



OVER 50 YEARS OF FOLK MUSIC IN WEST AUCKLAND

Des and Juliet Rainey

HOW OLD ARE YOU?
BUCKEYE JIM
MR. RABBIT
MY LITTLE KITTY
PAPER OR PINS
THE WAGONER'S LAD
KUM-BA-YA



STEREO MONO



Missing in action

The night the Clancy's didn't show !!



At Titirangi . . . candles, a fire and plenty of folk

The youth came to the front of the hall, snatched several chords on his guitar, began to sing and then faltered. He had forgotten the words.

But when he started, he and the youth, who up to then had been singing, began to sing again. He had forgotten the words.

Such occurrences are not infrequent at the Titirangi Folk Club, which meets on Tuesday each month.

Open fire

On this particular Tuesday a crowd of nearly 100 gathered in the Titirangi Beach Hall for the 10th A. New Zealand 10th

and spent time in the hall, some from the local area, some from the local area, some from the local area, some from the local area.

There were also a number of people who had come to the hall for the first time, and they were very much interested in the club.

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Encouragement

The club is a very active one, and it is very much interested in the club.

Occasionally, the club is a very active one, and it is very much interested in the club.

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Didn't appear

A crowd of nearly 100 gathered in the Titirangi Beach Hall for the 10th A. New Zealand 10th



This group goes under the name of the Titirangi 'Siddy Siddy' Pickin' and Singin' Mob. In the front row: Tony and Margaret Woods, Carol Foster, Tony and Margaret Woods, Carol Foster, Tony and Margaret Woods, Carol Foster.



David and Deborah Simons.

The club is a very active one, and it is very much interested in the club. There is a very active one, and it is very much interested in the club. There is a very active one, and it is very much interested in the club.

WESTERN LEADER, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1967



ABOVE: Performing at the Auckland Folk Festival's benefit concert at the Maidment Theatre on Sunday were John Walton (left), Rudy Sunde and Pat Sunde (right), all of the Titirangi Folk Club.



FOLK FESTIVAL FIDDLER: Mr John Surman playing his fiddle at the 10th Auckland Folk Festival at Oratia. Listening with interest are Lara Murdoch aged 11, of Oratia, and Max Silvester, 7, of Mt Eden. Seven Auckland folk clubs gathered for the weekend festival.

Folk Festival

Sir.—This Anniversary weekend I had the opportunity to attend the Auckland folk festival at Oratia. I went to the Sunday evening outdoor concert, as the festival was held at a friend's house.

From the little contact I have had with folk music clubs in Auckland I found that this festival concert was everything I expected and more. The moment I entered the gates of the camp, the atmosphere was friendly, casual and very laid back.

To reach the area where the concert was being held, I walked past campers who, having just finished their evening meal, were scattered around outside tents, playing banjos, flutes, guitars in groups and having a general get-together.

I hope that in relaying something of what I saw of this festival, which incidentally was half the price of Sweetwaters, people will become more aware of, and supportive towards, folk and cultural activities such as these.

A. Hurley.

Mt Eden.



Tuning in. A guitar session strains to catch advice from Gavin Asher (right), of Avondale at the 10th Auckland Folk Festival, held at Oratia.

Mud and music

Dampened but not down, holiday weekend events in West Auckland like the Auckland Folk Festival and the Huia Arts and Crafts Festival managed a brave face under tough conditions.

The 13th annual folk festival at Oratia proved unlucky indeed as rain and wind restricted events and made life difficult for campers.

With the camping ground a morass of mud, some didn't wait for the festival

finale on Sunday, but those who did were fortunate to gain a respite.

Workshops were confined to tents and buildings at the Knock-Na-Gree camp although the festival's feature event, the Sunday night guest concert, was able to be held outdoors.

Several hundred people stayed on and were rewarded with a night of music from Scottish group The House Band, Bluegrass and old time music exponent Bill Clifton (USA), and traditional songs and poetry from Martin Curtis.

Other workshops included

traditional English Morris Dancing, beginner's guitar, a Celtic revival and a "Kid's Concert".

The weather cleared as the festival was winding down - many cars having to be towed from the mud.

But organisers say the rain didn't dampen the spirit of the occasion and they're looking forward to finer weather next year.

The two-day Huia Arts and Crafts Festival was also confined to indoors by the weather.

Only a few braved the trip to the Huia hall on Saturday for the event.



Mud, mud, glorious mud . . . a reveller enjoys a wallow during a break at the Auckland Folk Festival in Oratia.

W.L. 20.9.86.

Thieves strike sour note

Thieves have struck a sour note with the Titirangi Folk Music Club.

The Titirangi Beach Hall, where the club stores its equipment, has not again been the target of burglars who have stolen 11 bottles of wine, an blank cassette tapes and two microphones.

The club's president, Mr Rudy Sunde, took precautions and nailed the door shut, but it didn't deter burglars who broke in days later and stole refreshments worth \$70.

The two latest break-ins bring the total number of five in the last year.

An angry Mr Sunde estimates the total amount of goods stolen to be \$800 with about \$300 spent on strengthening the club's defences.

The whole episode has seen disconcerting for club members.

"We're a voluntary club that'll have to make up our losses. We're angry that the have been some we do even if it takes time from us."

The club has had folk music events from its record library installed and the hall's cotestboard was among the items that disappeared.

After early burglaries the hall had been secured with locks and window bars but the door was jammed open in the last attack.

The club is now taking extra precautions and is not having anything of value in the hall.

The residents and caterers who use the hall, have also suffered losses.

Folk singer puts Oratia on record

By Kristina Smith

Titirangi identity Rudy Sunde has been an instrumental part of West Auckland's strong folk music scene ever since he picked up a banjo as a child.

Rudy has just finished recording an as yet untitled folk album which has a distinctively West Auckland flavour and features the voices of the Pickers' Ball which describes the goings-on of the annual Oratia Fringe Festival.

"Folk music songs relate to people and life. There are messages and stories in folk music which are sadly lacking in pop songs. Most pop songs seem to be about losing a lover."

Rudy has just stepped down from his long-held position as the Titirangi Folk Music Club's president - a title he has held for the past 21 years since he club's beginnings.

"I've loved in Oratia all my life and I've always been involved in folk music. My parents made me take up the banjo as a child and while it wasn't always my favourite pastime, I stuck with it."

Although Rudy may have rather gone fishing, he missed playing in a local orchestra until he lost interest when in his teens.

"Then I fell in love with jazz. I was a keen trombonist in my early 20s until I had to sell my trombone for something more useful around the house when I got married."

Rudy then rejoined the folk scene and has been performing folk songs with his wife Patricia and new musician John Walters for 20 years.

Rudy's record is the first attempt to be preserved on vinyl and will be his first commercial venture.

He released a single in 1982 to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Oratia Primary School which was adopted by the pupils as their school song.

"Believe me, I was tickled pink to hear my 10-year-old daughter singing it - even though she didn't know I wrote it," chuckles Rudy.

With any luck, says Rudy, at least one of his songs may become a traditional folk song to be passed down through the generations.

"I'm thrilled to know that the people of Oratia like the song and identify with it."

And like a true folk song, he says, "Seasons in the Valley" will hopefully become a piece of West Auckland's culture and history.



Folk musician Rudy Sunde takes a "banjo break" from his work as an entomologist with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

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ENTERTAINMENT • ENT

Sounds awful!

Lousy songwriters are being called by the Titirangi Folk Music Club to enter its bad taste song competition.

The winning entry will be the winning competition in rhythm, tune and subject matter.

Club president Mr Rudy Sunde says a bad song is not difficult to write and the object is to have fun and the first prize in the song competition may be a bottle of very bad wine.





Tree planting at Tirifiri Matangi Island 1993

Folk club forges relationship

Titirangi Folk Club has a twin — in Orpington, England.

The club has taken a leaf out of the city's books by getting involved in the twinning.

And in a nice touch the official twinning took place at Titirangi's 30th birthday celebrations — making it the same age as the

Orpington club, which is in Kent on England's south coast.

Club member Tricia Lee says that coincidence was the perfect reason for forging the relationship, one she expects to flourish over the years.

Plans are under way for six members of the Titirangi club to

visit Orpington while they are in England next year.

"This, of course, could mean the end of a beautiful friendship," Ms Lee jokes.

"But, looking on the bright side, it could also cement our friendship even further."

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**50 + YEARS AND STILL MAKING MUSIC
OUT WEST**