



# PENINSULA FOLK CLUB

## NEWSLETTER MARCH 2021

Advancing Acoustic Music on the Peninsula

Editor: peterstanley7@bigpond.com

### 11th APRIL CLUB NIGHT

#### GUEST ACT

#### MAMA'S MOUNTAIN JUG BAND

Foot-tapping, body-swaying music and banter, that leaves a smile on your face - music your Mama sung to you.

The Jug band with no jug, but lots of good time fun featuring 12 instruments multi-part harmonies, and a good-time feel

Mama's Mountain Jug Band plays a mixture of back to roots music, old Hillbilly songs, Jug band gems, Hokum, Jazz, Blues, and that dash of Barbershop Harmonies.

Mama's features three PFC stalwarts.. Roy Carter, Keith Rea and Evan Webb



**SPOT ACTS** If you want to get a spot on the bill you need to call our Spot Acts Co-Ordinator, Peter Bucci His contact no is 0438 487 565. There are still a few spots left.. be quick!!

#### JAM SESSION

Our ever-popular regular Jam Session will go ahead from 5.30 in the Bar Area... Come early and join in the fun!!

#### ORDER A MEAL

Unfortunately our regular caterer is not available. In the short term, we have arranged for the pizza man who supplied our Christmas Party to provide single serve pizzas and a small dessert for \$10. If you require a gluten free pizza, the cost will be \$17 Just make an order and pay when you arrive at the club, and we will arrange delivery. This month the first orders will be phoned through a little after 5.30, with a second and final order phoned through at 6.30

**PENINSULA FOLK CLUB** meet on the First Sunday each Month

5.30 - 9.30pm (FEB TO NOV)

@ Frankston Bowling Clubrooms, Cnr Yuille & William Sts Frankston

Informal Jam Session 5.30 - 6.30 pm, then "Concert" 6.30- 9.30pm

Members \$5.00 Visitors \$8.00

E-mail: Editor.. peterstanley7@bigpond.com Ph 0408 767 328

# COMING UP AT PFC

**MAY 2nd PAT & CORA**

After many years of working and flirting, musically, with each other, Pat & Cora is the newest creative incarnation for Patrick Evans and Cora Browne. Playing a mix of Folk and Irish favourites suitable for receptions, pubs, folk venues etc. As veterans of the folk scene they have come together to share their love of harmony, well-crafted song and the odd rollicking chorus.



Pat will be conducting a Guitar Maintenance Workshop on that night.. Details later



## **JUNE 6th OUR ANNUAL SONGWRITERS CONTEST**

It will be on again this year.. So if you are working on something new, here is the perfect reason to get on and finish it!!

However, you will need to send a audio file with a copy of the words to allow the judges to pre-judge the entries and get the field down to a group of 10-12 finalists. As has been the case in the past, the finalists will be invited to perform their song on the June Club night and do a "warm-up" song first (if they wish.)

This year entries will need to be recorded and sent to Barry Larkin, who will collect the entries and forward them to our judges for their consideration. The Rules are spelled out in full on Page 4. The Judging panel will again consist of Patrick Evans and Suzette Herfft with last year's winner Sally Carter added as a Guest Judge.

Plenty of experience among that group!

## **RULES FOR SONGWRITERS CONTEST 2021 ON PAGE 3**

### **PRIZES FOR 2021**

**1st PRIZE : a \$250 Gift Voucher from Guitars and Things**

**2nd Prize: a Gift Pack from Maton Music**

**3rd Prize: a \$50 Gift Voucher from Guitars and Things**



# **RULES FOR SONGWRITERS CONTEST 2021**

- 1. Entry is free to PFC members, non-members will need to pay a \$10 entry fee if they make the final 12.**
- 2. The song, both tune and words, must be original and recently written by the entrant... and be in the folk genre.**
- 3. The songwriter does not have to perform the song written but can nominate another person to perform it on their behalf.**
- 4. As this is a Song Writing Contest, performance will be by ONE voice and ONE acoustic instrument. It is permissible to have two people performing the song. Any acoustic instrument can be used to present the song, the only exception is that an electric keyboard is allowed, in piano mode only with no effects or pre-recorded sound.**
- 5. a) Persons intending to enter should forward his/her entry to Barry Larkin at aussieorchid@aapt.net.au. A copy of the song's words plus an audio or video recording of the song (MP3 or MP4) must be emailed to Barry by 15th of May. The audio recording does not have to be of professional quality. A home recording done with a computer and free software such as Audacity should give satisfactory results.**
- 6. All entrants will be advised if they have or have not made the final 12. The final 12 will be invited to perform their song (plus a warm-up song if they wish) at our June Clubnight on June 6th.**
- 7. The winner of the previous year's Songwriter's contest is ineligible to enter**
- 8. The Peninsula Folk Club has the right to refuse any entry on the basis that the content is, in the opinion of the committee, unsuitable.**
- 9. The Judge's decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into..!!.**

**TIME TO START WRITING YOUR NEW MASTERPIECE IF YOU HAVEN'T ALREADY WRITTEN IT!!**

## **RIP... SUE SEYMOUR**

**For those who haven't heard our dear friend Sue Seymour passed away on Tuesday 16th March following a prolonged battle with cancer. She was a beautiful friend to so many and a very talented and prolific songwriter and singer. Sue will be greatly missed . Our thoughts to her close friends and family.**



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 4th JULY

As mentioned in the last Newsletter, we needed to have the AGM we should have had in July 2020. We fulfilled this legal requirement at our first Club Night on 7th February. As suggested by the committee, it was decided to allow the current committee to continue to serve until the next scheduled AGM in July. Our constitution requires that nominations for the various Office bearers and general committee be received in writing (duly nominated and seconded) ONE month before the scheduled AGM .. that is, at the June Club Meeting.

We look forward to hearing of any new members being nominated.

If you have any interest in being a part of PFC committee in future, Max, or in fact any of the current committee would be glad to talk to you.

Your committee prides itself in being a “working” committee.. Each committee member has a roles or roles to play in order to make this Club thrive!!

Our Constitution allows for additional members to assist the Committee “Other financial club members may offer to provide skills and/or support as Sub-Committee members as required by the executive. “ so there is provision for a larger pool of active members.



## FROM OUR MARCH CLUB NIGHT



# SOME THOUGHTS ABOUT PERFORMING FROM JOHN BLYTH

Hi folkies,

It was just recently that a conversation about the range of performers at Folk Club, open mic spot acts and guest performers, got me thinking about that transition from playing for yourself to playing for others.

Now some of us are unashamedly quite happy to share our musical output in public, but like public speaking, not everyone is a natural at being the centre of attention and being in the public spotlight. Some of us prefer our own company; it is a bit like singing in the shower to yourself - it sounds magnificent, but why can't one find a microphone that makes it sound the same...

Now it's not like that you **MUST** sing or perform to be a member of the Folk Club - musical appreciation is part of our social experience and it's great to have that contact with others that share the passion for music. But it's true that there are many more club members that own and play instruments that are not seen on stage at Folk Club playing a song or three. The Folk Club is here to allow everyone to have a go, in a supportive environment, and to have fun and enjoy it. It is also vitally important for the sustainability of the club to have some growth and freshness, a bit of new energy injected from a wide range of contributions, both spot acts and guest performers. Too many clubs, sporting organisations can die a slow death from too much "*same old; same old*".

So now you are paying attention - I will fess up now and say that almost all of what follows is found on the net - there is a multitude of musicians who are more than happy to share their experiences about playing and performing on Youtube (*and getting you to subscribe to their feed*), so there is plenty of resource out there. Surprisingly enough, it is across the board: folk, classical, all version of stringed, blown, percussive instruments, and quite a bit of experience from the rock-&-roll amplified music area - while you may think it's all glam & ego, the same basics are shared across all musical styles.

## **PART - 1 PLAYING CONFIDENTLY FOR YOURSELF**

**Tip #1: Get to know your instrument** - make sure it is set up correctly, in tune and easy to play. There's plenty of Folk Club members who can help who know about setting up an instrument, so ask if you are not sure. Use the same tips that schools use for teaching beginner students - use lighter strings, ensure the action (height) is comfortable and low without buzzing, use a beginner mouthpiece or reed for wind instruments, and many instruments have a 3/4 size that accommodates smaller hands - not all of us were blessed with enormous paws with long slender fingers.

**Tip #2: Play it** - it's not much use having your instrument sitting the back room and just bring it down to the jam at Folk Club. Use it regularly, get to know it and also try and learn a little bit about music theory: at least enough to know the basics of the notes or chords and where they are found. Many music teachers will tell you that just 5 minutes a day of playing with a purpose is worth so much more than occasional intense sessions - it's the repetitiveness that trains the muscle memory that is important. Great artists are obsessively so - for example Jimmy Page, Led Zepelin's guitarist was so obsessed with playing as a boy & practiced & played that he was a session musician before he was 20.

Here is a youtube clip for older guitarists and a summary of the tips, but it would apply equally to many instruments: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CkU-qerFLpc>

- practise 5 minutes a day
- lighter strings (*get guitar set up properly for action and string height*)
- toughen up your finger pads
- leave your guitar out where you can get to it
- warm up with simple exercises
- practice efficiently - use time well, work on the problems, get something done
- keep it simple, learn songs that are not too difficult to start with, do them well

## SOME THOUGHTS ABOUT PERFORMING CONTINUED

**Tip #3: Competency - getting it right.** This can include knowing your fingering placement for chords and notes, being able to place your fingers on the strings (*levers or keys too*) and getting the notes to sound clearly, strumming the right strings or blowing or bowing the right way. It can be learning how to place just enough pressure on the string behind the fret so it sounds cleanly - you can tire yourself out with too much tension gripping the neck. For fretted instruments there is developing the skill to cleanly change from one chord to another within the rhythm of the song. All these things take practice, and this practise gets it into your muscle memory and your musical memory.

So why the emphasis on practice? Well the navy SEALS have a saying about their approaches to assignments: "*You do not rise to the occasion, you drop to your level of training (practice)*" So when you get to performing a song, what you can rely upon is what to have trained yourself to do through practice - even when jazz musicians appear to be winging it while playing, there is hours of practise in all the different scale modes and song structures underlying what may seem a carefree approach to improv.

**Tip #4: Consistency - apply yourself.** There is no magic course that gives instantaneous results. No matter what your level of musical ability or talent, consistency is achieved by regular practice. But there is also being open minded enough to take advice from a teacher or experienced player on things that may make it easier for you to achieve consistency and fluency.

Like driving, we can all accumulate habits in our playing that may be just "style", but some may be inhibiting your ability to progress. There is a long, but interesting Youtube post from Steve Krenz, a Nashville professional guitarist, on 10 bad habits that may be affecting your ability to progress. The later points are about performance and practice, but the early points address things like hand position and fingerings, how to hold your pick, strumming technique. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u1IXxDQAEeI>

There's also another interesting clip at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2FTndcu891g> which addresses strumming technique & rhythm, chord changes and anchors, muting strings and picking techniques. Keep in mind that no-one is the absolute guru on technique or theory and there will be differences in approaches, but the common element is practice.

A little bit of research can find lots of resources on all different instruments and playing techniques - for instance there are three different techniques for holding 4 mallets for playing intervals on a marimba, but none is definitively the best. Find what works for you, and apply yourself - happy playing.

SORRY...You'll have to wait for Next Month's Newsletter for Part 2!!!

## ZOOM INSTRUMENTAL WORKSHOPS

**Barry Larkin has been hosting for some time a Violin Group on a Tuesday Night. Please contact Barry on 0418 363 056 or at [b\\_larkin@ aapt.net.au](mailto:b_larkin@aapt.net.au) for details.**

**Max Amos has set up a Beginner Mandolin Group on a Monday Night . Please ring Max on 0428306687 if interested.**

# **Peninsula Folk Club Weekend Away Yarra Junction March 2021**

**On 12 th ,13 th and 14 th March we held the “Chill out” (or Junction Jam as I prefer to call it) weekend at Camp Eureka at Yarra Junction. This property is 30 acres of bush and tracks with toilets, showers and amenities such as Recreation Hut ,Kitchen and dining room, BBQ area and a large performance area.**

**Some of our committee members went up on the Thursday afternoon and set up the sinage and reception area. We were very conscious of the current Covid situation and provided all of the registration and sanitary requirements to ensure the safety of all those attending. The decision was made to close of the kitchen area.**

**On the Friday morning people started to arrive and slowly the instruments came out and jams could be heard all over the camp, by the Friday night the place was rocking. We had about 60- 70 people attend and the Saturday saw a few workshops going on in the Rec Hut and on The Saturday we had an open mike in the big hall (thank you Alan and Leon for doing all the work). Some great acts performed including Weathered Heads and a great time was had by all.**

**Then at about 4pm on the Saturday the rain hit. It bucketed and we must have had about 25mm. Not a problem. Everyone just found some shelter and kept playing. I remember drifting off to sleep with Barry Larkins Group playing some beautiful Irish and Old Timey music. By the Sunday Morning the sun was out again and the music started up again and people slowly packed up and drifted away from the site.**

**Your committee has decided this should be an annual event and has already put a deposit down for the event in 2022.**

**If you missed it this year definitely put it on your Calendar for next year.**

**Max Amos**



**BERWICK FOLK CLUB.. 3rd Friday of month**  
**Doors open 7:30 – Music starts 8:00pm @ Old Cheese Factory**  
**34 Homestead Rd., Berwick concerts have resumed with a fine line up of talent.**  
**Friday 16th April 2021 – The Good Girl Song Project.**

“The Good Girl Song Project present songs and excerpts from their musical theatre work, “Voyage.” In the midst of convict boats arriving each week from Britain, a different cargo leaves for Australia. On board are 287 single and free women. They have been promised good wages, good work and good marriage prospects in the new colony. To claim this promising new life they must first survive the voyage...and then the colony.



## **SPUKES (Southern Peninsula Ukuleles) ARE BACK**

**SPUKES is a community based ukulele group located in Rosebud where people of all ages come together to enjoy a few hours of ukulele strumming, singing and friendship.**

**We meet on the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the Month and alternate Mondays.**  
**Throughout the year we play at various events such as the Rosebud Kite Festival, Buskfest, Christmas Parade and other community based fundraising events.**

**Check the SPUKES WEBSITE for details**



## **FREE COMMUNITY BUSH DANCE**

**We are pleased to advise that we have again been able to obtain a Council Community Grant of \$1000 to help us sponsor a FREE COMMUNITY BUSH DANCE. You may recall we were set to run this in March 2020, but the global Pandemic put paid to that!**

**We have set a date.. Saturday 15th May..We are assuming that the Covid restrictions are pretty much behind us and that we will be able to run a Covid Safe event.**

**It will be held at the Bowling Club and will run from 7.00 to 10.30.**  
**The band will consist of Maggie Duncan, Peter Anderson and our own club founder, Evan Webb.**  
**This will be a Family friendly event, so bring your family..kids, grandkids etc**





## **RINGWOOD FOLK CLUB**

**ON LINE ZOOM CONCERT Tuesday 13th April 2021 7.30pm**

**Featuring Dan McKinnon This concert is presented on-line via Zoom.**

**This is a ticketed Zoom virtual meeting - Check their website for details**

### **Fathers in The Chapel**

Unplugged Music Venue  
2nd Friday of each month  
7.30pm Start  
St. John's Anglican Church  
27 Childers St. Cranbourne  
Enquiries: Mick Tinetti  
Mob. 0419 562 992

**MONDAY MUSOS  
GROUP AT HASTINGS**  
Beginners encouraged  
**JAM SESSIONS @ Hastings  
Community Centre 185 High  
St ...1.15 -3.30 pm Entry  
\$5.00 donation**

### **OPEN MIC' AT THE GREEN**

**at Yamala Bowling Club Rooms Dunstan St Frankston South.**  
**The night is held the 3rd Thursday of each month , unless otherwise notified. Because of the number of people wanting to perform, the nights now kick off at 6.40, with open mic beginning at 7.00 ..You need to book a spot on 0407 063 223 if you want to play!! Entry is via a gold coin donation**

### **CRANBOURNE FUN (FOLK UNITING NIGHT) NIGHT IS BACK SATURDAY 17th APRIL**

**3rd Sat from 7.30 at the Cranbourne Regional Uniting Church at 41 Lesdon Ave.  
Cost is \$7 per head, ( \$5 for performers) .includes supper.  
If you like live music, good company and don't mind supporting  
your local community - come along to our concerts! Come along  
and share your songs, poems, dances, music; or just enjoy  
the evening as part of the audience**

### **MOUNTAIN PICKERS ASSOCIATION ARE BACK!! Tuesday 30th March Guest Artists "CANYON"**

**Last Tuesday. at 7 .45. .Club night held at the Ferntree Gully Bowling Club (2A  
Glenfern Rd , Ferntree Gully) Entry Members - \$10 .Non Members - \$15 Conc \$12**

**If undeliverable return to:  
Peninsula Folk Club  
PO BOX 1398  
Frankston 3199**

**Dates to Remember  
Peninsula Folk Club:-Club Nights  
April 11th, May 2nd, June 6th**

*First Sunday each Month 5.30 - 9.30pm  
@ Frankston Bowling Clubrooms, Cnr Yuille & William Sts Frankston  
Informal Jam Session 5.30 - 6.30pm, then "Concert" 6.30- 9.30pm  
Members \$5.00 Visitors \$8.00 Drinks & Meals available*