



# Pearl Park Music Festival

SATURDAY JANUARY 4, 2025

*Program*



# welcome

**We are so lucky to again be gathering on the land of the Boon Wurrung Bunurong and GunaiKurnai people who connect to Country through song, dance, story telling and rhythm. We acknowledge elders past, present and emerging. We celebrate the music played on this land over thousands of years and the music that is yet to come.**

We hope the day inspires you to seek out more local, live music. Check out the FAQs at the end of the program as a guide for booking bands.

Thanks for everything our community does to bring people together. Hope you have a fabulous day!

# what's where



## SAFETY FIRST

We have an Information/First Aid Marquee on site if you have any enquiries or need assistance - Event Managers Tammy 0431 702 794 & Bec 0439 872 883



The footpath provides wheelchair access from road to lawn areas



## WATER

Free drinking water available from the South Gippsland Water trailer



## TOILETS

Behind the stage area, and behind the Tourist Info Centre next to the library

# eat, drink...

## THE KITCHEN TABLE

Food and drinks at the Food Van

## FISH CREEK DONUTS

## THE CREPE MAMA

## FOSTER SWIMMING POOL

Seafood BBQ and hamburgers

## FOSTER ROTARY

Sausage Sizzle

## TWISTA BRO'S FOOD VANS

## POPCORN

## STOCKYARD GALLERY

Head into the Tourist Information Centre to see the Stockyard Gallery's *See The Song* Exhibition.

## THE BAR

eftpos facilities available

## NEED COFFEE?

We're keen to support our local cafes so it's a short stroll down Main St to a number of cafes there:

Latte Dah

Andos Bakery

The Kitchen Table

Ma Bohnny's Cafe

Atticus

After 4pm at the festival Bar

# and be merry

## ACTIVITIES FOR CHILDREN 10am

Face Painting

Deb's temporary airbrush tattoos

## RAFFLE SALES - drawn at 4pm

Some great prizes from local businesses - see the Information Tent

## PROM COAST U3A

The Uke3A and Singers will be performing in the afternoon. U3A will have a table in the info tent, come and have a chat

## MYLI FOSTER LIBRARY

Activities available including a craft area and 'search and find' activity

## FOSTER MUSEUM

Pop in and see some local history



# Market stalls...



**Kate Billingsley**  
Textile and jewellery  
**Instagram** @katebillingsley

**Grow Heirloom**  
Seeds, edible plants, tumerix



**Ana Maria Hernandez Y Jensen**  
Ceramics  
**Instagram** @anamhj77

**Kristy Wilson Art**  
Handmade crystal jewellery and  
giftware  
**Instagram** @kristywilsonart



**Jacinta Thorn**  
Pottery  
**Instagram** @levershadesign

**Leadlight Garden Art**  
Leadlight and timber garden  
sculptures



# The Lineup



<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Bec's Bonny Boners</b>
<b>11:05 am</b>	<b>Benny Yarram and Drew Cassidy</b>
<b>11.45 am</b>	<b>The Pegs</b>
<b>12:30 pm</b>	<b>Stony Six</b>
<b>1:15 pm</b>	<b>Kate Facey</b>
<b>1.45 pm</b>	<b>Blind Cobbler's Thumb</b>
<b>2:30 pm</b>	<b>Midnight Possum</b>
<b>3.15 pm</b>	<b>KIN</b>
<b>3.30 pm</b>	<b>Foster Secondary College Big Band</b>
<b>4.15 pm</b>	<b>No Promises</b>
<b>5.05 pm</b>	<b>The Acquaintances</b>
<b>5.55 pm</b>	<b>Ally Row</b>
<b>6.40 pm</b>	<b>Grand Ole Factory Band</b>
<b>7.25 pm</b>	<b>Jungle Jim Smith</b>
<b>8.10 pm</b>	<b>Bubble Gumbo</b>
<b>8.55 pm</b>	<b>The Winfield Road Experiment</b>

# No PROMISES

No PROMISES are a dynamic Alt Country band from South Gippsland. Comprising of Eric Collier on lead guitar and lead vocals, Janine Garvey on acoustic guitar and lead vocals, Jamie Lowe on drums, Chris Gale on bass and Neil Marshall on rhythm guitar.

Masterful storytellers, songwriting power duo Eric and Janine have a huge catalogue of original music and are currently recording their third album (their first as a 5-piece band).

They have a knack for creating catchy melodic hooks that will be stuck in your head for days!



[Website](#)

# The Stony Six

The Stony Six are a bunch of musicians from South Gippsland who, together, create joyous and buoyant contemporary acoustic music. Their influences are broad and the resulting sound is eclectic and marvellous. Delightful vocal harmonies are the bedrock of the band, with strings, wind and sticks rounding out their sound.

The Stony Six present their own originals as well as recreating covers in new and surprising ways. All members are passionate about inclusive music making. The line-up is Jane Coker (clarinet, mandolin), Jenneke Kijlstra-Shone (accordion, percussion, uke, guitar), Tanya Nolan (guitar, ukulele, percussion) Dave Paxton (guitar, clarinet) and Caitlin Pilkington (fiddle, percussion, uke). They all sing!



[Website](#)

# Bec's Bonny Boners



Bec's Bonny Boners is a bunch of people who love to make noise. Every Thursday they gather together to laugh loudly, talk incessantly, gobble down some beautiful cake made by their own personal singing baker, SueB, and then wash the cake down with a liberal dash or two of port. Then, after much hilarity, they make some noise in 3-part harmony (sometimes interrupted by a little more hilarity and port!).

These are people who absolutely treasure singing with others. And sing beautifully they do! You can hear the cries in 3-part harmony as they break free from the rehearsal confines and run headlong to Pearl Park. The 20-odd local singers (take that how you will!) are polishing their port glasses, donning their not-quite-finery, gargling the liquid of life and jumping on stage to dazzle you with their 3 to 5-part harmonies and songs with a story to tell. Don't miss this gorgeous lot of singing sensations. Bec's Bonny Boners are bonny and bonery, and Bec loves them!

NOTE: Anyone is welcome to join at any time. Absolutely no experience or musical background is required....just a great love of music and singing, and a wicked smile! Find Bec somewhere in town and approach with caution.

# KIN

Hi, I go by KIN. I enjoy rapping about my life experiences and aspirations.

What inspires me is what I've been through, and letting people know that we all go through the same struggles. The message I hope to push forward is to be who you want to be.



# FSC Big Band

Foster Secondary College Big Band is an ever-changing group of the latest senior musicians from Foster's local high school collaborating with a handful of community musicians who need a big band in a small town!

Over the years, these exceptional student musicians have played with the Melbourne Ska Orchestra, Claire Bowditch, the Australian Royal Navy Band, The Band Who Knew Too Much, the Cuban Salsa Band and many other professional bands. Get ready as the Foster Secondary College Big Band rocks your world, jazzes your bones and pops your popcorn with a sensational funk up pumping set of high-octane tunes.



# Benny Yarram

Proud Noongar man, Benny Yarram is a local music teacher who also gigs and tours regularly with a number of outfits including Bumpy, Mini Waters, and Funk & Disorderly. Predominantly playing soul, funk and blues music,

Benny has a number of festivals and national tours under his belt and recently embarked on his first international tour with Bumpy. At this year's Pearl Park Music Festival, Benny will be bringing a mix of stripped back originals and covers with a little help from his partner and closest friends.



**Instagram** @thebiglubly  
@bumpymusic\_  
@mini\_waters

# Drew Cassidy

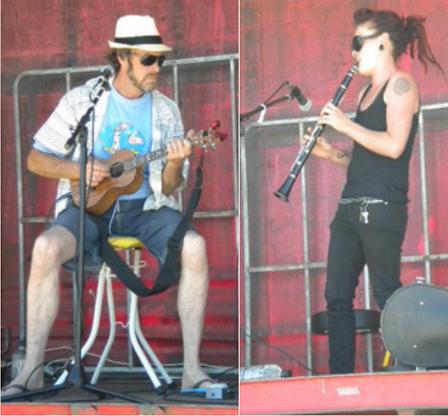
Drew Cassidy is a guitarist, singer, and songwriter with a love for sharing music. Originally from Griffith, NSW, Drew studied music in Melbourne before moving to Welshpool just over a year ago.

Drew's music blends original songs with familiar classics, combining thoughtful lyrics and easy melodies. Whether playing a quiet acoustic set or an upbeat tune, Drew enjoys connecting with the community through simple, honest performances.

**Instagram** @drew\_cassidy



# The Pegs



Based in Buffalo, Meg and Pete have been performing as The Pegs throughout Gippsland, NSW and QLD since 2011. Combining guitar, ukulele, clarinet, cello and violin, their folk blues rock "with a twist" has made them popular in cafes and festivals alike.

They have performed at Australia's first opera house in Gulong and on stage at the Tamworth Country Music Festival

[www.youtube.com/@megsmallwood3030](http://www.youtube.com/@megsmallwood3030)

# Kate Facey



Kate is your friendly neighbourhood dorky mum from South Gippsland. Known for being a sensitive soul and a chronic over sharer, her songs will take you on a ride through the ups and downs of her life.

Kate has shared the stage with the likes of The Smith Street Band, Camp Cope, The Getaway Plan and Alice Ivy, and some of her biggest achievements include playing festivals such as Moomba, NYE on The Hill and Splashfest. After taking a few years off to focus on her kids and moving back home to country Victoria, she is keen to get back on the stage.

So if you enjoy honest and wholesome song writing, maybe even a little bit of a laugh or cry, Kate Facey is the singer/songwriter you've been looking for.

**Instagram** @kate.spacey

**Facebook** @itskatespacey

# The Acquaintances

The Acquaintances are an exciting 6-piece folk/rock ensemble focusing on sweet vocal harmonies and a story to tell. Singer/songwriters Rebecca Bone, Fiona Curram and Roy John capture the audience's hearts with their empathetic tales of love won and lost (or purposely discarded!) and songs about finding purpose and place within our selves and our society.

They have performed as the support act for Clare Bowditch and Irish band Erin's Pride, while also revving up the crowds at the Tarra Festival, Tea Cosy Festival and Prom Coast Festival. Regular packed out nights at Foster's old The Rhythm Café have made this band a sought-after musical feast.

Bring your humour and hearts to join The Acquaintances in our community's great love of all things music!



[www.youtube.com/@WashYourMouthOut](http://www.youtube.com/@WashYourMouthOut)

# The Grand Ole Factory Band

The band was formed when Garry Eldred saw the potential in the old disused factory and dreamt of playing his music within its lime-washed walls and vaulted ceilings, encouraging the locals to come and jam on Sunday afternoons. The Grand Ole Factory Band was formed and Garry was living his dream. Sadly, Garry passed away 5 years ago but thanks to friend and fellow musician Dan from Mirboo North taking over the rental, his vision lives on and the band still plays every Sunday afternoon. Four years ago we lost our loved band member Gavin Westaway. Gavin's passion and hard work was amazing and we will never forget his contribution. The incredible talent of Joe Eldred (bass), Sally Baldwin (keyboard/vocals, Bruce Burgess (lead guitar), Geoff Sparkes (guitar/lead vocals), and Tony 'Lucky Prezzo' Thornton (drums/vocals) has the band cooking up a Rhythm and Blues storm, covering all your favourite rockin' songs from the 60's and beyond.



# Ally Row



Triple J Unearthed winners. Port Fairy Folk Festival busking competition winners, Opened for ARIA award winner William Crichton, Played on both ABC Grass Roots and Henry Wagon's Double J as well as selected for high rotation on ABC Country.

Gunaikurnai/Gippsland based, Triple j unearthed winning Ally Row are a folk rock/alt country duo blending genres with their toe tapping music and heartfelt lyricism. The multi-instrumentalists incorporate electric banjo, guitar, keys, harmonica, stomp box and tambourine, creating an unexpectedly full and upbeat live experience. Their honest lyricism shines a light on the darker sides of love and mental health delivered with warm vocals, velvety harmonies and an infectious beat.

The duo take inspiration from Mumford and Sons, The 502s, Caamp, Morningsiders, Sons of the East and Of Monsters and Men, while maintaining their own unique and distinct sound.

[www.allyrow.com.au](http://www.allyrow.com.au)

# Bubble Gumbo



Powered by horns and inspired by New Orleans grooves, Bubble Gumbo brings the house down with good time, dance music. Playing a mix of funky originals and rip snortin' covers, Bubble Gumbo is Sth Gippsland's hottest new brass band.

Lead by song writing genius Peter Doherty on vocals & bass, supported by local Gippsland musos (except Jim - he's got his own back story), Mark Sylvio (Tpt), Matt Dixon (Tromb), Justin Abicare (Sax/Flute), Roy John (Drums) & the Quincy Jones of Sth Gippsland Neil Gracey (Tpt & arranger), along with the famous Jim Glasson (Sax - formerly of the Vince Jones quintet), Bubble Gumbo is not to be missed. Their mandate? "Seriously, we gonna funk you up".

# Midnight Possum

Formed in 2015, this four piece play classic pub rock and blues with Gavin Van Eade (guitar, vocals), Jules McMullan (guitar, vocals), Bruce Corr (bass) and Brendan 'Batman' Roberts (drums).

They have performed regularly all over South Gippsland including Korumburra, Tarwin Lower, Foster, Toora and Welshpool hotels and built a solid reputation with their mixture of original songs and covers of the Rolling Stones, Doors, The Beatles, Neil Young and many more.



# Blind Cobbler's Thumb

Blind Cobbler's Thumb is a rollicking 4-piece Irish Band that is always in the mood for a 'knees-up-mother-brown'! Rebecca Bone (flute/whistle/vocals), Jules McMullan (mandolin/vocals), Fiona Curram (guitar, vocals) and Roy John (drums/vocals) do music from the Irish Isle with a twist of lemon, a shot of humour, and a pint or two of Paddy passion. This band will take you on a wild ride of singing and dancing, so don your brogues, grab a partner and take the rocky road to Dublin for a reely good time! Come lilt with the leprechauns, frolic with the four-leaf clovers and curtsy with the colleens as Blind Cobbler's Thumb do-si-do's you through punked up renditions of The Pogues, heartbreakingly tragic Irish ballads and fast traditional jigs.

See you on the dance floor!



# The Winfield Road Experiment



All instrumental band The Winfield Road Experiment are out of lockdown and ready to unleash their fiery brand of Soul, Latin and Jazz music that will have you feeling the heat one moment before melting your heart the next. It's an eclectic and diverse group of well established musicians which has created a rich soundscape that focuses heavily on storytelling through melody.

Expect to hear highly energetic and jam packed instrumental music that crams catchy melodies, infectious rhythms, flamboyant percussion, thunderous horn lines and wailing solos - The Winfield Road Experiment does it all.

**Facebook** @TheWinfieldRoadExperiment  
**Instagram** @thewinfieldroadexperiment

# Jungle Jim Smith



Armed with a 3-string cigar box guitar, trusty 6-string, and shed-built foot drums, Jungle Jim Smith is a one-man-blues-band with a rock'n'roll heart. Delivered with a raw croon, he blends dirty blues and swampy country that pumps with rockabilly grit, forging a full-band sound uniquely his own.

Chugging out tunes from an impressive arsenal of originals, his infectious hooks and riffage finesse beckon to the dancefloor, making fast friends and fans of music lovers all over the country.

[www.junglejimsmith.com](http://www.junglejimsmith.com)

# Brett van Hoorn - Sound Engineer

Brett said he didn't want any advertising as he's a busy, busy man - but we'd still like to acknowledge his incredible expertise when it comes to getting the sound right. As you can see, he mixes with some of the best.

All the effort of producing music would be for nothing if the sound that makes its way through the speakers isn't adjusted by someone who knows how to tweak those many dials on a sound mixer according to the space, the weather, the musicians' style and so forth.

Thanks for being an essential part of it, Brett.



## *and finally...a toast to Gav*

We raise a glass to the incomparable Gavin Westaway. What he has done for music in our community will always be treasured. His tireless advocacy for local musicians is a gift to us all. We thank him, his beautiful wife Andrea (aka Bubbles) and his darling son Sam for their endless support, encouragement, cheering and involvement in our local music scene. We love you all.

And to Gav...in the words of Paul Kelly, from little things big things grow. Music has become mighty in this place because of people like you. Thank you.



# our team



**Rebecca Bone**  
FOUNDER AND CREATIVE DIRECTOR

A strong advocate for anyone who is musically inclined, Rebecca has a passion for teaching and helping the local music scene to thrive. With thirty three year's experience teaching music in schools she continues to revel in the utter joy brought to those who share in music.



**Tammy Basso-Bondini**  
PROMOTION AND EVENT MANAGER

Tammy lives in Foster and is a singer at heart but also loves playing the drums. Being the host of the local Golf Club's Open Mic every month is an opportunity to showcase the local talent, of which there is aplenty! Hence her desire to contribute and help towards this wonderful music festival. Rock on!



**Rebecca Matthews**  
MANNA GUM COMMUNITY HOUSE MANAGER

Rebecca is well known to many in the Corner Inlet region in her role at Manna Gum Community House. Music has always been an integral part of her life, and supporting this fully accessible event is a highlight of her community work.

*and thanks  
to lots of  
others*

- Boolarra Folk Festival for the stage
- MYLI Foster Library
- Foster Visitor Information Centre
- Cellarbrations
- Aherns Fruit Market for the loan of their fridge trailer
- The Kitchen Table for helping to feed the masses
- Our local cafes and businesses
- Stockyard Gallery volunteers for manning the exhibition
- Sophie Dixon and Sophie Bolding at South Gippsland Shire Council
- Tika Hicken
- A huge thank you to our many volunteers for moving large objects, negotiating trailers, manning the Info Tent, keeping the site clean, protecting equipment, selling raffle tickets and 100 other things - we couldn't land a day of free live music for the community without them

*get in touch* [pearlparkmusicfestival@mgch.org.au](mailto:pearlparkmusicfestival@mgch.org.au)

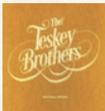


WITH THANKS TO OUR

# Major Partners



*and our generous supporters*



# FAQs on booking a band

## How do I book a band?

Most bands have a Facebook page - but email us if you can't track down their number. To begin, just give them a call (but not too early in the morning). Consider what you want the band for: to dance, to have as a background or to entertain? And remember, book early to save disappointment. Bands are often booked months in advance or annually for special occasions such as St. Patrick's Day, New Year's Eve, Christmas, etc.

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## What's it going to cost me?

It is easy to forget that musicians are not just putting in the gig time.

Extensive hours of rehearsals, travel and set-up time all need to be factored in. A general policy is that each musician should receive no less than \$200 for a gig, but this is the bare minimum. Preparation for a 30-min gig is often just as much effort as a 2-hour gig, particularly when song requests are made. Our gigs often run for 3 hours or more. Load-up, travel, set-up and set-down can extend this beyond 6 hours and note that freelance musicians (which is mostly the case) have no sick pay, superannuation, etc. (not to mention the ongoing costs of equipment). A small bite to eat and some compensation for travel costs are always welcome! If the venue wishes for more music at the completion of the night, allow the musician to freely make this decision without pressure and always offer a little extra money for the time. Remember, your event is never the same without the musicians, and venues often reap a great deal of financial reward because of their presence.

Yes, musicians love their job, but they have to eat, too!

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## What does a band need?

Here's a little checklist when booking them:

- Detailed knowledge of the performance space, including predicted size of audience and room or outdoor venue
  - Whether sound equipment/engineer needs to be provided
  - Gig format - eg. background music to start / dancing to finish / speeches included etc
  - Length of sets / number of sets
  - Song requests for special occasions sent early to allow for proper preparation
  - A safe performance space away from 'happy' punters trying to touch the expensive, often irreplaceable, or unaffordable equipment
  - Sun or rain protection at outdoor gigs
  - Prompt communication regarding any changes to the gig
  - Musicians should be financially compensated for late cancellations
  - Musicians have often turned down other well-paying jobs to be at your gig
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## What if I just want one musician?

Solo musicians are perfect for many gigs. Think carefully about what you want from the musician, give them lots of information to help the smooth running of your event, provide a safe space, pay them accordingly and love their work.

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Music is a valuable, but sometimes undervalued asset to our community. It can help us dance, sing, cry, reflect, gather together, memorialise, channel anger, inspire thought, educate. The musicians are a vehicle for this love. We can't wait to share our music with you and your loved ones.