

From: Vancouver Folk Song Society vanfolksong@gmail.com
Subject: October events with the VFSS
Date: September 29, 2024 at 11:11 PM
To: undisclosed-recipients;



Vancouver Folk Song Society

October 2024

www.vfss.ca

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

Got news? Performing somewhere?

Contact us at vanfolksong@gmail.com by **Saturday, Oct. 2** 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.

Watch your email for the links. 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 the dishwashing task!

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.

About that traffic

Construction work is ongoing around Oak and 70th for sewer upgrades.

- You **cannot** turn onto Osler from West 70th.
- You **can** turn onto Osler from West 71st, although it's marked as local traffic only.

Alternatives

If you don't need street parking within 50 yards of the Hall, consider parking on a side street north or south of West 70th and taking a short walk on a lovely fall evening.

Please leave plenty of time and bring patience with you and note our construction-free Zoom dates below.

Schedule & Upcoming Events

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- **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.

Oct 2

In-person only.

First half: Open Stage

Second half

Features

• **Allison Campbell** is originally from Winnipeg, where her love of traditional music was fed by coffeehouses, the Winnipeg Folk Festival, and the West End Cultural Centre. Her definition of "traditional" has expanded over the years, and she loves the storytelling aspect of it. Allison has found her musical family in choirs, the morris dance community, and the VFSS, where she is part of [The Lazy Jacks](#) sea shanty crew.

• **Laura Creen** If Laura was a cat, with 9 lives and always landing on her feet, then recently moving to Vancouver would be the start of her 6th life. But back in her 3rd life, she was a salty, ocean sailor on traditional square-rigged ships. While she's happier climbing a hundred-foot mast than singing shanties to an audience - she's been persuaded the only cure for stage fright is to just do it. And if ever there was a kind audience to stand in front of, it's VFSS on a Wednesday night!

• **Lucien** started his musical journey at age 18. His musical discipline soon grew into a passion as he was inspired by various folk artists and he is now often found busking throughout Vancouver. Lucien is continuing to grow his skills and meet other musicians through gigs and open mic nights.

• **Barry Truter** is a dedicated traveller and makes music from multiple traditions. Whether leading a resonant chorus, cooking up a Delta blues melody or exploring polyphonic harmony, Barry always plays in the "Key of Connection." His strong solo skills also shine in Fraser Union's line-up, with whom he shares a strong interest in local stories.

October 16

First half

In person:

Open stage

Zoom Online:

• **Isa Hastings** is an emerging young musician from Vancouver, Isa loves music because it brings people together. With a background in acoustic guitar and singing prayer in groups, she is excited to learn more from the folk scene.

• **Shiloh Wicks** is a musical artist who picked up a

Song Circle

Second half

Features live-stream

- **Shirley Wiebe** is a visual artist who picked up a keepsake guitar in 2009 and has been playing, singing and writing songs ever since. Many of her songs are based on prairie places and stories of her childhood. Shirley loves the VFSS atmosphere and has performed at the VFSS twice before.
- **30 minutes: Sudanda** was formed in 2004 around the music of Alaaeldin Abdalla, a composer, singer and oud player. He is originally from the Sudan and now living in Vancouver. Alaaeldin's music draws on traditional Sudanese forms, and he composes music for contemporary Sudanese poets. Current band members include Earle Peach on guitar and bass, Jane Kalmakoff on accordion, James Griffiths on trumpet, Pim van Geffen on Trombone, and Wesley Skakun on percussion.

Oct. 30

Online-only song circle on Zoom. Feature TBA.

Link will be send to you the day before the event.

Nov. 6

In-person only.

First half: Open Stage

- **Steve Deering** – Sea shanties, silly songs, Scottish songs, presidential airs, hot bodhran “licks” -- Steve has them all. His technical abilities may distract us from his musical abilities, so we’re happy to have him at the front of the room for a change to remind us of his range.

Second half

Features

- **Melanie Goestl** is back to wrap us in her warm and powerful voice with her take-no-prisoners lyrics. Her songs will take us through heartbreak and then mend us with beauty.
- **Craig Williams** makes the blues feel so good. He is well-known for his soulful interpretations of the country blues of the 1920s-40s. as well as original songs. His home-made, authentic cigar box guitars must be heard to be believed, and his finger picking and slide on the more traditional guitar is great.
- **4th feature to be named ...**

Nov. 20

- **Features will include Honeyflowers, Michael Burnyeat, and Brian Robertson.**

Stay tuned for details.

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

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

With the songs and music still ringing in our heads, and sleep deficits to be repaid, we thank the organizers who working for months to plan our annual special gathering, and thank the volunteers who helped out throughout the weekend – clean-up, set-up, session and song circle leaders, and so much more. It was great to see so many new and familiar faces in that wonderful setting of Camp Alexandra By the Sea.

VFSS Folks Out and About

New board member! Christina Ray was elected to the VFSS board at the monthly meeting in September. As a "regular" member, she has been working with the board and other members to develop communication ideas and nurture a warm and supportive atmosphere at the Folk and we welcome her now as an "official" board member.

Sat., Oct. 19 The Lazy Jacks are part of the entertainment at **Old Hastings Mill Museum** Fall Market [fundraiser](#) from 1-4 pm. Buy your pumpkins here, pose for photos by the hay bales, raffles, face-painting, Hallowe'en crafts and more. Entry by donation.

Sun., Oct. 27 Benefit Concert celebrating the release of Barry Truter's CD *Traveller 2 – Let Your Heart Lead*. Notional Space 1523 E. Pender Ave., Doors 2:30 pm, Concert 3 pm. By Donation, with proceeds to support [Last Door Society](#) and [Westminster House Society](#). Barry will be joined by Fraser-Henderson (Barb Fraser & Dennis Henderson); Tanglewood Duo (Emily Villavicencio & Noa Neuman); Phil Belanger, Don Fraser, and Max Pinsky; and Fraser Union (Roger Holdstock, Kathy Griffen, and Barry Truter).

Sun., Oct. 27 The M&Ms, a Vancouver-based trio made up of **Michael Pratt**, Lynn McGown, and Michael Burnyeat, are the feature at the [Victoria Folk Song Society](#). at 7:30 pm at Norway House, 1110 Hillside Ave. Pre-Folk Jam: 6:45 pm., Open stage: 7:30 pm, Feature 9 pm. Admission \$8.

Sat., Nov. 2 [Left Coast Labour Chorus](#) presents Resistance and Resilience. Songs in celebration of life, love, and resistance, featuring M'Girl, Marlo Browne (poetry), **Fraser Union**, and Emily Villavicencio. Unity of Vancouver, 5840 Oak St at

43rd Ave. 2 pm. Tickets \$25 / \$12. Livestream \$10.

Mon., Nov. 11 "Let Peace Be Their Memorial," the 9th annual event takes place at Vancouver Unitarians from 2 pm to 3:30 pm at 949 W 49th Ave, Vancouver. The event will be a hybrid: in person at 49th and Oak in the Vancouver Unitarian Sanctuary and online via Youtube. In addition to 16 beautiful themed wreaths hand-made from natural greenery, there will be songs and anti-war poetry. Includes performances by **Re:Sisters, Fraser Union, Jim Edmondson,** and others. See PeacePoppies.ca/wreath-ceremony

Lyn Van Lidth de Jeude March 4 1952 – September 18 2024

We recently learned of the passing of Lyn Van Lidth de Jeude, a long-time member of the VFSS. During the years of her involvement, she served on the board, hosted singing parties, was a fine singer herself, and raised singing children. They attended summer retreats and performed regularly at the Princeton Traditional. Please see our [website](#) for a longer notice.

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

Thurs., Oct. 3 ZOOM only Music and More coffeehouse. Meet at 7 pm, music starts at 7:30 pm. To get on the mailing list or receive a Zoom link, email Stoo Born at emin7b5@shaw.ca

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Folk Music on the Beach 3rd Friday

Fri. Oct. 18 at the Hollyburn Sailing Club, **Features: Iona (w/Steve Deering), Cabin Jam,** and **Fluteriffic.** Opening by 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

Deep Cove Coffee House 3rd Friday

October 18th: Double Feature: Tom Rawson & Ellen Van Der Hoeven / Karin
Plate & Guide Meet at Mount Seymour United Church, 1200 Parkgate Ave, Deep

Plato & Guido Heltsek Mount Seymour United Church, 1200 Parkgate Ave, Doors open: 7:00 pm, Warm-up acts: 7:30 pm, Feature act: 9 pm. Admission: \$20 includes baked goodies, coffee, teas, and cold drinks (Youth: \$5 / children & musicians: free).

Local Folk Resources

If I Sing: Songs of work, history, and the way things are. That's the name of recently released CD by Linda Chobotuck. It features a long list of VFSS folks offering musical and vocal backing, including Earle Peach, Jim Edmondson, and Janie Benna. Linda might be best known at the Folk for her song, "Canning Salmon," so this is a treat to hear more of her gems here. Available at the Folk whenever Linda attends.

Jon Bartlett comments, *"We spend a third of our lives asleep, and another third at work (if we are lucky enough to have jobs). That leaves us only a third for the rest, but it's that third which is the subject of all or almost all of the songs we hear or sing. Linda Chobotuck aims to change that. Her new CD, If I Sing, is a compendium of 14 songs she's made between the years 1974 and 1989. That's right – her first song, and the most widely sung, is "Canning Salmon", recorded here in BC both by Linda and also Fraser Union, in Ireland by the Work and Play Band, in the US by Rebel Voices, and I've heard it sung at the Mystic Maritime Festival and in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Not bad for a 17-year-old singer! The song describes work on the canning line, the petty injustices suffered, the places where the canned salmon end up, and the forgotten deaths the fishing trade involves.... Linda spent many years with "Bargain at Half the Price", a Surrey-based progressive singing group, originally of some twenty singers. They sang locally, did tours of universities, sang at Chilean benefits, and went to Cuba....We are blest in the Folk with several strong song makers, of which Linda is the senior. Long may she continue!"*

The following CDs are available at our in-person events or from our [website](#).

- ***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](#) 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](#) 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.