

THE SCOTTISH FIDDLER



www.tellingtales.net

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 8

September 2005

STOP PRESS

SEPTEMBER MEETING IS ON!

**THE LOVELY COLIN MACLEOD WILL LEAD THE MONTHLY MEETING
AT ST AIDAN'S NORTH BALWYN AS USUAL, FROM 2PM**

JOIN COLIN FOR A REALLY FUN SESSION!!

From Judy

Gig news 2005

***GET YOUR
DIARIES OUT —
INCLUDING FOR
2006 —AND
DOUBLE CHECK
THESE DATES NOW!***



20 November – EVERYONE

***KEEP FREE FOR POSSIBLE HAWTHORN
REPRISE GIG.***

Please keep the evening of Sunday November 20 free – after our November meeting –for a possible big gig for the City of Boroondara – reprise of our HTH concert - final confirmation will be given in October. It will be in Ashburton, again with the Pipe Band, and go from about 6-8.30pm.

27 November – EVERYONE

Please keep this Sunday free if you can for a performance at Macrae Homestead, Dromana, also to be confirmed in October.

11 December – SMALL GROUP

Please keep this Saturday afternoon free for a gig with the Rats of Tobruk Pipe band, in Rye.

Gig news 2006

10–13 March – EVERYONE

Port Fairy Folk Festival

We have applied! – keep these dates free until we hear

24-25 March– EVERYONE

CD Launches

Please keep these dates free for possible Melbourne and country launches for A Long Way From Home

13–17 April – EVERYONE

National Folk Festival Canberra –

We have applied! – keep these dates free until we hear

New CD news

Some small groupers were lucky enough to use the collected John Anderson fiddles (see Neil's story on the web site www.tellingtales.net) to record our Shetland set at Hugh McDonald's house, for the new CD.

On the same day we recorded Jenny Thomas' Stirling O, which means that of a possible 15 sets we now have 4 in the can. See Ashley's fun picture of us with Anderson fiddles elsewhere in the newsletter.

If you want to be part of the recording, you MUST set aside the weekend of **November 12-13** for the big

recording weekend with Hugh, which will either be at PLC or Scotch again, depending on their availability. You will need to keep free 9-6 on both days, so the nights are yours **HOWEVER** to celebrate the recording, the NZ tour, our 10th birthday and so on we will have a dinner – probably pizza again, or possibly a pot luck, **on that night 12 November**, venue tba.

At that dinner we will show the marvellous film of our Hawthorn Concert, as provided by Bill Sides, John Anderson's grandson.

The proposed set list is below, so you can start (I mean keep on) practising! The ones in shading are the ones we will do that weekend.

New Zealand update

The itinerary is all set, the billets are all ready and waiting, our bags are more or less packed, and it looks like we will be able to afford it all – so much the better! We will attempt to upload a tour journal every day or so to www.tellingtales.net, if we can master the technology, so keep looking at our site. Thanks go to all who are not coming but who generously supported the fundraising efforts – we wish you were here!!! Special thanks to Matt and to Ron for getting together

the great dance tunes book, and of course to our marvellous committee – Louise, Athalie, Sue and (shucks) me, who have got the tour happening. With such commitment this group has to be successful!

Tune Competition under threat?

Your director is tired and thinking of cancelling the Tune Writing Competition for 2005 – if anyone feels strongly enough about keeping it going that they would like to organise it, please let Judy know.

New members welcome

You will have noticed that each month we get one or two new players coming along – please take the trouble to introduce yourself to them and invite them to sit with you, so they feel welcome – in a group where people know each other so well it can be daunting for new people, and we certainly always want to welcome new players to our midst.

Track number?	Tunes/songs	With
1.	Glen Tilt/Franks	MSFC
2.	Far From My Friends	Jenny T and Neil only
3.	Quiet Man Miss Isabella Allie Croker	MSFC, featuring Chris D if possible
4.	From St Kilda to Kings Cross	MSFC, featuring Paul Kelly if he agrees
5.	Fiddles and Feet set – Sheepskin and Maggie's Pancakes	MSFC, featuring drummers of HCPB
6.	Hoea Ra	MSFC, featuring Claire Alleway and Jimmy Young if it works out
7.	Shetland jigs and Merryn's Reel	Small group – done already
8.	O What a Day it's Been – Alex Legg	Featuring Alex
9.	Trio set	Pria/Neil/CD – done already
10.	Stirling O	Jenny Thomas song – done already
11.	Duo set	Neil and Chris D – done already
12.	Da Guisers Wedding Reel	Featuring Evan, Gus and Winnie on flutes
13.	The Dark Island <i>OR</i> the Peurt na Beil set	Featuring Ron and maybe Andrew from the HCPB
14.	Originals set – Aust fiddle tunes by writers connected with the club	Small group only, plus visiting artists
15.	A Long Way From Home	MSFC

Hawthorn – they're still talking about it!

Dear Members, we received this letter...

Dear Judy

I had hoped to send a letter from the band but I have had a hectic week, so please accept an email.

The members of the band really enjoyed the concert and felt the enthusiasm of the audience when we marched down the aisle and after each bracket of tunes and the finale.

It was a great spectacular sight to watch your members coming down the aisle after the finale, play in the entrance hall then go outside the town hall.

The effort put in beforehand by all showed through in the performance.

We would like to combine again for another concert.

The members of the band wish all your members a very enjoyable and successful trip to New Zealand on 17th September 2005.

We await further contact regarding the recording in November.

All the very best.

Regards

Ian McMillan

Honorary Secretary, Hawthorn City Pipe Band

PS A gentleman who has conducted an orchestra at my church for 20 years was ecstatic at the combination of fiddles, bagpipes and drums. He had never heard this before and said it was sensational

NESSIE...check out these dates..!

NESSIE (North East Scottish Strings Including Elbow pipes) meets on the 1st Sunday for every 2nd month. SO if you're in the area on 2/10 & 4/12 drop in and join in the fun! For more information contact Claire on tel: 5963 3277 or Kristen on tel: 03 5766 6282.

MSFC members especially welcome!

MSFC Club pictures

Send your pics of fiddle club activities to Ronald McCoy rmccoy@ocean.com.au for the newsletter



ALL POINTS BULLETIN! POLICE HAVE RELEASED PICTURES OF 16 INDIVIDUALS THEY WOULD LIKE TO INTERVIEW REGARDING AN EPISODE OF SUSPICIOUS PHRASING AND DUBIOUS INTONATION. THE PUBLIC ARE WARNED THAT THE SUSPECTS ARE ARMED (SEE PICUTRE ABOVE) AND DANGEROUS AS SOME HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO PLAY VIOLA.

2005

CALENDAR UPDATE

Sep	
Date	What
17	Depart for New Zealand
18	Monthly Meeting - Guest leader – Colin MacLeod
25	Clan MacKenzie Gig in Melbourne if we have enough takers – Steve is in charge!

Oct	
Date	What
16	2 pm Monthly Meeting
19	7 pm - Rehearsal Westgarth for ALL
27	7pm - Rehearsal Westgarth for ALL
23	2 pm Small Group at Judy's

Nov	
Date	What
3rd	CD Rehearsal – venue tba
9th	CD rehearsal – venue tba
12/13	Record CD - venue TBA
	2 pm Monthly Meeting KEEP FREE FOR POSSIBLE REPEAT OF HAWTHORN GIG!
20	
27	St Andrews Day gig - McRae Homestead on Mornington Peninsula

Dec	
Date	What
7	7 pm Rehearsal Westgarth for ALL
9	? Small group Rosebud
11	Rats of Tobruk Rye Small Group
15	7 pm Rehearsal Westgarth for ALL
18	2 pm Monthly Meeting and Tune competition
18	6 pm End of Year Concert at The Big House - ALL

MSFC CLUB CONTACTS

The Melbourne Scottish Fiddle Club (MSFC) meets at 2.00 PM on the third Sunday of the month at St Aidan's church hall in Duggan St, North Balwyn. For more information contact:

Musical Director - Judy on 9893 6332 or tellingtales@bigpond.com

President - Matthew on 9484 8076 or matt.madonna@bigpond.com

Secretary (and daughter) - Louise or Pria on 9758 4486 or at ask@netspace.com.au

Gig Manager/CD sales - Sue on 9481 7268 or sdarbyoleary@hotmail.com

Newsletter Editor – Ronald on 03 9527 1375; mob: 0407 318 911 or email: rmccoy@ocean.com.au

SPUDS Poets Award — \$1000 prizemoney

The Lake School of Celtic Music Song and Dance is proud to announce a new poetry award - The Spud Poets Award!

A prize of \$1000 will be given to the best original poem, in the opinion of the judges, submitted of 300 words or less with a celtic connection.

The Award was inspired by a poem written by Mary Fiorini-Lowell in 2002 called the Humble Spud.

Mary gave a performance of her The Humble Spud at the Lake School launch in Koroit, Vic on July 23 2005 when it was announced the entries are now open for the Award.

Entries close on October 31 2005.

The panel of judges lead by Martha McEvoy (from the Embassy of Ireland) and Jim Brown (President of the Victorian Bush Poets Society) will select 15 finalists to read their poem at the Spud Poets Award Night on Friday January 6 2006.

The Award night will be held as part of the annual Lake School and staged at the Commercial Hotel in Koroit.

While the judges are considering the award winner, a concert of Songs of the Poets will be performed by renown singers Maria Forde, Vince Brophy and recently inducted Legend of the Lake - Dennis O'Keeffe.

Applications for the Spud Poets Award can be found on the Bushwahzee Bush band website - bushwahzee.alpalink.com.au

Enquiries about the award can be emailed to Felix Meagher

bwz@alpalink.com.au or posted to PO Box 22 Mitcham 3132