

AROUND THE BUSH MUSIC SCENE

Jun 2	7pm	The Addison Rd Sessions
Jun 3	7:30pm	Beecroft Bush Dance, <i>Southern Cross</i>
Jun 4	7pm	Songlines Song Session
Jun 6	7:30pm	Playford Dancing at the Hut
Jun 8	7:30pm	Sutherland Acoustic Night
Jun 8	7pm	Kiama Bush Dance, <i>No Such Thing</i>
Jun 9	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Jun 9-12		Bundanoon DanceFest
Jun 9-12		SessionFest
Jun 10	2pm	Poetry at the Hut
Jun 16	7:30pm	Duke's Place, <i>Peter Hicks</i>
Jun 16	8pm	Hornsby Folk Club
Jun 18	2pm	Keith's Dance Workshop, <i>Contra - Rerun</i>
Jun 24	8pm	Loaded Dog Folk Club, <i>Bob & Margaret Fagan + Gerry Myerson</i>
Jun 24	7pm	Troubadour Folk Club, <i>Matthew Fagan</i>
Jul 1	7:30pm	Beecroft Bush Dance, <i>Bad Wallaby</i>
Jul 2	7pm	Songlines Song Session
Jul 4	7:30pm	Playford Dancing at the Hut
Jul 7	7pm	The Addison Rd Sessions
Jul 8	2pm	Poetry at the Hut
Jul 8	7:30pm	Gosford Bush Dance, Rags and Contra theme with <i>JH Dance Band</i>
Jul 13	7:30pm	Sutherland Acoustic Night
Jul 14	7:30pm	Duke's Place, <i>Eric Eisler & Nancy Nicholls</i>
Jul 16	2pm	Keith's Dance Workshop, <i>Contra - Novelties</i>
Jul 21	8pm	Hornsby Folk Club
Jul 22	7pm	Troubadour Folk Club
Jul 22	10am	Bawley Point Folk Concert (Singabout 10am, Concert 1pm)
Jul 28	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Jul 29	8pm	Loaded Dog Folk Club, Parodies with <i>Phyl Lobl & Paul Spencer</i>
Aug 1	7:30pm	Playford Dancing at the Hut
Aug 4	7pm	The Addison Rd Sessions
Aug 5	7:30pm	Beecroft Bush Dance, <i>BMC Concert Party</i>
Aug 6	7pm	Songlines Song Session
Aug 10	7:30pm	Sutherland Acoustic Night
Aug 11	7:30pm	Duke's Place, <i>Lola's Keg Night</i>
Aug 11	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Aug 12	2pm	Poetry at the Hut
Aug 12	7:30pm	Gosford Bush Dance, Playford theme
Aug 18	8pm	Hornsby Folk Club
Aug 20	2pm	Keith's Dance Workshop, <i>My Dances</i>
Aug 25	7:30pm	Toongabbie Music Club
Aug 19	8pm	Loaded Dog Folk Club, 20th Anniversary of Dave Alexander's death <i>Judy Pinder & the Roaring Forties</i>
Aug 26	7pm	Troubadour Folk Club, <i>Phil & Trudy Edgeley</i>
Aug 26		New Sydney Ball
Aug 27	2pm	4th John Dengate Memorial Get Together

See page 14 for more details of these events

MULGA WIRE

INCLUDING
SINGABOUT



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MULGA WIRE

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BUSH DANCES

June - September

BEECROFT Community Centre

Beecroft Road (opposite Fire Stn)

7:30pm—11:30pm

June 3 **Southern Cross**

July 1 **Bad Wallaby**

August 5 **BMC Concert Party**

September 2 **Sydney Coves**

Enquiries: Sigrid 9980 7077
Wilma 9489 5594

ERMINGTON Community Centre

10 River Road, Ermington

7pm—11pm

December 16 **Southern Cross**

Enquiries: 0412 145 262

Bush Music Club enquiries:

0412 145 262 or
bmcmail1954@gmail.com

Also see our web site for Club doings, history, articles and blog:

www.bushmusic.org.au

Cover:

Saplings session at the National Folk Festival. Encouraging our next generation to get into bush music.

Photo: Doug Vincent

Concert Party News

The Concert Party continues to attract approximately 20 people to each Monday practice. The group sits in an oval shape area in Hut 44 and each person has a turn to select bush music, yarn or poetry as the night progresses.

On Saturday 29 April several of the Seniors Band performed at East Concord Bowling Club for the Burwood Rotary Club dinner. The evening was held to raise money for cancer research at Concord Hospital and the amount raised was \$5500 on the night, with a further \$1000 later... a superb effort. The band played for several bush dances and sang the usual bush songs to much appreciation from the audience.

The Concert Party will be practicing soon for yet another public performance, this time at the Ryde Eastwood Leagues Club for the Ryde Probus Club.

Allen Davis



Concert Party at Winston Hills

Photo: Maureen Tarrant

The Addison Rd Sessions (Singing Session)

We're a hotchpotch group of folk singers who meet once a month to share songs and we welcome newcomers.

Songs with choruses are popular; unaccompanied is fine, but bring an accompanying Instrument if you wish.

Time: 7pm, First Friday of the month

Venue: Tritton Hall (Hut 44),

Addison Rd Community Centre, Marrickville

Cost: Gold coin donation

Contact: Glenys 4758 7851

Event Details

Bawley Point Folk Concert, Bawley Bush Cottages, Willinga Rd, Bawley Point

☎ Chris 4457 1614 or Mariah 4457 2929

Beecroft Bush Dance, Beecroft Community Hall, Beecroft

☎ Sigrid 9980 7077 / Wilma 9489 5594

Bundanoon DanceFest,

<http://www.bushtraditions.org/dancefest/bunders.htm>

Duke's Place, Hut 44, Addison Rd Community Centre, Marrickville

☎ Sandra 9358 4886 See p8

Gosford Bush Dance, East Gosford Progress Hall

☎ Anne Maree 0413 588 634 <http://www.ccbdma.org/dance/>

Hornsby Folk Club, Beatrice Taylor Hall (in Willow Park), Edgeworth David Ave

☎ Barry 9807 9497

John Dengate Memorial Get Together, Friend in Hand (upstairs), Cowper St, Glebe

Keith's Dance Workshop, Upper Hall, Pennant Hills Community Centre

<http://keith-wood.name/danceworkshops.html>

Kiama Bush Dance, Kiama Community Centre, Hindmarsh Park

☎ Tony 0422 540 249

Loaded Dog Folk Club, Annandale Neighbourhood Centre

☎ Sandra 9358 4886

New Sydney Ball,

☎ David 0413 210 789 <http://newsydneyball.com/>

Playford Dancing at the Hut, Hut 44, Addison Rd Comm Centre, Marrickville

☎ Julie 9524 0247 See p12

Poetry at the Hut, Hut 44, Addison Rd Community Centre, Marrickville

☎ Karen 9716 9660

SessionFest, Morisset Showground, Ourimbah St, Morisset

<https://www.newcastlehuntervalleyfolkclub.org.au/event/sessionfest/>

Songlines Song Session, Paragon Hotel, 1 Loftus St, Circular Quay

☎ Jenny 9576 2301

Sutherland Acoustic, Tradies, Gymea

☎ Jenny 9576 2301

The Addison Rd Sessions, Hut 44, Addison Rd Comm Centre, Marrickville

☎ Glenys 4758 7851 See p15

Toongabbie Music Club, 17 Whitehaven Rd, Northmead

☎ 9639 7494

Troubadour Folk Club, CWA Hall, The Boulevard, Woy Woy

☎ Michael 4342 6716



The recent 'Enter the Colonies Dancing' ball, held at Parramatta Town Hall, was a wonderful night of music, dancing, beautifully gowned ladies and elegantly presented gents. An enormous vote of thanks goes to Wendy Richmond and her Ball Team who created a night to remember! Many thanks also go to Dave Johnson and the Heritage Ensemble for the enchanting music. The Recovery Picnic was held at Australiana Village Wilberforce and was an excellent way to wind down after the previous night. A lot of very hard work by amazing volunteers goes into making these events happen and the club thanks each and everyone of you.

The BMC's 'Music at Morisset' has returned for the 2nd year and is on track to be another weekend of fantastic music and song. Stay tuned in the next issue for reports and pictures. Thanks and congratulations to everyone involved in making Morisset happen again.

The club continues to have a full program, including the regular Beecroft Bush Dances, Poet's Corner, Addison Road Sessions (singing), the Irish Slow Sessions and Monday night dance and music workshops but to name a few so check out our calendar and come along.

Sharyn Mattern

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Worth Noting

There will be a special celebration at Newcastle & Hunter Valley Folk Club's **SessionFest** this year - 50 years of Folk Club activity in Newcastle. This will include a blackboard session where performers can reminisce about their experiences at the Club over the years, in any of its' incarnations (The Sanctum, Purple Parrot, Newcastle Folk Club, Newcastle & Hunter Valley Folk Club). There will also be a competition with a great prize to be won. Details will be available on the weekend of SessionFest in June.

Maitland Ball will not be held this year due to recent lack of numbers.

Queensland Colonial and Heritage Dancers are holding their **2017 Colonial Ball** on Saturday 22nd July in the Morningside School of Arts Hall. Arrive from 7pm for a 7:30pm start. Cost is \$40 (\$35 early bird before 15th July). For more info contact Roger Holmes 0410 445 730.

<http://members.optusnet.com.au/colonialdance/ball.html>

The **Caroline Simpson Library & Research Collection (CSL&RC)** has recently acquired, through the Commonwealth Cultural Gifts Program, an important collection of 19th-century sheet music provenanced to people living in NSW.

<https://sydneylivingmuseums.com.au/stories/stewart-symonds-sheet-music-collection>

Congratulations to **Colin and Karen Fong** on the birth of their first grandchild, **Leon Tyler Szonyi** born to their daughter, **Hannah** on 22 March 2017.

Rising costs have finally caught up with us and we are reluctantly increasing membership fees by a small amount. The new membership form is on the back page of the calendar.

Our **Blog** has some more historical items including the Waratah Spring Festivals in the late fifties and photos from Bob Bolton's collection. It also now has a report on Bob's NFF Lifetime Achievement Award.

<http://bushmusicclub.blogspot.com.au>

ELECTRONIC DELIVERY OF **MULGA WIRE**

The Committee is offering the option of electronic delivery alongside traditional paper copies. If you would prefer to receive an electronic copy - rather than a paper one, please contact us on bmcmail1954@gmail.com.

A first (and second) timer's report of the 2017 Heritage Ball

By the bread stealing convict, Jason Riley and the mischievous lady with the large false rump, Niamh Kyriacou.

As relative newbies to the colonial dance scene, we decided to jump in the deep end and attend the Heritage Ball at Parramatta Town Hall with none or a couple of practices each under our belts. A bold but ultimately decent decision, thanks to the presence of wonderful, expert callers and a crowd of understanding dancers on the floor helping us look like we knew what we were doing.

The care taken to match the colour of the ribbon holding the ladies' dance cards to their dresses was marvellous. During the grand march, whilst the ladies were occupied discussing the trims and styles of other ladies' gowns, one particular convict was completely distracted trying to march with his cumbersome ball and chain! We appreciated the opportunity the grand march gave us to admire all the gowns in motion, to see the graceful sway of skirts and the soft sweep of ruffles along the floor.

There was a grand selection of food fit for the fine company attending the ball: beef, pork, chicken and a large array of salads and roasted vegetables. The dinner room buzzed, it was just as lively as the dance floor with excited conversation. Dancers re-connected with old friends they hadn't seen in a age (some since the last Heritage Ball!) and excitedly made new friends. The second break offered an amazing selection of decadent desserts, from mini pavlovas to brownies, which were much needed to energise us for the next lot of dances.

We didn't dare miss a single dance we were having so much fun. Whilst we had come fairly unprepared, without water bottles or fans, it didn't matter. We gulped down the mysterious but delicious orange punch in the short breaks and made our dance cards soft from fanning ourselves so hard! We pulled a few crazy antics mid dance: changing genders every time we progressed, doubling and tripling every turn we could and galloping to the very end of the hall on every cast or lead down. Only once did we stack it and fall to the floor!

We had an absolute ball. Neither of us can wait to twirl, skip and bounce our way through next year's Heritage Ball!

Jason and Niamh



Convict mixing with the gentry

Paul, Hannah, Adela, Niamh
Jason in front

Photo: Marina Robins

A Banjo Player's Tour of Hell (contd)

We also have a special molten fiery chair just in case some one would ever dare
Consider putting up a case for anything other than the featured state;
And finally as you can see, we daily flog people who steal in for free.

Col says I think it's now time to retire, I can see you've stoked up all your fires.
Then after travelling many days o'er fiery hills and stormy seas;
At length he found that happy place where all the woes of mortals cease.

And rapping loudly at the wicket, cried Peter where's your certificate
Or if you have not one to show, pray who in Heaven do you know?
I know Don Henderson, Mike Heaney, Gordon Mc Intyre and Declan Affley.

And many others who gave for the cause, the folk revival and applause;
A soft voice says Peter let Col in for he is truly purged from sin.
And although as a banjo player, dressed here he shall be a welcome guest.

St. Paul go to the flock straightway and kill the fatted calf today;
And go tell Abraham and Abel in haste now to prepare the table;
For we shall have a grand repast now Col the banjo player has come at last.

Colin McJannett, May 2003

Playford Dancing at the Hut

Next meeting: **Tues 6th June**, 7:30pm to 9:30pm

The Bush Music Club is hosting Sydney Playford dancing in our headquarters,
Hut 44 Addison Road Community Centre, Marrickville.

We meet on the first Tuesday of each month (except January), and there will be
live music as often as possible. Cost \$7.

For more information contact Julie Bishop 9524 0247

Making Direct Deposit Payments (Membership/Shop/Ball)

Direct Deposit details:

BSB: 062-005

Acct: 0090 7524 (Commonwealth bank)

Reference

Email details of payment to treasurer:

Allen Davis <allendavis@iprimus.com.au>

Membership forms or ball ticket forms still need to be sent, either by mail or
scanned and sent by email.

Wongawilli Colonial Dance Club is turning 30!

Wongawilli Colonial Dance Club is celebrating their 30th anniversary in August.

They conduct a dance at Wongawilli Community Hall west of Dapto most Wednesday
evenings. One night per month they have *No Such Thing* playing and one night they
have *Chordeaux*. The remaining nights are danced to CDs. All dances are walked
through and called. Cost is \$4.

Web: www.wongawillicolonialdance.org.au

More info: Brian 4296 7780

Henry Lawson Festival update

Following a grant gratefully received from Sutherland Shire Council the Henry Lawson
Festival is being planned for Sunday 9th July 2017 starting at 9am. The festival will be
held in the grounds of Como Public School, Genoa Street, Como (a short walk from
Como Station).

After the festival there will be a performance of Dick Diamond's musical *Reedy River*
starting at 4:30pm. Cost is \$35 which includes a pasta meal at arrival.

This will be followed at 8:30pm by a performance of *Dead Men Talking* where Max
Cullen and Warren Fahey present a poetry and musical dialog between Lawson and
Paterson. Contact Jenny for details and booking information.

For more information, please contact Jenny Watson 95762301 jg.watson@hotmail.com

Monaro Folk Society – Thirty-Sixth Annual Colonial Ball

The Monaro Folk Society is inviting interstate dancers to its 36th Colonial Ball to be
held at the historic Albert Hall on 2 September 2017. Music by Heritage Ensemble
band led by Dave Johnson with Heather Clarke calling.

Doors open at 7.20pm with a welcome drink from 7.30pm and dancing from 8pm to
midnight including a fully catered supper.

Tickets can be bought on-line, see http://mfs.org.au/wiki/index.php/Colonial_Ball for
details. Ticket sales close on Wednesday 30 August.

Tickets for interstate dancers are the same price as for MFS members.
Early bird sales (reduced prices) will be available until August 1.

If you would like us to request billeting for you, please email:
Antonella <asalpietro(at)hotmail(dot)com>.

Poet's Corner

This will be a space where our new poetry group can showcase one of the poems presented at the hut. If you like poetry, why not join them?

Naturally Heading for Dusk by Dot Newland

Marigolds tangerine, sweetly smelling
Ibises tall, proud and lightly walking
Crickets leaping randomly on the ground
While fern shaped leaves drop, scatter and rebound,

Dinnertime smells waft tempting to the streets,
Children playing madly before dusk
Scooters zoom in circles of joyful cries
And chuckling bounces from walls, windows, skies,

The slow buzz of cars streaming back home,
Weaving and stop with exhaust smells and smoke
Shadows creep in from the eastern coastline,
In the fading last light before tea time

Sundowning in style, the home cooks shake,
Mix and whirl and ingredients bake,
With new ideas and old, diverse and bold,
As the secrets of their life unfold,

Twittering birds swarm into the trees
Competing for a space to perch to sleep
Stragglers flocking in tired and frayed,
With bossy mother's in masses of green

A fiddler plays quickly a Celtic tune
Courting a slow trickle of workers home,
While round the block with six legs in motion,
A dog walks her owner with devotion

New
Members

★ Dave MOIR ★ ★ Vera KONCEK ★

ing folk festival, I resigned to let a new executive have a fresh start. Col was actually away, playing with Real Tradition when the AFT voted for its new Chairperson. Although Seamus assured the meeting he had Col's permission, Col told me he wasn't even sure what he would have voted had he been present. Nevertheless, Colin took over the Trust and steered the team of Canberra locals Seamus Gill, Graham McDonald and Keith McKenry and others, which worked hard to make sure the NFF in Canberra survived and grew. We had many long discussions and laughs in later years especially when Colin sent me 'A Banjo Player's Tour Of Hell' that he wrote with apologies to Francis MacNamara, 'Frank the Poet'.

A BANJO PLAYER'S TOUR OF HELL

Come all you folk singers and banjo players from afar;
Who frequent the National Folk Festival and its bars;
A yarn to you I will now tell concerning a banjo player's tour of Hell.

It was in May of ninety-two the decision I will tell to you;
The AFT Trustees decided to take control it's true;
And stop the event from years of roam and place it in a lasting permanent home.

The decision was met with some derision, scorned by those of judgement poor;
The Trustees took it on the chin, and swore an oath that through they'd win;
And set up a company to see for sure, that the festival's future would be secure.

He whose valour had for years been tried on the festival board before he died;
At length he fell to death a prey. It proved to him a happy day.
Downwards he went his course I'm told was like one destined for Satan's fold.

Charon took him 'cross the River Styx and on the other side he was then fixed;
Then leaving Charon at the ferry, Col hurried on to Purgatory;
Where he rapped loudly at the gate of Limbo or the Middle State.

Peter Hollingworth then came down with vestments crucifix and frown;
This place was made for priests and strayers, there's no place here for banjo players.
Col then bade Peter farewell and scurried on to the place called Hell.

Where the Devil said now what's your will? And Col said I've come here to dwell;
Says Satan now that cannot be I say, poor fellow you seem to have gone astray;
For I've none here but Grandees and Priests and a place reserved for Peter Reith.

I think you have gone far astray for festival volunteers never come this way;
But soar to Heaven in droves and legions, a place so called in the upper regions;
Col stares at the Devil and says Sir pray tell, then who actually does here dwell?

Why laughs Satan, see those fiery seats and chairs and up above the set of stairs;
They are fitted up for scoffers and disbelievers and other highly practiced deceivers;
And recalcitrant stall holders, protesters, Morris Dancers and other eccentric prancers.

And that fiery lake afar, why that's reserved for people who play electric guitars;
The brimstone and sulphur is for pouring on people found at concerts snoring;
And the hottest anvil its intent is for people playing non-acoustic instruments.

Continued P12

Memories of Colin McJannett.

By R.Dale Dengate

(31/1/1946 to 3/5/2017)

I have put on my CD of the Dubliners, and next I am going to play my bushrangers CD, although sadly I don't have Colin McJannett singing *The Ballad of Ben Hall's Gang* and the *The Lads of Learning* which he sang with such feeling. Shortly after hearing the sad news of Col's death after his illness over the last couple of years, I was reminiscing with Ronda Carlin. She recalled back in the mid 1960s that Colin, with a group of traditional musicians from Canberra, came to Sydney for the Dubliners' concert. Afterwards they went back to Jamie and Ronda's house and played music till around 2AM when they decided to return to Canberra. What stamina we had then, although Col was a few years younger than us and seemed a little wilder than we staid mid-twenty year olds, in the Bush Music Club. Initially Col played in a Skiffle band, but was attracted to folk music in the sixties.

Colin's mother, Molly recalled buying Colin his first banjo around fifteen years old. He learnt a lot of tunes from his grandfather, Harry who mostly played an accordion and later from Harry Cotter. Through perseverance and practice Col became a proficient and impressive banjo player and a fine singer of traditional Australian songs. He was the organiser for some local folk clubs and played in well respected Scottish dance bands with Mike Heaney in Reel Tradition 1982-97 and others such as Fife and Clackmannanshaw, 1991-97. His family recalled how everyone looked forward to Colin's arrival at gatherings as he would bring much singing, family stories and merriment.

I didn't really get to know Col until we were working together on the Australian Folk Trust in the 1990s, although he and John had spent long hours yarning over a beer about Australian songs, politics, union activities and even cricket. In fact, Col said he was inspired by John's workshop on writing based on research into your own family as the real history of Australia.

After 2003, Colin had written some short stories based on his family's anecdotes and life experience. He found his own family history an incredibly rich source of history. From detailed research into the area in Scotland where his great-great grandfather had grown up and to another village in Ireland where he was able to meet the relatives of his great grandmother who had left in the mid 1880s, he sought the stories of his family. Col brought life to the stories based on a patchwork of sources, and introduced many amusing touches so that John and I loved getting his emails and sharing the latest story.

My close association grew out of the challenges faced by the Australian Folk Trust, which I chaired after 1989. The AFT had the task of allocating the state which would conduct the next National Festival. However, from 1988 on the huge financial debts faced by each state after organizing a National meant that no state folk body wanted to run the National festival, Although we had loved going to a different state for each National it was impossible to get sufficient funding unless the event was held in the one location. Over those years I did a lot of investigation of ways of funding the arts, but all led to the necessity for change, This was not at all popular in each state, although none could offer financial solutions. Having pushed the AFT to accept the change to holding the National in the National capital, the only location with the potential to host a grow-

POETRY anyone?

Enjoy reciting a poem? Sharing a poem with others?
Perhaps writing your own poems? Brushing up on performing some 'bush' poetry?
If so, you are very welcome to come along. A contribution to go with afternoon tea would be appreciated.

Where: The BMC Hut at Marrickville, Addison Rd.

When: Saturday 2pm to 4pm - Apr 8

Cost: \$5 or gold coin donation

Contact: Karen (02) 9716 9660 (a message can be left)

OR fongs@bigpond.net.au

Bush Music Club

Beecroft Bush Dance



7:30pm - 11:30pm *Note start time*

Beecroft Community Centre

Beecroft Road (cnr Copeland Rd)

Cost: \$19 Adult, \$14 BMC Members

Includes supper

Sat June 3 - *Southern Cross*

Sat July 1 - *Bad Wallaby*

Sat August 5- *BMC Concert Party*

Sat September 2- *Sydney Coves*

Beecroft Spot Prizes

At recent Beecroft dances we have been handing out special prizes to dancers at certain points during the night. The prizes are donated by the following local businesses:

Renaissance Hair Studio Westleigh

La Thai Restaurant Thornleigh

Topiary Café Epping

The Beauty Salon Westleigh

Wilma Lyon Music School Normanhurst

Westleigh Quality Meats Westleigh

DUKE'S PLACE

**Australian Songs
in Concert & session**



Friday 16th June (3rd Friday) - Peter Hicks

Peter Hicks is a Tasmanian based performer recognised nationally on the Australian folk scene. His work in the union, peace, solidarity and gay rights movements, together with his constant output of songs for issues of the day have been recognised on ABC radio, at folk festivals and clubs large and small and at rallies for environmental and refugee rights.
<http://peterhicks.com.au>

Friday 14th July - Eric Eisler & Nancy Nicholls

Australian Songs (and tunes) of freedom and friendship with BMC members Nancy Nicholls and Eric Eisler. Eric and Nancy have been performing for many years including many gigs with the Bush Music Club *Concert Party* and the *Heritage Ensemble*.

Friday 11th August - Lola's Keg Night

Read through of a musical memoir adapted by PP Cranney and Christina Mimmocchi based on the autobiography of Lola Wright who founded Australia's second bush band.
<http://christinapossum.wixsite.com/lola/about>

Friday 8th September - Steve Wilson

Steve, "the Man with the Concertina" is passionate advocate of the English concertina which he uses to perform an eclectic swag of songs.
<http://www.concertinaman.net>

**Usually Second Friday of
the Month Feb - Dec**

Doors open 7:30pm
Concert 8 - 10.30pm, followed by
singing session
(gates close midnight)

Tritton Hall - Hut 44
Addison Rd Community Centre
142 Addison Rd, Marrickville

\$10 - Bring a plate - bring songs

Pennant Hills Dance Activities

Pennant Hills Community Centre: (lower, air-conditioned hall)

During May, we learned many of the dances that were on the program of the Parramatta Heritage Ball. The appreciative crowd were very ably taught by Wendy Richmond, Heather Clarke and Anthony Simon. As usual these workshops were very popular, being a good opportunity to learn (or revise) some old and new favourites. Thank you Wendy, Heather and Anthony, we appreciate your generosity.

In June, we will be looking at dances from the Bundanoon Dance weekend, both past and present. We will also be practicing for the Gosford and BMC July dances.

In July, the Pennant Hills Dance Workshop will be celebrating its 21st Birthday and we will have a party night to mark the anniversary. If you were a past regular at Pennant Hills, why not join us for this special event?

As advance notice, in August we will start practicing for the upcoming balls.

See you at Penno!

John Short

Programme June/July/August

MONDAY 7.30-10.30	THEME/DANCE STYLE
5 June	Dances from Bundanoon, Past and Present
12 June	No workshop - Public Holiday
19 June	Practice for BMC and Gosford July Dances
26 June	Practice for BMC and Gosford July Dances
3rd July	Practice for BMC and Gosford July Dances
10 July	Mixed dance workshop
17 July	Practice for Dance Workshop 21st Birthday Party Night
24 July	Practice for Dance Workshop 21st Birthday Party Night
31 July	Dance Workshop 21st Birthday Party Night
7 August	Practice for upcoming balls

Mulga Wire: 2017 Publishing Deadlines

Item Deadline	To Printers	Folding Session
11 August	17 August	22 August
10 November	16 November	21 November

At the 2017 National Folk Festival Bob Bolton received the Lifetime Achievement Award. In honour of this, Gail Copley has submitted a poem she wrote about him a few years ago.

Bob

Have you met a boring type, who always thinks that he is right,
Who struts and postures round displaying all he knows?
Well, I've met another guy, who, in fact, is kinda shy,
He's not a blowhard, nah, never one of those.

In fact, those 'know it alls' - he may give them a call -
To offer an idea they've never heard.
And they'll deny it, look down their noses, and strike some pouty poses;
But he'll be right - and they'll just look absurd.

The difference 'tween them and he, is plain for all to see:
While they're so busy trying to impress;
He'll just try - to be fair - to inspire us to care
About our history, about our Australian-ess

He doesn't stand very tall, in fact, he's kinda small
But he could recite bush poems in such a casual way,
That it seems coincidental, that the poems would rhyme at all
More like conversations from our past, brought here, today.

With a camera he is great - his photos are top rate.
His collection is an archive of it all,
Of the Duke, Sally Sloane and Merro, and of Helen and Tony Romeo,
Jamie, Dave, John, Ralphie, all at Tritton Hall.

And in his own, quiet way, he's promoted bush music to this day
Through: his knowledge, and his music, and his photos.
His memory, sad to say, is now slowly wafting away;
And he is not the only one sad to see it go.....

You'll see him playing a pair of bones, or maybe a lager phone.
He'll perform bush music - in all its Australian bush glory.
And if he comes your way, give him a smile and say giddyay.
He's still willing to teach, still willing to share his story.

Gail Copley

SINGABOUT

JUNE 2017

CONVICT MUSICIANS

A Report from 12th National Folklore Conference 2017

Prof Graham Seal opened the conference, which has been held at the National Library since 2006. Margy Burn, the Assistant Director-General, NLA spoke of the significance of folklore and research at the NLA and the delight they had working with Jessie Lloyd, the 2017 National Folk Fellow. Jessie built on her collection of indigenous songs by using the NLA folklore recordings to further her work on Mission songs. At the NFF Jessie won acclaim with her performances.

The first presenter was Emma Nixon, who also was the National Folk Fellow in 2012. She is a talented fiddler having won prestigious awards in playing and teaching and is currently completing her PhD at Queensland Conservatorium, Griffiths University researching Scottish fiddling in Australia. As many of us have found with our research, that anything outside the official documents and versions of history require different methods to sleuth out facts. Although the stigma of convict heritage has largely passed, so have the memories of what songs and music they might have played for their own entertainment. Emma found sketches of pub scenes and some of the contemporary cartoons held some clues to the music of our folk heritage.

Don and Sue Brian's presentation *Convict Musicians: A Hidden Heritage* of the history and 'mythconceptions' of Norfolk Island of the Second Convict Settlement gave a new insight into this field. Don was able to sing some of the recently discovered convict songs from this era while Sue presented many special images from the island. Don and Sue have been enthusiastic researchers and performers of Australian traditional history for over forty years. In 2009 they moved to Norfolk Island as Don took a teaching ap-

pointment there and Sue became immersed in the history of the Island after she volunteered at the museum. This enabled them to meet locals, hear their stories as well as investigating diaries and other documents relating to the Convict settlements. Don and Sue plan to present a fuller report in the future, but in the meantime they have sent these previously unpublished songs for inclusion (not from Norfolk, but still convict origin).

I could not conclude this report, without saying that the tour Don and Sue conduct on Norfolk Island is a great experience giving insight into folk heritage and convict history.

R. Dale Dengate

These songs were remembered by Stanley Cullen of Laggan NSW, as learnt 65 years earlier on his father's property, from an employee, a ticket of leave man. (about 1894) They were recorded in 1959 by his sons Mout and Pat and more recently copied from tape in possession of Pat's son Peter Cullen in 2008.

The Green Mossy Banks of the Lee

One May morn as I carelessly rambled
Way down by a sweet pearly stream
Its there I espied a fair creature
Some goddess appearing to be.

As she rose in the reeds of the waters
On the green mossy banks of the Lea
As she rose in the reeds of the waters
On the green mossy banks of the Lea

I stepped up and bid her good morning
Her fair cheeks they blush like a rose.
(I see your) green meadows are charming
Your guardian I'll be if you choose

Kind Sir, Oh I don't want a guardian
Kind Sir, you're a stranger to me
For yonder's my father a'coming
On the green mossy banks of the Lea
For yonder's my father a'coming
On the green mossy banks of the Lea

I waited till up came her father
Summoned my courage once more
Say aye that this may be your daughter
This beautiful maid I adore

Ten thousand a year be her fortune
And a lady your daughter will be
She'll ride in a chariot and horses
On the green mossy banks of the Lea

So they welcomed her home to the cottage
In wedlock next day they were bound
And now they live happy together
In splendour and (luxury found).....

So come all you pretty fair maidens
And a warning take by me
By flattery let no one persuade you
Except those that's got lots property

Similar versions are to be found in West Midlands songs in the George Butterworth manuscripts

<http://www.btinternet.com/~radical/thefolkmag/butterworth.htm>

and in:

Ballads and Sea Songs from Nova Scotia, Mackenzie, 1963.

More Irish Street Ballads, O'Lochlainn, 1960.

American Balladry from British Broadwaysides, G Malcolm Laws, 1957.

The Briar and the Rose (Mother, mother, make my bed) as sung by Stanley Cullen 1959



Oh where, oh where is the little fat (foot?) boy
That was my sister's joy
Let him go and tell my lord that his true love
lies a dying
And will die before he can come

Now the first three miles this little boy walked
And the next three miles he ran
He ran till he came to a broad river side
Then he bent his back and he swam

He swam till he came to the other side
And he took to his heels and he ran
He ran till he came to a nobleman's hall
Where they all seated down to a meal (meat?)

If you knew what news I have brought
Not one more bite would you eat

What news have you brought for me my boy,
What news have you brought (my son) for me
I've come to tell you that your true love lies a
dying
And will die before you can come.

Saddle up, saddle up my dark bay horse
And bridle him up so neat
That I may kiss those cherry cold lips
That once to me were so sweet

It was when riding o'er those hills
At twelve o'clock in the night
It was there he met four jovial men
And the corpse was shining bright

Set her down, set her down my jovial men
Set her down upon her feet
That I may kiss those cherry cold lips
That once to me were so sweet

Now this lady she died of grief
And me Lord he died of sorrow
Out of my ladies grave there grew a White rose
And out of the Lords a sweet briar

Now the briar it grew to such a height
It grew till it couldn't grow any higher
It doubled and it trebled and it tied a true loves
knot
And the rose grew around the sweet briar.

Folklorists may see here a number of features of Child ballads and a type of song not commonly found in the canon of Australian collected folk-song.

BUSH MUSIC CLUB inc

GPO Box 433, SYDNEY NSW 2001

Founded 1954

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THIS IS PROOF OF MEMBERSHIP FOR 2 MONTHS FROM THIS DATE

If membership card is not received within 2 months

Please contact the Membership Secretary on (02) 9642 7950



JUNE — SEPTEMBER 2017

The Bush Music Club was formed in 1954 to promote awareness of Australian folk traditions. The Club does this by collecting, publishing and popularising our traditional songs, dances, music and folklore. Contemporary compositions in the traditional style are also encouraged.

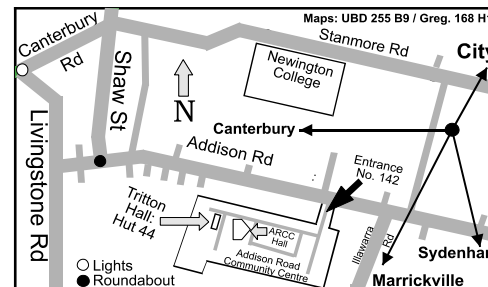


TRITTON HALL

BUSH MUSIC CLUB HEADQUARTERS
 Hut 44, Addison Road Community Centre
 142 Addison Road, Marrickville

PUBLIC TRANSPORT :

- BUS:** 428 CANTERBURY
 - Stops outside Centre
 426 DULWICH HILL and
 423 EARLWOOD
 - Get off at Addison Road, walk
 600m to Centre
- TRAIN:** To Newtown, then catch bus



View our web site: < www.bushmusic.org.au >

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June 2017

Fri 2 Addison Rd Sessions
Sat 3 Beecroft Bush Dance,
Southern Cross
Sun 4 Irish Slow Session
Mon 5 Song & Music Session
Mon 5 PH Dance Workshop
Tue 6 Playford at the Hut
Sun 11 Irish Slow Session
Mon 12 No PH Dance Workshop
Queens Birthday Holiday
Mon 12 No Song & Music Session
Fri 16 Dukes Place, *Peter Hicks*
Sun 18 Irish Slow Session
Mon 19 Song & Music Session
Mon 19 PH Dance Workshop
Sun 25 Irish Slow Session
Mon 26 PH Dance Workshop
Mon 26 Song & Music Session

July 2017

Sat 1 Beecroft Bush Dance,
Bad Wallaby
Sun 2 Irish Slow Session
Mon 3 Song & Music Session
Mon 3 PH Dance Workshop
Tue 4 Playford at the Hut
Fri 7 Addison Rd Sessions
Sat 8 Poetry Session
Sun 9 Irish Slow Session
Mon 10 PH Dance Workshop
Mon 10 Song & Music Session
Fri 14 Dukes Place,
Eric Eisler & Nancy Nicholls
Sun 16 Irish Slow Session
Mon 17 Song & Music Session
Mon 17 PH Dance Workshop
Sun 23 Irish Slow Session
Mon 24 PH Dance Workshop
Mon 24 Song & Music Session
Sun 30 Irish Slow Session

August 2017

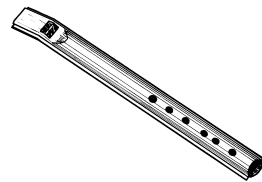
Tue 1 Playford at the Hut
Fri 4 Addison Rd Sessions
Sat 5 Beecroft Bush Dance,
BMC Concert Party
Sun 6 Irish Slow Session
Mon 7 Song & Music Session
Mon 7 PH Dance Workshop
Fri 11 Dukes Place, *Lola's Keg Night*
Sat 12 Poetry Session
Sun 13 Irish Slow Session
Mon 14 PH Dance Workshop
Mon 14 Song & Music Session
Sun 20 Irish Slow Session
Mon 21 Song & Music Session
Mon 21 PH Dance Workshop
Sun 27 Irish Slow Session
Mon 28 PH Dance Workshop
Mon 28 Song & Music Session

September 2017

Fri 1 Addison Rd Sessions
Sat 2 Beecroft Bush Dance,
Sydney Coves
Sun 3 Irish Slow Session
Mon 4 Song & Music Session
Mon 4 PH Dance Workshop
Tue 5 Playford at the Hut
Fri 8 Dukes Place, *Steve Wilson*
Sat 9 Poetry Session
Sun 10 Irish Slow Session
Mon 11 PH Dance Workshop
Mon 11 Song & Music Session
Sun 17 Irish Slow Session
Mon 18 Song & Music Session
Mon 18 PH Dance Workshop
Sun 24 Irish Slow Session
Mon 25 PH Dance Workshop
Mon 25 Song & Music Session

Pennant Hills (PH) Dance Workshop:

7.30pm Monday nights
Pennant Hills Community Centre, Yarrara Rd.
Both easy and more complicated bush dances.
A great social evening for beginners and
experienced. \$7
☎ Felicity: 9456 2860



Beecroft Bush Dance:

1st Saturday (February to December)
Beecroft Community Centre
Beecroft Road, Beecroft (Opp. Fire Station)
7:30 pm to 11:30pm - Supper provided
\$19.00 / \$17 conc / \$14 BMC members
☎ Sigrid 9980 7077 / Wilma 9489 5594

Ermington Bush Dance:

3rd Saturday, December
Ermington Community Centre, 10 River Rd
7pm—11pm - Supper provided
\$19.00 / \$17 conc / \$14 BMC members
☎ Enquiries: 0412 145 262

Activities at Tritton Hall

Hut 44, Addison Rd Community Centre, 142 Addison Rd, Marrickville

Addison Rd Sessions (singing):

1st Friday, 7:30pm
☎ Glenys: 4758 7851

Duke's Place:

2nd Friday, 7:30pm-11:30pm
Concert and Session, \$10, bring a plate.
☎ Sandra: 9358 4886

Playford at the Hut:

English Country Dancing
1st Tuesday, 7:30pm-9:30pm \$7
☎ Julie: 9524 0247

Song & Music Session:

General session for all musicians and singers,
this session also trains and practises the
BMC's *Concert Party*
Mondays, 7:30pm \$7
☎ Allen: 9639 7494

Poetry:

2nd Saturday, 2pm-4pm \$5
☎ Karen: 9716 9660

Irish Slow Session:

Sundays, 6:30pm-9:30pm
☎ Brian: 0414 565 805