
What's Afoot



£1.00

No. 104

SPRING/SUMMER 2014



DEVON'S FOLK MAGAZINE

www.devonfolk.co.uk



August 2014

Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
			3	4
31	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18

Don't Miss It!

... Invited Artists ...

New Rope String Band (Fri) ~ Lady Maisery

Greg Russell & Ciaran Algar (Winners of BBC Young Folk Award 2013)

Vicki Swan & Jonny Dyer ~ The Old Fashioned

Bill Whaley & Dave Fletcher ~ Chalktown

Pete White's Suitcase Circus ~ Trevor Organ's Cracking Crockery

The Dartmoor Pixie Band ~ Entertainingly Different ~ Tony Beard

Dave Wills ~ Various Morris & Dance Teams ~ Plus more to be confirmed!

... Highlights include ...

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www.dartmoorfolkfestival.co.uk

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Copy Dates

1st Feb for 1st April

1st June for 1st Aug

1st Oct for 1st Dec

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Editorial

Welcome to a bumper edition of What's Afoot! Our special features include an indepth look at the varied and exciting Folk Scene in North Devon and a preview of a couple of our summer festivals. Let's hope the jetstream settles down to be kind to us! Our next edition will introduce a Youth Corner to showcase activities of young people in Devon in their own words. Please pass this on to youngsters, schools or teachers - Maypole stories welcome!

This time, What's Afoot has trodden into pastures new. We would like to extend a very warm welcome to our new sponsors and advertisers and thank them for their support.

Finally an apology. My computer died a horrible death, corrupting files and emails in the process. Please check your listings and let me know if anything is missing or wrong. Thanks for your understanding and thanks to Colin and Anne for their help too.

sue@hamer-moss.co.uk

Sue Hamer-Moss

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*Front cover photograph: Winkleigh Morris during their music marathon
Thanks to Okehampton Times for the photo.*

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As your hardworking editor tried to promote What's Afoot in her home patch of North Devon, she got the plaintive cry of - there is nothing in What's Afoot for us - its all down south. So I asked for contributions from the organisers of clubs and events in this neck of the woods - and here are just a sample of the feast of activities on offer - from cosy folk clubs, themed ceilidhs and concerts to our fantastic Plough Arts Centre in Torrington. Enjoy!

Bideford Folk Club

Bideford Folk Club members have been singing and making music together since September 1995. We meet every week on a Thursday evening in the upstairs room at The Joiners Arms, Bideford. Different members of the club MC the evening, putting their own stamp on the proceedings which, unless we have a 'special guest' usually takes the form of a singaround.

Everyone who comes has the opportunity to perform and although our roots are in traditional music we welcome any contributions, whether they are contemporary songs, any other song genres or personally written, it all adds to the rich mix of the evening. We also welcome anyone who just wants to sit and listen or join in with the choruses. There are lots of great 'open mikes' and music sessions in pubs locally but not that many opportunities to really sit and listen to traditional and contemporary songs or air your song to a listening audience. Bideford Folk Club gives you that opportunity and every Thursday night is different depending on who comes so the range of music and song is very diverse.

About eight times a year we organise concert nights featuring national and international guests with support from club members. It has long been our policy not to charge a ticket price for concert nights and we rely on weekly collections and your generosity on the night to pay our guests.

Recent guests have included John Kirkpatrick, Peggy Seeger, Martin Wyndham Reed, Jim Causley, The Young'uns and John Connolly. We have some great guests booked for this year too including Nancy Kerr and James Fagan, Pete Morton and Pete Coe.

Other club events include workshops and our

annual weekend away. For more information phone Hilary or Jerry Bix on 01237 470792 or have a look at our website for more information www.bidefordfolkfestival.co.uk/folk-club

Moor Music

This is a new series of song and music sessions requested by the Lynmouth Pavilion Project, part of the Exmoor National Park Authority.

They started on 12th January 2014, and take place every couple of months at the Blue Ball Inn at Countisbury and at the Exmoor Forest Inn at Simonsbath. It seems that, at long last the National Park Authority is beginning to recognise the importance of 'soft culture' to the moor's heritage, and wishes to encourage its continuation and development on the moor. Everyone is welcome, whether not they perform themselves. Hopefully, people will wish to explore more of Exmoor's rich folk heritage through these sessions.

Dates are in WA diary or contact

Tom & Barbara Brown on 01271 882366

tomandbarbara@umbermusic.co.uk

Burns Night in North Devon - a real surprise!

On 25th January, Bideford Ceilidh Club held their Burns Night Ceilidh. This is a very popular annual event, with local band Bloatertown providing the music. This year, however, things were a little different. For some reason, the band did not have the date in their diary. Consequently, we found ourselves, with three weeks to go, with no band. As the hall was booked, tickets sold, and the Bideford Youth Pipe Band booked, I decided to go ahead with it. As no other bands were available, I decided to take a risk on a scratch band, though I'm not usually very keen on these. The band for the evening consisted of: Chris Jewell on melodeon, Jenny Read of New Vintage on keyboard, Matt Norman, also of new Vintage, on mandolin and fiddle, and Rob Jenkins of Bloatertown on bass. Yes, this may well be a scratch band, but it consisted of excellent musicians, in whose ability I had total trust. As the line up of the band would be a surprise to most people, we decided to call it "The Surprise Band". And what a surprise! The music was brilliant and their danceability second to none.

contd. on p 7

Warwick
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FRI 4-SUN 6 | OCT
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Vicki Swan

MON 4-FRI 8 | NOV
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Christine Corkett

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full programme details.**

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www.halswaymanor.org.uk

Burns Night ceilidh contd from page 4

One would never had guessed that they had never played together before, apart from an hour and a half practice before the event. Are they ever likely to get together again? Who knows, but there was 100% positive feedback after the event. It was a great evening. I like to think that it might happen again sometime.

We have a good and varied programme for this year, our next ceilidh being on Saturday 26th April at Langtree with Polkaworks.

John Blackburn

Shammick Acoustic

Shammick (a local name for Combe Martin) Acoustic was started in 2002 to provide a monthly environment, mainly for Combe Martians, as they are known, in which to share songs, words and music; to provide somewhere for people to perform, and to encourage them to do so, whatever the acoustic genre. In addition, there would be the occasional 'visiting performer' who got the chance to do rather more numbers than the rest.

That still happens on the 2nd Saturday of the month, but in 2007 we added concert nights on the 4th Saturday of the month to widen people's experience of the good acoustic music that is out there, and to encourage local performers to construct a 'set' of three items to perform in front of an audience (not just in a singaround situation). Since then, there has been a wide range of guest artists, both national and international, from unaccompanied traditional singers to singer-songwriters, and from blues to small choirs – anything really that provides both excellence and entertainment. They don't necessarily have to be big names – we hope that our audiences trust us enough that they'll give anything a go, knowing that it will be good quality music. Many of our audience aren't 'folkies' anyway, so even some big names on the folk scene won't necessarily be known to them. If we feel that an artist has the ability to share their skills with others, we arrange a workshop day or afternoon, which hopefully enables people to develop their performance/song-writing/knowledge from someone who really knows what they're talking about!

Occasionally, we put on 'Shammick Abroad' concerts in South Molton, which usually bring in a somewhat different audience, and from further

afield.

Why do we do it? Because we love to enable people to perform, particularly if they've not done so before, and to do so with confidence, and because we want to introduce people to the music of artists that we rate highly. We couldn't do it without others lending their support and their time, so our thanks to them – they know who they are.

Tom and Barbara Brown

Folk Music at The Plough Arts Centre

Situated in Torrington The Plough Arts Centre is an excellent venue for folk music in North Devon. Some of the South West's finest have played in this highly regarded, intimate space including **Show of Hands** and (patrons of The Plough), **Seth Lakeman, Jim Causley, Jackie Oates, the Carrivick Sisters, Jenna Witts, Nick Wyke and Becki Driscoll**. The Folk Orchestra of North Devon (part of the WREN project is also based here).

On a wider scale The Plough has been a stage for the likes of **Fairport Convention, Finbar Furey, Lughnasa, Ralph McTell, Maddy Pryor, Brass Monkey, Waterson Carthy, Roy Bailey, The Unthanks, Boo Hewerdine, Aoife Clancy and Wizz Jones, Eddie Reader, Karen Tweed** to name just a few. Many of these artists have been return visitors. Future visitors include **Kathryn Roberts and Sean Lakeman, Kieran Goss, Miranda Sykes and Rex Preston and Wild Willy Barrett**.

The Plough offers two platforms to showcase visiting artists – either the 240 seat auditorium or the more intimate gallery with monthly gigs for up to 50 people. It continues to be a beacon for folk music in this corner of Devon and is always keen to support local artists as well as the more renown singer/musicians from further afield.

And that is not all! North Devon morris sides include Bideford Phoenix, Tarka Morris, Exmoor Border and Red Petticoats. Concerts are held in Chittlehampton Church near South Molton - acts include Issy Emeny's folk choir on April 25th and Phil Beer on April 25th. Beaford Arts co-ordinate a range of local events - ed

Phil made time for a chat before his recent solo gig at Colebrook. He is a busy man: after this current solo tour he is doing a series of gigs in March with the reconvened Phil Beer Band, the Feast of Fiddles tour in April, and two Folk Boat cruises in June and August (see Phil's website). Show of Hands is taking a break from live performance (while Steve Knightley is involved with his solo 'Home Grown Gig' tour of village halls and pubs) but they are busy recording their contribution to an 'alternative' WWI commemorative album. And, in his spare time, Phil is moving house and rebuilding his recording studio!

At Colebrook I asked Phil about his early musical influences and his West Country roots. He explained that he is one of a whole generation of guitarists inspired by Davy Graham, in particular his 1965 album *Folk Blues and Beyond*: the title indicates the eclecticism that is also characteristic of Phil's music. *Cocaine and I Can't Keep from Cryin' Sometimes* (by Blind Willie Johnson) are still part of Phil's repertoire. The American singer Hoyt Axton was also an important influence. Phil discovered him through his parent's record collection of American groups such as The Kingston Trio: Axton wrote their hit *Greenback Dollar* and it is his version of *The Blind Fiddler* which is still a staple of Phil's repertoire.

Phil started going to folk clubs when he was 15 or so: he has fond memories of the early days of The Jolly Porter and singers such as Dave Lowry and other former members of Iscafyre, and he thanks them for introducing him to traditional English song. *Pleasant and Delightful and Abroad for Pleasure* remain part of Phil's repertoire. Phil grew up in Devon but his mother was from Falmouth: after singing hymns in the Methodist chapel on a Sunday the family would gather round the piano to sing a whole variety of songs - some taken from *The Cornish Song Book*. Phil points out few of these songs were, in fact, originally Cornish: Ralph Dunstan 'borrowed' them from the Cecil Sharp collection and changed references and place-names to make them sound Cornish! *Rhythm Methodist (2005)* is probably the album that best demonstrates the range and variety of Phil's music: it includes my personal favourite, *The Holy Brook*. This is a poem by the Gloucestershire poet Frank Mansell set to music by Johnny Coppin, telling of a Cotswold lad who loved his native land but never returned to it after the Second World War. The brook, however, 'forever new and yet always the same' symbolises the continuation of the spirit and the natural world - and, one might say, of folk music too.

Phil insists that he is not a traditionalist, but that the important thing about music is that it has 'roots', whatever or wherever they may be. And what is so important about musicians like Phil and Steve is that they are as happy to play in pubs, small clubs and village halls - where the local tradition of simply getting together to play and sing continues - as they are in big venues like The Albert Hall as *Show of Hands* (with the wonderful Miranda Sykes). The Phil Beer Band - 'folk-roll with a strong American flavour' as Phil describes it - will be playing at The Plough in Torrington on 28th February and 1st March. Phil is also excited by the prospect of a *Show of Hands* gig in the new Sam Wanamaker Playhouse in September. But we are fortunate indeed to have them here in Devon, connected with their roots and with us.

Phil in concert

Nicola King



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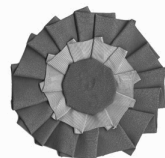
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16th Teignmouth Folk Festival

20th – 22nd June 2014



Artists confirmed

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The Martyn Wyndham-Read Band - Barron & Brady
The Old Gaffers Shanty Crew
Halfway Harmony – Flash Company
City of Plymouth Pipe Band - Clive Sheard & more



Festival Office contact Anne Gill 01803 290427
www.teignmouthfolk.co.uk

Feature Winkleigh Morris Music Marathon

It wasn't quite like waiting for a disaster to happen in that for some time I'd toyed with the idea of doing a marathon music session in aid of something. I'd even mentioned the concept to a few friends earlier in the year. When the call for international aid to the Philippines came in the wake of the devastating typhoon, a possible fund-raising event was therefore already in mind, in outline at least.

At the next practice night after the typhoon Winkleigh Morris readily supported my suggestion of a sponsored music marathon. Karen, one of our new recruits, immediately offered the use of the skittle alley at her pub, the Seven Stars, and Sunday 1st December was agreed to be the best day for all of us. Ideally I would have preferred an earlier date which would have provided a more rapid donation of funds, but at least we had more time to arrange publicity, seek out sponsorship, and consider the logistics of the actual day.

While my original thoughts had been for a 24 hour marathon, a 12 hour session, to coincide with the pub's opening times, seemed to be much more manageable. I suspect otherwise I would have been playing to myself through the small hours of the morning with little prospect of raising any more cash for the extra effort and loss of sleep.

Apart from our own musicians we had little idea of how many other people would turn up to play or listen. On the one hand we had to be prepared to keep going on our own for the whole twelve hours if need be, and on the other to avoid umpteen repetitions of Oyster Girl and other popular tunes by a succession of itinerant musicians just calling in for an hour or so. I decided that each tune should be played only three times through, except, possibly if someone was singing words to a song with more than three verses. I estimated that we would get through a maximum of 30 tunes an hour, unrealistically assuming continuous music with no beer breaks, no loo breaks or whatever! I drew up a large chart with titles of some 360 tunes that, between us, I was confident Winkleigh Morris musicians could play. I also left space for the titles of other tunes which we might remember or that other visiting musicians might offer. Each tune was to be recorded on the chart once played.

With several hundred pounds promised in advance, we were assured that the event would succeed in its fund-raising objective. Come the day, we started with a core of four Winkleigh Morris musicians, and were soon joined by other musicians and singers from Winkleigh and David Goddard from Exeter Morris Men. Despite having informed all the local media, only Okehampton Times sent a photographer to cover our activity (*see front cover*). Several people could only dip in and out for various parts of the day but we never had less than three musicians at any one time. After lunch, kindly provided by Karen from the pub, we were pleased to see Pete & Nicole Mac, from Exmouth, Sue Mentz and Caz, a musician with Great Western & Raddon Hill. They provided some accomplished instrumental variety, and a bit of respite for us 'residents', for most of the afternoon.

After Karen had again fed us, the evening reverted largely to the stalwarts from Winkleigh Morris. We performed a couple of dances in the bar – in addition to a jig from Sue Hamer-Moss and Appalachian stepping from Susie Golightly in the skittle alley earlier in the day. Just as we were beginning to wind down with about half an hour to go, we were revitalised by the appearance of several members of the Bondleigh Band, a group of local musicians who enabled the marathon to end on a real high. We had clocked up about different 280 tunes - there was some uncertainty whether we'd missed noting down one or two, and a feeling that one tune had been repeated at some stage.

The sponsorship money took a little while to filter in, but with generous donations from many individuals, from Cogs & Wheels and Tinners Morris, from sponsors signed up by Winkleigh Morris members, and even from a gentleman up country who had seen our publicity on the internet, the total sum raised came to £1,200. I'd like to thank everyone who made the whole day really worthwhile through sponsorship, participation and logistical support!

And I have no plans to attempt a 24 hour marathon in the future!

Colin Andrews

Devon is so lucky to be blessed with festivals large and small - from huge national festivals like Sidmouth folkweek (www.sidmouthfolkweek.co.uk - and ad) to many intimate, smaller events such as the South Brent Folk festival. Sidmouth is celebrating its 60th year and has a brilliant and varied line up which this small space cannot do justice to. Just visit the website and get your early bird tickets before 31st March! Read on for a taste of Dartmoor and Brent festivals.... ed

Dartmoor Folk Festival

Top local and national artists will headline at the 37th Dartmoor Folk Festival, which will be held at South Zeal, near Okehampton, on August 8, 9 and 10.

Artists announced, to date, include: New Rope String Band (Friday), Lady Maisery, Greg Russell and Ciaran Algar (winners of the BBC Young Folk Awards 2013), Vicki Swan and Jonny Dyer, The Old Fashioned, Bill Whaley and Dave Fletcher, Chalktown and Pete White's Suitcase Circus. Other artists attending include Trevor Organ's Cracking Crockery, The Dartmoor Pixie Band, Tony Beard, Entertainingly Different, Dave Wills, various morris and dance teams, plus more to be confirmed.

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 37 years ago that the festival was founded by the late Bob Cann, who lived in the parish of South Zeal. 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.

For further details about the Festival, or to enquire about booking tickets, telephone 01837 840102 or visit the website: www.dartmoorfolkfestival.co.uk

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New Rope String Band at Dartmoor this year





SOUTH BRENT FOLK

11th - 12th July 2014

FOLK FESTIVAL

Friday 11th July - FAMILY CEILIDH
with BLUE JEWEL CEILIDH BAND
at 7.30pm in South Brent Village Hall
Reel Ale Bar; Doors open at 7.00pm
Tickets £7.50 / Children £2.50



Saturday 12th July - FOLK DAY
Morris Dancing; Workshops; Poetry Competition;
Pub sessions - for Singers and Musicians;
Spotlight Performers; Open Mic Sessions



Saturday 12th July - CONCERT
at 7.30pm in South Brent Village Hall
with PILGRIMS' WAY



and
The WILL POUND BAND
with local support from Patricia Moore
Reel Ale Bar; Doors open 7.00pm; Tickets
Tickets from [artworks](#), South Brent: £10 advance / £12 on the door.
or email eileen.southbrentfolk@gmail.com or phone 0794 730 8268.



 **SOUTH BRENT FOLK**
presents
AN EVENING WITH
MATT HARVEY AND JIM CAUSLEY
on **SATURDAY 26th April 2014**



Matt Harvey is a writer, poet, humorist and enemy of all that's difficult and upsetting. Matt's way with words has taken him from Totnes to poet in residence at the Wimbledon Tennis Championships via BBC Radio 4's 'Saturday Live'

Jim Causley is a Devon folk singer, renowned for his warm, rich, mature singing voice (quoted as being akin to the fruitiest of real ales!) his natural gift for interpreting song (including ancestor Charles Causley's poems) and his wry and cheeky stage presence.



at 7.30pm in **South Brent Village Hall**
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to support the South Brent Folk Festival in July

 **SOUTH BRENT FOLK**
presents



JACKIE OATES
IN CONCERT WITH TRISTAN SEUME
On **SATURDAY 4th OCTOBER 2014**

Jackie Oates is a singer and fiddle player who has become one of the top names in the national folk scene including winning two BBC Folk Awards. Her CDs have attracted wide critical acclaim as well as collaborative work with various other projects including 'The Imagined Village' and 'The Cecil Sharp Project'. Jackie headlined the sell out concert during the 2012 South Brent Folk Festival and this will be a welcome return to Devon. Jackie will be accompanied by Tristan Seume
at 7.30pm in **South Brent Village Hall**
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One of the events organised through the year by [South Brent Folk](#)
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www.southbrentfolk.org

Jacqueline Francis takes a personal look at the feast of folk events at the South Brent Festival

Where to go? The weekend's coming and nothing's planned; everyone's wanting something to do. You want fun for kids and adults, value for money, easy access and weatherproof enjoyment. An advert in the paper and a poster for a Folk Festival may tempt you to chance it. I advise caution! Folk may be bad for your health.

I am a Folkie. I recognised the symptoms early; piles — heaps of songbooks, spots— solo spots making me itch to take to the stage, and a rash of guitars across my walls. In preparation for this coming season, I've stocked up on throat pastilles and corn plasters (South Brent Christmas ceilidh crippled my corns). I tried a tablet to ease my folk-itis; taking it to download folk tracks only fed my addiction and I felt bound to note some events for the year.

April 26th, folk singer Jim Causley and poet, Matt Harvey are at South Brent Village Hall. At the Folk Festival on Saturday July 12th, two bands, Pilgrims Way and Will Pound Band, will play there, preceded by a ceilidh on Friday evening. On Saturday there's Morris dancing, workshops, open-mic sessions and free concerts at The Old School hall, with many places to eat and drink in the village. The Packhorse Inn is hosting a sing-around session, with a health warning 'Beware, you may be exposed to unaccompanied singing'. The Royal Oak will host jam sessions for musicians. This will be followed in October by Jackie Oates in concert. What a feast, and all in one village!

If you dare to chance planning a visit to a folk event for the weekend, your diary will soon be filled. Good Health.

Jacqueline Francis



Bideford Folk Club

Every
Thursday
from 8pm

The Joiners Arms
Market Place Bideford EX39 2DR

Friendly, weekly club - bring a song or
tune, join in, or just sit and listen
Everyone welcome

Guests
6th March - James Fagan & Nancy Kerr
17th April - Pete Morton
5th June - Pete Coe

for more information on the club and
other guests please look at our website:

www.bidefordfolkfestival.co.uk
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01392 422119 jeremy.m.child@gmail.com



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Jun. 14th Open Night with Pete Kiddle
Jun. 28th Sandy Brechin & Ewan Wilkinson, sublime Scottish song & music
Jul. 12th Open Night
Jul. 26th James Findlay & Alex Cumming, (almost) home-grown traditional talent
Aug. 8th Closed for Carnival
Aug. 23rd Chris Manners, singer, guitarist & songwriter from W. Yorkshire.



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GUEST LIST

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 6 APRIL | LOUISE JORDAN |
| 27 APRIL | SARAH McQUAID |
| 11 MAY | IAN BRUCE & IAN WALKER |
| 25 MAY | MICK RYAN & PAUL DOWNES |
| 1 JUNE | MIRANDA SYKES & REX PRESTON |
| 15 JUNE | KEN NICOL & BECKY MILLS |
| 29 JUNE | LANDER MASON |
| 13 JULY | MAGGIE DUFFY & MIKE WEED |
| 27 JULY | <u>GREG RUSSELL & CIARAN ALGAR</u> |

7.45pm
SUNDAYS

Dates not
specified are
Open Nights

For directions or more information ring Anton on 01822 853620, Ben on 01752 708770, Keith on 01752 331121 or check our website: www.moorfolk.co.uk

FOOTNOTES

We are delighted to report on a surge of new and revived music clubs and sessions around the county. Here are just a few of them:

Appledore resounds with music nearly every day! Not only the new Monday evening folk session at the Royal Hotel, (in our listings), but as we go to press we have heard about a Wednesday House of Blues Session and a folk/jam session on Sundays at the recently refurbished Champ. Enjoy!

Nic Jones (featured in issue 103) and his daughter Helen, have set up an exciting new initiative called the **Exeter Folk Project**. Guests have included Blair Dunlop and Greg Russell and Ciaran Algar (featured in issue 102). In their own words 'Our aim -To drag the folk club scene kicking and screaming into the 21st century, promote new and exciting talent that we consider to be worthy of your time and money and lastly to provide a bloody great atmosphere in a fresh new environment which will make you desperate for more! Read more on their facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Exeterfolkproject>.

Jurassic Folk re-opened on Jan 22nd

It's all change at Jurassic Folk as the new year brings a move to a new venue. After six and a half years in Seaton, Jurassic Folk and Acoustic has relocated to the Dolphin Hotel, Beer, monthly on every 3rd Wednesday

Also...

There is a new session at the **Globe in Torrington** every 2nd and 4th Thursday, a session at the Crown and Sceptre in Torquay on a Monday, a Folk Club at Lee Hill, Westward Inn on Sunday, Sessions at Copplestone (Tuesday) and Christow (Wednesday) - see listings for details.

Good luck to all!!

And we say goodbye to...

Old Boys Band and sadly, caller **Dennis Cook**, who passed away in the Autumn. Although Mrs Crotty's ceildh band and Rumpus are no more, we welcome **Mrs Crotty's Rumpus** (see ad for details).

We pride ourselves on being the best and most reliable source of information about folk in Devon. Please help by telling us if a listing needs changing, adding or deleting. Thanks!

Coming Soon...

Our special feature for the next issue will be around youth activities and events. Folk is a living tradition, and it is the innovative contributions of young people which will continue to keep folk exciting, relevant - and above all - alive. *We would love to hear from young people involved in, or learning about, folk activities. We will showcase some of the best stories in What's Afoot.* We would like to know: *Was the folk activity/lesson interesting, fun, energetic, tiring? Is it important to learn about folk traditions? If so, why? How should folk adapt to be relevant to us all in 2014?* Any pictures or drawings would be welcome too.

Copy date is June 1st, so there is plenty of time.

The evergreen **Phil Beer** and **Steve Knightley** (usually performing as Show of Hands) are doing tours at opposite ends of the performance spectrum. Steve Knightley's innovative Grow Your Own Gig involves him coming to entertain communities at village halls. We hope to have a report from one of his Devon gigs. Following up on the interview and report of **Phil Beer's** solo gig in this issue, the next issue will report on the Phil Beer Rocks tour featuring his 6 piece band - kicking off at the Plough at Torrington. sue@hamer-moss.co.uk

Sue Hamer-Moss

Burns Night goes international - your editor organised, called and played for a street ceildh in Arraba, Italy, on Burns Night, by popular request! Quite a challenge with a recorder at 5000 feet of altitude! Below- Gay Gordons.



Devon Folk News

I would like to remind readers that **this year's AGM will be held in Rydon Hall, Kingsteignton on Saturday 29th March at 6pm.** It will follow the Teign Playford Club party which will start at 2.30. All those attending the AGM are welcome to join the dancing for which the cost is £3.50. There will be a bring-and-share tea during the party and tea and biscuits will be provided before the AGM. Details of the meeting have been sent to all Devon Folk members individually. Anyone is welcome to attend the meeting, but only members are entitled to vote.

The next Devon Folk event will be a Music Workshop and Tea Dance on Saturday 12th April at the Community Hall, Primary School, Chudleigh. This event is organised by Mary Marker and Jean Foster and has proved very successful in the past. Those interested should obtain a booking form from Mary Marker without delay.

Devon Folk are sponsoring the South Brent Folk Festival this year. This is a fairly new festival which is now in its third year. The Festival will include an Evening Family Ceilidh on July 11th, and events including Morris dancing, singing sessions, music sessions and junior events throughout the day on July 12th followed by an evening concert.

We also granted a request for a donation towards a local project in the village of Bow to celebrate the life of Cicely Fox Smith who was a prolific poet and author and is buried in the village. Many of her words have been set to music and she has a great following amongst folk singers, both in Britain and overseas.

The committee was pleased to receive a letter from Mr John Blaine who lives in Ohio, USA. Mr Blaine has been involved in folk song for over 70 years. He has sung in Devon folk clubs over the years and visits Devon regularly. He maintains an interest in folk activities in Devon and regularly receives a copy of What's Afoot.

We would like to thank South Hams Folk Dance Club for their donation to Devon Folk funds and all donations received, together with profits from advertising and sales of this magazine enable us to sponsor local events.

E Conway

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

Our club is 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

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

Colin Andrews

Bonny Green, Morchard Bishop, Crediton,
EX17 6PG 01363 877216
bonnygreencolin@googlemail.com

Secretary

Eileen Conway

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

Membership Secretary

Sheila Chappell

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

Minutes Secretary

Jean Foster

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

Elected Members

Rhona Hitchcock

1 Anstis Street,
Plymouth, PL1 5JP
01752 265869

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

Co-opted

Sue Hamer-Moss

1, Beara House, Dragon Hill, Langtree,
EX38 8NE 01805 601323
sue@hamer-moss.co.uk

Eileen McKee

Woodland Cottage, South Brent, TQ10 9ES
01364 73699 eileen.southbrentfolk@gmail.com

Jean Warren

51, Green Park Road, Plymstock, Plymouth, PL9
9HU. 01752 401732

Webmaster

Trevor Paul

trevor@flaxey-green.co.uk

TAVISTOCK FOLK DANCE CLUB

CLUB NIGHTS

Thursday evenings at
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All are welcome

SATURDAY DANCES - TAVISTOCK TOWN HALL

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Contact: Margaret Holt 01822 855858



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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
Sidford, Scottish	Wk
Northam, Third Age	Fn

TUESDAY

Exmouth, Isca Playford Group	Wk
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
Gittisham Folk Dance Club	Fn
Exmouth, Isca Scottish Dance	Wk
Halsway Folk Dance Group	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
South Brent French	1st

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. Northam Hall, Fore St, Northam, Bideford EX39 1AN 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 01308 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. Chudleigh Folk Music, 7.00 - 8.15 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. 7.30 pm Palace Gate Centre, Baptist Church, South Street, Exeter. Tricia Henderson 07816 000148

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 Playford Group

Classes 10am - noon. Evening club. Masonic Hall, Budleigh Salterton, Tues Oct- Apr. Mr & Mrs V.J. Tyler, 66, Ivydale, Exmouth. 01395 276913

Exmouth, Isca Scottish Dancers

Classes Masonic Hall, Budleigh Salterton, Tues Sept - May. Mr. V.J. Tyler, 66, Ivydale, Exmouth. 01395 276913

Gittisham Folk Dance Club*

Wed, fortnightly (usu. 2nd & last). Gittisham VH., nr. Honiton. Gill Spence, 20 Ridgeway Gardens, Ottery St Mary EX11 1DU 01404 813129. <http://www.seered.co.uk/gittisham.htm>.

Great Western Ceilidhs*

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

Halsway Folk Dance Group

1st & 3rd Wed. 8pm Halsway Manor (TA4 4BD), Bicknoller VH (TA4 4EQ) or Crocombe VH (TA4 4AQ) Ring Brian Graham 01643 797294 to check venue

Isca Allemanders Square Dance Club

Tues, Kenn Centre, Kennford. Brian Bradford, 73 Burrator Drive, Exwick, Exeter, Devon, EX4 2EW. 01392 433469 dancing@iscasdc.co.uk

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, 2, Grays Meadow, Queens Road, Moretonhampstead TQ13 8NB 01647 440754

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, Eileen Nightingale 01297 443915

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*

Eileen McKee, Woodland Cottage, South Brent, TQ10 9ES. 01364 73699

South Brent French

1st Friday, Recreational Hall.

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 Club*

3rd Thurs. Methodist Church Hall, 8 pm (Not June, July, August). June Prowse 01803 862435.

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. Zena Roberts, 7, Everett Place, Tiverton, EX16 6UN. 01884 253546

Wiveliscombe FDC

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

Folk music & song contacts

MONDAY

SE Appledore, Royal Hotel 8.30pm	Wk
SE Chittlehampton, Bell Inn	M, 2nd
SE Culmstock, Culm Valley	M, 3rd
SE South Zeal, Kings Arms	M, 3rd
SE Topsham, Bridge, (Blues)	M, 2nd
SE Torquay Crown & Sceptre	Wk
SE Totnes, Bay Horse	F, 1&3
SE Welcombe, The Old Smithy(Irish)	M, 3rd

TUESDAY

SE Appledore, The Champ	Wk
SE Bere Ferrers, Old Plough	F, 1&3
FC Bradninch, Ye Old White Lion	M, 1st
FC Bradninch, Castle Hotel	M, 3rd
SE Copplestone, Cross Hotel	Last
FC Exmouth, Manor Hotel	3,5
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	3rd
SE Torquay, Ryan's Bar	1st
SE Totnes, Steam Packet. Irish/Scots	Wk
SE Totnes, Bay Horse	Wk

WEDNESDAY

SE Appledore, Royal George	Wk
SE Bow, White Hart. (Irish)	M, 1sr
SE Christow, Teign House Inn	M, 3rd
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
SE Malborough, Royal Oak	M, 2nd
FC Pennymoor, Cruwys Arms	M, 3rd
SE Plymouth, Hyde, Mutley	M, 2nd
FC Seaton, Dolphin	M, 3rd
SE Sidmouth, Anchor (song)	M, 1st
SE South Brent, Royal Oak	Wk
SE Swimbridge, Jack Russell	M, 1st
FC Uffculme, Magelake Pavilion	M, last
SE Whimble, New Fountain	M, 2nd

THURSDAY

FC Bideford, Joiner's Arms	Wk
SE Bishopsteignton, Red Rock Brewery	Wk
SE Brixham, Quay Side Hotel	M, 1st
SE Denbury, Union Inn	Wk

SE Exeter: City Gate Hotel	M,3rd
SE Exeter: Wells Tavern	M,3rd
SE Exmouth, Bicton Inn	M, 1st
SE Exmouth: Beacon Vaults	F, Alt
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
FC Teignmouth, Oystercatcher Café	M, last
SE Topsham, Bridge (music)	M, 1st
SE Torrington, Globe	Fn,2&4
SE Totnes, Barrel House	M, 3rd
FC Totnes, Dartmouth Inn	M, 2nd
FM Willand Band Club	Fn, 1&3

FRIDAY

SE Appledore, Royal George	Wk
SE Bishopstawton, 3 Pigeons	M, 1st
FC Bodmin, Syd's Bar	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 Kenn, Ley Arms	M, last
SE Torquay, Crown & Sceptre	Wk

SATURDAY

SE Brendon, Staghunters InnM,	3rd
FC Combe Martin, Pack of Cards	Fn, 2&4
FC Minehead, Acorn FSC URC Hall	M, 1st

SUNDAY

SE Bere Ferrers, Old Plough	M, 3rd
FC Bude, Falcon Inn	Fn
SE Exeter, Stoke Arms. Irish	Wk
FC Lee Mill, Westward Inn	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 Scorrilton, 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

Bere Ferrers

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

Bideford Folk Club*

Thurs. Joiners Arms, Market Place, Bideford EX39 2DR Jerry & Hilary Bix, 36, Lower Gunstone, Bideford. Tel/fax 01237 470792

Bishopsteignton

Thurs, Red Rock Brewery, John Morey 07791 054773. www.oldworkshop.org

Bodmin Folk Club

Fri. Syd's Bar, 11 Omaha Road, Bodmin, PL31 1ES 01208 77442 www.bodminfolk.co.uk

Bradninch

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

Bradninch

2nd Sun, 3 -6 pm White Lion

Brendon

3rd Sat, Staghunters. Martyn Babb, martynbabb@aim.com, 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

3rd Wed. Teign House Inn. Also showcase spots
1st Sun afternoon. www.myblackhat.net

Combe Martin

2nd & 4th Sat, Shammick Acoustic, Pack of Cards. Tom & Barbara Brown, 01271 882366 contact@shammickacoustic.org.uk

Copplestone

Last Tues. Cross Hotel. Song & music

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

Exeter Folk Project

Last Thurs Starz Bar, Lower North Street, Exeter Helen 0797 2195278

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, 01822 853620

Halsway Manor (Crocombe)

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

Kenn

Last Fri. Ley Arms. 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

Malborough

2nd Wed. Royal Oak

Minthead

1st Sat. (Guest), Acorn Folk Club, United Reform Church Hall, Bancks Street, Eileen Ann 01643 709394. www.acornfolkclub.co.uk

Nadderwater (Exeter)

3rd Tues., Royal Oak

Okehampton

Last Sun, Fountain Inn, Sandie Whittington Sandie.whittington@btopenworld.com;

Pennymoor Singaround*

3rd Wed. Cruwys Arms, Pennymoor. Nicola King 01363 877748

Plymouth, Artillery Arms

Alt Tues. Artillery Arms, Pound Street,

Plymouth, Folk Roots

2nd Wed. Hyde, Mutley. Ali 01752 662002

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

- Tue 25** **DANCE** Country Dance Plymouth, Trinity URC Hall.
DANCE Sidford FDC at VH. Eileen Nightingale
SONG Cross Hotel, Copplestone
- Wed 26** **SONG** Magelake Pavilion, Uffculme
DANCE Gittisham FDC at VH.
 Nicole Nac, Sou'westers
- Thu 27** **DANCE** Exmouth FDC, Withycombe Meth Ch H. Muriel Forrest.
DANCE Tavistock FDC, St Peter's Sch. John Estall
DANCE Willand FDC at VH. Aileen Wills, Weston Band
SONG Oystercatcher, Teignmouth
- Fri 28** **SONG** Ley Arms, Kenn
DANCE Exeter FDC, Baptist Centre, Palace Gate. Wendy Hoare.
- Sat 29** **PLAYFORD** Teign Playford Club, Rydon Hall, Kingsteignton, 2.30 pm.
 Jean Foster & Gwyn George.
DEVON FOLK AGM Rydon Hall, Kingsteignton, 6 pm
- Sun 30** **SONG** Fountain, Okehampton
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill. 7.45 pm

April

- Tue 1** **DANCE** Sidford FDC at VH, Aileen Wills, Sou'westers.
DANCE Country Dance, Plymouth, Trinity URC Hall.
DANCE Lucky 7 FDC, Liverton VH
SONG Rose & Crown, Sandford
- Wed 2** **DANCE** Halsway FD Group, Crowcombe VH. Robert Blackborow, Amycrofters.
SONG Anchor, Sidmouth

- MUSIC** (Irish) White Hart, Bow
MUSIC Jack Russell, Swimbridge
- Thu 3** **DANCE** Exmouth FDC, Withycombe Meth. Ch. Hall. Chris Miles, Amycrofters.
DANCE Tavistock FDC, St Peter's Sch. Ted Farmer.
CONCERT Cheriton Bishop VH. 7.30 pm. Old Dance Band. £9 (£6 children). 01647 24789
SONG Quayside Bar Brixham
SONG Bicton Inn Exmouth
MUSIC Bridge Inn Topsham
- Fri 4** **SONG** Brixham FSC. Theatre Bar.
SONG Barnfield, Exeter.
- Sat 5** **SONG** Acorn FSC, URC Hall, Minehead. Phil Underwood.
- Sun 6** **SONG** Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill. Louise Jordan. 7.45 pm
SONG Devonshire Inn, Sticklepath
SONG Teign House Inn, Christow, 3 -6 pm. My Black Hat & supporting guests.
- Tue 8** **DANCE** Country Dance, Plymouth, Trinity URC Hall.
DANCE Sidford FDC at VH. Ray Goodswen.
- Wed 9** **DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH. Eileen Nightingale, Iain Bryden.
CONCERT Exeter Corn Exchange. Feast of Fiddles.
SONG Jurassic Folk, Dolphin Inn, Seaton. Tim Edey.
SONG Globe, Lympstone
MUSIC Royal Oak, Malborough
MUSIC New Fountain, Whimble
- Thu 10** **DANCE** Exmouth FDC, Withycombe Meth Ch Hall. Club callers.
DANCE Willand FDC at VH. Ted Farmer, Chris Toyne.
DANCE Tavistock FDC, St Peter's Sch. Frances Oates.
SONG Totnes FSC, Dartmouth Inn. Geoff Lakeman.
CONCERT B Bar, Barbican Theatre, Plymouth. Rita Hosking.
- Sat 12** **DANCE** Willand VH. Aileen Wills, Jigs For Gigs.
CONCERT Wiveliscombe Congr.Ch. Freshly Ground Folk Choir

Diary Dates (2)

- Sat 12** **SONG** Shammick Acoustic, Pack of Cards, Combe Martin. Gwilym Davies
CONCERT South Pool VH, nr. Kingsbridge. Steve Tilston Trio.
- Sun 13** **SONG** Topsham FSC, Matthews Hall Steve Tilston Trio.
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill. 7.45 pm
SONG Kings Arms, South Zeal.
- Mon 14** **MUSIC** Bell, Chittlehampton
- Tue 15** **DANCE** Country Dance, Plymouth, Trinity URC Hall.
DANCE Lucky 7 FDC, Liverton VH
DANCE Sidford FDC at VH. Jane Thomas.
SONG Pack Horse, South Brent
SONG Royal Oak, Nadderwater.
- Wed 16** **DANCE** Halsway FD Group. venue tbc. Graham Knight, Meter Rite.
DANCE Gittisham FDC at VH. Ted Farmer, Jeroka.
SONG Pennymoor Singaround, Cruwys Arms, Pennymoor.
SONG Teign House Inn, Christow
SONG Dolphin Inn, Seaton
- Thu** **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's Sch. Jane Thomas.
SONG Royal Oak, South Brent
CONCERT B Bar, Barbican Theatre, Plymouth. Malcom Holcombe.
- Fri 18** **DANCE** D'Accord French, Ide VH
- Sat 19** **SONG** Ley Arms, Kenn. Pete Morton
SONG Staghunters, Brendon
- Sun 20** **SONG** Old Plough, Bere Ferrers
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill. 7.45 pm
- Mon 21** **MUSIC** Kings Arms, South Zeal.
- Tue 22** **DANCE** Sidford FDC at VH. Eileen Nightingale, Jigs for Gigs.
- Wed 23** **DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH. Aileen Wills, Meter Rite
- Thu 24** **DANCE** Exmouth FDC, Withycombe Meth Ch Hall. Simon Maplesden, Jigs for Gigs.
DANCE Tavistock FDC, St Peter's Sch. Mary Marker.
DANCE Willand FDC at VH. Jane Thomas, Quantock Quarenders.
- SONG** Oystercatcher, Teignmouth
SONG Royal Oak, Malborough
CONCERT Plough, Torrington. Rex Preston & Miranda Sykes. See ad.
- Fri 25** **DANCE** Exeter FDC, Baptist Centre, Palace Gate. Pam Hayes.
SONG Ley Arms, Kennford
CONCERT Chittlehampton Parish Church. Howlan Jones.
- Sat 26** **PLAYFORD** Devon Playford Club, Bowhill Primary, Exeter, 2.30 pm Alan Davies.
CEILIDH Great Western Ceilidh, Bowhill Primary, Exeter. Bedlam.
CEILIDH 3 Days Late Ceilidh, Church House Hall, Bridport. Jeremy Child, Pipe Factory.
CEILIDH Langtree VH. Polkaworks
SONG Shammick Acoustic, Pack of Cards, Combe Martin. Pete Harris & Hugh Budden.
CONCERT South Brent VH. Matt Harvey & Jim Causley.
- Sun 27** **SONG** Tradesman's Arms, Scoriton
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill. Sarah McQuaid. 7.45
- Mon 28** **CONCERT** Exeter Corn Exchange. Fureys & Davey Arthur
CONCERT Barnfield Exeter. Jim Moray Band.
CONCERT Wiveliscombe Cong. Ch, Mairead Green & Anna Massie.
- Tue 29** **DANCE** Country Dance, Plymouth, Trinity URC Hall.
DANCE Lucky 7 FDC, Liverton VH
DANCE Sidford FDC at VH. Kim Smith, Amycrofters.
SONG Totnes FSC extra, Dartmouth Inn. Chris Foster. (tbc).
SONG Cross Hotel, Coplestone
- Wed 30** **DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH. Jane Thomas, Sou'westers.
SONG Magelake Pavilion, Uffculme Alex Hart, supported by Darren Hodge & Nick Gerane-Maddocks.
SONG Kings Arms, Kingsbridge

May

- Thu 1** **SONG** Quayside Bar, Brixham

Diary Dates (3)

- SONG** Crabshell, Kingsbridge
DANCE Exmouth FDC, Withycombe Meth. Ch. Hall. Chris Miles.
- Thu 1 **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's Sch. John Estall
- Fri 2 **SONG** Brixham FSC, Theatre Bar.
SONG Barnsfield, Exeter.
- Sat 3 **SONG** Acorn FSC, URC Hall, Munehead. Dan Cassidy & James Hickman.
CONCERT Barnfield, Exeter. The Simon & Garfunkel Story
CONCERT Riverside Centre, Exeter. Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain.
- Sun 4 **SONG** Devonshire Inn, Sticklepath
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill. 7.45pm
- Tue 6 **DANCE** Country Dance Plymouth, Trinity URC Hall.
DANCE Lucky 7 FDC, Liverton VH
DANCE Sidford FDC at VH. Simon Maplesden.
SONG Rose & Crown, Sandford.
- Wed 7 **DANCE** Halsway Manor FD Group, venue tbc. Colin Andrews, Ivor Hyde
SONG Anchor Inn, Sidmouth
MUSIC (Irish) White Hart, Bow
MUSIC Jack Russell, Swimbridge
- Thu 8 **DANCE** Willand FDC at VH. Rosie Shaw, More The Merrier.
DANCE Tavistock FDC, St Peter's Sch. Chris Thorne
DANCE Exmouth FDC, Withycombe Meth Ch Hall. Aileen Wills, Amycrofters.
- Sat 10 **DANCE** Willand VH. Ray Goodswen
Stick The Fiddle.
CONCERT Plough, Torrington. Willy Barrat's French Connection.
SONG Shammick Acoustic, Pack of Cards, Combe Martin.
- Sun 11 **SONG** Topsham FSC, Matthews Hall
Paul Downes & Phil Beer.
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill. Ian Bruce & Ian Walker. 7.45 pm
SONG Kings Arms, South Zeal
MUSIC Blue Ball, Countisbury
- Mon 12 **MUSIC** Bell, Chittlehampton
- Tue 13 **DANCE** Country Dance Plymouth, Trinity URC Hall.
DANCE Sidford FDC at VH. End of season party. Aileen Wills, John & Mary Brock.
- Wed 14 **DANCE** Gittisham VH. Graham Barrett, Frersh Aire.
SONG Globe, Lymptstone
MUSIC Royal Oak, Malborough
MUSIC New Fountain, Whimble.
- Thu 15 **DANCE** Exmouth FDC, Withycombe Meth. Ch. Hall. Denis Warry.
DANCE Tavistock FDC, St Peter's Sch. Alyson & Jerry Tucker.
CONCERT River Cottage, Axminster. Steve Knightly. Price £75 in cludes dinner.
SONG Royal Oak, South Brent
- Fri 16 **DANCE** D'Accord French, Ide VH
CONCERT Chittlehampton Parish Church. Mike O'Connor's Return to Lioness.
- Sat 17 **PLAYFORD** Devon Playford Club, Bowhill Primary, Exeter, 2.30 pm
SONG Staghunters, Brendon
- Sun 18 **SONG** Old Plough, Bere Ferrers
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm
- Mon 19 **CONCERT** Wiveliscombe Cong. Ch Eileen McGann
MUSIC Kings Arms, South Zeal.
- Tue 20 **DANCE** Country Dance Plymouth, Trinity URC Hall.
DANCE Lucky 7 FDC, Liverton VH
SONG Royal Oak, Nadderwater
SONG Pack Horse, South Brent
- Wed 21 **DANCE** Halsway FD Group. Venue tbc. Ann Hinchliffe, Petronella
DANCE Gittisham FDC at VH. Chris Turner, Friendly Folk
SONG Pennymoor Singaround, Cruwys Arms, Pennymoor.
SONG Teign House Inn, Christow
SONG Dolphin, Seaton.
- Thu 22 **DANCE** Exmouth FDC, Withycombe Meth. Ch. Hall. End of season party. Club callers. Bring & share supper.
DANCE Willand FDC at VH. Eileen Nightingale, Friendly Folk.

Diary Dates (4)

- Thu 22** **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's Ch. Club callers.
SONG Royal Oak, Malborough
CONCERT Plough, Torrington. Kieran Goss.
CONCERT Stars Bar, Lower North Street, Exeter. Luke Jordan.
- 23rd-26th** **BUDE FOLK FESTIVAL**
- Sun 25** **SONG** Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill. Mick Ryan & Paul Downes. 7.45 pm
SONG Fountain, Okehampton
SONG Tradesmans Arms, Scoriton
- Mon 26** **CONCERT** Plough, Torrington. John Jones & The Reluctant Ramblers
- Tue 27** **DANCE** Country Dance Plymouth, Trinity URC Hall.
SONG Cross Hotel, Copplestone
- Wed 28** **DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH. Club callers, Stick The Fiddle.
SONG Magelake Pavilion, Uffculme
SONG Totnes FSC extra, Dartmouth Inn. Jeff Warner.
SONG Kingsbridge, Kings Arms
- Thu 29** **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's Sch. Alan & Marion Finch.
SONG Teignmouth FSC, Oyster-catcher cafe.
- Fri 30** **DANCE** Exeter FDC, Baptist Centre, Palace Gate. Denis Warry.
SONG Ley Arms, Kenn.
SONG Shammick Abroad, George Hotel, South Molton. Jeff Warner, Alice Wylde.
- Sat 31** **CONCERT** Wiveliscombe Cong. Ch Rachel Newton
- June**
- Sun 1** **WHAT'S AFOOT COPY DATE**
 See p.3 for contact details.
SONG Devonshire Inn, Sticklepath
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill. Miranda Sykes & Rex Preston. 7.45 pm
- Tue 3** **DANCE** Country Dance Plymouth, Trinity URC Hall.
SONG Rose & Crown, Sandford.
- Wed 4** **DANCE** Halsway FD Group, venue tbc. Aileen Wills, Quantock Quarenders.
SONG Anchor, Sidmouth
MUSIC Irish. White Hart, Bow.
MUSIC Jack Russell, Swimbridge
- Thu 5** **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's Sch. Caller tbc.
SONG Quayside bar, Brixham
SONG Crabshell, Kingsbridge
- Fri 6** **SONG** Barnfield, Exeter
SONG Brixham FSC, Theatre Bar
- 6th - 8th** **PENNYMOOR SONG & ALE**
- Sat 7** **CEILIDH**, Church House Hall, Bridport. Will Hall, Monty's Maggot
SONG Acorn FSC, URC Hall, Minehead. Cathryn Craig & Brian Willoughby.
- Sun 8** **SONG** Kings Arms, South Zeal
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm
- Mon 9** **MUSIC** Bell, Chittlehampton
- Wed 11** **DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH.
 Frances Hilson, Jeroka
SONG Globe, Lympstone
MUSIC Royal Oak, Malborough
MUSIC New Fountain, Lympstone
- Thu 12** **DANCE** Willand FDC at VH. Simon Maplesden, Fresh Aire.
DANCE Tavistock FDC, St Peter's Sch. Club callers.
SONG Totnes FSC, Dartmouth Inn. Pete Coe.
- Sat 14** **DANCE** Willand VH. Mic Spencely, Petronella
SONG Shammick Acoustic, Pack of Cards, Combe Martin. Pete Kiddle.
CONCERT Wiveliscombe Cong. Ch. Quicksilver - Make 'Em Laugh
- Sun 15** **SONG** Old Plough, Bere Ferrers
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill. Ken Nicol & Becky Mills.
- Mon 16** **MUSIC** Kings Arms, South Zeal
- Tue 17** **SONG** Royal Oak, Nadderwater
SONG Pack Horse, South Brent
- Wed 18** **DANCE** Halsway FD Group, venue tbc. Jane Thomas, Amycrofters.
DANCE Gittisham FDC at VH. Eileen Nightingale, Chris Toyne

Diary Dates (5)

- Wed 18** **SONG** Teign House Inn, Christow
SONG Pennymoor Singaround,
 Cruwys Arms, Pennymoor.
- Thu 19** **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's
 Sch. Alan & Marion Finch
SONG Royal Oak, South Brent
CONCERT Stars Bar, Exeter. Phillip
 Henry & Hannah Martin
- Fri 20** **TEIGNMOUTH FOLK FESTIVAL**
- Sat 21** **CELEBRATION** Cicely Fox-Smith
 celebration day, Bow. Details
 on enclosed flyer or from Dick
 Henrywood 01363 82621
SONG Staghunters, Brendon
TEIGNMOUTH FOLK FESTIVAL
- Sun 22** **SONG** Folk on the Moor, Westward
 Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm
SONG Tradesman's Arms, Scoriton
TEIGNMOUTH FOLK FESTIVAL
- Mon 23** **CONCERT** Wiveliscombe Cong. Ch.
 Bella Hardy, The Midnight Watch.
- Tue 24** **SONG** Cross Hotel, Copplestone
- Wed 25** **DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH. Gill
 Spence, Iain Bryden.
CONCERT Exeter Golf & Country
 Club. Steve Knightley. In aid of
 Hospiscare £16.
SONG Magelake Pavilion, Uffculme
SONG Kings Arms, Kingsbridge
- Thu 26** **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's
 Sch. John Estall
SONG Teignmouth FSC,
 Oystercatcher Cafe.
CONCERT Flavel Arts Centre,
 Dartmouth. Richard Digance.
- Fri 27** **DANCE** Exeter FDC, Baptist Centre,
 Palace Gate. Simon Maplesden, Jigs
 For Gigs.
SONG Ley Arms, Kenn
- Sat 28** **SONG** Shammick Acoustic, Pack of
 Cards, Combe Martin. Sandy Brechin
 & Euan Wilkinson
- Sun 29** **SONG** Fountain, Okehampton
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward
 Inn, Lee Mill. Lander Mason. 7.45pm

July

- Tue 1** **SONG** Rose & Crown, Sandford
- Wed 2** **DANCE** Halsway FD Group, venue
 tbc. Simon Maplesden, John & Mary
 Brock
SONG Anchor, Sidmouth
MUSIC Irish. White Hart, Bow
MUSIC Jack Russell, Swimbridge
- Thu 3** **CONCERT** Otterton Mill. Steve
 Knightley
SONG Quayside Bar, Brixham
- Fri 4** **SONG** Barnfield Exeter.
SONG Brixham FSC, Theatre Bar
CONCERT Magelake Pavilion,
 Uffculme. Steve Knightley
- Sun 6** **SONG** Folk on the Moor, Westward
 Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm
SONG Devonshire Inn, Sticklepath
- Wed 9** **DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH.
 Graham Knight, Friendly Folk
SONG Globe, Lympstone
MUSIC Royal Oak, Malborough
MUSIC New Fountain, Whimble
- Thu 10** **SONG** Totnes FSC, Dartmouth Inn
- Fri 11** **SOUTH BRENT FOLK FESTIVAL**
 Ceilidh at VH. Anne Gill, Blue Jewel
- Sat 12** **DANCE** Willand VH. Ivan Aitken,
 Jigs For Gigs.
SOUTH BRENT FOLK FESTIVAL
 Concert. Pilgrims Way, Will Pound
 Band
SONG Shammick Acoustic, Pack of
 Cards, Combe Martin. James
 Findlay & Alex Cumming
- Sun 13** **MUSIC** Exmoor Forest, Simonsbath
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward
 Inn, Lee Mill. Maggie Duffy & Mike
 Weed. 7.45 pm
- Mon 14** **MUSIC** Bell, Chittlehampton
- Tue 15** **SONG** Royal Oak, Nadderwater
SONG Pack Horse, South Brent
- Wed 16** **DANCE** Halsway FD Group, venue
 tbc. Pete & Marge Hendy, Ivor Hyde
DANCE Gittisham FDC at VH.
 Simon Maplesden, Fresh Aire
SONG Pennymoor Singaround,
 Cruwys Arms, Pennymoor
SONG Dolphin, Seaton
SONG Teign House Inn, Christow.

Diary Dates (6)

- Thu 17** SONG Royal Oak, South Brent
Fri 18 DANCE D'Accord French, Ide VH
Sat 19 SONG Staghunters, Brendon
Sun 20 SONG Old Plough, Bere Ferrers
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm
Wed 23 DANCE Gittisham FDC at VH. Club callers, Meter Rite.
Fri 25 SONG Ley Arms, Kenn
Sat 26 PLAYFORD Teign Playford Club, Rydon Hall, Kingsteignton, 2.30 pm Jean Foster, Gwyn George.
Sun 27 SONG Fountain, Okehampton
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill. Greg Russell & Ciaran Algar.
Tue 29 SONG Cross Hotel, Coplestone
Wed 30 DANCE Gittisham FDC at VH. Aileen Wills, Jeroka
SONG Magelake Pavilion, Uffculme Marc Woodward, with Emily Howard & Martin Baxter.
Thu 31 SONG Teignmouth FSC, Oystercatcher Cafe.

AUGUST

1st - 8th SIDMOUTH FOLK WEEK
8th - 10th DARTMOOR FOLK FESTIVAL

Henry and Martin win Prestigious Award

Exeter-based duo Phillip Henry and Hannah Martin have proved they are in a league of their own after clinching the coveted **Best Duo** title at the 15th **BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards** at the Royal Albert Hall on 19th Feb.

Phillip and Hannah unveiled their evocative second studio album in September to marked acclaim from all quarters - the moving and mystical Mynd (reviewed in issue 103).

Catch them in Devon at:

Bow Village Hall on 21st March
Budleigh Guitar Festival 25th - 27th April
Manor Hotel, Exmouth 29th April

Stop Press

This new section contains last minute announcements which missed the copy deadline - please read carefully as they are not in date order! ed.

Stop Press copy date 15th Oct, Feb, June

Announcing new music and song sessions - Saturday 29th March at Cross House Inn, Metherell, Near Callington.

Also check out the new Appledore (near Bidford) session on **Mondays** in our listings.

And ceilidh dates for your diary:

Sat 29th Mar Ceilidh St James CH, Exeter. Pigs Might Fly. In aid of National Autistic Society. 01392 436665

Sat 12th Apr Ceilidh, St Thomas CH, Exeter. Red Shed

And other events...

13th -15th June Moor Merriment. Weekend of Dartmoor Music, Lustleigh. Details: Alexa Mason 01647 277498.

Warwick folk festival (see ad) have updated their programme. Visit their website at www.warwickfolkfestival.co.uk

20th September Minehead Musicians Festival. Street Choirs, Hobby Horse, Performing Arts and Morris Dancing at or near the Beach Hotel. More info in the next issue. Contact Richard Neal www.mineheadmusic.co.uk

Sue Hamer-Moss
sue@hamer-moss.co.uk

Teignmouth Folk Festival organisers regret to announce that the Old Dance School is unable to perform at the festival this year. Please go to their website www.teignmouthfolk.co.uk for further updates

Folk music & song contacts

contd. from P23

Plymouth, Morley Arms

1st Sun Bluegrass, skiffle. 3rd Sun Open acoustic. 3 - 6pm

Roadwater

2nd Fri. Valiant Soldier. George Ody 01643 704347

Scoriton

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

Seaton

Jurassic Folk 3rd Wed. Dolphin Inn. 01297 20064

Sidmouth

1st Wed. traditional song. Anchor Inn

South Brent, Pack Horse Hotel.

Alt. Tues. mostly song. Eileen KcKee 01364 73699 Every Wed. mostly music. Caroline 01364 631308

South Brent, Royal Oak

Wed. 8.30 pm Alt Wed children's folk 7.30 -8.30 pm. Also 3rd Thurs.

South Zeal

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

Sticklepath (Okehampton)

1st Sun. Devonshire Inn.

Teignmouth

Last Thurs. Oystercatcher Café, Northumberland Place. Martyn Hillstead, 01626 778071.

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

Uffculme

Music & Performance Club, Magelake Pavilion. Last Wed. Brian Bennelick, 01884 840192

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. 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, Trenilloes, 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 7204445

Puddingstone (Herts.)

Libby Byne-Grey 01920 460553

Somerset & Dorset

www.folkmusicsomerset.co.uk. www.sadfolk.co.uk Tony & Peter's Folk Diary - <http://www.sanchobramble.weebly.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)

Simon Bailes, 10 Chapel Street, Dunton Biggleswade Bedfordshire SG18 8RW Tel: 01767 310 424 unicornmagazine@hotmail.co.uk

Useful contacts

Ritual and Display Groups

Alive & Kicking

Appalachian. Julie Page 07815 966838

Beltane

Border. www.beltaneborder.co.uk

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

<http://www.catseyemorris.co.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

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

Lee Merry 01626 835010

Harberton Navy

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

Heather & Gorse

Jenny Gill, 01626 779795

Ilfracombe Red Petticoats

Janet Ellis 01271 342351

Imbolc Bedlam Border

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

Kings Arms Pace Egg & Mummers*

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

Lodestone Border

<http://www.lodestonemorris.co.uk/>

Newton Bushel Morris

Rod Shute 01803 403153 rodshute@yahoo.co.uk

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

UPDATES All changes to publicised events and contact details are on www.devonfolk.co.uk - provided that organisers let the editor know! The website is usually updated within a couple of days of information being received. Updates received **after Stop Press** copy dates **cannot be guaranteed** for the next magazine publication, but will be saved for the future.

Useful contacts

Ritual and Display Groups contd.

Saffron Maids

Unice 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

Tinners 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

Averil Stacey, Holly House, Manor Road, Landkey, EX32 0JJ 01271 831461
averil@cayster.co.uk

Wreckers Border

Jack Spiers, 01579 350696

Festivals

Baring-Gould Festival

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

Bude Folk Festival

23-26 May 2014 www.budfolkfest.com
07736 374003

Burnham Folkfest

August. www.folkfest.co.uk

Festivals, National Organisations

Crediton Folk Festival

Early May 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.
2nd weekend in 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

Early August. www.sidmouthfolkweek.org.uk

South Brent Folk Festival

11th -13th July 2014. Eileen McKee, 01364
73699

Teignmouth Folk Festival

Mid 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

Brian Antaur, secretary@open-morris.org

National Youth Folklore Troupe of England*

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

Bands

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

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Autumn Gold	01840 261708	Occasion Ceilidh Band	01752 337501
Babelfish	07971 148531	Oggle Band*	01271 865030
Back to Square One	01392 422119	Off The Square	01395 268902
Barnstormers	01392 882036	Other Band	01326 563564
Bloatertown Band*	01237 476632	Paddy's Whiskers*	01803 520799
Blue Jewel	07957 855458	Park Bench Aristocrats	01548 810038
Broad Band	01884 840816	Petronella	01626 854141
Bridgewater Band	01823 491662	Pigs Might Fly	01392 411434
Choughed to Bits	01752 851990	Pig's Whisper	01392 250355
Country Style	01803 813555	Phoenix	01392 833088
Dartmoor Pixie Band*	01837 840775	Quantock Quarenders	01984 656459
Eel Grinders	01647 440020	Red Shed	01363 774339
Fiery Clockface	01822 612281	Reel Thing	01460 240671
Five Pound Fiddle	01409 211340	Rusty Buckets	01398 323494
Flash Company	01392 851496	Scratchbox	01803 847689
Folk Two	01548 550004	Sheer Hopody	01769 520595
Footloose	01647 433464	Silver & Gold	01752 822010
Fox Amongst The Chickens	01579 351201	Slack Ma Girdle	01823 680523
Fraich Aairs	01392 811593	Slapjack	01823 601583
Fresh Aire	01823 257488	Smileyboots	01752 364596
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Full English	01271 866907	Spinach For Norman	01392 875239
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Hips & Haws	01392 861466	Steve Gill & Andy Clarke	01803 290427
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Hot Punch	01271 373128	Tinners	01736 787951
Housewife's Choice	01363 774426	Up The Creek	01548 531525
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Jeroka	01935 824674	Winkeilidh Band	01805 938213
Jigs For Gigs	01460 241326	Weston Country Dance Band	01934 813326
Jiggerypipery	01647 433390	Woodshed Band	01803 558929
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		
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Sarah Bazeley	01837 840775
Robert Blackborow	01823 491662
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Adrian Brayley	07791 703009
Linda Breeze	01363 776184
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Dick Carlyon	01458 272933
Jeremy Child	01392 422119
Ted Farmer	01392 466326
Judy Forrow	01626 864042
Ray Goodswen	01278 424332
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Susan Heard	01823 462936
Martin Hodge	01392 217827
Joan Holloway	01626 870539
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Chris Jewell	01237 475138
Beryl Jukes	01209 712357
Graham Knight	01823 401271
Rosie Longhurst	01579 351201
Nicole Mac	01395 266553
Simon Maplesden	01884 33571
Mary Marker	01626 854141
Richard Mason	01392 411434
Barry Moule	01288 361625
Eileen Nightingale	01297 443915
Frances Oates	01209 217918
Mike & Shelagh Palmer	01647 433464
Kate Powell	01626 866257
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Tues 29th April Folk Club Extra

Guest - Chris Foster (tbc)

8th May - Singers' Night

Wed 28th May Folk Club Extra

Guest - Jeff Warner

12th June - Guest Night

Pete Coe

For further information ring
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or Andy Clarke 01803 732312

Obituaries

Shiela Sibley

Michael Pearce

Sheila died in January 2014. She was a well respected and accomplished accordionist, bandleader and composer of folk dance tunes.

Sheila was born in London in 1931 and grew up in Romford, Essex. She came to Sidmouth with her mother, to join family who already lived there. During this time she met her husband Dennis and they made their home in Sidmouth.

Sheila always had a love of music and in the 60's started to play the piano accordion. In 1965 she teamed up with Eric and Linda Kitchener to form the Woodpeckers band. For a number of years in the early 70's they played for Tea Dances at the Ham Marquee during the Folk Festival and were billed as 'Sidmouth's Folk Band' in the programme. They were almost the resident band for the Salcombe Regis Club (now Sidmouth/Sidford Club) - Aileen Wills often calling with them - and for open air dancing in the Connaught Gardens, Sidmouth on Friday evenings in the summer.

When Eric and Linda retired Sheila continued to play, for example at Willand Folk Dance Club alongside George Godfrey with Ron Beeson calling. In the 80's she formed her own band - Pieces of Eight. The band played at Willand, Sidford and Aylesbeare Folk Dance Clubs. Sheila always encouraged newcomers to play folk music and was generous in inviting them to join in with the band, which at any time may have included between three or eight players. The band played at gigs throughout the county.

As well as being an accomplished accordionist Sheila also composed a number of lovely dance tunes, some of which are included in a Folk Dance publication. She was also a musician with the Devon Oak Clog Dancers and composed some dancing tunes for them. To this day Sweet Coppin ladies dance team always finish their 'dance outs' with her tune Sibley. She was generous in sharing her compositions and her collection of music, especially so when she stopped playing her accordion regularly several years ago due to failing health. Her own huge collection of music was all written neatly by hand - long before the computer age!

It is with sadness I write again so soon about the death of another member of the Greensleeves Country Dance Band. Mick, as he was known, died on Jan.3rd after a prolonged period of ill health. Mick was first and foremost a dancer. His introduction was at a youth club in Exeter in about 1952, when I, as a newly "approved" E.F.D.S.S. teacher was given my first challenge - to try and get them dancing. From there Mick soon moved on to join St. Wilfreds C.D.C. (later to become Pinhoe Square Eights) and it was here he linked up with the Band. He became "approved" himself and when taking one of D.C.C.s Further Education Classes for Ide W.I. in the late 1950s he met Ronnie who had gone to swell the numbers and meet this nice young teacher - and they were married in 1960. Mick also became a superb Morris and Sword dancer after joining the Exeter Morris Men in the late 50s, was a teacher and caller, a member of the Devon Folk Company, represented Devon at the Albert Hall Festivals as well as being one of the founder members of the Exeter Folk Song Club, singing solos with his guitar as well as duets with me! Folk dance and music was his life long passion and when his health deteriorated he and Ronnie took up modern sequence dancing which they continued until quite recently.

To me, Mick seems always to have been there and we who knew him will always remember him with affection and our thoughts now are with Ronnie and his family.

Aileen Wills

Shiela Sibley contd

Sheila's generous nature was also illustrated by her fund raising efforts in Sidmouth. She loved busking on the seafront during Folk Week and also raised large sums of money over the years for local charities including 'Living With Cancer', Devon Air Ambulance and the Red Cross. Sheila and her enthusiasm for Folk Dance Music will be fondly remembered by all who knew her.

Angela Guest



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Contact Brian Thomas 01884 855267 or Zena Roberts 01884 253546

Review

Wreck off Sicily

Andy Clarke and Steve Tyler

Wren Music WGS399CD

I know local man Andy Clarke as an excellent guitarist and Steve Tyler as a brilliant hurdy-gurdy player also based in Devon who – with a small band – plays for great Balkan and Gypsy dance sessions in Exeter. He has been a member of bands Wendigo, Angles and Daughters of Elvin, playing everything from medieval tunes to French dances, Scandinavian polkas and English folk tunes. Andy now helps to run the Totnes folk club, and is also a fine singer whose voice is perfectly suited to the songs they have chosen. Tunes in which the hurdy-gurdy predominates alternate with songs, and Ruth Clarke plays fiddle on some of the tracks, adding another texture to the mix.

I am not sure whether this is their first (recorded) collaboration, but it works brilliantly; the hurdy-gurdy and cittern (played by Steve) providing a subtle and unusual accompaniment to Andy's voice and guitar on some of the tracks. Andy has done his homework, going back to the Baring-Gould collection for original words and adding traditional tunes or writing his own. Songs from the collection include the title track, collected from the farm labourer James Parsons of Lewdown, the poem Childe the Hunter collected from the Dartmoor poet Jonas Coaker set to a tune by Andy, the singaround favourite Bell Ringing, and a lovely version of The Unquiet Grave, here called Cold Blows the Winter Wind with the addition of a fine chorus. The tunes include a French bourree written by bagpiper David Faulkner, the Playford tune Half Hannikin, two Danish polkas and Steve's tune The Wendigo, inspired by a supernatural tale by Algernon Blackwood.

I hope this brief review gives some idea of the versatility and skill of these two musicians: for me, the strongest tracks are the haunting and powerful songs Poor Labourers (from an 1845 broadside), Wreck off Sicily, and Cold Blows the Winter Wind, and the tunes which prompt memories of dancing to the hurdy-gurdy! Highly recommended.

Nicola King



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Review

Sing a Full Song

Miranda Sykes and Rex Preston

Hands On Music HMCD37

Sing A Full Song was released in April 2013 just before Miranda Sykes and Rex Preston embarked on a tour with Show of Hands. As the support on the tour they received great acclaim. In 2014 they are touring as a duo, and by the time that this issue of "What's Afoot" is published they will have appeared in a number of venues in Devon. No doubt they will have wooed a larger group of followers and added to their ever growing high reputation. It is well deserved.

For almost a decade Miranda has become a familiar figure to many as the virtuoso double bass player with Show of Hands. She has also worked with a number of other well known people among them Leon Rosselson, Reg Meuross, Roger Wilson and Stefan Hannigan. In 2006 she released a solo album Bliss, delighting her audience, and an EP, Sweet Pea. Meanwhile Rex Preston, having moved to Bath to study music, attracted attention for his multi-instrumental talents, his arranging and his ability to adapt to a number of musical genres. He has subsequently worked with several acts in the traditional, celtic, bluegrass and blues fields.

The album opens with the gentle strains of the mandolin introducing the soaring voice of Miranda, so appropriate for the song, 'Little Bird'; a similar arrangement and setting occurs on a later track 'All This Time'. Both give the listener a sense of grounding. Alongside these there is much variety. Playful numbers include the only traditional song, 'Lady Isabel and the Elf Knight'. For most Miranda takes lead vocals with Rex adding harmony on occasion; on two, 'How Soon How Long' and 'Mysterious Day', this is reversed and the powerful voice of Rex is heard to full effect. There is only one instrumental track, 'Red Prairie Dawn', a toe-tapping, superb performance, blending styles and giving centre-stage to their instrumental skills. On some they are joined by Grant Gordy on flatpick guitar. This is their second album as a duo. It is hoped that more will follow and that they continue to work together for many years to come.

Jacqueline Patten

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3rd Wednesday

Pennymoor Singaround!

8.00 pm

**Cruwys Arms,
Nr Tiverton, EX16 8LF**

Nicola King 01363 877748

1st Tuesday

Song & Music Session

8.00 pm

**Rose & Crown,
Sandford, Nr Crediton**

Review

Wait for no man

Paul and Liz Davenport

HATRACD 009

www.hallamtrads.co.uk

This collection of songs and ballads, mainly from Yorkshire and the North East, has a reference to time passing. Many of the songs have a nautical flavour with some new compositions mainly written by Paul, and some older traditional songs all performed in a true folk style. Paul and Liz have very similar sounding voices and on the tracks where they sing together, as they are always in unison, they can sound uncannily like one voice. The songs are often unaccompanied, but some have also the lovely sound of the Wheatstone 58 button Maccann duet concertina.

Track 1 'Come See the Boys Go Round' is one of my personal favourites. Written by Paul, it is a homage to the longsword dance, and the refrain of 'raise the shining rose' referring to the tight lock of swords (hopefully!) being raised during and at the end of the dance. 'Green broom' tells the story of a young man looking to enjoy his wife's riches, while the 'Seven King's Daughters' is an unusual version of the 'Outlandish Knight' from Virginia in the USA.

'Ravenser Odd' tells the tale of a mythical town of drowned sailors beneath the waves of the North Sea off the Humber mouth. It is a very macabre story sung in a sombre voice. 'Boggle Hole Pirates' is a traditional sounding song written in recent times by Roy Blackman, and carries on the nautical theme of smugglers with a good tune and memorable lyrics.

'Nevison's Ride' is a take on the story of Dick Turpin the famous highwayman, which Paul accompanies with the concertina giving a good imitation of the horse's paces, all in a good catchy tune – another of my favourites from the CD. 'The Three Ships' taken from local legend continues the story of the three kings being carried by three ships to their burial place in Cologne Cathedral, while the final track written by Paul 'God Speed the Plough' rounds off the 'Time and tide wait for no man' theme very aptly.

I would recommend this CD to anyone who enjoys traditional songs sung in a simple and largely unadorned manner by two strong singers with an obvious love for their subject matter.

Claire Proietti



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Review

This Love

House of Hats

www.houseofhatsmusic.com

Skipping through this initially and listening to it again from start to finish, it didn't seem anything close to being folk and I was concerned about reviewing it for What's Afoot. However, House Of Hats, do make an effort to let some of their folk/roots influences seep through their more pop-oriented sound. Aside from that, it is a pretty good album!

House Of Hats are a Brighton-based band and part of a thriving music scene. They seem to be pretty successful, owing to their intelligent implementation of an eclectic mix of music influences. The band line-up consists of Noddy (the female singer), James, Alex and Rob. The main instruments are acoustic guitars, piano, bass and drums, but fiddles, mandolin, melodeon and banjo are added to some of the tracks giving them more familiar folk-sounding influences.

To describe their sound is quite difficult, because of the mix of influences - perhaps a complicated hybrid of Fleetwood Mac and Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young, with shades of The Civil Wars and a toned-down Mumford & Sons with a female singer and without the banjo. Individual influences also seep through, ranging from Bob Dylan to Bob Marley with Ella Fitzgerald somewhere in-between. Their sound is easy to digest, a warm jangly summer pop/folk, with plenty of pleasant vocal harmonies. If there was a bone to pick with this album it is that its strength becomes a weakness as they seem to be over-reliant on their harmonies. Yes, the vocals sound really nice, but it would be nice to have some tracks sung completely solo as I think the lead singers are perfectly capable of carrying a song to the end and making one or two of them a bit more personal. Despite the variety of musical influences at the band's disposal this weakness makes it sometimes difficult to distinguish one song from the other or, for that matter, pick out a stand-out track or tracks from the album.

I really enjoyed listening to this band, however, and would be interested in seeking out their future releases, to see where their developments take them. For those that enjoy and have an eclectic ear for this type of roots music this album is bound to please. For more pure folk enthusiasts you're probably wise to avoid this.

Martyn Cornelius

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Review

Pennymoor Singaround CD

Pennymoor Singaround

nicola@beechhill.eclipse.co.uk

The Pennymoor Singaround is the longest running folk song club in Devon, at least under the same name. After a break of a few years at the Black Dog Inn, it has now returned to its original venue, the Cruwys Arms, Pennymoor. For just on 35 years it has kept the same format – no guests, just a friendly gathering of singers and musicians in the bar or skittle alley all ready to contribute their song or tune when called upon by the MC. Several of the current regulars were there at the beginning – Clare Penney (whose late husband, Ken, started the Singaround), Len & Cissy Christopher, Margaret Palmer, and musicians John & Wendy Wilson.

It's surprising that a recording of a typical Pennymoor Singaround session has not been produced before. Thanks are therefore due to the Henrywood family for their efforts in capturing an iconic part of the Devon folk scene.

Apart from Jim Causley, none of the performers on this CD are professional musicians or singers and most have never been previously featured on an album. This gives a tremendous variety in the material presented and demonstrates that there is a wealth of talent amongst the 'floor singers' who are the backbone of folk clubs. In a short review it is not really possible to comment separately on every singer's contribution, much as I would like to do so. Those people already identified above ably offer a well-known song or tune while others render one of their favourites – Jon Shapley with Lavenders Blue, Paul Snow with The Brave Deserter, for example. I love the Graeme Miles song, Where Ravens Feed, sung here as well as anybody I've heard by Kath Parry. If you remember the days before Honiton, Exeter and Okehampton had a by-pass, you'll appreciate the humour of the Miles Wootton composition sung by Ross Causley.

For more information, please contact Nicola King - details above and on page 18

Colin Andrews

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(contact info p. 20)**

This CD is for those who love traditional songs, well sung in the old fashioned way. Nick has an excellent voice which he uses well – the sort of voice which easily masters the chattering masses at the bar during a live session. Nick has selected unusual songs sung in a deliberately stripped back, traditional style, which works very well with the excellent vocals. Some tracks are just with his voice and others accompanied by his exquisitely sensitive guitar playing. The vocals are excellent - clear with good diction – every word can be heard. Nick's variations of tempo and volume give the CD an added dimension of interest and variety. He says that he has been taught by the old masters of traditional song – and it shows!

Nick has carefully and lovingly researched his material and chosen unusual songs he likes or finds interesting or different. Each song was recorded in a maximum of two takes – sometimes only one – so seeing Nick live (which I have not yet done) should be a real treat.

My personal preference is accompanied song, so I tended to prefer these tracks on the album. My favourite tracks were 'The Blacksmith' – a melodic song of slighted love, gently rendered with beautiful guitar accompaniment; 'Through Bushes and Through Briars' – a more upbeat song of the impact of (possibly) unrequited love from a woman's point of view; and 'Just as the tide Was' – a sailor's love song. Nick is too modest about his abilities to sing this and I really liked his new arrangement as his chords created a musical surprise.

The CD and notes are very tastefully produced, complimenting the album, and have a lovely glossy feel. Nick's very personal introduction warms you to him and the album and each song is carefully documented.

All in all – a delightful album for those who love to hear traditional songs sung in traditional style.

Sue Hamer-Moss

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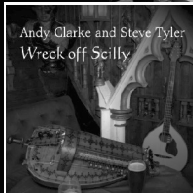
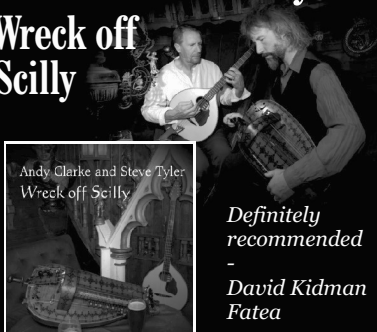


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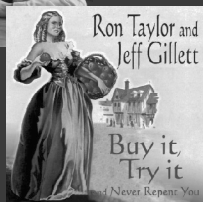
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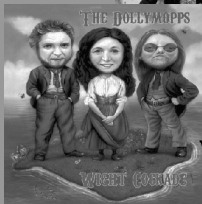
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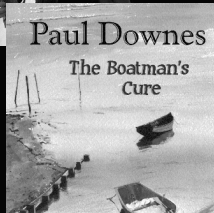
Wight Cockade

Paul Downes



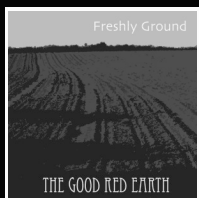
a deep, rich album - a master craftsman of a performer, marshalling all his

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The Boatman's Cure

Freshly Ground



The Good Red Earth

Issy Emeney choir arrangements of trad songs

Review **The Good Red Earth**

Freshly Ground

Wild Goose WGS395CD

Freshly Ground are a group of friends and singers, mostly based in the West Country, brought together by Issy Emeny: they comprise Issy and her husband David, Graham and Sandy Ball, Tim Brine and Sue Franklin, Sue Cook, Bernard Coulter, Gaynor Hughes, Linda Van Eyken and Vicky Wiggins – all strong singers, several of whom have made their own valuable contributions to the folk scene.

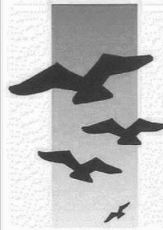
They have obviously had fun drinking coffee and singing together in harmonies arranged by Issy for both traditional songs and her own material. In her sleeve notes, Issy admits that arranging folk songs for choirs is treading ‘dangerous ground’, and I must confess to preferring the ad hoc harmonies created in a pub song session to the tightly arranged and- to my mind – rather contrived versions of traditional songs - such as John Bull, Widecombe Fair and Hey John Barleycorn - arranged for this CD. Martinmas Time and The Keys of Canterbury work better with the range of voices, emphasising and enhancing the dialogue upon which these songs are based.

Of Issy Emeny’s own material, The Reddleman (inspired by the character of Diggory Venn in Hardy’s *The Return of the Native*) is the song I enjoyed the most: it captures the strangeness of this lonely man and the harmonies work well. The Last Tommy is a poignant reflection on war and the causes of war, written just after the death of Harry Patch, the last surviving soldier from The Great War.

Arrangements such as these will inevitably be a matter of personal taste: I would have enjoyed some accompaniment to some of the songs, which would have created a bit more variety – many of the singers are also strong instrumentalists. But there are many ways of performing and enjoying folk music, and I am sure this CD will be enjoyed by many..

Nicola King

Reeling Reels – Propelling Jigs – Relaxing Airs



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A Plea from your editor:

Do you know of any new folk venues or clubs?

If so, please tell us - for contacts see page 3.

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).

Review

Wassailing: Reawakening an Ancient Folk Custom

Colin Cater & Karen Cater

Hedingham Fair 9780955647550

The Caters review the three main strands of the ancient forms of wassailing: parties for the well-to-do, the house visiting custom and the apple tree wassail. In Devon the main form was the apple tree wassail which was celebrated around Torquay, Exeter and East Devon; while in Somerset they were mainly found in the South, West and Centre. This was the West Country's main apple tree wassailing area, yet it survived only at Carhampton, West Somerset. In the late 19th century in Cornwall and Gloucestershire it was mainly a house visiting custom; Somerset had both types and Dorset had neither. A generalisation but close to the truth.

Although wassailing the crops, particularly apple trees, has been reported over the centuries from many places, the revival started in the heartland at Dunkeswell in the 1950s and the re-awakening with Chanctonbury Ring Morris Men in the 1960s. Taunton Cider revived wassailing in the 1970s and Whimble in the 1990s. The distinction drawn between revival and re-awakening is whether, or not, there is previous experience of the custom.

This book is about the re-awakening, where almost any part of the traditional formula of apple tree + cider + guns + song can be substituted, modified or extended to create an event. Additional characters are numerous, from a wassail King and/or Queen onwards. An internet search in 2012 – 2013 found over 200 public wassails taking place from Penzance to Edinburgh.

The seed (pip?) of this great reawakening came with the setting up of the first Apple Day by Common Ground in 1990, followed by a number of books, ending with the Community Orchards Handbook (2008). In the words of the Carhampton song the wassail can be said "to bloom well and to bear well". For anyone wishing to start an apple tree wassail this is essential reading.

www.hedinghamfair.co.uk

Bob Patten

Live Venue Review

When a Brewery Really Rocks

Every Thursday evening the Red Rock Brewery near Bishopsteignton hosts a live music session. in the outer lounge of the Old Workshop, adjacent to the microbrewery. The converted barn is about 20 x 20 feet square with a mix of stools, chairs and armchairs plus standing room. The session is totally acoustic - no mic, no amps – with a very informal, friendly "in your own front-room" atmosphere. Folk is a strong element but it can cover anything from blues, bluegrass, delta blues, old English traditional, sea shanties, gypsy jazz, popular songs and rock n roll. Guitar+Vocals seems to be the popular form of performance but there's usually violin/fiddle and double bass. Other instruments welcome – the more variety the better. A capello is also welcome.

The format - from 7.30-ish onwards until 11pm - is two songs per set (performances) then onto the next performer(s) in order of turning up. We usually get two sets in per performer (two rounds) in the night - with a jam session in the last half hour, time permitting. Performers have to be committed enough to wait for over an hour between their sets.

John Morey usually MCs the evening to keep things moving, until the jam session in the last half hour (time permitting) to ensure everyone gets a fair shout. But if individuals want to ask for support during their own sets, there are plenty of musicians who will join in on specific numbers (e.g. if you want a bass, or fiddle accompaniment.).

Typically evenings have been running at 10-14 individual performers per night on a regular basis - a slow night is 8 individuals playing. All performers - and non-performers – are welcome, particular more young 'uns. Singer-songwriters welcome. With beer at £2.50 a pint it cannot be bad!

For more information see www.oldworkshop.org or ring John Morey on 07791054773

Colin Andrews

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Please note there will be no singers' night on 13 July

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Steve Tilston trio

Sunday 13 April 2014
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Paul Downes & Phil Beer

Sunday 11 May 2014
at 8pm £12 adv/£14 door



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Monthly instrumental session nights featuring mainly English tunes are held at The Bridge Inn, Topsham on the first Thursday of each month 8pm- 10.30pm.

Review

Forty Years a Dartmoor Legend

The Kelly Quarry Blasters

The KQB's have been around Dartmoor for over forty years and Peter Mason has produced the D.V.D which is directed expertly by Steve Price with all profits going to the Lustleigh society.

The D.V.D is continuous with no tracks and is a story of the group from its inception in 1972 to the present day. The story is told with archival material and excerpts from a concert in Lustleigh in 2013. This is backed up by filmed interviews with the past and present members of the band and other local characters such as Tony Beard, Bill Murray and the late Bill Cann.

The band's line up is Richard Prince/Guitar /vocals, Dave Wills /Tea-chest bass / vocals, Len Harvey /Vocals and stories, Carl Allerfelt and Rob Murch, Banjo and vocals. Ex band members appearing are Mike Baker, Mike Price and Sid Matthews. Richard Prince has a powerful rich voice and plays excellent guitar accompaniment. Len Harvey and Dave Wills are the comedians and story tellers in the group whilst Rob Murch and Carl Allerfeld are superb musicians on fiddle and banjo respectively

The T chest /bass is a giveaway in that to start with, the group performed skiffle music, popular in the 70's. Remember Lonnie Donnigan? There are good old folk standards such as Whiskey in the Jar and the whole film is expertly linked by stories and sketches. Len and Dave Wills are hilarious and I was in stitches when they sang Old MacDonald had a farm. The group manage to entertain the punters but at the same time they are also having a good time themselves and this is very apparent in the film. The DVD has a very Dartmoor-ish flavour and interviews take place on moorland farms with the background of the moor.

I thoroughly enjoyed this film and recommend it for sheer enjoyment. I must say that the editing is superb and the music, archive material and stories are smoothly linked. I have seen it three times and as Bill Murray says in the film: "You know the punch line of the joke they are telling but it is still funny when you hear it!"

Copies of this film from Peter Mason 01647 277498.

Mike Palmer

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01579 362423

Review

Phil Beer

at the Acoustic Warehouse

The Acoustic Warehouse is an Open Mic club which has found a permanent home at the Passage House Inn (*see ad*) which has allowed it to expand to occasionally showcase professional live acts. An intimate venue, it was quite snugly packed on this occasion for a well known local artist. Not only does Phil live relatively locally, he also grew up in the area and there were tales about his past, including the involvement of the pub and Teignmouth, just down the road.

Most will know Phil for his work with Show of Hands, although he has a pedigree which goes back to his duo with Paul Downes back in the 1970s and includes a period in The Albion Band, yet his interests are far more eclectic than this and that was reflected in his choices of material. We were treated to Willing and Crow on the Cradle from the Show of Hands set list as well as shortened stripped bare version of The Falmouth Packet/Haul Away Joe in which the audience provided the backing vocals in style. But we also had a variety of blues, a Hollies number, a Nic Jones song (Warlike Lads of Russia) as well as some modern songs of quality.

Phil is an entertainer and a musicians musician all rolled into one. His banter was interesting, funny, informative and nostalgic. His choice of material moved seamlessly from one style to another, providing variety. His array of instruments which he had brought along were all played including the ukulele which he featured with humour and panache, moving from telling us about the (spoof) origins of the instrument to playing the tune Banish Misfortune on it seamlessly and following that with an O'Carolan tune after telling us that the harpist actually played two ukuleles stuck together! But of course, the fiddle, the mandolin and three different guitars were also featured. One was left with the impression that Phil just loves playing music and enjoyed the gig as much as his audience did.

Martin Gosling

See separate ad for this venue, and don't miss the next edition for reviews of the Phil Beer Rocks tour (ed)

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Review

Steeleye Span

Wintersmith

PRKCD132

Wintersmith is a collaboration between two leading exponents in the world of the arts of the past half-century, the folk/rock band, Steeleye Span, and the fantasy writer, Terry Pratchett.

Having been ardent followers of each other for many years, the idea for this project developed when Steeleye Span played at Terry's sixtieth birthday party. The title, Wintersmith, comes from Terry's thirty-fifth Discworld novel and conjures up a world of fantasy, mystery, intrigue, and excitement. We immediately want to start on the musical journey ahead and know more.

The listener is captivated from the dramatic opening bar of the first track 'The Dark Morris Song', an example of the classic Steeleye Span style, folk rock at its best. With great effect the next track, the title tune, is mellower and commands greater attention to the lyrics. The story is starting to unfold as is the musical journey. Excitement and high energy tracks are complemented with hauntingly beautiful songs such as 'You', and the gently lilting 'The Good Witch' and 'Hiver' both sung by Maddy Prior in a light upbeat way, with understated accompaniment. Drama and higher energy return with 'Fire & Ice' and 'Crown of Ice', with an unaccompanied song, rhythmic and slower, 'The Making of Man', between the two. The story continues, the music and songs lead us on, delighting, thrilling and surprising us until the final track 'We Shall Wear Midnight', and the close.

With the wealth of talent that Steeleye Span has, the songs and one instrumental number 'The Dark Morris Tune', are all arranged, written and are performed to an exceptionally high standard. Recently Steeleye Span has expanded from the four-piece band to a six-piece one with new members, Pete Zorn and

Julian Littman. For this project they were also joined by Bob Johnson on vocals, John Spiers on melodeon, and Kathryn Tickell on Northumbrian Pipes. A special guest appearance is made by Terry Pratchett, whose original creation and insight inspired the project.

This is a concept album. The thought, collaboration and dedication that must have gone into the concept to produce such a work is evident throughout. Each number could stand on its own and, in time, several numbers will become well-known as a separate entity. However, the album as it stands gives the feeling of being one work, a whole: sit back, be drawn into another world and enjoy it.

Jacqueline Patten

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Morris Matters



In the previous issue, I reported on our wonderful summer. Lets hope we can look forward to similar warm, sunny weather to enjoy a feast of morris all

over the county. Below are two special morris events, but look out for dancers at festivals, pubs and around the Maypole in early May.

Celebrating the 80th Anniversary of the Morris Ring, DARTINGTON MORRIS MEN, will be hosting a Ring Meeting at the Dartmouth Academy, over the weekend Friday 5th to Sunday 7th September.

Ten Sides from all over the country have made successful application to join us for this prestigious event, including the Squire of the Morris Ring, Robin Springett from our own Club, following a very successful Two Years in that Office, 'Dancing Out', whilst the new Squire Elect, who will be chosen in March at the Annual Representatives Meeting in Kent, will 'Dance In' on the Sunday

Four coach Tours have been arranged on Saturday 6th, to take our guests to many of our favourite dancing spots in Torbay, and the South Hams, before returning to Totnes, and we have built into our programme some interesting and, we hope, enjoyable surprises for our visitors during the day!

A Church Service at St. Saviours in Dartmouth will be held on Sunday morning, with a unique option for those who are not regular Churchgoers, followed by a Mass Display involving all the teams at the Bandstand in Dartmouth from midday.

Watch out for some extensive media publicity this Summer!

And now for something completely different...

Morris sides from all over the country have been given an open invitation for sides to take part in the All Things Morris event in Ilfracombe, North Devon on Saturday and Sunday 12 & 13

July 2014. This is the second All Things Morris events and next year by popular request has been extended to 2 days.

All Things Morris is a celebration of Morris. So there will be a William Morris exhibition all weekend, a touring Morris car show on the Sunday and Morris dancing on Saturday afternoon/early evening and Sunday late morning/afternoon. The dancing is to take place in up to 4 areas (Fore Street, seafront, harbour and Landmark) and will be part of a number of things going on like live music, stalls, food etc. All these areas are a few minutes level walk from each other.

I remember something similar when dancing for Hart and Sole - we were invited to dance at stations on the Watercress Line in Hampshire. At one station was an exhibition of classic Morris cars. After the inevitable jokes ('Which one's Morris?' - OF COURSE) - it turned out to be a really fun idea - and great for the non-Morris other halves.

Our festivals are great places to see Morris dancers - not only from Devon but from all over the country. As Morris dancing is a street tradition, you can see some fantastic dancing at festivals without paying a penny. For example, on Sunday 3rd August. Sidmouth Esplanade will be full of dancers between about 11am and 1pm.

And finally - as part of our look at youth folk in Devon - we will be publishing contributions from young people involved in Morris or Maypole dancing. So spread the word - anyone with stories or pictures from schools, workshops or youth teams - its a chance to get yourselves in print!

Sue Hamer-Moss



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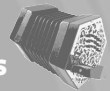
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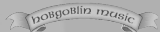


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Monday 26 May

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Friday 19 September

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Tuesday 30 September

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