

# Monaro Musings



The Newsletter of the Monaro Folk Society Inc., Reg No A 00208

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**Monaro Musings, Volume 25, Number 9 – October 2016**



*Stringfiddle plays and Peter Foster calls at the Colonial Ball at the Albert Hall on 3<sup>rd</sup> September (Photo by Lawrie Brown)*

## From the President's Soapbox

The AGM earlier this month was attended by about 30 members, possibly somewhat attracted by the refreshments provided at the Irish Club (which were excellent). Most of the past committee members stood for reelection and we also welcomed Anne Mathas and Julie Szabo to the committee, leaving one position still vacant. Annual reports from subgroups were presented and are now on the members' website for your perusal. I apologise for the fact that minutes of a number of committee meetings were not put on the website over the past year due to technical access problems which have now hopefully been resolved. Work continues on the proposed new website and we will be seeking your input as the project develops, particularly in regard to useability testing.

Christine Briton and her team of workers have been preparing for their big upcoming Irish weekend at the pavilion in Hall, with dancers coming in from interstate - hopefully the weather proves to be better than it has over the last week.

Have you ever wanted to present a radio program? You are doubtless aware that MFS supports some folk programs on 2XX and Artsound. We have decided to provide the funding to train a couple of MFS members as radio presenters through 2XX so if you are interested in being one of those please contact Tina for more details as to what is involved. Contact Tina at: [editor@mfs.org.au](mailto:editor@mfs.org.au).

Geoff

## MFS happenings past and to come

**Bush Dance Classes** recommence on October 10<sup>th</sup> for term four. They are held at All Saints Church Hall, Cowper Street Ainslie, from 8.00 to 10.00 pm and the cost is still only \$6 for MFS members. A great place to introduce your friends to the wonderful world of dance - new dancers receive their 2nd night free.

There is no **2nd Saturday Bush Dance** in October because the MFS Irish Set Dance weekend is happening at Hall.

The final **Dancers Dance** for this year will be on 22 October at the early start time of 7pm. Join us for an evening of Bush, Scottish and Contra (and maybe other dance styles) with our expert callers and live music from the Bush Capital Band. Expect a variety of dances and some challenges to make for an interesting evening suitable for dancers who have mastered the basics and perhaps have some experience of more than one style of dancing. Easier dances will have minimal walk throughs, with calling as required, harder dances will be walked and called. Please bring a small contribution toward the shared supper. Just \$10 for members and \$1 for hot and cold drinks - "bottomless cup". Full details on the web site.



**End-of-the-Month Dance** this month will be on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> October and will have a theme of 'Faux Fur and Feathers'. The Band for this Old Time Dance will be The Crooked Corner Band and Friends and callers will be Simon David, Lance Green and Bruce Lemin.

**Australian Settler's Music Sessions** – this group meets between 7.15 and 9.30 pm on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month, except January, at the Grant Cameron Community Centre, 27 Mulley Street, Holder. This month the dates are the 5<sup>th</sup> and the 19<sup>th</sup>. Contact is Ray Mulligan on 62474725



**Contra** for October happens on Tuesday the 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> from 7.30 to 9.30 pm at North Canberra Baptist Church Hall, 17 Condamine Street, Turner with live music from Contraband. \$6 for MFS members and \$8 for others.

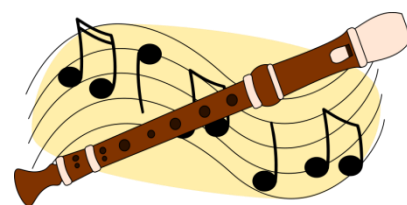


**Irish Set Dancing** – Term four commences on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October. Classes run from 8.00 to 10.00 pm, at the North Canberra Baptist Church Hall in Condamine Street, Turner and cost \$8 for MFS members and \$9 for others.

Beginner's classes are available from 7.30 – 8.00 pm before the regular class, but are run on request only. To make a request, please contact Christine (contact details on back page)

And don't forget the **Annual Irish Set Dancing weekend** 7-9 October at the 'Hall at Hall'

The **Tuesday Night Music Group** (beginner to intermediate) which happens on almost every Tuesday of the year, now meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month from 7.30 to 10.00 pm at the Irish Club in Parkinson Street, Weston. Some members arrive earlier and have a meal at the Club Bistro. On other nights the group meets at various members' homes. Please contact one of the organisers, Julie on 62823523 or Robert on 62919135 for more information.



**English Country Dancing** for October is on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> from 7.30 to 9.30 pm at North Canberra Baptist Church Hall, 17 Condamine Street, Turner. \$7 for MFS members and \$9 for others.

## Out and About .....

### The Murrumbateman Music Night draws to a close – hopefully not

The Murrumbateman Music Night is coming to a close with the retirement of Eric and Shirley Johns who have been running it for 28 years. The current MC, David Grant is also retiring, “however” he says, “the venue will still be there and this along with the sound equipment is available to anyone who wishes to take on this rewarding experience”. The music night is held at the Murrumbateman Country Inn (the Murrumbateman Pub) on the last Sunday of the month, from 6 until 9.00pm, in one of their function rooms where great pub meals are available. It offers a venue suitable for musicians of all calibre and opens a welcome door to poetry. I have been regularly attending over the past 20 years since arriving in Canberra and have listened to many guitar strums and fiddle bows from beginner to the diehard and all have contributed to the community-based spirit this venue offers. As has often been said – the audience is forgiving. It would be a shame to see this venue lost to our folk music world where many have shaped their skills, so if you are interested in taking over the organisation and running of this event, please contact: David Grant on 6227 0043 or Eric Johns on 6254 4305. There are two more nights this year, 23 October and 27 November so come along and check it out, especially for the swan-song and special party in November.

Laurie McDonald

### A couple of events coming up not too far from home .....



**Kangaroo Valley Folk Festival**  
14-16 Oct 2016

In Australia's Most Beautiful Valley

Chaika  
Jez Lowe  
The Bon Scotts  
Rhythm Hunters  
Paul Greene & the Other Colours  
Martyn Wyndham-Read  
The Willie Wagtails  
The Somedays  
Tulalah  
Giffen, Fiona Ross  
Horse&Wood, Kiki and Pascal  
Jane Thompson & James Rigby  
Benji and the Saltwater Sound System  
Mark Cryle & Carmel Newman  
Margaret and Bob Fagan  
Michael Waugh  
The Acfields  
and lots more

50 wonderful acts  
6 intimate venues  
kids' festival art & craft  
market stalls poets' breakfast  
session bar with a fabulous view  
street performers  
poetry competition  
singing, dancing & instrument  
workshops  
full dance program

buy tickets online at [kangaroovalleyfolkfestival.com.au](http://kangaroovalleyfolkfestival.com.au)

Shoalhaven CITY

The **Illawarra Folk** are hosting a free Concert for Refugees at Hindmarsh Park, Kiama on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October from 1.00 to 4.00 pm.

Featuring these artists

- Burmese & Syrian refugee performers
- John Littrich and the Water Runners
- Penny Hartgerink
- JukeBoy Emmett
- Illawarra Union Singers
- Michael Cox
- Shabnam
- Accord
- and more ...

It should be a great afternoon.





## Some photos from here and there ....

Starting with four from the MFS Colonial Ball at the Albert Hall on September 3<sup>rd</sup>:



Bill and Adrienne Unger, Treciale Murphy and Keith Wood, Antonella Salpietro, Colin Fong.



Diana and Daryl Powell and Peter Foster  
(Photo by Lawrie Brown)



Left and Right - Some more finely-dressed attendees at the Colonial Ball (Photos by Lawrie Brown)



Martyn Wyndham-Read & friends playing at the Bush Traditions Gathering at Goulburn over the October long weekend. (photo by Lawrie Brown)

## Further down the Track .....



Just a heads up for the Majors Creek Festival running from Friday 11<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November. Super Earlybird prices ended on September 18<sup>th</sup> but Earlybirds are available until 16<sup>th</sup> October so good to get onto that soon if you want to go. Prices are very reasonable and camping is free and it's a lovely festival in a beautiful setting. [www.majorscreekfestival.org](http://www.majorscreekfestival.org) for tickets, performers, etc.

Presented by  
**Monaro Folk  
Society Inc.**



**Note: Regular Venue Canberra Irish Club, 6 Parkinson St, Weston**

**Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October - 4.00 pm to 7.00pm**

**Blackboard plus Feature Act - Ian MacDougall**

Admission \$3 MFS Members, Concessions and Blackboard Performers, \$5 Others

This is a fun afternoon for those wanting to share their love of music and play, sing or recite in an inviting and friendly atmosphere. Put your name on the blackboard to perform, or just get along and listen to some great music.



Photo Patricia Roche

**Ian MacDougall** has been around on the Canberra-Monaro music scene one way or another since his arrival here from his native Sydney in 1968. Was for years a member of the *Acme Jigs & Reels Club* (band); Music Board fellowship composer in 1974; finalist in the Grundy organisation's National Star Quest (C. 1978), and author of *The Glass-necked Guitar* (an owner's manual).

LPs & CDs: *Terry & Frankie*; (a folk-rock ballad opera broadcast nationally by ABC Radio 1973, and later released as an LP by Festival Records); *The Campfire Song* (1982 - my own compositions); *The Never-Never Land* (1985 - songs of Henry Lawson).

From now on dates for Blackboards will be first Sunday of the month:

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December

[www.merrymuse.org.au](http://www.merrymuse.org.au)

**Enquiries: ph Eileen 0412 127 882 or email [eileennew\(at\)grapevine\(dot\)com\(dot\)au](mailto:eileennew(at)grapevine(dot)com(dot)au)**

MFS Monday Bush Dance classes and second Saturday of the month dances, All Saints Church Hall, Cowper St, Ainslie (Bush dances or classes are not offered on long weekends or during ACT school holidays.) . Also MFS Dancing in the Park – Mondays in December and January (except Public Holidays) at Stage 88, Commonwealth Park. Contact: Mark Simmons 0421814718.

MFS ISD classes each Wednesday (four terms per year) plus beginners' classes on request. North Canberra Baptist Church Hall, 17 Condamine St, Turner. Also MFS ISD October dance weekend. Hall Pavilion, Hall Showground. Contact: Christine Briton, 0413 168 562, [cbriton@homemail.com.au](mailto:cbriton@homemail.com.au)

MFS Contra Club – 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of the month at North Canberra Baptist Church Hall, 17 Condamine Street, Turner. Contact: Linda Aunela - [lindaaunela@yahoo.com.au](mailto:lindaaunela@yahoo.com.au) (please put 'Contra' in the subject line) or 0437 350 254

MFS English Country Dancing, 2nd & 4th Tuesday each month at North Canberra Baptist Church Hall, 17 Condamine Street, Turner. . Contact: Colin Towns 62380246.

MFS last Saturday of month Bush Dance, Canberra Baptist Church Hall, Currie Street, Kingston. Contact Antonella Salpietro 0413 295 004

MFS Tuesday Night Music group – a beginner to intermediate level session group. Meets at Canberra Irish Club, Parkinson Street, Weston on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month and other weeks in members' homes. Contact Julie on 62823523 or Robert on 62919135.

Australian Settler's music sessions, 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month at Grant Cameron Community Centre, 27 Mulley Street, Holder. Contact is Ray Mulligan 62474725

Earthly Delights Historic Costume Balls – 3rd Saturday each month. Contact: Aylwen Garden 62811098. St John's Church Hall, Constitution Ave, Reid. Also dance classes at ANU, Jane Austen Festival and other events.

Folk Dance Canberra offers international folk dancing for fun and fitness. [www.folkdancecanberra.org.au](http://www.folkdancecanberra.org.au) gives full details or contact Lesley Rose on 02 6286 6401. For first Saturday of the month social dance contact Maria Jenkins on 62314472.

Murrumbateman Acoustic Music Club - last Sunday each month, 6.00 pm, Murrumbateman Hotel Function Room. . Contact: David Grant 62270043,

Jerrabomberra Jam Night - 3rd Friday each month, 6.30 pm Contact: Ian Wholohan 0427939786. Jerrabomberra General Store

Queanbeyan Bush Poets - 4th Thursday each month, 7.00 pm. Contact: Laurie McDonald 62539856, now meeting at the Queanbeyan Library

Jammalong – 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month come rain or shine at the Enid Lyons Park pergola, between Questacon and Lake Burley Griffin. 12.00 noon until everyone's had enough. Bring a chair and food and drink if you intend to stay for long.

*Monaro Musings* is the newsletter of and published by Monaro Folk Society Inc, PO Box 482 Civic Square ACT 2608. Contact Editor by email as below. The Editor reserves the right not to publish any copy or advertisements that are considered libellous, misleading or discriminatory. All care will be taken but no responsibility will be accepted for omissions or errors. Views expressed by the Editor and others in *Monaro Musings* are not necessarily those of the Monaro Folk Society.

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**Contributions for the *Musings*:** Contributions, including advertising requests, should be sent preferably to the Editor's email address in the list below to reach the Editor early in the month. To permit proofing, printing and mail out to reach members before the end of the month, the deadline for copy is normally the 20th of the month preceding publication. Submissions are preferred in Word .doc & .docx / plaintext / JPEG / PNG format. All material must be identified as original work, or copyright clearance provided. In the case of photos or images, copyright normally inheres in the photographer or creator, not the owner of the camera, photo or image.

#### **Monaro Folk Society, Inc. 2015-16 Committee**

President: Geoff Kell - [president@mfs.org.au](mailto:president@mfs.org.au); Vice-President: Peter Gamble; Secretary: Ian Bull – [secretary@mfs.org.au](mailto:secretary@mfs.org.au);

Treasurer: Matt Gibbins - [treasurer@mfs.org.au](mailto:treasurer@mfs.org.au); Public Officer: Antonella Salpietro Committee Members: John Hewat, , Anne Mathas, Chris McGinty, Julie Szabo. For general enquiries please use [secretary@mfs.org.au](mailto:secretary@mfs.org.au)

#### **Appointed Officials**

Membership: Declan O'Connell - [membership@mfs.org.au](mailto:membership@mfs.org.au); Merry Muse Coordinator: Vacant; Merry Muse PA Coordinator: Pierre Sibillant; Merry Muse Subcommittee Chair: Vacant; Acting *Monaro Musings* Editor: Tina Lynam - [editor@mfs.org.au](mailto:editor@mfs.org.au); Web Manager: Simon David

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