

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 28, Number 3 – April 2019



NATIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL

Australia's Home and Heart of Folk for over 50 years

EASTER | 18 - 22 APRIL, 2019

EXHIBITION PARK | CANBERRA



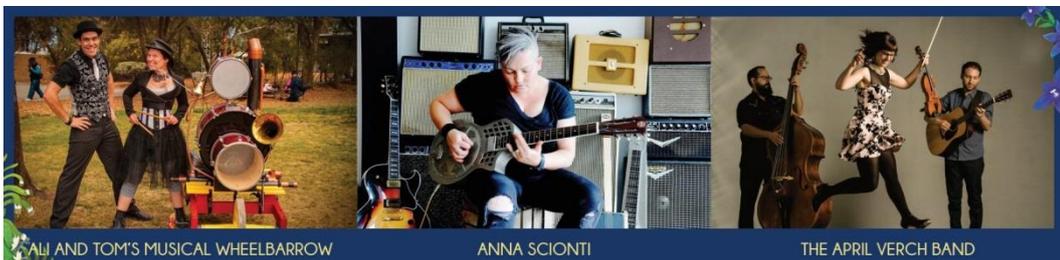
JOHN SCHUMANN (EX REDGUM), SHANE HOWARD (EX GOANNA) & THE RED ROCKIN' DIRT BAND



VILA NAVIO (PORT)

BLUEGRASS PARKWAY

KIM YANG



ALI AND TOM'S MUSICAL WHEELBARROW

ANNA SCIONTI

THE APRIL VERCH BAND

From the President's Soapbox

The main event on the calendar is now the National Folk Festival. As I mentioned last month, there are a number of activities being held by MFS as well as our promotional marquee at the Central Park Stage.

The MFS marquee is intended as a home base for MFS members at the NFF. Members will be welcome to leave bags in a secure location. Why haul your dancing shoes around all day if you can store them somewhere until needed? We will have tea and coffee, and you can recharge phones or camera batteries (bring your own charger).

There will be chairs there for you to sit and relax, chat, and perhaps give John or Rita a needed break. They will be there for 4 days and they deserve time to go enjoy the festival, as well as promoting MFS.

If you are at the festival as part of an MFS event, remember you are there under the auspices of MFS, not just as a dancer or musician, so give a couple of hours over the 4 days to help.

About 40% of the visitors to the NFF are from Canberra, and they are exactly our kind of people, so it is a great opportunity to promote what we do to the public. Promotion of society activities does not happen by itself and if you want our activities to continue productively, we need you, as members, to do your bit, even if it is just carrying some MFS business cards or a flier in your pocket to give to people you meet. So please drop by the marquee and pick some up.

Promotion will be coordinated by Anne Mathas, and I am sure she will welcome any assistance you may care to provide (Anne's contact is 0407 940 917), so give her a call. We need people to put up promo posters around the festival; to make sure our fliers and banners are placed at our events; and to hand to people watching our events (as there is often nowhere to place fliers there).

By the way, they are often still looking for volunteers at this stage, and if you are interested in a season pass in exchange for your time, check their website. www.folkfestival.org.au

So, enjoy the NFF, whether you are there as a performer, a volunteer, or a punter, and we hope to see you at our marquee at the Central Park Stage.

Geoff

Front Page: A selection of photos from the NFF website including a few of the very many performers who can be seen at this year's festival. And of course there's a wealth of dances, dance workshops and dance displays available in addition to all the music.

Dancing About

2nd Saturday Dance



Prepare to dance your feet off with our second Saturday of the month dance on the 13th April, at All Saints from 7pm to 10.30pm. Live music by the Bush Capital Band.

Just \$10 for MFS members, and \$1 for a cup of all the drinks you want (water, cordial, tea, coffee, etc). Please bring a contribution to the shared supper.

All dances taught by our expert callers, Colin, Peter and Mark, and called, so no experience needed and no partner necessary, but do bring them if you have one.

If you're new to dancing you are welcome to come along.

Hints: please wear smooth, soft soled shoes so you can glide along the floor.

Please don't wear perfume or aftershave as you will be very close to people and the scent can be overpowering. Also some people have adverse effects.

End of Month Dance Contra Craze with the Canberra Contra Club and resident callers, on **27th April.**

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

Saturday 27th April – 8:00pm to 11:30pm

Canberra Baptist Church Hall – 11 Currie Crescent, Kingston

MFS members \$14, non members \$18, concessions and groups \$16, under 18 free. Please bring a plate of supper to share.



Monday Workshops Three Mondays in April, being the 1st, 8th and 29th.



Party night on the 8th, so please bring a small plate of supper to share.

All Saints at 8.00 pm.

Dance and have fun with 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 for supper are welcome but not essential.

Contact person is Mark Simmons 0421 814 718



Contra is on 1st and 3rd 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, 2nd time free.

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

On the 16th we may have interstate dancers and possibly an interstate caller, as they could be here in preparation for the National Folk Festival. If you only come to

Contra once in a while, this would be a good night to choose.

Contact person is Linda Aunela 0437 350 254, if emailing please put "Contra" in the subject line.

lindaaunela@yahoo.com.au

English Country Dancing.... is on 2nd and 4th 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 technique and learn more steps. Please bring some friends to share the fun. Entry is \$7 for MFS members and \$9 for others.

Contact person is Colin Towns 0417 020 615



Irish Set Dancing.... On the 3rd and 10th of April.

Come along from **7:30pm to 9:30pm**, North Canberra Baptist Church Hall, 17 Condamine Street, Turner. \$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

'Photo: melbourneceilicamera.org'

ContraPop... On every Friday.

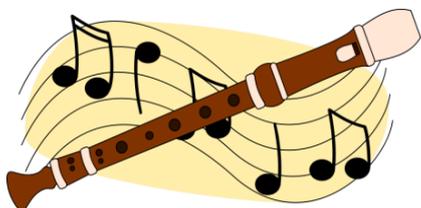


ContraPop is a new way to enjoy dancing to your favourite music! Join us as we attempt dances from popular folk-dance genres to the latest and greatest pop & dance tracks. Friday nights 6.00 – 8.00 pm at Turner Scout Hall, 5 Masson Street. The hall has a children's play area, so parents are most welcome. \$8 standard and \$6 concession. Look for "ContraPop" on Facebook!



Music, Music, Music

Australian Settler's Music Sessions have moved in both time and place. The new venue is the lovely Beyond Q Bookshop at 11, Brierley Street, Weston (it's towards the back of the Arcade) and the new time is 4.30 to 6.30 pm on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month. Contact is Ray Mulligan on 62474725.



The **Tuesday Night Music Group** (beginner to intermediate), which happens on almost every Tuesday of the year, meets at the Irish Club in Parkinson Street, Weston on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month from 7.30 to 10.00 pm. 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.

Out and About

The National Library of Australia with the National Folk Festival presents two concerts:

Wednesday 17th April - 6.00 to 7.00 pm at the NLA Theatre



Music of Oriel featuring Nuala Kennedy, Gerry O'Connor & Eamon O'Leary will explore the music of Ireland's ancient East, including the pioneering collections of Father Luke Donnellan and Sam Henry. Singer and flute player Nuala Kennedy and Irish fiddle legend Gerry O'Connor from Dundalk, Louth, will perform repertoire drawing from the traditional songs of Oriel in the North East of Ireland. They will be joined by accomplished singer/songwriter Eamon O'Leary, one of Irish music's foremost accompanists.

Ed's Note: This is a free concert but booking via the NLA website is required. When I went to book for myself it showed 'Sold Out', I know that when people book for free events they don't always turn up so possibly there'll be a few spots available if you roll up on the night.

Thursday 18th April - 12.00 noon to 1.00 pm at the NLA Theatre (Entry free and no bookings required)

Theresa (Teri) Young is this year's featured guest and is a young singer and composer who makes simple and sincere Australian folk music - songs about people, communities, death, love and all things honest. She plays a cittern guitar and sings, telling the stories of people and places. Teri was the winner of the 2018 National Festival Alistair Hulett award for Songs of Social Justice.

Join Teri and her accompanists Hamish Stevenson and Ross Smithard in conversation and concert with National Library folklorist, Rob Willis.



The Street Theatre presents Fred Smith with an Anzac Eve Concert and launch of his latest album *Warries* on Wednesday 24th April at 7:30pm



With a unique combination of Fred's songs from the front line, wry humour and big screen projections of imagery from ADF and professional photographers, this show is an opportunity to go beyond the jingoism and commemorate Anzac Day with a fascinating immersion in the grit and reality of conflict.

Cost: \$39 Full and \$35 Concession. Book via [/www.thestreet.org.au/shows/fred-smith-warries-album-launch](http://www.thestreet.org.au/shows/fred-smith-warries-album-launch)



St Albans Folk Festival – 40 years old this year
25th -28th April 2019



The Tuggeranong Arts Centre put on a great three-hour long concert featuring three local bands on Saturday March 30th in the upstairs Café area which had the virtue of a balcony for people to dance on. The music was certainly conducive to dancing. The three bands were the Black Mountain String Band (American Old Timey) Scroggin (High Energy Bluegrass) and Zackerbilks, (Trad Jazz), of which Scroggin was the only one with which I was not already familiar. All three bands played high quality toe-tapping music with that enthusiasm which communicates itself to the audience – making listening to them and dancing along a thoroughly enjoyable experience. Look out for them at the National as they are all on the bill this year.

Tina

The **Blue Mountains Music Festival** at Katoomba (15th to 17th March) was another good experience I had recently. Musically it was great but weatherwise not so great with a lot of rain and a lot of mud underfoot but everyone seemed to be having a good time regardless. The venues included a marquee in the forecourt of the famous Carrington Hotel and a Ballroom at the Palais Royale (both uptown and well served by a shuttle bus) and the Clarendon - a Pub alongside the school which served as the main site. At the school there were several marquees and several indoor venues as well as the usual food and goodies stalls and a festival shop with CDs etc. The music on offer was diverse, as suggested by the title music festival rather than folk festival, although the majority of it was folk. The 'other' was represented by The Grigoryan Brothers with Adam Page (I looked in on them but

decided it wasn't my thing) and The Others featuring – as the programme put it – three giants of Australian music: Trumpeter James Morrison; Pianist Paul Grabowsky; and Spiderbait drummer Kram. Unfortunately I missed them completely because of late arrival and programme clashes. Also Michael Leunig was there in collaboration with Katie Noonan and her jazz trio ELIXIR on a project called Gratitude and Grief. If you think this sounds interesting you might catch it at the Spiegeltent in Canberra on Thursday 18th April.

Many old folk favourites were there – Jason and Chloe Roweth, Rory McLeod, The Maes, Luka Bloom and more. However, apart from seeing Ralph McTell twice - his presence was the main reason I was at the festival and he was great as always – I tried to catch acts that I wasn't familiar with and was rewarded by some good finds. French Canadian band Les Chauffeurs a Pieds was fantastic. Daiori (pronounced Derry) Farrell had a fine voice and was very entertaining. Blue Mountains based Rachael Brady with her band the Moonshine Special and her expressive and powerful voice - described as 'where old-school country, pop and blues collide' - was another treat. Ben Waters (recognised as one of the UK's supreme boogie piano players) with his band and Derek Nash (who plays all manner of saxophones and is a member of the Jools Holland Orchestra) was as high energy as you can get and I finished my very satisfactory Sunday at their concert. I added a little to my CD collection over the weekend so you may have heard some of this music on Making Waves if you are ever listening to 2XX between 6,00 and 7.00 am in the later part of the week.

Tina

Some Pictures from the Cobargo Folk Festival – 1st to 3rd March 2019



The dancers: Contra (left) and Irish Set Dancing (right) ...



And some of the Musicians: Paverty Bush Band (left) and a bit of practice (right)

Photos by David Hunter

Letter to the Editor

I have really enjoyed the Bush Dance Workshops in the All Saints Church Hall on Monday nights. However, when I took turns at being a "man" I discovered that ladies who wore rings and bracelets with raised settings could be lethal partners.. I was not pleased to be scratched on my hands and arms Out of consideration for our male partners (and female stand-ins) may I suggest we adopt netball rules – remove all bracelets and rings apart from plain wedding rings.

Kid Regards,, Ruth Cully

Presented by
**Monaro Folk
Society inc.**



Merry Muse – Sunday April 14th from 4.00 pm to 7.00 pm
Canberra Irish Club, 6 Parkinson Street, Weston

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

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

Sunday 14th April – Blackboard plus feature act Turnip Sundae

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 **Turnip Sundae** is a contemporary trio featuring cello, flute, 12 string guitar and percussion with three part harmonies. Pplaying originals plus some old favourites Turnip Sundae brings together the talents and friendship of three been-around-the-traps- forever musicians: spectacular cellist Rita Woolhouse; fancy 12-string guitarist Fred Pilcher; and creative Simone Dawson on flute and tenor guitar (not at the same time). The Turnips blend vocals, instruments and rhythms to create a perfect contemporary sound.

Coming up:

Sunday May 12th - Blackboard plus Ichoyennisi

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

Enquiries ph Eileen 0412 127 882 or email eileennew23(at)gmail(dot)com

Regular Events (In alphabetical order)

Beyond Q Bookshop Old Time American music jam sessions, Weston Arcade, 11 Briery St, Weston - alternate Wednesdays on the weeks that King O'Malley's Old Time American music session is NOT on. 4.00-6.00 pm. Contact: Donna Vaughan 6258 9845.

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.

King O'Malley's Old Time American music jam session, 131 City Walk Civic – alternate Tuesdays on the weeks that Beyond Q Bookshop Old Time American jam session is NOT on, 7.00-10.00 pm . Contact: Donna Vaughan 6258 9845.

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 meet 4th Thursday each month at 7.00 pm at The Old School House, Christ Church, 39 Rutledge St., Queanbeyan. Contact: Laurie McDonald 6253 9856 or 0432 488 828

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/>

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: Matthew Gibbins - treasurer@monarofolk.org.au; Public Officer: Antonella Salpietro; Committee Members: John Hewat, Anne Mathas. Nelly Rogers, Chris Ward. For general enquiries please use secretary@monarofolk.org.au

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Membership: Christine Gifford - 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; Bookkeeper: Linda Aunela – payments@monarofolk.org.au; Web Manager: Neil Glassford - webmaster@monarofolk.org.au

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