



Major Partners:

Clifton Hill/North Fitzroy
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Media Release

The South Alphington & Fairfield Civic Association (SAFCA) in conjunction with its major partners Clifton Hill / North Fitzroy Community Bank and the City of Yarra, are pleased to announce that the **9th "Music From the Wetlands Festival & Expo"** will be held on Sunday the 18th of November between 11:45am and 5:30pm at the Alphington Wetlands, 1 View St Alphington. Join the music march starting opposite the 7-Eleven which is located on the corner of Heidelberg Rd and Yarralea St at 11:45am. If you are driving to the festival, View St will be closed to car traffic at the corner of View Street and Lucerne Crescent. From that corner, you can find the festival grounds by continuing on foot down View Street. A shuttle bus will be available for those who need a little assistance.

MUSIC FROM THE WETLANDS - SAFCA nurtures Alphington's wetland environment and every couple of years they invite you to enjoy a free music festival that nurtures your soul. The festival offers a variety of musical entertainment together with stalls and displays from community and environment groups. There will be activities for families and children of all ages at this year's festival, with the opportunity to participate in a drumming workshop, make adornments with nature to wear, or to "paint the wetlands".

Before European settlement, this area was the home of the Wurundjeri-willam people. The floodplain adjacent to the Yarra River was extensively cleared for farming and little of the original bush remained. The local community rallied together to replant many of the trees, shrubs and grasses which are indigenous to the area. The Alphington Wetlands is located on the flood plain of the Yarra River at the southern end of Alphington Park and is a collaborative project involving SAFCA, City of Yarra, Kate Herd, and local residents.

SAFCA was established in 1997 and has been active for many years in projects to improve the wetlands and their surrounds. This has included increasing the size of the permanent water bodies, improving drainage onto the site, removal of weeds and non-indigenous plants. Since the project began, hundreds of local volunteers have been involved in planting thousands of trees, shrubs, ground covers and grasses. The area is now home to over 40 bird species including rainbow lorikeets, sacred ibis, the great egret and many water birds.

In addition to a wonderful line up of performers, SAFCA are delighted to again be involved with Scarlet's Fund – www.scarletsfund.com - established in memory of Scarlet Spain, a musician, singer, writer and traveler and a passionate believer in social justice. In 2012 Scarlet died as the result of an accident just before her 21st birthday. The Alphington Bowls Club will be hosting the Scarlet's Prize battle of the bands with local performers on 9th November. The winner of Scarlet's Prize will perform on stage at **Music From The Wetlands**.

Pre Festival photo opportunities: Please contact Michelle Fidler on 0419 336 649 or Lisa Jacob on 0403 676 595 or email musicfromthewetlands@gmail.com to arrange a pre-event photo opportunity, or visit www.musicfromthewetlands.com.au for more information.

MUSIC FROM THE WETLANDS 2018 PERFORMERS
See www.musicfromthewetlands.com.au for more information

SUGAR FED LEOPARDS

Sugar Fed Leopards (SFL) are a blazing sextet, conceived at the nexus of classic pop and disco. With smoking hot costumes, sweet harmonies, tight dance routines and a cranking rhythm section, Sugar Fed Leopards have been breaking a disco-sweat for four years. In January 2015, SFL launched their debut album 'Sweet. In 2016 SFL emerged with new moves, new fashions and a new album 'Take You Out Tonight' (released April 2017) which was made feature album on both PBS FM and 3RRR FM



HAVANA PALAVA

Havana Palava is a street band that plays around Melbourne and regional Victoria at festivals and community events. Their music is a lively, eclectic mix of African, Caribbean, Gypsy, Klezmer and Blues. We bring a great carnival vibe to the festivals we play at, sporting fabulous hot pink outfits, processing in anarchic formation, busting out choreographed numbers, luring a crowd, and generally making people get loosey goosey!

MADELINE LEMAN & THE DESERT SWELLS

Madeline Lemman and The Desert Swells will take you on a trip through 60s surf, 70s pop, and their unique brand of 'Femmericana' twang. Influenced by Bonnie Raitt and Patsy Cline, Madeline captivates audiences with stories of strong women who ramble their way through the mundane and the profound. The Desert Swells will be performing songs from their debut album Nobody's Fool. Lemman's strong vocals and playful pop sentiment provide a powerful listening experience not to be missed!



MICH McMANUS BAND

Singer Songwriter Mich McManus has spent the last decade playing venues around the world and returned to Melbourne in 2017. Mich's passionate voice and original songs matched the Troubadour tradition made infamous by the likes of Joni Mitchell, Bob Dylan and Sandy Deny. Her time in London was signed off by her goodbye video titled "Naked".

Her passionate voice and alternative folk songs have loyal followers in London, Vancouver, Melbourne and Singapore.

SUZETTE HERFT

Suzette Herft, is a captivating troubadour and songwriter from the folk / Americana / country traditions. This Sri-Lankan born, but true Melbournian, shines with a natural grace and presence that lights up any stage. Suzette has won wide acclaim for her brilliant tribute show 'Shining' dedicated to Joan Baez, the 'voice for the voiceless' at numerous festivals around Australia, including standing ovations to full houses in past Port Fairy Folk Festivals.



JAMES ELLIS AND THE JEALOUS GUYS

James Ellis and the Jealous Guys is a country band based in Melbourne. In 2017, they supported the Deslondes, Lillie Mae and Tomato Tomato and played festivals, Out on the Weekend and New Year's Evie. They released their first album in July 2018 at The Spotted Mallard. They hosted a tribute to the 50th anniversary of the incredible record by the Byrds, Sweetheart of the Rodeo at the recent Out On The Weekend Festival and were nominated for Best Country Album in the 2018 Age Music Victoria Awards. Bring your dancing shoes for this one!

THE KRAKEN

The Kraken are a toe tappin', foot stompin', woopin' an' a hollerin' musical collective. They have been invited to leave more bars than you could shake a stick at. Their musical influences are eclectic to say the least. The Kraken blend original banjo tunes with face melting electric guitar solos. If this music doesn't move you you're already dead.