

The Balladeer

Monthly newsletter of Acoustic Routes, Wellington's folk music club

Acoustic & Routes

www.acousticroutes.org.nz

Special Request: Join the Committee!

We are looking for a new president, treasurer, and committee members to join Kevin, Monica and Philippa.

Help Acoustic Routes to continue flourishing!

Special thanks to Mary, Peter, and Jaap who are stepping down.

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NOTE: This newsletter can be printed out from a pdf located on the website www.acousticroutes.org.nz

1. Winter Blues concert, Meow, 24 July, 7.30 pm Double billing - Marg Layton and Piers Hayman



Marg Layton

Singer Marg Layton is well known to Acoustic Routes members, being a frequent performer at the many different incarnations of the club. With her guitarists Bill Lake and Chris Prowse, she returns on Sunday 24 July in a concert at Meow, 9 Edward Street, Wellington.

Marg's rich, expressive vocals have been shaped over many years by a wide variety of influences, including blues, jazz, folk and gospel. A warm and charismatic performer, she talks to the audience, involving them in her music.

Piers Hayman: singer-songwriter

Piers gave up the violin and bought his first guitar at art school - partly, he says, because he thought it would help attract the girls and partly because he became caught up in the folk music revival that occurred in the UK in the late 1950s.



As a duo with Peter Cox, he performed at folk clubs all over the UK. They shared the concert platform with the likes of Julie Felix, Sandy Denny, Alex Campbell, and Johnny Silvo and supported touring American artists like Tom Paxton and a "youngster" named Paul Simon. In 1973 Piers moved to Holland and joined up with Dutch guitarist John Kuiper for the next nine years as a successful folk duo, recording three albums of their own material. In January 1983 he came to New Zealand to write and illustrate a book on New Zealand birds, where, apart from the odd trip back to the UK and Europe, he has remained ever since.

For the first few years he continued to play in folk clubs, then his "other life" as an author and illustrator expanded and it was not until near the end of 2010 that Piers drifted back into the folk scene. 2011 finds him "back in the clubs and back on the road" with a varied mix of contemporary and traditional material written and gathered during more than fifty years as a singer/songwriter. This unique collection he presents with a lively wit, a memorable voice and an engaging stage presence, all passed down to him by his Irish birth-mother.

ENTRY \$25 (\$20 folk club members)

And a fabulous way to get in the groove for the Winter Blues concert - **Americana jam session**, Meow, 24 July, 4-7 pm

Richard Klein and friends have had their Sunday jam running for some time, but had their first Meow gathering in April, with great success. You can hear some of the Wellington region's finest players and singers of country, blues, cajun, old-timey, boogie-woogie and all-around good time American music and it's an open session so you can join in.

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2. Riverslea Retreat, Riverslea Lodge, Otaki Gorge Road, 5-7 August

The Riverslea Retreat is an annual highlight of the Acoustic Routes calendar, wonderfully hosted again this year by Annie McGregor. A great opportunity to drive away the winter blues with warm company and wonderful music.

Tea, coffee and Milo are provided and there will be a shared meal on the Saturday night. Pillow, pillow case and bottom sheet are provided on the bunks.

Charges are \$45.00 per night and \$25.00 for a day visitor. Please contact Annie to register: annemcgregor@xtra.co.nz

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3. Note from the president



Hi Everyone

I don't think I ever remember an end of financial year quite like this one. I thought life was supposed to get more serene as one gracefully matured and beamed with wisdom and satisfaction at one's life achievements, creativity and. . . Yeah right! So I shall keep this short and sweet. We have some great events coming

up in July, starting with a blackboard concert evening at Mojo Invincible on **July 1st** (and not on the 8th as wrongly suggested in the previous circular); a singaround on the 10th, and a concert for defying the mid-winter blues on the 24th. We are also seeking applications from you all for our kaleidoscope concert, and of course interest in the Acoustic Routes retreat which is held annually at Riverslea in Otaki Gorge.

Some of you will have received a blurb about elections coming up this year at the AGM in August. In a nutshell, as always, all committee positions are up for nomination and voting at the AGM, but you should know that Peter Denee (treasurer), Jaap Jasperse (committee member) and I (president) are standing down. So the club needs some different people who are keen to put their stamp on it and take a turn at running things. Give it some thought at least. If you are keen to be nominated, please don't be shy - contact someone on the current committee.

Well, I am going to stop now and have a well earned mid-winter cup of ale and let you read the newsletter at your leisure!

Best mid-winter wishes to you all. Mary Livingston

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4. Acoustic Routes monthly blackboard sessions, Mojo Invincible, 1 July, 7-10 pm



The Acoustic Routes open mic on the first Friday of the month at Mojo Invincible is taking off, so come along and put your name down. It's informal and friendly and a good way to introduce yourself and your songs to a supportive audience.

Format is one item each, followed by a short break. Then a second turn for those who are keen, and/or a jam session depending on the mood on the night.

Mojo Invincible coffee bar, 161 Willis Street.
No charge, but we have a koha jar.

5. Monthly singaround, 10 July, 7.30 pm



Come and enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of our home-based singaround session (join the circle and take a turn to perform if you wish).

This month's singaround is at Marie Russell's place - 20 Quebec St, Kingston, Wellington, tel. 934 9119.

You are welcome to bring your own beer or wine. No charge, but a koha is requested to cover incidentals. Come early for a glass of mulled wine (from 7 pm).

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6. Sign up for the Kaleidoscope Concert after the Annual General Meeting, Meow, 28 August, 6.00 pm

This year we have planned a concert format not completely unlike blind date, but with a colourful twist for AGM night in August. The theme is Kaleidoscope and the colours are loosely associated with musical genres as follows:

Blue: blues, bluegrass and country

Red: protest and political

Green: nature and environment

Yellow: contemporary folk (from the 60s forwards)

Purple: roots, trad, celtic

Instead of us drawing names from a hat, YOU get to choose which group you would like to be in! And you don't have to stick to what you know . . . songwriting is absolutely encouraged as is silliness and theatrical attire. Work on 20-25 minutes per colour, and of course the usual prizes will be awarded. Golden Plectrum Award for best instrumental break, Cooper-Grundy Award for best dressed group, Chocolate Fish Award for best new original song. It will be at Meow 7.30 pm, August 28th after the AGM which will run from 6 to 7 pm also at Meow. ALL WELCOME!

Please send your name and colour of choice to president@acousticroutes.org.nz by 22 July so we can announce groupings at the concert on 24 July.

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7. Folkie search: Joanne Crosby/Neilson/Foster

We have had an enquiry from Tracie Lawry who is trying to make contact with an old friend and Wellington folkie Joanne Crosby/Neilson/Foster. If you can help, please e-mail president@acousticroutes.org.nz

8. Acoustic Routes Membership Subs, 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2012

\$25 - Single

\$40 - Double/family (children under 18)

\$15 - Student, life member partners, beneficiaries

What being a member gives you

- Monthly programme of concerts by top-class musicians (international and local)
- Performance opportunities at Acoustic Routes
- A range of other club musical and social events
- Regular communications about what's on - all put together by a Committee elected by you
- a Membership Card that provides:

- o discounted entry to most club events and concerts
- o discounted entry to participating folk clubs
- o discounts on selected items at Alistair's Music, Cuba Street
- o voting rights at the AGM or any subsequent SGM.

Payment options

1. Post cheque (made out to "Wellington Folk Centre Inc.") and your details (below) to Acoustic Routes WFC: P.O. Box 27-191 Marion Square WELLINGTON 6141
2. Pay by internet banking to account payee "Wellington Folk Centre Inc.": ANZ account 01 0505 0182241 00 (*ensure your name is included for reference*) and simultaneously forward your details (as below) to treasurer@acousticroutes.org.nz
3. Hand the form below plus payment to a committee member at an Acoustic Routes event.

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PLEASE COMPLETE

Amount paid: \$ _____ Choose one: Single, Double /family, Student

Payment method. Choose one: posted cheque/internet banking/other

NAME(S): _____

POSTAL ADDRESS: _____

POSTCODE: _____

YOUR CURRENT E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

Many thanks

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9. Are you ready to perform?



Opportunities are available for support acts for many of our monthly concerts. You'll do a 20- to 30-minute spot in the first half of the show, before the main invited guest. It's a great thing to work towards and can stretch you on your musical journey.

Current Acoustic Routes members will be given priority, but enquiries are welcome from non-members. We don't always know who is keen to have a go, so do please tell us if you want to. Talk to a committee member, or drop an email to president@acousticroutes.org.nz

10. About Acoustic Routes

Acoustic Routes (Wellington Folk Centre Incorporated) is a club for people who enjoy playing and listening to folk and acoustic styles of music.

We have several regular events each month. The first Friday of the month is open mic night at Mojo Invincible, 161 Willis Street.

The second Sunday of the month is the singaround. This moves to a different member's home each month and is a relaxed opportunity to share your latest song or tune, increase your performing confidence, and enjoy the company of other folkies.

The fourth Sunday of the month generally features a concert. usually with a visiting

artist and support acts from amongst our membership. These concerts are at Meow, 9 Edward Street, Wellington, until further notice.

Our annual retreat at Riverslea Lodge, Otaki Gorge Road, will be held the weekend 5-7 August 2011. This is a live-in weekend of music, friendship, food and fun not to be missed.

Membership of Acoustic Routes costs \$25 a year for individuals, \$40 for couples or families, or \$15 for students and beneficiaries. It entitles you to door-charge discounts at Acoustic Routes events and also at events put on by most other folk clubs. Members get priority access to performance opportunities, and can have input into the club's activities. To join, see Peter Denee, who's usually on the door at club events, or email him at treasurer@acousticroutes.org.nz.

Acoustic Routes publishes this newsletter (*The Balladeer*) at the start of every month, and also an acoustic gig guide for the Wellington region (Acoustic Routes update) in the middle of every month. To subscribe to either, contact publicity@acousticroutes.org.nz

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11. Acoustic Routes contacts

President: Mary Livingston president@acousticroutes.org.nz

Correspondence: Monica Cartner secretary@acousticroutes.org.nz

Publicity: Kevin Ikin publicity@acousticroutes.org.nz

Membership: Peter Denee treasurer@acousticroutes.org.nz

Balladeer: Philippa Boy, Jaap Jasperse balladeer@acousticroutes.org.nz

Acoustic Routes update email: Gerard Hudson publicity@acousticroutes.org.nz

Postal address: PO Box 27-191 Marion Square, Wellington, New Zealand.

Website: www.acousticroutes.org.nz

Facebook: www.facebook.com/home.php#!/pages/Acoustic-Routes/89128457590

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12. Other regular folk events/contacts in the region

Ceol Alba Scottish Music Club

When: 2nd and 4th Fridays of month

Contact: Lynne Scott, 565 0164 lynne@scott.gen.nz

International Folkdancing

When: Every Wednesday from February to December, 7.30 to 9.15

Where: Tarrant Dance Studios, 125 Cuba St, Wellington

Contact: Cashy Yates (04) 569 1618 cashy@ihug.co.nz

Kapiti Live Music Club

When: 1st Wednesday of month, unplugged, acoustic rounds: 7:30 till 10pm
3rd Wednesday of month, blackboard, 7.30 pm, guest 8.30

Where: temporarily at 69 Rimu Road, Raumati Beach

Contact: Ruth Birnie, enquiry@klmc.org.nz, www.klmc.org.nz/

Levin Folk Club

When: 2nd Friday of month, 7.30 pm, blackboard concert plus guest artist. \$5 entry includes supper
4th Friday of month, 7.30 pm, acoustic night. \$2
Where: Horowhenua, Scottish Society and Pipe Band hall, cnr Bartholomew Rd and Middlesex St.
Contact: Anne Campbell annemc@ihug.co.nz

Mainly Acoustic Music Club

When: 2nd Tuesday of month, 7.30pm
Where: Mayfair Cafe, 166 Main Street, Upper Hutt
Contact: Kevin & Sue Meehan (04) 970 4008
John & Susan Sutherland (04)528 2016

Mojo Acoustic

When: 2nd, 3rd and 4th Friday of month, 7pm
Where: Mojo Invincible, Willis Street
Contact: Ruth Birnie 04 905 3838, ruthbirnie@clear.net.nz
Niels Gedge 970 1170, n.gedge@xtra.co.nz

Morris dancing: Dave Barnes www.morrisdancing.org.nz/

Pukerua Bay Folk Club

When: 1st Thursday of month, 8 pm
Where: 9 Donlin Rd, Pukerua Bay
Contact: Murray or Julie Kilpatrick, (04)239 995, julmur@paradise.net.nz

Wairarapa Folk Club

When: 2nd Friday of month
Contact: Remco de Ket, or Jenny Fremantle 06 370 1021. Email wairapafolkclub@paradise.net.nz

Wellington Bluegrass Society

When: 3rd Friday of month, 8.30 pm
Where: 54 Richmond Street, Petone
Contact: Andrew Bicknell, (04)477 0069, bluegrass@paradise.net.nz
www.huttcity.com/wellingtonbluegrass
www.myspace.com/thebluegrassclub

Welsh Dragon Unaccompanied Singing Session

When: Every Tuesday from 8pm
Where: Welsh Dragon Bar, Courtenay Place
Contact: Dave Barnes www.myspace.com/davidbarnesnzm

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