The Troubadour Weekend

from 5.00 pm Friday November 20th to 5.00 pm Sunday 22nd.

The Troubadour Weekend is a two and a half day mini music festival featuring some of our very best singer songwriters, modern day Troubadours, in an especially intimate environment beloved by a keen and attentive bunch of mostly baby boomer music fans, almost all of whom return every year. So it has developed quite a family feel.

It is staged at Burke & Wills Winery, at the southern end of the Heathcote Wine Region, thirty one kilometres NW of Lancefield on The Burke and Wills Track, a bitumen road leading from Lancefield to the hamlet of Mia Mia. It is just one hunderd and one kilometres from the Melbourne CBD, and an hour's drive from Tullamarine Airport, sometimes and hour and five minutes with the suburban expansion and new traffic lights of Sunbury.

The winery and the festival is run by Andrew Pattison and his wife Heather McCormack. Andrew was the founder of Melbourne's famous acoustic music venue The Troubadour, which opened just off St. Kilda Road, Melbourne, in 1978, then moved to Brunswick Street, Fitzroy in 1982, and continued there until 1990. The venue became one of Australia's foremost venues for folk, country, blues and singer-songwriter styles, and was much loved by performers, because of its intimacy and policy that strongly discouraged chatting during performances. To further this there was a sign on the wall that said *'There are those that like to listen and those that like to talk. This place is dedicated to the listeners"*. That policy was carried on to the winery near Lancefield which Andrew opened in 1986, with concerts every Sunday afternoon, and the sign still hangs at his current winery, Burke & Wills.

Back at The Troubadour the venue regularly presented the best of Australia's popular country folk and soft rock singer songwriters, such as Doug Ashdown, Mike McClellan, Ross Ryan, Kevin Johnson, Paul Wookey, John Williamson, Eric Bogle, Judy Small, Broderick Smith, Goanna, Margret RoadKnight, etc., and once overseas touring acts discovered the venue they were there in droves too, starting with Jesse Winchester, then Nashville great Mickey Newbury *(who called it 'the last bastion for contact with the people')*, Tom Paxton, Ralph McTell, John Hammond, Tom Rush, Peter Sarstedt, Dave Van Ronk ... almost a Who's Who of the popular modern folk era in which baby boomers grew up from the mid nineteen sixties to the mid nineteen eighties. Even John Denver dropped in on one open mic night and stayed to sing for an hour.

Most of the above artists have also played at Andrew's winery, plus some great names like Guy Clark, Vince Gill, Albert Lee, Bert Jansch, Shane Howard, Jimmy Little, The Amazing Rhythm Aces, Ramblin' Jack Elliott, Chris Hillman and Herb Petersen, Ted Egan and many more.

The Troubadour Weekend retains the intimacy of the original Troubadour venue, but in a semi-outdoors venue, under a large verandah and two or three shade tents, and it has a similar audience capacity of just one hundred and twenty people, with table seating. There is a free campsite (not powered) for camping, caravans and mobile homes and decent showers and toilets. A ticket package including lunches and dinners is available, or campers are welcome to self cater at their campsites. Breakfast needs to be self catered, although some cereals and toast, plus coffee and tea, are available self serve at very modest prices. There is a good range of wines available at cellar door prices, by the bottle or glass, plus beers at pub prices, softdrinks, and snacks such as crisps, nuts, giant biscuits, and chocolate.

And the performers: 2026 brings two newcomers to Burke & Wills, revered Tamworth singer songwriters Luke O'Shea and Lyn Bowtell, with twenty seven Tamworth Golden Guitars between them. Also newcomer Kane Vincent from Echuca, revered singer songwriter Glenn Cardier with a brand new album, up and coming Central Victoria duo Valley Road and festival favourite Enda Kenny who regularly plays Australia's top folk festivals, such as Port Fairy, Woodford and The National. And a special extra treat is a Gordon Lightfoot Tribute Concert with Greg Champion, Rod McCormack and Gary Carruthers. Rather than give legthy descriptions of each act here we'll let you check them out on line.

Tickets for 2026: Weekend including Friday and Saturday dinners and Saturday and Sunday Lunches $325
Weekend with self catering in the camping area $ 195
Friday evening including dinner $95, Saturday incl. Lunch & Dinner $135, Sunday incl. Lunch $110.
BOOKINGS: email wineandmusic@bigpond.com, or phone (03) 5425 5400, then pay on the weekend.
The programme is on the next page ....

The Troubadour Weekend November 20th - 22nd 2026

Programme

(Subject to change !)

Friday 20th

5.15 - 6.00 pm **Kane Vincent**
6.15 - 7.00 **Enda Kenny**

7.00 Dinner / supper

8.00 - 8.45 **Glenn Cardier**
9.00 - 9.45 **Valley Road** (with Rod McCormack?)

Saturday 21st

10.00 - 11.15 **'Songs I Wish I'd Written'**
with Bec Howell, Marty McKenna, Enda Kenny, Rod McCormack (?)

11.30 - 12.15 **Glenn Cardier**
12.30 Lunch

1.30 - 2.15 **Enda Kenny**
2.30 - 3.15 **Lyn Bowtell**

3.30 - 4.30 **Gordon Lightfoot Tribute Part 1**
with Greg Champion, Gary Carruthers and Rod McCormack

4.45 - 6.00 **'First Songs'**
with Kane Vincent, Luke O'Shea, Lyn Bowtell, Glenn Cardier ...
... a light-hearted look into their early influences.

6.00 Dinner

7.30 - 8.15 **Luke O'Shea**

8.30 - 9.30 .. **Gordon Lightfoot Tribute Part 2**, with Greg, Gary, Rod and guests.

Sunday 20th

9.45 **Luke O'Shea's Desert Island Discs**
Luke talks with Andrew about his life and some of his favourite records.

11.00 **Kane Vincent**

11.45 **'Great Songs Nobody Knows'**
with Glenn Cardier, Lyn Bowtell, Enda Kenny,

1.00 Lunch

2.15 - 3.00 **Valley Road with Rod McCormack**

3.15 - 5.00 (2 sets) **Luke O'Shea and Lyn Bowtell Duo**