

From: Vancouver Folk Song Society vanfolksong@gmail.com
Subject: August events with the VFSS
Date: August 4, 2024 at 9:45 PM
To: Vancouver Folk Song Society vanfolksong@gmail.com



Vancouver Folk Song Society

August 2024

www.vfss.ca

Friends (Quaker) Hall, 1090 west 70th at Osler St.

Got news? Performing somewhere?

Contact us with comments or news at vanfolksong@gmail.com by **Saturday, Aug 31** to be included in the next newsletter.

This email newsletter is sent to VFSS members and to subscribers by request.

To unsubscribe, go to vfss.ca/email-lists.

Zoom – Now in stereo for laptops and desktops! We have excellent cameras, mics chosen for musical performance, and lighting and room set-up to benefit the viewers at home as well as in the hall.

We'd love to see you in person. But we understand that's not always possible. So join us via Zoom (live-streaming) for all or as much of the evening as you have time for. Even if we can't hear your applause, we know you're there.

Watch your email for the links when this is an option. It's almost always an option on the 3rd Wednesday of the month and we'll also list it in the newsletter when it's an option for other times.

VFSS Now with Cookies! Please bring your own mug to reduce (or even eliminate) the dishwashing task! See you downstairs! (Offer not available to our online viewers.)

Share songs, not bugs. If you have [symptoms](#) — coughs, sniffles, fever, "just a cold," please join us safely over Zoom. We care about your good health and ours, too.

Schedule & Upcoming Events

- **7:00 pm** Doors open
- **7:20 Harmony Jam** invites everyone to warm up their voices together as they start the evening with well-loved sing-along songs.
- **7:30 - 8:30** open stage / song circle
- **8:30 - 8:45** break (bring your own mug)
- **8:45 - 9:45** feature performers
- **10:00 pm** Doors close

5th Wednesdays Song circles on Zoom with breakout rooms if there are enough participants.

The Zoom link will be sent to our mailing list the day before, as usual.

August 7

In person only

Open stage & features

- **Robin Holmes** has a diverse collection of songs from traditions as diverse as Russian folk to "Filk," an imaginative blend of science fiction and fantasy genres. His dramatic presentation is both engaging and entertaining.
- **Dragonfly**, featuring **Gian Ward** on vocals and **Dave Adam** on acoustic and electric guitar, offer jazz standards, contemporary, and folk tunes. They have been singing together with warmth and style for a decade.
- **Bevan Bartlett** grew up singing traditional music. He has a penchant for ballads, airs, and laments (though he has been known to belt a shanty or three), and sings *a cappella*, or accompanied by guitar or reed drones.
- **Graham Baldwin** has played guitar and melodeon for over 30 years, performed in bands and with morris dancers. His repertoire includes acoustic and electric blues, folk, and "cheap pop crap," as he fondly calls it.

Aug 21



First half

In person:
Open stage

Online:
Song Circle

**Second half
live-stream of the
feature**

- **Thalia McIntosh** is a self-taught singer/songwriter from Vancouver who takes inspiration from large emotions and times of challenge, the beauty of nature, and of course, the silly things in life. Music is a source of comfort and community for her and she hopes to share that with you others with her original songs and covers. Find her on YouTube and Instagram @musicbythalia
- **Guido Heistek** has performed his music all over the world and worked as an arranger and consultant for stage and film. But he is most happy here at home in Vancouver, playing and teaching ukulele. Check out his videos and music resources at <https://ukuleleinthedark.com/>
- **Steel Cut Notes**, formed in 2024, is a collection of friends who enjoy singing together. Their repertoire includes a variety of music styles, but especially favors Scottish and Irish songs, sea shanties, and gunfighter ballads. Bringing energy and enthusiasm to their feature are George Beatty, Che Buffel, Jeremy Kashket, Yette Paterson-Gram and Andrew Russell.

- **Christina Ray + Friends.** Often working behind the scenes to help invigorate VFSS, Christine is taking her turn at the front of the room. With a clear voice and a strong spirit, she shares the healing strength of singing and believes that together we can sing a new world into being.

September 4

In-person only

Songs of Working People

- **Roger Holdstock and Barry Truter**
As part of Fraser Union, Roger and Barry have been lending their powerful music to labour unions and justice movements for decades. Solo or part of a group, they bring strong musicianship, songwriting skills, and warm voices to their performances.
- **Marcus Hermary** has a passion for music, love of learning and a powerful voice, making him a must-see. Accompanying himself on banjo and guitar, he enjoys presenting traditional songs, including some BC favorites.
- **Pat Howard** loves the life and music of the commons, and of commoners, from the 1930s to present-day. She adds her harmonies to shanty sessions with The Lazy Jacks and plays and sings with the Burnaby Mountain Mamas. This time she's appearing solo and we hope she'll bring some of her own songs, too.
- **Yette Patterson-Gram:** Born and raised in East Van by a union rep and a blues musician, Yette is a member of CUPE 15, Out in Harmony community choir, and the Steel Cut Notes.

September 18

- **Features include Mary Armitage and JES Trio (Jane Slemon, Ellen Van der Hoeven, and Susan Larkin).**

More details to come.

How to be a Feature: Sign up for your "15 minutes of fame" in the calendar at the front desk at the Folk on Wednesday or [email](#) the coordinator.

Accessible Folk!

The Friends Hall now offers elevator access for those using wheelchairs or other mobility aids. The entrance is from Osler St.

Our COVID precautions

Ventilation Doors and windows open as weather permits. HEPA air purifiers and a CO₂ monitor to check ventilation.

- **Masks.** We *welcome* you wearing a mask when you're not leading a song or reciting a poem, especially if you have health risks. Please respect each other's choice.
- **Self-monitoring** If you are experiencing *any* [Covid symptoms](#), or signs of other illnesses, please stay home and get well soon!

Sept 27-29 VFSS Annual September Retreat

Registration for the Annual Retreat at Camp Alexandra is now open. In addition to great music, good food, and lovely surroundings, there will be lots of opportunities to make new friends and reunite with old ones.

Early bird discount pricing until August 31 and bursaries are available

You can read full details on our [website](#) and pick up paper copies of a registration form at our Wednesday folk sessions. If you have other questions, or need a paper copy mailed to you, please email registrar@vfss.ca

VFSS Folks Out and About

Fraser Union

- **Sun. Aug. 11** feature at the [Victoria Folk Music Society](#), 1110 Hillside Ave, Victoria. Doors 7 pm. Open Stage 7:30 pm, feature at 9 pm \$8 at the door.
- **Sat., Sept 14 Fraser Union and Michael Pratt & Lynn McGown** Fundraiser for the [Stephen Lewis Foundation](#) Doors at 7:30 pm, Concert at 8 pm. Little Mountain Cohousing, 4985 Quebec St. Donate what you can to support grandmothers in Africa raising children orphaned by AIDS. **Space is limited, please RSVP** to holdstockroger@gmail.com

Sat., Aug. 17 The M&Ms (Michael Pratt, Lynn McGown, Michael Burnyeat and Roger Holdstock) will be playing at 2:00 pm at the [Richmond Garlic Festival](#), at Richmond's Sharing Farm, 2771 Westminster Hwy. The festival also includes raptor demonstrations, a farmers' market, workshops and live music. Michael and Lynn are also appearing Sat. Sept 14 with Fraser Union, above.

How to stay in touch

- With [Facebook](#) and [Youtube](#), you can view the news and photos we share there.
- Our [website](#) has details and reminders of upcoming VFSS events, as well as news, photos, and technical tips for Zoom events.
- Contact us with news of an upcoming performance for the next newsletter at vanfolksong@gmail.com.

OTHER EVENTS

Music & More *OFF* Main – 2nd Thursdays

Thurs., Aug. 8 Little Mountain Neighbourhood House Society presents Music and More Off Main at City Heights Housing Society, 155 E. 37th Ave., Admission by Donation. Doors 7 pm, open stage at 7:30 pm, feature at 9 pm. Coffee, tea and cookies, and any home baking you'd like to donate. You can book a spot in advance for the open stage with Tim at timmarsongs@gmail.com. **Feature is George Faulkner**, playing a mixed medley of original material, some instrumental and some with the vocal assistance of one of our favourite singers. To get on the mailing list, email Stoo Born at emin7b5@shaw.ca

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Folk Music on the Beach – 2nd Fridays

Fri. Aug 9 at the Hollyburn Sailing Club, **Feature: Blueweed** and **Soda Crackers** and the house band, The Hollyburner (with VFSS musicians **Steve Deering** and **Ken Hamer**). 1326 Argyle Ave., West Vancouver. \$10 at the door, BYOB. House band from 7:30-8 pm, featured performers from 8 pm – 10 pm. Reserve with Neil at carroll_neil@hotmail.com. It helps with their planning! www.folkmusicatthebeach.com

Local Folk Resources

The following CDs are available at our in-person events or online.

- ***Songs of the Pacific Northwest***, by Philip Thomas, edited by Jon Bartlett. 208 pp., 62 songs with lyrics, notes for melody, and chords, historical background to the people and events in the song, b&w photos, and index.
- ***Phil Thomas & The Songs of British Columbia***, by Jon Bartlett, 35 pp. This is a brief biography of Phil Thomas and a description of how he travelled throughout BC meeting singers and collecting their songs and history.
- **"Blow the Man Down: Tall Ships on the Fraser."**
This CD is a collection of some of our favorite shanties, performed by a collection of singers no longer performing together – so this is your only chance to hear them! It's a gift to new members upon joining, but maybe you need more than one copy. It includes a small booklet of historical information about shipping on the Fraser River and the songs.

To read more or order copies, go to <https://vfss.ca/order-form/>

Local links and beyond

Across the Water to Vancouver Island

Check out the [Victoria Folk Music Society](http://victoriapop.org) to see a schedule of their events, as well as other music (and dance!!) events around the Island, from Cumberland to Sooke, and of course, Victoria. VFMS meets every Sunday at 1110 Hillside Ave., 6:30 pm jam; 7:30 pm open stage, 9 pm feature. \$8 at the door.

Rogue Folk Club live and streaming

The [Rogue](http://roguefolkclub.com) is offering live concerts again, as well as streaming options. Upcoming concerts include performances by long-time folk favorites, with new favorites to discover, too.