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**Illawarra Folk Club Inc. PO Box 5289 Wollongong NSW 2500**

## ABOUT THE ILLAWARRA FOLK CLUB

The Illawarra Folk Club Inc. is a community based not-for-profit organisation dedicated to the preservation, performance and presentation of our folklore in all its various forms.

It holds regular concerts and events that feature folk music, song, dance, poetry, storytelling and related exhibitions.

Participation is encouraged from both established and new folk performers in both formal and informal situations. We also provide access to international folk performers that would otherwise not perform in the Illawarra.

### HISTORY OF THE FOLK CLUB

The Illawarra Folk Club was formed in 1979 and has conducted monthly concerts ever since. Since 1985 the Club has presented the Illawarra Folk Festival at Jamberoo. This has grown from very humble beginnings to be generally recognised as the largest of its type in NSW with now over 600 performers and over 140 events over 5 days.

The Club has provided support to a number of local performers who have produced recordings as well as producing its compilation of Festival performers. It has also provided performers to many community and charity events in the Illawarra. It has been produced a monthly Newsletter for the past 20 years.

### THE ILLAWARRA FOLK FESTIVAL

The culmination of the Folk Club's activities is the presentation of the annual Illawarra Folk Festival.

The Festival is a celebration of culture, community and creativity and Club recognises the diversity of our community both in ethnic background, origins and age. The Festival involves performers from all these areas.

### ***The Festival's main aims are:***

- Showcase local, Australian and international folk performers and to link these with wider and more cosmopolitan influences.
- An event for visitors to experience the cultural diversity of Australia.
- Provide an opportunity to learn, appreciate and participate in events focused on dance, poetry, traditional instruments and other folklore. This opportunity provides for cultural exchange.
- Provide events that feature the indigenous and multicultural history of the region and Australia through song, music, dance and stories.
- To provide a quality Illawarra regional tourism event that will be able to attract visitors from abroad.
- Provide an event in which local community groups and schools can contribute artistically and creatively.

### HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Participation in presenting the Festival is invited on 2 levels -

1. **Organising Committee** - This is a commitment to help plan and organise the Festival on a long term basis. Meetings are held monthly starting in December. Sub-committees are formed for Site Services, School Children's Concerts, Volunteer Coordination, Programming, Publicity, Catering Services, Performer Accommodation and Registration, Transport, Senior Citizens Liaison, Waste Management, Fundraising, Sponsorship, and the Festival Office.

*Contact Festival Director David De Santi if you are interested in being involved telephone 02) 4257 1788 or e-mail:*

[desanti@illawarrafolkclub.org.au](mailto:desanti@illawarrafolkclub.org.au)

2. **Festival Volunteer** - This is a commitment to assist during the running of the Festival. Any amount of time offered is welcome. There were 200 volunteers at the last Festival.

***Telephone 1300 887 034 if you are interested in registering to be a volunteer.***

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**Enquiries & Fax 1300 887 034**

Web - [www.illawarrafolkclub.org.au](http://www.illawarrafolkclub.org.au) Email - [desant@illawarrafolkclub.org.au](mailto:desant@illawarrafolkclub.org.au)