

THE SCOTTISH FIDDLER



www.tellingtales.net

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 2

March 2007

AGENDA FOR 2007 MEETING

- 2.00 All fiddlers together revision – Chris Stout tunes Hamnataing & Bakh High
- 2.45 New Shetland set as played by Swingin Fiddles
- 3.30 Afternoon tea **BRING SOMETHING TO SHARE!!**
- 4.00 All together with Ron – learning Gaelic song
- 4.45 Revision – Dr Morrisons/Gorsaf Y Gof/Kings House
- 5.00 End

From Judy –

Swingin Fiddles coming our way!

Dates have now been confirmed – please keep the weekend aside for a great fun time with these young enthusiasts. You will remember it for a long time to come. All NESSIE players welcome.

Note there is also the chance of a separate visit by the gals to Mansfield depending on how the other states go getting their concerts etc organised.

Don't forget to look them up at <http://www.swinginfiddles.com/> - you will be really impressed by what the girls have done in their short lives!

Mansfield and Ballarat looking good

Please check and print out this calendar that will give you an indication of confirmed and tentative dates for the year. Note the version – we will issue an update with EVERY newsletter so beware – changes do happen!!

Return of some of our travellers

Both Jack Wilson and Gus Downing have been to France so we are looking forward to learning some French tunes before too long. Make sure you get them to show you their pictures – what a wild time our Gus had making friends from all over the globe!

=====

***CHECK OUT THE MSFC
CALENDAR DATES NOW!***

***PUT THEM IN YOUR
DIARY NOW!***

News from Lisa Christensen...

Hi Judy,

I was hoping you could pass along a big thankyou to yourself and the MSFC for the little package received on Friday for Liam.

What a lovely gesture it is — although I don't get to make it to the meetings that often, I always have felt very much a part of the group. The pants are great, don't quite fit just yet, but at the rate he's growing, it will be no time at all.

Life at home here is quite hectic, not quite sure how mothers work full time as well! Liam is growing by the second. he's well into eating his solid foods and is becoming very grown up very quickly.

Here's a recent pic!

Lisa



Contacting NESSIE?

NESSIE (North East Scottish Strings Including Elbow pipes) meets on the 1st Sunday of every month. SO if you're in the area, 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!

The Scottish Fiddler – March 2007

Update on some New Zealand news...

Dear MSFC Club members,

For those of you on the NZ tour in 2005, you may be interested to hear that I am helping out the people at Waipu museum on the North Island of New Zealand, with some music for an historic play they are putting on in June.

If you remember, the Waipu museum is dedicated to the Gaels who first arrived there in the 19th century, and the museum holds many Gaelic bibles and hymn books, and vividly depicts their way of life.

I am helping the director, Lachie MacLean with the words and music for two songs: a Gaelic lullaby and a tweed making song.

I'll keep you all posted on the outcomes of the venture, but it's good to know that friendships we made on the trip are long lasting!

Ronald McCoy

=====

It only takes seven words —

Gaelic song for the MSFC!

You probably noticed the Gaelic song listed in the meeting agenda this week.

Judy has asked me to teach the MSFC a Gaelic song fitting in with the theme of our forthcoming concert, and so I have picked a VERY SIMPLE rowing song.

I collected the song on a trip to South Uist in Scotland It's traditional, so we can sing it, and record it to our heart's content without fear of copyright breach.

The music was not originally written out, so I have done this for the club, but it is much better learned by ear. So, bring something to record it.

The song is very straightforward and can be taught within a few minutes. The language is not hard, and there are only a few lines of music.

In true Celtic teaching style, I will give out the dots after teaching it on Sunday. I do have a very nice MP3 recording featuring, amongst others, your very own Gus Downing! Everyone is welcome to have a copy.

The words of the song describe a poor unfortunate milkmaid, who through her own foolishness, risks her life by challenging the sea.

Although this sounds dramatic, it's more true to say that she was, in fact, highly blonde, and her actions indicated that she was a brick short of a load.

The trick to learning Gaelic songs is in the words: there's only 7 words to learn in order to be able to sing this song, so it'll be a pushover.

Ronald McCoy

From beyond the Sales Desk*by Shirl Dwyer*

Meet the Sales Executives and their ever-willing helpers, members who loom ominously in dingy foyers and dark hallways. We are always on the look out for a sales opportunity, whether it be raffle tickets, CD's, tunebooks or mugs. Our motto:

We go that extra mile with a smile. 😊

Meet this month's victim... whoops... "willing participant" — Doug Bird.

Doug is a man of many talents, but the one that is probably best known to MSFC is his wizardry with a camera. His photographs have not only appeared on our CD covers and web page but Doug has enjoyed success even more widely with his photography. Read on...



A mellow Doug in a mellow house...it's all mellow!

To start with can you give us a brief outline of your working day? Where do you work?

I work with Homedics Australia who supply massage chairs and cushions, foot massagers, scales etc. I'm the Technical Manager so I'm responsible for Australian Standards to be met, quality control and other technical support.

We are all aware of your photography skills so... What is the most satisfying photo you have taken so far? Why was it so?

My most satisfying photo was a panorama taken at Brighton beach. It won a prize in a national photographic competition.

What would be your ultimate photo opportunity?

Travelling to the US and photographing desert landscapes and the buildings of New York.

Have you ever been in a position WITHOUT your camera that you wished like hell you had it with you?

It hasn't happened yet because I usually have a camera with me!

The Scottish Fiddler – March 2007**And for now for further non-photographic questions, what do you wish you had never done?**

I wish I hadn't knock over the corner of Athalie's front brick fence as I backed my newish car out at night. Twice!!

What is your favourite food?...

Anything that is dessert!

Would you care to share with us your favourite tippie?...

With the last answer in mind, my favourite tippie is a good "sticky". Wines like Liqueur Muscat and late-picked Riesling.

What do you wish you had never eaten?...

A dodgy oyster during a business trip to China!

You are stranded on a desert island, apart from Athalie, what 3 things would be essential for your happiness...

Felix, my cat; an ipod full of my favourite music; and an endless supply of sticky date pudding.

**If you had \$1million what would you do with it?...**

Rebuild my house at Belgrave, buy Athalie a new bass and travel to the US to photograph desert landscapes and the buildings of New York.

=====

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

Treasurer - Louise on 9758 4486 or at ask@netspace.com.au

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

Secretary – Jean on 9480 5865 or jeaniuszasz@optusnet.com.au

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

MSFC CALENDAR 2007b as at 13.03.07

MARCH 07	Date	Day	Start Time	End Time	Venue	Notes
Practice for Brunswick	7	Wed	7 pm	9 pm	Neil and Judy's place	18 Norris Court Blackburn
Practice for Brunswick	14	Wed	7 pm	9 pm	Athalie's place	4 Morley Cres BH North
Practice for Brunswick	18	Sun	12.30pm	2pm	ST Aidans	Duggan Street
Monthly Meeting	18	Sun	2 pm	5 pm	St Aidans	ALL WELCOME
Practice for Brunswick	20	Tues	7 pm	9 pm	Pria's place	57 Beauchamp St Preston 3071
Brunswick Festival	22	Thurs	7 pm	9 pm	Mechanics Inst Sydney Rd	supporting James Fagan & Nancy Kerr

APRIL 07	Date	Day	Start Time	End Time	Venue	Notes
Monthly Meeting	15	Sun	2 pm	5 pm	St Aidans	ALL WELCOME
Small group practice	26	Thurs	7 PM	9 PM	Judy & Neil's new place	small group

MAY 07	Date	Day	Start Time	End Time	Venue	Notes
Small group practice	9	Wed	7 pm	9 pm	Athalie's place	small group
Small group practice	15	Tues	7 pm	9 pm	Matt's place tbc	small group
Small group benefit concert tbc	19	Sat	2 pm	5 pm	tbc	this is a benefit for the string library
Monthly Meeting	20	Sun	2 pm	5 pm	St Aidans	ALL WELCOME
Practice for Swingin concert	24	Thurs	7 pm	9 pm	St Kevins tbc	parking beside the Heyington station in school grnds

JUNE 07	Date	Day	Start Time	End Time	Venue	Notes
Practice for Celtfest concert tbc	5	Tues	7 pm	9 pm	Judy & Neil's place	small group
Practice for Swingin concert	6	Wed	7 pm	9 pm	St Kevins tbc	everyone
Celtic Festival tbc	9-11	Sat-Mon	long weekend		Celtic Festival in Portarlinton - small group tbc	small group
Practice for Swingin concert	13	Wed	7 pm	9 pm	St Kevins tbc	everyone
Session with Swingin Fiddles	15	Fri	8 pm	late	venue tbc	everyone
Swingin Fiddles workshop	16	Sat	10 am	4 pm	St Kevins tbc	masterclass and workshop - everyone
Monthly Meeting/rehearsal	17	Sun	2 pm	5 pm	St Aidans	led by Swingin Fiddle girls - everyone
Concert with Swingin Fiddles	17	Sun	6pm	late	venue tbc	everyone

JULY 07	Date	Day	Start Time	End Time	Venue	Notes
Monthly Meeting	15	Sun	2 pm	5 pm	St Aidans	ALL WELCOME

AUGUST 07	Date	Day	Start Time	End Time	Venue	Notes
Monthly Meeting	19	Sun	2 pm	5 pm	St Aidans	ALL WELCOME
Practise for Mansfield	28	Tues	7pm	9pm	St Kevins tbc	everyone

The Scottish Fiddler - March 2007

SEPTEMBER 07	Date	Day	Start Time	End Time	Venue	Notes
Practise for Mansfield	6	Thurs	7pm	9pm	Athalies tbc	
Practise for Mansfield	12	Wed	7 pm	9 pm	St Kevins tbc	everyone
Monthly Meeting	16	Sun	2 pm	5 pm	St Aidans	ALL WELCOME
Practise for Mansfield	20	Thurs	7pm	9pm	Athalies tbc	everyone
Practise for Mansfield	26	Wed	7 pm	9 pm	St Kevins tbc	everyone
Mansfield weekend	28-30	Fri-Sun	all weekend		Mansfield HS tbc	everyone
Benalla Concert or dance	29	Sat	7pm	10pm	Benalla PAC	smaller group to play for dancing
Mansfield concert	30	Sun	5pm	7pm	Mansfield HS tbc	everyone

OCTOBER 07	Date	Day	Start Time	End Time	Venue	Notes
Monthly Meeting	14	Sun	2 pm	5 pm	St Aidans	ALL WELCOME
Practice for Ballarat	17	Wed	7 pm	9 pm	St Kevins	everyone
Practice for Ballarat	25	Thurs	7 pm	9 pm	Athalies tbc	everyone

NOVEMBER 07	Date	Day	Start Time	End Time	Venue	Notes
Practice for Ballarat	1	THURS	7PM	9PM	St Kevins tbc	everyone
Ballarat Concert	4	Sun	12 noon	5pm	Ballarat PAC	everyone
Monthly Meeting	18	Sun	2 pm	5 pm	St Aidans	ALL WELCOME

DECEMBER 07	Date	Day	Start Time	End Time	Venue	Notes
Monthly Meeting	16		2 pm	5 pm	St Aidans	ALL WELCOME

PRINT OUT THE CALENDAR AND PUT THE DATES IN YOUR DIARY NOW!