

THE ACCORDION SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA INC.

# ACCORDION REVIEW



J U N E      2 0 2 1

VOLUME 38 ISSUE 2

## CONTENTS

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| PAGE 3  | ASA (INC NSW) COMMITTEE DIRECTORY                         |
| PAGE 4  | HELLO FROM THE EDITOR                                     |
| PAGE 5  | PRESIDENTS REPORT   |
| PAGE 7  | ASA VICTORIA BRANCH—NEW COMMITTEE                         |
| PAGE 8  | COVID4740 ROCKS NORTH QUEENSLAND                          |
| PAGE 10 | THE ACCORDION GOES BUSH & NEWS FROM PADDINGTON STUDIO     |
| PAGE 12 | HOORAY WE PLAYED LIVE!                                    |
| PAGE 13 | AUSSIE IN N.Z.  |
| PAGE 15 | <b>SNIPPETS, GOSSIP &amp; NEWS</b>                        |
| PAGE 16 | WHAT'S ON - AATA INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS              |
| PAGE 17 | - BILL HANLON AND SCHULZ LAUNCH OF 'LAND OF IF'           |
| PAGE 17 | - SCHULZ—TSIAVOS MEETS OMELETTE                           |
| PAGE 18 | - SYDNEY BALALAIKA ORCHESTRA                              |
| PAGE 18 | - MAGLAGAN SQUEEZEBOX FESTIVAL                            |
| PAGE 19 | TIME FOR A LAUGH  |
| PAGE 20 | CREATIVITY IN PRACTICE                                    |
| PAGE 23 | FREE TUTORIAL WEBSITES                                    |
| PAGE 24 | MAESTRO DON QUATTROCCHI                                   |
| PAGE 25 | NEWS FROM NEW ZEALAND                                     |
| PAGE 27 | TEACHERS DIRECTORY  |
| PAGE 29 | ADVERTISING IN THE ACCORDION REVIEW                       |
| PAGE 30 | APPLICATION/RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP OR ACCORDION REVIEW SUB |
| PAGE 31 | REPAIRERS & RETAILERS DIRECTORY                           |

**COVER:** *Album cover from the COVID 4740 Community Resilience Project including our own Rhonda Bates. Full story page 8 and 9.*

## DISCLAIMER

All opinions expressed in articles and features are those of the contributor and not necessarily those of the Editors or the Society. The Accordion Society of Australia and the Editors accept no responsibility for the accuracy of any of the opinions or information contained in submitted articles. Some images have been sourced from the WorldWideWeb, if this infringes anyone's copyright please contact the Editors and the images will be removed with our apology.

All material appearing in "Accordion Review" is copyright (except as mentioned above) and reproduction in any form is strictly forbidden without the prior written approval of the Editor. The Editor, Publisher and the Accordion Society of Australia (ASA) do not accept any responsibility or liability for any loss or damage which may result from any inaccuracies or omissions in this publication, or the use in anyway of the information & images contained within the pages of this publication.

## A.S.A.(inc.NSW) COMMITTEE DIRECTORY



### ASA (inc NSW) Headquarters

51 Bogalara Road,  
Old Toongabbie NSW 2146

|                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| President                          | Ben Pattinson<br>email: ben.h.pattinson@gmail.com<br>mobile: 0432 032 758                                   |
| Vice President                     | Silvia Kocic<br>email: s.kocic@hotmail.com<br>mobile: 0403 491 780  |
| Secretary                          | Sandra Mackay<br>email: mackaynoyce@gmail.com<br>mobile: 0422 105 147                                       |
| Treasurer                          | Vince Granturco<br>email: granvs@bigpond.com<br>phone: (02) 9636 2674                                       |
| Fundraising & Public Relations     | Sylvia Granturco<br>email: granvs@bigpond.com<br>mobile: 0422 936 612                                       |
| Co Musical Directors               | Amelia Granturco & Dominique Granturco<br>email: AccordionSociety@gmail.com                                 |
| Accordion Review Editor            | Cheryle Mills<br>PO Box 442, Mallacoota Vic 3892<br>email: cherylemills66@gmail.com<br>mobile: 0414 915 154 |
| <u>Victorian sub-committee</u>     |   |
| President                          | Heinz Dabernig<br>email: upweymusic6@bigpond.com<br>mobile: 0407 075 942                                    |
| Vice President                     | Anthony Schulz<br>email: anthonyjschulz@gmail.com<br>mobile: 0414 395 014                                   |
| Secretary<br>Editor Vic newsletter | Holger Golinski<br>email: holgs13@yahoo.com.au  |
| Treasurer ( & co Editor)           | Jeannette Benzing<br>email: j_benzing_melb@hotmail.com  |
| Public Relations Officer           | Anthony Schulz  |



## *Hello from the Editor*

Well Covid may continue to be around but live music is slowly being introduced back into our lives, how wonderful!

In early 2021 an inspirational music producer in Mackay Qld was busy rallying up local musicians to reflect their take on Covid 2020, the year that was. Excitedly an accordionist was required and ASA member Rhonda Bates hesitantly stepped

up to the mark and thrilled that she did and joined the production. This editions cover page features their Album cover. Thanks Rhonda for sharing your experience, great story on page 8,9.

Exciting news, ASA Victoria had an election and a new committee has been elected to keep the branch running, well done!

Anthony Schulz the now Victorian Vice President is launching a debut album 'Land of If' this weekend June 26th at Brunswick. Anthony also has a show the previous day June 25th at East Brunswick, full details are on page 17. All the best Anthony with the launch.

Don Quattrocchi is a passionate accordionist that has dedicated his life to promoting the accordion. Many of us would have played at least one of his many, many 'free' music arrangements. Glenn Grunfelder decided to interview Don for the Review which is on Page 24.

While we are on 'free' music, page 23 has recommended websites for free Youtube tutorials and lessons, thanks Hera for your contribution.

I hope you enjoy this Review and a BIG thank you to everyone that sent in articles and please keep them coming in, your input is the 'Accordion Review'.

Stay safe and healthy and keep that music going.

Regards,

*Cheryl*

## *Presidents Report*



Hello again everybody. We are thrilled to have you read our publication and certainly hope you enjoy it. I would like to start this article with a special thanks to our editor Cheryle Mills. A huge amount of work goes into providing our readers with this content. Cheryle sources content from all over Australia and the world. Cheryle collates great amounts of only the best accordion information over three months. Two weeks before we publish Cheryle starts tying up the loose ends and chasing up stories that may have overrun the deadline. One week before Cheryle proof reads and puts everything to its final format, which takes up to one week to complete, literally days in front of the computer. Recently I spoke to Heather Masefield (NZ) who commended Cheryle's efforts telling me that the Accordion Review was very professional and had a huge amount of material which would be of great interest to accordion lovers and players. Thank you Cheryle keep up the great work.

I would also like to pass on my heartfelt appreciation to the three members of the Victorian Committee. Margaret Berens, Frank Berens and John Kalkbrenner have been the torch bearers for the Victorian Division for decades. Their dedication was unending, their sense of what I believe is the most wonderful community spirit was amazing. Margaret, Frank and John decided that they would retire from the accordion society this year. Their work will never be forgotten. It's impossible to explain their service in these few brief words. People like these have kept our accordion dreams alive for so many years. I hope that the Covid goes away so I can thank you in person. With John, Frank and Margaret retiring we welcome new members to the Victorian Division Some of you will know our new president Heinz Dabernig. Heinz will work closely with Vice President and Publicity Officer Anthony Schulz. Holger Golinski will continue to be Secretary and produce the

Victorian Division newsletter and Jeanette Benzing will be the Treasurer and assist Holger with the newsletter. We look forward to achieving many things together, we have spent the last month discussing many of the directions that we will be taking. We are very interested in pedagogical material available to accordion players and teachers. This is just one thing that we are looking at. We will certainly let you know more.

I would like to remind members that time is running out to enter the AATA (Australian Accordion Teachers Association) competitions. Entries close on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> August. I ask all accordion enthusiasts to support Tanya Marx in this one-of-a-kind event in Australia. You can find everything you need at <http://www.aata.org.au/> Tanya has her heart set on meeting face to face for these competitions and I am certainly looking forward to seeing old friends again. I hope to see you all there, it has been far too long.

Even though it is great to meet face to face do not forget that you can always catch up on your favourite accordion performers and friends on great sites such as YouTube and Facebook. I was recently blown away when I stumbled across a post by a long-time associate of the accordion society, [Bernadette \[née Conlon\] Zabawa](#). Follow this link to her YouTube and subscribe. Bernadette remembers her formative years with the Accordion Society and friends fondly. Thanks for the great content Bernadette and keep an eye out for the next accordion review as we are going to have the biggest list of accordion players for you to be watching out for.

*Benny Pattinson*

### [Correction](#)

The previous edition (March) omitted Owen Mormul as one that worked on updating the AMEB accordion syllabus. It should have included:

Tatjana Marx, Owen Mormul, Milica Canak, Zeljko Bedic

## *ASA Victoria Branch—New Committee*

It is with great pleasure that the Victorian Branch would like to announce its new committee. Firstly, and foremost, the committee would like to publicly acknowledge the long-term commitment and dedication of the out-going President John Kalkbrenner, Vice-President Frank Berens and Treasurer/Publicity Officer Margaret Berens.

Effective immediately, the incoming office-bearers are as follows:

President: Heinz Dabernig,

Vice-President/Publicity Officer: Anthony Schulz,

Secretary: Holger Golinski

Treasurer: Jennette Benzing.

At this point, meetings have been in limbo due to the most recent lockdown in Melbourne and in the short term, zoom meetings may be the most effective way of bringing the office-bearers together for the first meeting.

Having spoken a number of times over the phone already, Heinz and I feel a great sense of excitement at the prospect of not only reconnecting with current Victorian ASA members but also working to increase new membership as well as actively reaching out to the other state branches.

It's worth mentioning that Heinz and I have a long-standing musical relationship which dates back to 1981 when I started studying piano accordion with him at his teaching studio in Ringwood East. With our shared love of the accordion, we have remained in close contact over the years often discussing how to promote this relevant and contemporary instrument that is capable of holding its own in a wide variety of genres. We very much look forward to working together in our new roles.

The committee looks forward to keeping you all up to date with the goings on here Victoria.

*Anthony Schulz*





release of the CD. The national release will come very soon.

Every artist on the CD volunteered their time and Mackay musos are grateful to Scott for his foresight in this project. Some artists have also donated their royalties to local charities as well as some of the proceeds of the album going to *Supportact*.

2020.....not so bad here in Macktown, and of course 2021 getting bigger and better!

*Rhonda*





## From the Paddington Music Studio

by Zeljko Bedic

Dear ASA members / accordion friends,

Following is a short but beautiful story about the accordion being taken to where it may never have been seen or heard before...

### The Accordion goes bush!

One of my accordion student's **Dr Callum Clarke PhD** (lecturer at UTS) is an avid bush walker / hiker who loves to take his accordion with him and play a few tunes on his trips, when he and his mates stop for a rest and a cuppa. One of his most recent trips was to the amazing Gooch's Crater, around Newnes Plateau. Callum camped out for two nights in an overhung cave with his friends where they also enjoyed some of Callum's beautiful accordion playing. Now you don't see that every day!



## **New AMEB Accordion Syllabus status update:**

As you would all be already aware from my update at the ASA AGM earlier this year, the new Accordion 2021 Syllabus has finally been published and released for examining this year by the AMEB. Once again, I would like to extend a big thank you to Tania Marx and Milica Krga for all of their hard work, dedication and assistance in bringing this new syllabus to fruition after so many years. In addition I would also like to thank Lionel Reekie for his involvement, assistance and contribution, on behalf of the AATA, in the last stage of the process with the list pieces. This is a fantastic outcome for all accordion teachers and students Australia wide.

NB The old Accordion syllabus will also be examinable in parallel for two more years i.e. 2021 and 2022, after which it will be withdrawn and only the new syllabus will continue to be examined.

For the new Accordion syllabus to be a continued success, we are appealing to all accordion teachers across Australia to put forward as many students for AMEB Accordion exams so that we can keep the Accordion syllabus alive for many years to come. We are hopeful that the new, freshly updated syllabus will start to see a significant increase in the number of candidates sitting for their Accordion grade exams and all the way up to AMusA and LMusA Diplomas. If numbers stay very low as they have been for a number of years now, or even worse, decline even further, the AMEB will remove the Accordion syllabus from being able to be examined, and that would be an absolute tragedy after all of the incredibly hard work that has been done to have the Accordion included into the AMEB examining system and now to completely overhaul the syllabus in an attempt to bring it into the 21st Century.

The good news is, that this year, I have seen a slight increase in candidate numbers already (Video Exams only) due to Covid-19. We are heading in the right direction.

Everyone, please help us keep the AMEB Accordion Syllabus alive. I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Yours musically,

Zeljko Bedic OAM

## *Hooray, we played LIVE!!*

On Sunday 16th May Accordions Alfresco ventured out to Springwood to perform at Bucklands Retirement Village again. This was our first live performance with an audience since 2019. It was also Michael's first performance with us live. Finn Macdermid also performed a couple of solos.

With restrictions finally easing we were able to have a wonderful performance for the residents, who all enjoyed and appreciated the music very much. So much so that we are booked in for the 3rd Sunday in May 2022! Well done to Accordions Alfresco for getting out there and performing again and we hope to perform for many more audiences in the second half of 2021. ***Amelia Granturco***







## *Aussie in N.Z.*

*By Ben Pattinson*

As I have mentioned before in the past the NZAA is the New Zealand Accordion Association. Once a year a dedicated band of accordion enthusiasts and professionals get to work on an accordion competition. I was thrilled when I was asked if I would like to come along and be involved. Normally this would be straight forward, you would quickly book your flights and ten minutes later you would be in the air. With a great deal of hope and trepidation we waited to see whether the Trans-Tasman bubble would stay open for the trip, I wondered what I might do if it closed while I was in New Zealand. If you would like more information about the NZAA you can find it here <http://www.accordion.co.nz>.

It is always surprising to me to see just how much work actually goes into hosting an event like this. The Committee do a great job at keeping everything on the right track. Absolutely everything must be planned. You need to book the venue, print the programs, learn how to use the stage lights, prepare all the music for the adjudicators, not a single thing is left to chance. Looking from the inside out it is a thrill ride of 'it will be alright on the night', which in this case is a whole weekend. Competitions like these really do help younger performers to demonstrate their talents and give them the opportunity to put their training to the test. Competitors get the chance to meet other like-minded people. Meeting up with these old friends year after year is always a thrill. This year I was really lucky to meet up with my long-time friend Paula Harris

The competitions began early on Saturday the 5<sup>th</sup> of June. The NZAA hired a different venue this year due to covid limitations affecting student and audience numbers. We look forward to increased attendance at these events and similar events around the world next year. The venue was very comfortable, and I enjoyed watching and adjudicating many accordion players. Two years ago, the Accordion society sponsored Finlay Macdermid to compete in these competitions. The NZAA offer competition classes to New Zealanders and Australasian Classes. A full listing of categories can be found on their website. <http://www.accordion.co.nz>. With the tight schedule prizes are awarded in the early afternoon.

The competitions are just one part of this great weekend. After the prizegiving we are straight into preparations for the final concert on Sunday Afternoon. We form a massed accordion orchestra with members from all over New Zealand and one lucky Aussie. It is a showcase of the best acts and performers from the competition. 4 years ago, three of us from Sydney put together two trio items, we travelled to New Zealand and performed as a festival item. This was very well received.. The combined orchestra was led by Gary Daverne and Bryan Holden. We concluded our day after this rehearsal and started preparing for the final part of our program, the masterclasses.

Sunday morning was a real buzz. I was invited to talk on being a professional accordion player. Grayson Masefield discussed bellows technique and we finished off the morning with Maurice Jones showing us through the inner most workings of an Accordion. Practical Masterclasses like these are very helpful for people wanting to improve their performing. It was a great pleasure to work aside Maurice Jones and Grayson Masefield.

One of the unsung acts of this event is Harley Jones, the man behind the lens. He documents everything from the start to the finish. He often works into the late hours uploading photos/videos/competition marks up to the NZAA website and the site [accordions.com](http://accordions.com) also known as Accordions Worldwide. If you want to really know what is happening in the accordion world then you will find it here. Harley has his finger on the pulse every minute of the day and I have always admired his dedication to promoting the accordion. You can find everything from where competitions are around the world to a great catalogue of music available for purchase.

With the classes concluded in the morning we moved onto our final event which was our final concert. It was a great showcase featuring some very promising acts such as Sven Balkan and Theodore Redepenning. I particularly enjoyed the small ensemble Noteable Soundz and the always on point Grayson Masefield with his brand-new accordion. It was so enjoyable to be part of a showcase concert like this. This was my first concert since the beginning of covid. It was more fun than anyone could ever imagine.

It may seem to you by now that everything might be coming to an end. We however had one more thing up our sleeve. Every year on Sunday night we have a final dinner. Once a year accordionist from all over the world take over the Aubergine restaurant in Takapuna. We play all night long and have the best of times. It is the culmination and pinnacle of a year's work; it is a privilege to be invited. I'm certain a great night was had by all.

Lastly, I would like to say. Thanks Stephen Cope for always playing with me at Aubergine and those other cool kats Theodore and Sven. Thanks to Maurice not only for the opportunity to play with him, but also for the loan of a great accordion. To Sonja Palinich for being a great president, not to mention tracking a trophy we received 4 years ago for our festival item (lost on my mantelpiece) many miles away. Thanks to Alannah Jones for the invite to her birthday and lastly, I would like to thank the Masefield family, you are wonderful hosts. My stay with you was exceptional and I hope to return the favour soon.

Thanks NZAA I had a great time.

Ben

## *SNIPPETS, GOSSIP & NEWS*



*Wedding Bells and Accordion Music will be heard on August 28th when our lovely Amelia Granturco marries her fiancée Ben Marshall*

*We all wish Amelia and Ben the very best and may their special day be magical and they have a wonderful musical life together.*

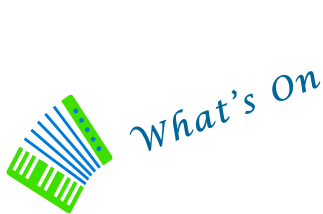


*Would you like to support the ASA?*

*If so, then July/August is the time to renew your Membership or accordion review subscription, or you may like to become a member.*

*It is so easy with direct debit/Bank transfer.*

*Refer page 30 for details*



Official Website

## Australian Accordion Teachers Association Inc.

<http://aata.org.au/>

### 2021 AUSTRALIAN INTERNATIONAL ACCORDION CHAMPIONSHIPS AND FESTIVAL

ON LINE AND IN PERSON - THE MUSIC CONTINUES!

Following the overwhelming success of last year's online event, the Australian Accordion Teachers Association will once again be running competition categories for overseas candidates online by video submission.

ADDITIONALLY – We intend to offer in-person competition for Australian Residents! A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO BE A PART OF WHAT IS ONE OF THE LARGEST ACCORDION COMPETITIONS IN THE SOUTHERN HEMISPHERE!

We have refreshed our Accordion competition categories to reflect the latest international trends. Please find the new 2021 Categories for International and Australian competitors on our website. <https://www.aata.org.au>

Entry forms for all competition categories and payment of entry fees must be made before 12noon (AEST) on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> August 2021 on the website [www.aata.org.au](http://www.aata.org.au)



## *Ball Hanlon Schulz launch: Land of If*

Eugene Ball, Ben Hanlon, and Anthony Schulz are proud to launch their debut album, 'Land of If'.

**Saturday June 26 at 7.30pm,  
Christ Church, 8 Glenlyon Rd. Brunswick**

Price           \$25/ \$18

Light refreshments provided, drinks by donation.

First set by Helen Svoboda, double bass and voice.

Tickets       <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=761071>

Presented by the Melbourne Jazz Co-op: [mjc.org.au](http://mjc.org.au)

Ball Hanlon Schulz: [www.ballhanlonschulz.com](http://www.ballhanlonschulz.com)

'Land of If' available at: [www.earshift.com](http://www.earshift.com)

This unconventional trio of highly credentialed improvisers - Eugene Ball (trumpet), Ben Hanlon (double bass) and Anthony Schulz (accordion) - performed for a MJC's 2019 co-presentation at the MRC Salon in 2019, and in MJC 2020 Online Series. The trio draw from their collective experience in classical, jazz and folk traditions to reveal something not quite any of the above, and hitting the mark as something entirely their own. The 'Land of If' is a playful foray into intimate moments of our everyday.

\*\*\*\*\*

## *SJC presents Schulz - Tsiavos meets Omelette*

**Friday June 25 at 8:30pm  
Cross Street Hall  
16-22 Cross Street, East Brunswick**

Tickets       <https://www.trybooking.com/events/landing?eid=751361>

Anthony Schulz and Nick Tsiavos have been exploring the instabilities of improvisational practice to develop a musical language that transcends the idiosyncratic ideas around their instruments. – at all times searching for beauty within the chaos and dissonance of modernity.

Omelette- a longtime collaboration between Jordan Murray-Stephen Magnusson Ronny Ferella.

With much shared musical history the quartet enjoy the opportunity to shape their unique repertoire into a seamless musical journey.



# sydney balalaika orchestra

**01**  
AUGUST

2:00 PM

## CONCERT RUSSIAN CLUB

7 Albert Road, Strathfield

TICKETS - \$35  
pensioners/students - \$30  
children up to 12 - \$10

BOOKING VIA  
balalaika.com.au  
trybooking.com

Tickets also available at the door  
Enquiries: (02) 8850 3623

www.balalaika.com.au  
www.facebook.com/SBOMusic  
sydneybalalaikaorchestra



## Calling all PERFORMERS & SPECTATORS

We want you at our festival this October!

Be a part of this year's **Maclagan Squeezebox Festival**  
THE ONLY ACCORDION FESTIVAL IN AUSTRALIA

Join us again in our 18th year of  
**Keeping the Accordion Traditions Alive...**  
New players welcome.

Enquiries ring Joan on 0427 170 857  
to register your interest.

Be a part of a festival which truly embodies what  
our small rural communities are all about;  
resilience, friendship, and having as much fun as  
possible!

Entry by pre-purchased tickets only.

### 9th October 2021

- 9:00 am - Walk up and Play
- 9:30 am - Morning tea
- 12 noon - Lunch
- 1:00 pm - Official Opening
- 1:30 pm - Main concert
- 3:00 pm - Afternoon tea
- 5:00 pm - Auld Lang Syne
- 6:00 pm - Dinner
- 7:00 pm - Dance
- 9:00 pm - Light Supper
- 11:00 pm - Close

Adults \$12  
(all day)  
Adults \$10  
(Dance only)  
Children under  
15 years free

Licensed bar  
Lucky door prizes  
and raffles!  
Collectors Festival  
Book available to  
purchase.



Find out more!

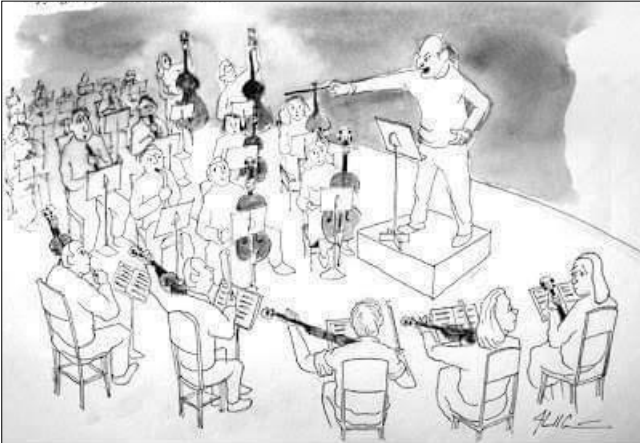
Like us on Facebook



www.maclagansqueezeboxfestival.org

Share these details with family and friends.





*"Yo, Hempstead, is there any good reason you insist on playing a C sharp when everyone else is playing a D flat?"*

Time for a laugh



**MIGRAINE**



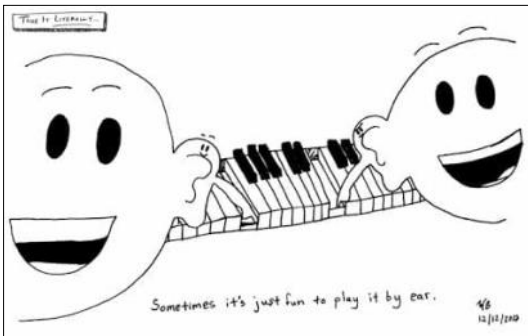
**HYPERTENSION**



**STRESS**



**HAVING TO LISTEN TO AN  
OUT OF TUNE INSTRUMENT**



## *Creativity in practice*

*by Anthony Schulz*

I thought it appropriate to continue to develop the idea of practice through this series of articles aimed at accordionists of all ages and experience levels. In the previous *Accordion Review*, I looked at the notion of practice and in particular reflective practice in which the student engages more deeply with their own way of learning. All the while keeping in mind that having an experienced teacher whose goals and ideas align with the student's is of the utmost importance.

In this article, I would like to look more closely at how one's practice and therefore musical development can be further enhanced by embracing a creative approach or mindset that has the potential to not only be more interesting and enjoyable but also, knowledge building, fun and engaging.

At the core of the idea of creative practice is the notion that any exercise or practice approach that becomes monotonous or even overly easy needs to be reconfigured, shaken up and messed around with. So, rather than getting into the nitty gritty of the concept, I'll give you practical examples instead.

Let's say I've been working on my Eb harmonic minor scale for a while and I'm starting to feel that while I can play it at a reasonable tempo with both hands over two octaves, it's starting to become a bit mundane. I suddenly notice that while I'm playing the scale, my mind has wondered....hmmmm....I might have beans for dinner tonight... gosh...the washing is still in the machine...I wonder what the cat is doing? I'm sure many of you know recognise that sudden realisation that one's thoughts have been drifting. So, at this point, I must do something to bring my mind back to the task at hand; the Eb harmonic minor scale. The question I will, at this point ask myself is, how can I play this scale differently so that it is not only re-engaging my mind but also creative and musical while helping me to develop my technical confidence and musical knowledge? As with my last article, the danger in

telling you what I do, is that you may be less likely to explore your own interesting and challenging ideas. I hope you prove me wrong!

Here's some things I might do while creatively practicing the Eb harmonic minor scale:

- Play one hand at twice the speed of the other (in other words crotchets against quavers). Swap
- Play one hand at three times the speed of the other (quaver triplets against crotchets or if you're feeling brave, quaver triplets against straight quavers!). Swap or try contrary motion
- Play the scale with my LH while improvising an interesting rhythm with my RH
- Play the scale with one hand while play an Eb minor arpeggio with the other
- Play the Eb harmonic minor scale with one hand and the E harmonic minor scale with the other. Ouch!



Please keep in mind that these are my ideas. They may or may not be interesting to you. It doesn't matter, it's the idea that counts. And as I was recently reminded in the excellent book, *The Practice of Practice* by Jonathan Harnum, even if your idea is one that has been invented and taught before, it's the fact that you engaged with and created something that is personally relevant that counts.

The second element of creativity in practice that I would like to discuss is improvisation. For some of you, the suspicious, scary, overwhelming 'I' word. For many players who have either learned from notation or tunes and songs by ear, the idea of improvising can seem daunting. I suspect the main reason is because many musicians have the idea that some forms of improvisation have quite strict and theoretical guidelines that can require considerable time, study, and practice to accomplish a reasonable level of mastery. And in some cases, such as jazz improvisation, this may well be true.

If this description fits, then you will be relieved to know that this is not the kind of improvisation that I am talking about.

At the start of each of my daily practice sessions, I allow approximately 20 minutes to freely explore some aspect of either the accordion, or an idea, or a key area, or even something that's unclear until I actually start playing. If you've never done something like this and you're wondering how you might get started, let me make a couple of suggestions. Firstly, there's nothing more evocative than the sound the accordion makes when it breathes. The sound of the bellows, when the air button is depressed; the sound of the sea, the wind, of peace. Why not start with this? Have you ever tried breathing in and out in unison you're your accordion? You might explore how many different sounds can be created just with air and the bellows? What happens to the sound when you half depress the air button? What about if you gently undulate your LH at the same time? And then maybe, after a while, you add one gentle, plaintive note with the RH. A meditation on the accordion.

Or for something different, you might decide to explore the aforementioned Eb harmonic minor scale. You could play a long Eb and Bb drone in the LH and slowly explore all the different sounds created by each note in the scale with the RH. Try different reed combinations and registers (high, low, middle of the keyboard). No need to worry about rhythm (unless you want to). You can take your time and, once again, simply enjoy the sound of your beautiful instrument as you connect with it in a way that is playful and creative. And remember; no judgement. As Alban Berg once said to George Gershwin: 'It's all music Mr Gershwin'.

*Anthony*







# REEDWORKS

PTY LTD

## Accordion Tuning, Restoration & Repairs

by Tony Peri - Sydney, Australia

Servicing all brands of Accordions • Experience working with Piano, Button Chromatic & Diatonic Accordions • Quality Italian & German Parts Used

email: [info@reedworks.com.au](mailto:info@reedworks.com.au)

phone: 0468 402 890

### ITALIAN MADE ACCORDIONS FOR SALE:

- Bespoke & Custom Made Accordions by Artisans - From Professional to Student Grade, made exactly how you want it. Choose your ideal layout, tuning, tremolo, reeds and finish.
- Australian Distributor for Castagnari Accordions - the finest diatonic accordions from Italy.

[www.reedworks.com.au](http://www.reedworks.com.au)

### *Free Tutorial Websites*

ASA member Hera Antoniadou has found the following links very useful and suggested we share them with our readers, thank you Hera.



You can also sign up for free community membership & magazine via this link.

<https://accordionlifeacademy.com/>

This link has **many** free lessons via youtube; good technique skills also;

<https://www.libertybellows.com/lessons.htm>

## *Maestro Don Quattrocchi*

A checklist for piano accordionists:-

- \* have you been playing accordion more since Covid?
- \* do you play accordion just for enjoyment?
- \* are you still learning to conquer the accordion?!
- \* do you need some popular, classical or traditional songs?
- \* do you want access to free sheet music? (no strings attached!)

If you're interested in extending your repertoire then please read further!

I have the pleasure to introduce you to Don Quattrocchi! Here we have an Australian, in Victoria, who has dedicated his whole life to the promotion of the accordion.

In the 70s Don had the largest music school in country Victoria, north of Melbourne. There were no accordion exams so he composed music for the Australian Guild of Music and Speech. He conducted orchestras for concerts and play-outs, adjudicated several music Eisteddfods, played accordion in cabaret bands and was a regular presenter on community radio.



On retirement, Don now enjoys writing arrangements of popular songs for the piano accordion (also perfect for keyboard and piano). He offers his arrangements on his website ([donquattrocchi.com](http://donquattrocchi.com)) free of charge to promote the accordion and assist people worldwide who would like to learn the accordion (with easy to intermediate arrangements).

All tunes are in .pdf format and are regularly being updated and new ones added. At the time of writing he has 454 tunes! (all with chord symbols). The songs are organised alphabetically and next to many of them is a red arrow which links you to an accordionist playing the melody for you! (including children, students and international accordionists). There is also a section called Videos which has more accordionists playing for you.

You can send him a message via email... and if you ever meet Don please shout him a coffee from me.

Glenny Grunfelder



# NEWS FROM NEW ZEALAND ACCORDION ASSOCIATION



## Alan Reekie Receives Award in 2021 Queen's Birthday Honours – New Zealand

by Lionel Reekie

Long-time supporter of accordion activities in New Zealand, Alan Reekie (pictured – Auckland) has been awarded the Queens Service Medal (QSM) by Queen Elizabeth II in her 2021 Birthday honours.

Announced on 7th June, 2021, Alan was bestowed this prestigious award for his contribution to Performing Arts Governance. Alan's children, **Lionel Reekie** and Carolyn both started accordion at an early age, and as they progressed through local accordion competitions throughout their childhood, Alan began to take an active role volunteering with many of the various associations that created musical activities within the community.

**Lionel Reekie** subsequently went on to a career as an accordion performer, teacher conductor and adjudicator. Alan's QSM award is the culmination of a life-time of voluntary work for Performing Arts.

The Queens Service Medal will be presented at a ceremony to be held at Government House by Her Excellency, the Governor General of New Zealand on behalf of Her Majesty the Queen in November, 2021.



## “Good Habits” Receives Rave Review – New Zealand

by Christine Johnstone

“The 13th Floor” wrote a review of the April 5th, 2021 performance by “Good Habits” at the Devonport Folk Club in Auckland. New Zealand.

The duo, which includes Pete Shaw (accordion) and Bonnie Schwarz (cello) entertained with a variety of pieces at the event.



The review included comments such as: "Pete is a virtuoso accordionist who can sound like a whole band. Has a genuine Folk background but besides the Celtic and Gaelic rhythms, his playing is filled with wider European Folk and Gypsy Jazz textures" and "Their closing number is Raising the Hour Hand - A rousing number which is Folk but swinging with a Pop beat. The accordion sounds like massed violins."

The duo (from the UK) have been in New Zealand since the Covid-19 pandemic in early 2020 and have utilised their time playing in pubs, clubs and festivals around the country.

## Alanah Jones Vocal and Accordion Successes - NZ

by Harley Jones

Alanah Jones is the daughter of well known entertainment and accordionist Maurice Jones and accordion teacher/performer Lian Jones.

Alanah is a vocalist and accordionist and two years ago, the New Zealand Secondary Students Choir (NZSSC), invited Alanah to join. A small number from the best Secondary school choirs around New Zealand are invited.

In 2021 Alanah was selected the NZSSC choir leader and on 21 April, she led the choir singing of "Wairua tapu tau mai ra" at the Duke of Edinburgh's Memorial service. This service was attended by the NZ Prime Minister and the Governor-General of NZ along with many other dignitaries



## TEACHERS DIRECTORY

### NEW SOUTH WALES

#### **Zeljko Bedic OAM**

ASA TDip MMTA, MESMA,  
MUMT, MASA, MAATA  
34 Windsor Street  
Paddington 2021  
Mob. 0417 696 303  
zeljko.bedic@bigpond.com

#### **Kemal Bunguric**

B. Mus. Ed.  
9 Somerville Street  
Arncliffe 2205  
Ph. (02) 9567 8221  
Mob. 018 466 274

#### **Paolo Campanari-Brancondi**

C503/40 Pinnacle St  
Miranda NSW 2228  
Mob.: 0478 904 767  
p.campanari@hotmail.com

#### **Catherine Day (Jackett)**

B. Mus. Ed.  
8 Hermitage Avenue  
Kellyville 2155  
Ph (02) 9836 0155  
Mob. 0418 413 148  
catherineday2@hotmail.com

#### **Ione D. Harbourne**

12 Learmonth Street  
Rooty Hill  
NSW 2766  
Ph. (02) 9675 2124  
alanandione@gmail.com

#### **Elizabeth Jones**

B.Mus.A.Mus.A  
4/33 Valetta Street  
Moss Vale 2577  
Mob. 0419 547 180  
fisaccord@hotmail.com

#### **Ross Maio**

PO Box 1008  
St Pauls 2031  
Ph. (02) 9344 3138  
Mob. 0438 504030  
ross.maio1@gmail.com

#### **Ben Pattinson**

2/1 Sunning Place,  
Summer Hill  
NSW 2130  
Mob. 0432 032 758  
ben.h.pattinson@gmail.com

#### **Giancarlo Ursino**

BME A. Mus. A  
45 Ardath Avenue,  
Panania 2213  
Ph. (02) 9772 3391  
g\_ursino@hotmail.com

### QUEENSLAND

#### **Rhonda Bates (nee Creber)**

36 Creek Street,  
Walkerston Qld 4751  
Ph. (07) 495 92385  
Mob. 0401359065  
rhondaab@dodo.com.au

#### **Bob Grant**

21 Brandenburg Rd  
Mooloolah Qld 4553  
Ph. (07) 5494 7568  
Mob. 0411 959 157  
bobaccord@bigpond.com

#### **Marie McGuinness**

1/7 Advocate Place  
Banora Point 2486  
Ph: (07) 5524 3470  
Mob: 0414 534 230  
marie.kielly70@gmail.com

### SOUTH AUSTRALIA

#### **Emma Smith**

AMusA (Accordion)  
10 Sedum Place  
Crafers West SA 5152  
Ph (08) 8339 4950  
emaillemmarose@gmail.com

**VICTORIA**

**Tomislav Andjelkovic**

12 Bedwell Crt  
Endeavour Hills 3802  
Ph. (03) 9700 2909  
tomislavandjelkovic@bigpond.com

**George Butrumlis**

16 Raleigh Court  
Werribee 3030  
Ph. (03) 9742 6750  
Mob. 0431 813 624  
georgebutrumlis@optusnet.com.au

**Heinz Dabernig**

C/o Upwey Music  
29 Main Street  
Upwey 3158  
Ph: (03) 9754 7261  
Mob. 0407 075 942  
upweymusic6@bigpond.com

**John Kalkbrenner**

5 Chestnut Drive,  
St. Albans 3021  
Ph. (03) 9366 3331  
Ph. (03) 9687 6735  
johncomputer1939@gmail.com

**Joe Ruberto**

B.Sc.Dip.Ed. Dip.ASA  
31 Olive Street  
Hampton 3188  
Ph. (03) 9597 0730

**Guy Scalise**

A.Mus. A.Dip.ASA.  
49 Armstrong Street,  
Middle Park 3206  
Ph. (03) 9696 3737  
Mob. 0409 418 528  
flautomusic@bigpond.com

**Anthony Schulz**

B.Mus, M.Mus, Grad Dip Education  
52 Linsey Street,  
Coburg 3058  
Mob: 0414 395 014  
anthonyjschulz@gmail.com  
Website: anthonyschulz-music.com

**Ian Southwood**

B.A. A.Mus.A. Dip.ASA MIMT  
163 Military Road  
Avondale Heights 3034  
Ph. (03) 9331 3477

**WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

**Lois Hodgson**

29 Castlecrag Drive  
Kallaroo 6025  
Ph. (08) 9402 5294  
letshavemusic@iinet.net.au

## **ADVERTISING IN THE ACCORDION REVIEW**

If you would like to place an advertisement in this review, please email the advertisement with full details and photo/s to the Editor:

Cheryle Mills  
Email: [cherylemills66@gmail.com](mailto:cherylemills66@gmail.com)  
PO Box 442, Mallacoota VIC 3892  
Mob. 0414 915154

### ADVERTISING RATES.

|             |         |
|-------------|---------|
| Full Page   | \$50.00 |
| Half Page   | \$25.00 |
| Advertorial | \$15.00 |

An invoice will be forwarded to the advertiser when the Review is published.

### Bank Transfer:

BSB: **062 349**  
Account Number: **10030067**  
Transfer Description: **your name and description**  
Email payment advice to: **[granvs@bigpond.com](mailto:granvs@bigpond.com)**

**Cheque:** payable to **Accordion Society of Australia Inc.** and mailed to

Treasurer/Secretary  
51 Bogalara Road,  
OLD TOONGABBIE  
NSW 2146  
Australia

**APPLICATION FOR ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL OF ASSOCIATION  
(OR ACCORDION REVIEW MAGAZINE SUBSCRIPTION)**



ACCORDION SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA (Incorporated NSW)  
(incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act 1984)

I, .....  
(full name of applicant)

Address .....

Phone ..... Email .....

hereby apply to become a member **OR RENEW** my membership of the abovementioned association. In the event of my admission as a member, I agree to be bound by the rules of the association for the time being in force.

.....  
Signature of applicant Date

All memberships are renewable on 1<sup>st</sup> August each year & include 4 copies of the Accordion Review Magazine  
A once only joining fee of \$5.00 is payable on all new memberships.

|                |          |
|----------------|----------|
| General Member | \$ 40.00 |
| Teacher Member | \$ 50.00 |
| Family Member  | \$ 55.00 |

Non Members may subscribe to receive 4 quarterly issues of the;  
Accordion Review Only (Hard Copy) \$ 18.00

**Bank Transfer    Accordion Society of Australia Inc.**

BSB:                           **062 349**  
Account Number:       **10030067**  
Transfer Description: **your name and description**

\*\* Please email a payment advice to **granvs@bigpond.com**

Cheque: payable to **Accordion Society of Australia Inc.** and mailed to

All States except Victoria send to:  
Treasurer/Secretary  
51 Bogalara Road,  
OLD TOONGABBIE  
NSW 2146

**Victorian Members only, send to:**  
**Treasurer. Jeannette Benzing**  
**12/23 Holloway Road,**  
**CROYDON NORTH**  
**VIC 3136**

# *Repairers & Retailers Directory*

## **SYDNEY – NSW**

### **Accordion Repairs Australia (Sydney)**

Mobile: 0418 217 669

Email: [accordionrepairs.aus@gmail.com](mailto:accordionrepairs.aus@gmail.com)

Website: [accordionrepairsaustralia.com](http://accordionrepairsaustralia.com)

### **REEDWORKS**

### **Accordion Tuning & Repairs, Sydney, Australia**

Castagnari Accordions For Sale | Custom Made Accordions From Italy

Mobile: 0468 402 890

Email: [info@reedworks.com.au](mailto:info@reedworks.com.au)

Website: [www.reedworks.com.au](http://www.reedworks.com.au)

### **Matthew Denton**

Accordion Repairs, New, Used Accordions, refurbishments, midi and microphone installations, Cases, Straps, Parts and more Campbelltown (PO Box 898, Ingleburn NSW 1890)

Mobile: 0434 404 741

Email: [notned58@gmail.com](mailto:notned58@gmail.com)

## **MARYBOROUGH – QLD**

### **Fred Ferenczi**

Repairer - Retailer

Accessories

Performer (Continental)

93 Teddington Road,

Tinana QLD 4650

Mobile: 0421 476 377

Email: [ferenczif@yahoo.com.au](mailto:ferenczif@yahoo.com.au)



# ACCORDIONS AT MUSIC JUNCTION



IMPORTERS OF ALL ITALIAN MADE ACCORDIONS

*Scandalli*

ALL MODELS IN STOCK

*Paolo Soprani*

ALL MODELS IN STOCK

*Excelsior*

ALL MODELS IN STOCK  
MIDIVOX & EVOLUTION



INCLUDING  
EWA WIRELESS ACCORDIONS

*Beltuna*

*Brandoni*

*Dino Baffetti Bugari*

*Fismen*

*Piermaria Pigni Giustozzi*



*Also we have*

*Siwa & Figli Victoria*

**LARGE LARGE  
RANGE RANGE  
OF OF  
STRAPS. CASES  
WE DO AND  
REPAIRS. BAGS.**



*Roland V Accorions*

*Paloma*

24 Bass \$550

32 Bass \$595

48 Bass from \$750

60 Bass \$850

72 Bass \$895

80 Bass \$995

96 Bass \$1050

120 from \$1295



*All Come with  
hard case*

**MUSIC JUNCTION CAMBERWELL**

**204 CAMBERWELL ROAD. HAWTHORN EAST 3123**

**Free Call 1300 687 425 Local 03 9882-7331**

Email: [melbourne@musicjunction.com.au](mailto:melbourne@musicjunction.com.au) Website: [www.musicjunction.com.au](http://www.musicjunction.com.au)