

# Monaro Musings



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

Visit MFS at the website [www.monarofolk.org.au](http://www.monarofolk.org.au) and/or [www.facebook.com/monaro.folk.society](https://www.facebook.com/monaro.folk.society)

**Monaro Musings, Volume 27, Number 3 – April 2018**



A couple of slightly different-looking dancers joined MFS regulars with Ian Bull calling at the CAP Expo at the Old Bus Depot in Kingston on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March.  
Photo by David Hunter

## From the President's Soapbox

A quick offering today as many other things still need to be done in preparation for the National Folk Festival.

Last Saturday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, we ran a successful join in bush dance display at the CAP Expo at the Old Bus Depot. Many thanks to the dancers: Anne, Linda, Nelly, Adrian, David, John, Lawrie and Pierre; the musos: Alison, Bob and Rod; and especially to Ian for stepping up at the last minute with both excellent calling and promotion of MFS. Thanks also particularly to John for organising the promotional stand and to other members who helped there on the day.

On Saturday night the annual Shearers Ball was a financial success, despite the need for a sudden change of venue due to double booking of the Yarralumla Woolshed. There was a good crowd for the space, generating a great atmosphere, and the Poverty Bush Band turned in their anticipated enjoyable performance

to the calling of Bob Buckley. Congratulations to the EOM team for this result and thanks to members and guests who attended despite the 11<sup>th</sup> hour change.

The NFF is set to open, at the time of this writing, with our promotional MFS marquee and Evening Muse blackboard event running from Friday to Sunday at the Central Park Stage – so drop by there if you attend the festival. Set in Their Ways will be performing at the Piazza, as well as a dance group organised by Daryl and Antonella.

The new MFS trifold brochure, covering all MFS activities has now been printed in time for distribution at the NFF and all our events. Look for it!

We are entering the time period that members begin to think about renewing for the coming year. At the 2017 AGM it was resolved that fees would remain the same as previously, however a \$10 reduction would be offered to those who elect to receive the Musings newsletter electronically, due to the saving in printing and postal costs. So, if you do use the online form on the MonaroFolk website and direct deposit your payment, remember to make this adjustment if applicable.

Geoff

## Dancing About

**April dancing includes the end of the National Folk Festival, Dancers' Dance, Kids' Dance and End of Month Dance.**

For more info try our website: [www.monarofolk.org.au](http://www.monarofolk.org.au)

**Dancers' Dance ....** Prepare to dance your feet off with our Dancers' Dance on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April, at All Saints from 7pm to 10:30pm. The dances are aimed at experienced dancers. They may be difficult or they may be our favourites with no walk throughs and little calling.

Just \$10 for MFS members, and \$1 for a cup and all the drinks you want (water, cordial, tea, coffee, etc). Please bring a contribution to the shared supper. Do bring friends if they are experienced dancers.

Live music by the Bush Capital Band.



**Kids Dance ....** Our series of kids dances continues with a dance on 14<sup>th</sup> April (before the Dancers' Dance).

Dances with live music for children of all ages (and their young at heart carers).

From 2:30 to 4pm at All Saints Church, Cowper St Ainslie.

Entry by gold coin donation.

Live music by the TiNMuGs.

**End of Month Dance .... The Spirit of ANZAC** Dance Celebration with **The Slouch Hats** providing music and calling.



Please bring a plate of supper to share.  
Buy a cup for \$1 and enjoy as much water, cordial, tea or coffee you like.

Dress for dancing: layered clothing and smooth-soled, flat shoes

**When:** Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April – 8:00pm to 11:30pm

**Where:** Canberra Baptist Church, Currie Cres, Kingston  
[Location map](#)

**Cost:** Bush dancing has to be the best value-for-money recreation around. Entry is just \$18, \$16 for group and concessions, \$14 for MFS members (you can join at the door), students half price, under 18s free.

**Monday Workshops ....** There are only two Monday workshops in April due to holidays. On the 9<sup>th</sup> and on the 30<sup>th</sup> at All Saints at 8pm will be fun evenings of bush dancing to live music.

Beginners and intermediate dancers attend these workshops as they are tailored to teach.

Experienced dancers also attend to help out and to enjoy the dancing and the live music.

Not a dancer, but can play an instrument - then come along too, and join the band - no charge for musicians.

Dancers - it's just \$6 for MFS members \$8 for non-members and the second night is free.

Contributions to supper welcome but not essential.



**Contra ....** is on 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays from 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm at North Canberra Baptist Church Hall, 17 Condamine Street, Turner with live music from Contraband. Entry is \$6 for MFS members and \$8 for others, 2<sup>nd</sup> time free.

We are expecting interstate dancers and callers on the 3<sup>rd</sup> April as some people will still be in Canberra after the National Folk Festival. If you only go to Contra once this year, this will be the night to go.

No need to bring a partner but please bring some friends to share the fun. Dance to the invigorating music of our own ContraBand.

**English Country Dancing ....** is on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays from 7:30 to 9:30 pm at North Canberra Baptist Church Hall, 17 Condamine Street, Turner. This is a wonderful opportunity to improve your dancing and learn more steps. Please bring some friends to share the fun. Entry is \$7 for MFS members and \$9 for others.





**Irish Set Dancing** .... is only on twice in April so come along from 8pm to 10pm on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> April, North Canberra Baptist Church Hall, 17 Condamine Street, Turner and cost \$8 for MFS members and \$9 for others. The first TWO classes for new starters are FREE.

After the school holidays, regular weekly classes resume on 2 May.

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

## The Shearers' Ball at the Baptist Church Hall on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March



From the organisers of the Shearers' Ball, a huge thank you to all the people that contributed to its success, notwithstanding the change of venue.

Antonella, Mark, Matthew and Rita

## Bavarian Couples Dances at the Austrian Club

Ingrid and Jim will be presenting 3 Saturday afternoons of Bavarian Couples Dances at the Austrian Club in Mawson. All level of dancers are welcome.

When: 14th and 28th of April and 5th of May; 2-4pm.

Where: Austrian Club, 5 Mountevans Street, Mawson

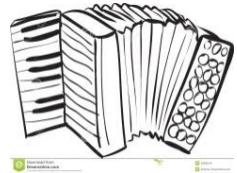
Cost: gold coin donation.

## Music with MFS



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 Tuesdays the group meets at various members' homes. Please contact one of the organisers, Julie on 62823523 or Robert on 62919135, for more information.

**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 4th and the 18<sup>th</sup>. Contact is Ray Mulligan on 62474725



## Out and About

**Ed's note:** My pleas for reviews of any of the many folk events which were around town in March fell on deaf ears – except for those of Alexa McLaughlan who has kindly sent me the following piece about Bruce Watson and his recent house concert in Gilmore. I have added some reviews of the *Mosaic* album from Bruce's website – [www.brucewatsonmusic.com](http://www.brucewatsonmusic.com) – from which you can order the CD.

Bruce Watson is what I call a real folkie. He crafts poignant and funny songs, performs them with charm and comes to many festivals whether he's being paid or not. I have especially enjoyed his poignant songs and performances for many years and have many of his albums.



Last year, Bruce crowd-funded his latest album, *Mosaic*. It was great to see our folk community support that. It's a delightful album, a real treasure.

Based in Melbourne, he and partner Jill are now roaming more often after retiring, to our benefit.

He graced a house concert at Gilmore on 11 March, relocated from Bungendore. I was grateful that the location was accessible and cheer for the hosts who also provided great musical support for the concert.

The audience was small, way less than Bruce deserved, but of high quality. The talks with Bruce and others as well as the food were truly nourishing.

In two brackets, Bruce brought tales and songs from his prolific collection, including historical and contemporary material. I enjoyed them all but my memory, as always, lets me down other than for *The Man and The Woman and the Edison Phonograph*.

Keep your eyes open for blackboard performances and the Sunday service at the National.

Mosaic is wonderful, I laughed, I choked up, I cried. This album has nailed it, excellent songs, cleverly crafted musicianship.

**Rosie Harvey, singer/songwriter**

Another triumph!

**Martie Lowenstein, singing leader**

Very impressed. Lovely lyrics and arrangements.

**Peter Titchener (Eric Bogle band)**

**Tessa Devine and James Bennett** will be performing at a house concert in Canberra on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 7.00 pm. Book at [www.eventbrite.com.au](http://www.eventbrite.com.au) for \$22.19 (includes booking fee) and the address will be divulged.

I didn't know of these two artists until I found this gig when searching for folk music on Eventbrite. They sound pretty interesting but I don't have room for details here so I suggest you look at their respective websites [www.tessadevine.com](http://www.tessadevine.com) and [/www.jamesbennettmusic.com](http://www.jamesbennettmusic.com) if you want to know more



Presented by  
**Monaro Folk Society Inc.**



## **Merry Muse: Sunday April 8<sup>th</sup> - 4.00 pm to 7.00pm**

### **Canberra Irish Club, 6 Parkinson St ,Weston**

Admission: \$3 for MFS Members, Concessions and blackboard performers; \$5 Others

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

### **Blackboard plus Baz Cooper**

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.



After many years of playing different genres of music in many different bands, duos and solo in various parts of the World, Baz Cooper has become something of a musical chameleon! In his 'Mad Woman's Breakfast' show this becomes very evident, with self penned songs from his upcoming CD, plus accordion instrumentals and other great songs he has collected along the way!

Learn more about Baz from his website: [bazcooper.com](http://bazcooper.com)

## **Merry Muse: Sunday May 13<sup>th</sup> - 4.00 pm to 7.00pm -**

### **Blackboard plus Feature Act New York Public Library**

An Australian Bluegrass, Irish, Country Music folk band making their umpteenth visit to Canberra to entertain at the Tradies. They play ANYTHING that takes their fancy, with lots of comedy thrown in. IT IS ALL GOOD

ENTERTAINMENT AND GREAT FUN! The New York Public Library are: John Flanagan (vocals, mandolin, tenor guitar), Warren Boyd (vocals, banjo, guitar), Isabelle Fogarty (vocals, double bass, ukulele) and Alan Smart (Guitar and not much else).



Come along and find out where they got their name and what John does for a day job. All will be revealed.

**[www.merrymuse.org.au](http://www.merrymuse.org.au) - Enquiries ph Eileen 0412 127 882 or email  
eileennew23(at)gmail(dot)com**

## **Regular Events – MFS and other**

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 0421 814 718.

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 - [linda.aunela@yahoo.com.au](mailto:linda.aunela@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 S; 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 6282 3523 or Robert on 6291 9135.

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 6247 4725

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

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 6286 6401. For first Saturday of the month social dance contact Maria Jenkins on 6231 4472.

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](mailto:wal.brewer@gmail.com)

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

Jammalang – 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.

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](mailto:president@monarofolk.org.au); Vice-President: Vacant; Secretary: Ian Bull – [secretary@monarofolk.org.au](mailto:secretary@monarofolk.org.au);

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

### **Appointed Officials**

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

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Monaro Folk Society Inc  
PO Box 482  
CIVIC SQUARE ACT 2608