

# Tussock Country

# NZ's Country Music Festival

22 - 31 MAY 2026, GORE | ALL iTICKET EVENTS ON SALE NOW!

## FRI 22 MAY

**Kids Hub Country Disco**  
Friday 22 May, 6pm  
Gore Kids Hub, 13 Wayland St, Gore  
Admission: Gold coin

**Country Music Honours**  
Friday 22 May, Doors 7pm, Show 8pm  
St James Theatre, Gore  
Admission: \$60\*

## SAT 23 MAY

**Songwriters Retreat**  
Saturday 23 May, 9am - 4pm  
Hokonui Rūnanga, Charlton Road, Gore  
Admission: Free for successful applicants.

**Whitestone Cheese Cheese Roll Workshop**  
Saturday 23 May, 10am  
MacKay Room - Gore Town & Country Club  
Admission: \$20\*

**Capital of Country Music Documentary**  
Saturday 23 May, 10am  
St James Theatre, Gore

**Going Local - Networking Session**  
Saturday 23 May, 12pm - 1pm  
Hokonui Rūnanga, Charlton Road, Gore  
Admission: Free

**St James Sessions - Skin & Bone**  
Saturday 23 May, 1pm  
Small Theatre, St James Theatre, Gore  
Admission: \$29\*

**Hokonui Line Dance Social**  
Saturday 23 May, 1:30pm  
Esplin Room - Gore Town & Country Club  
Admission: \$5 + plate for sharing

**Ron Mitchell & Friends**  
Saturday 23 May, Doors 2:30pm, Show 3pm  
Waimumu Woolshed, Southern Field Days Site  
Admission: \$28\*

**St James Sessions - Midnight Caravan**  
Sunday 24 May, 5pm  
Small Theatre, St James Theatre, Gore  
Admission: \$29\*

**Tussock Country Late Night**  
Saturday 23 May, 8pm  
Croydon Lodge, Gore  
Admission: Earlybird \$45\* | GA \$55\* | Seating \$69\*

## SUN 24 MAY

**Whole Person Health Workshop**  
Sunday 24 May, 10am  
The Thomas Green, Gore  
Admission: Free (RSVP by 23 May)

**Kids Gone Country**  
Sunday 24 May, 11am  
Lounge Bar - Gore Town & Country Club  
Admission: Free

**Tussock Country Ute Muster**  
Sunday 24 May, 11:30am  
Southern Field Days Site, Waimumu  
Spectator Admission: Gold coin  
Competition Entry: \$15\* online, \$20 on the day

**Ute Muster After Party - Rusty Pickups**  
Sunday 24 May, 2pm  
Croydon Lodge, Gore  
Admission: Free

**The Celtic Unleashed - Matinee**  
Hokonui Celtic Pipeband Fundraiser  
Sunday 24 May, 2pm  
St James Theatre, Gore  
Admission: Adults \$50\* | U12 \$15\*

## SUN 24 MAY CONTINUED

**Tom Sainsbury - Comedy in the Country**  
Supported by Andrew Logie  
Sunday 24 May, 5pm  
Pioneer Rugby Club, Gore  
Admission: Adults \$42\*

**The Celtic Unleashed - Evening**  
Hokonui Celtic Pipeband Fundraiser  
Sunday 24 May, 7pm  
St James Theatre, Gore  
Admission: Adults \$50\* | U12 \$15\*

**Bowmar Road House Concert - Barry Saunders**  
Sunday 24 May, Doors 7pm, Show 7:30pm  
61 Bowmar Road, Gore  
Admission: \$30\*

## MON 25 MAY

**Capital of Country Music Documentary**  
Monday 25 May, 10am  
St James Theatre, Gore

**Melodies & Memories - Kelly Smith**  
Monday 25 May, 10am  
Ribbonwood Home, Tapanui  
Admission: Free (residents only)

**Golden Oldies**  
Monday 25 May, 1:30pm  
Gore RSA  
Admission: \$10

**Evening Walk-Up Concert**  
Monday 25 May, 7:30pm  
Gore RSA  
Admission: Free

## TUE 26 MAY

**Afternoon Walk-Up Concert**  
Tuesday 26 May, 1:30pm  
Gore RSA  
Admission: Free

**Old Hokonui**  
Whiskey & Food Match Event  
Tuesday 26 May, 6pm  
Arts & Heritage Precinct, Gore  
Admission: \$60\*

**Trad Session Tuesday**  
Tuesday 26 May, 7pm  
Gore RSA  
Admission: Free

**Country Variety Dance**  
Tuesday 26 May, 7:30pm  
Esplin Room - Gore Town & Country Club  
Admission: \$10 (Door sales only)

## WED 27 MAY

**Performance Workshops - Peter Cairns**  
Wednesday 27 May, Book a time  
Venue to be advised on booking  
Admission: \$35 per session, pay direct

**Yodelling Workshop**  
Wednesday 27 May, 9am  
Mackay Room - Gore Town & Country Club  
Admission: \$15\*

**Ukulele Workshop**  
Wednesday 27 May, 10am  
Mackay Room - Gore Town & Country Club  
Admission: \$20\*

**Capital of Country Music Documentary**  
Wednesday 27 May, 10am  
St James Theatre, Gore

**Beginners Line Dancing Workshop**  
Wednesday 27 May, 11am  
Esplin Room - Gore Town & Country Club  
Admission: \$15\*

## WED 27 MAY CONTINUED

**Jammin' At The Razza**  
Wednesday 27 May, 2pm - 5pm  
Gore RSA  
Admission: Free

**Greenbird Dining - The Commoners**  
Wednesday 27 May, 5pm  
The Thomas Green, Gore  
Admission: Free

**The Sparks with Halton Heart**  
Wednesday 27 May, 6:30pm  
Roadhouse Shed, Liverpool Street, Riversdale  
Admission: \$10 - \$20\*

**Musical Jingo**  
Wednesday 27 May, 7pm  
Gore RSA  
Admission: \$20 for 4 Jingo cards

## THU 28 MAY

**Performance Workshops - Peter Cairns**  
Thursday 28 May, Book a time  
Venue to be advised on booking  
Admission: \$35 per session, pay direct

**Artist Development Mentoring Sessions with Katie Thompson**  
Thursday 28 May, One-on-ones, book a time  
The Thomas Green, Gore  
Admission: \$40

**Freeze Ya Bits Off Busking - School Comp**  
Thursday 28 May, 11am - 1pm  
Main Street, Gore  
Admission: Free

**St James Sessions - Phil Doublet**  
Thursday 28 May, 1pm  
Small Theatre, St James Theatre, Gore  
Admission: \$29\*

**Jammin' At The Razza**  
Thursday 28 May, 2pm  
Gore RSA  
Admission: Free

**Singers Toolkit Workshop - Hollie Longman**  
Thursday 28 May, 3pm  
MacKay Room - Gore Town & Country Club  
Admission: \$20\*

**Greenbird Dining - Molly Harrison**  
Thursday 28 May, 5pm  
The Thomas Green, Gore  
Admission: Free

**Blazing Copper Dining - Maddison Connor**  
Thursday 28 May, 5pm  
Croydon Lodge, Gore  
Admission: Free

**Peter Cairns & Andy Gilmour**  
Live in the T&C Lounge  
Thursday 28 May, 7pm  
Lounge Bar - Gore Town & Country Club  
Admission: Free

**St James Sessions - Humbugkin' Pickups**  
Thursday 28 May, 7pm  
Small Theatre, St James Theatre, Gore  
Admission: \$29\*

## FRI 29 MAY

**GoreGeous Country Breakfast**  
Friday 29 May, 8am  
Table Talk Café, Gore  
Admission: \$45\*

**Capital of Country Music Documentary**  
Friday 29 May, 10am  
St James Theatre, Gore

## FRI 29 MAY CONTINUED

**MLT NZ Gold Guitar Awards**  
Three-Day Auditions Pass  
Fri 29 - 31 May, 8am - 5pm approx.  
Admission: Door sales. Ticket allows entry at all venues from Friday to Sunday, plus entry into the Classic Finals, MLT Showcase and Hands of Fame induction.  
Adult \$80 | Senior Citizen \$60 | U17 \$25

**MLT NZ Gold Guitar Awards**  
Auditions Day 1 - All Sections  
Friday 29 May, 8am - 5pm approx.  
Various Gore venues  
Admission: Door sales. Ticket allows entry at all venues.  
Day pass: Adult \$28 | Senior Citizen \$22 | U17 \$5

**Freeze Ya Bits Off Busking**  
Auditions Day 1 (all other categories)  
Friday 29 May, 11am  
Main Street, Gore  
Admission: Free

**Tussock Stage - Just Janie & Sig Wilder**  
Friday 29 May, Doors 1pm, Show 1:30pm  
Small Theatre, St James Theatre, Gore  
Admission: \$29\*

**Songwriting for Teens**  
Friday 29 May, 1pm  
James Cumming Community Centre, Gore  
Admission: \$20\*

**MLT Music Roundup**  
Friday 29 May | 6 MLT Venues | All Free Entry  
**Piano at the Moon - Trevor Dawe**  
Howl at the Moon, Gore, 5pm  
**Acoustic Dining at Blazing Copper - Kelly Smith**  
The Blazing Copper Restaurant, Gore, 5pm  
**Thomas Green Friday Dining - Aroha Williams**  
The Thomas Green, Gore, 5pm  
**Live Country - Turkey & The Bird and Kayson Road**  
The Croydon Lodge, 7pm  
**The Falls Night - Friends of the Possum Pickers**  
The Falls Hotel & Bistro, Matura, 8pm  
**Rock the Bar - Sean Tinker & Josh Keating**  
Traffers Bar, 9pm

**The Gallery Session**  
Friday 29 May, 6pm  
Eastern Southland Gallery, Gore  
Admission: Gold Coin

**Craig Adams & The Rustlers**  
Friday 29 May, 7:30pm  
Gore RSA  
Admission: Free

## SAT 30 MAY

**MLT NZ Gold Guitar Awards**  
Auditions Day 2 - All sections  
Saturday 30 May, 8am - 5pm approx.  
Various Gore venues  
Admission: Door sales. Ticket allows entry at all venues.  
Day pass: Adult \$28 | Senior Citizen \$22 | U17 \$5

**McDonough Contracting**  
**Gore Truck Show**  
Truck Viewing & Judging  
Saturday 30 May, 9am  
Transport Repairs Yard - Falconer Road, Gore  
**Truck Parade**  
2pm, Main Street, Gore  
**Prizegiving, Dinner & Live Band**  
4:30pm, Croydon Lodge, Gore  
Truck Entry: \$10 (Enter and pay on the day)  
Spectator Admission: Free

**Freeze Ya Bits Off Busking**  
Auditions Day 2 (all other categories)  
Saturday 30 May, 10am  
Main Street, Gore  
Admission: Free

## SAT 30 MAY CONTINUED

**Inside Aussie Country - Linc Phelps**  
Saturday 30 May, 10am  
The Thomas Green, Gore  
Admission: Free

**Sing Like a Unicorn - Book reading & singalong**  
Saturday 30 May, 11:30am  
Gore District Library  
Admission: Koha

**Singalongercise - Jeremy Redmore**  
Saturday 30 May, 12:30am  
James Cumming Community Centre, Gore  
Admission: \$15\*

**Tussock Stage: Linc Phelps & Brenny and the Bushwhackers**  
Saturday 30 May, Doors 1pm, Show 1:30pm  
Small Theatre, St James Theatre, Gore  
Admission: \$29\*

**Cooper's Run Dinner & Show**  
Saturday 30 May, Dinner 6pm, Show 7:30pm  
Gore RSA  
Admission: Dinner & Show \$70\* | Show only \$30\*

**Midnight Chicken at Amigos**  
Saturday 30 May, 6pm  
Amigos Restaurant, Gore  
Admission: \$75\*

**MLT NZ Gold Guitar Awards**  
Junior & Intermediate Finals  
Saturday 30 May, 6:30pm  
Gore Town & Country Club Stadium  
Admission: Adult \$55\* | U17 \$20\*

## SUN 31 MAY

**MLT NZ Gold Guitar Awards**  
Auditions Day 3 - All Sections  
Sunday 31 May, 8am - 5pm approx.  
Various Gore venues  
Admission: Door sales. Ticket allows entry to Sunday auditions, Classic Finals, MLT Showcase & Hands of Fame Induction (31 May 2026).  
Adult \$35 | Senior Citizen \$28 | U17 \$15

**Country Gospel Church Service**  
Sunday 31 May, 9:40am  
St Andrews Presbyterian Church  
Admission: Gold Coin

**Capital of Country Music Documentary**  
Sunday 31 May, 10am  
St James Theatre, Gore

**MLT NZ Gold Guitar Awards**  
Classic Finals  
Sunday 31 May, 1:30pm  
Gore Town & Country Club Stadium  
Admission: Door sales. Ticket allows MLT Showcase and Hands of Fame entry.  
Adult \$35 | Senior Citizen \$28 | U17 \$15

**MLT Showcase**  
Sunday 31 May, 3pm  
Gore Town & Country Club Stadium  
Admission: MLT NZ Gold Guitar Awards Sunday senior section auditions ticket covers entry to this event.

**Hands of Fame Induction**  
Sunday 31 May, 3pm  
Gore Town & Country Club Stadium  
Admission: MLT NZ Gold Guitar Awards Sunday senior section auditions ticket covers entry to this event.

**Freeze Ya Bits Off Busking Finals**  
Sunday 31 May, 4:30pm  
St James Theatre, Gore  
Admission: Free

**MLT NZ Gold Guitar Awards**  
Senior Finals  
Sunday 31 May, 7pm  
Gore Town & Country Club Stadium  
Admission: Adult \$60\* | U17 \$20\*