
What's Afoot



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No. 101

SPRING/SUMMER 2013



DEVON'S FOLK MAGAZINE

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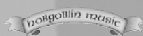
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Well, the best laid plans to celebrate the 100th edition of What's Afoot were totally washed away by the weather! With roads already flooded by the Friday and the certainty of a further deluge and gales on the Saturday, I felt I had little option but to cancel the ton-up ceilidh at Tedburn St Mary on 24th November. A great pity since the indications were that it would have been well attended. I've been asked whether it will be rearranged at some other time. It's possible - next autumn - but it won't be the ton-up and 102nd doesn't have quite the same ring! However, I should have really handed over the reins to Sue Hamer-Moss in the autumn after some unforeseen delays, so perhaps a 'welcoming ceilidh' might be in order.

Sue's contact details are given opposite, but if material is sent to either of us by mistake it will get forwarded to the correct recipient.

Colin Andrews

Cover photograph: The Exmoor Carolers.

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THE EXMOOR CAROLLERS

Hilary Bix charts the development of a group who keep alive the old Exmoor carols

I am very proud to be part of The Exmoor Carolers. We are a group of eleven singers and musicians that, over the last seven years, have been going out to churches and halls all over North Devon and Exmoor singing the carols that were popular on Exmoor about 150 years ago - the Exmoor Carols.

The roots of our group go back to about 1993 when Tony Piper from the North Devon Maritime Folk Group 'Hearts of Oak' visited an old friend and fellow singer, Jim Sanders.

Jim was born in 1921 at Thornworthy Farm up on the hills above Barbrook and lived all his life in the area and from 1945 at Southstock farm. As well as being a successful farmer he was always known locally as a great 'character' and singer who had a wealth of local songs, which could be heard regularly at Rockford, Lynton and later at Brendon and in fact at many a local gathering.

On that July day in 1993, with the aid of strawberries and cream and a wee drop of whisky, Tony spent a pleasant evening recording Jim singing his songs amongst which were some Wassail songs and 4 of the traditional Exmoor Carols in our repertoire. These were: *All Hail my Friends, In a Manger Laid so Lowly, Hark, Hark What News* and *Angels Rejoice*.

As well as running their regular monthly singing nights and performing locally and at festivals at home and abroad, Hearts of Oak also organised carol concerts in the lead up to Christmas. Jim's carols were included along with some collected by fellow group member John Parker.

Hearts of Oak disbanded after 25 years in 2006 but John Parker had always had an interest in the traditional Carols of Exmoor and was determined to carry on. Many years before he had been given some carols by Totnes collectors Sam Richards and Tish Stubbs including, *How Beautiful upon*

the Mountains, which, years later, he learned was known locally as *The Lynton Carol*. John met up with Dennis and Cicely Corner from Porlock who introduced him to some more local people including the Doctor and the Vicar there who provided him with words and music to a number of Porlock carols and other carols that we have since found had come from Roadwater and Exford.

It was John's idea to draw together a group of singers to form The Exmoor Carolers. Tony Piper and Rupert Kirby, former Hearts of Oak members, agreed to join and John then invited 7 others, 5 women and 2 more men to make up the group. Rupert agreed to be our 'musical director' being a music reader and a very experienced musician and teacher. He has interpreted the written music for the group and led rehearsals developing arrangements with individual members working out their own harmonies. Many of the carols are sung unaccompanied, but for others we have a grand mixture of accompaniments with such instruments as fiddle, viola, guitar, melodeon and hand bells.

We meet up annually in September and discuss our programme for the season, every year adding a couple of 'new' Exmoor carols to our repertoire. We also have carols that have been written by members of the group, a couple of which we like to include each year at our concerts. We also sing some well-known congregational carols for everyone to join in.

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As the Exmoor Carolers we are helping to keep the old carols alive. We have sung in eleven churches this Christmas so over the seven years have taken the carols to hundreds of people and we hope that our singing has inspired some interest in them. We are not a choir, but in John Parker's words when he formed the group "...just a gang of folk singers who like singing Christmas carols..."

We all love the singing and hope to share the songs with many more people. There are still quite a few to learn, our 'new ones' for this last Christmas being *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus* from Roadwater and *Rise Wond'ring Shepherds*, *Rise* from Exford. We have been made very welcome wherever we have sung and have enjoyed the great privilege of singing in some wonderful churches, many of which are very old and certainly gave me the feeling of going back in time.

Over the years a few of us have wanted to know more about where the carols originally came from and who wrote them. Members of The Carolers, John, Jan and Pam have done research into the history of the carols.

There is a wonderful book *Carols of the West Country* compiled by Glyn Court, an academic and local historian who grew up in Roadwater in Somerset. It contains many carols written down by his Grandfather, George Court who was born around 1840. The Somerset Archive and The British Library also contain sound recordings and transcriptions of Glyn talking about life in Roadwater and of the carolling tradition there.

Mortals Awake, a carol John was given with the collection from Porlock, appears in the book, 'Carols of The West Country'. It is in our current repertoire and is specifically mentioned as being one of the Roadwater carols that was sung as part of the waits tradition of singing around the farms on Christmas Eve. This tradition was once very common in Exmoor villages but by the late 19th century had largely died out. However, thanks to the village blacksmith Tom Slade, the waits was practiced in Roadwater until his death in 1907.

These are Glyn Court's words as transcribed in the Somerset Archive:

"On Christmas Eve about half a dozen of the instrumentalists and the singers would gather with Tom in the smithy and he would invite them to have something warm to help them on their journey up. Just about midnight they set off on the rounds. As they came near the farm they had to be absolutely quiet, because Tom held very strongly that if the sleepers were going to be awakened, they must be awakened by sweet sounds not by idle chatter. They would gather on the steps or either in front or behind the farm. He would whisper the name of the piece. They would play a great chord and then in a stentorian voice (sings the first line of 'Mortals Awake'.) A candle would be lit and they would come down and let them in for a glass of ginger or something. Then they would go on to the next farm, making their way round. They would come back to the village about 3 o'clock in the morning and assemble on the bridge there and play for the rest of the village."

It seems that many of the Exmoor Carols had originally come from a variety of sources before being taken into the hearts of the people of Exmoor. In each parish and village, people would seasonally sing their versions of carols with some dating back hundreds of years but others being incorporated as late as the mid 19th century.

Reading through Glyn Court's writings it certainly seems that the Exmoor Carols were much influenced by The Methodist movement, specifically by John Wesley who visited Exmoor

in 1744. One of the carols we sing, *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus* was written by Charles, John Wesley's brother.

There was Iron Mining in the Brendon Hills in the mid 1850's and as well as local people there would have been miners from Cornwall and Wales, many with their own carol tunes, Glyn Court tells us, ... "some of the Cornish miners on Brendon Hill had brought tunes unknown in Somerset, notably a splendid tune for *While Shepherds Watched*"

Some of the other carols that we sing were written in America, *Silver Star*, for example, one of the Porlock carols, and also, *Rolling Downward* which has become popular in Sheffield as well as Exmoor. The words of *I Hear Along Our Street* were translated from the French collection *Noei Bourguignon De Gui Barozal* by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow around 1867. A shortened version with a few word changes was adopted in Dunster as 'their carol'.

We are not the only ones aiming to keep the Exmoor Carols alive, The Wren Trust has recently taken on a project to preserve and publish them, aided by song collectors Bob & Jackie Patton and Tom and Barbara Brown who regularly, include some in their Midwinter Carol Evening every Christmas in Combe Martin. The Dunster Carol, *I Hear Along Our Street* is still sung, I am informed at least a couple of times, on Christmas eve in a pub in Dunster.

As The Exmoor Carolers our approach is to get out there and sing. We have recorded 2 CD's of our carols and have almost finished a third live recording which we made this January. We like to think that we have captured the spirit of the carols - in the words of John Wesley, "Sing lustily and with good courage. Beware of singing as if you were half dead, or half asleep; but lift up your voice with strength."

Apart from those mentioned the other carols from our most recent concerts were:

Softly The Night is Sleeping - Porlock

All my Heart this Night Rejoices - Exmoor

Awake your Grateful Voices Raise - Roadwater

Peace upon Earth - Exmoor

Christmas Bells - Kirby

I must mention John Parker's great carol, *The Day is Dawning*, which although written only a couple of years ago has all the style and spirit of the 'old' carols and has been 'collected' from us to be sung in some of the churches we have visited.

For a taste of our singing have a look at us on YouTube www.youtube.com/user/KirbyFiddler and www.facebook.com/pages/ExmoorCarolers

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DEVON COUNTY PLAYFORD CLUB

Did you see *Pride and Prejudice* on television? Remember the ballroom scenes? That is how I explain to people who ask what kind of dancing I do - and the reply has usually been "how lovely".

I first knew of the Devon County Playford Club when I got to know Kate Coombes, and with her encouragement I went to a number of meetings. But back then Saturday afternoons were mostly taken up with shopping after the working week, then going to a Folk Dance in the evening. So it was some years later when I returned and have been a "regular" ever since.

The dances were collected by John Playford roughly between 1650 - 1728 and published in *The English Dancing Master*. Many of the dances were later described by Cecil Sharp and George Butterworth in *Country Dance Books* first published in 1916, and in selections by Douglas and Helen Kennedy in 1929.

It is believed the Devon County Club came into being in the 1940s. Muriel Langford, who is still dancing, and who with her husband Eric (himself a leading light in the folk music and dancing world) were part of the club.

In the early years there were "instructors" not "callers" as of course one was expected to learn the dances. Among them were Pat Shaw, Olive Macnamara, Marjorie Fennessy, Eileen Gunnell, Eileen Sutherland, and a lady with the delightful name of Winsome Bartlett, who I remember coming to play her pipe and tabor at my school in Totnes. As well as other well-known teachers there were visits by Nibs Matthews, and it is recorded that at his session on 14th January 1978 there were 80 dancers present - a record.

I first learned some Playford dances when I was sixteen and one teacher was Maurice Buckland, whose dancing style was an inspiration. Maurice, or "Buckie" as he was known to many, was Chairman of the County Club for some years. He was elected in 1959 and served as Chairman for 21 years and never missed a meeting, giving up the

post in May 1980, when he was succeeded by the late Gladys Cann.

Margaret Grant was also a regular teacher at the club, a much respected lady who is still remembered for her work for the EFDSS., and whose name is perpetuated at the library at Halsway Manor. Minutes of a committee meeting in the spring of 1959 mentions Mrs Grant's retirement; however it is recorded that she took classes in 1969 and 1971. Her death was announced on 12th February 1979.

At Playford Balls as at many other folk dance events then, there was no Caller - but an M.C. One special event was a Summer Ball held in honour of Margaret Grant and hosted by Nibs Matthew. My own dance card for that evening, has been given, with other memorabilia, to Halsway Manor Library, to be included in an archive.

Interesting and occasionally amusing things are written in the Minute Books. An item in the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in February 1970 notes:

Decimal Currency: If the sixpence is not retained, the cost per session will be 13p." and:

In January 1972 members arrived to find no heating in the school hall - due to the coal strike - but all the windows were open!

On one occasion a teacher (who was coming from London) telephoned from Plymouth to say the train did not stop at Exeter! She said she would arrive at Exeter at 3.37pm. Miss J. went to meet

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her, but the engine had broken down at Totnes and the train would not reach Exeter until 5.10pm. Miss J. returned to St.Davids Station again at that time and advised the teacher to return to London on that train. It was ascertained later that the train was only due to stop at Reading, Totnes and Plymouth. British Rail refunded the train fare to the teacher, and the fee of £4 was also paid. It is not recorded how the afternoon was spent without the help of the visitor, but no doubt the members managed very well with those present.

On 16th January 1982 it was "noted with regret the sad loss of Kate Coombes". Dick Davey suggested a memorial dance and Nibs Matthews offered his services as M.C. A memorial ball for Kate was held annually into the late 1980s.

The style of these dances and the beautiful music deserves to be kept alive. Our Saturday afternoon sessions have changed over the years, and now we have guest callers who take us through a variety of dances which include newly-composed ones in the Playford-style as well as old favourites, so no-one need worry about not knowing or remembering dances.

Of course there could be no dancing without the music. Although there were a few occasions when recorded tapes were used, the club was fortunate to have a number of pianists, including Joan Pendered, Joan Windsor, Valerie Wood and the inimitable Gwyn George, who still plays for us. At one AGM some years ago Gwyn was referred to as "the person to whom we owe so much, and without whom our dancing would not be so much fun."

Sadly our numbers have reduced in recent times, and with the increased costs, it has been a little difficult make ends meet. But this is not new, as at the AGM in 1971 Mrs Gill (Treasurer) reported that "we are not now paying our way and the balance at the bank is going down steadily each year." But the club continued as it is hoped it will now. So although we have welcomed some new faces in recent times, we hope there will be more joining us in the near future.

So how about coming to see for yourself and discover the great pleasure in doing these dances ... and it is FUN!

June Backway

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SHORT SHARP SHANTIES - THE SHOW

On a wild, wet, windy evening in October, the audience at The Plough, Great Torrington, were transported across the sea via shanties and tales of the sea-faring of a Somerset sailor. With the culmination of a two year project to record the sea shanties that John (Yankee Jack) Short of Watchet sang for Cecil Sharp at the beginning of the twentieth century, the third CD was issued and a performance to showcase some of the shanties was a natural progression.



obvious was how diverse the shanties are; so often grouped together and thought of as rousing, energetic songs the show like the three albums makes

the audience aware of the many dimensions to be found in shanties. The toil and labour involved are conveyed as are sentiments of being away from home for months at a time, love of the sea, and relationships of an on-board community. With excellent and relevant comments the performers regaled the audience with background facts and fascinating stories drawn from the research into John Short's life

undertaken by Tom and Barbara.

On the evening at The Plough the fine array of talent on stage comprised Doug Bailey, Barbara Brown, Tom Brown, Jackie Oates, Keith Kendrick and Jeff Warner. As performers they complement each other beautifully and a good evening was guaranteed. The fine arrangements made the most of the instrumental skills of those on stage as well as the vocal ones and melodeon, banjo, mandola, concertinas and fiddle were all used to great effect.

Opening the show Tom sang the widely known *A-roving*, to be followed by Jeff singing *Billy Riley*, a shanty that seems to have passed out of use despite the fact that it has all the elements commonly found in the eternally popular shanties. What soon became

The understanding of their subject matter, and the delight in the tunes, lyrics and rhythm that the performers obviously feel soon inspired the audience. Choruses were sung with verve and gusto, gentler shanties were given due hushed attention and the tales were greeted with wonder and awe. Another element that was transmitted to the audience was the way in which the artistes worked and related to each other as a "crew". For the audience this enjoyment added to the pleasure, the auditorium was abuzz during the interval and as everyone made their way to the exit.



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Jacqueline Patten

MADCAPS 40th

Marldon and District Country and Playford Society celebrated its 40 years of happiness with a dinner and dance at Marldon Village Hall on Monday October 22nd. We began with a welcome and drink hosted by our Chairwoman, Margaret Townend. 38 members and ex-members were able to look at photos from the past and recollect those who were not with us, as well as the changes that time has wrought upon us all.

We sat down to an excellent meal, provided by Castle Barton Restaurant. Margaret Townend, Frances Franklin, Peter Fillan and Dick Little spoke about their recollections of the club. Started in 1971 in Marldon School by 3 ladies connected with Guiding, the club blossomed. Local people joined and the club got its name. It was aided by cheap rent when it moved into the new Village Hall, subsidized by the Annual Apple Pie Fair, and the excellent facilities, especially the stage and kitchen. It was also helped by having its own regular callers, in recent years including Bob and Frances Franklin, Jean Fillan, Jean Foster and Audrey Johnson.

Under the leadership of the late Bob Franklin members of the club demonstrated Folk Dancing and even Sword Dancing at outside events. Members of the Club, including Bob and Frances Franklin, Dick Little, Jean Fillan and John Brooke, were all active in the work of Devon Folk. The club also provided a healthy donation to Devon Folk each year.

Our 40th. Anniversary evening finished, of course, with dancing called by Philip Worth; very enjoyable indeed to have so many people dancing.

Jean Fillan.

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SOCIAL DANCE AT SIDMOUTH

The ceilidhs at Sidmouth Folk Week tend to have a high profile, but as James Garrett reports, 2013 promises to feature a very full schedule for the folk dancers of all interests.

The Social Dance Programme - co-ordinated by Malcolm Storey - offers a definitive, attractive presence at Sidmouth focusing on the fantastic custom-built Stowford Rise Community Centre. Then there's nightly in-town dances, morning workshops in Blackmore Gardens and a range of town based workshops through the week. Quantity and quality are assured with the artists already booked for a wide range of workshops and dance events.

Callers include: the wonderful Cis Hinkle from Atlanta, Georgia with irresistible contras and fast moving squares; The Wrights of Lichfield offering Playford to New England Squares and Contras, both old and new, simple and complex; Ivan Aitken bringing a mixed programme including Playford, Pat Shaw and Scottish; Frances Richardson with everything from Playford to Scottish Country Dance; Les Barclay with

Kentucky Running Set, a Dance Technique series and Community Dance Evenings; Joe Hodgson, back with New England squares and contras and English traditional dance; Jerry O'Reilly returning for Irish Set Dance Workshops and Madeleine Smith offering Golden Oldies from the Classic Playford Repertoire and much more.

Bands and musicians confirmed include: Pendragon, English Contra Dance Band, Moonlighting, Momentum, The Jovial Crew Band, Meter Rite and Mollie Koenigsberger.

Special Dance Nights at Stowford Rise include a Playford Ball with David and Kathryn Wright, an Anglo Scottish Night with Ivan Aitken, a Celtic Evening with Jerry O'Reilly and Frances Richardson, an English Country Dance Night with Madeleine Smith and a grand night of contras and squares with Cis Hinkle and The English Contra Dance Band.

The workshop plans are developing into a full and compelling week. See the www.sidmouthfolkweek.co.uk for up to date news.

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DEVON FOLK AWARD 2012

In 1983 Paul Wilson and Marilyn Tucker created the organisation now known as Wren Music, with the vision of taking the people's music to the people of Devon. Since then every year has seen major new projects, which have brought communities, large and small, together and they have touched the lives of tens of thousands of people.

There are a few strands that have run through their work during those years. Their links with Newfoundland go back to the earliest days of the organisation, but they have now taken their music to many other countries. Also they have made the collection of Devonshire song collector, Sabine Baring-Gould, a basis for many projects over the years.

Wren has grown and its achievements are a team effort drawing on the expertise of several musicians and other staff. However, it is the combination of

Paul's musical talent and creativity combined with Marilyn's practical business skills and resilience that have directed and ensured the success of the organisation, even when the going got tough. It is those qualities that we recognise today by the presentation of the Devon Folk Award for 2012 to Paul Wilson and Marilyn Tucker – the visionary founders of Wren Music.



Paul & Marilyn with Anne Gill (Devon Folk Chairman) and Terry Underhill (Devon Folk President)



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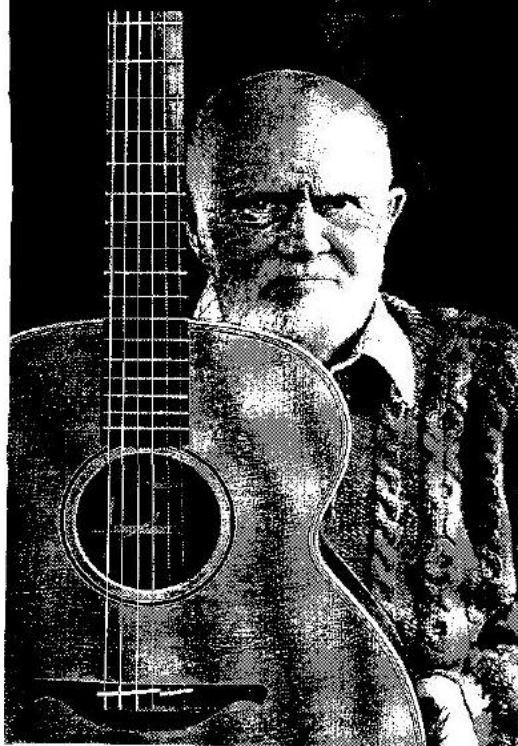
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NICOLA KING'S FOLK SONG FOCUS

When Colin Andrews asked me if I would like to write a regular column for What's Afoot on traditional song in Devon, my immediate thoughts were the predictable ones: what is meant by 'traditional'? What is special or distinctive about traditional song in Devon? What does 'in Devon' mean in this context – collected or first sung in Devon? Sung by people in Devon? Heard in a Devon folk club or at a festival in the county? How far might I cross over county boundaries into Somerset and Cornwall, which share many 'west country' features with Devon (although some Cornish readers might disagree!) And would I find enough to say, three or four times a year? Colin reassured me that the interpretation of 'in Devon' could be as wide as I liked, and after a few minutes thought I was able to reassure myself that I would find plenty to write about. For this first column, I hope readers will indulge me in a ramble around the richness of traditional folk song, music and culture in Devon, and some personal reflections on my involvement in folk music in the county.

A Londoner by birth, and a big fan of Dylan and Joan Baez as a teenager, I was introduced to English folk song at university, and came to love the songs collected and sung by the Copper family in Sussex, and the versions of traditional songs sung by people and bands such as Anne Briggs, Shirley Collins, Nic Jones, Steeleye Span and Fairport Convention. My life then took me in other musical directions, although I was briefly involved in the folk scene in Sussex in the 1980s where I was lucky enough to meet the lovely Bob Copper. But it was not until I came to live in Devon in 1998 that I started to go to folk clubs, listen to others singing and try to start singing unaccompanied folk song myself. I was extremely lucky to find myself living near the pub where Pennymoor Singaround meets, where my first shaky attempts at singing 'Bushes and Briars' and 'Bay of Biscay' were tolerated and encouraged. The supportive atmosphere and ethos of this club have been hugely important to many musicians and singers – after all, it was at Pennymoor that Jackie Oates (already a fine fiddler) began singing, and Jim Causley is still a regular, happy to take his turn with everybody else who wants to sing. It was

here, too, that I first heard the old Devon songs remembered and performed by Margaret Palmer, who grew up on Exmoor. Her 'Bampton Fair' together with the better known 'Widcombe Fair' and 'Tavistock Goosey Fair' form a trio of songs which celebrate the traditional fairs of the county

My increasing involvement in folk music here has led me think that Devon is possibly one of the richest counties in England in this respect. We have the Sidmouth and Dartmoor Folk Festivals and smaller events at Dulverton, Crediton, Teignmouth, Bideford (until recently) and Bampton (After the Fair). Wren Music is well-known for its work on the Baring-Gould collection and also for enabling and encouraging young people (and older ones) to become involved in folk music; we have other collectors/performers such as Bob and Jackie Patten who have recorded and preserved folk traditions throughout Devon and beyond, including the traditional carols of Exmoor; Tom

Totnes Folk Song Club



2nd Thursday in the Month 8.00pm
The Dartmouth Inn
The Plains, Totnes, TQ9 5EL

14th March – Guest Night
Chris Foster

11th April – Singers' Night

9th May – Guest Night
Ewan McClennan

13th June – Guest Night
Nick Dow

11th July – Singers' Night

For more information phone
Anne & Steve Gill 01803 290427
or Andy Clarke 01803 732312

and Barbara Brown, currently involved in the Short Sharp Shanties Project (John Short lived just over the border on the North Somerset coast); and great song-writers like Cyril Tawney, many of whose powerful songs have now become part of the 'tradition' of Devon. And we have many small venues, such as The George at South Molton, where big names like Martin Carthy and Dick Gaughan are happy to come and play.

We have some 'big names' in Devon too: Seth Lakeman comes from a family rooted in the traditions of Dartmoor, and the songs he writes stem from that tradition; Show of Hands (based in Topsham) perform traditional songs as well as their own, including Steve Knightley's haunting version of *Widecombe Fair* in which a young man is murdered for courting a girl already spoken for 'on the Whiddon Down Road'. 'Roots', Show of Hands' riposte to a politician who said that his idea of hell was 'three folk singers in a pub near Wells' reclaimed and re-asserted the importance of the traditional songs, music and customs of England, but as their example shows, folk song is not a dead tradition: it needs to be re-thought, re-

worked and enjoyed again by every generation. Jim Causley is a fine example of this practice: his recent CD, *Dumnonia*, is a fresh and lively collection of mostly traditional songs from the county, some recently revived from the singing of John Shepherd, the 'mayor' of Whimble. *Honiton Lace*, written by Martin Graebe (also strongly connected to Wren Music) uses the words of a Honiton lacemaker from a letter dated 1897 which he found in the Rougemont Museum, and *Royal Comrade* is a version of *Young Leonard* which Jim learned from the west country Romany singer Amy Birch.

But just as important as all of this are the many informal folk clubs, singarounds and sessions held in Devon pubs most days of the week, where those of us who love singing and listening to traditional song can find a home and a welcome. In this column I will be interpreting the term 'traditional' quite loosely, and reflecting on the ways in which songs become 'traditional' through their informal performance in the pubs and clubs of our lovely muddy county.



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- Apr. 13th** Open Night
- Apr. 27th** Afternoon songwriting workshop: 'What's in a Song?' led Mike Silver
 Evening: Mike Silver, singer-songwriter extraordinaire
- May 11th** Open Night
- May 25th** Closed for The Hunting of the Earl of Rone
- Jun. 8th** Open Night w. Stuart Michael Burns, American with a multitude of influences
- Jun. 22nd** Tattie Jam, Scots duo with an unusual take on the tradition
- Jun. 29th** Shammick Abroad @ South Molton: Magpie Lane, English trad. at its best
- Jul. 13th** Open Night
- Jul. 27th** Mochara, trad. tunes & original songs with uilleann pipes, whistle & guitar
- Aug. 9th** Closed for Carnival
- Aug. 24th** Anna Shannon, superb songwriter, singer and musician

FOOTNOTES

EASTBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE FESTIVAL 3-6 MAY 2013

Readers may have been puzzled by the advert for Eastbourne International Folkdance Festival in the last What's Afoot as part was missing! We hope that Devon dancers will make the journey to Eastbourne in Sussex for the early May bank holiday as it promises to be a super year, with favourite callers Colin Hume, Frances Oates, Geoff Cubitt, Hilary Herbert, Rhodri Davies and Chris Turner as well as a full international dance programme. We have a special reception for newcomers to the festival, and there is a Showcase for callers new to festival calling. All the venues are close walking distance in school halls, and there is a cafe on site. It's our first year organising this, and we hope many of you will support us. We look forward to seeing you there! Please book tickets on-line www.eiff.org.uk or ring the friendly box office 01823 401271

Maureen and Graham Knight

SIDMOUTH FRIENDS & FOREIGN TEAMS

The friends of Sidmouth Festival are looking to recruit support from individuals and groups with an interest in the folk arts. The Friends are a group of people, established in 2011 who value what FolkWeek has achieved in the past and want to see this continue into the future for others to enjoy in years to come. By becoming either a group member of the Friends of Sidmouth FolkWeek, or an individual member you would help to make a contribution to the continued existence of the Festival and towards its development in future years. The money raised by the Friends is put into a fund administered by Sidmouth FolkWeek Limited, a registered charity (no. 1111958). The very first award from the Friends' funds was made to support the highly successful 2012 Torchlight Procession project. Friends are kept fully informed by email about how money from the fund is allocated. Sides which take out a group membership will be listed in the festival programme

Group membership is £50 pa, individual £20 pa joint membership £35 pa. Application forms are available by emailing friends@sidmouthfolkweek.co.uk or by writing to Membership Secretary,

Friends of Sidmouth FolkWeek, 3 Fairleigh, Manor Road, Sidmouth, EX10 8RR

Are you hosting a team from anywhere abroad this summer? If so, why not make Sidmouth Festival part of their visit? Contact Chris Cook for further details by email Chris@cooky.co.uk

OBITUARY - MARGARET ARCHER

Margaret and her husband, Graham, moved to Beer in 1980. She soon asked for details of other accordionists in the area, and was put in touch with Sheila Sibley, with whom she became good friends. She played with Sheila's band, Pieces of Eight, on many occasions, and also with Sheila as a twosome. They busked on the esplanade in Sidmouth for the local charity, 'Living With Cancer' and it is sadly ironic that she became a victim of this disease. She and Graham went to Sidford Folk Dance Club and other public dances, and she also enjoyed Scottish dancing at Sidford. She died on 17th November, 2013, of liver cancer.

FOLK CLUB NEWS

The successful folk club run by the Cornelius family on the last Friday of the month relocated at very short notice to the **Ley Arms, Kenn** back in November. After a long run at the Racehorse and most recently at the Barge, Halberton, with a couple of other short-lived venues in between, **Tiverton Folk Club** has unfortunately closed. Thanks to Susannah Billeter for all her efforts over the years. Contrary to information received earlier, the folk club at the **Fountain, Okehampton**, on the last Sunday of the month, is still going strong

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Devon Folk News

Our President, Chairman and some other members of the Devon Folk Committee attended a reception for participants and friends of the Baring-Gould Festival in Okehampton at the end of October. The purpose was to present the Devon Award to Paul Wilson and Marilyn Tucker for their long-standing contribution to folk music in Devon through the Wren Trust (now Wren Music), which they established in 1983. A fuller account is given on page 13.

We were disappointed the weather proved so inclement on the weekend of the planned Ton Up Ceilidh that it was necessary to cancel the event. It would have been an opportunity to pay tribute to the many people who have over the years made What's Afoot the well-regarded magazine we enjoy today. We particularly wish it to be known that our present editor has been with What's Afoot since its inception and has served in a number of different capacities. Well done, Colin.

This year's AGM will be held at the Methodist Church Room, Cheriton Fitzpaine, Saturday 13th April at 6 pm. We thank the organisers of the Crediton Folk Weekend for hosting the AGM

for Devon Folk, and we hope that those attending the meeting will also be able to enjoy some of the festival events during their visit to the village. Details of the meeting are sent to all Devon Folk members individually. Anyone is welcome to attend the meeting, but only members are entitled to vote.

Our next Devon Folk event will be the Gary Roodman Music Workshop and Tea Dance, organised by committee members Mary Marker and Jean Foster at Chudleigh on Saturday, 27th April. Anyone not already booked in for the workshop should contact Mary Marker as soon as possible to check that space is still available.

Having served on the committee as secretary for the last five years, I have reluctantly tendered my resignation as from the forthcoming AGM. This will therefore be my last Devon Folk News. I hope you have enjoyed the contents and will continue to support the new secretary who will take on this role in future.

Rhona Hitchcock



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Andy Clarke Josie Lloyd Owd Yer Osses
Bill Mc Kinnon Jon Hare John Morris
Prince Of Wales Rattlers Nicola Clark
Alhambra Alan Whitbread Jim Mc Adams
Kitty Vernon & Derek Burgess Vela
Morris

Plymouth Morris & Mummers
The Five Lady Revellers Bloxham Morris
Black Pig Border Co. of The 'Owd' Oss
Wreckers Morris Yattelton Hooden Horse
More to be confirmed



SUBSCRIPTIONS & MEMBERSHIP

Devon Folk supports all kinds of folk activity throughout the County and publishes the magazine What's Afoot 3 times a year. Membership of Devon Folk is available to:

Any person paying an annual subscription for What's Afoot (currently £5)

Any person paying the annual Devon Folk membership fee (currently £2)

Any club engaged in folk activities in Devon, on payment of annual fee (currently £10).

Any member of EFDSS living in Devon, and any affiliated EFDSS club in Devon

The Club membership fee includes 3 issues per year of What's Afoot, sent to two nominated members of that club, who receive Devon Folk membership benefits on behalf of the club.

Individual members of the English Folk Dance & Song Society living in Devon are automatically entitled to free membership of Devon Folk. There is no need to register. Clubs in Devon affiliated to EFDSS are also entitled to free club membership of Devon Folk but are required to register names of two contact persons. There is no free magazine entitlement for EFDSS member or for nominated members of EFDSS affiliated clubs, for whom the normal magazine subscription rates above will apply.

All member clubs must provide names and contact details of their two members who will receive Devon Folk membership benefits on behalf of the club. This also applies to EFDSS affiliates.

APPLICATION FORM

Please complete and return to the Devon Folk Membership Secretary, Mrs Sheila Chappell,
2, Penstone Barns, Lease Hill, Hele, Exeter, EX5 4QA. Cheques payable to Devon Folk.

☐ I enclose the annual subscription of £5 for 3 issues, starting from *August/December/April 20....
I *wish/do not wish to be enrolled as a member of Devon Folk at no extra charge.
(*delete as appropriate)

☐ I wish to be enrolled as a member of Devon Folk. I enclose £2 annual subscription

☐ Our clubwishes to join Devon Folk. The annual subscription of £10 is enclosed, and contact details for our two nominated members are given below.

☐ Our clubis affiliated to EFDSS. Contact details for our two nominated members are given below

Individual/first nominated club member:

Name Telephone

Address

Postcode Email

Second nominated club member

Name Telephone

Address

Postcode Email

By providing email contact you agree to its use for occasional Devon Folk communications. It will not be passed on to any third party.

Devon Folk Committee*

President

Terry Underhill

Vice- Presidents

Dennis Darke Aileen Wills

Jo Trapnell

Treasurer

Brian Chappell

2, Penstone Barns, Lease Hill, Hele, Exeter, EX5 4QA. 01392 882156

Members of the Committee

Chairman

Anne Gill

Maleth, 11, Cleveland Road, Torquay, TQ2 5BD
01803 290427

Vice Chairman

Frances Franklin

3, Stabb Close, Paignton, TQ4 7JA. 01803 843402

Secretary

Rhona Hitchcock

1, Anstis Street, Plymouth, PL1 5JP. 01752 265869

Membership Secretary

Sheila Chappell

2, Penstone Barns, Lease Hill, Hele, Exeter. EX5 4QA. 01392 882156

Minutes Secretary

Eileen Conway

151, Kingsdown Crescent, Dawlish, EX7 0HB.
01626 862312

Elected Members

Colin Andrews

Bonny Green, Morchard Bishop, Crediton, EX17 6PG 01363 877216

Jean Foster

1 Lowicke House, Ringslade Road, Newton Abbot, TQ12 1QF 01626 363887

Steve Gill

Maleth, 11, Cleveland Road, Torquay, TQ2 5BD.
01803 290427.

Nicola King

Beech Hill. Morchard Bishop, Crediton, EX17 6RF. nicola@beechhill.eclipse.co.uk 01363 877748

Chris Jewell

01237 423554

Dick Little

Collaton Grange, Collaton, Malborough, Kingsbridge, TQ7 3DJ. 01548 561352

Mary Marker

57, Great Hill, Chudleigh, TQ13 0JS. 01626 854141. ammarker5@btinternet.com

Jane Snow

27, John Street, Tiverton, EX16 5JP. 01884 259042

Ben Van Weede

c/o Great Moor House, Bittern Road, Sowton Industrial Estate, Exeter EX2 7NL. 01626 832806 ben-van-weede@devon.gov.uk

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Folk dance contacts

*Affiliated to EFDSS

Wk weekly, Fn fortnightly, M monthly

Social Dance - quick guide

MONDAY

Chudleigh Folk Dance Club	Wk
Honiton Folk Dance Club	Wk
Marldon, MADCAPS	Wk
Sidford, Scottish	Wk
Northam, Third Age	Fn

TUESDAY

Isca Allemanders Square Dance Club	Wk
Kingsteignton Folk Dance Club	Fn
Launceston Folk Dance Club	Wk
Liverton, Lucky 7 Folk Dance Club	Fn
Plymouth, Country Dance Plymouth	Wk
Sidford Folk Dance Club	Wk
Totnes Scottish Folk Dance Classes	Wk

WEDNESDAY

Bideford Folk Dance Club	Wk
Exmouth YWCA	Wk
Gittisham Folk Dance Club	Fn
Halsway Manor Folk Dance Club	Fn, 1&3
Newton Abbot Irish Set Dance	Wk
South Hams Folk Dance Club	Wk

THURSDAY

Chard Folk Dance Club	Fn
Exmouth Folk Dance Club	Wk
Tavistock Folk Dance Club	Wk
Totnes Folk Dance Club	M, 3rd
Willand Folk Dance Club	Fn

FRIDAY

Aylesbeare Folk Dance Club	Fn
Bampton Folk Dance Club	M, 1st
Bideford Ceilidh Club	Wk
Dartington Folk Dance Club	Wk
Exeter(Ide) D'Accord French Dances	M, 3rd
Exeter Folk Dance Club	M, 4th
Salcombe Regis Folk Dance Club	Wk

SATURDAY

Exeter, Devon Playford Club	M
-----------------------------	---

Social Dance - details

Aylesbeare Folk Dance Club

Alt. Fri, Aylesbeare VH. Ted Farmer, 01392 466326.

Bampton Folk Dance Club

First Fri. St.Michael's Hall, Station Road. Hazel Ridd, 01884 820438

Beacon Wheel Chair Dancers

Sue Cummings 01803 554799

Bideford Ceilidh Club*

Fri. Bideford Athletic Club, The Pill. John Blackburn, 01237 476632

Bideford Folk Dance Club*

Wed. Northam Hall. Chris Jewell, c/o Tor View, Lakenham Hill, Northam, Bideford, Devon . Tel: 01237 423554

Bridport 3 Days Late Ceilidh Club

Club nights now discontinued but monthly ceilidhs will still run. Dates in diary section. Monty Crook 01398 423442

Chard Folk Dance Club

Alt. Thurs., Combe St Nicholas VH. 8 pm. Details: Hillary Durrant 01460 61996

Chudleigh Folk Dance Club

Mondays, term time. Woodway Room, Chudleigh Town Hall. 8 - 10 pm. Mary Marker, 01626 854141

Country Dance, Plymouth*

Tues., Trinity United Reform Church Hall, Tor Lane, Hartley, Plymouth. 8 pm. Jacqui Joint 01752 774484

D'Accord*

3rd Fri. 8 pm. French & Breton dances, Ide VH, nr. Exeter. Pat Tomkins 01392 811593

Dartington Folk*

Most Fridays, Dartington VH, 7.30 pm. Mrs Edith Sanders, 27, Indio Rd, Bovey Tracey, TQ13 9BT. 01626 834981

Devon Playford Club*

Monthly, Sat. 2.30 pm. Bowhill Primary Sch., Buddle Lane, Exeter. Miss E. Conway, 151, Kingsdown Crescent, Dawlish, EX7 0HB 01626 862312

Devon Set Dancers

Mrs. Q. Daniel, 6, Balmoral Close, Newton Abbot, TQ12 4BJ

Exeter Folk Dance Group*

Last Fri. 7.45 pm Baptist Church centre, Palace Gate, Exeter. Mr. Chris Miles, 01395 275592

Folk dance contacts

Exmouth Folk Dance Group*

Thurs., Withycombe Methodist Church Hall. 8 - 10 pm. Mr Chris Miles, 25, Old Bystock Drive, Exmouth, EX8 5RB. 01395 275592

Exmouth, Isca Scottish Dancers

Classes Tues & Wed, Sept - May. Mr & Mrs V.J. Tyler, 66, Ivydale, Exmouth. 01395 276913

Exmouth Playford Club*

Wed. 2.00 pm. Alexandra House, 57, Imperial Road. Mrs S. Harper, Flat 3, 6, Carlton Hill, Exmouth, EX8 2AJ. 01395 267171

Gittisham Folk Dance Club*

Wed, fortnightly (usu. 2nd & last). Gittisham VH., nr. Honiton. Douglas Jones, Golden Square Farm, Stockland, Honiton, EX14 9LG www.seered.co.uk/gittisham.htm

Great Western Ceilidhs*

Sat. Monthly, Bowhill Primary School, Buddle Lane, Exeter. Pete Langley 01392 491228

Halsway Folk Dance Club

1st & 3rd Wed. 8pm Halsway Manor (TA4 4BD), Bicknoller VH (TA4 4EQ) or Crocombe VH (TA4 4AQ) Ring Maureen Knight 01823 401271 to check venue

Honiton Folk Dance Group

Mon. Offwell VH. 8 pm. Andrew Mycroft, 4, Sycamore Close, Honiton, EX14 2XP. 01404 46451 andrew.mycroft@btinternet.com

Isca Allemanders Square Dance Club

Tues, Kenn Centre, Kennford. Brian Bradford, 73 Burrator Drive, Exwick, Exeter, Devon, EX4 2EW. 01392 433469 isca.sdc@btinternet.com

Kingsteignton Country Dance Club*

Tues, twice monthly. Church Hall. Mrs. Jean Foster, 1 Lowicke House, Ringslade Road, Newton Abbot, TQ12 1QF 01626 363887

Launceston Folk Dance Club

Tues. St Johns Ambulance Hall, 8 pm (Not July & August). 01579 362423

Lucky 7 Folk Dance Club*

Alt. Tues. Liverton VH. 8 pm. Mrs. Julie Lavers, 15, Badgers Way, Bovey Tracey, TQ13 9QY. 01626 833264

Marldon & District Country & Playford Society (MADCAPS)*

Mon. Marldon VH. 7.45 - 9.45 pm. Mrs Jean Fillan, 29, Droridge, Dartington. 01803 866380

Newton Abbot

Wed. Irish set dancing, Jolly Farmer, Market Street. Maggie Daniel 01626 204350

Salcombe Regis Folk Dance Club*

Fri. St Peter's Church Hall, Sidford. Mrs D. Cooper, 6, Darnell Close, Sidmouth. 01395 513131

Sidford Folk Dance Club*

Tues. Sidford VH, Byes Lane. J. Westwood, 01404 813863, B. Bacon 01395 515186

Sidford Scottish Folk Dance Club

Mon. Sidford VH, Byes Lane. 8 pm. Brian Martin, 01404 850416

South Hams Folk Dance Club*

Wed. West Charleton VH. Philip Worth, Greenbank, Hope Cove, TQ7 3HP. 01548 561415

South Brent Folk

Mrs K. Reynolds, High Leigh, Coach House, South Brent, TQ10 9DS.

Tavistock Folk Dance Club*

Thurs. St Peter's School. (not July & August). Mrs Margaret Holt, 3, Copperfields, Horrabridge, Yelverton, PL20 7VB. 01822 855858

Teign Playford Club*

Mrs Jean Foster, 1 Lowicke House, Ringslade Road, Newton Abbot, TQ12 1QF 01626 363887

Totnes Folk Dance Club*

3rd Thurs. Methodist Church Hall, 8 pm (Not June, July, August). Mr. H. Lowe, 12, Benedicts Road, Liverton, Newton Abbot, TQ12 6JL. 01626 821045

Totnes Scottish Folk Dance

Dance classes, Tues. King Edward VI School, 7.15 pm. Details: 01803 557821

University of Exeter Folk Dance Club

Richard Mason, 3, Kingfisher Drive, Exeter, EX4 4SN. 01392 411434

Willand Folk Dance Club*

Alt. Thurs. Willand VH. Mary Marker, 57, Great Hill, Chudleigh. TQ13 0JS. 01626 854141

Wiveliscombe FDC

2nd & 4th Tues, Sept - May. Community Centre. 01984 623495

Folk music & song contacts

MONDAY

SE Barnstaple , Rolle Quay	M, 3rd
SE Chittlehampton, Bell Inn	M, 2nd
SE Culmstock, Culm Valley	M, 3rd
FC Fremington, Fox & Hounds,	M, 4th
SE South Zeal, Kings Arms	M, 3rd
SE Topsham, Bridge, (Blues)	M, 2nd
SE Totnes, Bay Horse	F, 1&3
SE Welcombe, The Old Smithy(Irish)	M, 3rd

TUESDAY

SE Appledore, The Champ	W
SE Bere Ferrers, Old Plough	F, 1&3
SE? Bradninch, Castle Inn	Fn
FC Exmouth, Manor Hotel	3,5
SE Chulmleigh, Court House (Irish)	M, 2nd
SE Frogmore, Globe	M, 1st
FC Nadderwater, Exeter, Royal Oak	M, 3rd
SE Plymouth, Artillery Arms	Fn
SE? Plymouth, Fortescue	Wk
FC Sandford, Rose & Crown	M, 1st
SE South Brent, Pack Horse	Fn
SE Torquay, Ryan's Bar	1st
SE Totnes, Steam Packet. Irish/Scots	Wk
SE Totnes, Bay Horse	Wk

WEDNESDAY

SE Appledore, Royal George	Wk
FC Bampton Bridge House Hotel	M, 4th
SE Bow, White Hart. (Irish)	M, 1st
SE Christow, Teign House	M, 1st
SE Dawlish, South Devon Inn	M, last
SE Exmouth, Beacon Vaults	Wk
SE Exmouth, Bicton (music)	M, 3rd
SE Kingsbridge, Kings Arms	M, last
FC Lympstone, Globe Inn	M, 2nd
FC Pennymoor, Cruwys Arms	M, 3rd
SE Plymouth, Hyde, Mutley	M, 2nd
FC Seaton, Grove Inn	M, 3rd
SE Sidmouth, Volunteer (song)	M, 1st
SE Sidmouth, Volunteer (music)	M, 3rd
SE South Brent, Royal Oak	Wk
SE Swimbridge, Jack Russell	M, 1st
SE Whimble, New Fountain	M, 2nd

THURSDAY

FC Bideford, Crabby Dicks	Wk
SE Brixham, Quay Side Hotel	M, 1st
SE Exmouth, Bicton Inn	M, 1st
SE Denbury, Union Inn	Wk

SE Frogmore, Globe	M, 3rd
SE Horns Cross nr Bideford (Irish)	M, 3rd
SE Kingsbridge, Crabshell Inn	M, 1st
SE Plymouth, Minerva	Wk
SE South Brent, Royal Oak	M, 3rd
SE Teignmouth, Devon Arms	M, 3rd
FC Teignmouth, Devon Arms	M, last
SE Topsham, Bridge (music)	M, 1st
SE Totnes, Barrel House	M, 3rd
FC Totnes, Dartmouth Inn	M, 2nd
SE Uffculme, Ostler	Fn
FM Willand Band Club	Fn, 1&3

FRIDAY

SE Appledore, Royal George	Wk
SE Bishopstawton, 3 Pigeons	M, 1st
FC Bodmin, Masons Arms	Wk
SE Bridford, Bridford Inn	M, 1st
FC Brixham, Theatre Lounge Bar	M, 1st
SE Ermington, Crooked Spire	F 2&last
FC Exeter, Barnfield Theatre	M, 1st
FC Kennford, 7 Stars	M, last
SE Torquay, Crown & Sceptre	Wk

SATURDAY

SE Brendon, Staghunters Inn	M, 3rd
FC Combe Martin, Pack of Cards	Fn, 2&4
FC Minehead, Old Ship Aground	M, 1st

SUNDAY

SE Bere Ferrers, Old Plough	M, 3rd
SE Bradninch, White Lion	M, 2nd
FC Bude, Falcon Inn	Fn
SE Christow, Teign House (Bluegrass)	M, 4th
SE Exeter, Stoke Arms. Irish	Wk
FC Okehampton, Fountain	M, last
SE Parracombe, Hunters Inn	F, 2&4
SE Plymouth Barbican, Dolphin	M, 1st
SE Plymouth, Morley Arms 3-6 pm	M, 3rd
FC Scorrington, Tradesman's Arms	M, 4th
FC South Zeal, Kings Arms	M, 2nd
SE Sticklepath, Devonshire Inn	M, 1st
SE Tiverton, Half Moon (noon)	M, 2nd
FC Topsham, Globe	Wk

Folk song clubs (FC) and sessions (SE) are sometimes forced to change venue at short notice due to change in management at a pub. Please check if in doubt. See also www.devonfolk.co.uk for updates

Folk music & song contacts

Bampton

4th Wed.. Bridge House Hotel. Clare Penney, 01884 860023

Bere Ferrers

Old Plough. 01822 841064 2nd Sun Irish, 3rd Sun song & music, 1&3rd Tues music session

Bideford Folk Club*

Thurs. Next Door, Crabby Dicks, Cooper Street. Jerry & Hilary Bix, 36, Lower Gunstone, Bideford. Tel/fax 01237 470792

Bodmin Folk Club*

Fri. Masons Arms, PL31 1JS 01208 77442
www.bodminfolk.co.uk

Bradninch

Alt. Tues. Castle Hotel. 8.30 pm. Rob Reeves, 01392 881014

Brendon

3rd Sat, Staghunters. Carole Henderson-Begg, 01769 540581

Brixham

1st Fri. Brixham Theatre Bar, 7.30 pm. John Miles 01803 858394

Bude

Sun, twice monthly. Falcon Hotel. Lucy Burrow, 01288 341582

Chittlehampton

1st Fri. concerts, usually in Parish Church. Pre-concert supper if pre-booked. 01769 540581 or 540887. events@chumpchurches.org.uk. 2nd Mon music session, Bell Inn

Christow

1st Wed. Teign House Inn. Mixed music session
4th Sun Bluegrass

Combe Martin

2nd & 4th Sat, Shammick Acoustic, Pack of Cards. Tom & Barbara Brown, 01271 882366.

Denbury

Thurs. Union Inn. Acoustic mixed sessions. Vic Connell, 01803 812535

Ermington

Last Fri. Crooked Spire. 07990 863135.

Exeter, Barnfield Theatre

1st Fri. Bedford Room. Acoustic open mike session. Jerry 07843 419178

Exmouth

3rd & 5th Tues. 8.30 pm. Manor Hotel, Beacon, Exmouth. Jeff Lewis 01395 269232

Folk On The Moor

Sun. 7.45 pm Westward Inn, Lee Mill. Anton Horwich, 3, Woodside Cottages, Milton Combe, Yelverton, 01752 261669(w), 01822 853620 (h)

Fremington (Barnstaple)

4th Mon. Fox & Hounds.

Halsway Manor (Crocombe)

1st Sun. Song & music session in the bar lounge. Brendon Room. Details: 01984 618324

Kennford

Last Fri. 7 Stars. Peter Cornelius 01392 210983

Kingsbridge

1st Thurs. Crabshell Inn. (Bob & Brenda Burnside, 01548 853351) Last Wed. Kings Arms

Lympstone

2nd Wed. Globe Inn. Music, song & stories. Brian Mather 01395 278594

Minehead

1st Sat. (Guest), Acorn Folk Club, Old Ship Aground. Eileen Ann 01643 709394. www.acornfolkclub.co.uk

Nadderwater (Exeter)

3rd Tues., Royal Oak

Okehampton

Last Sun, Fountain Inn

Pennymoor Singaround*

3rd Wed. Cruwys Arms, Pennymoor. Clare Penney, 01884 860023

Plymouth, Artillery Arms

Alt Tues. Artillery Arms, Pound Street,

Plymouth, Folk Roots

2nd Wed. Hyde, Mutley. Ali 01752 662002

Roadwater

2nd Fri. Valiant Soldier. George Ody 01643 704347

Scoriton

4th Sun. 7.30 pm. Tradesman's Arms Sue & Simon Williams, Scorriton Farmhouse, Scorriton, Buckfastleigh TQ11 0JB 01364 631308.

Seaton

3rd Wed. Grove Inn. 01297 20064

Sidmouth

1st Wed. traditional song. 3rd Wed music session.

Folk music & song contacts

Volunteer Inn.

South Brent

Pack Horse Hotel. Alt. Tues. mostly song. Keith Beeby 01364 72587. Every Wed. mostly music. Caroline 01364 631308

South Zeal

2nd Sun. Kings Arms. Bill Murray 01647 231286.
3rd Mon music session

Sticklepath (Okehampton)

1st Sun. Devonshire Inn.

Teignmouth

Last Thurs. Devon Arms Hotel, Northumberland Place. Martyn Hillstead, 01626 778071.

Tiverton Folk Club

1st Thurs.. Barge Inn, Halberton, nr Tiverton. Susannah Billeter, 01884 821286

Topsham*

Sun. Globe Hotel 8.30 pm. Tickets for guest nights available one month in advance. www.topshamfolkclub.co.uk

Totnes Folk Song Club

2nd Thurs. Dartmouth Inn. Steve & Anne Gill, 01803 290427.

Totnes, Barrel House

3rd Thurs. Klezmer & East European music.

Totnes, Bay Horse

Weekly, Mostly traditional unaccompanied

Willand Club Band Workshop

Alt. Thurs. Willand Chapel, Gables Road. Mary Marker 01626 854141

Regional Contacts

Around Kent Folk

Kathy & Bob Drage, 80, Westgate Bay Avenue, Westgate, Kent, CT8 8NY 01843 835694

Dorset Folk

Steve Hunt, Meadow Cottage, Chapel Lane, Woodlands, Wimborne, BH12 8LU 01202 814858

Folklife West

Sam Simmonds, 16, Barrett Rise, Malvern, WR14 2UJ. 01684 575704 editor@folklife-west.co.uk

Folk London

Sue West, 102, Gosport Road, Walthamstow, E17 7LZ. 020 8509 0545. www.folklondon.co.uk

Folknews Kernow

Chris Ridley, Trenillocs, St Columb, Cornwall. TR9 6JN 01637 880394

Folk South West

Eddie Upton, Church Farm, Leigh, Sherborne, DT9 6HL. 01935 873889 folksw@folksw.org.uk

Mardles (Suffolk, E. Anglia)

Mary Humphreys editor@suffolkfolk.co.uk
01638 720444 5

Puddingstone (Herts.)

Libby Byne-Grey 01920 460553

Shreds & Patches (Shropshire)

Sheila Mainwaring, 1, Herbert Avenue, Wellington, Telford, TF1 2BT. 01952 240989
mainwaring@enta.net

Somerset & Dorset

www.folkmusicsomerset.co.uk. www.sadfolk.co.uk Tony & Peter's Folk Diary - email for list: sanchobramble@hotmail.com

Taplas (Wales)

Keith Hudson, 182, Broadway, Roath, Cardiff, CF24 1QJ 02920 499759

Wiltshire Folk

Geoff Elwell, 3, Sarum Avenue, Melksham, SN12 6BJ. 01225 703650

Also www.wiltshirefolkarts.org.uk

Unicorn (Beds, Herts, Camb. area)

Alan Creamer, Serif House, 10, Dudley Street, Luton, LU2 0NT

JOAN HOLLOWAY

Fun caller

Experienced Scottish caller

Extensive experience with many different bands. Happy to work at all levels & at any type of event. Also percussionist.

Can also provide band if required

For a great evening contact Joan on
01626 870539 / 07562 766960
thejoanellen@gmail.com

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Rhodri Davies, Chris Turner, ConTradition, Folkus Pocus,
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was a great way for our guests to mingle and break
the ice. Jeremy was a brilliant and enthusiastic
caller." **Alex and Rhian Hamilton**

01392 422119 jeremy.m.child@gmail.com

Diary Dates (1)

The details in this section are believed to be correct at the time of compilation, and the editor accepts no responsibility for subsequent changes. For weekly clubs with no guest & other sessions see quick guide. Regular venue for club is given in club listings where not specified below. 8pm start unless otherwise stated.

March

- Mon 25** **DANCE** Honiton FDC, Offwell VH.
Colin Andrews, Home Brew.
DANCE MADCAPS Club, Marldon
VH, 7.45 pm
- Tue 26** **DANCE** Country Dance Plymouth,
Trinity URC Hall.
DANCE Sidford FDC at VH. Eileen
Nightingale, John & Mary Brock
- Wed 27** **DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH.
Aileen Wills, Friendly Folk.
SONG Bridge House, Bampton
SONG Kings Arms, Kingsbridge
- Thu 28** **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's
Sch. John Estall.
DANCE Willand FDC at VH. Simon
Maplesden, Iain Bryden's Band
DANCE Chard FDC, Combe St
Nicholas VH. Frances Hilson, Ivor
Hyde & Holly.
SONG Teignmouth FSC Devon
Arms
- Fri 29** **SONG** Ley Arms, Kenn
- Sun 31** **SONG** Topsham FSC, Matthews
Hall. Melrose Quartet.
SONG Fountain, Okehampton
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward
Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm

April

- Tue 2** **DANCE** Lucky 7 FDC, Liverton VH
DANCE Sidford FDC at VH. Gill &
Meter Rite.
SONG Globe, Frogmore
- Wed 3** **SONG** Jurassic Folk, Grove, Seaton
Lucy Ward.
SONG Volunteer, Sidmouth
MUSIC (Irish), White Hart, Bow
MUSIC Jack Russell, Swimbridge

CONCERT Exeter Corn Exchange.
Feast of Fiddles.

- Thu 4** **DANCE** Exmouth FDC, Withycombe
Meth. Ch Hall. Chris Miles,
Amycrofters.
DANCE Tavistock FDC, St Peter's
Sch. Mary Marker.
SONG Brixham Quayside Tavern
- Fri 5** **SONG** Barnfield, Exeter.
SONG Brixham FSC, Theatre Bar.
SONG 3 Pigeons, Bishop's Tawton
- Sat 6** **DANCE** Civic Hall, Totnes. Jane
Thomas, Jigs for Gigs. 7.30 pm
DANCE , Church House Hall,
Bridport. Eileen Nightingale, Weston
Band
SONG Acorn FSC, Old Ship
Aground Minehead. Lynne Heraud &
Pat Turner
- Sun 7** **SONG** Folk on the Moor, Westward
Inn, Lee Mill. Gren Bartley. 7.45 pm
SONG Devonshire Inn, Sticklepath.
- Mon 8** **DANCE** Honiton FDC, Offwell VH
Kim Smith, Amycrofters.
DANCE MADCAPS Club, Marldon
VH. 7.45 pm
MUSIC Bell, Chittlehampton
- Tue 9** **DANCE** Sidford FDC at VH. Ray
Goodswen, Stick the Fiddle.
DANCE Country Dance Plymouth,
Trinity URC Hall.
- Wed 10** **DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH.
Eileen Nightingale, Jeroka.
SONG Globe, Lymptone
SONG New Fountain, Whimple.
- Thu 11** **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's
Sch. Gil Jefferies.
DANCE Willand FDC at VH.
Eileen Nightingale, Stick the Fiddle
DANCE Exmouth FDC, Withycombe
Meth. Ch. Hall. Muriel Forrest.
DANCE Chard FDC, Combe St
Nicholas VH. Nicole & Pete Mac
SONG Totnes FSC, Dartmouth Inn
- Fri 12** **CEILIDH** Alverdiscott VH.
Steamchicken. 01237 476632
CREDITON FOLK FESTIVAL
Cheriton Fitzpaine.
- Sat 13** **SONG** Shammick Acoustic, Pack of
Cards, Combe Martin. Open night.

Diary Dates (2)

- Sat 13 CREDITON FOLK FESTIVAL**
Cheriton Fitzpaine.
CEILIDH Great Western Ceilidh, Steamchicken. Bowhill Primary, Exeter.
DEVON FOLK AGM Methodist Ch. Room, Cheriton Fitzpaine, 6 pm.
- Sun 14 CREDITON FOLK FESTIVAL**
Cheriton Fitzpaine.
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill. Fake Thrackray. 7.45
SONG Kings Arms, South Zeal.
MUSIC Half Moon, Tiverton. lunch-time session.
- Mon 15 DANCE** Honiton FDC, Offwell VH. Club callers, Ivor Hyde.
DANCE MADCAPS Club, Marldon VH. 7.45 pm
MUSIC Kings Arms, South Zeal.
- Tue 16 DANCE** Lucky 7 FDC, Liverton VH
DANCE Sidford FDC at VH. Jane Thomas, Jigs for Gigs.
DANCE Country Dance Plymouth, Trinity URC Hall.
SONG Royal Oak, Nadderwater
- Wed 17 DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH. Ted Farmer, Pete Mac.
DANCE Halsway FD Group, Ian Ludbrook, Bridgwater Band, Crocombe VH.
SONG Jurassic Folk, Grove, Seaton.
SONG Pennymoor Singaround, Cruwys Arms.
- Thu 18 DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's Sch. Jane Thomas.
DANCE Exmouth FDC, Withycombe Meth. Ch Hall. Wendy Hoare, Ivor Hyde & Holly.
DANCE Totnes FDC, Meth Ch Hall
SONG Globe, Frogmore.
- Fri 19 DANCE** D'Accord French, Ide VH
- Sat 20 DANCE** Willand VH. John Meechan, Skylark.
PLAYFORD Devon Playford Club, Bowhill Primary, Exeter, 2.30 pm. Alan Davies.
MORRIS Joint Morris Organisation Day of Dance, Exeter. All day.
- Sun 21 SONG** Staghunters, Brendon
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill. Bob Fox. 7.45 pm
SONG Old Plough, Bere Ferrers.
MUSIC (Irish) Stoke Arms, Exeter, 2 pm.
CONCERT Martin Carthy. Hazelwood House, Loddiswell. 01548 821232
- Mon 22 DANCE** Honiton FDC, Offwell VH. Aileen Wills, Pete MAC.
DANCE MADCAPS Club, Marldon VH, 7.45 pm
- Tue 23 DANCE** Sidford FDC at VH. Ron Rudd, recorded music.
DANCE Country Dance Plymouth, Trinity URC Hall.
- Wed 24 DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH. Graham Barrett, Fresh Aire.
DANCE Tavistock FDC, St Peter's Sch. Frances Oates.
SONG Bridge House, Bampton
- Thu 25 DANCE** Willand FDC at VH. Jane Thomas, More The Merrier.
DANCE Chard FDC, Combe St Nicholas VH. Pip Oxenbury, Ivor Hyde.
SONG Bideford FSC, Next Door Crabby Dicks. Dave Webber & Anni Fentiman.
SONG Teignmouth FSC, Devon Arms.
- Fri 26 DANCE** Exeter FDC, Baptist Centre, Palace Gate. Denis Warry.
DANCE Bampton FDC, St Michaels Ch Hall.
SONG Ley Arms, Kenn.
- Sat 27 DANCE** Launceston Town Hall, Sarah Bazeley, Dartmoor Pixie Band
DANCE Northleigh VH. Jane Thomas, Jigs for Gigs. 01404 871395
CONCERT Exeter Corn Exchange. Acoustic Strawbs. 01392 665938
SONG Shammick Acoustic, Pack of Cards, Combe Martin. Mike Silver.
- Sun 28 SONG** Topsham FSC. Matthews Hall Carrivick Sisters & Blair Dunlop
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm
SONG Fountain, Okehampton

Diary Dates (3)

- Mon 29** **SONG** Tradesman's Arms, Scoriton.
DANCE Honiton FDC, Offwell VH, Ray Goodswen, Weston Band.
DANCE MADCAPS Club, Marlton VH, 7.45 pm
- Tue 30** **DANCE** Lucky 7 FDC, Liverton VH
DANCE Sidford FDC at VH. Aileen Wills, Amycrofters.
DANCE Country Dance Plymouth, Trinity URC Hall.

May

- Wed 1** **DANCE** Halsway Manor May Day Celebration Ceilidh.
SONG Jurassic Folk, Grove, Seaton. Tim Edey.
SONG Volunteer, Sidmouth
MUSIC Jack Russell, Swimbridge
MUSIC (Irish) White Hart, Bow.
CONCERT Corn Exchange, Exeter. Paul Brady. 01392 665938
- Thu 2** **DANCE** Exmouth FDC, Withycombe Meth Ch Hall. Rosie Shaw, Amycrofters.
DANCE Tavistock FDC, St Peter's Sch. Club callers.
SONG Crabshell, Kingsbridge.
SONG Brixham, Quayside Hotel.
- Fri 3** **SONG** Exeter Barnfield
SONG Brixham FSC, Theatre Bar.
SONG 3 Pigeons, Bishop's Tawton
- Sat 4** **SONG** Acorn FSC, Old Ship Aground, Minehead. Rupert Kirby, Tony Roper & Geoff Hocking.
DANCE Civic Hall, Totnes, 7.30 pm
Robert Blackborow, Ivor Hyde Band
- Sun 5** **SONG** Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill, Boo Hewerdine & Brooks Williams. 7.45 pm
SONG Devonshire Inn, Sticklepath.
- Mon 6** **DANCE** Honiton FDC, Offwell VH. Wendy Hoare, Amycrofters.
- Tue 7** **DANCE** Lucky 7 FDC, Liverton VH
DANCE Sidford FDC at VH. Simon Maplesden, Chris Toyne.
DANCE Country Dance Plymouth, Trinity URC Ch. Hall
SONG Rose 7 Crown, Sandford.
- Wed 8** **DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH. Doreen Cooper, Iain Bryden.
SONG Globe, Lymptstone
SONG New Fountain, Whimble
- Thu 9** **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's Sch. Chris Thorne.
DANCE Willand FDC at VH. Frances Hilson, Hobson's Choice.
DANCE Exmouth FDC Withycombe Meth Ch Hall. Chris Miles
DANCE Chard FDC, Combe St Nicholas VH. Mary & Robert Blackborow.
SONG Totnes FSC, Dartmouth Inn Ewan McLennon
- Sat 11** **DANCE** Willand VH. Jane Thomas, Jigs for Gigs.
SONG Shammick Acoustic, Pack of Cards, Combe Martin. Open night.
CONCERT Hazelwood House, Loddiswell. 01548 821232 Robin & Bina Williamson
- Sun 12** **SONG** Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm
SONG Kings Arms, South Zeal.
MUSIC Half Moon, Tiverton. Lunchtime session.
- Mon 13** **DANCE** Honiton FDC, Offwell VH. Club callers, Sou'westers.
DANCE MADCAPS Club, Marlton VH, 7.45 pm
MUSIC Bell, Chittlehampton
- Tue 14** **DANCE** Sidford FDC at VH. Doreen Cooper, Jeroka
DANCE Country Dance Plymouth, Trinity URC Hall.
- Wed 15** **DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH. Robert Blackborowm Bridgwater Band.
DANCE Halsway FD Group, Halsway Manor. Scottish dancing for English dancers.
SONG Jurassic Folk, Grove, Seaton
SONG Pennnymoor Singaround, Cruwys Arms.
- Thu 16** **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's Sch. Alyson & Jerry Tucker.
DANCE Exmouth FDC end of season party, Withycombe Meth Ch Hall. Jane Thomas, Jigs for Gigs. B&S

Diary Dates (4)

- Thu 16** **DANCE** Totnes FDC, Meth Ch Hall
SONG Globe Frogmore.
- Fri 17** **DANCE** D'Accord French, Ide VH
- Sat 18** **PLAYFORD** Devon Playford Club,
Bowhill Primary, Exeter, 2.30 pm
SONG Staghunters, Brendon
- Sun 19** **SONG** Folk on the Moor, Westward
Inn, Lee Mill. Coum Sands. 7.45 pm
SONG Old Plough, Bere Ferrers.
MUSIC (Irish) Stoke Arms, Exeter,
2pm.
- Mon 20** **DANCE** Honiton FDC, Offwell VH.
Ray Goodswen, Ivor Hyde.
DANCE MADCAPS Club, Marldon
VH, 7.45 pm.
MUSIC Kings Arms, South Zeal.
- Tue 21** **DANCE** Lucky 7 FDC, Liverton VH
DANCE Country Dance Plymouth,
Trinity URC Ch Hall.
DANCE Sidford FDC end of season
party. Eileen Nightingale, Jigs for
Gigs.
SONG Royal Oak, Nadderwater.
- Wed 22** **DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH.
Chris Turner, Stick the Fiddle.
SONG Bridge House, Bampton
- Thu 23** **DANCE** Willand FDC AGM Ted
Farmer, Friendly Folk.
DANCE Tavistock FDC, St Peter's
Sch. Alan & Marion Finch.
DANCE Chard FDC, Combe St
Nicholas VH. John Chapman, Iain
Bryden
SONG Bideford FSC, Next Door
Crabby Dicks. Duncan McFarlane
- Sat 25** **CONCERT** Harberton Parish Hall.
John Kirkpatrick.
- Sun 26** **SONG** Fountain, Okehampton
SONG Tradesman's Arms, Scoriton
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward
Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm
- Tue 28** **DANCE** Country Dance Plymouth,
Trinity URC Hall.
- Wed 29** **DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH.
Aileen Wills, Ivor Hyde.
- Thu 30** **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's
Sch. Ted Farmer.
SONG Teignmouth FSC Devon Arms

- Fri 31** **DANCE** Exeter FDC, Baptist Centre,
Palace Gate. Wendy Hoare.
DANCE Bampton FDC, St Michael's
Ch Hall.
SONG Ley Arms, Kenn
CONCERT Rosemoor Gardens,
Torrington. Seth Lakeman & band

June

- Sat 1** **DANCE** Church House Hall,
Bridport. Jeroka.
SONG Acorn FSC, Old Ship
Aground, Minehead. Jez Lowe
- Sun 2** **SONG** Devonshire Inn, Sticklepath
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward
Inn, Lee Mill. Sara Grey.
- Mon 3** **DANCE** Honiton FDC, Offwell VH.
Simon Maplesden, Meter Rite.
- Tue 4** **DANCE** Country Dance Plymouth,
Trinity URC Hall.
SONG Rose & Crown, Sandford.
- Wed 5** **DANCE** Halsway FD Group,
Bicknoller VH. John & Elaine
Meechan.
SONG Volunteer, Sidmouth.
SONG Jurassic Folk, Grove, Seaton.
James Findlay.
MUSIC Jack Russell, Swimbridge
MUSIC (Irish) White Hart, Bow.
- Thu 6** **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's
Sch. Gil Jefferies.
DANCE Chard FDC, Combe St
Nicholas VH. Brian Heaton.
SONG Crabshell, Kingsbridge
SONG Quayside Hotel, Brixham
- Fri 7** **SONG** Exter Barnfield
SONG Brixham FSC, Theatre Bar
SONG 3 Pigeons, Bishop's Tawton
- Sat 8** **DANCE** Willand VH. Rhodri Davies,
Paul Hutchinson & John Hymas.
SONG Shammick Acoustic, Pack of
Cards, Combe Martin. Open night,
Stuart Michael Burns.
- Sun 9** **SONG** Kings Arms, South Zeal
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward
Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm
- Mon 10** **DANCE** Honiton FDC, Offwell
VH. Club callers, B & H.
- Wed 12** **DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH. Club
callers, Jeroka

Diary Dates (5)

- Wed 12** **SONG** Globe, Lymptone
SONG New Fountain, Whimble
- Thu 13** **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's Sch. Club callers.
SONG Totnes FSC, Dartmouth Inn. Nick Gow.
DANCE Willand FDC end of season party at VH. Gill Spence, Iain Bryden, bring & share supper.
- Sat 15** **SONG** Staghunters, Brendon
- Sun 16** **SONG** Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill. Flossie. 7.45 pm
SONG Kings Arms, South Zeal
- Mon 17** **DANCE** Honiton FDC, Offwell VH Eileen Nightingale, Amicrofters.
MUSIC Kings Arms, South Zeal
- Tue 18** **SONG** Royal Oak, Nadderwater
- Wed 19** **DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH. Simon Maplesden, Fresh Aire.
DANCE Halsway FD Group, Halsway Manor. Aileen Wills, Quantock Quarenders. Picnic 6.30 pm
SONG Jurassic Folk, Grove, Seaton
SONG Pennymoor Singaround, Cruwys Arms.
- Thu 20** **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's Sch. Alan & Marion Finch.
DANCE Chard FDC, Combe St Nicholas VH. Ivor Hyde & Holly.
SONG Globe, Frogmore
- Fri 21** **DANCE** D'Accord French, Ide VH
TEIGNMOUTH FOLK FESTIVAL
- Sat 22** **SONG** Shammick Acoustic, Pack of Cards, Combe Martin. Tattie Jam.
CONCERT Hazelwood House, Loddiswell, 01548 821232. Brooks Williams.
TEIGNMOUTH FOLK FESTIVAL
- Sun 23** **SONG** Tradesman's Arms, Scoriton
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill. 7.45 pm
TEIGNMOUTH FOLK FESTIVAL
- Mon 24** **DANCE** Honiton FDC, Offwell VH Ron Rudd, Home Brew.
- Wed 26** **DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH. Eileen Nightingale, Meter Rite.
- Thu 27** **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's Sch. John Estall
- Fri 28** **SONG** Teignmouth FSC Devon Arms
DANCE Exeter FDC, Baptist Centre, Palace Gate. Chris Miles.
SONG Ley Arms, Kenn.
- Sun 30** **SONG** Fountain, Okehampton
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill. Wizz Jones

July

- Mon 1** **DANCE** Honiton FDC, Offwell VH Aileen Wills, Ivor Hyde.
- Tue 2** **SONG** Rose & Crown, Sandford
- Wed 3** **DANCE** Halsway FD Group, Crocombe VH. American contras.
SONG Volunteers, Sidmouth
MUSIC Jack Russell, Swimbridge
MUSIC (Irish) White Hart, Bow.
- Thu 4** **SONG** Crabshell, Kingsbridge
SONG Quayside Hotel, Brixham
DANCE Chard FDC, Combe St Nicholas VH. Jane Thomas, Jeroka
- Fri 5** **SONG** Exeter, Barnfield
SONG 3 Pigeons, Bishop's Tawton
SONG Brixham FSC, Theatre Bar.
- Sat 6** **PLAYFORD** Teign Playford Club, Rydon Hall, Kingsteignton, 2.30 pm Jean Foster, Gwyn George.
SONG Acorn FSC, Old Ship Aground, Minehead.
- Sun 7** **SONG** Devonshire Inn, Sticklepath
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm
- Mon 8** **DANCE** Honiton FDC, Offwell VH. Club callers, B&H.
MUSIC Bell, Chiuttlehampton.
- Wed 10** **DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH. Nicole & Pete Mac.
SONG Globe, Lymptone
SONG New Fountain, Whimble.
- Thu 11** **SONG** Totnes FSC, Dartmouth Inn
- Sat 13** **DANCE** Willand VH. Joe Hodgson, Falconers.
CEILIDH Stoke Rivers VH. Oggie Band. 01598 710445
SONG Shammick Acoustic, Pack of Cards, Combe Martin. Open night.
- Sun 14** **SONG** Kings arms, South Zeal.
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill. Colvin Quarmbly.
- Mon 15.** **MUSIC** Kings Arms, South Zeal.

Diary Dates (6)

- Mon 15 DANCE** Honiton FDC, Offwell VH
Nicole Mac, Sou'westers
- Tue 16 SONG** Royal Oak, Nadderwater
- Wed 17 DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH.
Frances Hilson, Iain Bryden
DANCE Halsway FD Group,
Crocombe VH. Frances Oates,
Amicrofters.
SONG Jurassic Folk, Grove, Seaton]
SONG Pennymoor Singaround,
Cruwys Arms.
- Thu 18 DANCE** Chard FDC, Combe St
Nicholas VH. Ivor Hyde & Holly.
SONG Bideford FSC, Next Door
Crabby Dicks. Carolyn Robson,
Kevin Dempsey.
SONG Globe, Frogmore/
- Fri 19 DANCE** D'Accord French, Ide VH
- Sat 20 SONG** Staghunters, Brendon
- Sun 21 SONG** Old Plough, Bere Ferrers
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward
Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm
- Mon 22 DANCE** Honiton FDC, Offwell VH.
Graham Knight, Meter Rite.
- Wed 24 DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH.
Graham Knight, Meter Rite.
SONG Bridge House, Bampton.
- Thu 25 SONG** Teignmouth FSC Devon Arms
- Fri 26 SONG** Ley Arms, Kenn.
- Sat 27 SONG** Shammick Acoustic, Pack of
Cards, Combe Martin. Mochara
SONG URC Minehead. Pete Morton,
Pat Smith & Ned Clamp.
- Sun 28 SONG** Fountain, Okehampton
SONG Tradesman's Arms, Scoriton
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward
Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45. Steve Tilston
DANCE Honiton FDC Garden Party
2- 5 pm. Kim Smith.
- Mon 29 DANCE** Honiton FDC, Offwell VH.
End of season party. Kim Smith,
Amicrofters.
- Wed 31 DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH.
Aileen Will, Jeroka.

August

Fri 2 - 9 SIDMOUTH FOLK WEEK
9th - 11th DARTMOOR FOLK FESTIVAL

DEVON FOLK EVENT

SATURDAY
27th APRIL 2013

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**Dance to the
Workshop Big Band**

**dances from
“Calculated Figures”**

Caller Jean Foster

2.30 – 5.30 p.m.

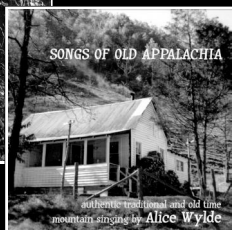
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Dave Townsend & Gill Redmond



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25th-28th
July
2013



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Dervish



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Kathryn Roberts & Sean Lakeman

The Demon Barbers XL • O'Hooley & Tidow

Niall Teague & The Fast Company • Brent Mason

Salvation Jane • Skinny Lister • The Old Dance School

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Box Office: 01926 776438

www.warwickfolkfestival.co.uk



Useful contacts (5)

Ritual & Display Groups

Alive & Kicking

Appalachian. Julie Page 07815 966838

Beltane

Bruce Johnstone-Lane, 40, Walkers Gate,
Wellington, TA21 8DJ 01823 669875
brucejlowe@btopenworld.com

Bideford Phoenix Morris

Sue Jones, 01237 477047

Blackawton Morris

Chris Janman, 1, Castle Lane, Blackawton,
Totnes. 01803 712362

Black Bess

Suzanne Lovell 01803 873908

Borderline

Tony Whitson, 01271 321431. bag@
borderlinemorris.org

Bovey Tracey Mummers

Rod Wilkins 01803 812581

Bradninch Millers Morris

Ian Bloomfield, 6, West End Road, Bradninch,
EX5 4QW

Cat's Eye Border

Alison Chapman achapman@cityplym.ac.uk

Cogs & Wheels

Alexa Mason, 01647 277498. cogsandwheels@
hotmail.com

Dartmoor Border

treggie@blueyonder.co.uk

Dartington Morris Men

John Skirton, 01548 856584
bagman@dartingtonmorrismen.org.uk

Exeter Morris Men

Mike Painter, 19, Marlborough Road, Exeter,
EX2 4TJ. 01392 660444.
mikepainter@blueyonder.co.uk

Exmoor Border Morris

Sue White, 01237 451261

Flaming Morris

Graham Bungay 01395 578484

Firestone

(Appalachian & Irish). Richard Mason, 3,
Kingfisher Drive, Exeter, EX4 4SN. 01392
411434

Glory of the West Morris

Carol Mantell, Beggars Roost, Higher Ashton,
Exeter, EX6 7QR 01647 252740

Great Western Morris Men

Duncan Moss, 01626 354705. bagman@great-
western.org.uk

Green Willow Clog

Sue Fildes 07768 625333

Grimspound Border Morris

Martin Gosling 01626 214733

Harberton Navy

Nonnie Duncan, Little Cholwell, Harberton,
Totnes. 01803 867650

Heather & Gorse

Jenny Gill, 01626 779795

Ilfracombe Red Petticoats

Janet Ellis 01271 342351

Imboluc Bedlam Border

07773 403422. practice alt. Wed. Ashton VH
imbolucmorris@hotmail.com

Kings Arms Pace Egg & Mummers

Dave Denford, The Cottage, Ramsley, South
Zeal, EX10 2LD

Lodestone Border

Brian Cunningham 01822 853856

Newton Bushel Morris

Sally Parsons, 16, New Exeter Street, Chudleigh,
Newton Abbot, TQ13 0DB. 01626 853545
sally@newtonbushelmorris.org

North Devon Mummers

Francis & Barbara Verdigi, 01271 813843

Plymouth Maids

Shirley Ingram, 01752 407676. plymouthmaids@
hotmail.com

Plymouth Morris Men

Andy King, 01752 300758
www.plymouthmorrismen.org.uk

Porthleven Morris Men

Max Williams 01326 572101

Raddon Hill Clog Morris

Jane Hewitt, 53, Kingsway, Exeter, EX2 5EN
01392 660646

Rough Diamonds Appalachian

01460 220607

Useful contacts (6)

Saffron Maids

Eunice Wighton. www.saffron-maids.org.uk

Shuffle The Deck

Appalachian. Jenny Draper, Ladywell, Grange Road, Buckfast, TQ11 0EH. 01364 643320

Sidmouth Steppers NW Morris

Liz Clode, 25, Primley Road, Sidmouth, EX10 9LD. 01395 513389 liz.clode1@btinternet.com

Sidmouth Traditional Mummers

Henry Piper, 21B, Broad Street, Ottery St Mary, 01404 811491 henry.piper@zoom.co.uk

Sunrise Border Morris

Martyn 07768 613894

Tarka Morris Men

Daemon Billing, daemon@billing.euro1net.com

Tinnors Morris Men

Mike Palmer 01647 433464

Trigg Morris Men

Roger Hancock, 01208 73907

Uplyme Morris Men

Timothy Fox 01297 443072

Tudor Dance Group

Elizabeth Thurgood, Brookfield, Combe Water, Cotleigh, Honiton, EX14 9SQ. 01404 831512

Wheak Sophia

Duncan Moss, 01626 354705

Winkleigh Morris

Sue Hamer-Moss, 1, Beara House, Dragon Hill, Langtree, EX38 8NE. sue@hamer-moss.co.uk 01805 601323 www.winkleighmorris.org.uk

Wreckers Border

Jack Spiers, 01579 350696

Festivals

Bampton After The Fair

End of October. Clare Penney 01884 860023

Baring-Gould Festival

End of October. Wren 01837 53754 info@wrenmusic.co.uk

Bude Folk Festival

Late May Bank Holiday. Lucy Burrow 01288 341582

Burnham Folkfest

August. www.folkfest.co.uk

Crediton Folk Festival

12-14th April Pete Lister 01363 775695

creditonfolkfestival@yahoo.co.uk

Dartmoor Folk Festival

Mrs J White, Sunnyhill, South Zeal, EX20 2JL. 01837 840102 www.dartmoorfolkfestival.co.uk. 9th -11th August.

Dulverton Folk Festival

Late May Bank Holiday

Intervarsity Folk Dance Festival

Richard Mason 01392 411434

Malborough Music Festival

August. malborough.festival@ukonline.co.uk

Pennymoor Song & Ale

Early June. Clare Penney 01884 860023

Sidmouth Folk Week

2nd-9th August. www.sidmouthfolkweek.org.uk

Teignmouth Folk Festival

21-23 June. www.teignmouthfolk.co.uk Anne Gill, 01803 290427

Wadebridge

August Bank Holiday weekend. 01208 812230

National Organisations

English Folk Dance & Song Society

Cecil Sharp House, 2, Regents Park Road, London, NW1 7AY. 020 7485 2206. info@efdss.org www.efdss.org

The Morris Federation

Fee Lock, 28, Fairstone Close, Hastings, Sussex. 01424 436052. www.morrisfed.org.uk

The Morris Ring

Charlie Corcoran, 70, Greengate Lane, Birstall, Leicestershire, LE4 3DL. Tel/fax 0116 267 5654 www.themorrisring.org.

Open Morris

Kate Waller, 01902 563126. secretaryoform@yahoo.co.uk

National Youth Folklore Troupe of England*

Dave Leverton, Heathers, Stanton Wick, Pensford, Bristol, BS39 4BZ. 01761 490236 daveleverton@lycos.co.uk

Folk in the Attic Old music manuscripts, song & dance books, folk albums, musical instruments, etc. may be of value - don't throw them out without checking !

Bands

Those in bold text have an advert elsewhere in this magazine. * EFDSS affiliated.

3dB Ceilidh Band	01803 862393
4 Feet First	01752 662002
4 Reel Drive	01363 877216
Amycrofters Band	01404 46451
Autumn Gold	01840 261708
Babelfish	07971 148531
Back to Square One	01392 422119
Barnstormers	01392 882036
Bloatertown Band	01237 476632
Blue Jewel	07957 855458
Broad Band	01884 840816
Bridgwater Band	01823 491662
Choughed to Bits	01752 851990
Country Style	01803 813555
Dartmoor Pixie Band*	01837 840775
Eel Grinders	01647 440020
Fiery Clockface	01822 612281
Five Pound Fiddle	01409 211340
Flash Company	01392 851496
Folk Two	01548 550004
Footloose	01647 433464
Fox Amongst The Chickens	01579 351201
Fresh Aire	01823 257488
Friendly Folk	01643 707294
Full English	01271 866907
Haymakers	01288 361625
Hips & Haws	01392 861466
Hobson's Choice	01823 272537
Home Brew	01363 877216
Hot Punch	01271 373128
Housewife's Choice	01363 774426
Ivor Hyde's Band	01460 65159
Jeroka	01935 824674
Jigs For Gigs	01460 241326
Jiggerypipery	01647 433390
Kickshaw Ceilidh Band	01364 631122
Long Odds & Short Straws	01460 61996
Lucy Lastic	01884 881385
Meltdown	01278 732202
Meter Rite	01823 401271
Mooncoin Ceilidh Band*	01803 290427
More The Merrier	01626 854141
Mrs Crotty's Ceilidh Band	01803 762645
Mrs Midnight	01392 875436
Mullachabu	01626 871260
Newlyn Reelers	01736 366284

New Vintage Band	01363 774426
Occasion Ceilidh Band	01752 337501
Oggle Band	01271 865030
Off The Square	01395 268902
Old Boys	01726 837432
Other Band	01326 563564
Paddy's Whiskers	01803 520799
Park Bench Aristocrats	01548 810038
Petronella	01626 854141
Pigs Might Fly	01392 411434
Pig's Whisper	01392 250355
Phoenix	01392 833088
Quantock Quarenders	01984 656459
Red Shed	01363 774339
Reel Thing	01460 240671
Rumpus	01548 531525
Rusty Buckets	01398 323494
Scratchbox	01803 847689
Sheer Hopody	01769 520595
Silver & Gold	01752 822010
Slack Ma Girdle	01823 680523
Slapjack	01823 601583
Smileyboots	01752 364596
Sou'westers	01395 266553
Spinach For Norman	01392 875239
Squeezum	01823 333567
Steve Gill & Andy Clarke	01803 290427
Stick The Fiddle	01884 243295
Swain's Gold	01579 383554
Tinners	01736 787951
Up The Creek	01548 531525
Walter Shortage & Hosepipe Band	01837 52174
Winkeilidh Band	01805 938213
Weston Country Dance Band	01934 813326
Woodshed Band	01803 558929

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HALSWAY MANOR

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Summer Highlights:

FRI 10-SUN 12 | MAY

Melodeon Weekend

John Kirkpatrick

MON 20-FRI 24 | MAY

American Contra Week

Sue & Bruce Rosen George
Wilson, Meg Winters

MON 3-FRI 7 | JUN

Walking & Dancing Week

Alan Davies, Pat Hicks, Susan
Swann & Susan Watts

FRI 28-SUN 30 | JUN

Piano Accordion Workshop Weekend

Karen Tweed, Paul Hutchin-
son

FRI 5-SUN 7 | JUL

Somerset Folk Song for Midsummer

Yvette Staelens, James
Findlay

FRI 19-SUN 21 | JUL

Playford Liberation Front

Andrew Swaine, Kerry
Fletcher, Paul Hutchinson

MON 29 JUL-SAT 3 | AUG

Young Folk

Residential for 14-20 year
olds, culminating in perform-
ances at Sidmouth Folk
Week.

SUN 28 JUL-FRI 2 | AUG

Family Folk Week

Ted & Pat Morse, Joyce &
Philip Rowe

MON 12-FRI 16 | AUG

Narrative Arts Summer School

Shonaleigh, Simon Heywood

TUE 27-FRI 30 | AUG

Halsway Manor Folk Summer School

Kevin Dempsey, Kerry
Fletcher, Jo Freya, Stewart
Hardy, Carolyn Robson,
Karen Tweed

**See website or ring for
full programme details.**

Halsway Manor,
Crowcombe,
Somerset, TA4 4BD

01984 618 274



www.halswaymanor.org.uk

Callers

Note: some callers will work with different bands, but others only with specific or single bands. Likewise, some bands will only work with certain callers. Check when you book !

Tom Addison	01392 420694
Colin Andrews	01363 877216
Graham Barrett	01823 461632
Sarah Bazeley	01837 840775
Robert Blackburn	01823 491662
John Blackburn	01237 476632
Adrian Brayley	07791 703009
Linda Breeze	01363 776184
Tom Brown	01271 882366
Les Burden	01840 261708
Dick Carlyon	01458 272933
Jeremy Child	01392 422119
Dennis Cook	01822 832002
Ted Farmer	01392 466326
Judy Forrow	01626 864042
Ray Goodswen	01278 424332
Sue Hamer-Moss	01805 601323
Susan Heard	01823 462936
Martin Hodge	01392 217827
Joan Holloway	01626 870539
Gil Jefferies	01752 844138
Chris Jewell	01237 475138
Beryl Jukes	01209 712357
Graham Knight	01823 401271
Rosie Longhurst	01579 351201
Nicole Mac	01395 266553
Simon Maplesden	01297 680201
Mary Marker	01626 854141
Richard Mason	01392 411434
Barry Moule	01288 361625
Peter Moxom	01392 873606
Eileen Nightingale	07811 367966
Frances Oates	01209 217918
Mike & Shelagh Palmer	01647 433464
Kate Powell	01626 866257
Tom Stevens	01872 240826
John Tarling	01297 34804
Jane Thomas	01884 855267
Garry Thompson	01271 865030
Les Thompson	01803 962393
Chris Thorne	01726 823275
Harry Turner	01823 664745
Helen Wilson	01392 882036

Ley Arms Folk & Acoustic Music Club



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Last Friday of the Month

8:00pm

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annemgill@tiscali.co.uk

Reviews

DECEMBERWELL

Mike Vass

Can't shake off those cold Winter blues? Here's a suggestion - get comfy in your favourite chair with a glass, can or mug of your favourite beverage with the heating on high or a log fire burning and let Mike Vass and his latest album, Decemberwell, invade your home with the sounds of nature's toughest season, without you having to step outside and endure it.

Decemberwell is a concept album of sorts or at least a themed album, but it may not be obvious. This is an instrumental album, and a great one at that, and the majority of tracks are inspired by the wintry season or were supposedly written during that time.

Mike Vass is an immensely talented award-winning young musician and composer from Scotland. He is, perhaps, best known for his New Voices

commision at Celtic Connections and the critically acclaimed album, String Theory, featuring a seven-piece line-up, which includes his sister, Ali.

Some might be familiar with Mike's involvement with the bands, Malinky and Fiddle Rendezvous. Among his accolades he is the winner of the Neil Gow International Composition Award, the Scottish Trad Awards (Composer Of The Year) and is hailed as one of Scotland's finest fiddle players. However, whilst there is plenty of fiddle to savour on the album, what strikes me is the sheer wealth of instrumentation the album boasts, especially considering it all comes from the same source - Mr. Vass himself. Mike paints his wintry soundscapes proficiently with instruments ranging from Fiddle, Acoustic Guitar, Tenor Guitar and Cittern to Piano, Melodica, Glockenspiel and Percussion. Oh, and he also adds a low-register celtic choir voice too that is slightly reminiscent of some of Alan Stivell's work.

For want of being selfish, Mike's talents prevent anyone else from adding their two-cents, and considering that he does have his own band, it is puzzling why there are no special guests, like on String Theory. Truth is he doesn't need guests. The music on the album seemed like a familiar creature. There were several music cues that I recognised as being possible influences and nods to other folk performers from Lau, Spires and Boden, Seth Lakeman (notably the Kitty Jay-like fenetic fiddling on the track "Hallan") and Show Of Hands. I bring the latter up as Decemberwell most closely resembles the duo's 2003 instrumental-only album, The Path, itself a themed-album. Mike's guitar and fiddle work seems to echo that of Phil Beer or Paul Downes, at various points of the album.

As I hinted in the intro to this review this is an album for those quiet nights in when you just want to sit, relax and reflect on life. The album itself is very reflective, melancholic but beautifully so, and while some may prefer something a little more lively to tap along to, this remains a fine album for meditation.

Martyn Cornelius

For more information visit: mikevass.com/ or
www.myspace.com/mikevass

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Saturday Dances
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Contra

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Mary
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Reviews

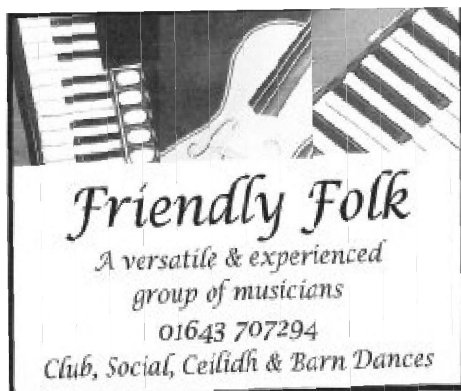
Faileasan (Reflections)

Joy Dunlop

There's plenty to enjoy here even if like me you 'don't have the Gaelic'! I have spent many an hour listening to the West Coast Gaelic radio stations looking out at beautiful Loch Sunart, so this really took me back to those days. There is everything on this CD – beautiful melodies with a variety of innovative accompaniments, traditional rhythmic Argyll mouth music, lullabies, love songs and laments, unaccompanied songs and 'waulking' (working) songs which will be readily recognised. To help us along there is a very informative sleeve giving a brief history of each track and full text in Gaelic with English translation.

Track 1 *Ma phosas mi idir, cha ghabh mi te mhor* (If I marry at all, I won't wed a big girl) is my personal favourite, with a lovely melody so suited to Joy's crystal clear voice, perfectly complemented by Lorne MacDougall's border pipes. The wonderful poetry of Sorley MacLean features in Track 2 *An Roghainn* (The Choice) set to a beautiful melody with piano and fiddle accompaniment. Track 3 has Karen Matheson on backing vocals along with Lorne MacDougall's soaring whistle playing, while Track 4 *'S daor a cheannaich mi phog* (Dearly I paid for the kiss) will be recognized as a traditional 'waulking' song heard in the tweed working in Ross of Mull. The rhythmic 'mouth music' so evocative of the west coast is one of my favourites especially the first one accompanied only by small pipes, with echoes again of work rhythms. Track 7 *Cumha Chailein Ghlinn Iubhair* (Lament for Colin of Glenure) has a very traditional ballad feel with Joy's lovely unaccompanied singing, while Track 8 *'S fhad an seallach* (Distant is my view) even features an archive recording from Nan MacKinnon, with dampened piano and harmonium providing an unusual accompaniment to this rhythmic and lovely working song. The final track *Taigh an Uillt* (Taynuilt) again features Lorne MacDougall's wonderful evocative low whistle playing, and is a fitting finale to this great introduction to the Gaelic tradition which will certainly not disappoint.

Claire Proietti



PANJANDRUM at ROOKSMERE Panjandrum

The demise of the Committee Band deprived the English ceilidh dance scene of one of its top bands that we'd enjoyed over its many, many years of operation. Panjandrum, however, go a long way to recreating that unique sound, since all its musicians were members of the Committee Band.

In this 5-track mini-album, Ian & Hilda Dedic, Diane Moody, Mary-Jo Searle and Gordon Potts show that the old magic is still there. Lively foot-tapping polkas and jigs, a great hornpipe set (*Yarmouth Breakdown & Staffordshire*) ideal for the Clopton Bridge dance, and a couple of lovely waltzes, with the Scandinavian influence still there. Obviously there is not the depth of sound that one had from the 9 person (or was it 11 ?) Committee line-up, with no drums and bass guitar not always present, but nevertheless the drive and arrangements, with superb counter-melodies, leave me wanting to hear more. Hopefully it will not be too long before a full-length CD is released.

If required the band come complete with caller - Gordon calls and plays.

Colin Andrews

(bookings@Panjandrumband.co.uk)

What's Afoot operates a magazine exchange with other folk publications from outside the county. Copies of similar magazines from other areas are always welcome. Please contact the Editor (address on page 3).

WILLAND FOLK DANCE CLUB

SATURDAY DANCES

Willand Village Hall

April 20th John Meechan & Skylark

May 11th Jane Thomas & Jigs For Gigs

June 8th Rhodri Davies & Paul Hutchinson and John Hymas

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Admission £5.00 Bring & share supper Raffle

Contact: Mary Marker 01626 854141 www.willandfolkdanceclub.co.uk



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Beginners welcome

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Saturday 16th November - Sarah Bazeley and Dartmoor Pixie Band

Reviews

FOLK SINGER HUMDINGER

Bob Dylan

Now here's something that really takes me back to my initiation into the world of folk song - a double album of Bob Dylan's original recordings from 1961 & 1962. It's one from the series, 'As Good As It Gets', re-issues of classic folk, pop, jazz and skiffle recordings from that era, produced by Smith & Co, a company based in the Netherlands.

By the time I got into folk music, Bob Dylan was already an iconic figure and his songs such as *Don't Think Twice* and *A Hard Rain's Gonna Fall* were already standards in many a folk club evening. At the time, while appreciating his songs, I never really took to Dylan as a singer, preferring the smoother sound of Peter, Paul & Mary or the crystal clear voice of Joan Baez.

Listening to the songs on this album some fifty years later the raw talent, drive and passion of the young Bob Dylan strikes me as never before. The diversity of his material, too, with influences and inspiration from country singer Hank Williams, blues singer Rev Gary Davis, and the legendary Woody Guthrie, is something that I'd never really been aware of before. And there are quite a few traditional songs to boot, such as *Pretty Peggy O* and *The Cuckoo*.

I passed the album on to my friend, Susie Golightly, knowing that she is a Dylan fan. She told me that the albums revealed to her an unknown side of Dylan with some very sensitive and beautiful songs. She also commented that his work deserves to be heard and what better way than to release this album to give the youth of today a chance to enjoy his talent.

With 44 tracks over the two CDs one can easily flip through to one's favourite songs or listen to songs one had almost forgotten, or, for me, probably never heard before.

Dave Travis, who put together this amazing collection, also provides extensive and informative sleeve notes, including his own personal introduction to the music of Dylan

and his contemporaries. It seems appropriate to reproduce here some of his biographical details of Dylan's early background.

Bob Dylan was born Robert Zimmerman in Duluth, Minnesota, on 24th May, 1941. He had a consuming passion for reading books not on his school curriculum and a deeply ingrained wanderlust. Despite growing up in the Rock'n'Roll era, he developed a passion for the music of Woody Guthrie, and he learnt to play guitar and harmonica to sing Woody's songs. At the same time he also soaked up the sounds of rural Country, Blues and Hillbilly music. Arriving in New York, as Bob Dylan, late in 1961 he gravitated towards Greenwich Village and soon became friends with Village leading lights, Ramblin' Jack Elliott and Dave Van Ronk. Dylan played floor spots at many of the Village venues, and, through the help of folklorist Israel Young, played his first concert at the Carnegie Chapter Hall on Nov. 4th, 1961. Though the concert was poorly attended, high praise in reviews helped to pave the way for the musical force he would become. Bob Dylan had already been signed up, in October 1961, to record for Columbia, a major recording label that rarely featured folk singers.

For the rest of the biography, notes on the songs and full discography, I recommend you purchase the album. And to enjoy the songs, of course !

Colin Andrews

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Reviews

THE BEDMAKING

Loft Singers

WGS 389 CD

As a person who is far more accustomed to hearing traditional folk songs unaccompanied solo or at the most in four part harmony, the notion of such songs being performed as part of the repertoire of a large folk choir tends to conjure up images of the formal arrangements by Sharp, Grainger and such like for pianoforte and trained singer.

Thus prejudiced, I was therefore agreeably surprised at the pleasant and harmonious sound offered by the Andover Museum Loft Singers, conducted by Paul Sartin (of Bellowhead, Faustus and Belshazzar's Feat). It demonstrated clearly to me that there are many attractive ways of presenting traditional material, from choral work to intricate instrumental accompaniment and unorthodox jazzy arrangements as described in another review in this issue.

Paul has selected 15 traditional songs from the choir's repertoire for this album, and he gives full details of their source in the sleeve notes. Certain songs, such as the Copper Family's *Come Write Me Down* and *Pleasant Month of May* lend themselves very well to the rendering by 30 + voices in harmony. The title song, *The Bedmaking* reminded me of the bawdy *Cuckoo's Nest*, with similar subject matter but slightly less explicit lyrics. Paul has a family connection to the person from whom this song was collected by the Hammond brothers in Upwey, Dorset. The most attractive arrangement for me was of the *Queen of the May*.

There were, however, a couple of tracks which I didn't think worked at all well. *The Hogs Eye Man* was a lame rendering of a vigorous shanty, and I wasn't keen on their treatment of *Byker Hill* and *The New Deserter*. But that's personal preference.

If you also have preconceived idea of what a folk choir is about, give this album a hearing. Like me, you may come to appreciate songs in a new dimension.

Colin Andrews

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SLAV TO THE RHYTHM

Farmers Market

Division Records

From the name of the group one might think this album would feature a load of rustic folk songs possibly with an up-beat rendering. It isn't. They are a Norwegian group experimenting with instrumentals (and some vocals) that seem to combine all sorts of influences but predominantly Jazz and Eastern European rhythms. Not the sort of stuff you'd get in your average folk club or pub session or even at the more pop influenced folk festivals. Interesting, though, and inclined to grow on you if you're in the right mood.

THE SERVANTS

Klak Tik

Safety First Records

There's also a Scandinavian influence on this album, through band member Soren Bonke, though the group hail from East London. Their style is very much in that grey area between contemporary folk and pop, with a definite leaning towards the latter. The imaginative instrumental arrangements are probably the best feature of the CD for generally I found little appeal in their songs. The exception was *Reborn*, which had attractive lyrics and tune, both presented with a more straightforward backing.

Colin Andrews

RUNNING STILL Charlie Winston

This was received for review, but was regarded as falling even beyond the broad scope of albums which we cover in this folk magazine

Reviews

ALL UPON A LOVELY SUMMER'S DAY Burton Bradstock

Jimmy Cannon, who has taken the name Burton Bradstock for this album, is known as a jazz musician, and performs as a singer and multi-instrumentalist. He is also a composer. This album is, therefore, a detour on his musical journey. As with many artistes in searching for a new sound and inspiration he turned to his roots and alighted upon the English songbook. Having already been conversant with the music of some of the great names in the world of folk music such as Martin Carthy, Anne Briggs and Fairport Convention, he experimented with the music on the page, considered the way his "folk heroes" perform and used his own musical style to create his interpretation of some of the familiar traditional songs.

This album is, therefore, not what the average traditional music enthusiast would expect nor what might be anticipated by a jazz audience, however, it works and will reach a new audience as well as woo people who enjoy traditional and jazz music. It might be classified as easy listening and, with the possible exceptions of *Train Song* 3:59, a Pentangle composition, and *John Barleycorn*, readers of this magazine will relate to the arrangements and rendition with ease.

Jimmy Cannon takes seriously the art of telling stories via a song and the words and story are conveyed clearly. The arrangements are varied, always in sympathy with the story that is being narrated: just what a traditional song commands. It would be surprising if readers of this magazine were not familiar with most of the songs. They include: *The Ashgrove*, *The Foggy Foggy Dew*, *Early One Morning* and *The Water is Wide*. This album could encourage others to explore the musical culture of England, it will also encourage folk aficionados to look afresh at what this rich culture has to offer all and how to reach a wider audience.

Jacqueline Patten

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May 9th Frances Hilson, Hobson's Choice

May 23rd Ted Farmer. Friendly Folk . AGM

June 13th Gill Spence, Iain Bryden's Band

(end of season party - bring & share supper)

Contact Brian Thomas 01884 855267 or Mary Marker 01626 854141

Reviews

AMONG FRIENDS

Malcolm Woods

Wren CD018

Although he started playing the melodeon some 40 years ago with Angel Morris Men in London and has been involved with several Morris and Clog teams in the South of England, Malcolm Woods is now based in the West Country. He is a regular participant in the Minehead (Sailors') Hobby Horse, the Huinting of the Earl of Rone and the Baring-Gould Festival.

Among Friends is a very appropriate title for this album of tunes and songs, for he is joined by some fourteen other prominent singers and musicians - friends and relatives - from this area and further afield.

The tunes, all lively, foot-tapping stuff, include several familiar session pieces such as *Hot Punch*, *Tip Top Polka*, *Cliff Hornpipe* and *Oh Joe The Boat Is Going Over*, as well as some less well-known melodies. Malcolm has a very good feel for the musical hall songs which make up a significant part of his repertoire. It's a good while since I heard *When Father Papered The Parlour*.

This is a very attractive CD to play - 'jolly' describes it in one word, and 'jolly good' in two.

Colin Andrews

Available from Wren Music, price £10 + £2 p&p
www.wrenmusic.co.uk

NORTH

Mary Dillon

Back Lane Records

This promotional copy dropped through my door, and not recognising the name of the artist I put it to one side for later listening or passing on for someone else to review. I'm glad I kept it - it's an absolute gem., and prompted me to seek more information on the internet.

Mary Dillon is the elder sister of internationally acclaimed folk singer, Cara Dillon. Back in the 1990s Mary was a member of the Irish band, Deanta, but has only just returned to performing after a break of some fifteen years raising her

family. Hailing from Derry, she comes from a family with a background in Irish traditional music, as both her grandmothers were traditional singers. In her teens she was twice winner of the All-Ireland Singing Trophy.

North is Mary Dillon's debut solo album. And it's beautiful. She has perhaps the most delightfully gentle, melodic voice I have ever heard, and on every one of the ten tracks she uses it to put such feeling and expression into the songs. Most of them, like *The Banks of Claudy* and *The Month of January* are traditional - I doubt if you'll ever hear the latter sung better. There are also some modern compositions, including her own, *The Boatman*, with its haunting melody. All except the last track (*Ard Ti Chuain*) have instrumental backing on a variety of traditional instruments, but it always complements the singing and is never intrusive. Cara makes a guest appearance on some vocal backing.

I have a feeling that Cara won't be the only member of the Dillon family to feature prominently at folk festivals in the future.

Colin Andrews

www.marydillon.com

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Reviews

EASY AND BOLD

John & Tim Lyons

Veteran VT158CD

The opening track of this CD, *The Limerick Rake*, sets the scene for the rest of the album beautifully. It conjures up the gentle countryside of Ireland at the same time as attuning the listeners' ears to the sound of the lilting, evocative Irish music. On it John & Tim sing a duet. There are only two other tracks, *The Bold Tenant Farmer* and *Bold Thady Quill*, that feature them together. The other songs are solos by either John or Tim while there are four instrumental tracks on which John is joined by his daughter, Aisling and, for one only, his son, Sean.

The brothers are now in their 70s and both living in Ireland, one in Newmarket-on-Fergus, the other in County Galway. They were born in Cork, and had two other brothers and a sister. During their lifetime they have lived elsewhere in the British Isles and travelled to the States, the latter largely because of their music. Life away from Ireland

began with their Father moving to England in 1946 to find work. Consequently their individual working lives meant that their musical paths were independent of each other, yet both remained true to their roots and they were able to settle into performing as a duo with ease, when an occasion arose. Music remained important to them both.

This compilation CD is another gem from Veteran. John and Tim perform their songs in a relaxed and easy manner that enchants the listener and makes them want more, while the instrumental numbers, equally engaging, add contrast and variety. The detailed sleeve notes are a social history document that provided a full background for those who want it.

Jacqueline Patten

www.veteran.ie - Irish folkmusic

www.veteran.co.uk - English folk music

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session

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Brian Chappell and Colin Andrews
usually have spare copies
See p. 20 for contact details



The 7th Dulverton Folk Festival 2013

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We provide a free festival and over the years the wonderful atmosphere has been generated by our visitors and so we extend another warm welcome back to the lovely Exmoor town of Dulverton.

CAMPER VANS please pre-book due to space limitations.

Stewards always welcome,
 please get in touch through our website, or
 John Lawday, Tel: 01398 323776, www.dulvertonfolkfestival.net

PLYMOUTH IVC

Plymouth Intersvarsity Club (IVC) is a friendly, informal club that promotes social, sporting and cultural events for its members. It forms part of a national network of similar clubs - most cities and large towns have their IVC branch. There are two of these bracnes in the county of Devon - Plymouth and Exeter.

The club's events are organised by its members for its members. These events include country walks, pub nights, eating out, theatre visits, quizzes, film nights, parties & concerts. Such events are always better when shared with friends, of course.

On the **last Tuesday of each month**, Plymouth IVC holds a regular pub night at the China House, on Sutton Harbour, the Barbican, from 7.30 pm. Prospective new members are always welcome at this and other events.

For more details phone 01752 338292 or 07542 125575

Visit the national IVC website at www.ivc.org

Dartmoor Festival Preview

TOP local and national artists will headline at the 36th Dartmoor Folk Festival, which will be held at South Zeal, near Okehampton, on August 9, 10 and 11.

Artists announced, to date, include: Old Swan Band, Brendon Power and Tim Edey, Trio Threlfall, Lauren McCormick Band, Gadarene, Keith Donnelly, Dartmoor Pixie Band, Tony Beard, Entertainingly Different, Dave Wills plus morris and dance teams.

The festival will include a packed programme of concerts, a ramble on Dartmoor, a ceilidh, folk service, craft displays, dances, a Children's Festival, a Dartmoor Fayre, music hall, pub sessions and music, song and dance workshops.

Competitions include the Dartmoor Broom Dance championships and Dartmoor Stepdance Championships.

It was 36 years ago that the festival was founded by the late Bob Cann, who lived in the village. He had the dream of a folk event on his doorstep that would help to revive and preserve the traditions of Dartmoor.

It was the traditional music, dance, song and crafts of the area that formed the basis for the first festival and they still remain for the association which runs the festival today.

Since it was founded it has grown so that it can invite some of the best folk artists around, whilst maintaining its reputation for being a relaxed, friendly and traditional festival.

It receives generous support from Devon Folk, Devon County Council, West Devon Borough Council, Willand Folk Dance Club, The Dartmoor Society and Bodmin Folk Club.

For further details, or to book tickets, telephone 01837 840102 or see the website at: www.dartmoorfolkfestival.co.uk

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OBITUARY: AUDREY JOHNSON

Audrey died very suddenly in January, having been at a MADCAPS club night two days before. She had been a member there for 40 years, and she was also Treasurer and a caller. In the 1980s Audrey had been a member of the MADCAPS sword dancing team and she had a good knowledge of traditional, Playford, and modern dances. She was given a Devon Award in 2008 for her work in various ways at the grass roots. Audrey also went in to Girl Guides and Brownie units to spread the folk tradition to the young people. She will be missed greatly by those in the south of the county.

OBITUARY: TONY SKERRETT

Tony was an accomplished musician who played anglo concertina for Exeter Morris Men, Grimspound Border, and formerly with Raddon Hill. He had been suffering from severe respiratory problems for some time. He passed away in hospital in the early hours of Friday, 15th February

30 YEARS CELEBRATION FOR WREN TRUST

On Saturday the 12th January 2013 at least 300 singers and instrumentalists gathered from all over Devon to celebrate the Wren Trust's 30th birthday with a Concert in Exeter Cathedral.

With the Folk Orchestra of North Devon we assembled in the Chapter House for a tune up before going through to the Cathedral to listen to the choirs singing along with a capacity audience.

There were five adult choirs and the Roots Accapella Youth choir. The sound was amazing, professional and a joy to listen to, with the sunlight pouring through the Cathedral, lighting up the columns.

The Mandolin Orchestra played and the sound was very pure, uplifting and beautiful. Next it was our turn and, together with the other two Folk Orchestras, we played five tunes before accompanying the choirs with *Dartmoor Wassail* and *Shining Star*

When we played *Brudmarsch* (a traditional Swedish tune, meaning Bride's March) – slowly – the sound reverberated through the Cathedral and was awesome. I felt the hairs on the back of my neck almost standing on end. It was so good, such a great privilege to be there playing as part of such a great group, at least 300 singers and instrumentalists.

Sarah, one of the choir leaders sang the last song *Shining Star*, line by line to teach the audience the words, her glorious voice echoing around the Cathedral, the audience responded, this was a trial run for the real thing. The Orchestras began the piece then Sarah sang solo, the Orchestras then came in quietly with all the singers, including the audience, the sound was very beautiful.

Any changes ?

Please tell the Editor if you know of any changes to the published listings or contact details. It's better to have the info. several times than not at all. Morris sides in particular often change their bagman in the autumn, and pub sessions can change at the whim of the landlord !

Then Jenny Lloyd of Exeter Adult Choir and Alyse Pellow, a young lady in Roots Accapella Youth Choir spoke of how the Wren Trust had enhanced their lives and musical ability. The event finished with one of The Directors of Wren, Marilyn Tucker thanking Wren for thirty years and looking forward to another thirty.

Hilary Loder (a fiddle player with the Folk Orchestra of North Devon)

COMING SOON WITH WREN

Wren Music has a busy spring and summer coming up as it continues its 30th anniversary year. Squeeze The Day on Saturday April 13th features three of the UK's finest piano accordion players - Paul Hutchinson from Belshazzar's Feast and The Playford Liberation Front, Jason Rice (Dartmoor Pixie Band) and Wren's own Paul Wilson - with an evening concert and a day of workshops (piano accordions only in the morning, all instruments in the afternoon) all held in Fairplace Church, Okehampton.

Sunday 2nd June sees the Wren Band premiere its new concert show *When The Moon Is Full...* at concert Exeter Northcott Theatre before touring nationally. The concert explores a rich vein of myth and legend through songs, tunes and stories, with special emphasis on the tales of Dartmoor, inspired by the writings of the nineteenth century folklorist, hymn writer, novelist and folk song collector Sabine Baring-Gould, most notably The Book of Were-Wolves. Wren Band features internationally-acclaimed duo Marilyn Tucker & Paul Wilson, award-winning Border piper David Faulkner, dynamic fiddlers Nick Wyke & Becki Driscoll, mandolin virtuoso Matt Norman, and the distinctive voices of Rosa Rebecka and Sarah Owen.

There are further workshop and concert days in Okehampton on Saturday 22nd June featuring Pete Cooper and Nick Wyke on fiddle and Richard Bolton on cello, and on Saturday 6th July with Marc Woodward and Matt Norman on mandolin. Full details on all events can be found at www.wrenmusic.co.uk

Introducing Spinningpath Arts CIC

In the next few weeks, Devon will see the launch of Spinningpath Arts CIC a new Devon based Traditional Arts organisation formed by Jenny Read and Ed Rennie, who have been actively involved in teaching and leading in Devon for years. It is dedicated to inspire inclusive participation, creativity and development through traditional music, song, dance, pastimes, and related arts. That's quite a mouthful, what does it mean?

Jenny and Ed will be leading workshops and projects for all these in schools and the community either as individual disciplines, or as multi-discipline packages, strongly influenced by the time of year and seasonal traditions, both local and national e.g. broom and stepdance, songs collected in the villages and towns of Devon, mummers plays at Christmas, Egg traditions at Easter etc.

"Culture isn't static. People adapt to changing climate, new inventions, influences from other people and other cultures." Kim Bridge

Their enthusiasm for things traditional is deep felt and infectious. They are also aware that all those things collected and written down (thankfully) by Sharp, Broadwood, Baring-Gould et al are not the whole story, but rather stills from a continuously running film.

Inevitably things change and evolve. That's a good thing. We don't live like the Victorians, who in turn didn't live like the Tudors. But equally it is vital to keep and nurture those things in our traditions and culture that are the cement by which communities bond together and make us uniquely who we are, i.e. Community music making, singing, dance and drama. That's where we step in.

So along with pieces from the tradition which have a proven track record because they work, participants will be encouraged to develop new dances, songs and music of their own. After all, 900 year old traditions started with something

new. The message is always "Yes, you are allowed!"

For those few who have not yet come across Jenny and Ed:

Jenny is an experienced traditional dancer, specialising in Appalachian precision clogging, improvised flatfooting, 3 times Dartmoor Step Dance Champion, choreographer and teacher of Firestone Youth, maypole dancing, music teacher and the only folk practitioner in the UK currently holding the new Level 6 Diploma in Dance Teaching and Learning for Children & Young People from the Trinity-Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance in London.

Ed is a renowned musician and singer, melodeon teacher, band and singing leader, song writer, composer and arranger, maypole teacher, long experienced mumming performer, founder of Devon Squeezebox Foundation and author of The Melodeon Tutor.

Combined they really are a tour de force. Their website will have full details of projects ready to roll out and ideas in the pipeline and be well worth a visit.

Jenny and Ed would like to thank Debbie Stewart at The Fruit Tree for all her help in guiding them through the business of setting up this Community Interest Company. You can find out more about their fantastic work here; www.the-fruit-tree.co.uk

FOOTLOOSE BARN DANCE BAND

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Morris Matters



Watch out for a feast of Morris Dancing in Exeter this Spring!

And yet more activity from the county's Morris sides !

By the time this edition goes to press, the wonderful Demon Barbers will have performed their Lock In Dance Show at the Exeter Phoenix. The plan is for 10 Devon Morris sides (Great Western Morris, Catseye Morris, Exeter Morris Men, Glory of the West Women's Morris, Winkleigh Morris, Grimspound Border, Black Bess, Harburton Navy Morris, Dartington Morris and Beltane Border) to perform at venues near the theatre before and after the show, and during the interval. Dancing will start at 6.30 outside the theatre entrance, near Iris Boutique in Upper Paul Street and near Lloyds TSB. The show starts at 7.30pm and it looks as if there will be close to a full house.

If you missed the show, then the next Morris feast is the JMO Day of Dance, also in Exeter, on 20th April. The JMO represents the joining together of the three main Morris organisations – the Morris Federation, the Morris Ring and the Open Morris Federation, who join together to organise an annual day of dance somewhere in England. This year's event is being organised by Great Western Morris Men. In the words of Great Western themselves....

'Sides from the SouthWest have been noticeable by their absence at this event in recent years so a "local" venue was chosen to facilitate attendance. Its purpose is be a showcase for morris and, in the process, to give sides from the 3 organisations an opportunity to meet up, renew old friendships and make new friends whilst dancing together'

It promises to be a real feast of entertainment with in excess of 500 dancers from over 60 different sides (and counting!) performing in various locations in the City centre. So well worth coming along to see!

Sue Hamer-Moss

Grimspound Border will again be welcoming in the May by dancing at Haytor at the crack of dawn. The first weekend in May is also the occasion of their weekend of dance.

A couple of weeks later, from 17th to 19th May, **Winkleigh Morris** will be holding their biennial Frankensnight weekend, based in Merton. For anyone unaware of the legend of Franken's Nights, it refers to late frosts which the Devil is supposed to have sent to kill off the apple blossom. More details can be found at the website www.bonnygreen.co.uk/franken.htm

Many sides will now have published their summer programme. To find out details see the contact details under the listings pages, You can find out details of Morris sides anywhere in the country at 'sidefinder' on www.morrisfed.org.uk

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– Colin Andrews, What's Afoot

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– Jan & John Culf, Harberton Folk

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21st – 23rd June 2013

www.teignmouthfolk.co.uk



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