



Celebrating the 50th Top Half Folk Festival

11th – 14th June 2021
Mary River Wilderness Retreat

Newsletter No 2. March 2021

Excitement is building for the 50th Top Half Folk Festival celebrations and the tickets sales are rolling in. Get in before April 11 to purchase your early bird tickets.

The 2021 Program...

There's a bit of a buzz amongst the performers coming along to this year's festival as the program is being finalised and everyone starts their planning and practicing. There has been a high demand for a concert spot and we are doing our utmost to fit in as many performers as possible.

Everyone is looking forward to seeing and hearing our special guests Ted Egan and Bill Yidumduma Harney tell their stories and sharing their experiences. Over the next newsletters we will give you some insights into other people who will be performing at the festival.

A couple of feature groups from Alice Springs are getting organised to present workshops and concert performances.

The Desert Fiddle Club, led by Karen Jackson is now in its fourth year of musical development and consists mostly of youth. Karen teaches music by ear, building a repertoire of music from different genres and providing an environment where music is played for fun. At the festival they will not only treat us to a concert performance, but will teach us some tunes in a workshop and join in sessions allowing us to learn and grow our instrumental capability.

The Shavings, a men's choir, are looking forward to sharing their joy of singing in a workshop. This group of nine men are sure to present a powerful performance, and the added opportunity to sing along with them will be a real treat.

Remember to get your beer and wine brewing happening NOW! as you will need to bring samples along to Jeff Corfield's 'Worts n All' presentation.

As always, the informal sessions will be happening around the camp fire and on the verandas into the wee hours. In a change to the usual programming, the formal program will finish at lunch time Monday with a **morning farewell concert**.

Keep up to date with the Festival through our Facebook page or the web site:

www.facebook.com/tophalffolkfestival or www.topendfolkclub.org/top-half-folk-festivals

CD Sales...

If you are performing or presenting and have merchandise for sale, bring it with you. Merchandise includes CDs, books and other folk related stuff. Sales will only take place on Saturday and Sunday.

Make sure you deliver your merchandise to the Festival Desk from 5.00 pm on Friday 11 June. The Desk will handle and record sales and return your revenue and unsold items from 8.30 am on Monday 14 June.

If you do intend to bring items for sale, please give us a heads up by emailing secretary@topendfolkclub.org

Venue and Reservations and Accommodation...

As with previous Festivals held in the Top End, the venue is the idyllic Mary River Wilderness Retreat, located 110km east of Darwin on the Arnhem Highway.

Further details about the venue can be found at www.maryriverretreat.com.au

Do not use on line booking - Bookings must be made by email to info@maryriverretreat.com.au or by phoning the venue direct on 08 8978 8877.

There is no booking number – just state that you are attending the Folk Festival.

Bungalows and powered campsites are fully booked but unpowered campsites at Mary River are still available.

ALL accommodation must be booked in advance – including camping sites.

There is alternative accommodation at the newly renovated **Bark Hut Inn** located a further 2 km along the Arnhem Highway from the main Festival venue. They only have accommodation available on the Friday and Sunday nights. Call 08 8978 8988 to arrange.

Food and Drink...

Mary River Wilderness Park will cater breakfasts, lunches and dinners. A camp kitchen is available for anyone wishing to self-cater.

Vegetarian, gluten and lactose-free options will be available, these and any other dietary requirements need to be advised in advance.

The Bar will be open from midday until 2.00am. BYO is not permitted in the restaurant, bar, decks and pool areas.

Transport...

The Club has arranged a 12-seater bus to travel to and from the Festival venue for **Weekend Ticket-holders**. i.e. out Friday, back Monday (after the farewell concert) ONLY. Costs and timelines are yet to be determined. Places are limited. If you will need transport, complete the relevant box in the Weekend Ticket booking form and we will try to assist with transport.

Tickets...

Weekend tickets are now on sale:

- Early Bird Weekend Adult ticket - \$100
- After 11 April 2020, Weekend Adult ticket - \$110.
- Youth Weekend ticket - \$25
- Kids under 12 - Free
- Day and Concert tickets for Adults and Youth are available for those who are not able to be there for the full weekend.

The Booking and payment form is at the end of this Newsletter and is also available on our website www.topendfolkclub.org/top-half-folk-festivals and www.facebook.com/tophalffolkfestival/

If paying by Bank Transfer, PLEASE remember to email the payment form with your details to secretary@topendfolkclub.org – otherwise we won't know who you are and will not be able to issue a receipt.

If you have already paid for tickets and have not heard from us, please check that you have provided your details and get in touch by email.

Other Activities...

Mary River Wilderness Retreat are looking at conducting river cruises (subject to numbers). Further details as they come to hand.

We look forward to seeing you there.

50th TOP HALF FOLK FESTIVAL

Ticket purchase and transport

Ticket Type	Adult Weekend until 11 th April (\$100). From 12 th April (\$110)	Youth Weekend 12-18 (\$25)	Day Ticket – Sat or Sun Adult (\$55) Youth (\$20)	Single Concert Adult (\$30) Youth (\$10)
No. of Tickets				
Name 1				
Name 2				
Name 3				
Residential Address				
Email Address				
Phone Contact				
Bus Transport Seats required		Note: Transport costs per seat yet to be determined		

Kids under 12 free. Add more Name rows as required

How to buy tickets

Option 1 – Cheque

Step 1: Complete the details in the form

Step 2: Make out a cheque for the total amount to Top End Folk Club Inc.

Step 3: Post the form and cheque to:

Secretary – Top End Folk Club Inc
PO Box 41551
CASUARINA NT 0811

Option 2: – Bank Transfer

Step 1: Complete the details in the form

Step 2: Transfer the correct amount to:

BSB 805 050
Account No. 623 43270
Account Name Top End Folk Club Inc

Step 3: **Enter your surname into the Description field of the bank transfer form.**
If we don't know who paid us, we can't issue a receipt or a ticket.

Step 4: **Copy the form details into an email and send to secretary@topendfolkclub.org**

NOTE: Weekend Tickets can be collected on production of a receipt at the Festival Desk on the afternoon of Friday 11th June 2020.

NO CREDIT CARD OR EFTPOS FACILITIES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE VENUE.

All accommodation bookings are to be made directly with Mary River Wilderness Retreat:
info@maryriverretreat.com.au or by telephone (08) 8978 8877 - mention the Top Half Folk Festival.