

The Balladeer

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



www.acousticroutes.org.nz

Johnsonville Club, 1 Norman Lane, Johnsonville
(up behind the former Collective Community Hub)

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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 The Madillionaires, with support acts Hunter Giltrap and the Short(er) Blacks, Johnsonville Club, 1 Norman Lane, Monday 17 November 7.30pm

The Madillionaires are Peter Madill, renowned luthier and musician, Jude Madill, the next generation, instrumentalist and singer/songwriter, and Joseph Coleman, the third generation, on accordion, mandolin, and singing. Combining dynamic and diverse musical styles with strong vocal harmonies they perform original songs and a wide range of music from elsewhere. As well as having three vocalists in this line up, The Madillionaires play guitars, fiddle, accordion, banjo, mandolin, octave mandolin and attitude. The Madillionaires will entertain you with songs from the Americana/Country/Folk realm with some jazz influenced solos to keep it interesting.



Support acts



Hunter Giltrap is a Wellington born and raised vocalist and fiddle player. He has a great love for unaccompanied singing of folk songs, and can be found regularly at the Pōneke Shanty club sessions held at the Welsh Dragon. His inspirations include David Coffin, Peter Bellamy and Americana artists such as Bruce Molsky or Tim O'Brien. Hunter is a former recipient of the Joan Prior and Walker Trust youth awards.

The Short(er) Blacks

Roy says, "Ahha! Two old crusties still doing what they love. The Short Blacks! Since I lost my legs, now known as The Shorter Blacks. Bringing you Celtic ballads with guitar in the hands of an English man. Go figure! Sit back, relax and maybe the odd stretched yarn too." The Short(er) Blacks are Roy McGuinness and Julian Ward. Definitely **not** short on personality. humour or musical talent!



Entry: \$20/\$15 for AR members. Cash only (no EFTPOS facilities). See directions for entering the building on page one.

2. Acoustic Routes Social Club, Johnsonville Club, 1 Norman Lane, Wednesday 5 November 1:30pm



Featuring guest **Niels Gedge** of '**Greytown Up Close and Personal**', who says, "I've always sung, beginning with the little red hymn book at the gospel hall my parents took me to, and had a ukulele or guitar in my hands since I was about 11. After playing music of various styles, mostly at home to myself, I started writing my own songs, around the 1990s. By the time I found Acoustic Routes, in 2008, I had enough songs to make a CD at Braeburn with Robbie Duncan."

In the second half, we'll go around the circle and you're welcome to lead a song or tune if you wish. All welcome; bring instruments and voices. See the map to the venue on page 5. \$5 charge for the musician.

3. Open Mic, Plimmerton Boating Club, 10 Moana Road Plimmerton, Thursday 13 November 7pm

Hosted by Roy McGuinness.

Please note: no pre-booked spots; put your name up when you get there. Please spread the word.

Plimmerton Open Mic is Monthly second Thursdays.



4. AR Monthly Singaround, Johnsonville Club, 1 Norman Lane, Johnsonville, Wednesday 19 November 1:30-3:30 pm

Bring songs, tunes or poems to share, or just come to join in.

Hosted by Janette Munneke. No charge for entry. Feel free to purchase tea, coffee, drinks and snacks at the bar. Held the third Wednesday of every month.

As this will be the last one for the year, we suggest those who want to meet for lunch in the Johnsonville Club restaurant (the Vista Café and Bistro) for lunch first at 12 noon.

You can get hot food or a light snack from the cabinet. Here's the menu:

https://www.jclub.co.nz/files/ugd/8d73e8_3a3ae7bcb8fc49a69aeb670d282f670c.pdf

5. Newtown Acoustic Sound's Open Mic, Upstairs at The Office, 124 Riddiford Street, 9 & 30 November 5:15 – 8pm



Newtown Acoustic Sound's "Open Mic", upstairs at The Office Bar in Riddiford Street, Newtown, in association with Acoustic Routes, organised by Janine Mitchell with back-up from Kevin Ikin. Happens most months on the 2nd and last Sunday of the month.

Contact: janinemitchell04@gmail.com, kevin.ikin@supermail.co.nz, or newtownacousticsound@gmail.com

6. About Acoustic Routes

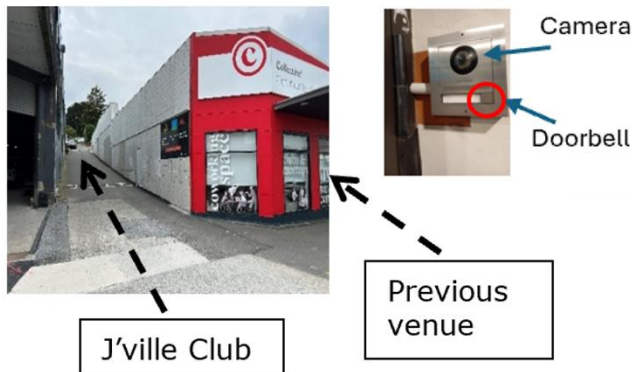
Acoustic Routes (Wellington Folk Centre Incorporated) is a club for people who enjoy playing and listening to folk and acoustic styles of music.

Our main monthly event is **every third Monday** except in January, October and December. It generally features a concert, usually with a visiting artist and support acts from amongst our membership.

Other regular (monthly) events include an informal Social Club with a booked guest, and a Singaround, both afternoon sessions, where attendees can

participate. We also support two Open Mic Gigs: the Newtown Acoustic Sound at the Office Pub in Newtown, and the Open Mic at the Plimmerton Boat Club.

Our venue for the third Monday event, Social Club and Singaround is the Johnsonville Club, 1 Norman Lane, Johnsonville, Wellington, which has parking and a bar, and a lift for wheelchair access.



Membership: Members get discounted entry and a say in the club's activities. The membership year is from July to June. To join, go to <https://acousticroutes.org.nz/join-us/>. Payment online is appreciated.

Acoustic Routes publishes this newsletter (The Balladeer) at the start of every month, and an email update about acoustic gigs in the region later in the month. You can subscribe online on this webpage - <https://acousticroutes.org.nz/news/> or contact publicity@acousticroutes.org.nz.

7. Want to perform?

The Acoustic Routes 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. Acoustic Routes contacts

President: Ruth Birnie president@acousticroutes.org.nz

Correspondence: Anne McGregor secretary@acousticroutes.org.nz

Treasurer/Membership: Sue Ikin treasurer@acousticroutes.org.nz

Balladeer: Anna Macfarlane balladeer@acousticroutes.org.nz

Acoustic Routes updates: Anne McGregor secretary@acousticroutes.org.nz

Performance opportunities: performers@acousticroutes.org.nz

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

Website: www.acousticroutes.org.nz

9. Balladeer Music Noticeboard

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

Wellington Bluegrass Society Presents - Hihi and The Stitchbirds and more! Abandoned Taproom, 154 Jackson St, Petone, Saturday 1 November 8pm Triple folk feature with **Tessa Luff**, and **The Elderflower Experiment**
<https://wellingtonbluegrass.net.nz/event-detail/#Hihibirds>

Burgin, Kerr & Norman, Raumati Social Club, 34 Poplar Ave, Raumati South, Saturday 1 November 7.30pm Country, Folk, Americana & Blues

The Wooden Box Band, The Shed, 46A Victoria St, Alicetown, Sunday 2 November 7.30pm Wellington's Folk Darlings

Wellington Bluegrass Society, Old-time Music and Bluegrass jam session at Alicetown Community House, 38 Victoria Street (cnr Victoria & Buckley Sts) Sunday 9 November 2-5pm <https://wellingtonbluegrass.net.nz/event-detail/#Jamsessions>

Mainly Acoustic Music Club, Mayfair Cafe - 116 Main Street, Upper Hutt, Tuesday 11 November 7:30-10pm Featuring **Adam McGrath**, with supporting acts **The Bidibids**, and **Karen Munro** www.mainlyacoustic.co.nz/contact-us-

Sonia Wilson & Nigel Gavin Duo, Hilltop, 17 Upland Rd, Saturday 15 November 7pm for 7.30 The French American duo tour NZ with their Musical Postcards weaving French, Kiwi and American Songs throughout. Also **French Singing** and **Guitar & Ukulele Workshops** on **Sunday 16/11**. Tea, coffee & snacks provided. BYO anything more you'd like. www.hilltophouseconcerts.co.nz/upcoming-gigs/

Songwriter Showcase #108 at Moon Bar, Riddiford St, Newtown, Sunday 16 November 6pm Held every Third Sunday of the Month
Featuring **Adoneye**, **Ali Whitton**, **The Brooklyns** and **Zach Newton**

Big Friendly Concert featuring Black-Eyed Susie, Korokoro, Friday 21 November. Call Charlie on 027 326 3621 for details.

Butter Wouldn't Melt, Hilltop, 17 Upland Rd, Saturday 22 November 7.30pm
Wow the vocals; the music; this year they've hit Number 3 on the Aotearoa Music Charts with their album **Where The Roots Grow Deep**. Tea, coffee & snacks provided. BYO anything more you'd like. www.hilltophouseconcerts.co.nz/upcoming-gigs/

WilkieMac & Penni Feather, The Undercurrent, 118 Tory St, Te Aro Sunday 23 November 5.30pm Together & separately.
WilkieMac are Raglan-based duo Lynne Wilkins and Michael McKinnon, both guitarists and singers, with additional instruments played by Lynne. Celtic folk, originals and some pop. Singer-songwriter Penni Feather's sets are grounded in folk and blues.
<https://www.facebook.com/undercurrentbookswellington>

Wellington Bluegrass Society Presents – "Old Friends": Chris Priestley, Angela Fox and Julian McKean, Abandoned Taproom, 154 Jackson St, Petone, Saturday 29 November 8pm
40 Years In Harmony!
<https://wellingtonbluegrass.net.nz/event-detail/#ChrisPriestley>

10. Wellyfest 2025 - some reflections



Well, we've been and gone and done it! And what a fabulous event it was too. Even the wild weather took a break and we got to have a mostly dry (not talking about alcohol) festival this year.

There were lots of highlights – so many I don't know where to begin. Usually for me it's the overseas guests who come top of my list, not least because it's such a rare opportunity to be able to see them, and it was again a great list this year. But who could not have been blown away by the amazing array of performers at the two 60th concerts and the memories of past events and performances they evoked?

I really can't pick one highlight, but when Chris Penman's voice rang out singing *The False Lover*, it took me right back to my first encounters with the folk scene when I was a student in Dunedin, and couldn't wait each week for the Friday night sessions at the New Edinburgh Folk Club. Davy Stuart playing Tony Hillyard's guitar to perform *The Broom o' the Cowdenknowes* ("the only Scots song Tony ever played") epitomised the ethos of the 60th festival, which was also embodied in the huge selection of photos and posters Sue Ikin collated and displayed in the cafe, and the slideshow curated by Gerard Hudson.

The evening concert hosted by Mary Livingston and Vanessa McLellan was another delightful event, with lots of memories evoked of fun, good times, and great music, further enhanced by the reading of 'telegrams' from people who were unable to be there in person, including one from frequent attendee and performer, John Sutherland (who, by the way, performed at the very first festival in Wellington in 1965).

The '60th festival' aspect also drew some non-booked performers to the festival, like Dusty Burnell, and Jude and Ruth provided opportunities in the Balladeer Tent for booked and non-booked performers to share their music, current and historical.

The festival may be over but there's still an opportunity to share your reminiscences. We're putting together a more in-depth history to go on the website and would love to hear from you if you'd like to contribute. Photos and memories are welcome – any highlights over the years for you, any ways that the festival has changed or influenced your music or your life over the years, that sort of thing. Please send them to our email address, WFFmemories@gmail.com.

Janette Munneke

11. Other regular folk events/contacts in the region – please check websites or email for updates

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 Kōhā.

Where: Horowhenua Scottish Society Hall, cnr Bartholomew Rd and Middlesex St.

Details: 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: Fiona Armstrong-McIntosh 0211205961 fionastrongmc@gmail.com

Club committee email: info@mainlyacoustic.co.nz

Website: https://mainlyacoustic.co.nz/coming_attractions/

Morris dancing: Dave Barnes <http://www.morrisdancing.org.nz/>

Pōneke Shanty Club

When: 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month 7-9pm (also alternate Thursdays at Rumours Rum Bar, 64 Taranaki Street, for trad folk, Americana singing – PSC Afterdark)

Where: The Welsh Dragon Bar, 10a Cambridge Terrace, Wellington

<https://www.facebook.com/PonekeShantyClub/>

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

Trad Singing Session with Dave Barnes hosting

When: 2nd 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

Wellington Bluegrass Society

When: 3rd Friday of the month, 8pm

Where: *Society nights on hold at present. Check the website for latest.*

Contact: Andrew Bicknell, (04) 477 0069, bluegrass@xtra.co.nz
www.wellingtonbluegrass.net.nz/

Wellington Scottish Fiddle Club – for learning in the "by ear" style

When: Varies, but mostly monthly around the first Sunday

Where: Depends on who is hosting it each time. All levels welcome.

Contact: Iain Matcham 04 568 8635, email iain@jumbletree.com