer, guitarist, alternative folk).
- * Catherine Bullock (singer songwriter, guitar).
- * Zavier Boyle and Jackie Lamb (whistle and mandolin, Irish and Scottish folk).
- * Alexander Guy (singer, guitarist, international folk songs and originals).
- * Caoimhe Lane (singer, guitarist, contemporary and traditional folk).

They receive a full weekend pass to Wellington Folk Festival and feature in the Young Performers concert on Sunday and a special showcase at Moon in Newtown a fortnight later, as well as a year's membership of Acoustic Routes.

Acoustic Routes congratulates the 2022 Joan Prior Award winners and wishes them the very best for their musical journeys.



4. WELLYFEST 2022, Brookfield Outdoor Education Centre, Moore's Valley Road, Wainuiomata 21-24 October



Wellyfest 2022 will be another celebration of home-grown diversity, with a packed programme of musical acts from around New Zealand.

There's a spotlight on New Zealand songs and traditions this year, with concerts and workshops featuring Chris Priestley and Julian McKean. Te Reo will have a prominent place, with music from WAI.TAI. There's a big focus too on offerings for young people, with youth concerts and workshops, and there's a full dance programme.

For details and to buy tickets, go to the website: <http://wellingtonfolkfestival.org.nz/>
There may still be opportunities to join the crew who will be running the festival.
Enquiries to: info@wellingtonfolkfestival.org.nz
info@wellingtonfolkfestival.org.nz



[Andrew London Duo](#)



[Butter Wouldn't Melt](#)



[Celtic Ferret](#)



[Cotton Daisy Backstep](#)



[Fiddlesticks Band](#)



[Julian McKean & Chris Priestley](#)



[Nigel Parry and friends](#)



[The Penmans](#)



[The Shicka Chickas](#)



[WAI.TAI](#)



[You, Me, Everybody](#)

5. Review of the AR September concert featuring The Three Js with Chazanne and Kev & Rosie

Spring may have arrived, but no-one's told the Wellington weather gods yet. However, this concert in the warm and cozy Roseneath School hall kept us well insulated from the chilly conditions outside.

Chazanne, Charles Harter and Anne O'Donnell, lit the fire with an engaging set of their own songs, accompanied by guitar and harmonica, ranging from the deep and meaningful to the quick and quirky. There was lots of word play in the opening song about mindfulness. Then poignant passages in a song Charles wrote for Anne, and Anne's song, "Shaky Ground", about being diagnosed with Parkinson's. "No Common Ground" came out of Covid Lockdowns and tongues were pushed firmly in cheek again with "The Waiting Room".

Kev and Rosie, who sing mostly traditional British songs, carried us through to the break in grand style. Their unaccompanied singing reflects the influence of the likes of the Copper Family, the source of one of their songs about a chimney sweep. Most, but not all of their set were songs from more than 100 years past. The exception was one of the best known war songs, Lilly Marlene, which Rosie sang with mandolin. They rounded off their selection with a Christmas Carol, slightly out of season but jolly fine nevertheless.

The Three Js - Jo Sheffield, Jenny Kilpatrick and Jude Madill make up three quarters of the Eagals, the act originally booked for the night. When the Eagals had to cancel, the Three Js (a.k.a. the Three Gals) stepped into the breach with an excellent alternative offering. They did a hugely appealing mixture of covers and originals, opening with Willow Mackey's "Tamaki Moonlight", sung acapella. Tony Ricketts joined the trio on guitar for Kirsty MacColl's "Don't Come the Cowboy with Me". They included Tony's Morepork song in the set as well. Their own songs included Jude's tale of The Sundance Kid, "Beneath The Blue", her Woolshed song, inspired by sessions in the woolshed at Tutira, Jo's New Zealand anthem, "Aotearoa" and her newest composition, "Red Wine Haze". And yes, they did wrap up the night with an Eagles encore, "Peaceful Easy Feeling".

It was a night to remember for the Three J's. Jo was presented Acoustic Routes' Most Improved Player Award. It's also true that the earth moved during their performance,

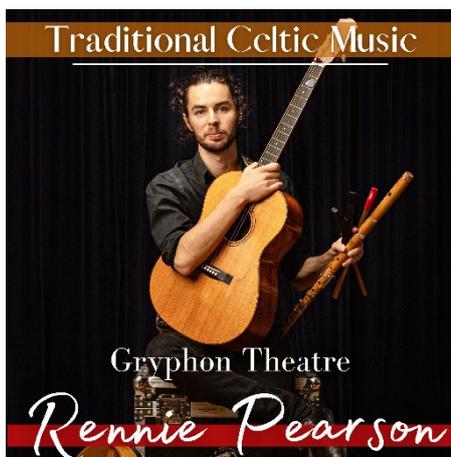
not just from the emotional impact of their lovely harmonies and musicianship. A short, sharp earthquake across the Strait contributed as well. I'm looking forward to hearing this combo again, as well as the Eagals.

Kevin Ikin.

6. Balladeer music noticeboard

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

a) **Rennie Pearson Solo Spring Tour, Gryphon Theatre, 22 Ghuznee Street Wellington, Friday 7 and Saturday 8 October, 7:30pm**



Rennie grew up in Wellington with Celtic music in his blood. He picked up the flute at age 8, learning by ear in Irish sessions under the guidance of Pat Higgins. He then went on to delve deep into the traditional music of Scotland and Maritime Canada, making a name for himself internationally as a solo artist and in numerous successful Celtic acts, as well as a teacher.

Rennie will take you on a journey through history, weaving together tunes and songs and the tales that accompany them to create an intricate and varied show. Expect a wide array of different instruments including the wooden flute, guitar, Irish tin whistles, bodhran (Irish drum), fiddle and his captivating voice.

Entry \$20. Tickets available from renniepearsonmusic.com

b) **Songwriters Showcases at the Moon Bar, 167 Riddiford Street Newtown Sundays 16 & 30 October, 7 pm**

- 16 October - Juliet Maclean, Kenny's First Set, Barry Carter Trio
- 30 October - Shan Jordan, Lily Jones, one more tbc

Doors open from 6pm, music from 7pm, door charge \$10

Contact: Don Mackay 6021songs@gmail.com

c) **Auntie Social's Thirsty Night at the Moon Bar, 167 Riddiford Street Newtown, Thursdays 6 & 20 October, approximately 6:45 pm**

- 6 October - Beans Maries, Don Mackay
- 20 October - Marmalady, Don Mackay

No door charge

Contact: Don Mackay 6021songs@gmail.com

d) **Interested in Participating in a Documentary about Acoustic Routes?**

Stephen Riddell has decided to make a documentary about the history of Acoustic Routes and the Wellington Folk scene so he is looking for people to help tell this story. In particular, he is looking for people who were around the club in the early days who

would be keen to be interviewed about their experiences.

He is also looking for photos and video clips from the club's history, so if you have these rifling about then please let him know.

Contact: stephen@riddellproductions.com

7. 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.



8. 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.

9. Acoustic Routes contacts

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

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 – please check websites or email for updates

Trad Singing Session with Dave Barnes hosting

When: 2nd and 4th Monday of the month, from about 6.45pm

Where The Welsh Dragon Bar, Wellington. 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

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.
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