



# Folk by the Sea

— Kiama —

26-28 Sept 2014

Presented by Illawarra Folk Club Inc., PO Box 5289, Wollongong, NSW, 2500

[www.folkbythesea.com.au](http://www.folkbythesea.com.au) | [www.illawarrafolkclub.org.au](http://www.illawarrafolkclub.org.au)

## STARS HEADING FOR FOLK BY THE SEA

National and international acts headed by American Beth Patterson and Australian legend Mic Conway are among the first artists announced for the second annual FOLK BY THE SEA Festival at Kiama on the NSW South Coast on September 26-28.

And festival organisers promise more headline acts will be revealed in the lead-up to the festival.

Grammy-nominated Patterson from New Orleans will bring her exciting mix of Celtic and Bayou music to the festival to join the Australian headliners and some of the South Coast and Illawarra's best acts.

ARIA Award winner Mic Conway has been delighting music-lovers since the 1970s, when he established the iconic Captain Matchbox Whoopee Band. He will be joined at the festival by other leading Australian acts including Miriam Lieberman, with her African-inspired folk, and the Wheeze and Suck Band, as well as a strong contingent of local performers.

The Illawarra Folk Club - best known for its annual Illawarra Folk Festival each January in Bulli - started FOLK BY THE SEA last year at picturesque Kiama Showground, overlooking Kiama's main surf beach.

The inaugural event was an instant success, with a capacity collective audience of 1000 for the three days and 37 international, national and local artists who performed in 55 concerts, workshops, sessions and dances.

This year's program is just as packed, with two and a half days of folk, world, acoustic, Celtic, traditional, gypsy, blues and bluegrass music, as well as poetry, spoken word and dance.

Festival Artistic Director David De Santi says FOLK BY THE SEA was an instant hit in 2013, and organisers were building on that to make the 2014 festival even better.

"We're really excited to have attracted quality performers like Mic Conway and Beth Patterson. I think that shows that the festival is already well and truly on the musicians' radar, and I can promise that we will be revealing another top headline act in coming weeks," David said.

"The first festival was a great success and we plan to build on that. And of course it is a great location. Kiama is one of the prettiest coastal towns in Australia and the Showground is on a headland with the surf beach on one side and the famous Blowhole Point on the other.

"Kiama Showground was a new venue for us last year, and it worked really well with a large performance space for the main acts and some more intimate venues where the audience could really interact with the performers," David said.

Early bird 2-day pass tickets are now available for only \$50, a saving of \$15. Camping will be once again available at the Showground but book early. Buy online from: <http://www.folkbythesea.com.au/tickets> or call 1300 887 034.

**For more information, contact David De Santi on 0409 571788.**