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May 2026  
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[www.musicclub.org.au](http://www.musicclub.org.au)  
President Joan Griffiths ph 0408747882



🎵 Celebrating music for 40+ years 🎵

**GAMC Instagram account: Find us @gippslandmusic & share with your friends**

# Mel Pollard

\*we're back to the earlier start time of 3pm from May-Sept

## Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> May '26 3.00pm\* Tyers Hall

Mel Pollard is a Gippsland-born singer /songwriter. She wrote her first original song when she was just 8 years old and has been in love with music ever since. A multi-instrumentalist with quirky sense of humour, Mel loves the thrill of putting on a good live show and keeps herself busy - writing, producing, performing and privately teaching music, marrying couples as a marriage celebrant, hosting events and working as a theatre technician & music trainer and assessor. She once even co-hosted the TV show, 'Live at Spectrum' for a couple of seasons.



Mel's original music is varied and ranges from heartfelt pop/rock ('Lose Control' & 'Don't Let Go') to witty and fun ('Whoop Di Dee - it's Christmas' & 'Singing the Song of My People' by Bear Pants & Raffman). She further showcased her comedic side in her video, 'Quarantine (a Parody of the Abba classic, Dancing Queen)'. The lyrics echoed much of what was being felt at the time and the video quickly gained over 10k views.

Mel was also a featured vocalist on the Gippsland-produced, Mass Online Band cover of INXS's 'Never Tear Us Apart', and contributed her voice to the Kutcha Edwards' song, 'We Sing', (released on August 28, 2020) as part of a choir alongside the likes of, Paul Kelly, Archie Roach, Judith Durham and David Bridie.

Other career highlights include supporting Sarah McLeod (Superjesus) at the LV Hotel in 2016 and The Chantoozies at Live at The Bundy in 2021, appearing on the Live at Spectrum TV show as both a performer and co-host and seeing her students do well.

For more information, please visit: [melpollardmusic.com](http://melpollardmusic.com)

**Socials:** @melpollardmusic [facebook.com/melpollardmusic](https://www.facebook.com/melpollardmusic) <https://www.instagram.com/melpollardmusic>  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UChOM5V3BVmNzUiL4Y4ku6-A?app=desktop>

**Support Act: "Valley Power Chords"** (GAMC's Ukulele Group).

They're preparing for their gig at "Hills Ukulele Festival" later in May

**ENTRY:** \$20 members & concession,  
\$25 adults, free for under 18

Pre-purchase through

<https://www.trybooking.com/DJYKZ>

or cash entry at the door



**Tea/Coffee & Afternoon Tea** will be

available. Please bring a plate of afternoon tea to share.



Please also byo coffee mug, to keep the dishwashing fairies out of a job 😊 Or buy one of these collector-item GAMC "Spruik the Uke" keep cups. Special price \$5

**Procedures for Emergency Warnings** (bushfires, floods etc): **In the event that a "Watch and Act" Warning or an Emergency Warning is listed for Tyers on a day when GAMC is hosting an event (or for other locations where GAMC may be hosting an event), the club event will be cancelled for that day.** In such circumstances, we will endeavour to advise members via email, but recommend that you tune into local ABC radio and/or <https://emergency.vic.gov.au> for warning updates before leaving home.

## UPCOMING GAMC EVENTS

- ♪ Fri 24<sup>th</sup> April, 7-8.30pm at Traralgon Masonic Centre: **"Valley Power Chords" ukulele group** rehearsal (these have already started but you're welcome to join anyway). Further rehearsals on 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> May and 15<sup>th</sup> May too. If you're keen to join and want to get on the email circulation list, please email Ken on [ukulele\\_ken@outlook.com](mailto:ukulele_ken@outlook.com)
- ♪ Sat 25<sup>th</sup> April (Anzac Day) 10am -12 noon at Traralgon Masonic Centre: Jam Session. These will be running monthly this year on the fourth Sat of the month
- ♪ Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> May **"Saturday Sing-lets"** led by Rhonda Newton 1.30pm - 3.00pm at Traralgon Masonic Centre. Stay tuned for dates for further Sing-Let sessions throughout the year. See info below.
- ♪ Weds 6<sup>th</sup> May 7.30pm at Traralgon Neighbourhood House (Kath Teychenne Centre) 11 - 13 Breed Street, Traralgon: **Committee Meeting**
- ♪ Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May & again on Sat 14<sup>th</sup> June at Traralgon Masonic Centre: **Banjo Workshops** led by Andrea Hadley continue. See info below.
- ♪ Sun 7<sup>th</sup> June 3pm: club concert featuring "Valley Road" with support act Elspeth Keddell
- ♪ Sun 5<sup>th</sup> July 3pm: Gabrielle Parker

## Hands up to sing each month in Traralgon with us!

### SATURDAY SING-LETS



Come and join us and see how much joyous noise we can generate!

Simple, fun stuff with beautiful harmonies. 😊

Just turn up, gold coin donation at door and byo cup. You'll need to be a GAMC member (or can sign up at a Sing-Let session)

When: Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> May from 1.30-3.00pm (with a cuppa/chat break), and again on Sat 6<sup>th</sup> June. Stay tuned for dates of following monthly Sing-lets sessions.

Where: Latrobe Valley Masonic Centre, 9 Oswald St Traralgon

Contact: Rhonda Newton [GAMC30@gmail.com](mailto:GAMC30@gmail.com)

### Banjo Group led by Andrea Hadley

Members of the banjo group formed in the past two years are keen to get back into a banjo routine. New participants are encouraged to join too, whether new to banjo playing or having some experience. Participants will need to bring a banjo. Contact Andrea if you need advice about that.

The format will involve getting together to work on some banjo tunes. If you have been working on a tune or would like to play a tune in a group, then bring it along and Andrea will create a basic arrangement for the group. If you're interested in a specific style, she is happy to work on that too.

The banjo group will meet on the second Sunday of the month at 1pm at Traralgon Masonic Centre. Just turn up when you can. The cost will be \$5.00 per session to contribute to the hire of the venue. You will need to be a GAMC member. (see membership details on page 2 of this newsletter)

When: The following Sundays 1-3pm: 8<sup>th</sup> Feb, 8<sup>th</sup> Mar, 12<sup>th</sup> Apr, 10<sup>th</sup> May & 14<sup>th</sup> June 2026

Where: Latrobe Valley Masonic Centre Oswald St Traralgon Further details: Andrea on 0434 843 363

## OTHER EVENTS AROUND THE PLACE:

- ♪ Weds 22<sup>nd</sup> April 12.30 - 2.30pm: **Mirboo Music Jam Sessions** "Jammin' in the Bool!" (they happen on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Weds of each month). Venue is now back at The Baromi Centre 38 Couper St Mirboo Nth . All instruments and/or voice & all ages & experience levels welcome. Gold coin donation if possible & great arvo tea. See Mirboo Music Facebook page or contact Peter McCarthy 0417 060 566 [petermcc@outlook.com](mailto:petermcc@outlook.com)
- ♪ Sat 16<sup>th</sup> - Sun 17<sup>th</sup> May: "Hills Ukulele Festival" in Emerald featuring GAMC "Powerchords" at 12.40pm on the Sunday. For further details and tickets, see <https://hillsukulelefestival.au/>
- ♪ Sat 30<sup>th</sup> May at Travellers' Rest Hotel & Distillery Thorpdale: Song Writing Masterclass. For further details and ticket purchase, see <https://www.travellersresthotel.com/event-details/song-writing-masterclass>

## HILLS UKULELE FESTIVAL



The Hills Ukulele Festival 2026

**Dates:** May 16-17

**Location:** Emerald Primary School, Heroes Ave, Emerald, Victoria

## Songwriting Masterclass

Following the release of his new album, Andrew McSweeney opens the door to his songwriting world.

Explore melody, storytelling, structure and the creative spark behind the music. Drawing on years of collaboration with exceptional musicians, Andrew shares practical insights and honest reflections on turning ideas into songs that resonate.

An afternoon of craft, creativity and inspiration.



This is one of many flyers on website for "The Boite" multicultural music organisation based in Abbotsford, Melbourne. See [www.boite.com.au](http://www.boite.com.au) for more events and info.

Yallourn Madrigal Singers/  
& Casey Choir  
proudly present

*Many Voices, One Song*

2.00 pm Sunday 31 May 2026  
Darnum Memorial Hall  
adjacent to Princes Hwy, Darnum

**TICKETS**  
\$30 Adults \$5 School Students  
Children under 5: Free  
Book online  
[www.trybooking.com/DKFN](http://www.trybooking.com/DKFN)  
or buy at the door (cash or card)

Afternoon tea available for purchase  
Catering by CWA Warragul

[www.yallournmadrigals.net](http://www.yallournmadrigals.net)  
[www.caseychoir.com.au](http://www.caseychoir.com.au)

Bookings open 1<sup>st</sup> April

YALLOURN  
MADRIGAL SINGERS  
*Platinum Concert*

**70**  
Years of glorious song!

2.00 PM SATURDAY 20 JUNE 2026  
TRARALGON UNITING CHURCH,  
PARK LANE, TRARALGON (parking at rear)

Tickets: \$30 Adults \$5 School students.  
Ticket price includes delicious afternoon tea!

Bookings: [www.trybooking.com/DKGGV](http://www.trybooking.com/DKGGV)  
or buy at the door - Cash or Card

[www.yallournmadrigals.net](http://www.yallournmadrigals.net)

Bookings open 1<sup>st</sup> April

## Calling all schools in Gippsland!



The Boite Schools Chorus is returning to **Bairnsdale** this year after a long slumber and we are looking for more schools to join!

This year the choir will be joining Ghanaian Master Drummers Mishael Gyabeng, Kofi Kunkpe and Choir Leader Stella Savy to learn and enjoy songs and dances from the West African nation of Ghana. This year's program is titled *Akoma* meaning *heart*.

*Akoma* will bring together playful songs, with vibrant movement and tales that are 1000's of years old with a message of love, endurance, tolerance and peace.

For further information please email [bec@boite.com.au](mailto:bec@boite.com.au)