

THE ACCORDION SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA INC.

ACCORDION REVIEW



S E P T E M B E R 2 0 2 3

VOLUME 40 ISSUE 3

CONTENTS

PAGE 3	ASA (INC NSW) COMMITTEE DIRECTORY
PAGE 4	HELLO FROM THE EDITOR
PAGE 5	PRESIDENTS REPORT
PAGE 7	ASA VICTORIA ACCORDION FESTIVAL 2023
PAGE 9	ADELAIDE ACCORDION ORCHESTRA
PAGE 12	KIDS CORNER - MEET SILVANA MANDILE (MELBOURNE)
PAGE 13	- INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT MUSIC AND LEARNING
PAGE 13	- FUNKORDION IN THEIR NEW REHEARSAL SPACE
PAGE 14	NEWS FROM GRIFFITH - GRIFFITH SALAMI COMPETITION
PAGE 15	- WELCOMING GUESTS TO THE BALL
PAGE 16	- JOE PLAYS GRIFFITH'S MOST UNIQUE SOUND
PAGE 17	BUCKLANDS ANNUAL ACCORDION CONCERT
PAGE 18	FERRAGOSTO - SYDNEY
PAGE 20	CONGRATULATIONS SALVATORE SPATA ON 65 YEARS OF MUSIC
PAGE 20	MACLAGAN SQUEEZEBOX FESTIVAL—OCT 14TH
PAGE 21	JOIN AN ACCORDION GROUP
PAGE 22	MEET LUCY RIDDETT (ASA VICTORIAN VICE PRESIDENT)
PAGE 24	ACCORDIONISTS OUT AND ABOUT
PAGE 26	WHAT'S ON IN VICTORIA
PAGE 28	SNAPSHOTS
PAGE 29	JAGA BAND GUESTS AT PARLIAMENT HOUSE
PAGE 30	AUSTRALIAN ACCORDION TEACHERS ASSOC. (CHINA & NZ NEWS)
PAGE 32	NEWS FROM NEW ZEALAND
PAGE 35	TEACHERS DIRECTORY
PAGE 37	ADVERTISING IN THE ACCORDION REVIEW
PAGE 38	NEW MEMBERSHIP / ANNUAL RENEWAL
PAGE 39	REPAIRERS & RETAILERS DIRECTORY

Cover: Oktoberfest time of year

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Society of
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Hello from the Editor

Welcome to our September Accordion Review and thank you to everyone that contributed to this edition.

Firstly a special apology to the Adelaide Accordion Orchestra for the oversight on my part in missing their article from the previous edition. It is wonderful

to receive news from Adelaide and then to miss it is quite disappointing. I know our readers will enjoy reading about Adelaide accordionists on pages 9–11. Thank you again.

The ASA Victorian branch will be holding an Accordion Festival on Sat Sept 30th, how exciting! Details are covered on pages 7, 8.

I am looking forward to joining up with the Victorian ASA members and players at the Festival, hope you can too.

A recent member and now Victorian ASA Vice President, Lucy Riddett is a very talented musician and accordionist. Lucy has kindly allowed us to include a summary of her fascinating musical journey since the age of 9yo. Pages 22-23 cover just how talented she is. Thank you Lucy and look forward to attending your workshop at the Festival.

Joe Staltare has sent in accordion news from Griffith, great to hear from you Joe. I don't remember a Roland back in 2012? Accordions Alfresco enjoyed a few days in Griffith in 2012 at their festival, it was a wonderful time and hope we get invited back. Joes article is covered on pages 14,15 with a special article on Joes life by the Adelaide Gazette on page 16.

It is fun and beneficial to your health to play music in a group, so why not join an Accordion Group?. There may be a group near you so please check out page 21 for location details.

Hope you enjoy this edition and please keep sending in your news.

Yours musically,

Cheryle Mills



Presidents Report

I would like to welcome all our members to the latest edition of the Accordion Review. We have many new members join the Accordion Society in recent times, welcome, it is great to see the ASA growing. A huge thankyou to all our new members who have stepped on board and have taken on committee positions. As a not-for-profit organisation your help is invaluable in helping us to grow and reach our potential.



The culmination of this work has come together with the 2023 Accordion Festival that will be held on 30th September 2023. It has been many, many years since an Accordion Festival has been hosted in Victoria. The Victorian branch have put in a great deal of effort and time in the organisation of this event. The day will be full of workshops and accordion playing. We would love to see you at this event. If you want to attend you can prepurchase tickets at our website www.accordionsaustralia.com you can also see what is happening and who will be on at the festival at <https://www.facebook.com/accordionsocietyofaustralia> or feel free to follow the accordion society in Victoria at <https://www.facebook.com/accordionsocietyvictoria> We are looking forward to seeing you all there.

Recently one of our members Phillip Nadvesnik reached out to us and asked if he would be able to work on a new website for the Accordion Society. The initial site was constructed by Anthony Schulz and myself, we are not programmers by any stretch of the imagination. Although our website did most of what we wanted, the constant requirement to update regularly made it a very time-

consuming activity. When Phil asked to not only build the new website but to keep it constantly updated, we were very excited. We launched the new website recently at the same address <https://www.accordionsaustralia.com>

The new website is a great deal more functional. You will be able to find out about upcoming events and also Accordion Teachers and Repairers. A huge thank you to Phil for all his hard work.

While launching the new website it was also decided that it was time to release our new **YouTube** channel. While there is not much on there right now, you should get used to checking the channel on a regular basis for new videos and remember to hit **Like** and **Subscribe** buttons when you are there. You can find the channel by using this link <https://www.youtube.com/@accordionsaustralia> alternatively you can just go to the **YouTube search** window and type **@accordionsaustralia** which will take you most of the way there.

With all this excitement and activity in the air I hope you have not forgotten that Oktoberfest is upon us! After many years of dwindling numbers after covid Oktoberfest this year promises to be great fun like it always was. Over the next week, the schedules of some of our Oktoberfest accordionists we will be posted on our website. If you feel like a good night, get out and catch some music with a beer and a schnitzel. Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Eins, Zwei, Drei G'suffa
Prost, Prost, Prost!!!

Benny Pattinson



ACCORDION SOCIETY OF
AUSTRALIA (VIC)
PRESENTS



SCAN ME

ACCORDION FESTIVAL 2023

JOIN US TO CELEBRATE AN INSTRUMENT THAT ONE TRULY STRAPS TO THE HEART

CHURCH OF ALL NATIONS
180 PALMERSTON ST
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SATURDAY
30TH SEPTEMBER
10AM - 9PM

ACCORDION ROOM

WORKSHOPS

PERFORMANCES

Open mic - Prahran Accordion Band
Student performances - Accordion Orchestras
The Stiletto Sisters

Musette accordion - Lucy Riddett
Digital accordions - Richard Stacewicz
Masterclass - George Butrumlis
Repair & tuning - Peter Anderson

ADMISSION

Workshops: \$35 - \$45
Midday concert: Free
Evening concert: \$30 - \$40
Children 12 years and under: Free



FOR MORE INFORMATION & TICKETS VISIT

➤ accordionsaustralia.com   @accordionsocietyvictoria

ASA Victoria Accordion Festival Saturday 30th September 2023

The ASA (Vic) committee is very excited to announce that tickets to the 2023 ASA Accordion Festival are now available!

How often do you get the chance to immerse yourself in the world of the accordion? This is a rare opportunity for many to connect or reconnect with this instrument of the streets, the cafes, the dance halls, and the concert venues. We invite you to visit our website for more information about the day's goings on and come along and celebrate the accordion in all its glory! We look forward to seeing you there.

This is a festival with workshops, a masterclass, a midday concert and chalkboard event, and a concert in the evening featuring ASAVO accordion orchestra, Massed Accordion Orchestra and The Stiletto Sisters.

There will be four workshops conducted during the day and we would like to thank in advance our wonderful facilitators.

Lucy Riddett: [How to play Musette Accordion](#)

Richard Stacewicz: [The Digital Accordion](#)

George Butrumlis: [Student Masterclass](#)

Peter Anderson: [Basic Accordion Repairs](#)

If you are interested in taking part in the massed orchestra, please contact Anthony via email at anthonyjschulz@gmail.com There will be a rehearsal on the day and a performance at the evening concert.

For more information about the festival, visit the ASA website here: [Festival Information](#)

For Tickets, please use this link: [Tickets](#)

ADELAIDE ACCORDION ORCHESTRA

After a quiet couple of years due to Covid, the Adelaide Accordion Orchestra has been busy with performances in 2022 and the first half of 2023.



We were asked to perform at the Adelaide Music Club in September 2022. The Adelaide Music Club are music lovers who organise a dinner and concert on the first Monday of every month in the western suburbs of Adelaide. A great playlist was compiled by our Group Leader David Priest with some very traditional classical music pieces including Strauss Waltzes Potpourri and the wonderful Second Waltz from Dmitri Shostakovich, popular tunes from all over the world, and singalong pieces. At the end of the evening the audience awarded us with a wonderful standing ovation.

In December 2022 the Liedertafel (one of the longstanding choirs in Australia) invited us to perform at their annual Christmas Concert in the German Club. Around the same time the West Torrens Council invited us to play at their Fun Day and their Community Christmas celebration. These were both excellent outdoor venues with a small stage and a great crowd.

Twenty minutes into our performance at the Christmas Celebration the heavens opened and there was a downpour so that it was decided we stop playing as we were getting wet – a shame.



In February 2023, the German Club held their Schuetzenfest Adelaide, for the first time since 2016 back in the Adelaide Parklands, and we were asked to perform on the opening Friday night and again on Saturday. It was great to play on the big stage again, especially in moderate weather conditions. In the past we have played at Schuetzenfests where it was more than 40°C.



In April of this year we played at one of the longstanding live music venues in Adelaide – the Wheatsheaf Hotel, or Wheaty, with livestreaming on their Facebook page. The stage feels like a cosy living room with atmospheric lighting. Later that month we played at the St George Italian Festival run by the St Francis of Assisi church. It was great to play some of our Italian repertoire again.



In addition to our group performances some of our members have been playing individually and in small groups. Julie is a regular at the Italian Club in Coober Pedy (drop in when you are on your grey nomad's tour of Australia!). Julie and Gisela played at a Christmas function of the German Ladies Wellness Group. Six of our members played at a morning performance of Caring Friends in Mitcham Community Centre, Julie and Eloise played at a German-themed 21st birthday party, and David played at a Ukrainian charity fundraising concert.

We have had new members joining, while one of our long-time players, Julie Johnstone, has moved to Coober Pedy, the opal capital of the South Australian outback. However, despite the distance, Julie has made the commitment to drive the nearly 900 km back to Adelaide for most of our performances!

We're always looking for new members. If you live in/around Adelaide please come and join our group! Rehearsals are at the German Club, 730 to 930 pm, each Tuesday night.

David Peterson and Gerdy Kelson

KIDS CORNER

Silvana loves the Accordion

Hi my name is Silvana Mandile,
I am 14 years old, from
Melbourne, Victoria.
I started playing piano accordion
when I was 9 years old

I was first introduced to the
piano accordion when I was in
the streets of Italy, listening to a
man playing in a band in a
restaurant. I told my parents I
wanted to play the accordion
and they signed me up for
lessons with Iryna Stepko.

I competed in the Sydney
National Competition in May this
year, and I have performed on
stages across Melbourne. I'm
currently playing in a band for Albert Park College with other
instruments.

I love to play the piano accordion, it is my passion ever since I
was little and I can't wait to grow and learn even more.

Silvana



KIDS CORNER

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT MUSIC AND LEARNING

- Music improves memory.
 - Music helps develop language and reasoning skills.
 - Music increases coordination.
 - Students develop higher standards in their work.
 - Music students learn self-discipline.
 - Music builds teamwork.
 - Music students develop a strong sense of accomplishment.
-

Funkordion

Funkordion group rehearsing in their new venue.



Griffiths Salami Competition

Griffiths annual homemade salami competition kicked off on the last weekend of August with a few thousand people travelling to Griffith for the event.

It started on Friday at the visitors centre with Marco, Simon, Rosalia & Peter from AM 531 Italian Radio Adelaide broadcasting the event including an interview with our Mayor Doug Curran & many other people. It was also available via a phone app and transmitted all over the world.

In the evening people were able to enjoy the many restaurants which were open to the public.



Saturday over 120 salami were judged with the winner announced on Sunday at the festa. Calabria Wines, Debortoli Wines and Yarran Wines just to mention a few had activities and lunch for guests. Sunday Morning La Piccola Grosseria & Italian Deli had breakfast on the street giving away many coffees to visitors.

Sunday afternoon a big day at Pioneer Park under a huge marquee next to the Italian Museum with around 1000 people having an amazing lunch singing and dancing and tasting Griffith's top selection of salami.



It was wonderful to catch up with guests that have travelled to Griffith many times for this occasion.

Big thanks to Jim Salvestro Dr Jaya and this year our special guest Pat Sergi, singer/ guitarist. Next year hopefully our good friend singer/ guitarist Frank Wilson's health will allow him to join us again. Cheers

Joe Staltare

Welcoming Guests to the Ball

August was a great month for the squeeze box around Griffith.

It was the 18th Griffith Musicians Club Ball which was held at the Yoogali Club with music supplied by over 30 musicians combined to form six bands.

An awesome night of dancing, music which continued well after midnight!

I was asked to play as guests arrived and with help from Jim Salvestro playing boom box and Dr Jaya on guitar. We had our friends entertained as they walked in singing and dancing on their way into the auditorium.

Joe Staltare



“Joe plays Griffith’s most unique sound”

In July 2023, the local Griffith Newspaper interviewed Joe Staltare to provide the community with a glimpse into how his love for the accordion began and where this love has taken him.

The article is titled “*Joe plays Griffith’s most unique sound*”. A copy may be found on the following page complete with a picture of a very much younger Joe.

NEWS

Joe plays Griffith's most unique sound

HEART BEAT OF CITY

YOU might not know Joe Staltare but you've probably heard him play.

Joe is most famous for playing the piano accordion and has been a feature in the Griffith Starlites, Kactus and Orchard Road. In this week's Heart Beat of City he tells us how he ended up picking the unique sounding instrument.

What was your first experience with music?

Going to weddings as a youngster and watching bands many of which had an accordion player.

I remember Elio Andreazza, Joe Sergi, out of two different bands and Bruno Peruzzi of Starlites.

Who inspires you?

Mum and Dad, the did not play any instrument but they asked if I would like to learn and they bought a small used squeeze box and found a music teacher Ted Couchman and that began my introduction to music at the age of 10.

Then a few years later a newer and much heavier 120 bass accordion was bought for me that I occasionally still use today.

Favourite gig and why?

Early in the 1970s Bruno Peruzzi had left the Starlites and I was asked by the late Frank Macedone, Ralf Franco and Winkle O'Brien to 'fill in' and that was the beginning of me playing in bands.

I still enjoy playing and I must mention I'm very proud to see my young brother Vince still playing bass guitar all these years also.

Music has taken us round the Pacific Islands, many outback halls, clubs for Debutants balls and parties in those early days.

Also playing with the Italian choir and for seniors at retirement villages for so many years and now with the accordion. In late 2020 we lost an amazing musician, entertainer and long time friend Kevin Jobbitt, a former New Zealander from Whangrei, married to Yenda girl Rhonda.

I'm blessed to have had known Kevin all those years and still my musician mates who continue with music and entertain. Thank you Frank Wilson, Jim Salvestro, and Dr Iaya.

The Annual Musician's Ball and Salami Festa are almost here once more. They are



Members of the band Kactus, Joe Staltare on piano accordion, with Jim Salvestro and Frank Wilson sitting. Picture contributed

great local events and I am looking forward to entertaining our guests again.

Jamming with Peter Smith and Daryl Waide is always a great night with new styles of songs put together in "Orchard Road Band"

Do you have a favourite song or style to play?

Thanks to the electronic accordion we are able to play many styles of music depending on the gig we are engaged at.

I do enjoy playing many 60s, 70s, 80s songs and Italian favorites. Many songs by Johnny Cash, Elvis Presley, Roy Orbison,

Beatles, just a few to mention are always great party songs, and accordion tunes.

I play all the classics Marina, Quando Quando, the Chicken dance, Tarrantella, Stranger on the shore, Under bridges of Paris, and many more.

How do you feel about the music scene in Griffith?

Big congratulations to the Griffith Musicians club for another successful year. First formed in 1974, with a brief recess in the 1990s, the club continues to strive to promote local musicians young and old as well as foster good local muso friendships.



Bucklands Annual Accordion Concert

On Saturday 10 September 2023, Accordions Alfresco headed out to Springwood (*west of Sydney*) to the Bucklands retirement village for our annual concert.

It was a fantastic concert and the residents loved that we included many singalong options in the set and were serenaded by soloists - Michael, Finlay and The Two Fillies (aka Glenny and Maria).

The audience included people from the local Blue Mountains area thanks to an article in the mountains Gazette newspaper. We even had some Ex Alfresco members in the audience including Vince Moschella, Rob Bourne and Sarah Dunn. The residents loved the show and have already booked us in for 2024

Amelia Granturco



FERRAGOSTO—SYDNEY

By Glenn Grunfelder

On the 20th August, the small township of Five Dock, Sydney, came to life with the annual event of Ferragosto – a celebration of everything Italian...Fiats, stalls, food, rides and music! The main street was closed off for four blocks to accommodate the crowds. Over 100,000 visitors arrived from all over Sydney to support and enjoy this great tradition! The day was sunny and hot...it was a wonderful Italian experience as people met up for coffee, food and fun! – especially as the pandemic had made us all very cautious in the past.

Coro d’Abruzzi is a very popular group which attends Ferragosto every year and has an enthusiastic following of people from all over Sydney.



The choir began in 1997. This year I interviewed two members, Sylvia and Vince Granturco. They are the parents of Amelia (who joined in 2005 as a young teenager) and Dominique (co musical directors (NSW) of the ASA who have accompanied the choir with Jedda in previous years and are members of Accordions Alfresco. Vince (second from left) is a member of the choir with a lovely bass-baritone voice and Sylvia is the person who keeps everyone connected, informed and motivated - a vital volunteer member!

The conductor is Lisa Genobese and Benny Pattison supports the choir with the rehearsals and preparation. Benny (shown on the right) is the ASA President.

After the continued success of this choir Vince and Benny are reaching out to all Aussies who love to sing and who would like to have this unique opportunity to join the choir! If you know of anyone who may be interested please let them know!

For further information and enquiries please contact them on:-
granvs@bigpond.com or ben.h.pattinson@gmail.com

Ferragosto contd....

Accordions Alfresco also played at Ferragosto. It was quite a challenge just trying to get there with our accordions and music stands through such a huge crowd of 100,000+ people arriving to have a great day! Cars were parked up to a kilometre away. There were teenagers, dogs, wheelchairs, children, car buffs and parents pushing strollers – it was such a lovely atmosphere!

However, it was really worth it all because everyone was so enthusiastic and appreciative. Our audience sat in chairs and on picnic rugs and some even leaped up to dance to the tarantellas. So many passers-by stopped to listen – we were such a unique experience! - A performance given by a group of accordionists! We played popular music including a Beatles Medley, an Aussie Medley as well as Italian songs.



Accordions Alfresco is an enthusiastic group of accordionists, based in Sydney, who play together as an orchestra. Members consist of a wide range of ages and ability and meet once a week. The orchestra provides opportunities for accordionists to play a part to suit their ability – (one of 3 or 4 parts) and to enjoy the experience of making music together. The orchestra is looking out for more people who have just started learning, a bit 'rusty' and thinking of 'coming back' or accomplished players. We are a friendly, welcoming group. (Tuition can also be arranged for anyone who wishes to learn, via private lessons). For more information please visit our website www.accordionsaustralia.com or Ben ben.h.pattinson@gmail.com

65 years music

The ASA would like to congratulate Salvatore Spata on his recent milestone of achieving 65 Years playing the Accordion! Salvatores music journey commenced at the age of 12 with the eminent music teacher Otto Weiss—65 years ago! Salvatores passion and love for the accordion has never wained and has only become stronger.

A 2 CD set of his favourite tunes is available via soundwright.com.au.



14th OCTOBER 2023

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Featuring Guest Artist: Robert Grant Finish: 4:30pm

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*Join an Accordion Group—its great fun!
Everyone is welcome, details below*



Adelaide Orchestra

The Adelaide Accordion Orchestra would love to have some new accordionists come along and join their group. If you live in or around Adelaide please come and join us. Rehearsals are at the German Club, 7.30 to 9.30 pm, each Tuesday night. If you are interested please contact

David: dmpeterson5159@gmail.com

ASAVO—ASA Victoria Orchestra

The new ASA Victoria Orchestra meet at the Fairfield campus of Melbourne Polytechnic fortnightly at 3.00pm for 1.5 hours with a \$10.00 session fee per person payable on the day.

The session fee includes room-booking, photocopying, arranging, and composition for the ensemble (and insurance).

Please note that the ensemble is inclusive of all experience levels, age, gender and musical tastes. If you are interested please contact

Anthony: anthonyjschulz@gmail.com

Accordions Alfresco—ASA NSW Orchestra

Sydney based Accordion orchestra 'Accordions Alfresco' meet in Sydney on **Monday nights 7pm - 9pm** at Russell Lea School hall, Russell Lea.

Note: *The last Monday of the month is conducted over ZOOM (everyone welcome)*. Anyone interested in coming along, please contact

Ben: ben.h.pattinson@gmail.com

Prahran Accordion Band—Victoria

The Prahran Accordion Band meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month and beginners' band on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month at the German Club Tivoli in Windsor, 7-9pm. So whatever your performance level from beginner to intermediate come and join in.

Members will have to join the Tivoli club eventually at a very reasonable rate. Further details email Judy: judygunson58@gmail.com

Meet Lucy Riddett

Lucy was born into a very non-musical family in Geelong, Victoria. She was first introduced to music through a piano that was inherited by her parents which sat quietly in the living room never being played. She was fascinated by the instrument and begged her parents for piano lessons after one of her school friends started learning to play.

She began lessons at the age of eight and continued learning with Regina Thomae until she graduated from high school in 2011.



She is classically trained, and her favourite composers are Chopin and Debussy.

At the age of fourteen, Lucy started learning to play the viola with Ben Castle. Although she hasn't kept up with the skill in adulthood, she has very fond memories of performing with her school orchestra.

Lucy first discovered her love for accordion when she heard Yann Tiersen's soundtrack to the film *Amelie*. She made it her goal to eventually obtain an accordion and learn *La Valse d'Amelie*. She turned this dream into a reality in 2013 when she purchased her very first accordion from Music Junction Camberwell. It was a 72 bass Paloma, which suited her budget as a part time employee at Nandos' working for \$9.96 an hour! Lucy had attempted to play her grandfather's accordion, but like most accordions left in garages for decades, it was in no condition to be played and was much too big for her small frame. Lucy had a few lessons from a local accordionist Ben Costanzo for advice on technique then went her own way teaching herself. She was immediately drawn to the musette style and almost exclusively played in this style for years.

Performing

Lucy started busking at the local shops when she had a few simple tunes under her belt. This became her main hobby and she spent many weekends playing in the street for her community. It was on one of the occasions that she was approached by a committee member of Alliance Francaise Geelong who invited her to perform at one of their events. From there she developed a love of performing and began diversifying her repertoire to include Italian, German and Irish to attract more work. She now performs mostly as a roving soloist in Geelong and Melbourne on her days off from her job as an emergency call-taker at 000. Although Lucy finds it very rewarding answering calls for police and ambulance, her dream is to eventually become a full time musician!



Youtube

In 2018, Lucy began uploading YouTube videos of her performing her favourite French musettes in order to assist with getting work performing in North Carolina ,US, where she was living at the time. She had just bought her first Italian made accordion from Liberty Bellows in Pennsylvania.

A few years later, during the COVID-19 pandemic, Lucy began making free tutorials for popular accordion tunes which greatly increased her following. She now has an audience of over 10,000 on YouTube and has made videos that have been featured on ABC news in the US. This exposure has led to Lucy having beginner accordionists reach out from all around the world to learn how to play like her. She now has students from the US, UK, Canada and of course, Australia!

ASA

Lucy joined the ASA as a committee member in 2023 and is currently Vice President of the Victorian branch. She runs the Victoria branch's Instagram and Facebook accounts and is passionate about spreading the word of the awesome things the ASA is getting up to. •

ACCORDIONISTS OUT AND ABOUT

While holidaying in Germany!

Paul and Yvonne Smith from Adelaide shared this holiday news with us:-



We just had the amazing privilege to perform at Bayerische Staatsbrauerei Weihenstephan Brewery in Freising, Germany...the world's oldest brewery!



We also toured the brewery and the hops farm nearby, and met all the lovely Weihenstephan staff, the hops farmers, and VIP visitors from all over the world. Such a wonderful experience and a tick off our "bucket list".





The Two Fillies

As volunteers, Maria and Glenny continue to entertain people weekly in a couple of Residential Care Centres in Sydney. Their repertoire has been appreciated by everyone, especially the staff and patients in the dementia wards.

In August they began to accompany Mass fortnightly. They play popular music while the residents are helped to come into the hall. (The chapel

wasn't large enough for the sixty or more people from all denominations who attend.) The Mass follows and then songs are played afterwards. The Fillies are enjoying life!



*Photos: Christmas in July (above)
Mass and Music (right)*



REEDWORKS

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Melbourne Recital Centre & Vardos present: Music to Spy to



Vardos delves into the intriguing true story of a violinist turned spy catcher in 1970s Romania, with Alana on violin, Sofia on accordion and Maxine on double bass, exploring echoes of the Ceaușescu regime that can be felt at every turn.

Friday 22 September 2023, 7pm

TICKETS \$37 (\$30 Concession). 1 hour (no interval).
Corner Southbank Boulevard and Sturt St, Southbank.

Tickets web:: [Primrose Potter Salon](#)

Ball Hanlon Schulz at Tempo Rubato

Eugene Ball has received national and international recognition, performing with some of the biggest names in music. A lover of musical diversity, he is as comfortable in the New Orleans jazz tradition as he is with contemporary improvisation and composition. The performance will feature:

Ball Hanlon Schulz - [Bandcamp](#)

Eugene Ball: Trumpet

Ben Hanlon: Double Bass

Anthony Schulz: Piano Accordion



Monday, 23 October 2023

8:00 pm to 9:30 pm

[Tempo Rubato](#)

34 Breeze St. Brunswick

Tickets \$22

Residency Pass (all four shows) \$75

Residency passes and more information at

www.temporubato.com.au/about-october-residency

Noria and The Parisians

Acclaimed French chanteuse Noria Letts brings the verve, swing, and excitement of a Parisian jazz club every time she hits the stage.

It's a vibrant and fun trip to "la Ville des Lumières" without the jetlag, showcasing the passion, vitality, and style of one of the great epochs of modern music.

Backing Noria are the Parisians featuring some of the nation's finest musicians Steve Sedergreen (piano) Dave Evans (accordion), Nick Heywood (bass), and Phil Collings (drums).

Thursday 21st September at 7pm

Open Studio

204 High Street, Northcote

Website: [Website](#)



Support Zydeco Jump!

Melbourne band **Zydeco Jump** are the 35th act to get behind Support Act's Roadies Fund through the **Australian Road Crew Association (ARCA)'s Desk Tape Series**.

The Series was created by ARCA to raise funds to provide financial, health, counselling and well-being services for roadies and crew in crisis.

The recordings are made by a crew member – in this case sound engineer for the night, Simon Glozier – and released on ARCA's Black Box Records via MGM Distribution and major streaming services.

[Link to series/archive](#)



Snapshots



A View to Play for!



On August 20th the accordion was alive at Panorama House at Bulli, south of Sydney for Ferragosto organised by the Trevisano association.

The accordion is like a magnet to me, and when I get the chance I gravitate towards it and this day was no exception. On hearing the accordion, I located the musician which was unknown to me. So I could not help myself and went over to have a chat, and his name is Tony Gagliano, a well known Sydney professional musician.

He was a good entertainer and pleased the crowd with some great Italian tunes. Almost everyone was on the dance floor. I had a great musical time and a fantastic view from the venue.



Annick Lucchetti



Griffith has gone Orange

The Festival of Gardens in Griffith, NSW occurs every October. A highlight for visitors is the Citrus Sculptures along Banna Ave and the main street. Thousands of oranges and grapefruits are donated by Griffith Real Juice Company for the two week exhibition. Displays are sponsored by local business and Community Groups.

Above:

Griffith Musicians Club

Right: **Baiada Chickens**
Scalabrini Gondola



JAGA Band guests at Parliament House

Jaga Band was a Guest of Honour at the Refugee Internship Program Graduation Ceremony at Sydney Parliament House.

It was presided by the Director of Services NSW. Present was also the minister.



Australian Accordion Teachers Association News

Tania Marx, President of the AATA travelled to Beijing, China, where she was the only Westerner invited to give master classes and to lecture and adjudicate at the Yang Wentao Memorial Award National Accordion Competition.



One of her students, Serena Lee, also attended the event and represented Australia as a competitor.



Below; adjudicators judging a competitor.



Auckland for the South Pacific Championships

Members of the Australian Accordion Teachers Association represented Australia at the South Pacific Accordion Championships, held in Auckland, New Zealand in June.

Tania was very pleased to report good performances and results from all the accordionists who travelled there.



Tania with some of the AATA team in Auckland

ASA member Finlay MacDermid



Travelling to New Zealand for the South Pacific and New Zealand Championships was the youngest member of the NSW branch of the Accordion Society, Finlay MacDermid (known as Finn).

Over the years we have watched him grow into a talented young man and have been very pleased to sponsor him in his endeavours. We were very proud

of him when he returned with three firsts and two seconds in his division at the Championships, held in Auckland. He was accompanied to New Zealand by his grandmother, Maria Worthington.

*NEWS FROM
NEW ZEALAND
ACCORDION ASSOCIATION*



USA TOUR 2023

by Heather Masefield

On Wednesday 5th July Harley Jones (Founder Accordions Worldwide and Vice President NZAA), Heather Masefield (Secretary NZAA), Amber Masefield (Treasurer NZAA) and Grayson Masefield (Concert Artist and Vice Chair of the CIA Music Committee) flew from Auckland, New Zealand to Chicago. We were met by a huge storm delaying leaving the plane as it was too dangerous and a further 3 hour wait for our bags to come down the carousel as the baggage handlers could not work in the storm. Our plans to leave the next day for New York had been changed and we spent 3 further nights in Chicago. Arriving at our AirBnB we heard gun shots and sirens, I panicked and wanted to leave Chicago immediately but common sense prevailed and we checked out the beautiful apartment (very shabby outside), whilst listening to further gunshots and sirens then realised it was the day after the 4th July and people still had fireworks and a staplegun was being used by the builders next door. Next day we discovered the 'cop shop' was 1 block away, therefore the sirens!!!!

After sightseeing and acclimatising we drove 4 hours to Pittsburg where all 7 floors of the Andy Warhol Museum were explored.

Our first accordion event was an informal concert in Philadelphia (famous for the Liberty Bell), at the Darrow studio. The American Accordionist's Association held a 5 day Festival at a hotel in Conshohocken, just out of Philadelphia where we were joined by Australian accordionist Anthony Schulz (pictured).



Maestro Joan Sommers was to conduct the Festival Orchestra and Amber and I took part in the rehearsals and performance (thank you to those that loaned us instruments). Grayson gave a workshop on bellows and I recorded the other workshops as well.



Grayson was the Guest Artist and performed twice during the AAA Festival. It was fun to meet up and hear again Nathan Chapeton who had joined our NZ contestants at the 2019 Coupe Mondiale in Shenzhen. It was delightful that we were joined by my ex-student Robin Leersynder (Prior) for this event. All the performers and attendees went to a huge shopping mall and played in the foyers, food courts and everywhere you turned there was accordion music flowing, this promotion was widely reported in the newspapers the next day. The Busso family were 3 generations of accordionists all performing and working together. It was exciting to be present when Frank Busso Senior was awarded the AAA Life Achievement Award and the Air Force Strings performed, lead by Frank Busso Jrn. These musicians regularly perform in the White House and it was a privilege to watch them in uniform at the Festival Banquet.

Too soon we were at the Farewell Breakfast when all the phones went off around us with tornado warnings. Grayson excitedly wanted to chase the tornado to see one live whereas in fact we all followed instructions to go to

an interior room and shelter. It was off to Amish country next, looking at the beautiful properties, visiting the small town of Intercourse (taking photos with the sign), avoiding the horses and carts, the town of Hershey where all the street lights are shaped like the Hershey kisses and of course the chocolate factory, then Harrisburg where we spotted groundhogs by our hotel.

The Freeway to Indianapolis had bad air warnings – the 3rd time we had come across these advising us to stay in the car, not gas up the car until after 10 at night and to keep car lights on. We could see the air, vision down to 200 yards and all the street lights were on during the day – not much vision when driving at 80mph (130km). Very dirty air to breath and people were wearing masks for the air, not covid, they were resigned to a summer of bad air from the Canadian forest fires whilst enduring a heatwave. We visited the famous car racing track, the Brickyard, where the Indianapolis 500 is run. Our Kiwi accents were immediately understood as a few winners have been New Zealanders.

Arriving back in Chicago we went to the Lisle hotel where the Accordion Teachers Guild Festival was hosted where we met up with Kevin Friedrich (NZAA Life Member and CIA Ambassador) and many other international accordion friends.

Again Joan Sommers was the Festival conductor and I took part in the daily rehearsals and hour long performance along with 50 others who all seemed to have practised more than I had before arrival, sightreading and concentration won out. The venue was the new performance centre at Wheaton College, used by the Chicago Symphony for its excellent sound.

Grayson gave an hour long concert and received 2 standing ovations. His Baroque works, performances of promotional music to new NZ video game Dredge, played along with the video game, and the world premiere performance of the commissioned work by the ATG, especially for this concert, by Spanish Composer Gorka Hermosa, were highlights.

I videoed/photographed much of this event along with my daughter Amber.

<http://www.accordions.com/atg/2023report.php>

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(Incorporated NSW under the Associations
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ASA Annual Membership is August to July. Renewal time is 1st August each year ;

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