

## **Canberra Contra Club:**

### **Activity:**

Following the COVID shutdown, the CCC was running music sessions during 2023. These sessions were well attended and provided a good continuation of the club as well as maintaining the hall bookings. Hall hire was partly covered by contributions from the musicians, although the activity made a small monthly loss in the order of \$20.

Towards the end of 2023, Gabrielle Mackey joined the organizing committee with the intention of looking to restart the CCC workshop dances. We ran two trial Tuesdays in late 2023 that were very successful and used this to springboard into a new series of dance workshops in 2024.

In 2024 we have been running regular Tuesday night dance evenings on the first and third of every month. These evenings have been covering hall hire costs and regularly get >16 or so dancers along. This is a healthy attendance and the evenings are highly enjoyable. Having said that, Contra is a social dance form and needs good turn out to be fun. A reduction in numbers would be concerning - although given that the numbers have been firm for some time, I believe that the club is healthy for the moment.

### **Festivals:**

We played at Kangaroo Valley Folk Festival 2023 and Cobargo Folk Festival in 2024. We have been booked for 2025 to form the core of a NFF contra band.

The Wee Jasper Contra weekend ran in January 2024. This was a good fun as always and worked well with good weather. A particularly fine session in the camp ground on the Sunday morning.