

The Club sends groups of fiddlers to festivals and has cut several CDs. One of them, Gates Of Gold, was selected by the judges as the best CD by a band featuring fiddlers, and the "Original tunes set" composed by club members earned the Club a second gong for best fiddle composition.

The award for the best band featuring a fiddler went to the **Davidson Brothers**, Lachlan and Hamish who are recognised as Australia's "hottest" bluegrass exponents. They are multi instrumentalists, were the 2009 instrumental Golden Guitar winners in Tamworth and have been nominated again for 2010.

The Golden Fiddle Youth Achievement Award went to **Khalida Foster** from the Atherton Tablelands in North Queensland. She is one of the renowned sibling fiddlers from the De Ridder family, considered one of Australia's finest traditional Irish groups.

Another Scottish fiddle specialist, **Emma Nixon**, founder of the Brisbane Celtic Fiddle Club, was judged Best Fiddle Teacher. A former member of the Queensland Youth Orchestra, Emma Louise was awarded a Newcastle (UK) University scholarship to complete a Master of Music specialising in Scottish fiddle playing.



So Long Owen and Mary

The Melbourne Scottish Fiddle Club would like to wish Owen and Mary Lewis all the best for their move to Roxby Downs, South Australia. We hope they stay in contact and would like to thank them both for their contributions to the club. All the best!
And please contact Simon if you would like me to forward you email address to Owen and Mary.



Cygnnet Folk Festival

8-10 January 2010

On the second weekend of January 2010, the Melbourne Scottish Fiddle club made its return to Tasmania and debut at the Cygnnet Folk Festival. This year saw a record number of festival goers (approx. 7000 people!) which, with the perfect summer weather, made for a lively festival atmosphere.

We had three gigs as the MSFC over the festival but, in reality, the weekend was a lot busier than that! With the club being made up of members from many other bands who were also performing at the festival - String Theory, String Contingent, The Wise Girls, Pigeonwing Strings, New Dogs Old Tricks - congratulations must go to Steve Gadd who did remarkably well with the program scheduling! The task was not a simple one, for it was not just a matter of juggling the gigs but also workshops in DADGAD guitar, Quebecois and Scottish fiddle and percussive dance. As I said, it was a busy weekend!

A 27-strong group represented the MSFC and while it would have been lovely to have each and every member of the club at Cygnnet, I am not sure how we all would have been able to fit on the stage, for it was a tight squeeze as it was! Friday night's gig in the Town Hall made for a late night as we were scheduled to perform at 11pm. It was a great gig but I think everyone was a little tired whereas Saturday night's gig was full of the usual energy and audience interaction. Performing twice on Sunday seemed a fitting way to finish such a busy and fun-packed weekend, firstly at our 5pm gig and then later that night in the Farewell Cabaret concert ("Shhh, Neil - it's meant to be a surprise!").

Highlights for me include the impromptu session with String Contingent, Anita on cello, Brianne (fiddle player from Takadimi), a drummer, a Melodica player and a very appreciative crowd on the lawns outside the Carmel Hall late on Saturday night. This was followed by another high-energy, laughter-filled session at the Top Pub complete with various questionable dance moves, while others, including members of Takadami, looked on in bewilderment before finally going with the flow and joining in.

Another highlight of the festival was Lucy Wise's launch of her EP 'Something pocket sized.' Lucy performed a few of her originals and was supported by Pria, Claire, Greg Fair, Chris Stone, Holly Downes and Graham McLeod. Lucy is amazingly talented, as a musician, singer and songwriter and I would encourage anyone who hasn't heard the EP to very quickly get their hands on a copy - You won't regret it!

I think I speak for everyone when I say that Cygnnet Folk Festival was a lot of fun and very successful judging by the \$600 in CD sales. It seems that the MSFC will always be welcome in Tasmania!

Sirocha Bruckard



NESSIE

North East Scottish Strings
including Elbow Pipes

Nessie meet on the 2nd Sunday of every month. So if you're in the area, drop in and join in the fun!

For more information contact:

Claire Ph: 03 5963 3277

Kristen Ph: 03 5766 6282



Music in Communities Award

And as reported in the December 2009 Newsletter, the Music in Communities Award Certificate:



National Runner-Up

awarded to

Melbourne Scottish Fiddle Club

for excellence in community music-making

Dr Richard Letts
Executive Director, Music Council of Australia



The Music in Communities Awards are an initiative of 'Music. Play for Life', the Music Council of Australia's campaign to get more Australians making music: in schools, communities, everywhere.

www.musicincommunities.org.au

Music Under The Southern Cross, Campaspe Downs

This one time at band camp I was put in the Scottish Fiddle class thanks to being one of two ever worthy MSFC summer school scholarship recipients. The privilege of such an award is that you get to have some one-on-one time with the 'gorgeous' Matt Robinson and the smarty pants Chris Duncan. Together they taught one and a half handfuls of beautiful tunes in F with lovely harmonies to accompany. An exception was The High Drive in D. This tune was taught to both Scottish fiddle classes and performed on mass at the end of school concert. We alternated between tune and chords which gave it an awesome full fiddle/cello sound. For me personally the highlights for the school this year were the different dancing electives, delicious morning tea (thanks to Chris and her helpers) and the realisation that there appears to be a positive correlation between great fiddlers and conjoined toes!! I'd like to thank MSFC for my award, I got heaps out of the Scottish Fiddle class and can't wait to teach a few of you my favourite tunes so we can play them in sessions and show off with our fourth fingers in F!!!!.

Camp report by: Monica Hershburgh

Music Under The Southern Cross, Campaspe Downs

I recently attended the music camp at Campaspe Downs, as did a number of Scottish Fiddle Club people. It was my first time on the camp so I didn't quite know what to expect. I found the week intense but highly fun and well worth it. Chris taught us some great tunes, both fast and slow, but I was worried that I would end up forgetting all the tunes that were taught but the amount of times we played through them I don't think I'll be forgetting them in a while. Pria's evening classes were also educational, where Pria taught a tune each night (these tunes I have forgotten) except for one evening where Pria and Sarah did a listening class.

By Wednesday I think everyone was pretty much fiddled out, I know I was so we had the afternoon off. Generally most people just chilled out, some opting for a swim in the lake, which apparently turned out muddy. That evening a group of us went into Kyneton for dinner to escape the average camp food. A definite highlight would be the cakes for morning tea made by Chris Hunter. Awesome job Chris! The sessions were also entertaining. Now I just need to learn some tunes. Anyway it turned out to be a lot of fun and I can highly recommend it if you haven't been or if you have then come again next year!

Camp report by: Cameron Hibbs

MSFC CLUB CONTACTS

The Melbourne Scottish Fiddle Club (MSFC) meets at 2.00 PM on the 3rd Sunday of the month at:

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2010 Melbourne Scottish Fiddle Club 2010 v5

FEB	Date	Day	Starts	Ends	Venue	Notes
Monthly Meeting	21	Sun	2 pm	5 pm	St Aidans	MATT ROBERTSON TO LEAD
Practice	25	Thur	7 pm	9 pm	Kew East Uniting	ALL WELCOME
MAR						
MAR	Date	Day	Starts	Ends	Venue	Notes
Cello hang	1	Mon	7pm	9pm	East Kew TBC	CELLOS AND BASS ONLY PSK TO LEAD
Practice	3	Wed	7 pm	9 pm	Athalies	ALL WELCOME
Genticorum workshop/concert	10	Wed	7 pm	9 pm	East Kew TBC	FIDDLE PARTICIPANTS ONLY OTHERS CAN WATCH
Private lessons with Natalie	12	Fri	your	call	East Kew TBC	ALL CELLISTS OFFERED THIS PLUS PRIA
Natalie Hass Workshop	11	Thurs	7 pm	9 pm	East Kew TBC	CELLOS ONLY OTHERS CAN WATCH
Concert at Philip Island	13	Sat	all	day	Philip Island Vineyard & Winery	ALL WELCOME
Monthly Meeting	21	Sun	2 pm	5 pm	St Aidans	CHRIS STONE TO LEAD
Practice	31	Wed	7 pm	9 pm	Athalies	ALL WELCOME
APR						
APR	Date	Day	Starts	Ends	Venue	Notes
NFF	2-5	all weekend			Canberra	THE NASH - FOR THOSE GOING
Practice	7	Wed	7pm	9pm	Athalies	
Cello hang	12	Mon	7pm	9pm	East Kew TBC	
Practice	15	Thurs	7pm	9pm	East Kew TBC	
Golden Fiddles Gig	17	Sat	all	day	Renaissance Theatre Kew	ALL WELCOME
Monthly Meeting	18	Sun	2 pm	5 pm	St Aidans	GUS DOWNING TO LEAD

REHEARSALS BELOW THIS DATE STILL TO BE ARRANGED

MAY	Date	Day	Starts	Ends	Venue	Notes
Cello hang		Mon				
Big concert	8	Sat	10am	10PM	Drum Theatre Dandenong	ALL WELCOME
Monthly Meeting	16	Sun	2 pm	5 pm	St Aidans	LUCY AND CLAIRE TO LEAD
JUN						
	11 - 14	CELTIC FESTIVAL PORT ARLINGTON				
Monthly Meeting	20	Sun	2 pm	5 pm	St Aidans	JACK TO LEAD
JUL						
JUL	Date	Day	Starts	Ends	Venue	Notes
Monthly Meeting	18	Sun	2 pm	5 pm	St Aidans	SIRROCHA TO LEAD
AUG						
AUG	Date	Day	Starts	Ends	Venue	Notes
Monthly Meeting	15	Sun	2 pm	5 pm	St Aidans	PRIA TO LEAD
SEP						
SEP	Date	Day	Starts	Ends	Venue	Notes
Monthly Meeting	19	Sun	2 pm	5 pm	St Aidans	JUDY TO LEAD
24th Sep to 3rd Oct NEW SOUTH WALES TOUR						
OCT						
OCT	Date	Day	Starts	Ends	Venue	Notes
1-3 OCT FINISH NSW TOUR						
Monthly Meeting	17	Sun	2 pm	5 pm	St Aidans	MATT TO LEAD
NOV						
NOV	Date	Day	Starts	Ends	Venue	Notes
Monthly Meeting	21	Sun	2 pm	5 pm	St Aidans	TBC
DEC						
DEC	Date	Day	Starts	Ends	Venue	Notes
Monthly Meeting	19	Sun	2 pm	5 pm	St Aidans	END OF YEAR BASH
TBC	27-28	QUEENSCLIFF FESTIVAL tbc				

