

51st Top Half Folk Festival Program - June 2023

Time	Friday	Saturday		
		Presentations	Workshops	Big & Little Kids
8.45 - 9.45		<p>Poets Breakfast hosted by Jayne Nankivell Bring your favourite Australian poem or anecdote to acknowledge Jim Smith who presented the THFF Poet's Breakfasts for over 15 years and was a key instigator of the Poet's Breakfast at many Australian festivals.</p>		
10.00 - 11.15		<p>Official Opening Welcome to Country</p> <p><i>Followed by The Splinter Sisters and The Shavings choirs workshop.</i></p>	<p>The Splinter Sisters and The Shavings Choirs Led by Emma Trenorden. These very talented Mparntwe performers will have everyone singing songs from around the world. Add some harmonies and we have a big festival choir!</p>	
11.30 - 12.45		<p>Stewie's Songs - Team Choice Paul Stewart has advised that after 40+ years of high-quality informative workshops, this will be his last presentation. He has handed over the reins to his reliable team to present their favourite songs from over the years. Featuring: Phil Beck, Sean Roche, Scott Balfour, Peter Bate & Tony Suttor, Dave Evans, Bob Sharp, Jeff Corfield, Terry Piper, Phil Gray, Bob Barford, Don Bruce, Sally Balfour, Ted Egan.</p>	<p>Will It Blend with Austral Ensemble workshop/Q&A on how to arrange traditional tunes and instrumentation in a modern way.</p>	<p>Screen Printing Print your own t-shirt/bag or tea towel with help from Melody O'Meara and Jayne Nankivell. (Bring your own shirt, bag or tea towel with you) \$10 for adults.</p> <p>The HEMA Club Darwin Sword Academy will demonstrate medieval sword fighting.</p>
LUNCH		CD/EP Launch - Warralakin - "Rhythms of the Outback"		

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1.30 - 2.45	Check in from 2pm	Dad and Dave's Folk Quiz Scotty and Dave have been writing songs and performing around Alice Springs (Mparntwe) for as long as they can remember. Every year at the Top Half Folk Festival they like to test our folk knowledge to see if we know more than them. Two teams will battle for the coveted prize amongst plenty of fun and laughter.	Scottish Dancing with Mara Dobrini Darwin's expert in Scottish dancing will walk you through some Scottish country dance and teach a few dance techniques along the way. The live music will really get you moving.	Witladla with June Mills Larrakia Elder June Mills tells the story of the little owl, Witladla, and his lost necklace. Filled with original songs, puppets that reference traditional Larrakia designs and fun interactions. Young audiences will be captivated by this story.
3.00 - 5.00 Workshops 3.00 - 4.15	Registrations and Greetings Pick up or buy tickets Purchase a T-shirt \$30 Buy a commemorative tea towel \$30	Afternoon Speed Concert This gives every muso the opportunity to perform. If you aren't already listed to perform over the weekend, add your name to the whiteboard for quick a 10 minute performance.	Chillers Fiddle with Austral Learn how to get rid of your classical violin training and relax when playing fiddle tunes fit for sessions down the pub or in the festival tent.	Sing and Play with Crystal Robins It's time to sing, move and play percussion instruments. Aimed at younger children, but all are welcome to participate. Crystal is a passionate performer around Darwin and works as a registered music therapist, using music to promote health & well-being to everyone.
DINNER				
7.30 - 11.30	Concert 7.30 - 9.00	Concert 7.30 - 11.20		
	Welcome to Country Guest Artist Showcase Crocodile Country Alison Mapleson Ted Egan Austral	Michael Roseth & The Boats Ashore Crystal Robins Bob Barford & Scotty Balfour <i>Interval</i> The Shavings Phil Beck Austral		
11.30 - LATE	Join an informal session around the campfire with Kevin McCarthy or on the decks - to sing and play the night away			

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Time	Sunday			Monday
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8.45 - 9.45	<p>Poets Breakfast hosted by Alexandra C Steffan A self published poet, living in Darwin, will delight in sharing their poems and hearing yours.</p>			<p>Farewell Singalong - 9am Depart rooms by 10am Depart campground no later than midday.</p>
10.00 - 11.15	<p>Old Darwin Tunes and Ditties - a tribute to Kathy Mills OAM Presented by Jeff Corfield who said, "Aunty Kathy was my 'window' into the rich musical heritage of that 'old Darwin' culture."</p>	<p>Choonbacker with Austral How to listen out for chord changes in a music session and provide rhythm support with bouzouki, mandolin or guitar.</p>	<p>Ukulele For Everyone with Richard Grace Richard will lead you through some tunes and a few musical technicalities. Learn about finger picking, frailing, chord substitutions and the circle of 5ths. For anyone at any age who wants to polish their ukulele skills. Bring your ukulele.</p>	
11.30 - 12.45	<p>Seriously Good Songwriters A celebration of NT songwriters in an intimate, honest and open performance. This is a chance to hear from some fantastic Territory artists who will sing their songs and tell us the backstory to their creations. Featuring: Sally Balfour, Crystal Robins, Emma Trenorden, Katie Harder, Glenny Rae, Jessie May, Ted Egan, Kevin McCarthy and Dave Garnham.</p>	<p>Pretty Tunes Ian White and Jayne Nankivell will play waltz's, mazurka's and schottische's for everyone to join in and will teach a tune by ear. Record the tunes and sheet music will be provided.</p>	<p>Get Crafty Come to the kid's marque to see what adventures are waiting. Colouring in and decorating will be on the list.</p>	
LUNCH	CD/EP Launch - informal on the deck with Alison Mapleson			

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1.30 - 2.45	<p>Mandy Connell presents a Q&A on Song Craft Mandy is a singer and guitarist, well known for her writing prowess and stagecraft. For anyone who writes songs, wants to write songs or has trouble getting the words on the paper – this workshop is for you. It's the breadth of Knowledge and passion for the broader 'folk' genre that makes Mandy stand out from the crowd.</p>	<p>Explore Open 6-string Tunings on Guitar with Adam Scriven Adam is a Darwin based singer, songwriter, guitarist who weaves together harmonicas, percussion and yidaki (didgeridoo) in his performances. This workshop will cover genres of Folk, Celtic, Blues and World music including finger-picking, percussive and slide guitar techniques.</p>	<p>Scavenger Hunt Kids of all ages will go on a seek and find adventure around the park. First to the finish line takes away a copy of Sally Balfour's much loved Clara Crocodile CD.</p>	
3.00 - 5.00 Workshops 3.00 - 4.15	<p>The Long Concert 1. Warralakin 2. Apocalyptic Breakdown 3. Shaun Roche 4. Dave Bowers 5. Adam Scriven 6. Campbell 7. Dave Garnham 8. June Mills 9. Alice Cotton</p>	<p>Bush Dancing with Mara Dobrini Everyone loves a good bush dance! Mara will walk/talk you through steps to dancing for fun, with some popular dances and lively music.</p>	<p>Bluegrass Banjo with Jenny Shimmin One of the pioneers of bluegrass banjo in Australia, having played with many of the greats and performed in many bluegrass festivals in and around the USA.</p>	
DINNER				
7.30 - 11.30	<p>Concert 7.30 - 11.20</p>			
	<p>South of the Berrimah Line Mandy Connell Emma & the Splinter Sisters</p> <p><i>Interval</i></p> <p>The Buffettes Bob Sharp Austral</p>			
11.30 - LATE	Join one of the informal sessions - around the campfire or on the decks.			