

# The Balladeer

Monthly Newsletter of  
ACOUSTIC ROUTES

August 2008

## AGM and Blind Date Concert

It's that time of year again - time to elect a new committee, vote on a couple of issues, have some soup and sarnies, and then let it rip in the

### **Blind Date Concert.**

Please come along, and don't be put off by the possibility of being elected against your will - we don't really do that, you know! (Well, not often anyway.) Seriously, the concert will be great fun if past events are anything to go by, and the club could really do with your moral support at the AGM. We look forward to seeing you there. It's all about participation this month - don't miss out!!



*Christine Rosevere and Linda Sorenson perform at an earlier Blind date concert.*

Also this month, there are five Sundays, and you know what that means - there will be a blackboard concert on Sunday 31 August. Usual rules apply - \$5 entry charge for all.

But wait, there's more!

**Australian songwriter, traveler and raconteur Fred Smith** will be paying us a visit on Saturday 30 August - see inside for more details of his concert at Toi Poneke.

**SUNDAY 24 August 6PM (AGM),  
8PM (BLIND DATE) \$12/\$8  
TOI PONEKE, ABEL SMITH ST**

# Acoustic Routes

PO Box 27-191 Marion Square  
Wellington, New Zealand.  
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president@acousticroutes.org.nz

**Acoustic Routes** (Wellington Folk Centre) is a club for people who enjoy performing and listening to music with the emphasis on folk and acoustic styles.

**Monthly Concerts** are held at Toi Poneke (Wellington Arts Centre, Abel Smith Street), on the fourth Sunday of each month at 8pm. These feature an invited guest performer, with a variety of supporting acts to open the show. Door charges are \$8 for members, \$12 for non-members, and school-aged kids free. Free tea and coffee.

**Singarounds** are held at Toi Poneke on the second Sunday of the month. These are more informal sessions where anyone can perform or lead a song. Door charge \$5/\$7.

**Jam Nights** happen at Toi Poneke on the third Sunday of the month. Door charge \$5/\$7. The emphasis is on making music together as a group - joining in and having the opportunity to lead or add your own flavour to the mix. Murray Kilpatrick will facilitate but everyone will have the opportunity to lead a song or tune.

## Club Committee 2007-8

*President:* Gerard Hudson 565 3432  
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## The Balladeer

This newsletter is produced once a month for Acoustic Routes members and other subscribers.

Contributions are welcome and should be emailed to Janette by the 15th of the month preceding the month of issue. Publication is the last weekend of the month. Relevant publicity leaflets may be inserted with mailouts, at the discretion of the committee.

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## From the President

It's that time of year again... you have the chance to influence the day to day operation of the club by electing a new Committee, and raising issues that you feel the new Committee should be considering.

Notice of the Annual General Meeting of Wellington Folk Centre Inc

Agenda:

- 1) Minutes of 2007 AGM
- 2) Matters arising
- 3) President's Report
- 4) Treasurer's report and Annual Accounts
- 5) Appointment of Auditor
- 6) Subscription rates for the 2009/10 year
- 7) Election of Officers (President, Treasurer, Secretary)
- 8) Election of other committee members (up to 4)
- 9) Award of the JA Pan prize for the most improved performer
- 10) Other business

As we have stated in previous copies of the Balladeer, five (including me) of the current seven Committee members have indicated that they do not wish to stand for re-election. These five include all the current Officers. To help with continuity, I am prepared to serve on committee for a further year - but not in an officer role. This means we need 4 or 5 new committee members including President, Treasurer and Secretary.

If no members accept nomination for the Committee and officer roles, the current committee have agreed that they will continue to run the Society (without officers) until current commitments to booked performers are completed. This means:

- No more singarounds
- No more jam sessions
- No more Friday club nights
- No more Balladeers
- No more email updates.

The only concerts will be those that have already been booked with performers (4th Sunday club concerts for the rest of this year and a few special concerts in 2009).

After these are complete the club will be left dormant until a new committee can be formed from interested members.

Like many other regular event attendees, I would like to continue attending and supporting Acoustic Routes events. If this matters to you and you would be prepared to serve on the Committee - please, please, please make your interest known to me or other committee members and keep this club going.

Cheers  
Gerard  
President - Acoustic Routes

By the way ... we have some Entertainment Books left - thanks to all who have bought them so far. They are valid from now till 1 June 2009 so you can recover the \$55 purchase price very easily. If you'd like one we will have them at all events until we sell out - or contact me by email if you can't get to an event. All proceeds to Acoustic Routes.

Thanks  
Gerard

# Fred Smith - Bagarap Empires

**Australian songwriter, traveler and raconteur Fred Smith will be playing NZ venues in support of his CD *Bagarap Empires* and the documentary film *Bougainville Sky* about his work in peace-keeping missions in conflict zones of the South Pacific.**

“Smith is a superb songwriter with a wry sense of humour and a wonderful eye for the idiosyncrasies of modern life”

**Bruce Elder, Sydney Morning Herald – 17<sup>th</sup> Nov 2007**

“His CD was good, but his live performance blew me away.”

**Rich Warren, WFMT Chicago**



## The Fred Smith Story

Fred Smith is an occasional Australian Diplomat and radio broadcaster now working as a musician and songwriter in Australia and North America.

He graduated in Law and Economics from the Australian National University in 1996 joined the

Australian Foreign Affairs Department. Around that time he started writing songs and developing a career as a performing artist.

Between 1999 and 2003 Fred was stationed with New Zealand Army contingents as a Civilian Advisor to the Peace Monitoring Group on Bougainville Island, the eastern most province of Papua New Guinea. He also did a stint with the International Peace Monitoring Team in the Solomon Islands.

Working on Bougainville Smith became fluent in the pidgin language of Papua New Guinea and used his skills as a musician and radio broadcaster to help promote peace on the island. He hosted a weekly pidgin language radio program in Papua New Guinea and wrote and recorded a cassette of peace songs in Melanesian Pidgin; 20,000 copies of which were produced and distributed around the South Pacific.

While working on the islands Fred's passion for songwriting and belief in the power of music blossomed and on returning home he turned pro on the Australian festival circuit.

He moved to the United States in 2005 where his songs in particular humour have won him several awards and the hearts of many fans. During his 3 years in the North America he also conducted lectures on the Bougainville Peace Process at a number of Universities in the US and Canada.

In concert he performs songs ranging from wry comic dirges to tender ballads of loss and survival reflecting personal stories from life in a conflict zone. He presents with a gentle sense of humour and a unique gift for illuminating worlds both familiar and unfamiliar to the listener.

**Back Room, Toi Poneke, 8pm  
Saturday 30 August, \$15/\$20**

(There will also be a film screening of 'Bougainville Sky', Thursday 28 Aug at the Australian High Commission, Wellington.)

## Concert Review

### The Balzat Family Band

This was certainly a lively, happy, concert, presented by eight talented family musicians (usually nine), to a small, but very enthusiastic toe tapping Acoustic Routes audience, Saturday, July 12th.

Their range of music, quite the opposite to dull incessant jigs, was an outstanding array of contemporary Celtic tunes, some original while others familiar were played in a very professional and pleasing sound, with much appeal to most musical tastes.

Their unique band, was just so infectious - as obviously they all enjoyed not only being part of a large talented musical family, but also as completely natural, yet individual musicians in their own right who melded beautifully. Despite the age ranges, (the

youngest, a gifted Cellist of 8 years) there was a subtle maturity portrayed, intermingled with some light hearted choreography in their total professional stage presentation.

The Wellington audience were completely involved right from the start with their catchy sounds, judging by the smiling faces, clicking cameras, tapping toes, claps in time and snapping up the family's DVDs on offer.

Some of us were also lucky enough to catch the Balzats again appearing on TV1's Good Morning Show, Monday.

The Balzat family band certainly deserves the international fame I'm sure Iowa will bring them.

Philippa Boardman

## Local events

### Hobnail Boots - Shot Band launch

The Hobnail Boots and the Shot Band celebrate the release of their concert DVD with a gig at the San Francisco Bathhouse, Cuba Street. The DVD was shot by the wonderful Costa Botes and will be available at the gig. Joining the Hobnails and the Shots are special guests The Cattlestops in a rare Wellington performance.

**Sunday 24th August**

**AFTERNOON SHOW 4 - 8 pm**

**Tickets \$20.00 door sales only.**

**San Francisco Bathhouse**

**Cuba St Wellington.**



*Jo Moir and Rob Joass of Hobnail Boots*

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### Festival of Jewish Music and Jewish Food - Sunday 31 August

#### *Jewish Music*

Café Klezmer plays 4 – 4.45pm

Jews Brothers 5 – 6.15pm

Dinner served at 6.15

Klezmer Rebs 7.15 – 8.30

Rebs + guests 8.30 – 8.45

#### *Venue*

Odysseus Brotherhood Hall, 145 Hobart Street, Miramar.

#### *Tickets*

On sale now from:

- Alistair's Music, 215 Cuba Street
- Maria Pia's Trattoria, 55 Mulgrave Street
- Klezmer Rebs band members (contact David Weinstein 021 077 6069 after 28 August)
- Café Klezmer band members (contact Michelle Scullion 021 425 587)

120 meal + music tickets (\$50) are available for sale IN ADVANCE ONLY. So if you want a meal you have to buy your ticket beforehand.

Up to 130 music-only tickets (\$25) can be sold. So there will probably be some music only tickets available at the door.

**David Weinstein**

#### *Jewish Food*

Richard Klein and Maria Pia head the Wellington chapter of the Slow Food. For more info visit [www.slowfood.com](http://www.slowfood.com)

A Jewish food dinner (featuring both Ashkenazi and Sephardic dishes) will be served to those with meal tickets. Snacks (e.g. fallafels) will also be available to purchase during the afternoon/evening. Cash bar available. All proceeds go to the Slow Food movement.

#### **Riverslea Reviver**

Riverslea Sanctuary, Otaki Gorge Road  
August 15 - 17, 2008

Riverslea is on again – a chance for a week-end break in the cold winter to break the wait for Wellyfest in October.

Usual format – open session on Friday night, shared meal on Saturday, and music as you wish for the rest of the time around. Also access to the beautiful and restful Otaki Gorge with walks, river and peaceful country.

Due to rising costs, prices are a little higher this year, and, sorry, there are no child discounts. \$40 per person for one night (Fri or Sat), \$70 per person for both nights. \$25 for day visitors.

Any queries please contact Ruth Birnie on email [ruth.birnie@paradise.net.nz](mailto:ruth.birnie@paradise.net.nz) or phone 565 3432.

See registration form in this issue or on [www.acousticroutes.org.nz](http://www.acousticroutes.org.nz).

# Concerts at the Museum of Wellington

## Sundays from 13 July

Enjoy a winter season of lively events at the Museum of Wellington this July & August.

Every Sunday from 13 July to 31 August the Museum is pleased to present Free Music Concerts, in collaboration with Acoustic Routes. These one hour concerts take place each Sunday at 2pm and 3.30pm, with refreshments available during the break.

Each concert is different. The eclectic programme covers everything from folk, acoustic country, blues and gypsy jazz though to music and song with the hurdy gurdy - ensuring that there will be something for everyone.

3 Aug

Sunday 2:00pm Karen Clarke Original songs, with a touch of humour (Kapiti Coast)

3:30pm Strike 4 Female barbershop quartet (Aotea College, Wellington)

10 Aug

Sunday 2:00pm Inish Traditional folk songs, with a Celtic flavour (Wellington)

3:30pm Big Yellow Caravan Gypsy jazz (Wellington)

17 Aug

Sunday 2:00pm Full Fathom Sea shanties (Wellington)

3:30pm Mary Hubble Traditional songs (Wellington)

24 Aug

Sunday 2:00pm Spiral Contemporary blues, jazz & folk songs (Hawkes Bay)

3:30pm Kaboodle "Muckle" songs performed by Julian Ward and Dian Bastion (Wellington)

31 Aug

Sunday 2:00pm Celia & Friends Internationally acclaimed harpist Celia Briar (Wellington)

3:30pm Phillipa Gander Music and song with the Hurdy Gurdy (Wellington)

So brighten up your winter Sundays and enjoy these one-off concerts. Please see the Museum's website for full detail on what each day offers.

Also, on at the Museum over this time is Memory – an intangible map. This live theatrical performance explores the delicate ties that bind generations and the nature of memory. Film and audio give insight into the lives of seven elderly women in hospice and dementia care, while on stage Wellington East Girls' drama students share how working on this cross generational project has affected them. A collaboration with Voice Arts Trust.

Dates: Sunday 27 July, Saturday 2, Sunday 3, Saturday 9, Sunday 10 August - each performance at 1pm. Entry is free, though booking is advised. Phone 04 472 8904.

Museum of Wellington

Queens Wharf

Tel: 04 472 8904

[www.museumofwellington.co.nz](http://www.museumofwellington.co.nz)

## Review of Leonard Cohen concert

**"A 60-year-old kid with a crazy dream"** (Leonard Cohen reminiscing at the Sony Centre for the Performing Arts, Toronto, June 6 2008, on how he felt 15 years ago singing at the same venue)

I am deeply ignorant about Toronto. I was gobsmacked to find that it is huge-5 million no less- it looks a bit like Sydney and is an hour's drive from the Niagara Falls!!! But my reason to be there was for the official opening of Leonard

Cohen's World Tour 2008 in the Hummingbird Centre (an un-prepossessing building with the *current* equally un-prepossessing name of 'the Sony Centre'). But all that became irrelevant when the lights dimmed and the 3000+ audience hushed, straining to see the band and the man himself. Those wits who prize their unoriginal humour on comments like 'music to drown cats to' or 'omg I didn't realize he was still

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alive', are simply and profoundly out of touch. Leonard was greeted by a thunderous standing ovation which took even his breath away. He took off his fedora (hat!) and thanked us all warmly for taking out mortgages to get there and indeed for the overwhelming welcome. His speaking voice really is as deep and rumbling as it is in the movie "I'm Your Man"...its NOT sensurround...and he then plunged into a full repertoire interspersed with much humour, agility and humility for a subsequent 3 hours. It was heaven...the songs were delivered with CD like precision and professionalism..lots of brilliant favorites, fantastic riffs from each of the band members and lots of warm and funny repartee with the audience.

He was shorter and skinnier than I expected. Not unlike Dylan...but he smiled a lot which gave a wry interpretation to some of his songs that I hadn't thought of before. He opened with 'Dance Me to the End of Love' and followed on with so many of his great songs-a couple from the early days but mostly from 'The Future', his 'I'm Your Man' album and 'Ten New Songs'. The band was incredible, and he was very generous in sharing and applauding their talents. Sharon Robinson, a long-time collaborator and co-singer lead the female vocalists and they did an awesome duo rendition of 'Boogie Street'. His recitation of his poem version of 'A Thousand Kisses Deep' had everyone (near me at least) in tears, and then after he explained the circumstances around the words of 'If It Be Your Will' sung so extraordinarily by Anthony in the movie, he turned it over to the 'Webb sisters (the other 2 female vocalists, Charley and Hattie Webb) who delivered a spellbinding song of such beauty I could have died happily then and there! I am glad I didn't though, as more was to follow.

The string player Javier Mas on bandurria, laud, archilaud (lots of complicated names I never heard of before-but looked like guitars and mandolas) was outstanding, as was the wind section (sax, harmonica, clarinet) played so brilliantly by Dino Soldo. Dreamboat drummer Rafael Gayol molded everything together beautifully with subtle and immaculate rhythm-keeping and the Hammond organist (Neil Larson) was something else! (never thought I would think that of such a non-folky instrument). The only grey-haired guy other than LC was Bob Metzger...absolutely great on lead

guitar...such SMOOTH delivery and the musical director and bass player Roscoe Beck, must have been immensely proud of the whole concert...and just how did he do that wonderful bass effect in 'My Secret Life' and various others like 'A Thousand Kisses Deep'. No special effects....it was all for real. If there was anything disconcerting...and I'm not sure it was really, Leonard has taken to doing the 'moshing' and bent over double thing that some younger singers do....must have got it off Martha Wainwright in I'm Your Man!!! (I shut my eyes in that bit-she sounded FAB, but looked like she urgently needed the loo!!!). Still, he was so obviously into the swing of it all, and at ease with himself, that I accepted his need for modernity!!!

Well Leonard was an inspiration. Even though I am an unashamed addict for the intimacy and richness of his song, and a willing victim, the concert surpassed my expectations. My 14 year old daughter also loved it whispering to me between songs, 'hey Mum, this really IS an amazing concert'. At 73 years (slash 74-no-one seemed to know his real age!) Leonard still has loads of energy, sings strongly and sensitively...not a single wavering moment (those blue notes are on PURPOSE you guys!!) and kept up the top-notch quality for the full duration. I would love to have gone to the after-party (tipped off to be at the Prince Edward Hotel for those who know Toronto and can nod sagely) but instead I had to return to the confines of my very small hotel room to have a long conversation down the big white telephone!!! I had managed to pick up some sort of vom-bug in Toronto's heat (40 degrees in the shade!) or maybe it was a hot flush...who knows...but I am a changed woman and can truly say I have been in the presence of the great!!!

I sincerely hope Leonard decides to venture down under...did you know he has a grandchild here in New Zild? Adam his son is married to a kiwi lass, and they have a child...I have met the other granddad in Nelson ...so it's not COMPLETELY out of the question, is it? I mean c'mon!!! and yes, I held granddads' hand and asked him all about Leonard. If he does come down here GO SEE HIM-YOU WILL NOT BE DISAPPOINTED!!!! The concerts in Europe are completely sold out.

Mary Livingston aka 'Pennies from Heaven and 27 angels'

## Some snippets of news from Blighty

During my recent rather hastily-planned trip overseas, I took the opportunity to at least try to catch up with some old friends and heros/heroines in the music scene. June seemed to be a quiet month in the area where I was staying, although Alison (Knight, now domiciled near Cambridge), and I managed to get to one event calling itself a folk festival. It was held in an old inn on a river bank, and at the end of a dirt track, more accessible by longboat than car, but Alison's little Smartcar was up to the challenge - and meant that we could squeeze into one of the few carparks still available - the event was certainly popular, but 'folk', as I understand it, it was not. I did recognise 'Mairi's Wedding' belting out from the main stage at one point, and a young woman with a nice voice and guitar style entertained those of us choosing to sit two rooms away from the main stage with some self-penned songs for a while, but the rest of it seemed more like a rockfest to me. Nice atmosphere though.

Being uncertain as to whether we are getting Alistair Hulett during his NZ tour later this year, I sought him out, but alas to no avail. He is busy in August as these extracts from his newsletter show, but there was not much I could get to:

"On **August 7<sup>th</sup>** my latest musical adventure, a new, five piece band called **The Malkies** ([www.themalkies.co.uk](http://www.themalkies.co.uk)), will be celebrating the release of our debut album **Suited And Booted** at the **Star Folk Club** in St Andrew's In The Square, Saltmarket.

"The following night, that's **Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> of August**, I'll be tearing myself away from the sun drenched boulevards of Govanhill to head with top Malkie mandolin and lap steel wallah, **Phil Snell**, over to **Edinburgh** for a gig at Scotland's very smallest folk club. **The Wee Folk Club** at the Royal Oak Hotel in Infirmarary Street is once again flying the flag for folk music during the **Edinburgh Festival**, with a month of **fabulous artistes too numerous to mention**.

"**One more gig in August** (and again it's here in Glasgow) is back at **The Star Club** for the '**Songs Of Glasgow**' concert on **August 28<sup>th</sup>**. The line-up is still being finalised but I'll definitely be on the bill, doing some of my own songs about the fair city I call home (including a few from the **Red Clydeside** collection) along with some traditional ones as well. Keep your eye on the **Star Club website** for more on that gig as it comes together, it promises to be a belter!"

Also on the road in places and at times that were no good to me was double ex-pat Bob McNeill, who says in his newsletter:

"I finished my Irish tour last night in Dingle, Co Kerry, with a great night in a fantastic venue called St James' Church. I've uploaded some video of the night, and from last Saturday's show in Kinvara, Co, Galway, to my website at [www.bobmneill.net](http://www.bobmneill.net)."

Corinna Hewatt, another favourite of mine, played at the proms this year, in a concert called 'Folk at the Proms'. She has sent a link to the recording, but unfortunately we can't access it outside of the UK. Apparently Corinna performed with Bella Hardy, who she says is a beautiful singer from Derbyshire, and Chris Sherburn, who is a fantastic musician (and I can vouch for that!), widely known for his work with Last Night's Fun. Attending a 'meet the band' session with Last Night's Fun in a small tent at the Reedham Ferry Folk Restival (sadly no longer happening) was a highlight of my 2005 trip to the UK.

But enough of what I didn't see - after a lot of searching, I finally found what I was looking for - a concert headlined by Karine Polwart, with Tim Van Eyken supporting. If there was only one folky event I could get to, that was the one to go to.

I first met Karine when she was really just starting out on her professional singing career, and we were both living in Edinburgh. In fact I was a bit of a groupie for MacAlias, with duo with Gill Bowman, attending their gigs in a number of different places. (Some of you may have seen them when they toured NZ a few years ago.) Another little known fact is that I sang (well, tried to, anyway - it was in the days before auditions were required!) in the same folk choir that Karine sang in for a while, but I joined it after she left it, and sadly, my singing career hasn't taken quite the same path as hers! In those days I loved hearing Karine sing because she was quite new to it all, and dare I say it, there was always an edginess to her concerts - you never quite knew whether it was going to come off or not - of course it always did, but that bit of doubt made me feel I was witnessing a butterfly or



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a fledgling bird taking flight for the first time - all the more exciting when she made it.

Listening to Karine today, there is no question at all that as an audience you are in the presence of a confident and extremely competent performer with spirit, personality and a beautiful, beautiful voice - her fledgling days are long gone and one gets the impression she has taken her own song, the ebullient 'I'm gonna do it all', to heart. In fact, though, because of the kind of songs she writes and the subjects she chooses to write about there is still a surprising sense of vulnerability about her as a performer, and an almost frightening fragility. She writes and sings from the heart.

It was heaven for me - I made sure we got there early so we got a good seat, but I needn't have worried, Crawley is not yet like some other UK festivals I've been to, and we got our pick of seats in the big theatre. Once there, I was transported - forgot about everything else - all my tedious concerns and gripes about work, life and the universe in general just melted away - it may be a cliché, but it's true! That's what music should do.

I was very lucky to share the concert with two other enthusiasts - Alison had discovered Karine independently and I was delighted to hear that she was a fan as well. My brother Paul was keen to go to a folk festival - he's more into fado guitar (Portuguese) these days and doesn't play much folk, but he came along too, and wanted to know why he'd never heard of this amazing woman before.

Tim was gorgeous, as ever, and I have resolved to go back sometime when 'Warhorse' is on - it was his last concert before starting rehearsals for the new season of the stage show.



We saw a couple of groups of performers doing Celtic music during the day, Kerfuffle and another whose name escapes me, both enjoyable, one young and vibrant, the other not quite so but no less interesting musically. Blues group 'Spikedrivers' was the pick of the day for me. I loved their song 'Two left feet'. Their website is <http://www.spikedrivers.co.uk> in case you want to check them out - some readers might be interested to know that Constance, the only female member of the group, is the bass player.

Paul and Alison especially enjoyed the real ale tent, and I must admit I had quite a good time trying to decide which of the ciders I liked best, Janet's Jungle Juice or Double Vision. When in the south of England ... Paul decided to stay for the second day (I think he felt a certain obligation to see whether the promise that the real ale kegs would be topped up overnight was true), and catch Martin Simpson's concert, while Alison and I made our way north, and followed in the footsteps of Rupert Brooke and his mates at Grantchester, having tea in an orchard and strolling along the river bank, enjoying the very Cambridge experience of watching people and dogs messing about in punts. There are worse ways to spend a sunny Sunday afternoon, and a birthday, and I'm only telling you the last part to fill in the space!

Pictures for this article are taken from the artists' websites. Karine's website is <http://www.karinepolwart.com>.

## Johan Piribauer

**Date, time: Thursday 4 September, 8pm**  
**Venue: Happy, cnr Tory and Vivian Sts, Wellington**  
**Door charge: \$20**  
**Concert: Swedish indie folk-rock: Johan Piribauer and Maud Rombe.**

Johan Piribauer is a folkrock artist/singer-songwriter from Arvidsjaur, Lapland, Sweden near the Arctic Circle. He has been playing for 20 years as a guitarist in different bands and for about 10 years in a Folkrock-project called "Johan Piribauer & Gruvtolvan". He also performs and tours as a solo artist and with his partner and backing vocalist Maud Rombe.

As Johan lives in "the wilderness", in a small town with 5000 inhabitants, he also like touring outside the big cities, playing small intimate venues in the

countryside. Since 2001 he has played venues in Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland, Faeroe Islands and the north of Germany. In a more adventurous move, Johan took his guitar on a holiday trip to the Antarctic in 2007 where he played his southernmost gigs ever. This is his first NZ tour.

Johan's melodic songs, sung in Swedish, are inspired by Lappish nature and culture. His songs are very varied, from slow ballads to up-tempo rockers, all with a folk feeling. Although he's always been an "underground-artist", many critics have said that Johan is one of the important artists to take Swedish progressive folk-rock from the seventies into the 21st century. He also has a musical profile in Lapland as an arranger of concerts and festivals.

Hear Johan on <http://www.myspace.com/johanpiribauer>

## Award for poet Les Barker

Poet Les Barker has won an award for learning the Welsh language. The Inspire Adult Learner Awards are organised by NIACE Dysgu Cymru and recognise the achievements of adult learners throughout Wales. At a prestigious, invitation-only celebration dinner at Swansea's Brangwyn Hall on May 15, Les received the Welsh Learner of the Year Award 2008.

Les, 61, who relocated to Wrexham from his native Manchester a couple of years ago, was determined to learn the language and after only two years is able to write and translate poetry and hold performances in front of Welsh-speaking audiences.

He began writing in Welsh by experimenting with the awdl (a long poem in strict meter), then translated *Yr Odliadur*, a book about rhyming, into English. He says: "I am delighted to have found a community where writing, singing, dancing and playing instruments are normal activities. Learning Welsh has been an enormous achievement for me and has really helped me to settle into the local culture.

Les was nominated for the award by his Popeth Cymraeg (Welsh Unlimited) tutor, Frances Jones. Says Frances: "I was so impressed with Les's dedication and enthusiasm for learning a new language, and his ability to use both

languages in his vocation as a poet and writer after so little time. His hunger to learn and embrace the Welsh language and culture is an inspiration to others."

Les is now gigging again regularly after recovering from a heart attack in January and has become involved with the preparations for a new folk festival, the Tegeingl, in Mold. To learn more about his three decades as a "poet and professional idiot" on the folk scene and beyond, visit his website, <http://www.mrsackroyd.com>.

And it seems we have a poet in our own midst - this request to added to the club email list was received recently:

Oh list, oh list, oh list me please,  
some things to know, to feel at ease,  
and when I'm there sometime I'll  
squeeze,  
to charm my ear by more degrees  
than being bush with my CD's,  
a concert or some other treat,  
to glad my heart and tap my feet,  
into my hurried term of life I yearn.  
So sign me up, and not me spurn.

David Kidron

## CELTICANZ Nov 2008

### 7th – 10th November, Huia, Auckland.

If you missed out on the special pre-sale ticket price, you can still purchase tickets for \$200 for a full weekend adult pass, which includes Celticanz entry, accommodation, 6 lessons, concert ticket, & ceilidh.

This year, we have booked a top Celtic Australian band, CONUNDRUM, to be our guest artists. Featuring Catherine Moser (Fiddle), Corey Romeo (Guitar/Mandolin), John Meridith (Flute/Tin Whistle), and Gerry Daley (Bodhran/Guitar/Mandola/Vocals).

Conundrum are a great bunch of people, and fantastic musicians. The four-piece line-up will mean that this year we can have a greater variety of classes being taught. Classes this year will include; Fiddle, Guitar, Mandolin, Flute/Tin Whistle, Bodhran, and mixed instrument.

Conundrum aim to create depth and freshness in their rendition of traditional Celtic music without

compromising the melodies and rhythms which make this music so great in the first place. Playing music from places such as Ireland, Brittany, and the Shetland Islands. They also write and perform original tunes. Conundrum has performed at various festivals in Australia such as the Port Fairy Folk Festival, National Celtic Festival and Kapunda Festival.

To purchase your ticket, simply make cheques payable to 'Celticanz,' or transfer the Payment Amount to:

Account Name: Celticanz  
Account Number: 06 0153 0419777 00  
Particular: Your first name  
Code: Your last name  
Reference: PRESALE

Confirmation of your purchase will be forwarded to you by email.

We look forward to hearing from you all, and please pass this letter on to all your friends.  
Philip Whitehead, Luthier

## Pukerua Bay Folk Club

8pm, Thursday 5 August

Murray and Julie Kilpatrick's home

9 Donlin Rd, Pukerua Bay

Ph 239 9951

Email: Julmur@paradise.net.nz

The night begins with a sing-around, where everybody is invited but not forced, to do something to contribute to the evening's entertainment.

This is followed by Julie's famous scones tea/coffee and then a guest performer, who this month is Hector and the Electric Women, with special guest Andrea Coop.

Everybody is very welcome.

## Palmerston North Folk Club

Every Friday night, 8pm

310 Church Street, near the Square - opp. Animates Pet shop, easy to find.

Different events every week, always a friendly jam after 10pm

Door charge usually \$5 non-members, \$3 members.

School kids free. All welcome.

Contact: Bruce Thomson

Palmerston North 06 357 7773

20 Lyndhurst Street, Palmerston North 4412  
or (weeknights) Wellington 9 Zande Terrace, Tawa 04  
232 9974; bruce.thomson@slingshot.co.nz 021 176  
9711

## Acoustic Routes' regular events

### Singaround

Sunday 10 August

The Back Room, Wellington Arts Centre, 61-67 Abel Smith Street

8pm, admission: \$7/\$5

Our 2nd Sunday informal get together. We even have tables to hide behind now... everyone gets a chance to sing and/or play.

### Friday Blackboard and Club Night

Friday 8 August

The Back Room, Wellington Arts Centre, 61-67 Abel Smith Street

8pm, admission: \$7/\$5

Our newest - and oldest - event! Blackboard first half, second half session.

### Jam Session

Sunday 17 August

The Back Room, Wellington Arts Centre, 61-67 Abel Smith Street

8pm, admission: \$7/\$5

Our 3rd Sunday get together with a focus on joining in and playing as a group. Great fun - everyone has the opportunity to lead and join in.

## Kapiti Live Music Club

August 17th Tuesday evening  
Blackboard concert at 7:30

Draw for wine & bread & Cds  
Guest performer to follow.

## Folkin` Good Times

Is a series of gigs being organised by Jimmy Stearn: a singer/songwriters collective, with the aim of gettin' as many gigs for performers in Wellington, and maybe in other cities too, if we get our act together. We're quite keen on giving people who don't get to gig often a shot at it, and also to set them up on the same nights as slightly better known artists,

so that they can get exposure. Things are moving along nicely now, the performer list is growing and its picking up momentum ... if you go to [www.myspace.com/folkingoodtimes](http://www.myspace.com/folkingoodtimes) the gig listings are on there.

19 Aug 2008 Happy, Wellington, 8pm  
24 Oct 2008 Wellington Folk Festival, Wellington  
23 Jan 2009 Auckland Folk Festival, Auckland

## Otaki Live Music Club

Sunday 3 August, 7pm

Senior Citizens Hall, Rangatira Street, Otaki

\$2 and supper

**All-genre Blackboard concert**

Contact: Cavan Haines

06 3648991

chaines@pocd.co.nz



## CEOL ALBA

2<sup>ND</sup> & 4<sup>TH</sup> Fridays, Chilton St James, Lower Hutt  
7:30pm - 9:30ish, \$3

Ph. Lynne Scott, 565 0164; lynne@scott.gen.nz

Ceol Alba is a club for Scottish music enthusiasts to get together to share and play Scottish music. Any instrument is welcome, except perhaps bagpipes, as they use a different scale and tuning. Although the main gates are on Waterloo Road, the back gate in Chilton Grove is the best.

## Mainly Acoustic

**Tuesday 12  
August  
Mayfair Cafe  
Entry \$10**

Mainly Acoustic is delighted to announce that it has Blues exponent Dave Murphy as guest this month.



Dave has recently released an album and a film about him recording his music and talking about his life and the blues. This CD/DVD called "Yes That's Me: Dave Murphy plays the blues" will be launched at the Wellington Film Festival in July where the DVD was officially selected for viewing.

### **Songwriting workshop with Charlotte Yates**

Songwriting Workshop -Saturday 16 August, 2-4pm, Upper Chamber Toi Poneke Arts Centre, 61 Abel Smith St Wellington Ph: 04 3851929

Charlotte will take a songwriting workshop on Saturday August 16 open to anyone interested in the 'how to' of songwriting - lyrics, melody, form and function. The workshop is a practical approach to writing a song from scratch. Participants will work in groups. Each group will have written an original song (or at least, most of one) by the end of the workshop. You don't need to be an amazing singer or a wonderful instrumentalist, but you do need to contribute your ideas! Tickets are \$25. Bookings are essential on [info@charlottesyates.com](mailto:info@charlottesyates.com). Bring pen, paper and the instrument of your choice.

Charlotte also performs this month at Eva Dixon's, Cnr of Camperdown and Darlington Roads, Miramar on Thursday 21 August 7pm - 9pm. There's no door charge but people do need to book for dinner on 04 388 8058.

### **Stoat Trappers' Ball**

**Wainuiomata RSA  
42-50 Burden Avenue,  
Wainuiomata**

**Saturday 23rd August, 2008  
8.00pm - Midnight**

~ with the Jimmy Cook Band ~

*It'll be more fun than having a weasel  
up your trouser leg!*

Tickets \$30 Adult \$15 Child

Supper Included

Drinks extra (at RSA prices)

In support of the Rimutaka Forest Park Trust

Dress Code: Feral to Formal  
(or Bush to Glam...)

Contact Susan Ellis:

S.Ellis@gns.cri.nz; ph (home): 0064-4971-5024; ph (office): 0064-4570-4730

## Levin Folk Club

**Horowhenua Scottish Society Hall  
Bartholomew Road, Levin**

**Friday August 8th**

**\$5 entry/supper provided / 7:30pm**

**Open blackboard first half - one song each**

**Guest performers: Rob Joass and Jo Moir**

Performing together for nearly 15 years, Rob and Jo have traveled far and wide, playing at cafés, folk clubs, bars and festivals all over the world. Their 4th CD ('Fortune Horses') with their band The Hobnail Boots was a finalist for Best Folk Album at the 2008 Tui New Zealand Music Awards.

## Wellington Bluegrass Society

**Fri 15th August 8:30pm - Society night featuring Jack MacKenzie & Graham Lovejoy - two awesome artists join together and return to the WBS. Flatpicking at it's best on guitar and mandolin. \$10**

**Sun 31st August 8:00pm - concert featuring The Jews Brothers - on tour from Auckland this will be a welcome return to the WBS. \$20 / \$15 members or children**

**ON THE  
AIR**

### **Access Radio (783 AM)**

Celtic Connections: Saturdays 9am

Ireland Calling: Wednesdays 10pm

Capital Irish: Sundays 12 mid-day

Town & Country Radio: Mondays 9 pm

### **Radio Active (89 FM)**

Global Pulse: Sundays 8 - 11am

Americana: Sundays 2 - 4pm

### **RadioNZ National (567 AM / 101.3 FM)**

Music 101: Saturdays 2pm

Beale Street Caravan (Blues): Mondays 11pm

## August events

### Thursday 7 August

Pukerua Bay Folk Club  
Blues @ The Bristol

### Friday 8 August

Club night, Toi Poneke  
Wairarapa Folk Club  
Levin Folk Club  
Ceol Alba

### Sunday 10 August

Singaround, Toi Poneke

### Tuesday 12 August

Mainly Acoustic

### Thursday 14 August

Blues @ The Bristol

### Friday 15 August

Bluegrass Society Concert

### Sunday 17 August

Club Jam session

### Tuesday 19 August

Kapiti Live Music Club

### Thursday 21 August

Blues @ The Bristol

### Sunday 24 August

Acoustic Routes AGM and Blind  
Date concert

Levin Folk Club Workshop  
Ceol Alba

### Thursday 28 August

Blues @ The Bristol

### Saturday 30 August

Fred Smith concert, Toi Poneke

### Sunday 31 August

Acoustic Routes Blackboard concert

## Wairarapa Folk Club

Club Night (every 2nd Friday of the month)

8pm Friday 13 August

Entry: Koha

Venue: 251 Falloon Settlement Road,  
Masterton

Contact Jenny or Remco, 06 370 1021

wairarapafolkclub@paradise.net.nz

Also meets at The Lounge, Wine and  
Tappas Bar, Carterton every 4th  
Wednesday of the month.

## Folk Clubs & Contacts

### Acoustic Routes

Concert 4th Sunday of month, Wellington Arts Centre, Abel Smith Street, 8pm. Informal sing-around 2nd Sunday, Jam session 3rd Sunday, and Blackboard concert 5th Sunday, same time & place. Also new blackboard concert/session on 2nd Friday. See p 2 for contacts.

### The Singers' Club

Last Tuesday of month, on hold until further notice. Venue tba. Guest performers and Singers' Club residents. Contact: Tony Hillyard (021) 253 8996 email: tonyh@clear.net.nz

### Mainly Acoustic Music Club

2nd Tuesday of month, 7.30, Mayfair Cafe, 166 Main Street, Upper Hutt. Contact: Kevin or Sue Meehan, 970 4068

### Pukerua Bay Folk Club

1st Thursday of the month, 8pm, 9 Donlin Rd, Pukerua Bay. Contact: Murray or Julie Kilpatrick, 239 9951; email: julmur@paradise.net.nz

### Wellington Bluegrass Society

3rd Friday of month, 8.30 pm, Petone Function Room, 54 Richmond Street, Petone. Blackboard concert 1st Friday of month. Contact: Andrew Bicknell, 477 0069

### Kapiti Live Music Club

3rd Tuesday of month, blackboard 7.30, guest 8.30. Murphy's Law, Main Road, Waikanae. Website www.klmc.org.nz

### Levin Folk Club

2nd Friday of month, Horowhenua Scottish Society and Pipe Band hall, corner Bartholomew Rd and Middlesex Street. Blackboard concert plus guest artist: \$5 including supper. Workshop 4th Friday of month (no charge). Contact: Anne Campbell (06) 368-3777

### Wairarapa Folk Club

2nd Friday of the month; Contact Remco de Ket or Jenny Freeman-tle, (06) 370 1021 - wairarapafolkclub@paradise.net.nz

### Ceol Alba – Scottish Music Club

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Friday s of the month.  
Phone Lynne Scott, 565 0164: lynne@scott.gen.nz

### International Folk Dancing

Wednesdays 7.45-9.15pm, Deirdre Tarrant Dance Studio, 125 Cuba Mall. Contact: Cashy Yates 569 1618.

### Morris Dancing

*Pride of Holland Street (men and women)*: Tuesdays at Aro Valley Community Centre; Contact: Peter Denee, 499 2880.

*Britannic Bedlam Morris Gentlemen*: Wednesdays 8pm, Tawa Pipe Band Hall, by Redwood Station. Contact: Ian Appleton 476-4391.

*White Rose of Wellington (women)*: Wednesdays 8pm, Brooklyn Scout Hall, Harrison St, Brooklyn. Contact: Debs Potter, 476-9294  
Morris website: <http://morrisdancing.org.nz>

# alistair's music LTD

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