



LEVIN FOLK MUSIC CLUB INC

MAY 2017

*Entry \$5 members/\$10 non-members/\$3 children and school students
Horowhenua Scottish Society Hall, cnr Bartholomew Rd and Middlesex St
www.levin-folk-music-club.org.nz/*

CLUB EVENTS

MAY

Friday, 12 May

Concert Night with
Gillian Boucher and Bob
McNeill

Friday, 26 May

Club Night

JUNE

Friday, 9 June

Concert Night with
Reverie

Friday, 23 June

Club Night

Levin Folk Music Club Inc
c/o 106 Kawiu Rd, Levin
[Contacts](#) [Website](#)

Club Night: Friday 26 May

Come a long and enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of our club night. It is a great opportunity to perform on your own, jam and join in with others. All welcome 7.30pm, \$2 entry with light supper.

Concert Night with Gillian Boucher and Bob McNeill



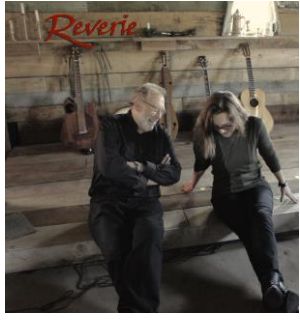
Gillian Boucher is one of Nova Scotia's most well-known fiddlers and seamlessly blends Celtic and contemporary sounds. She has been touring the world since the age of 15, delighting audiences with her innovative and expressive take on traditional music. Her most recent album, *Attuned* (2014), received great acclaim, snapping up a Nova Scotia Music Award nomination and lots more besides. Originally from Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia, and from a family steeped in musical tradition, Gillian has toured Scotland, Ireland, Canada, Turkey, USA, New Zealand and Australia.

Bob McNeill moved to New Zealand from Scotland in 1999. He quickly established himself as one of New Zealand's best known folk artists for his solo work and with the celtic duo Ben the Hoose. Bob is a 3-time New Zealand Music Award recipient for Best Folk Album of the Year. His songs have been covered by artists in New Zealand, Scotland, Australia and the USA. His musical and song writing style is a hybrid of the Celtic music of his native Scotland and the American new folk and Americana styles. The Dominion Post compared him to Jackson Brown, James Taylor, Luka Bloom and Dougie MacLean. Wow, you can't miss this one.

Blackboard Concert

Bookings for the blackboard slots will open at **7pm**. All performances are one item of no more than 5 minutes. We look forward to hearing our talented blackboard artists.

June Concert Night



Our guest artists for June concert night are Reverie. Reverie are Victoria Vigenser and Tony Hillyard. Holding traditional song at their core but sharing a passion for contemporary song writing,

Reverie will sing your soul awake with music you can feel. Every performance is laced with emotional melodies and tight harmonies that resound inside the head, heart and soul of the folk roots movement.

We also have a floor spot from Gladstone Road to look forward to.

(Diary it now I say, Ed)

Tribute to Marion Birch

Marion often opened the Levin Folk Music Club concert night with a cheery smile, a welcoming and encouraging word to performers and the audience and a thoughtful poem and a song. This is her story.

Marian was born in Birmingham in the West Midlands in 1926. She was the oldest of six children, five girls and a boy. They lived on the outskirts of the city and went cycling in the country for picnics with their father who was a postmaster. This gave Marian an appreciation of the city and countryside. She won a book scholarship to Waverley Grammar School. During WW2 she was billeted in Worcestershire, as German bombers were targeting Birmingham's factories. Her father Gilbert used to cycle out to see his daughters whenever he could. Once the threat of bombing was eased she returned home to work in a factory. Her father didn't approve of her working in a factory so he arranged for Marian to be transferred to the office. She learnt shorthand and typing at night school. From there she worked in telephone exchanges and telegraph offices. Then she heard that there were some short intensive courses in teacher training being offered as teachers were in short supply so she applied and was accepted. She now began the career that lasted most of her life.

While she was teaching in Poole a friend invited her to a dance and she met Brian Birch who was stationed nearby

in the navy. In due course they married. It was the end of the war and things were in short supply. Her wedding dress was borrowed from an aunt, it was not a dress that she particularly liked and as the music for the wedding was forgotten the guests had to sing unaccompanied. Marion has 3 children Margaret, Ruth and John. Brian was posted to Malta and the family accompanied him, while there Marian continued her teaching.

After 2 and half years the family returned to England and Brian was eventually transferred to a desk job teaching engineering at the Navel College in Portsmouth, Marian again continued teaching. Brian hated being desk bound and so fifty one years ago the decision was made to emigrate to New Zealand. At first the family lived in Blenheim and Marian taught there. The family then moved to Feilding where Marian taught first at Colyton School, then Lytton Street School and finally Manchester Street where she was the head teacher, in charge of the junior school. She continued to work until she was 65.

When she retired she took up pottery and joined a writers group. She always had an interest in writing even as a young child and wanted to take her writing further. Upon her husband's death her love of literature and poetry led her to attend a Massey University course to polish her writing and poetry skills. These she didn't keep to herself. With the help of a friend Christine Toms she published a book of poems.

Folk clubs – on Sundays she attended the regular jam at the Bent Horseshoe Café at Horseshoe Bend Tokomaru with her daughter and son-in-law Charles Boyce. Steve Tolley, the owner, ran a music afternoon and she was a regular attendee. Marion was also a regular performer at Lily's Ranch House, the Levin Folk Music Club, and the Palmerston North Folk Club where she sang and read her own poetry and songs. Marion will be missed by us all.

(Thanks Margaret, Charlie and family for this tribute. Ed)

Club News

Saturday May 27th is Levin Music Month Day

Music Month is coming around again and the Levin Folk Club will be performing at our own venue (to be finalised) on Saturday 27 May. We will perform from 10.00 to 2.00pm (longer if needed) with each performance likely to be 20 to 30 minutes depending on how many of you register. Anyone interested in playing at our Music Month performance, please contact Jean Hollis on 063686406. Jean will contact you nearer the time to let you know where our stage will be and when you are playing. Good luck to all the performers.



Urgent help needed

We urgently need more people to help set up the hall for concert nights. Many hands make light work so please help if you can. Helpers meet at the hall at 4.00pm on the afternoon of concert night and set up takes about an hour. If you would like to put your name down for one of the jobs we roster each concert night eg supper, please give Jean Hollis your name. Hope to see some members at the set up for this month's concert night on Friday 12th.

Members Jackpot Draw

Congratulations to John Gray for winning the members draw and big thanks for donating it back so May's draw is now \$15.00. (Thanks John. Ed)

Festival Report

A report from Dale on the Australian National Folk Festival in Canberra



Having heard about the National Folk Festival over the years, I flew direct Wgn-Canberra just prior to Easter and found myself camping with some Aussie

friends in a huge sea of campervans, trailers and tents. This festival has been going 51 years and many of the

attendees are musicians who have known each other for years through diverse folk clubs and festivals.

It was amazing to see the scope of the festival, with 18 music venues, DIY art spaces, food and market stalls, kids zone, circus lessons and Fringeworld. There were overseas acts, indigenous singers, younger folk/rockers (loopers/celtic/twin sisters), bands incorporating country/blues/world/acoustic, traddies, and my favourites Spooky Mens Chorale and Fred Smith (a diplomat/songwriter/author).

There was a huge emphasis on celtic bands and the Irish Daoriri Farrell Trio and Aoife Scott Band were two to get the crowds up and dancing. A band called 19-Twenty were incredibly lively and loud, and each show was packed out and went late into the night.

There were bars in most large marquees and one was under the concrete stands of the Racetrack, coincidentally the warmest venue on the cold Canberra nights. One huge concrete room was filled with 10 or 12 jamming celtic sessions all pumping sound, with fiddles, whistles, bodhrans, etc. Above this was the home of the trad singing sessions which were scheduled mostly during the day.

There was so much to do and rather than walk back 1/2 km to the campground, I found wonderful food on site. Even the fresh cooked damper with golden syrup was a yummy delight! Several blackboards were running all day, and I enjoyed a quiet drink and songs whenever I needed a rest. The 5 days of festival were the biggest and best I've been to, and if the AU \$400 cost seems high, there are volunteer options as well. Check out National Folk Festival 2017 on Facebook or on their website - it was simply amazing!! (Thanks Dale. Ed)

Picks & Tips for the Month

From Chris



As part of the Festival of Stories being run by Te Takere from May 8th - May 14th there are a series of music workshops and performances that may be of interest to club members. You can check out the full programme at <http://www.tetakere.org.nz/Your-Library/Festival-of-Stories#music>

A full copy of the programme is also available from the main desk at Te Takere.

For Ukulele players: Several string manufacturers have introduced a much heavier G string for ukes so that the g string can be tuned down an octave. Chords are played the same way but the resultant sound of tenor ukes is great. The strings are available in NZ - manufacturers are Aquila, Oasis and D'addario. (Thanks Chris. Ed)

Paul's (Kings Sound Centre)



Paul has got a range of hand carved guitars in store. They were carved and built by Gordon Thompson who has a Masters of Maori

Visual Arts (Hon) from Massey and has worked as a carver and teacher for 20 years. Paul, Eboney and the crew are also gearing up for the 27th May, Music Month's big day in Levin.

Festivals Coming Up

Ceol Aneas
Nurturing Irish music in New Zealand

IRISH MUSIC FESTIVAL
Featuring musicians from Ireland, AUS & New Zealand

Queen's Birthday Weekend Fri 29 May - Mon 1 June 2015

Festival Concert
Sunday 31 May 7.00pm
The Theatre Royal
\$30 adults / \$20 under 18
Tickets at Theatre Royal
(A booking fee will apply)

Sessions
FREE ENTRY - starting from 8pm onwards
Fri 29 May - The Fox House & East St Cafe
Sat 30 May - The Fox House & East St Cafe
Sun 31 May - from 9.30pm The Fox House & East St Cafe

Cellidh Mor (Dance)
Sat 30 May 7pm - Old St John's Hall, 330 Hardy St
Adults \$15, Families \$40, Students (with ID) or 18 and under \$10 (Cash only, tickets at the door)

More info www.irishmusic.org.nz

Sponsors and Supporters

Queen's Birthday Weekend in June - A festival that is getting popular is Ceol Aneas in Nelson - it's for musos to play in sessions and to hear quality Irish music.

Other Music Events in Our Region

Tsunami Live

You can contact Adele on (021 161 9154 or adele@tmv.co.nz) to chat about any studio recording they can help you with or to check on events they have coming up

Te Takere



Paul Ubana Jones:
Live at Te Takere 29 April This Saturday!
(see attached material)
\$25 at door, **discount:** table of 5 \$99!

- Sunday Concert Series 30 April 2pm **Baroque Voices** "Medieval to Monteverdi" Five studied Wellington singers transport you to another world of masterpieces from the 17th century and beyond.



Friday 5 May 12-2pm **Geordie Parrant** followed by **Steve Poulton** rock covers and originals during Artsmash

- Saturday 6 May 1-3:30pm The Kiwis Jazz followed by Jam Session during Artsmash (come and play!!)
- Monday 8 May 12pm **Kerehi Wi Warena:** Maori instruments
- Tuesday 9 May 12pm **Andrew London:** Jazzy
- Wednesday 10 May 12pm: **Glenn Culquhoun**
- Thursday 11 May 12pm **Steve McDonald:** Celtic
- Friday 12 May 12pm **Radha Sahar:** Folk
- Friday 19 May 12-1pm Horowhenua Talent Quest winner **Harley Pitihira** with R & B covers on guitar and vocals
- Friday 26 May 12-1pm **Peter Leith** coaxes sweet golden oldies from his vocals & keyboard backing
- Saturday 27 May 10am-2pm NZ Music Month Concert: **Stampede Variety Music Club** variety show featuring guest vocalists and full backing band.
- Sunday Concert Series 28 May **Levin & Districts Brass Band** popular & classic brass arrangements Sunday 2pm – 3:30pm

Bent Horseshoe Presents

Saturday May 27 at the Hokowhitu Bowling club we have Bullfrog Rata and Shayn Hurricane Wills doing the songs of Bob Dylan start time 7.30. This is always a great show and one of the top sellers we have.

Bobs birthday is the week before but it wasn't possible to do it that weekend.

Tickets will be \$20 and bookings can be made at

steve@benthorsehoe.co.nz

027 3682367

Lily's Ranch House

Please phone Kathy (021-438842) or email (kathy@lily's.co.nz) for what's on and bookings.

Feedback

We welcome your suggestions and recommendations for guest bands/musicians. Comments and feedback from club nights and suggestions or content for the newsletter are always appreciated, either through the website www.levin-folk-music-club.org.nz/ or directly to a committee member.

Other Music Clubs in the Region for details of what's on use their links.

Acoustic Routes

acousticroutes.org.nz/



www.klmc.org.nz

WELLINGTON
BLUEGRASS SOCIETY

wellingtonbluegrass.net.nz/

Mainly Acoustic

Second Tuesday, Mayfair
Cafe, Contact: Kevin & Sue
Meehan, 04 970 4008

Thanks for the Support



Support our local music store. Show your membership card in store for a discount. Visit the Sound Centre's website (www.ksc.net.nz/) to see what is on offer at our local music store. You'll be surprised at the range available. From guitar picks and music stands, music books, ukuleles to sound systems, amplifiers, recording equipment and more.



The Horowhenua Chronicle supports the LFMC by publishing an article each month advertising our Concert Nights. This is one of the main ways we let our community know what is happening at the club. Thanks to the Chronicle for this important support.