

CHRISTCHURCH FOLK MUSIC CLUB



THE HEAR YE NEWSLETTER



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16 August – 22 November 2015

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Venue: The Irish Society Hall, 29 Domain Tce, Spreydon
SEE MAP ON BACK PAGE

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PRES SEZ

Hello all

This year is flying by. It only seems like last week I was working on the last hear ye and now I'm on the Spring one for the year.

I think things are running very well at your club, The committee is working hard keeping the ship sailing. And speaking of committees, I would like to welcome Gary Elford on board. Already he has come up with some great new ideas for us to discuss.

We should recognise Phil Garland being awarded a QSM last year – well deserved for the many, many years he has put into folk music. It was good to see him last month at the hall, even though the reason for many old friends visiting was to say goodbye to Dave Hart – who will be sadly missed by all in the club for his tireless work behind the scenes and regular MC'ing. It was great to see so many people turn up and play songs in Dave's memory – a very entertaining afternoon was had by all – one which Dave would have been proud of!

Its great to see crowd numbers up again, so thanks for supporting the club. I hope this Spring line-up will carry on the trend of larger attendances – there's some great acts coming up!

Martin Kraakman

President

Aug 16 Members \$10, Non-members \$15



Valley Bluegrass

Valley Bluegrass are the southernmost bluegrass band in the world. They have been in demand for festivals and concerts as well as the usual round of bars and private functions. In keeping with the spirit of the music, they busk most weeks at the Otago Farmer's Market where their upbeat tunes and songs have customers and stall-holders tapping their toes and smiling. They entertained at the this year's Whare Flat Festival playing two concert sets and the New Year's Barn Dance. The band are featured guests this month at the Queenstown Winter Games.

Bluegrass is a high energy blend of old time country, blues, ragtime, Celtic and even a hint of rock 'n' roll. Expect an evening of old time and contemporary song, vocal harmony and a judicious selection of fiddle and banjo tunes.

The group features a front line led by Read Hudson, Robbie Stevens and Carola Dunbar

Read Hudson (guitar, Dobro) is a legend in New Zealand country and roots music circles. In the days when local television played real music he was a regular. He has toured in NZ, Australia and the States with various bands and is constantly in demand for his Dobro and guitar stylings.

Robbie Stevens (banjo) is the beating heart of the band. He has been playing banjo 45 years. His regular trips to the US keep him in touch with the roots of the music. Bluegrass legend Jens Kruger once told him "You are a good banjo player."

Carola Dunbar (fiddle) learned alongside her sisters who are now orchestral players. Carola has long since strayed to the dark side, playing bass in country music clubs and fiddle with Valley Bluegrass. Her soaring fiddle lines are one of the standout features of the band.

Richard Dingwall (mandolin) learned to play tunes in Irish and Scottish sessions. Now he keeps the beat and plays the odd solo on his new custom-made Berghman mandolin (made by Steve Barkman).

Erin Morton (bass) already has a national reputation as a singer and songwriter with her other band Delgirl. In Valley Bluegrass she holds down the beat on the bass fiddle.

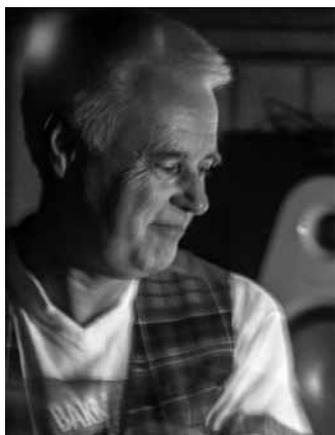
Everybody sings.

You can hear and see the band play on YouTube. Search for **valleybluegrassnz**.

Bush Poets

John Peel / Barrie Clubb

John Peel. I am currently living in the southern NSW town of Tumut and am an award winning performer of Australian bush poetry. My original poems cover a broad range of subjects and are often written using my own distinctive sense of humour. My performance repertoire also covers a broad range of popular traditional Australian bush poetry from poets including the likes of Banjo Paterson (The Man from Snowy River, The Man from Ironbark, A Bush Christening), Henry Lawson (Sweeney, When Your Pants Begin to Go) and CJ Dennis (The Triantiwontigongalope). I am a two-time winner of the original section of Tamworth's prestigious Golden Damper Performance Bush Poetry Competition and I am the current runner-up national men's champion performer. I was a feature performer at this year's National Folk Festival in Canberra.



Barrie Clubb. Bush Poetry goes urban! Barrie has been performing his unique poetry since 1984, when he moved from his native Scotland to settle in New Zealand.

His poetry focuses on the “human condition”, and tonight Barrie will focus on Love – it’s many guises and stages. Be prepared for a side-splitting roller-coaster full of insights into what makes us human – what does make us human? Do monkeys fall in love? What was Darwin’s real motivation?

... but I digress!

Barrie has guested at festivals throughout the South Island where he can usually be found with poetry books, guitar and occasionally saxophone in hand.

Award-winning designer, artist, poet, and songwriter, co-founder of Christchurch Community Music – a non-profit organisation keeping live music alive in the community. Current non-profit projects include operating Copper Wire Studio at Greendale, working with many of our Folk luminaries to capture their amazing live music.

AUG 23 Members \$10, Non-members \$15



Delta Lady

Delta Lady are a gutsy acoustic blues trio with a smoking hot repertoire of authentic delta blues.

Billy Vallance on vocals and wailing harmonica is a singer, songwriter, walking blues encyclopedia and one of the finest harmonica players in the country. Billy is a true blues veteran who has performed locally and nationally.

Catherine Bos on vocals, rich rhythm guitar and stomp box, is a seasoned sassy blues woman. Catherine has performed with zest and passion for over 20 years with international experience.

Hans Verhagen takes care of business very well indeed on strident acoustic guitar and dirty dobro. Hans also lovingly constructs an array of instruments individualised by the man's wonderful and unique character.

Aug 30 Members \$8, Non-members \$12

Sep 6 Members \$10, Non-members \$15

Radius

Radius - a spellbinding concert act featuring Harry Harrison and Justine S.

The duo generates a rich and diverse sound that redefines the instrumental song genre.

A magnificent blend of cross cultural streams from Europe, American folk and blues, on dobro, banjo, guitar, saxophones and flutes. Radius have performed at festivals all over New Zealand, and in 2014 embarked on a musical street tour of Paris and New York.

Most recent appearances include the 2015 Tauranga and Waiheke International Jazz Festivals.

Live footage of Radius's latest performance in April:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=Xde7f596R-g

"Radius packed out every venue that they played as part of our National Festival 2014. An unmissable duo that balances consummate musicianship with a real "wow" factor!"

Dave Bishop – Audience Development manager, National Jazz Festival Tauranga 2014.

Website: radiusmusic.co.nz



the



Beatles

Magical Mystery Tribute Tour

A Beatles Tribute concert is walking onto the Folk Club stage bringing you some of the best known Fab Four hits to enjoy and reminisce through.

In 1964 Beatle mania hit the world and New Zealand was no exception. That year The Beatles had six number one hits that kept our nation bopping for at least 13 weeks as No 1 in the charts.

We will be bringing you our versions of that mania, compered by Liverpool Angela fresh back from visiting her home city and the Beatles haunts.

The Beatles are attributed as the most influential popular music group of the rock era, and that influence will be highlighted by the local talent that will be bringing you their favourite songs: Kristina Godfrey

and Tony Hale, Women in Harmony, Used Notes (Ken Hunter & Martin Walsh), David Evison, The Mixers (Jacqui Taylor, Clare and Neville Churcher); Hazel Airey, Judi Smitheram, Jane Hobson and Mary Rushton; Sophia Bidwell and Jeremy Brownbrooke, Secret Lives of the Ukelele, Susan Grant and Lynnette Diaz; and the Nor'West Brass Band.

Looking forward to a night of nostalgic Beatles songs, it is sure to be a another great success as was its predecessor night held in 2000 which was coordinated by Mike Long.

Sep 13 Members \$8, Non-members \$12

H y r a m



D r T w a n g

Hiram is known for his work with the long running folk band The Chaps, but he has another side... Born in a small industrial town on the south side of LA, Hiram grew up with Merle Haggard, George Jones and Buck Owens ringing in his ears while trying to play guitar like Jimi Hendrix and Joni Mitchell. Some of it stuck and he now plays in an "Americana" style, performing songs by some of the great songwriters of the American West. Having grown up in a family that included gamblers, dealers, junkyard mechanics, miners and labourers, often straddling the line of the law, he knows the common folks that populate the songs he performs and brings them to life.

Hiram has been playing with a guitar for many years. His first was an old National steel bodied Duolian with a bakelite neck inherited from his drunk Uncle Jack that he used to tow behind his tricycle, a sound not to be forgotten. He started guitar lessons in a funky old music store that was crammed full of guitars and valve amps where his mother would (hopefully) pick him up before closing time – the store was in a neighbourhood not conducive to young kids sitting on the sidewalk with a guitar case after hours. Taught by Kent Henry (not that one, the other one), Kent did his best in the short time Hiram's mom could afford the lessons and after that he was on his own.

His first "band" experience was with a friend who lived in San Gabriel across the street from Rex Bogue – the guy who rebuilt the Strat Jimi Hendrix burned at the Monterey Pop Festival. This band, *The Vibrations of Time*, played two serious gigs – one at Gazzari's on the Sunset Strip and another in Palm Springs where the band was left out of pocket after blowing up the engine in the lead singer's parent's car.

Shortly after that Hiram pawned his Acoustic 260 amp bought a pickup truck, moved away, went to college and only played guitar for his own amusement and around the campfire on geology field trips. Many years later he came to New Zealand to begin a PhD in geology (yes, he really is Dr Twang.)

In the last few years Hiram has been performing solo at the Tui and Whitestone Festivals, at the New Edinburgh Folk Club, with The Saddle Hill Billys and accompanying songwriter Bill Morris on tour. His newest band project, Dr T and the Twang Tones, is a country/folk band with Tejano and Cajun flavourings which will debut at the 40th Whare Flat Festival.

He, along with daughter Amelie and wife Adrienne who sometime perform with him, are working toward a CD release of songs for kids which will be bearable to listen to 40,000,000 times as an adult.

Sep 20 Members \$10, Non-members \$15

SEP 27 Members \$10, Non-members \$15



Martin Curtis

Originally from England, Martin got his first guitar at the age of 8. Soon afterwards he heard a new form of pop music called “skiffle” and took to it immediately – not realising that it was basically up-tempo folk music from the USA. He played in small rock, jazz and folk groups while still at school, and after leaving and taking up climbing and walking, he found his interest in folk music was shared by most of his companions. From the day of his first visit to a North London Folk Club he was hooked.

Martin emigrated to Australia in 1969, and almost immediately began performing. Within a year he founded and was running his own folk club and festival in Tennant Creek and became an integral part of the Northern Territory folk scene. Later while living in Perth he first met recent immigrant Eric Bogle, and was so inspired by his wonderfully written yet simply constructed songs that Martin changed his style completely, eventually leading to him becoming a songwriter.

His passion for mountains brought him over to New Zealand with his family in 1975, and he was very soon established in the remote Cardrona Valley in the high country of the Southern Alps, running a horse trekking business and a small transport company. In 1976 he organised the first Cardrona Folk Festival, which proved so successful that the event is still on the calendar every October, having become one of the highlights of the New Zealand folk music year. Soon after this he began songwriting, composing several

ballads about the historic gold mining area in which he lived. One of these songs, “Gin & Raspberry” – named after a famous gold claim across the road from his house – soon became a folk club standard and has since been recorded by over a dozen musicians in the USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and the UK. The song was also the title track of his first album, which is still rated as NZ’s best-selling folk album. This success led him to continue writing and recording whenever funds would allow. His third album (“The Daisy Patch”) was a finalist in the Folk Album of the Year awards in 1990, run by the Recording Industry Association of New Zealand (RIANZ). To date he has released 9 albums of New Zealand music.

His skill at performing and acting out humorous bush poetry has also led to him being much in demand as an MC, especially overseas where he regularly comperes large concerts at festivals such as Orkney and Shetland.

Martin Curtis loves giving live solo performances, and has toured widely throughout New Zealand in the last few years, singing his songs from Stewart Island to Cape Reinga. He has made several TV and Radio appearances in New Zealand and overseas, and has guested at most of the music festivals around the country. He also occasionally tours as a duo with New Zealand guitar virtuoso Graham Wardrop and their two-man show has received acclaim wherever they have performed.

Jun 7

Kids Open Mic Entry \$2

Calling on YOUR talented & brave KiDS!

KIDS OPEN MIC!!

Singers, Dancers, Comedians: Ready to Shine we want to see your STUFF!

Get up on stage and show the world of our audience you're a star! All kids are welcome to sign up for an 8 minute shot at fame and fortune – or at least become a Folk Club favourite. Sign up begins at 5pm and will be first come, first served. Whether you want to sing, dance, play an instrument, or all of the above, you can do it in a stress-free, no-judgment environment. Come be the star of the show!

Spots available on our stage, with professional sound technician, vocal and mics, Di's, stage lighting and an attentive supportive audience. Your opportunity to perform with all the professional sound equipment to support your performance to be its best.

Please pass it on! This the first time we have offered this opportunity and would like it to be a great success so that we can do it regularly and encourage Christchurch's young talent.



OPEN MIC NIGHT

Jun 7

Open Mic Entry \$5

We provide an outlet for local acoustic performers – singers, songwriters & poets all welcome. We encourage all levels – novice or expert – to hone performance skills in front of a sympathetic audience.

Everything is provided – microphones, stage, lighting, leads, music stands – plus a dedicated sound tech who will work with you to make you sound amazing!

If you have specific requests please talk to him before the event starts. We are a listening audience that focuses respectfully on the performers and lots of encouragement.

Perform material you know – we don't expect perfection but you'll always come across better if you really know your stuff. However, if you are a regular performer at our open mics we challenge you to bring new material to share. Further develop your repertoire whilst offering the audience variety.

Sign-up time is 7pm. Please come promptly to ensure a time-slot. You will get to perform two songs, with a time-limit of up to 10 minutes; this includes your setting up and introductions.

Calendar of Events

Door Opens 7:00pm, Performance begins 7:30pm

Aug 16	Valley Bluegrass (Dunedin) the southernmost bluegrass band in the world	\$10 / 15
Aug 23	John Peel / Barrie Clubb (Australia / Scotland) traditional and urban bush poetry with a comic twist	\$10 / 15
Aug 30	Delta Lady gutsy acoustic blues trio	\$8 / 12
Sep 6	Radius redefines the instrumental song genre	\$10 / 15
Sep 13	“Beatles” night some of the best known Fab Four hits	\$8 / 12
Sep 20	Hyrarn Twang (Dunedin) songs by some of the great songwriters of the American West	\$10 / 15
Sep 27	Martin Curtis (Cardrona) ever popular singer / songwriter, bush poet and raconteur	\$10 / 15
Oct 4	Kids Open Mic / Open Mic Night a great chance to see up and coming youth talent - spread the word!	\$2 / \$5
Oct 11	Black Velvet Band (Christchurch) the unplugged acoustic lineup of this popular local band	\$8 / 12
Oct 18	Brigit Ellis / Lynley Caldwell (Oamaru) in the mysterious maths of music one and one can make three	\$10 / 15
Oct 25	Labour Day - Cardrona Festival great little festival – www.martincurtis.co.nz/cardrona.html	Club Closed
Nov 1	Sarah Jones (England) life, love and the great beyond – plus she plays a mean guitar	\$15 / 20
Nov 8	FFBH (Dunedin / Christchurch / Nelson) madcap engaging stage presence, superb musicianship	\$10 / 15
Nov 15	Show Weekend	Club Closed
Nov 22	Praguematique (Europe) travelling Euro party - get your groove on!	\$15 / 20

Black Velvet Band

Formed in the early 1990s at The Loft Bar, Christchurch by Ian Costello, the Black Velvet Band over the years have performed at many high profile events around New Zealand, regularly head-lining gigs for the Christchurch City Council's Cathedral Square and Hagley Park New Years Eve shows, the Hokitika Wild Food Festival, Kaikoura Seafest, and have mixed their music with the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra as well as holding residencies in Christchurch's main Irish bars

The BVB is currently playing three nights per

week (Friday, Saturday, Sunday) in the new Irish Bog Bar in Victoria Street.

The BVB has many different lineups often changing from week to week using past members, moving from a 4 piece to an 8 piece "big band" on occasions where needed.

The BVB will bring it's Sunday "unplugged" (no drums or loud electric guitars!) lineup to the folk club playing a diverse mix of music ranging from traditional to contemporary Irish tunes and songs from The Clancys, The Dubliners and The Pogues, while also covering groups such as U2, Mumford and Sons, and The Lumineers to the Clash.

Lineup for Sunday is

Ian Costello	Mandolin, Tenor banjo, Vocals
Brendan Gregg	Guitar, Vocals
Murray Jackson	Uilleann Pipes, Tin whistle Saxophone, vocals
Adam Gallagher	bass guitar, vocals



Oct 11 Members \$8, Non-members \$12



Accomplished performers in their own right, together Bridget Ellis and Lynley Caldwell prove in the mysterious maths of music that one and one can make three. Their music takes listeners on a journey through places of lightness and depth.

The pair meet to sing at the Janet Frame House in Oamaru where Caldwell is resident curator. The reverberant Frame family kitchen is no stranger to the creative process and it now rings with the sound of their voices, guitar, harp, drums and ukeleles. Here they have honed their unique repertoire of resonant original songs and fresh arrangements from traditionals to Bjork.

Over the past two years Ellis and Caldwell have engaged audiences at local clubs, festivals and the Oamaru Opera House. 2015 will see them release and tour their first album together.

Caldwell grew up in a family who made music together around the camp fire, at church and family gatherings. She studied music performance at Otago University and Christchurch Jazz School. She is at home performing in classical recitals and singing jazz and country. Caldwell went on to learn celtic harp and bodhran and in 2002 she moved to Ireland immersing herself in the world of Irish song. She has independently released two CD's *Treading on Enchanted Ground* 2002 and *Waiting for the Lark* 2010.

Ellis's discovery of songwriting in her teens led her to become a performer. From busking the Berlin underground to playing the Beehive she has taken her music to prisons, schools and hospices. Studying Contemporary Performance at Nelson School of Music she has released two albums *Sing Me To Sea* 1999 and *Emptiest Fullness* 2001. Ellis has supported Dave Dobbyn, Chris Knox and the Nelson Sinfonia's ENZO performance. Since picking up her guitar, she has amassed a body of unique songs, which thoughtfully chronicle her life, experiences and understanding.

Oct 18
Members \$10, Non-members \$15

NOV 1 Members \$15, Non-members \$20

SARAH JONES



Sarah hit the UK acoustic music scene in the late 1990s and won a reputation for her songwriting and her performances. Her albums have been praised by folk luminaries such as Steve Tilston, Clive Gregson and by Ric Sanders of Fairport Convention and her songs have been covered by national and local artists alike.

Steve Tilston wrote of her '*Sarah's talent is irrepressible. She sings and writes beautifully and her deft guitar work swings to buggery.*' High praise indeed from a true folk great!

She sings of life, love and the great beyond – and she plays a mean guitar.

Funny and poignant, there are stories to be told and choruses to sing.

NOV 8 Members \$10, Non-members \$15

FFBH. Finbar, Florian, Berghman, Hudson.

Or, if you prefer 'Fading Folkies Behaving Heinously' or 'Fairly Flaming Big Hammer' or 'Foolish Folkers Being Happy' or 'Four F'wits Bugging Harmonies'.

Since FBH's last Canterbury Tour, Florian has deserted his mates, moving to somewhere called Nelson. This, as you can imagine, has made practicing difficult, by leaving Berghman and Hudson to drink ALL the beer themselves! It's a hard road! Not to be outdone, B and H brought in Finbar, another absentee member who couldn't drink the beer. So instead of the ratio being 3:2 it's now 4:2! Down there for dancin', up here for t'inkin'.

The four-man lineup has performed many gigs, toured extensively, opened for a vast array of 'name' acts, and guested at every major, minor, augmented and diminished festival in the universe. But unfortunately only in the addled minds of those left to drink the beer. The REAL total is ZERO! But this will be rectified when they take to the stage for their first practice at Greendale.

Finbar: aka Barrie McDonald on piano accordion

Over his musical lifetime (so far) he has been a member of various groups playing Bluegrass, Country Rock, Bush Bands, Scottish Country Dance and Irish Traditional. In Invercargill in the early 80's, apart from being a Founding Member of the Foveaux Folk Club, he could be found in the 'Orchestra Pit' playing for light Operatic Shows. For some years Barrie played for the NZ Irish Traditional Dancing Championships.

Years of shiftwork made it difficult to be part of a group. However, he was part of 'Claddagh' with Davy Stuart & Mike Considine winning the NZ Music Award for their Album 'Continental Drift'.

Florian: aka Adrian Higgins, on mandolin, mandola and guitar, sometimes with vocals.

From musical beginnings with a school pop band through bluegrass, celtic & contemporary folk Adrian has mostly taken the road less travelled. While some say it is because he is creatively independent, his wife and daughters maintain it's because he never asks for directions. As a member

of FFBH or solo performer, his original bush poems and songs have seen him a regular guest at clubs and festivals for three decades. He draws on a range of musical traditions including folk, bluegrass, and Latin America while remaining firmly rooted in New Zealand.

Berghman: aka Steve Barkman, on guitar and mandolin, vocals and maybe a poem.

A full time luthier (i.e. one who makes big bits of wood smaller) and part-time live sound engineer. He has been playing little apart from stints on mandolin during Richard Dingwall's 6 week absence from Valley Bluegrass, and then on guitar in the same band during Read's time away referred to below. (during which time he was forced to drink all the beer himself.)



Hudson: aka Read Hudson, or, as his little bro' Steve addresses him 'Big Jim'. (his real first name is James, but don't let on I told you) On dobro, guitar and mandolin.

Since his last Canterbury appearance he's been honing his bluegrass chops on Dobro and D28 guitar in Valley Bluegrass, as well as spending 3 months touring Australasia with Bevan Gardner's John Denver tribute show, slithering up and down the strings of his pedal-steel guitar.

Then in July he was spotted (apparently there are pills for that!) out with his Mum and brother entertaining an appreciative crowd at the NEFC.

When does the man sleep?!

NOV 22 Members \$15, Non-members \$20

Praguematique

(Bodacious Busking Ensemble!)

NZ Tour



Born in the streets, underground clubs and bohemian weddings of Prague and Europe. Playing an eclectic mix of whatever takes their fancy. From Ska to Balkan and Eastern European Folk to Gypsy Swing, Latin, Pop and a touch of Jazz and Funk.

A TRavelling PaRTy - Come get your groove on!

Membership Application



Post to Christchurch Folk Music Club, PO Box 964, Christchurch

Name (s).....

Address

Phone(s).....

Email (privacy assured):.....

Additional Information for the benefit of the membership. Tell us about yourself. (Use overleaf if required).

.....

.....

Subscription

Waged: Family \$30 Single \$25

Unwaged: Family \$20 Single \$15

Special Country Family rates:

Country Family \$20

(for families living further than 20km from City Centre)

We welcome subscription payments
via internet banking:

Westpac
The Christchurch Folk Club
03 1706 0005393 00

Membership cards

Paid up members can collect their membership card from the desk during any club night. Any cards not collected will be dispatched with the following Hear Ye. This helps manage postage costs and keep subscription fees low.

Cardrona Festival

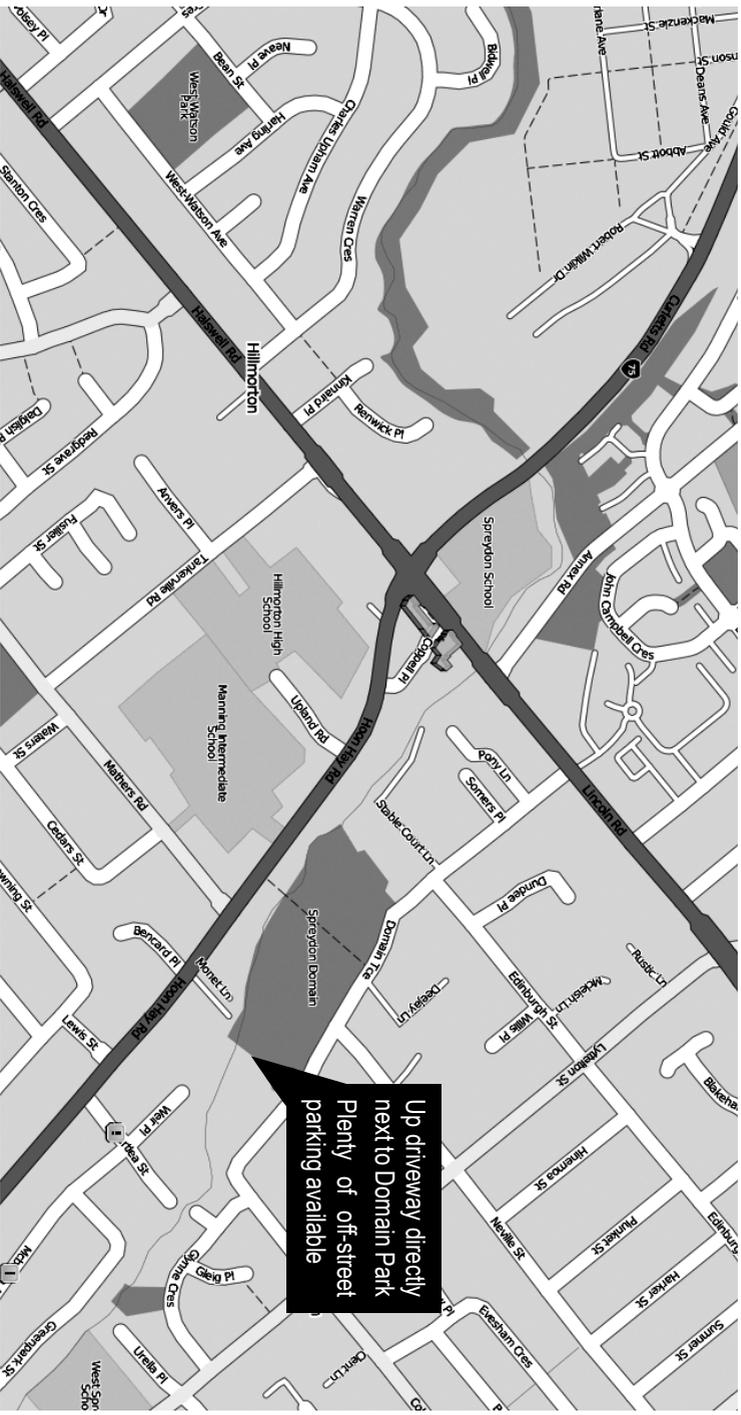
LABOUR WEEKEND

The Cardrona Festival takes place in the historic Cardrona Hall and surrounding environs. It's a beautiful spot with plenty of tent sites. New toilets (no showers) and limited kitchen facilities. The festival showcases national and international performers plus gives attendees the opportunity for late night jamming, blackboard concerts and the ever increasing bush poetry session. Begun over 25 years ago, this has become one of the most popular events at Cardrona and the idea of bush poetry session has now spread to most other festivals around the country. Each year it is getting longer and better with most of it consisting of hilarious and original material.

For prices and further details visit www.martincurtis.co.nz/cardrona.html



Christchurch Folk Music Club, PO Box 964, Christchurch



Join & 'like' our facebook page for weekly posting of upcoming performances, reviews & notices.