🎶 The Balladeer

Acoustic Routes Newsletter

November 2026 — Aotearoa New Zealand

Celebrating community, music, & the joy of playing together

www.acousticroutes.org.nz | Johnsonville Club, 1 Norman Lane, Johnsonville

🎻 Welcome / Nau mai, haere mai

Kia ora everyone,
A warm welcome to this month's newsletter. Here's what's been happening in our folk community and what's coming up across the motu. See inside for details. First up:

Celtic Caim, Wednesday 4 November, 1:30pm, Upstairs in the Johnsonville Club, 1 Norman Lane.



This month we have a special extra Social Club featuring **Celtic Caim** who are Pauline Vallance from Ayrshire in Scotland and Heather Innes, who now lives in New Zealand. Together they're known for their "hauntingly beautiful harmony singing" which can be a cappella or accompanied by clarsach, flute, and/or bodhrán. Pauline's live performances have been described as "delightful and convivial on so many levels" and "hilarious and totally batshit"!

Their concert set is an eclectic mix of Celtic songs, and songs written by various songwriters including Robert Burns, Pauline's own songs and the occasional song written by Heather. Add to that a jig or reel here and there performed on flute and bodhrán for you to get your feet tapping and it's bound to be a braw wee soirée!

Note some changes to the usual format – this is an extra Social Club meeting and will be held on the **first** Wednesday (not the usual third Wednesday) to fit in with Celtic Caim's tour schedule. It will start at 1.30pm as usual, but our guests will perform for an hour (longer than usual) before we take a break and then go around the circle. Entry is by donation, which will go directly to the musicians. We suggest a donation of at least $10 if you can manage it – touring in NZ is costly!

Acoustic Routes Monthly Concert – **Featuring Bob McNeil** with opening support from co-recipients of the 2026 Joan Prior Award, **Francesca Fagan, and Ari Leason,** Monday 23 November, 7:30pm, Upstairs in the Johnsonville Club, 1 Norman Lane. Note that this is on the **FOURTH Monday** of the month, not the third**.**



We're so lucky to be hosting one of the most popular New Zealand folk artists of the last two decades, multi award-winning songwriter **Bob McNeill** bringing his latest album TWELVE DREAMS OF THE RIVER. Recorded in Wellington and with its stories driven by years of playing music in New Zealand's high country, the album explores themes of life, age and transition, re-imagined as a trip down three iconic rivers - the Manuherikia in the South Island, the Waikato in the North Island, and the Kelvin in Bob's native Scotland. Poignant, celebratory and unflinching, it's Bob's most intimate work to date, with some of his most beautiful songs. (Photo by Gerard Hudson)

McNeill's songs have been covered by artists in NZ, Australia, the UK and USA, and his songwriting has been compared to Bruce Springsteen, Mark Knopfler, Jackson Browne and more. A compelling storyteller, his songs paint vivid pictures of decision points in people's lives. He has three New Zealand Music Awards (Tuis) for Best Folk Album.



Opening for Bob, we have co-recipients of the 2026 Joan Prior Award. **Francesca Fagan** sings Polish folk music, as a soloist, in a duo, and in the Polish folk band Krakerjack. Francesca is an honours student at the New Zealand School of Music and achieved third place in the 2025 Stanislaw Jopek International Vocal Competition, held in Poland. If you've heard her at the Newtown Festival or Wellington Polish Christmas Market, Undercurrent or Futuna Chapel, you'll know we're in for a treat. She'll be accompanied by Murray Kilpatrick.



Second up will be **Ari Leason** – known for her soulful blend of indie folk and intimate storytelling which shines through her album 'Hello Darling'. Honest, vulnerable, and deeply authentic, Ari brings songs shaped by activism, travel, and a coming-of-age journey that resonates long after the last note. Ari has opened for greats such as Julia Dean, Anika Moa, and Jenny Mitchell, and has played at many folk events.

Entry: $20/$15 for members. Cash only (no eftpos facilities). Note: The concert will be on the first floor, with access via stairs or the lift. You may have to press the button at the side of the door to gain access to the building.

🎵 Other Acoustic Routes Events this month

🗓️ **Acoustic Routes Monthly Sing-around** - Monday 9 November 7pm, upstairs, Johnsonville Club, 1 Norman Lane. Come along and share your latest musical learnings, finds, creations, or favourites with a listening audience. Monthly second Mondays.

🗓️ **AR Plimmerton Open Mic** - Thursday 12 November 7pm, Plimmerton Boating Club, 10 Moana Road. Hosted by Roy McGuinness. No pre-booked spots – put your name up when you get there. Spread the word. Monthly second Thursdays.

🗓️ **Acoustic Routes Social Club** - Wednesday 18 November, 1:30pm, Upstairs in the Johnsonville Club, 1 Norman Lane. Monthly third Wednesdays. We'll have an invited guest to play in the first half. In the second half, we'll go around the circle and you're welcome to perform and/or lead a song or tune if you wish. All welcome; bring instruments and voices. No charge; donation requested so we can pay the musician.



🗓️ **Newtown Acoustic Sound's Open Mic** - Sunday 29 November 5:15 – 8pm, Upstairs at The Office, 124 Riddiford Street. Held on the last Sunday of each month, in association with Acoustic Routes, organized by Janine Mitchell with back-up from Kevin Ikin. Contact: janinemitchell04@gmail.com, kevin.ikin@supermail.co.nz, or newtownacousticsound@gmail.com

🎼 Note for your AR December diary!

Acoustic Routes Christmas Party, Sunday 13 December, at Annie McGregor and Roy McGuinness's, 21 Gordon Rd, Plimmerton from 1pm, with shared meal/BBQ at 2pm

Our Christmas party will once again be hosted this year by the wonderful Anne McGregor and Roy McGuinness. Please bring a plate of food for the afternoon meal, a bottle of what you like to drink, and of course instruments and songs. Come any time from 1pm (***but not before***) and we'll aim to **start the meal around 2pm.** Disposable plates etc. will be provided but those of you who have picnic sets could bring them too, to help reduce the waste. We welcome donations to a cause yet to be decided. We warmly invite you, your family and any like-minded and/or musical friends to come along and welcome in the season with music and festivity! Sorry no dogs.



Vicfolk's End of Year Ceilidh, Sat 7 Nov

Celebrate the end of 2026 and join us at the Northland Memorial Community Centre for a night of Ceilidh dancing and socialising! Absolutely no experience is required as all dances will be walked through by our callers, with music from our very own Ceilidh band!

Tickets $15 or $10 for students or unwaged; at https://events.humanitix.com/vicfolk-end-of-year-ceilidh-2026 Get in quick!! Cash only door sales will also be available on the day, but we advise booking in advance.

Doors open 6.30pm with dancing from 7pm to 10pm, with plenty of breaks in between and a break for snacks halfway through (snacks provided)

Acoustic Routes Community notes

New Acoustic Routes Committee - With the help of a good turnout at the special general meeting in October, we were able to elect a full committee to take us through the next year. They are Gordon Chamley, Anna Macfarlane, Karen Munro, Sue Chamberlain, and Janine Mitchell, with Leslie Wilson (Treasurer), Kevin Ikin (Secretary), and yours truly (President). I'm looking forward to working with them and the wider membership and supporters to build on the work of the previous committee and strengthen the club. Many thanks to the outgoing members of that committee, Anne McGregor, Sue Ikin, Charlene Hillyard, and especially to Ruth Birnie. Speaking for myself, but I think they would agree, it was quite a hard slog in those last few months with such a small committee. Sharing the work between eight of us - and all of you who said you'd be happy to help but didn't want to be on the committee – should make it much easier! Thanks also to Anna Macfarlane, who has stayed on from the previous committee and is continuing to work on the Balladeer.

Congratulations to the **Wellyfest** committee for putting on a successful 61st Wellington Folk Festival! It was great to see members of Acoustic Routes performing at the festival, and to see the new-look Wellyfest, with a more compact site and the Circus Tent, working well to bring folkies from far and wide to make music together. I did wonder how they got on dismantling it all in the wind on Monday, but guess what, there seemed to be no need for Wellies this year! If anyone would like to do a review of Wellyfest for publication in the next Balladeer, we'd love to hear from you. Please email it to balladeer@acousticroutes.org.nz

A highlight for me was the bluegrass session to honour the contribution of **Andrew Bicknell** to the Wellington music scene in general and to bluegrass in particular. It was a huge gathering, and kudos to the Wellyfest committee President, Nicola Mitchell, who quickly pivoted and moved the event to a larger hall when it became clear we couldn't all fit into the Maire Hall.

For many the joy of getting together to make music was overshadowed by the news of the loss of three greats in the folk music community. We have been farewelling Andrew for a few weeks now; during the festival we learned of the passing of Wellington musician Bob Silbery (obits for both below) and of the tragic accident that literally took the life of Micheal Young, most recently a member of Albi and the Wolves, and known to and loved by many here in Wellington and much further afield over the years. We add Acoustic Routes' condolences to all those who knew and loved Micheal.



Photo from a post by The IWI Project
https://www.facebook.com/theiwiproject

Janette Munneke, for AR Committee

💐 Obituaries (too many – please slow it down!)

Andrew Bicknell

"Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. I am Andrew Bicknell, and I am the President of the Wellington Bluegrass Society."
(hearty applause)



Anyone who has attended Wellington Bluegrass events will recognise these words. Andrew, who passed away 1st October, will be deeply missed by everyone in the Wellington and wider music worlds. He headed and ran the Bluegrass Society since its inception more than 30 years ago, organising monthly concerts and other events and creating a community that went far beyond what the name suggests.

There was bluegrass of course, featuring local legends such as Hamilton County as well as big overseas acts. But, blues, folk, country, jazz, in fact most genres of music were heard at Bluegrass Society concerts. Musicians who performed at the Bluegrass Society became life members and Andrew also declared some to be "National Treasures". Andrew, a stickler for detail, organised everything from booking acts to designing the tickets and posters and providing the "complimentary tea and coffee".

He was also able to call on a band of loyal helpers for the weighty task of setting up the venue at Petone Community Centre and packing up after concerts and society nights. A lot of that pressure was taken off when Andrew found a friendly new venue at the Abandoned Taproom in Petone.

Andrew was also a string bass player, performing with many combos over the years, including the local bluegrass band, the Melling Station Boys, which he joined soon after it came into being.

Andrew's contribution to music was recognised in 2019 with the Queen's Service Medal. He was also closely involved with the Wellington Folk Festival, as president and serving on the festival committee at various times. Andrew was fondly remembered at an emotional gathering at this year's Wellyfest where musicians and friends shared songs and stories. In fact, so many people turned up they had to pause proceedings to move to a bigger venue. It was an especially heart-warming occasion for Andrew's long-time partner, Margot, and his sisters Louise and Sarah, who were there.

So, in the words of our National Treasure, "there we have it, ladies and gentlemen".

By Kevin Ikin

WBS Society Night, Abandoned Taproom Petone, Thursday 26 November, 7.30pm. The Society Night booked by Andrew will definitely be going ahead, as we know Andrew would have wanted. Please keep an eye on the WBS Facebook page for more details as they unfold, and/or email wellingtonbluegrasssociety@gmail.com to get occasional emails about upcoming events.

Bob Silbery



We have lost another much loved and valued member of our music family. Bob Silbery, well known in Wellington folk, acoustic music and rock circles since the 1960s, departed from us on Saturday 24 October, just a few weeks short of his 81st birthday.

Bob, a skilled technician and gifted musician, will also be fondly remembered as an "idiosyncratic contrarian". Known affectionately by some in the community as "Chuckleberry" or "Bilbo," Bob was a mainstay of the Wellington acoustic scene for decades, reaching back to early venues like the Monde Marie. He was highly versatile, playing fiddle, mandolin, tenor banjo, double bass and later electric bass.

In his earlier music career, Bob performed with groups such as Kilderkin (with Paul Metsers, Janet McLennan and Vicki Smith) the Mangawekas, Gingerbread Head (with Wayne Finch and Robbie Duncan), The Rope's End Band, Midnight Creepers, Southbound and Slick Nickel. Not forgetting the Regurgitated George Wilder Rehabilitation Society Bush Band.

He became the bass player in The Jimmies (formerly the Jimmy Cook Band), for most of the Wellington ceilidh and dance band's 30 plus years' existence. His masterly bass playing can be heard on the band's 1993 album, Bold Endeavour. Bob's musical talents were in demand for numerous folk festival lineups over the years and recordings, including backing traditional ballad singer Margaret Farrelly in concert and on her album.

Bob's long-time friend and musical collaborator, Robbie Duncan, compiled this photographic tribute for his 78th birthday:

Bob The Movie

https://youtu.be/w4NAXNVDgdwsi=GEi4YUfHWD7_X7Es

By Kevin Ikin

A funeral service for close friends and family will be held on Tuesday 3 November at 2pm. You are welcome to join the live stream or leave a tribute on the Lychgate page. Please RSVP if you plan to attend in person.

https://lychgate.co.nz/funeral-notice/silbery-74120/

There will be a 'grand scale hoolie held at a later date to farewell Bob in the manner he is accustomed to'. Look out for news of that on social media in the coming weeks.

🪕 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.

To find more information about the club, and get notifications of the latest news and events, go to the website, https://acousticroutes.org.nz/, follow us on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/wellingtonfolkclub, and/or join our Facebook Group https://www.facebook.com/groups/347362439094076. Members of the Facebook Group can post their own events and comment on posts.

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, held on the third Wednesday of most months in the afternoon, and a Sing-around on the second Monday evening of most months where attendees can participate. We also support two Open Mic Gigs: Newtown Acoustic Sound Open Mic at the Office Pub in Newtown, the last Sunday of each month, and the Open Mic at the Plimmerton Boat Club, on the second Thursday of the month.

Our venue for the third Monday event, Social Club and Sing-around is the Johnsonville Club, 1 Norman Lane, Johnsonville, Wellington, which has parking and a bar, and a lift for wheelchair access. (If you need the lift, it might pay to phone the venue to find out if it is operating.)



The restaurant is not open on Monday nights when we usually meet but you can order bar snacks and drinks at the bar. If you want an alcoholic drink and are not a member of the Johnsonville Club, you will need to get a member to sign you in as a guest. You may need to press the doorbell to access the building.

Membership

Members get discounted entry and a say in the club's activities.

The membership year is from July to June. If you haven't already joined for the year July 2026-June 2027, you can join and pay your sub online or at the door on concert nights. 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.

🎤 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.

Acoustic Routes contacts

- President: Janette Munneke president@acousticroutes.org.nz
- Secretary/Correspondence: Kevin Ikin secretary@acousticroutes.org.nz
- Treasurer/Membership: Lesley Wilson treasurer@acousticroutes.org.nz
- Balladeer Newsletter: Anna Macfarlane balladeer@acousticroutes.org.nz
- Acoustic Routes updates: Kevin Ikin 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

🪕 Balladeer Music Events Noticeboard

Where you can advertise your music-related items—lessons, instruments, gigs, band members wanted, etc. To place a notice, please email balladeer@acousticroutes.org.nz

🎵 Performance opportunity, Johnsonville Club, 1 Norman Lane, Johnsonville

The Johnsonville Club is seeking expressions of interest from musicians who would like to perform at the Johnsonville Club on a Sunday afternoon from about 3pm to 6pm. No payment, but an opportunity to play music in a pub setting. They're hoping to draw more people in as it's usually fairly quiet on a Sunday at that time, as well as giving musicians some exposure and experience.

There's a sound system with a voice mic but you'll need to bring your own if you need any more than that. There's parking on site. https://www.jclub.co.nz/

Please contact Nicole Stephens at the Johnsonville Club for more information and to book in to play. E: manager@jclub.co.nz | DD: 04 939 1352 | M: 027 242 1823

🎵 **Vogelmorn Upstairs Open Mic**, 93 Mornington Rd, Thursday 5 November, 5.30 for 6.30pm start.

🎵 **Pōneke Shanty Club Fourth Birthday Singalong**, Welsh Dragon Bar, Cambridge Terrace, Thursday 5 November, 7-9pm.

🎵 **Wellington Calling Open Mic**, The Undercurrent, 118 Tory Street, Thursday 5 November, Doors open 7pm for 7.30pm, featuring Brittle Star

🎵 **Eigenface Debut Album Release with support from Michaela Tempers,** Vogelmorn Upstairs, Vogelmorn Precinct, 93 Mornington Road, Friday 6 November, 7.30pm – 10.00pm. Eigenface is a New Zealand/New York trio, and Michaela is an established Wellington folk singer/songwriter.

♫ **Mainly Acoustic Music Club**, Mayfair Café, 116 Main Street, Upper Hutt, Tuesday 10 November, 7:30-10pm, Featuring Barry Saunders with supports Ain't Superstitious and Hummer and Strummer. For more info: www.mainlyacoustic.co.nz/contact-us

♫ **Darren Watson Plays The Shed**, 46A Victoria St, Alicetown, Saturday 14 November, 7.30-9.30pm.

♫ **Andrew London,** Days Bay Pavilion, 611B Marine Drive, Days Bay, Lower Hutt, Sunday 15 November, 6 – 8pm

♫ **Velvet Glove Play Velvet Underground**, Gibbons Hotel, Taranaki St, Sunday 15 November, 7.30pm, featuring John Dood, Chris Nichol, Lindsay Gregory, Sean Barker, Martin Durrant and Bill Nichol

♫ **Simple∞Animal Album Launch with guests Sam Ford, Trudi Green and the Soulahula Band,** Meow, 9 Edward St, Saturday 21 November, 7.30-9.30pm

♫ **Bill Lake's Slow Bake with Steve Hemmens and Alan Norman**, Beach House & Kiosk, 410 The Esplanade, Island Bay, Saturday 21 November, Sets Start 5.30 and 7.30pm

♫ **Wellington Bluegrass Society (WBS) Social Night, Abandoned Taproom Petone, Thursday 26 November, 7.30pm.** The Society Night booked by Andrew will definitely be going ahead. Please keep an eye on the Facebook page for more details as they unfold, and/or email wellingtonbluegrasssociety@gmail.com to get occasional emails about upcoming events.

♫ **Andrew Kerr and Alan Norman**, Welsh Dragon Bar, Cambridge Terrace, Thursday 26 November, 8pm.

♫ **Ari Leason,** At Hilltop, Upland Road, Kelburn, **Saturday 28 November,** Gate opens 7pm for 7.30pm, Teas, coffee & snacks provided. BYO. www.hilltophouseconcerts.co.nz/upcoming-gigs/

♫ **Unsung Heroes presents Cameron Bennett & Chris Priestley**, The Undercurrent, 118 Tory Street, Saturday 28 November, Doors open 7 for 7.30pm. Cameron Bennett and Chris Priestley - with special guest Angela Fox - share songs, stories and a slideshow from NZ's distant past.

♫ **Raven Mavens and Overdogs,** Vogelmorn Upstairs, 93 Mornington Road, Saturday 28 November, 7.30pm

Regular Folk Music Events Noticeboard

Look out for these events – they're probably on even if we haven't been advised of the particulars for the month in question. Check using the contact details to be sure.
To place a notice, please email balladeer@acousticroutes.org.nz

♫ **Wellington Traditional Tunes Session,** The Welsh Dragon Bar, 10a Cambridge Terrace, Wellington

- Every Tuesday from 7.30pm
- Fine beer and food to be had at the bar. 1st Tuesday slow session aimed at beginners, followed by regular session.
- Contact: https://wellingtonslowsession.wordpress.com/

♫ **Moon Jam Nites,** 167 Riddiford St, Newtown, Regular ... Every Tuesday night from 7.30pm. The evening starts off open mic, then moves into a full-on jam towards the end. Sign up with your time slot. You can call upon many talented musicians to help play your slot. A full stage with electric guitar, bass, keyboard, drums, mics, lights and full support from our sound tech. Bring your own songs, poems, and friends (and make some new ones too)

♫ **Upstairs Open Mic Night,** Vogelmorn Upstairs, Vogelmorn Precinct, 93 Mornington Road, Brooklyn, 5.30 for 6.30pm start, free entry, first Thursday of every month. Vogelmorn is calling out for songwriters, singers, and musicians of all genres to showcase their craft at our Upstairs Open Mic Night. Welcome to the perfect environment for new and seasoned songwriters alike who want to test new material for an audience, practice the intricacies of a song, or simply have some fun on stage. All ages, voices, styles, and levels of experience are welcome. Sign-up on the night between 5:30-6:30pm or in advance via vogelmornupstairs@gmail.com

♫ **Mainly Acoustic Music Club**, Mayfair Cafe, 116 Main Street, Upper Hutt

- (Mostly) every 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7.30pm - 10pm
- Contact: Fiona Armstrong-McIntosh 0211205961 fionastrongmc@gmail.com

  Club committee email: info@mainlyacoustic.co.nz

  Website: https://mainlyacoustic.co.nz/coming attractions/

  Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/MainlyAcoustic/

♫ **Wellington Calling Open Mic**, The Undercurrent, 118 Tory Street, Te Aro, Check with them direct for days and dates scheduled, as they're not held on set days nor monthly. Six minutes each with microphone, guitar and piano provided.

♫ **Pukerua Bay Folk Club Sing-around**, 9 Donlin Rd, Pukerua Bay,

- 1st Thursday of the month, 8pm. For details, please contact musicianmurray@gmail.com

♫ **Pōneke Shanty Club,** The Welsh Dragon Bar, 10a Cambridge Terrace, Wellington

- 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month, 7-9pm

♫ **Wellington Bluegrass Society**

- **WBS Society Nights** – Abandoned Taproom, Petone. Fourth Thursday each month, 7pm. **The last one for the year is coming up in November**. Keep an eye on the Facebook page for news of upcoming events or to receive occasional emails about developments, email wellingtonbluegrasssociety@gmail.com.
- **Old Time and Bluegrass Music Sessions** – No music session in November. Keep an eye on the Facebook page for news of upcoming sessions, or email wellingtonbluegrasssociety@gmail.com to received occasional emails about upcoming events. Normally held at Memelink Artspace, 223 The Esplanade, Petone. Second Sunday each month.

♫ **Levin Folk Music Club,** Horowhenua Scottish Society Hall, cnr Bartholomew Rd and Middlesex St.

- 2nd Friday of the month, 7.30pm

- Blackboard concert plus guest artist
- Entry: Members $5, Non-members $10, Children $3 (includes supper)
- Club night: 4th Friday of the month, 7.30pm, $2 koha

🎵 **Ceol Alba Scottish Music Club,** Lower Hutt

- 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.
- Cost: $5 per night
- Contact: Lynne Scott, 04 565 0164 lynne@scott.gen.nz

🎵 **Wellington Irish Society,** Wilton Bowling Club, last Friday of the month 7pm Wellington Irish Society will be headquartered at the Wilton Bowling Club with a regular "Irish Night" on the last Friday of each month, celebrating its music, culture, stories, and community spirit. https://www.wellingtonirish.nz/

🎵 **Acoustic Music Evenings**, Niom Bistro, 169 Riddiford St, Newtown, Saturdays at 6-8pm

🎵 **The Hanging Ditch,** 14 Leeds St, Te Aro, third Sunday of the month 4 – 6pm, hosts a gig where you can listen to professional Irish music for free with some tasty cocktails and snacks. A closed invite session with the guests changing every week. If intermediate players would like to give playing a try, contact Em Griffiths at: emceltic2@gmail.com Gigs held **3rd Sunday monthly**.

🎵 **Songwriters Showcase at Moon,** 167 Riddiford St, Newtown, third Sunday of the month, 4-10pm. Open Mic from 4pm, show starts 7pm. For more info, see the Facebook page *6021 Songs* or email a query to 6021songs@gmail.com

🎵 **Morris dancing,** David Barnes https://sites.google.com/site/nzmorrisdancing/

🎵 **Thunderbird Café** – It's time to say a fond farewell to the owners of the very much appreciated Friday evening live music venue in Featherston Street. It has sold and had its last night with the Raven Mavens and Neil Billington concert on 30/10. The new owners have indicated music should start again next April 2027. We hope so.

💜 Closing Note

Thanks so much for being part of our musical whānau. Whether you come along to perform or simply to listen and enjoy, your presence makes our community richer. Hope to see you at the next event!

Ngā mihi nui
Your Acoustic Routes Committee