THE ACCORDION SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA INC.

ACCORDION REVIEW





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Editors Vic newsletter Margaret Berens & Holger Golinski



Hello from the Editor

...So this is Christmas and what have you done well I am thrilled to say you have all done quite a lot by the size of this edition! Wow thank you for sending in articles about you and your accordion.

Adelaide Accordion Orchestra have lots of news and even played live in a radio station! see page 10.

Accordions Alfresco had such a wonderful experience in Toowoomba and at the Maclagan Squeezebox Festival, that I felt compelled to include you all in the experience with an article and photos, see page 15. We had a big impact at the festival which was quite moving and I encourage other accordionists and groups to make an effort to attend this annual festival, if you read the letter on page 21, you will understand why.

Nine brave accordionists ran 5km for their life...sorry for a world record, playing their accordions in the AccordiRun World Record Fun Run aka Balmain Fun Run. Oh my, how did they keep up with the band leader Ben! I think a few didn't, see story page 8. If they didn't get a world record I know they picked up a new orchestra member!

Thank you to everyone that kindly sent in their news, keep it coming with the next edition in March 2020. On behalf of the ASA I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a musical 2020.

...another year over, And a new one just begun.

Cheryle



Presidents Report

It's Christmas time once more and the end to the year. Thank you to everyone for your efforts during this year and past. There is a great energy in the accordion society. This next year promises to provide you with the accordion activities that we have talked



about. We are looking forward to increasing both the frequency of our concert schedules and providing regular workshops focused on expanding your musical skills.

In next years accordion review we will be exploring the history of the accordion. It is unfortunate that sometimes the history of the accordion is glanced over superficially. I hope that by providing a more in depth exploration of the instruments history we might be more able to think openly about different types of music and repertoire available to the instrument.

I am looking forward next year to attending the 2020 South Pacific and New Zealand Championships and Festival, which will be held on 30-31st of May. The New Zealand Accordion Association is hosting a preliminary contest where players can submit an audition tape to the NZAA and possibly win a trip to New Zealand for the competitions. You will find more details at www.accordion.co.nz, I would love to see some of our members attend these competitions and would also like to see us put together a small ensemble to travel to the competitions. If you have any ideas about a performance for this event please contact me.

In this New Year I urge members of the accordion society to consider playing with other instrumentalists. I would like to see the accordion player open themselves to the joy of playing with others. Contact your local musical society or go down to your local jam night, start a music group. If you have a small accordion group, as I know some of you do, find a drummer, guitarist, singer or something else. Make this year about

expanding your musical horizons and at the same time the Accordion Societies. Currently I am working with an amazing violin player from Tasmania, a guitarist from Sydney, a singer from Italy and a burlesque cabaret performer from the south coast of New South Wales and until recently with the band Medusas wake. If we want the instrument to grow and if you want to have an amazing musical experience then this is the tried and tested way to do it. This year is about challenges and moving forward.

I wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas period.

Ho Ho Ho Squeezers

Ben Pattinson



NSW XMAS PARTY

The ASA Annual Congress Meeting took place at Canada Bay Club in Sydney on Nov 24th, connecting with Victoria ASA and Cheryle Mills via SKYPE.

After the meeting NSW commenced their Christmas celebration with carols by Accordions Alfresco and lunch. Everyone enjoyed the day.





Merry Xmas to all from the NSW ASA committee and Accordions Alfresco.



AccordiRun World Record Fun Run



We were 9 players for our 'World Record' (some friends came too).- held at Callum Park, Sydney - we met at the oval at 8am - 20+ degrees - beautiful day overlooking Iron Cove - 3 races 10km & 5km (2km for children).

We went in the 5km race after we had played "inspirational" music for the beginning of the 10km race! e.g. Chariots of Fire, Chicken Dance etc.!

In our 5km race we started from the rear of the huge crowd (encouraging those around us to overtake!) Some of us at the very back couldn't keep up with Benny! (he has such energy playing while wearing his full leather lederhosen outfit!). Two or three of us were also challenged by our poor coordination (playing and running at the same time!)

The steep hills at the beginning didn't help and the run down to the finish line became a slow stroll by the end. Our front players actually stopped to regroup and wait for the seniors, the aim being to attempt to all cross the line together holding the bellows of the person next to us! That was a bit chaotic but lots of fun! We were cheered and clapped as we leapt (or staggered) across the line! We've never had such a large audience before!

Our last play-out for the morning was to accompany all the children at the start of their 2km race, encouraging some







with disabilities and some very young preschoolers along the course. They actually sped ahead of us so we had to abandon that idea after about 100 metres!

We had a great morning and have put our hands up for next year's Fun Run. (It's good publicity for the accordion - so many people there told us they have or know someone who has an accordion).

Glewy



NB: A participating runner Linda Jajou was thrilled to bump into our accordionists. Linda plays the accordion herself and has now joined the NSW orchestra at their Monday night practice. Welcome to the group Linda.







Adelaide Accordion Orchestra (AAO)

With the sale of the original Adelaide German Club AAO found ourselves temporarily without a "home" to practice in over the past 12 months. We utilised several different venues including Multicultural Communities Council of SA, an Italian club and members' private homes. But in Early June this year a building out of the city centre was purchased by the German Club and although there was a lot of work in front of them they opened on 14th September for a barbeque to welcome members to their new club. Adelaide Accordion Orchestra was invited to play during the day and it was a very successful event. So after a long cold winter we have been busy around town in Spring.

On the evening of Wednesday 9th October we played a dinner concert at a prestigious retirement village (Waterford) in the southern suburbs and we were happy to hear that the event was booked out. After setting up we were treated to a beautiful meal in our "Green Room" before starting our concert. The response to our repertoire was very positive and we enjoyed playing some very lively tunes for our audience. One of our players, Alan Nesbit is a very accomplished vocalist and gave a wonderful rendition of O Sole Mio which almost brought the house down! After the performance we had many lovely comments but one lady told us that she had had a "horrendous" week and that within 10 minutes of us starting we had lifted her spirits and she was still "floating" for which she thanked us very much. Now isn't that what music is all about?

On Sunday 20th October AAO played live on radio 5EBI Multicultural Radio for their Radiothon. We squeezed onto the smallest stage ever and it was proba-

bly fortunate that a couple of players could not make it that day. We played to a live audience who were very attentive and several danced to our music. There were also many different cultural performances from various ethnic groups which made for a very interesting afternoon.



The German Club held their first Fruhlingsfest (Spring Festival) at the new club on Saturday 2nd November and AAO again entertained the capacity crowd. The Hon Jing Lee MLC has been a German Club stalwart for many years and did the honour of the official opening then tapping the keg for the festivities to begin. There was a buzz in the club that day with plenty of tasty German food, cold beer, lively music, dancing and of course good friends. It is good to see the club going ahead with such a successful event after a bit of a rough patch.



AAO have also recently received bookings from nursing homes and retirement villages during working hours so a small group from the orchestra have banded together to perform. On Monday 14th October this group played for a large northern suburbs nursing home for their "Oktoberfest". We arrived to find the residents had made their own German hats and were excitedly waiting for us to play. They sang along to our music and some of the more able residents got up to dance with staff. One dear lady was happy just dancing with her walking frame to our music. After our performance a very sprightly

103 year old gentleman thanked us for the wonderful music. These events are very fulfilling and we have more bookings in the near future.



On the 23rd November we performed in concert at the award winning Courthouse Cultural Centre for HATs (Heritage, Arts & Traditions) at Auburn in the Clare Valley. We played a very exciting program with a few surprises for our audience including our rendition of Rock Island Rock complete with sounds of the old steam trains. The audience



was very proactive, singing and clapping along with our music. Some AAO members stayed overnight in the valley to explore some wineries and enjoy the area the next day before returning to Adelaide.

With Christmas fast approaching we celebrated together at the end of November and are now having a break for the summer holidays. No doubt some will still meet for regular musical get togethers over the break as music and accordions are what we all love.

Adelaide Accordion Orchestra wishes everyone a very Merry Christmas and all the best for the coming New Year.

Austrian Club ASA Concert, July 2019

The concert kicked off with Iryna Stepko and her students. First up, Irvna Stepko and Robin Mullen performed 'On the Wings of an Angel' by Aleksa Mirkovic. Iryna and Robin were then joined by Nick Gibbs and they played 'Beguine des Reves Brises' by L. Asselbergs. Finally Nick and Robin performed 'Minor Swing' by Django Reinhardt.

The next act was the Accordion Accents Ensemble with Holger Golinski, Jeanette Taranto, Tineke Sydekum and Peter Simondson playing a number of pieces including 'Vom Don Zur Volga', 'Chariots of Fire', 'Habe Mitled', 'Those Were the Days', 'Wolga Klange', 'Moskau' and 'Conquest of Paradise'.



The final act of the first half was John Kalkbrenner Jnr who performed a medley of well known pieces including 'Johnny Caballero', 'Kalinka' and Zorba's Dance. He then started on 'Amazing Grace' during which he was joined by a Scottish piper in full regalia. Finally the pair played 'Scotland the Brave' during which the pair marched off the stage. It was a very entertaining first half!



The second half was filled with the musical duo The Gram-O-Phonie Brothers who entertained us for the better part of an hour with humour and musical segments using accordion, double bass (cleverly mounted on a roller skating



boot!), ukulele and keyboard. They had the audience laughing throughout and it was a great act!

Maclagan—What a Wonderful Experience

Well, were we in for a wonderful surprise!

Accordions Alfresco and family members departed for Toowoomba, Qld to attend the annual Maclagan Squeezebox Festival, (80kms NW of Toowoomba in the Darling Downs) held on October 12th. Most arrived by plane and others made the journey by road transporting the eleven accordions.

Being so far from home, what an opportunity for us to perform in Toowoomba



on the Friday before departing for Maclagan the next day. Thanks to the smart organisation of a group member, a lunchtime performance was scheduled at a local Cafe, followed by a 3pm concert in St Stephens Church, in the heart of Toowoomba. The concert was advertised in their local newspaper, radio, TV and in the 'What's On' publication. We had a full house, fantastic!





Maclagan here we come!!

The next morning we all headed out to Maclagan having no idea what to expect. Sadly the country was dry and parched and we all felt for the farmers trying to make a living under these conditions. When we arrived we found the most wonderful, friendly country folk and a crowd we had not envisaged. There were sooo many accordionists.



How unusual to find hundreds of people in atten-

dance and all there because of their love of accordion music, how exciting is that! There were concertinas, button accordions, alpine horns, lagerphones, broomsticks, harmonicas, brass instruments and more, all forming some sort of squeezebox band. One local farmer in his 60's played a couple of solos, he was self taught as a child and hadn't realised that the bass buttons should have been on the left—and to this day he still plays with the accordion upside



down! His only comment is "too old now to change!"

Many locals are self taught as was a 17yo blind boy. He had learned the piano and one day his grandfather brought an accordion home and said "Give this a go", he loved it.

He played a solo, the 'Last Post' in such a way that it was very moving, I even observed a few tears in the audience. The festival had a long list of performers so the program was tight and a list of acts displayed beside the stage would indicate your allotted position, pictured here is Finn waiting to perform his solo, 'La Cucaracha' and 'Bel Viso'.

Accordions Alfresco performed just prior to lunch with several tunes such as Parisier, Surfin USA, Those were the Days, La Cumparsita, Happy Wanderer, Go West, True Blue. We thoroughly enjoyed playing for such an appreciative audience. We sold 90 CD's over the 2 days, good work team!



Twice throughout the day, players were invited to come up on stage for a jam session of some good 'ol tunes being led by an harmonica player and accordionist, all good fun.







The daytime concert finished at 4pm with the last act being our own quartet comprising of Amelia, Jedda, Dominique and Ben. They performed some great pieces with one of my favourites being 'It's Amore', brilliant.



Time to pack up the chairs and turn the venue into a dance hall for the annual Old Time Dance at 7pm with many of the accordionists to provide the dance music.

Accordions Alfresco were very concerned they did not have traditional Foxtrot, Pride of Erin or Quickstep music...gee what are we going to do? They were saved when a lady came to Amelia and asked "you are not going to play all this old style music are you?" Phew come on lets play something lively so Surfin USA, Chicken Dance and others got the crowd rockin!



Oh my what a fantastic weekend, none of us could have imagined that Maclagan would have attracted so many wonderful people, some coming quite a considerable distance to listen to accordionists.

A big Thank you to Joan van Kuijck and the committee for organising such a successful Squeezebox Festival and for making our trip to Maclagan a highlight for us and one of our best concerts.

Cheryle

Below is a wonderful collage of photos created by Joan van Kuijck for Accordions Alfresco. Joan emailed this to Amelia together with a lovely thank you note, refer next page.



To Amelia Granturco,

I cannot finish today without committing to thanking your group for your fantastic commitment to making our festival a success yesterday. I'm totally blown away by the positive comments from players and visitors about having Accordions Alfresco's on stage during the day and at the evening session....which has made me think.....

This group has brought so much class and culture to our festival and the quality of your music will be spoken about in many circles for many years ahead. Your group has set a new benchmark which will be very difficult to replicate. I, personally have goosebumps just having such quality music at my doorstep. Even though I don't have a musical bone in my body, I totally appreciate having this quality music so close to home. I think most locals also agree with me when I say that this is the tonic we locals need to keep us going in these very trying times.

In the middle of the drought, exposure to these cultural experiences is just what we need to keep 'that black dog away from our door'. (ie, depression, suicide). This might surprise you, but that was the main topic of conversation amongst many of us locals this weekend - you are bloody amazing!.....fancy that!.....who would have thought?.....

'Accordions Alfresco' have given many residents in our district a new hope, and I sincerely thank you all for that!

Amelia, as email correspondent, I thank you and your group, and your supporters, SO MUCH, for your big (+ major+ fantastic) commitment to coming to our festival this year.

The crowd in attendance and the feedback last night and today has been so, so positive, and I, personally, cannot thank you and your group enough, for making your commitment, and individual sacrifice to coming to Maclagan. Fancy only having email conversation with you, then only meeting you and everyone else only yesterday!!

I hope you might share this email and attachments with others in your group.

Cheers for now

Joan van Kuíjck



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News from Griffith

from Joe Staltare

Christmas cheer was in order so Joe and Kevin entertained the Seniors in Griffith. Merry Christmas to all our musicians



Bruno & Joy Plos visited for Christmas Photographed here with Frank Wilson (left) and Joe.



Trevisaní luncheon

Yoogali Club July 2019 was the venue for the Trevisani Nel Mondo annual luncheon with many visitors travelling from other towns and cities across Australia.

Thanks to Loui Forner the entertainment was just amazing with lots of singing and dancing ,thanks for the invite Loui to play a few tunes alongside you throughout the afternoon.



Farewell dinner

August 2019 was a time to say farewell to Jane Moschella, a lovely friend. Best wishes to Jane on her new position back in Sydney.

Vince Moschella (member of Accordions Alfresco) travelled to Griffith to pick up his daughter and her belongings so a

little get together was in order for the evening prior to their departure and IL Corso Restaurant was the venue.

Bruno Peruzzi joined us one evening out at the farm to enjoy a little music and a few drinks, thank you Vince and Bruno for making it a great night.

Photos from top: L-R Joe & Cathy Staltare, Jane ,Vince: Right Vince & Bruno Peruzzi



Bruno and Loui welcome Ian Sambrook

Ian Sambrook from Macksville NSW, visited Griffith and sent a big thank you to Bruno for having him around to his place for a night of sharing music and ideas. Ian Sambrook was on tour visiting Griffith for a couple of days and had

with him an accordion that we had never seen before.

Again thanks to Loui for coming along to play this beautiful instrument it was a buzz to play and listen to its characteristic tones.



Ian Sambrook, Bruno and Loui

Maclagan accordionist visits Sydney



NSW orchestra had a surprise visit from Sheryl Kreusler at their Monday night practice.

Sheryl from Toowoomba, met Accordions Alfresco at the recent Maclagan Squeezebox festival and felt compelled to pay them a visit for a bit of music when she passed through Sydney.

Great to see you Sheryl (*pictured* front left).

Russell Lea Fete

Accordions Alfresco performed at Russell Lea Public School on Saturday, 2nd November, invited by the Parents & Citizens Fete Committee. We were very pleased to play for the Fete as the school hall is our rehearsal venue and Finn Macdermid used to come to this school (where he learned to play the recorder before taking up the accordion). He was able to meet up with some old mates.

Sylvia Granturco immediately rallied her friends in the Karabi Seniors Knitting Group who began creating goods for the school to sell!

We played in the school hall as part of a program consisting of various musicians and dancers.

Our performance was very well received. It was an opportunity for our audience to sit quietly and listen, away from the hustle and bustle (and heat) of the day.

Afterwards we joined the crowds buying coffee, food, books and raffle tickets It was a lovely day.

Glenny



Victor visits his old Group

NSW orchestra were thrilled to have Victor Lang drop in to visit them at their Monday night practice. Many of you will remember Victor as a prominent member of the NSW Orchestra many years ago. Victor now resides in Canada with his partner and children and manages to find time to drop in to have a chat and share some music whenever he is back in Oz visiting family. Victors mother Nikki also came along and everyone enjoyed a lovely supper.

An old photo from the past appeared on the night and there are players that are still in the group, see if you can spot them..



Accordionists Out and About

AMELIA ENJOYING OKTOBERFEST

Amelia Granturco was spotted enthusiastically entertaining diners at the Bavarian Rouse Hill restaurant during Oktoberfest. We have been told the diners thoroughly enjoyed her playing.



LOOKS LIKE FUN AT THE HAUS RESTAURANT

The entire Smith family performed at the Haus Restaurant, Hahndorf, SA.



MUSIC NIGHT AT SAMS

There is always music when you visit the Tripodi household and Friday October 4th was no exception. We all spent the day manning the Bunnings Sausage Sizzle for the ASA then Sam insisted we come over to his place. Not only was there music but both Sam and his wife Maria had cooked us a fantastic dinner, thank you



...and for those that don't play an instrument, Maria Tripodi and Doug Mills kept themselves amused with a friendly card game complete with background music.

RHONDA AT MELBOURNE CUP LUNCH



Rhonda is seen here playing solo, however she also formed a trio comprising of piano, violin and accordion to perform to very well known standards. It certainly was a wonderful day.

EMMA MEETS TAMWORTH CELEBRITIES

Emma and Leo Kroon travelled by car to the Maclagan Squeezebox Festival in October.

On their way they stopped at Tamworth and bumped into Slim Dusty and his wife Joy McKean however it was a bit hard to strike up a conversation!



THE MAESTRO IS OUT AND ABOUT

Ross Maio is seen here playing at Caruso's Woodfired Pizzeria and the diners are loving him. The place gets packed out and Ross was described as 'an absolute magician with the accordion'! I think we all agree with that description..





Ross is on The Special Olympic Christmas Cruise on Sydney Harbour with Paula Duncan, Lexie Duncan and Grace.

'TIS THE SEASON FOR CAROLS

Carol singing was all agog in Mallacoota. Carols were played for the young, the elderly and one dog! Fifty Seniors celebrated xmas with dinner and carol singing across the evening. The next day was Carols by Candelight with lots of children and their families singing carols and listening to stories read by the Angel then Santa arrived in a Fire Engine. Sadly the dog didn't sing along. Cheryle





Dog into the Xmas spirit



Carol singing at Seniors dinner

XMAS MUSIC IN HAHNDORF

Emma, Paul and Yvonne Smith playing Christmas music in Hahndorf. They mixed it up a bit this year with Yvonne also playing her new Autoharp.





ELF ON THE SHELF

Merry Christmas to All.

SNIPPETS, GOSSIP & NEWS



Sandsculpturewa

Sandsculpturewa created a great sculpture at Curtin University's Day of The Dead Festival.

Such a great theme and such great people to work for and so many skeletons!

Scientists in Germany have discovered that pianists have more efficient brains. A group led by Dr. Timo Krings

required pianists and non-musicians of the same age and sex to perform complex sequences of finger movements. Their brains were scanned using a technique called "functional magnetic resonance imaging" (fMRI) which detects the activity levels of brain cells, by measuring changes in blood flow. The non-musicians were able to make the movements as correctly as the pianists. However, the amount of brain activity in areas controlling movement was different. The pianists made the correct movements while having less brain activation. Thus, compared to non-musicians, the brains of pianists are more efficient at making skilled movements. These findings show that musical training can enhance brain function.

Condolences to Rob Scott-Mitchell & Family

Sadly Rob Scott-Mitchell lost his father recently at the wonderful age of 92 years. On behalf of the ASA, a tribute was sent to Rob to pass on our condolences at this sad time. Following is a response from Rob.

Dearest ASA friends,

Thanks so much for the beautiful card and condolence messages, most deeply appreciated.

We gave dad a great send off at St Jude's Anglican church in Bowral.

I played 'Wayfaring Stranger' (on guitar) to accompany a photomontage I'd made of his 92 years.

A lone piper saw him out of the church and away.

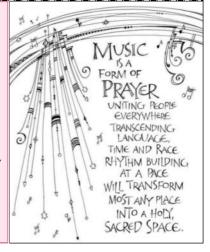
Rob



Get Well Wishes

Cheryl Beckett from Vic ASA has suffered extensive injuries since July which has prevented her from playing the accordion, horse riding and all her other favourite hobbies.

She is slowly recovering and we wish Cheryl all the best for a speedy and full recovery so she can get back doing what she loves best.



Hello from Bernadette Conlon U.S.A

Hello Everyone,

For me, the summer flew by and now, Stasha is back to school and I had an opportunity recently, to record six new pieces for Youtube. They range in style from "Asturias" to "Thunderstruck." The latter seems to be very popular, which came as a surprise, although perhaps it shouldn't.



There is also a patriotic American medley called "American Dreams", which is a compilation of music inspired by America, which I arranged for a July 4th concert this year and have since been asked to put it on Youtube. A wife should always listen to her husband and Ed's choice was Mason Williams' "Classical Gas." My most requested song from my Melbourne days was "My Heart Will Go On" from *Titanic* and I arranged a version of "Phantom of the Opera" to highlight the deep basses of my Beltuna Helikon accordion. I have always maintained that the accordion could do many incredible things and play a lot more than the polkas for which it is famed. Youtube is my final frontier. My continuing mission: to explore strange new repertoire, to seek out new audiences and to boldly go where no accordionist has gone before. Does anyone have a star ship?

I hope you enjoy these and any future clips I post (just type in "Bernadette accordion" on Youtube). If so, you are more than welcome to leave a glowing comment. If you don't like it, don't write anything and find something else to watch!

So this is how I'm keeping in touch with my musical side, whilst being a housewife and diligently trying to raise a daughter. It's an outlet and my intention is to work up a new batch of songs and ring the man who does my recording for me - and my hair dresser.

I hope there is something there to tantalize most musical palates.

Happy listening!

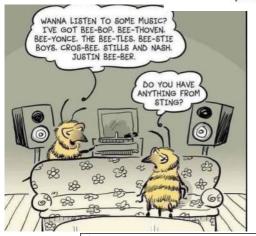
Kind regards,

Bernadette

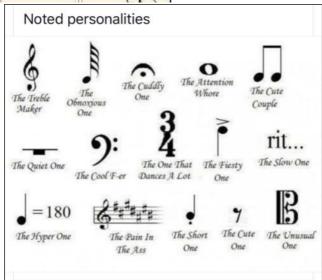




"How expensive would it be to just skip practice and get right to perfect?"







Sullivans visit Toowoomba Concert

What a lovely surprise to meet Trish and Tim Sullivan who have been great supporters of the ASA. They have come to many Festivals over the years. Their daughter played accordion but many of the group had not met Trish and Tim until they came to St Stephens Church, Toowoomba to the Accordions Alfresco concert, after seeing it advertised locally.

They lived on a property at Biloela and the Festival was their annual holiday, didn't matter where it was held, they came. After their daughter stopped playing the accordion they continued to come to every Festival until we ceased having them. We had not seen them for approximately 6-7 years until they walked into St Stephens church for the concert, wonderful surprise.

We would like to thank them for making the trip to Toowoomba. They are also celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary in December so we would like to congratulate them on this wonderful milestone.

Sylvía Granturco



Julie travels to Ohio for Digital Symposium

Julie Wisnieweski, a Sydney professional digital and acoustic accordionist, recently travelled to Ohio to the Gr8 Ideas Symposium 2019, for digital accordionists.

Julie posted: Loving Ohio...and the Digital sounds and the passion of all the accordionists here at the Digital symposium.

Included in Julie's wonderful trip was a master class with Sam Falcetti, and she describes him as an amazing teacher and a heart of gold. Julie also met world class performers Eddie Monteiro and Lenny Feldmann.



Julie has a passion for the accordion and a lady once told her; "Your passion burns like a fire within your soul, and if you don't pursue your passion, it only gets stronger and stronger"

Julie agrees and says:

Follow your passion in life and never look back...



Melbourne ASA

Sunday 15th March, 2020 Annual picnic will be at Birrarrung Park in Lower Templestowe.

Ross Maío

Please check Ross Maio Facebook page for his gigs and venues.

Ben Pattinson

Please check Ben Pattinson Facebook page for his gigs and venues.

John Kalkbrenner

Every Thursday and Friday nights

Sam Rauza

Every Saturday and Sunday nights

'Hofbräuhaus' German restaurant 18-24 Market Lane, Melbourne. Phone 9663 3361

Heinz Dabernig

Every Friday and Saturday night and Sunday lunch.

Cuckoo Restaurant in the Dandenongs



NEWS FROM NEW ZEALAND ACCORDION ASSOCIATION

Successful Auckland Accordion Symphonietta Concert - New Zealand

Contributed by Heather Masefield

On Sunday November 24th, the Auckland Accordion Symphonietta, conducted by <u>Lionel Reekie</u> held a concert at St Georges Church, Takapuna, Auckland, New Zealand.



This hour long concert was made up of pieces that the players had chosen: Themes from Phantom of the Opera, Howls Moving Castle, I'll Make a Man Out of You. Thanks to <u>Joan Sommers</u> (USA) for her arrangement of Shallow performed by vocalists Alanah Jones and Angela Chen.

Thanks also to dancers Jazz Lopez and Elena Reekie for a superb "Santa Maria Tango" Dance.

<u>Gary Daverne</u> was in the audience to hear his arrangement of "Pirates of the Caribbean" performed to conclude the concert.

Special Guests were a new Tango group formed by <u>Grayson Masefield</u> from Auckland University tutors: Barkin Sertkaya on guitar, <u>Grayson Masefield</u>, Sarah Watkins on piano, Gordon Hill on bass and Andrew Beer on violin. They performed works by Piazzolla.



Music Makers Performance

Contributed by Renee Jeffries

On Sunday 24th November the Music Makers, the childrens group of the North Shore Accordion Orchestras, performed before the start of the Auckland Santa Parade. Nearly a quarter of a million people lined the main street for this very popular Christmas Parade.



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It is very helpful if stories and photos are emailed to Cheryle to avoid the need to retype and scan. Thank you.

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