

Monaro Musings



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

Visit MFS at the website www.monarofolk.org.au and/or www.facebook.com/monaro.folk.society

***Monaro Musings*, Volume 27, Number 11 – December 2018**

From the President's Soapbox

Great sadness this month with the passing of two musicians. The first was Gillian Alcock –Gillian was known in musical circles internationally as a musician, teacher and builder of dulcimers, pioneering the use of Australian timbers in their construction. The tribute below, written by Jackie Luke, gives quite an amount of information about her life.

Daryl Powell's death was a shock to all of us. It was an honour to count him as a friend: a gentle humoured, intelligent and knowledgeable man. He was the person I would speak with if I needed perspective on different aspects of the society, and will greatly miss him: over the last year I would drop by his house to see how he was going, and always came away feeling that I was the one who had gained most from the visit. The following tributes speak to how many people he touched and the contribution he made to the Monaro Folk Society and other groups in Canberra. The great esteem in which he was held was reflected in the high numbers of friends who attended his service and celebrational ceilidh held last Friday at St John's church in Reid. Go well, Daryl.

We have a new dance group within the society. Simon David has been running his Contrapop workshops for a year, and will now operate under our auspices. The concept is one of using contemporary music for Contra dancing, with a view to attracting younger people. He has now started Friday evening sessions in the Scout hall on Masson St in Turner: details are below in the Dance section. We hope this will lead to further involvement by his dancers in other society activities: it is vital that we find ways of attracting young people to continue our traditions, so we welcome this initiative of Simon's.

Dancing in the Park resumes on Monday – we reached agreement with the NCA that we would pay \$40 per session instead of the \$500 originally quoted to us. On principle we do not agree with having to pay at all for a public venue but have decided to compromise so we can promote and get on with it. A bucket for gold coin donations will be there to help offset the costs.

Finally, the Christmas Party will be held at All Saints church hall on Saturday, 8 December. We hope people will bring food for a dinner/picnic beforehand, there will be some entertainment, a little like our recent AGM, followed by bush dancing to the Bush Capital Band. All are welcome from all groups, so we hope to see you there. Best wishes to you all for Christmas and the New Year.

Geoff

Ed's note: The photos on page 3 have been sent to me from many sources, most of them unattributed so I have presented them thus. Likewise many did not indicate where they were taken, though some did, but I have chosen not to give any of them captions. I have tried to give an impression of Daryl's various activities in music and dance with Diana and the friends he shared those times with. The birthday party pictured was a joint sixtieth for a number of friends. The centrepiece is Kate Scott's lovely recent portrait of Daryl.

Vale Daryl Powell, OAM, 1943-2018

Daryl made an outstanding contribution to the community through his research on the dances and music of the Australian folk tradition and his commitment to teaching folk dancing.

His knowledge of folk dancing was somewhere between the comprehensive and the encyclopaedic. He was said to carry in his head the steps of over 2000 dances.

Daryl was born on 14th June, 1943 in Quirindi, NSW, and came from an Australian family with a strong interest in traditional and social music and dance events. For many generations his folks had been country musicians and social dancers. He spent much of his adult life in Canberra where for forty years he was an active participant and promoter of folk music and dance in the community, having a particular interest in historic Australian dances, and the dances of the UK and Europe.

Daryl, with his wife Diana, was involved in organising dance displays in nursing and retirement homes, neighbourhood functions, fetes and community events like Government House Open Day, the National Folk Festival, the Canberra Multicultural Festival and Floriade.

Recently, Daryl played a key role in the dance displays of the Itinerant Dancers and the Dividing Range Dancers at the National Folk Festival in 2015 and 2018. We practised in Daryl and Diana's living room where Daryl would move the furniture against the walls. We had to be cautious not to spin too widely or gallop too enthusiastically!

For our performance at 2015 Festival, which had NSW as the Feature State, Daryl developed a dance program based on his childhood memories of dancing at the Liverpool Plains. On dancing at Carroona Primary School, Daryl noted that it was 'A one room, one teacher school on the edge of the plain. The same school that my mother and her seven brothers and sisters had gone to in the 1920s. Many of my 24 first cousins went there in the 1950s and 1960s. We did lots of dancing because we did not have enough pupils to play team games'.

Daryl was also keen to ensure that people from disadvantaged backgrounds were able to participate and enjoy the social, physical and psychological benefits of dancing. This included working with groups such as Koomarri ex-students, Vision Australia, Mental Health clients of ACT Health, and Indigenous adolescents in NSW.

Through Daryl's tuition, many people from a variety of cultural backgrounds have also had an opportunity to engage in and enjoy folk dancing and appreciate it as a very real part of Australia's history, culture and identity.

In 2011, I thought that it would be appropriate for Daryl's decades long commitment to Australian folk music and dance to be officially recognised. I developed a case and with the support of the Monaro Folk Society, Daryl was nominated for an Australian award. I might add that all this was done without Daryl's knowledge.

On 10 June 2013, Daryl was awarded a Medal (OAM) of the Order of Australia in the General Division, for service to the community through the teaching, promotion and preservation of Australian folk music and dance.

While I was well aware of his interest in music and dance, I was surprised by the other activities and interests he had. In his working life, Daryl was involved in extending the Canberra cyclepaths and ensuring the maintenance of communal paths in the UK. Daryl and Diana had also studied Italian, and sometimes they spoke Italian with me. On a dance trip to Maitland, and while in the garden of Diana's family, he could name all the plants and joked that it came from the discipline he developed for classification during his many years in the public service. Daryl had many interesting and funny anecdotes, often related to travel or his previous work experience, that were always entertaining and showed a particular perceptiveness and sense of humour.

Daryl will be greatly missed by all of us who have had the privilege to appreciate his intelligence, sense of humour, perceptiveness, sensitivity and deep knowledge of Australian folk music and dance.

Antonella Salpietro

Footnote: The biographical notes I provided to support Daryl's nomination are at the following link.

[https://www.gg.gov.au/sites/default/files/files/honours/qb/qb2013/Media%20Notes%20-%20OAM%20\(M-R\)%20\(final\).pdf](https://www.gg.gov.au/sites/default/files/files/honours/qb/qb2013/Media%20Notes%20-%20OAM%20(M-R)%20(final).pdf)



The Dividing Range Dancers at NFF 2018 (Photo by Sandra Nixon)



More memories from friends:

We owe many years of fun, dancing and frivolity to Daryl.

We went to dance classes at the Corroboree Park Hall in 1989 where Daryl played and Peter Foster taught.

Little did we know then that that would be the start of many years of fun. We ran Bush Dance Classes with Daryl and Di at the Wesley Centre and the O'Donnell Centre. Daryl also helped us with the program for the Bush Dancers' Display Group and Daryl played and Di called on many occasions for our join-ins.

Daryl's vast knowledge of Bush Music and Australian Traditional Bush Dancing will be sadly missed.

Bush Dancing will not be the same without Daryl.

Barbara and Lance Court

Ed's note: Lance has made an album of 164 photos in which Daryl appears. The link to it is at www.canberradance.org and the download option in the album is in the three vertical dots menu.

Daryl and Diana saw the need for a place where enquiries could be answered as people arrived at the National Folk Festival in Canberra. And rather than just wishing, they did something about it, setting up and volunteering on an "Information Booth" on the road in from Gate 7 at EPIC.

They continued as core volunteers on this booth for years and were a mine of information about the festival. Daryl was always very kind and helpful to those of us who were relative newcomers to the folk scene.

Darri Adamson (former Festival Office Manager)

Daryl taught Jeff and I to Bush dance back in 1999, when the bush dance classes were held in the O'Donnell Centre. Through Daryl's bush dance classes, we not only learnt to bush dance, and learnt dance etiquette but made many good friends both here in the ACT and other states. Daryl was a great teacher.

Daryl & Di actually taught Jeff and I to waltz properly at our first Majors Creek Folk festival, on stage in between rain and thunder. They also taught us Posties Jig on the race track at the Kiama Folk Festival, plus the Varsovienna at a dance workshop amidst great laughter.

Later we joined the Monaro Colonial Dancers with Daryl & Di where we all performed at many festivals, including the Cygnet and Tamar Valley folk festivals in Tassie. We had great fun together.

Daryl will be very much missed both as an inspirational dance teacher, musician and friend.

.RIP Daryl,

Jeff & Sandra Smith

Daryl was an exceptional, warm and talented friend and we will all miss his quiet wisdom and encouragement.

Daryl enjoyed an afternoon of Scottish Country Dancing on the 27th October to celebrate the end of the U3A course of which he taught some classes.

He will be missed by so many people for so many different reasons.

Jenny Wardrobe

The German Connection

He came from the Liverpool to the Limestone plains.

Bringing his music and dances and games.

Daryl had a strong connection to German dancing that he learned growing up on the Liverpool plains. He maintained his love for German dancing and in Canberra he started the Canberra German Dancers. Ingrid and I danced with them for a while and danced at the Oktoberfest at EPIC.

Daryl and Diana were also members of the Austrian choir and on their European tour with the choir were able to visit Ingrid in Munich and go to the original Oktoberfest which they really enjoyed.

From his early travelling days Daryl told the story of parking his car in a German street and had the good sense to memorize the street name, Einbahnstrasse. Unfortunately for Daryl Einbahnstrasse means one way street! So he took some time to find the correct Einbahnstrasse and his car.

Daryl was always willing to help Ingrid and myself with our Bavarian Dance Workshops by participating or playing or just being supportive. He had a very good knowledge of German dancing and tunes.

We will sorely miss him.

Jim & Ingrid

'We are greatly saddened by the news of Daryl's passing. We are indebted to Daryl for all the wonderful dances he introduced to us, the many fabulous social occasions he and Diana created, and all the encouragement and support he offered us as we embarked on our own projects. His knowledge, gentlemanliness and friendly manner will be a continuing inspiration to us.

John & Aylwen Gardiner-Garden

I met Daryl and Diana first in March 1992 when I was brand new in the ACT. An acquaintance had taken me to a bush dance. He lived in a suburb far from me so he arranged for Daryl and Diana to take me home as I lived close to them. They were very welcoming and initiated me into bush dancing. I got to appreciate and admire them a lot over the years. Daryl will be missed a lot.

Marianne Pietersen

Daryl passed away peacefully on Saturday 10th December. He will be greatly missed by all in the Monaro Folk society and Canberra dance community by both dancers and musicians alike. His passion for music and dance and the sharing and promotion of it has made him a legend.

Daryl received a OAM for service to the community through the teaching, promotion and preservation of Australian folk music and dance in 2013.

I knew Daryl for over 30 years, he and Diana danced with us in the Monaro Colonial Dancers from 1996 onwards, I well remember the fun dances he called for us at the MCD Christmas parties, he and Diana ran the Canberra German Dancers of which I was a member for several years and we appeared at the NFF and at the Majors Creek Folk festival. He and Diana were also the back bone of Dancing in the Park for many years. He presented dance workshops at the Bundanoon Dance festival and at the Australian Folk Festival at Kiama.

Daryl was a good friend and a staunch supporter of all things folk, many of you will remember Daryl and Diana at the welcome tent at the NFF, his passing will leave a large gap in the Canberra folk community.

Daryl was our 'National Treasure' and we will miss him.

Sandra Martens

Dancing About

Look What's New ContraPop

ContraPop is a new way to enjoy dancing to your favourite music! Join us as we attempt dances from popular folk-dance genres to the latest and greatest pop & dance tracks. Friday nights 6-8 pm at Turner Scout Hall, 5 Masson Street. The hall has a children's play area, so parents are most welcome.

\$8 standard and \$6 concession.

Look for "ContraPop" on Facebook!



Dancing in the Park After some months of uncertainty, we are pleased to advise that Dancing in the Park will be going ahead. So, get out your dance shoes for Mondays in December and January (Dec 3, 10 & 17th, and Jan 7, 14 & 21st) for folk dancing to live music. We will experience a variety of dance styles and callers. We also need musicians, so if you play an instrument please also come along to share in the fun.

\\

This is held on Stage 88 (under cover, so we dance even if it rains) in Commonwealth Park from 6:45pm, finishing when the light goes.

The bad news is that this year we have to pay for the use of the Stage. The good news is that following intervention from Andrew Leigh MP's office, the NCA have agreed to "only" charge us \$40 per night instead of the \$500 per night they originally advised.

So, while we will continue to run this as a free event, there will be a gold coin donation bucket to help defray this new cost. All contributions gratefully received.

If you would like to join us for a BYO picnic before the dancing, we meet under the vines, up the hill from Stage 88, near Regatta Point from about 5.45pm.



English Country Dancing is on holiday all of December and January.

Please look forward to dancing again in the new year.

Contra....is on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays in December from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm at North Canberra Baptist Church Hall, 17 Condamine Street, Turner. Then on holiday and will return on 15th January (but please see the note about Contra in the Caves). Entry to our workshops is \$6 for MFS members and \$8 for others, 2nd time free. Contra workshops are not happening in January, but see below for information about Contra in the Caves.

No need to bring a partner but please bring some friends to share the fun. Dance to the invigorating music of our own ContraBand. Contra is a lively dance style, dancing with a partner and meeting other couples as you progress along a column of dancers. It is fun and energetic, with all dances taught and called.



Irish Set Dancing will wrap up 2018 with a Christmas party and mini-ceili on Wednesday 12th December at the North Canberra Baptist Church Hall, 7:30 - 10 pm. **FREE ADMISSION.** Please bring a small plate to share. ISD starts next year on 6th February.

Dancing on school term Wednesdays is from **7:30pm to 9:30pm**, North Canberra Baptist Church Hall, 17 Condamine Street, Turner and costs \$8 for MFS members and \$9 for others. The first **TWO** classes for new starters are **FREE**. Beginner's refresher classes are also free and start 30 minutes before the regular class, but are run on **request only**. To make a request, please contact Christine 0413 168 562 or isdcanberra@gmail.com

Interested in English Dances? Learn Something New

Surly Griffin Morris is hosting a traditional English dance workshop on Sunday 9th December at 2.00 pm to be led by Coral Reid who is a musician and a dance workshop leader based in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK. She teaches English step clog and traditional rapper sword dancing. Coral is a graduate of Newcastle University's Folk and Traditional Music degree and has been awarded a grant by the English Folk Dance and Song Society to document rapper dances in a project named The Rapper Census 2018.

Rapper sword dance, on Sunday 9th December at 2.00 pm

The rapper sword dance is a traditional dance form originating with the miners of North-East England. It can be fast-paced, rhythmical and precise, dancers weave in and out to create intricate displays with the flexible steel swords. This one day workshop will go through the basics of rapper including sword handling and stepping, learning figures collected by Cecil Sharp and other researchers.

5 hours, including tea break. Cost is \$40pp.

The workshop will be held at the Lake Ginninderra Scout Hall, Evelyn Parker Place, Belconnen and will run from 2.00 to 7.00 pm, including a tea break. Please book attendance by contacting Simon Wall on 0404 859 404 or at simon@wall3wall.id.au as places are limited. The cost is \$40 per person.

Special MFS Dancing Events



Christmas BushDance ... and picnic

Saturday 8th December

at All Saints Church Hall, Cowper St, Ainslie - dance from 7pm to 10.30pm.

Live music by the Bush Capital Band with calling by Peter Foster and invited callers. Bring a plate of supper to share.

Entry is \$10 for MFS members and a cup is just \$1 for all the tea/coffee/cordial or cold water you wish.

Wear something Christmassy, or not!

The dance will be preceded by a BYO picnic on the lawn, or inside, depending on the weather. 5pm to 7pm. This is a good opportunity to socialise. There may even be some entertainment.

New Year's Eve Dance

Sunday 31st December at the Yarralumla Woolshed from 8pm until the new year.

Dance the evening away with the bush Band "Yarralumla Woolshed Hoppers" led by Dave Johnson. Calling by Don Richmond. All dances taught and called, so no experience is necessary. Entry prices to this is just: \$25, \$23 for Groups and concessions, \$20 for MFS members (you can join at the door), \$13 for students (see below), under 18s free. Tickets at the door.

Please bring a plate of supper to share. BYO drinks but entry price includes a bottomless cup of tea, coffee, water or cordial.

Contact: Antonella asalpietro@hotmail.com



Contra in the Caves is on again!

Cool off at the concert in the caves, join in a BBQ then heat up Wee Jasper Hall with some great dancing.

Camp over if you feel outdoorsy and cool off again in the Goodradigbee River or spring fed creeks.

Saturday 5th January 2018

Concert: gold coin donation.

Dance: Free!

Camping: Normal fees apply.

Drive home or camp. Camping is available in the Billy Grace Campground. Normal charges apply (Please pay the ranger). Other accommodation is also available in Wee Jasper.

Itinerary: Attend what you want, don't feel you have to do everything.

3.00 pm Tour of Careys cave [regular afternoon tour of the cave run by Geoff Kell - normal entry fees apply]

5:00 - 6:45pm Concert in Careys Cave featuring members of the Canberra Contra Club and friends.

A chance to hear some of the talent in the Contra group: Featuring The Canberra Contra Club and individual performances.

7:00pm-8:00pm. Picnic. BYO nearly everything. In the covered picnic area outside Careys Cave. There is a BBQ that will be available and running, there are some tables and there is some seating.

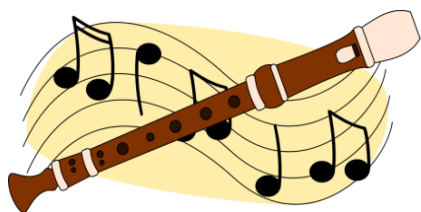
8:30pm-midnight. Contra Dance at Wee Jasper Memorial Hall.

Sunday morning in the camp ground informal sessions and then swimming at the Micalong creek.

CanberraContraClub is on Facebook

Music, Music, Music

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.. Contact is Ray Mulligan on 62474725



The **Tuesday Night Music Group** (beginner to intermediate), which happens on almost every Tuesday of the year, now meets on the 2nd and 4th 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 Tuesdays the group meets at various members' homes. Please contact one of the organisers, Julie on 62823523 or Robert on 62919135, for more information.

Calling All Fiddlers

Surly Griffin Morris is hosting a traditional **English fiddle workshop** on Saturday 8th December at 2.00 pm, to be led by Coral Reid.

Coral is a fiddle and dance workshop leader based in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK. She specialises in English fiddle tunes, both well-known and obscure tunes brought to life from manuscripts.

This workshop will explore the English fiddle tradition, looking at contemporary and traditional tunes. We will look at distinctive tune types unique to England, such as the 3/2 hornpipe, and the strong link music has with dance. We will discuss playing style, learning techniques and listening to a variety of English musicians. This is an opportunity to explore some lesser known tunes from centuries-old manuscripts all the way to current composers. Other melody instruments welcome.

The workshop will run from 2.00 to 5.00 pm, including a tea break. It will be held at the Lake Ginninderra Scout Hall, Evelyn Parker Place, Belconnen. Please book attendance by contacting Simon Wall on 0404 859 404 or at simon@wall2wall.id.au as places are limited. The cost is \$25 per person.

Vale Gillian Alcock (8th May 1950 – 2nd November 2018) Jackie Luke remembers her friend, dulcimer maker, teacher, musician and mentor.

The Canberra folk music community is mourning the loss of Gillian Alcock (68, born 8th May 1950) who passed away on 2nd November at her home in Chifley. Originally from Western Australia, Gillian made Canberra her home, forging a career as Australia's first professional dulcimer maker. She is remembered for her vision, creativity and originality which will influence and inform generations of instrument makers and musicians for years to come. Gillian made her first instrument in 1976, and it is estimated that she made well over one hundred instruments for Australian musicians alone. She tackled all her building projects with enthusiasm, intelligence and skill and those who ordered dulcimers from Gillian enjoyed the personal touch that she brought to the process. She was prepared to discuss new ideas and answer questions, as she continuously looked for new and innovative ways to make a better instrument. While the bulk of her making was for Anglo American style instruments, she also made dulcimers from other traditions including the Sandouri, Santur, Cimbalom and perhaps her most notable example - the Italian 18th century Salterio which she developed from examining early instruments in museums and collections in Europe. She later exported these instruments to European players, and quite rightly takes her place amongst her peers in the field worldwide. Gillian's intensive research in all aspects of the instrument led to her possessing a vast knowledge of "all things dulcimer" and was the central figure in Australia for anything related to the instrument.

Gillian was very active in the early Canberra folk scene, playing for MFS dances and organising concerts. She was an accomplished musician and was a member of several folk bands including Perfect Cure, Dancerye, the Flying Trapezoids, Finger Jam and Dulcimers in Duo. It should also be noted that she was a regular at sessions around Canberra, including the Pot Belly session in Belconnen where she famously played the resident piano a semitone sharp to accommodate its lack of tuning!

With Terry McGee she helped establish Canberra Stereo Public Radio which became ArtSound FM, and made a solid contribution to that repository of folk recordings in Canberra.



In 1997 she released “The Pleasures of Hope” with harp player and instrument maker Andy Rigby, an elegant recording which showcases her fine skills as a musician, and the breadth of her repertoire. The CD, which features both folk and art music pieces, includes Australian traditional music, and her much loved Irish polkas.

As her work gained prominence she attracted several awards including the Canberra Times Critic Award in 1997 for “her major contribution to musical life in Canberra as a musician, as an internationally recognised dulcimer maker and for her encouragement to others to participate in musical activity”.

Gillian’s thirst for knowledge about the dulcimer led her to engage with international makers, musicians and organisations, most notably the Cimbalom World Association of which she served as a member of the board from 1998. In this capacity she not only explored the many rich traditions of the dulcimer found overseas, but also informed the worldwide dulcimer community of the work done in Australia. In 1995 she commissioned composer Judy Clingan to write a work ‘Sol’ which was scored for two hammered dulcimers, soprano, and continuo. The work, which captures the sounds of the Australian bush, was performed by Gillian, Jackie Luke, and Lucia Gladkova at the 3rd CWA Congress in Slovakia, and the 4th International Hackbrett Festival in Munich in the same year. Gillian also maintained strong ties with the English dulcimer club, Nonesuch, and taught workshops at Hope and Launde Abbey festivals.



An excellent teacher, she not only encouraged and helped many to learn and master the hammered dulcimer, but also passed on her enthusiasm for music as an important life skill which could also be fun. She taught dulcimer master classes at the early National Folk Festivals in Canberra, and also introduced many people to the instrument in “hands on” sessions at this and other festivals. Several of Gillian’s students went on to perform in the Australian and international arena, most notably Tim Meyen on Cimbalom and Jackie Luke on Dulcimer/Sandouri. In 2015 Hannah Lord performed her own composition on her treasured Gillian Alcock instrument at the CWA Congress in Malvern, UK.

As more musicians acquired her instruments, Gillian harnessed the enthusiasm of these new players and held informal gatherings in private homes, and community centres. These gatherings served as a focal point for those who loved this unusual instrument, and gave them a chance to meet others with the same interest. The gatherings became the Australian Hammered Dulcimer Association (AHDA) of which Gillian was the president and she documented these and other events in the newsletters Dulcimer News and Striking Times. It was a truly unique time in Australian folk history. Whereas previously the dulcimer had been a curiosity, it is now very much accepted into Australian folk culture. We have much to be thankful for in Gillian Alcock.

Life was not without its setbacks for Gillian. In the later part of her life she lived with the debilitating effects of MS, and was a breast cancer survivor. Despite these difficulties she continued to build and refine her instruments, and mentored apprentices from the ANU School of Art, and only fully retired in 2015.

One anecdote demonstrates the way in which Gillian was a mover and shaker in the folk community. Gillian was very good at finding Australians who owned instruments but were “lapsed” players. One such was a South Australian who had grown up in lowland Scotland and had, as a young man, played music from that very specific tradition. When he immigrated to South Australia he’d “thrown the dulcimer under the bed” and subsequently had not played it for many years. With encouragement he began playing again and attended one of the dulcimer gatherings. He’d forgotten, however, which way round it went. Workshop participants have happy memories of learning a Scottish tune with him teaching the tune in perfect mirror image. He’d re-learned the dulcimer back to front!

I think this story serves as a reminder that it gave Gillian great pleasure to simply hear a dulcimer played. It was her life’s work, and we are so much the richer for it.

Her funeral was held at Wesley Music Centre, followed by a wake filled with music, good food and wine. The many tributes at the funeral both in word and music are testament to the wonderful legacy she has left us all. Gillian is survived by the family of her late husband, Tim Shopen (Pablo, Akie, Ida, Eli), siblings Peter, Grant & Pat, and many friends. The author wishes to thank friends of Gillian for the stories on which this article is based.

Jackie Luke Jackie.luke88@gmail.com



Out and About

Join Jo Cresswell and Dave O'Neill making music or singing and exploring the magnificence of the French Alps or for a music camp in the Snowy Mountains

Charlotte Pass Music Camp with Lindsay Martin as additional tutor

Welcome to the 4th year of this great camp situated in the magnificent Kosciuszko National Park. The dates are Friday 18th to Wednesday 23rd January 2019. Come and enjoy 4 days and 5 nights of workshops, sessions and great company. charlottepasscelticmusiccamp.com

Singing trip in the French Alps with Moya Simpson



Your days will be a leisurely mix of beautiful walks, delicious food & sightseeing with a glorious mix of either singing or music options.. The dates are 24th August to 4th September 2019

www.francewalks.com.au

Walking and Music Tour in the French Alps

On this trip your guides will offer the usual range of walks and activities and also add a music component for those who would like to extend their music skills. The next music trip will be 14th -25th September 2019. www.francewalks.com.au



Gulgong Folk Festival is on at various venues around the town from 29th to 31st December 2018
www.gulgongfolkfestival.net.au

Numeralla is on from Friday 25th to Sunday 27th January 2019



www.numeralla.org.au or facebook Numeralla Folk Festival

The Illawarra Folk Festival at Bulli is on from Thursday 17th to Sunday 20th January 2019



www.illawarrafolkfestival.com.au

Presented by
**Monaro Folk
Society Inc.**



Merry Muse Sunday December 9th from 4.00 pm to 7.00 pm

Canberra Irish Club, 6 Parkinson Street, Weston

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

Please note that the Irish Club has asked that regular attendees also join the Irish Club

Blackboard plus Feature Act Paverty Bush Band

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.



Feature Act Paverty Bush Band is Canberra's premium bush band. *Paverty* started in 1970 as *Franklyn B Paverty and the Platt Valley Crooners*. Since then, *Paverty* has been playing for concerts, folk festivals, bush dances, weddings, parties, school fund-raisers, corporate functions, in Canberra and the surrounding region. *Paverty* plays Australian folk music - an eclectic mix of traditional and original songs, ballads and instrumentals with country, blues, rock, bluegrass, skiffle and jug band influences.

Summer Holiday break – we will be back on Sunday February 10th with F'n'G

<http://www.monarofolk.org.au/music/merry-muse-folk-club/>

Enquiries ph Eileen 0412 127 882 or email [eileennew23\(at\)gmail\(dot\)com](mailto:eileennew23@gmail.com)

Regular Events

Beyond Q Bookshop Old Time American music jam sessions, Weston Arcade, 11 Brierly St, Weston - alternate Wednesdays on the weeks that Smiths Alternative Old Timey Tuesday is NOT on, 4.00-6.00 pm. Contact: Donna Vaughan 6258 9845.

Bluegrass Jam Nights at Harmonie German Club, 49 Jerrabomberra Ave, Narrabundah - 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month, 7.30-9.30 pm. Contact: Diane Cross 0402 644 450.

Canberra Scottish Fiddlers - A group for anyone with an interest in traditional Scottish fiddle music. Players with any level of experience are welcome to join. For more information, see our website www.scottishfiddlers.com/Canberra /or contact markjenner@grapevine.com.au

Canberra Shanty Club meets fortnightly on Mondays at 7.00 pm at the Old Canberra Inn,

Earthly Delights Historic Costume Balls – 3rd Saturday each month. St John's Church Hall, Constitution Ave, Reid. Also dance classes at ANU, Jane Austen Festival and other events. Contact: Aylwen Garden 6281 1098

English traditional music sessions, Pot Belly, 5/26 Weedon Close, Belconnen - alternate Sundays, 3.00-5.00 pm. Contact: Donna Vaughan 6258 9845, Jackie Luke 0417 679 139.

Folk Dance Canberra offers international folk dancing for fun and fitness. www.folkdancecanberra.org.au gives full details or contact Lesley Rose on 6286 6401

Hoskinstown Acoustic Kitchen Jam in the Hoskinstown Memorial Hall (old time American, bluegrass, folk) - 1st Thursday each month, 7.00-9.30 pm. Contact: Diane Cross 0402 644 450.

Jammalong – 2nd 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.

Murrumbateman Acoustic Music Club - last Sunday each month, Back to 6.00 pm start now Winter is over. Murrumbateman Hotel Function Room. Contact: Wal Brewer – wal.brewer@gmail.com

Queanbeyan Bush Poets - 4th Thursday each month, 7.00 pm at the Queanbeyan Library. Contact: Laurie McDonald 6253 9856

Shape Note Singing (aka Sacred Harp) - most Wednesdays 7.00-9.00 pm, at Ainslie Church of Christ hall, corner of Limestone Avenue and Grimes Street, Ainslie. Contact Dianne Porter for dates: email porter.32@bigpond.com or facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Canberrashapenote/>

Smith's Alternative Old Timey Tuesdays (old time American music jam sessions), 76 Alinga Street, Civic - alternate Tuesdays, 7.00-10.00 pm. See <https://www.smithsalternative.com/calendar> for the dates.

Surly Griffin Morris practices fortnightly on Sundays from 5.30 to 7.00 pm at the Lake Ginninderra Sea Scouts Hall in Belconnen and performs at fetes and festivals and other occasions. Contact Simon Wall on 0404 859 404 or see facebook Surly Griffin Morris.

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.

Advertising: Ads will rarely be placed in the body of the magazine, Please supply advertising as a paper insert.(about 110 copies required at present) and electronically. Cost of inserting flyer (to be supplied by advertiser) A5 \$30, A4 \$50. Member discount 50%. If supplied, an electronic version can also accompany the newsletter for members who receive it by email.

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. 2017-18 Committee

President: Geoff Kell - president@monarofolk.org.au; Vice-President: David Ball; Secretary: Ian Bull – secretary@monarofolk.org.au; Treasurer: Vacant - treasurer@monarofolk.org.au; Public Officer: Antonella Salpietro; Committee Members: Matt Gibbins, John Hewat, Anne Mathas, Nelly Rogers, Chris Ward. For general enquiries please use secretary@monarofolk.org.au

Appointed Officials

Membership: Christine Gifford - membership@monarofolk.org.au; Merry Muse Coordinator: Vacant; Merry Muse PA Coordinator: Pierre Sibillant; Merry Muse Subcommittee Chair: Vacant; Acting *Monaro Musings* Editor: Tina Lynam - editor@monarofolk.org.au; Bookkeeper: Linda Aunela – payments@monarofolk.org.au; Web Manager: Neil Glassford - webmaster@monarofolk.org.au

Monaro Folk Society Inc
PO Box 482
CIVIC SQUARE ACT 2608