
What's Afoot



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No. 105

AUTUMN 2014



NEW!

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DEVON'S FOLK MAGAZINE

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August 2014

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Articles, letters, listings

Sue Hamer-Moss

1, Beara House, Langtree,
Torrington EX38 8NE
01805 601323
Sue@hamer-moss.co.uk

Diary dates

Colin Andrews
01363 877216

bonnygreencolin@googlemail.com

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Enquiries & copy to:

Anne M. Gill
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Editorial

Welcome to the new look What's Afoot, in which we launch **Cool Folk**, our pull-out supplement for younger readers. **Cool Folk** is deliberately self contained so that it can be used as a flyer and distributed at folk events for younger people. I believe passionately in continuing our wonderful folk legacy. To do that we must broaden people's knowledge of Devon Folk and the wonderful young people's folk projects it supports, by engaging younger people using their language and communications media. For that reason, we are also on **Facebook** - see p 18 for details. I have been amazed at the take-up - and not just by younger people. So far over 300 people have befriended us in less than two months - and they keep on coming! But this magazine is still valued and important to many of you, so those of you who are less keen on novelty will find all your favourite articles within - Enjoy!

sue@hamer-moss.co.uk

Sue Hamer-Moss

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Front cover photograph: Coldridge Maypole dancers on May day

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Special Feature John Jones & Reluctant Ramblers

Two Moors, Two Seas tour through Devon

Intrepid What's Afoot reporters, Jackie and Bob Patten, Colin Andrews, John Kennaby and Sue Hamer-Moss attempted to follow John Jones and his group at the end of May as they rambled and gigged at such diverse venues as Barnstaple Beer Festival, Plough Arts Centre at Torrington, Tally Ho, Hatherleigh, Drewe Arms, Drewsteignton, Barrel House Ballroom Totnes, Watermark Theatre, Ivybridge and the Swan at Noss Mayo, near Plymouth.

This is their experience....

It takes a very special gift to create magical performances at such varied venues as a beer festival, a formal theatre, a tiny local pub, and a modest back room with a handful of chairs. Add to that walking 20 miles before each gig. Add to that performing at the above listed venues on successive days. If you missed the wonderful John Jones and the Reluctant Ramblers and their unfailingly friendly and inclusive band of followers as they passed through Devon, you missed a real treat.

John Jones, lead singer of Oysterband, is also President of the Powys Ramblers Association. Five years ago, he conceived the idea of fulfilling his passion for going around the UK on foot to seek out living villages with a heart and soul in beautiful, out of the way parts of England. This year, his Two Moors, Two Seas tour involved a week-long walking tour from Barbrook to Noss Mayo during the day, with evening performances at venues along the way. Starting with a couple of fellow Oysterband members on the first tour, the core group accompanying John has grown to around 35 people of all ages – from as far afield as US and, Denmark as well as all over the UK. Some go every year. As well as walking well over 100 miles with John, most of the group go to each of the gigs. Just a quick bit of maths suggests that the most avid followers will have been to over 20 gigs – and they all want to come back for more.

It is easy to see why - the breadth of repertoire; the relevance of the lyrics; the soaring crescendos that engage the most obdurate local; the contrast between delicately accompanied traditional songs and pulsating, energetic folk rock at its best. The arrangements are brilliantly conceived to reflect the mood of each song – for example: the wild and ethereal fiddle in Ghost of the Village, the scrummy rich bowing on stand-up bass in new song 'I'll be your Ferryman', the delicate accompaniment to 'Banks of Sweet Primroses' beautifully sung by Rowan Godel or driving percussion on the rousing up tempo numbers. These are just examples - every song added something special.

John is fantastic at understanding and engaging his audience and was unflappably courteous at all times, even when confronted with the unexpected, alcohol fuelled intervention!

Jackie and Bob Patten were at the Plough Concert - and said:

'John Jones & the Reluctant Ramblers let us all share a part of their walking and music holiday through Devon. Not only did we feel the holiday spirit we were also given an evening of superb music. John Jones lyrics touch everyone, storytelling about contemporary life and our country in song at its best. The traditional material alongside this complemented it perfectly. The sheer pleasure that they had on stage enveloped the auditorium too. Sitting with some of the walkers we felt as if we had been walking with them all day!'

Colin Andrews came to the morris dancing, concert and ceilidh at the Drewe Arms -

'With an iconic folk band and morris dancers at a popular Dartmoor pub on a fine evening in May, a good audience would surely be expected. But for something really special add in a well-publicised coast-to-coast walk by the band's leader and his followers, for which the pub was the chosen venue for the fourth night's stand. John Jones, along with over 40 supporters and fellow musicians, had already walked 20 odd miles that day from Hatherleigh to Drewsteignton. Far from being dead on their feet, John and his itinerant band of 'Reluctant Ramblers' (some also members of Oysterband)

contd on page 6



HALSWAY MANOR

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Autumn 2014 Highlights:

MON 28 | JULY-SAT 2 | AUG

Summer Hothouse

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SAT 16-SAT 23 | AUG

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Mixed-activity folk break for singers, musicians and dancers, with crafts thrown in too.

See website or ring for full programme details.

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Special Feature John Jones & Reluctant Ramblers

Two Moors, Two Seas tour through Devon

contd from page 4

gave an energetic performance in the packed function room of the Drewe Arms. Not just a concert, like their Monday show at Torrington, but a spirited evening which added playing for a ceilidh.

Beforehand, in the village square, the crowd were entertained by Great Western Morris Men and Tinnors Morris Men. John Jones declared he was in some ways returning to his roots, as he was an original member of Great Western and involved in the early days of the long –running traditional folk song club at the Jolly Porter in Exeter.

The band's concert programme included several traditional songs, some with a gentle guitar and fiddle backing, others with the full folk-rock treatment that is more characteristic for John's own well-crafted compositions. From impressive percussion and fiddle led backing group, supported by guitar and double bass, the band transformed seamlessly into a very danceable ceilidh band with John driving the traditional tunes on melodeon.

When I eventually crept away, exhausted even though I hadn't walked further than from my car, that cosy function room was still rocking and swaying with people all thoroughly enjoying the evening.'

John Kennedy was at the Barrel House Ballroom 'Another amazing evening with John Jones and his stunning band. This was a full set performance, and it was also being filmed for future promotion. It was a fully packed house with all tickets being sold, so this and the filming of course added to the atmosphere of the event.

John opened the show with *Walking through Ithonside*, a beautiful ballad about walking along a river in his native Welsh border country. This was followed by a great rousing chorus song, *Spirit of Dust*.

John's own composition *Black and White Bird* is based on a local true story and is another up lifting song from this wordsmith and great singer. The second half of the show opened up with the *Wanderer* which always goes down a storm with

the knowledgeable audience of Oysterband fans. Great set of songs by John and Rowan's superb soulful singing also added to the variety of the evening. The evening climaxed with a rousing rendition of the old Animals pop hit, 'We gotta get out of this place', and then ended with a magical finale of a whispered song that lead John and the band off stage, and out into the cool night air. The audience there knew that they had had a good time, full of wonderful songs performed to John's normal brilliant standard.'



Above: Local musicians join in John's session at the Tally Ho, Hatherleigh.

Below: John Jones on the Tarka Trail near Torrington



contd on page 7

Special Feature John Jones & Reluctant Ramblers

contd from p 6 Two Moors, Two Seas tour through Devon

Your editor decided to experience being a tour follower. She met the group at lunchtime at the Westleigh Inn near Bideford, accomplishing a miserly 4 miles and had the greatest pleasure to go to a formal concert, a pub session and a ceilidh on successive evenings. Each gig was pure joy – for different reasons. The exquisite sound quality and rapt attention at Torrington’s Plough, the amazing intimacy of having a top band at your local up the road (which must be the first ever time in North Devon!) and the stonking energy in Drewsteignton, contributed to an unforgettable 3 days. As the landlord of the Drewe Arms so aptly said ‘It is an honour to have John Jones in my pub’. Well said, sir! And John, it was an honour to accompany you and your wonderful band, crew and followers – please do come again!

Sue Hamer-Moss

John’s website is www.jj-rr.org. His brilliant new album, ‘*Rising Road*’ is reviewed in our next issue.



JJ and the band at the Barrel House Ballroom. From left: Lindsey Oliver, Al Scott, Dil Davies (partly obscured), John Jones, Rowan Godel and Tim Cotterell.



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- Dec. 27th** Open Night with Old Father Christmas



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THURSDAY 21 AUGUST 7.30pm

Brixham Folk Club presents **Geoff Lakeman** in concert supported by “**Doxies**” in the Theatre Studio.

Geoff Lakeman is an internationally recognised leading exponent of the rare Crane Duet Concertina. He performs self-penned songs, English, Irish and Scottish folk and other music as varied as Jimmie Rodgers, Randy Newman, Richard Thompson, and 1920/30's jazz standards.

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“Doxies” are Kate Ward, Steph Althaus and Jo Ballard.

Tickets £10 (£8 Students/Seniors/BATS Members)

To order tickets Box Office 01803 882717



FRIDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 7.30pm

Pete Moreton is the guest at Brixham Folk Club
Pete is a songwriter, singer and ‘folk rapper’ with a wealth of great songs and stage presence. His live shows are dynamic and thought provoking, while remaining approachable and fun loving.

Advance Tickets £6 from Theatre Box Office or available at the Folk Club. **£8 on the door.**

Theatre Box Office 01803 882717 or

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Pete Moreton

The Folk Dance weekends at Dartington came into being 40 years ago at the suggestion of Eric Langford, the Deputy Warden of the Devon Centre for Further Education, which was then based at Dartington. Even before the war Eric had been a keen folk and Morris dancer, and when approached for an idea for an activity to occupy a weekend in January, saw the potential of Dartington as an ideal location for a weekend of folk dancing. Eric immediately got in touch with his friend Tom Cook who agreed to come and call and Joan Winsor and Jimmy Coleman provided the music.

During the Saturday afternoon of that first year, Tom Cook treated participants to a lecture on Playford style dance. It was also at his suggestion that callers were asked to come for two consecutive years so that they could acquaint themselves with the weekend during the first year and then relax and enjoy the second. The list of callers is impressive and includes, among many others, Tom Cook, Pat Shaw, Colin Hume, Peter André, Charles Bolton, Robert Moir and Philippe Callens. Musicians have included Joan and Jimmy, mentioned above, as well as Gwyn George and Hilary Hudson, Denis Smith and, more recently, Deo Volente. Over the years dancers have come to the weekend from far and wide and there has usually been a waiting list for places.

As Dartington was a College of Arts in the 1980s, the dance weekend was always held in January, when the students were away, as accommodation was needed for 72 dancers – as well as callers and musicians. In 1988 Eric organised a summer folk dance course in July– Tom Cook again calling and Jimmy Coleman and Gwyn George playing. It was popular but many preferred their winter ‘break’ as there was so much else going on in the summer.

Bad weather has succeeded in disrupting the Folk Dance weekend only twice in the past 40 years - on both occasions it was almost snowed off. The first time was in 1982 when many people from a distance didn't make it and the second in 2010 when neither the caller nor musicians could get there. Generously, Robert Moir, who was one of the guests, took over the calling and Gwyn



Dancers enjoying Dartington Playford weekend

George – another guest played the piano with Hilary Hudson, a local, on the violin. It has been cancelled on only one occasion, that was in 2000, when new central heating was being installed in the Great Hall and, not only was the floor being taken up, but there were deep trenches outside. Bob Franklin, the organiser at that time, arranged a dance for disappointed locals, and anyone else who could get there, in a local village hall.

In 1983/84 the Great Hall and most of the rooms in the east and west wings were not available as one of the Elmhirst family was staging an opera in the Great Hall and the cast needed accommodation. So the dancers were asked to use one of the studios in the Dance School, a little way down the drive – obviously not as spacious or gracious as the Great Hall but better than not having the weekend.

Eric, with the support of his wife, Muriel, organised the weekends, until he died in 1994. He was succeeded by Bob Franklin, another well-known and respected dancer and caller, who took over the organisation for the next 10 years. In 2005, Patricia Reid took over the organisation and put in 9 years of very hard work which meant the weekends went smoothly on although things at Dartington were changing rapidly as it was turning into a conference centre – a very different ethos from an Art College. Then this year, 2014, Kathy Dunce organised the 40th anniversary dance weekend,

Eileen Conway

For those of us who were not around 60 years ago - or at least not going to festivals(!), Aileen Willis, one of the original organisers, presents a fascinating insight into the very first Sidmouth festival. Thanks to John Dowell, a former director of the festival, for a copy of an (the?) advert from 1955. ed

With the 60th Sidmouth Festival fresh in our minds it occurred to me that many people will have no idea of its humble beginnings or even believe how things were then.

I was a member of the Society's staff working in Exeter for a formidable lady called Margaret Grant, who was the S.W.Area Organiser. She was so well thought of as a dance teacher and organiser that many young members of staff were sent to her for training. For many years the Society had run a two week summer festival at Stratford on Avon but it was time to move on. Could a similar event be held in the South West? In 1953/4 Margaret and I set about exploring the possibilities for such a festival Councils had to be approached, venues adequate and accommodation available. Finally Sidmouth was decided upon as having everything such an event would need. We reserved hotel, boarding house and B & B accommodation of varying prices (definitely no official camping sites).

In 1955 the first Sidmouth Festival was held – directed by Margaret Grant and Nibs Matthews. Dancers had to apply and pay to come. For the whole week the fee was £4 for a pair or £2.10s for a single man or £2 for a single woman (this was because a man had the opportunity to dance Morris and Sword which a woman could not do in public then).

If you were a single and wanted accommodation we would match you up with someone of the same sex to share a room and we would match you to a dancing partner whom you kept for the week. No foreign teams then of course. The Manor Pavilion was booked for the week for rehearsals for the “shows” and for social gatherings. Emphasis was on dance performance since shapes, rhythms and steps flowed within the show. If your dancing was not up to scratch a “special” job was found for you

selling programmes, shaking a collection box or even in a Fool's costume with the obligatory pigs bladder! Daily performances were given in the Connaught Gardens and on The Ham and opened with Winster Processional along the sea front followed by dancing for the public. The Festival did move to Exmouth for one, maybe two years but the atmosphere was wrong and it soon returned to Sidmouth. Oh happy days.

Aileen Willis

A Small Quiet English Town - check out <https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/669314/#!/goal/6016243> or the folk week website to contribute your memories to this exciting new feature documentary about the festival.

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There are not too many occasions when you can say that it was a perfect weekend, but our Sixties Folk Song Revival Reunion Weekend at Halsway Manor on 14th- 16th March, was just that. Genial company, a beautiful venue, friendly ambience, fantastic singing sessions, stories, reminiscences, meeting up with friends old and new, lovely meals, comfortable accommodation, good beer and even beautiful weather! It couldn't have been any better! It all went with that apparently effortless smoothness that means that someone has worked very hard behind the scenes for a long time i.e. our hosts Meg Rose and Bill Crawford, (aided by friends and family). The friendly Halsway staff made us all very welcome and made our stay very comfortable.

Friday night was our meet and greet, with much poring over the photos of many of our number 'from the old days' which Meg and Bill and others had gathered together and displayed in Halsway's wonderful folklore library. In some of these photos people looked very young in comparison to now, especially Paul Simon at the Jolly Porter! After our first good meal Bill hosted a great singing session in the bar. When the session officially ended, there was much more singing, chatting, beer and whisky till late for the stalwarts.

Saturday was a beautiful day, and we had teas and coffees outside, strolling around the beautiful grounds with their carpets of cyclamen, daffodils and the white blossom of the blackthorn. Ted and Ivy Poole (Swindon FC) led the reminiscences session in the bar, sharing their memories of the early days of the South West Federation of Folk Clubs. They told anecdotes about the many guests they had booked for their club in Swindon over the years. Other club organisers shared their memories too.

After a good lunch, Dave Longly and Meg Rose hosted a 'Desert Island Discs' with Ted and Ivy Poole choosing their favourite recordings of folksingers they had booked for their club – including, for example, the McPeake Family and Bob Davenport - along with more reminiscences and anecdotes. Dave Longly played the music for us. After that, Taffy Thomas MBE talked about his amazing, embroidered silk 'Tale coat' and told a couple of his mesmeric stories about some of the creatures portrayed on the coat. After tea, Bonnie Sartin gave an interesting talk about the history of Halsway Manor, the library and the Federation.

Then an influx of us went down to the nearby Carew Arms for a rousing song session and a pint, competing with the rugby and a wedding! Back for dinner, followed by a brilliant, lively song session in the bar led by Dave Lowry. Once again, people stayed on till late, singing and drinking.

As expected, (the clue was an amazing deep red mackerel sky at sunset on Saturday, and a huge full moon into the bargain,) Sunday was another beautiful, sunny day, if a bit blowy. We set out on a two and a half mile walk up to the top of the Quantocks, along the ridge with stunning views of the sea and the distant Brendon hills and Exmoor, then back down to Halsway in time for another wonderful singaround in the bar. They never seem to last long enough. After a 3-course Sunday lunch, served so nicely by Halsway staff, we were treated to a showcase of award-winning young musicians playing and singing in the bar, introduced by Diggory Rose. We heard from Gavin Davenport, Amy Davenport, and James Findlay and friends. We felt our folk heritage was in very safe hands for the future.

Everyone thought it had been a wonderful weekend. When asked whether we would like to do it again next year, there was a resounding 'Yes'! So put 17th – 19th April 2015 in your diaries now!

Jackie Williams

WILLAND FOLK DANCE CLUB

SATURDAY DANCES

Willand Village Hall

September 13th Jane Thomas & Pendragon
October 18th Gill Spence & Fresh Aire
November 8th Sarah Bazeley & Dartmoor Pixie Band
November 29th Dinner Dance (*Ticket Only*) Club Callers & Folk Two
December 20th Eileen Nightingale & Weston Country Dance Band
Wednesday December 31st New Year's Eve Dance – Jane Thomas, Simon
Maplesden & Friendly Folk

Admission £6.00 Bring & share supper Raffle

Contact: Zena Roberts 01884 253546 www.willandfolkdanceclub.co.uk

Club Nights 2nd & 4th Thursdays 8.00 – 10.30pm in the Village Hall
Members £3.00 / Non-members £3.50 – See Diary Dates for more information
Contact Brian Thomas 01884 855267 or Zena Roberts 01884 253546

TAVISTOCK FOLK DANCE CLUB

CLUB NIGHTS

Thursday evenings at

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All are welcome

SATURDAY DANCES - TAVISTOCK TOWN HALL

8.00 pm - 11.30 pm (bring and share supper)

15th November 2014 Frances Oates and Silver & Gold

21st March 2015 Ted Farmer and Friendly Folk

Contact: Margaret Holt 01822 855858

When this issue of What's Afoot reaches its readership, Miranda Sykes & Rex Preston will be mid-way through their 2014 tour. It finishes at the beginning of October when Miranda joins Show of Hands on tour. Find their tour dates in our STOP PRESS section.

We had a chance to meet them before a concert that they gave at The Plough, Great Torrington, in April. They were obviously enjoying the tour, a fact that was evident to the audience during the concert as well as when speaking to them. What people of Devon will be proud to know is that they now live in the county. Having had cause to come here regularly they found that it is a very easy place to be creative, with a good music community and a sense of place that is an asset both to their work and personally. Future plans include building on this environment and letting it play a central role in their next recording.

Such talented musicians and performers individually, as a duo they are flourishing. If at least their immediate future is with a base in Devon and being influenced by the present surroundings and music community, what have been the influences that meant that they reached this position?

Both were xposed to a wide range of musical genres from childhood. Classically trained from the age of eight, at the same time Miranda was taken to folk clubs by her parents from a very young age. She was encouraged to learn a song for a folk club and having done so once, began to build up a repertoire and to gain confidence in performing, so while developing virtuoso skills on the double bass that lifts the instrument to levels seldom heard, she was honing her incredible voice skills likewise lifting singing to a magical level. "It went from there really, making connections with people. I played in various different bands - Celtic bands - and then met Phil Beer. That was my link with Show of Hands." Miranda has subsequently toured with the band for ten years.

Rex is largely self-taught. Having gained wide acclaim for his superlative talent on the mandolin, it is interesting to learn that he first played the piano. His mother played the piano and his father

the banjo. It was at the age of ten that he took to the mandolin. His father encouraged him to play at every opportunity by taking him to folk and bluegrass sessions, giving him a taste of what it is like to play in public. It was, however, music technology that he read at Bath. The mandolin was always by his side and having spent the first ten years of his adult life pursuing a career in electronics, he realised that what he really wanted to do long-term was play the mandolin. In truth he admits that before he graduated he had decided that electronic music was not going to be his future and he was playing mandolin in a local band called The Scoville Units.

It was through The Scoville Units that Miranda and Rex met, when Miranda was hired as a 'cadet': "to cut a long story short, that band disintegrated but me and Miranda carried on and here we are". Double bass and mandolin is not a natural combination, yet it works with tremendous success. Rex also plays bouzouki and tenor guitar. Not only their instruments but their voices complement each other too, with Miranda taking most of the lead and Rex harmonising at times; when Rex does take the lead it is equally powerful and commanding.

To date they have produced two albums, the first very simply 'Miranda Sykes and Rex Preston', the second 'Sing a Full Song'. The tracks comprise songs that they have liked and decided to arrange to suit them drawn from a wide number of sources. The choices provide the audience with so much to think about, enjoy and re-visit. Seeing them live on this tour enhances the fact that they speak through their music. The gigs give the duo a chance to play numbers from both albums and introduce new ones that, hopefully, will be recorded at a later date. At The Plough they were joined by Grant Gordy, an American guitar player whom they met at the Sore Fingers Summer Camp (www.sorefingers.co.uk) and who joined them on their second album. For their audience being part of that sharing process is a privilege. You have the impression that each time you listen to them, it will thrill you, you will feel part of it and be a party to their enthusiasm.

Jacqueline Patten

Feature

Maypole Dancing in Coldridge

Maypole dancing is a vibrant and important tradition in our county. With it, children get introduced to folk at an early age - paving the way for them to continue our wonderful traditions later on in life. Alan Quick reports on Maypole dancing in Coldridge. See our COOL FOLK section for another picture and look out for contributions from children about their participation in the famous Torrington May Fair, in our next edition... ed

A large number of children enjoyed Maypole Dancing on Coldridge Village Green on the first Bank Holiday Monday in May. The dancing was very well executed and, as in previous years, there were many spectators who enjoyed watching the dancing and listening to the music. The musicians were Rob Murch, Jason Rice, Ed Rennie and Colin Munday. Cream teas were served in the Village Hall in aid of Coldridge Parish Church and these were greatly enjoyed by all. A raffle was also held before a few more dances around the Maypole to end the enjoyable afternoon.



Picture Feature Great Western's Whit Tour

Every Whit weekend, Great Western Morris organise a weekend of dance, inviting some of the best sides in the country to join them. Here are some pictures from their Saturday Dartmoor tour - see our Morris Matters page and Devon Folk/ Cool Folk pages on Facebook for more.... ed



Above: the brilliant, young Cotswold side, Fools Gambit.



Above: the evergreen (and very serious!) Seven Champions Molly dancers

Right: The brilliant, but not all young - Great Western Morris.



Below: the elegant Jenny Hubbard of Glory of the West.

Below: Great Western's Mike Boston still going strong.



Festival Preview - Minehead Music Festival

I am delighted to be organising the (first) all day Minehead Musicians' Festival on 20th September, an opportunity to bring together all those involved in the music scene of West Somerset and North Devon to showcase the wonderful array of talent and depth of music that surrounds us.

We have a superb venue at The Beach Hotel, virtually on the seafront and directly opposite the West Somerset Railway station. Within that we have three separate areas to work with. On the forecourt we plan to have Street Choirs, Hobby Horse, Performing Arts and Morris Dancing. In the large Conference Room we shall have the 'Main Stage' with a full PA for Open Mic, bands and solo performers while the third area is the extensive restaurant which will be for acoustic, mainly but not exclusively folk, tunes and singarounds. Local music clubs and venues are being invited to host an hour each.

Richard Neal

www.mineheadmusic.co.uk

Mike Bond and Jo Beard

Sadly, Mike Bond, a lovely chap and great traditional mouth organist passed away on 11th June He will be missed at sessions and concerts in South Zeal and Devon. We hope to bring you a full obituary in the next issue.

Jo Beard, a familiar face on the local folk scene, also sadly passed away. Eileen Conway remembers him in Devon Folk News on p.19. ed

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GUEST LIST (CLUB CLOSED AUGUST)

14 SEPTEMBER	MIKE SILVER
28 SEPTEMBER	JIGANTICS
12 OCTOBER	BEN SANDS
26 OCTOBER	DAVID NEWAY & SHONA
9 NOVEMBER	VIN GARBUTT
23 NOVEMBER	TOM LEWIS
14 DECEMBER	COLVIN QUARMBY ACOUSTIC
21 DECEMBER	CHRISTMAS PARTY

**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 have had entries for our **COOL FOLK COMPETITION** which just missed our deadline so we are **running it again!** 10 year old **William Murch**, from Kingsmead school, our winner this time, won 4 free tickets to Dartmoor Festival, so it well worth entering. See William's winning entry in our Cool Folk pull-out supplement. Email devoncoolfolk@gmail.com for more details

Resurrected

Landkey (nr. Barnstaple): **The Castle** - see contacts section for details.

Changes

The **Okehampton Fountain** sessions are taking place at the White Hart, Okehampton (room at the top of the stairs) from now on, 8 – 11pm every last Sunday of the month.

RIP Devon County Playford Club

With dwindling numbers over the last few years, the Devon County Playford Club has closed, after over seventy years. At our final club meeting on 17th May we danced to the special music of Gwyn George. We were joined by Muriel Langford, one of the earliest members of the club which began in the 1940s. Although it meant goodbyes for a few, some will still dance at other clubs elsewhere.

The Minutes of Meeting books over the seventy-odd years will go to the Margaret Grant Memorial Library at Halsway Manor for safekeeping. Mrs Grant was a founder member of this special club, so it is appropriate that the books are kept there.

On a positive note, we hope these beautiful dances will someday inspire the revival of a club devoted to them, in Exeter.

June Backway

RIP - Totnes Folk Club - letter to the chairman

It is with great sadness that I write to tell you that after our April Dance (Saturday 5th) we are having to close. This is due to the fact that our numbers have dropped considerably, due to old age, sickness and death, we are nearly all in the same age bracket!!! Where have the young people been all this time? However, I would like to thank you, all the Committee of Devon Folk and What's Afoot for all the help and consideration which has been afforded to us, and wish you continued success with the future of Devon Folk.

June Prowse

Coming Soon...

In our next edition, we will be looking back on what promises to be a fun-filled festival summer. *If you run a festival, why not get free publicity for next year by sending us a report and pictures?*

Phil Beer is taking to the seas in his Folk on Boats tour - we plan to have a report of his experience. I wonder which artist will be first to take to the air?

By the time we go to print, the lovely remembrance event 'Celebrating Cicely' will have taken place, and we are looking forward to a report about that.

In **COOL FOLK** we will be featuring some of the best venues for those dark winter evenings

Folk on Facebook



Devon.Folk.58
Devoncoolfolk

I am thrilled at the success we have had over the past couple of months with our new **facebook** pages. Our Devonfolk (**facebook/Devon.folk.58**) page has attracted old friends and introduced us to new ones. We now have over 300 friends(!) - an eclectic mix of old and young, artists and venues, teachers, student groups and people who just love folk and want to know what is happening in our county.

Facebook is brilliant for news-type items (the sad passing of Mike Bond was posted there) and for promoting upcoming events. There are great photos - more than we could find space for in this magazine. It is **YOUR page** - please befriend us and **do please post** on it.

Catch our new facebook page for younger friends called **Devoncoolfolk**, to complement our Cool Folk supplement. We will be posting competition entries there **We need more 'likes' from younger people.**

We also need a younger person than your editor to manage it - my 'cool' vocabulary is seriously un-credible!! *Do you want to try?*

email us at devoncoolfolk@gmail.com

Sue Hamer-Moss

Devon Folk News

Devon Folk have sponsored yet another successful music workshop and tea dance held at Chudleigh in April. Thirty musicians using a variety of instruments spent the morning practising, under the direction of Mary Marker, and then, in the afternoon, they provided the music as Jean Foster called an interesting programme of dances for thirty Playford dancers with varying degrees of experience.



Sponsorship has again been provided for the Teignmouth Folk Festival to be held in June and we were also pleased to sponsor the South Brent Folk Festival which takes place on 11th – 13th July. Plans are underway to hold the Devon Folk AGM in South Brent next year.

A donation has been received from the Devon Playford Club (originally known as County Club) as a result of its closure after about 70 years. Totnes Folk Club, which was the dance club, has also closed after many years. I am pleased to say that the Totnes Folk Song Club is still thriving. It is sad to see the demise of these long established clubs but on the whole the Devon Folk scene is very vibrant.

On a more positive note, our Editor Sue has been working hard at encouraging young people to write articles about their involvement in folk activities, so do read the “**Cool Folk**” pull-out centrefold in this edition - and *please pull it out and pass it on to any youngsters who might be encouraged to join in!*

Jo Beard, a familiar face on the local folk scene, sadly passed away after battling Parkinson’s disease for eight years. Jo enjoyed his folk music right up to the last and his regular visits to Totnes Folk Song Club.

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

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

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

Eileen McKee

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

Co-opted

Sue Hamer-Moss

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

Jean Warren

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

Webmaster

Trevor Paul

trevor@flaxey-green.co.uk
www.devonfolk.co.uk

Devon & Cool Folk NEW

Email

c/o Sue Hamer-Moss

devoncoolfolk@gmail.com



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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.

JULY

- 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, Copplestone
COURSE International Folk Dance, Livermead House Hotel, Torquay. (Until 4th Aug). www.balkanfolk-dance.org
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

- Fri 1** SONG Brixham FSC, Theatre Bar.
1st - 8th SIDMOUTH FOLK WEEK
8th - 10th DARTMOOR FOLK FESTIVAL
Sat 9 CONCERT Plough, Torrington. New Rope String Band
Mon 18 COURSE Joe Broughton's 7th Folkworld Course for 10 -21 yrs old Rattery VH. (until 22nd). joe-broughton@talktalk.net
Thu 21 SONG Brixham FSC, Theatre Bar. Geoff Lakeman. The Doxies.
Sat 23 SONG Shammick Acoustic, Pack of Cards, Combe Martin. Chris Manners
Wed 27 SONG Magelake Pavilion, Uffculme
Thu 28 SONG Teignmouth FSC, Oystercatcher Cafe.
Fri 29 SONG Ley Arms, Kenn.

September

- Tue 2** DANCE Halsway FD Group, St Audries Holiday Centre (for musicians' holiday week).
DANCE Sidford FDC at VH. Barn. Simon Maplesden
SONG Rose & Crown, Sandford
Wed 3 SONG Anchor, Sidmouth
MUSIC Jack Russell, Swimbridge
MUSIC (Irish). White Hart, Bow
Thu 4 DANCE Tavistock FDC, St Peter's School. John Estall.
DANCE, Exmouth FDC Withycombe Meth Ch Hall. Aileen Wills.
SONG Quayside Hotel, Brixham
SONG Bicton Inn, Exmouth
MUSIC Bridge, Topsham
CONCERT Chudleigh Community Hall, Phil Beer. £14. 01626 853651
Fri 5 SONG Exeter, Barnfield.
SONG Brixham FSC, Theatre Bar. Pete Moreton.
CONCERT Waterrow Ch. Hall, nr Wiveliscombe. Askew Sisters, www.silverstreetssessions.co.uk
Sat 6 CEILIDH Church House Hall, Bridport. Gill Spence, Fresh Aire.
SONG Ley Arms, Kenn. Greg Russell & Ciaran Algar.
SONG Acorn FSC, URC Hall, Minehead. Dana & Susan Robinson
Sun 7 SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill. 7.45 pm
SONG Devonshire Arms, Sitcklepath
Mon 8 MUSIC Bell, Chittlehampton
Tue 9 DANCE Sidford FDC Social. Jeremy Child.
DANCE Country Dance Plymouth, Trinity URC Hall.
Wed 10 DANCE Gittisham FDC at VH. Frances Hilson, Friendly Folk
SONG Globe, Lympstone.
SONG Royal Oak, Malborough
SONG New Fountain, Whimple.
Thu 11 DANCE Tavistock FDC, St Peter's School. Ted Farmer
DANCE, Exmouth FDC Withycombe Meth Ch Hall. Muriel Forrester
DANCE Willand FDC at VH. Eileen Nightingale, More The Merrier.

Diary Dates (2)

- Thu 11** **SONG** Totnes FSC, Dartmouth Inn. The Berrys.
SONG Bideford FSC, Joiners Arms. Derek Gifford
- Sat 13** **DANCE** Willand VH. Jane Thomas, Pendragon.
SONG Shammick Acoustic, Pack of Cards, Combe Martin. Tommy Pearse
- Sun 14** **CONCERT** Lymptstone VH 7.30 pm Steve Knightley,
SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill. 7.45 pm. Mike Silver
SONG Kings Arms, South Zeal
- Mon 15** **MUSIC** Kings Arms, South Zeal
SONG Culm Valley, Culmstock (for performance of own material).
- Tue 16** **DANCE** Sidford FDC Social. Jane Thomas, Jeroka.
DANCE Country Dance Plymouth, Trinity URC Hall.
SONG Royal Oak, Nadderwater
SONG Pack Horse, South Brent
SONG Castle, Bradninch
- Wed 17** **DANCE** Halsway Manor FD Group, Halsway Manor. Ray Goodswen, Meter Rite.
DANCE Gittisham FDC at VH. Aileen Wills, Iain Bryden.
SONG Pennymoor Singaround, Cruwys Arms.
SONG Jurassic FSC, Dolphin, Beer.
SONG Teign House Inn, Christow.
- Thu 18** **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's School. Club callers
DANCE, Exmouth FDC Withycombe Meth Ch Hall. Club callers
SONG Royal Oak, South Brent
SONG Globe, Frogmore.
- Sat 20** **MINEHEAD MUSICIAN'S FESTIVAL**
SONG Staghunters, Brendon
- Sun 21** **SONG** Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill. 7.45 pm
SONG Old Plough, Bere Ferrers
SONG Topsham FSC, Matthews Hall Kathryn Roberts & Sean Lakeman
- Mon 22** **CONCERT** Cotleigh Brewery, Wiveliscombe. Hieran Goss. www.silverstreetssessions.co.uk
- Tue 23** **DANCE** Sidford FDC Social at VH. Eileen Nightingale.
DANCE Country Dance Plymouth, Trinity URC Hall.
- Wed 24** **DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH. Graham Knight, Meter Rite
SONG Magelake Pavilion, Uffculme
- Thu 25** **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's School. Frances Oates.
DANCE, Exmouth FDC Withycombe Meth Ch Hall. Wendy Hoare, Ivor Hyde & Holly.
DANCE Willand FDC at VH. Gill Spence, Stick The Fiddle.
SONG Teignmouth FSC, Oystercatcher Cafe.
- Fri 26** **DANCE** Exeter FDC, Baptist Centre, Palace Gate. Aileen Wills
SONG Ley Arms, Kenn.
CONCERT Colebrook VH. Miranda Sykes & Rex Preston
CONCERT S. Devon Arts Centre, Totnes. The Willows
- Sat 27** **CONCERT** Steve Knightley. Doug's Shop, Splatthayes, Buckerell, Honiton 01404 850637
SONG Shammick Acoustic, Pack of Cards, Combe Martin. Hissyfit.
- Sun 28** **SONG** Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill. 7.45 pm. Jigantics.
SONG Tradesman's Arms, Scorriton
SONG White Hart, Okehampton.
- Tue 30** **DANCE** Sidford FDC Social. Aileen Wills, Ivor Hyde & Holly.
DANCE Country Dance Plymouth, Trinity URC Hall.
SONG Cross Hotel, Coplestone

October

- Wed 1** **DANCE** Halsway Manor FD Group, Halsway Manor. Rob Zikking.
SONG Anchor, Sidmouth
MUSIC Jack Russell, Swimbridge
MUSIC (Irish). White Hart, Bow
- Thu 2** **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's School. Jane Thomas.
DANCE, Exmouth FDC Withycombe Meth Ch Hall. Ted Farmer.
SONG Quayside Hotel, Brixham
SONG Bicton Inn, Exmouth

Diary Dates (3)

- Fri 3** **MUSIC** Bridge, Topsham
SONG Brixham FSC, Theatre Bar
SONG Exeter, Barnfield.
- Sat 4** **CEILIDH** Church House Hall, Bridport. Jane Thomas, Stick The Fiddle.
CONCERT South Brent vh, 7.30 pm Jackie Oates, Mike Cosgrave.
SONG Acorn FSC, Minehead, URC Hall. Inu.
- Sun 5** **SONG** Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill.7.45 pm
SONG Devonshire Arms, Sitcklepath
SONG Topsham FSC, Matthews Hall, Will Pound Band.
- Tue 7** **DANCE** Sidford FDC . Barn. at VH. Simon Maplesden.
DANCE Country Dance Plymouth, Trinity URC Hall.
SONG Rose & Crown, Sandford
- Wed 8** **DANCE** Gittsham FDC at VH. Eileen Nightingale, Jeroka
SONG Globe, Lymptone.
SONG Royal Oak, Malborough
SONG New Fountain, Whimble.
- Thu 9** **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's School. Chris Thorne
DANCE, Exmouth FDC Withycombe Meth Ch Hall. Chris Miles
DANCE Willand FDC at VH. Ted Farmer, Quantock Quarenders
SONG Totnes FSC, Dartmouth Inn.
- Sat 11** **SONG** Shammick Acoustic, Pack of Cards, Combe Martin. Diana Johnson & Ray Bradfield.
- Sun 12** **SONG** Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill.7.45 pm Ben Sands.
SONG Kings Arms, South Zeal
- Mon 13** **MUSIC** Bell, Chittlehampton
- Tue 14** **DANCE** Sidford FDC. Social at VH. Nicole Mac, Sou'westers.
DANCE Country Dance Plymouth, Trinity URC Hall.
- Wed 15** **DANCE** Halsway FD Group, Halsway Manor. Alan Glass, Amycrofters
DANCE Gittisham FDC at VH. Nicole Mac, Sou'westers.
- Thu 16** **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's School. John Estall
DANCE, Exmouth FDC Withycombe Meth Ch Hall. Club callers
SONG Royal Oak, South Brent.
- Sat 18** **DANCE** Willand VH. Gill Spence, Fresh Aire.
DANCE Pensilva FDC. Callington Town Hall. Frances Oates.
SONG Staghunters, Brendon
- Sun 19** **SONG** Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill.7.45 pm
SONG Old Plough, Bere Ferrers
- Mon 20** **MUSIC** Kings Arms, South Zeal
SONG Culm Valley, Culmstock.
- Tue 21** **DANCE** Sidford FDC Social. Eileen Nightingale
DANCE Country Dance Plymouth, Trinity URC Hall.
SONG Royal Oak, Nadderwater
SONG Pack Horse, South Brent
SONG Castle, Bradninch
- Wed 22** **DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH. Robert Blackborow, Bridgewater Band.
- Thu 23** **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's School. Alan & Marion Finch
DANCE, Exmouth FDC Withycombe Meth Ch Hall. Nicole Mac, Sou'westers
DANCE Willand FDC at VH. Rosie Shaw, Iain Bryden.
SONG Bideford FSC, Joiners Arms. Jim Causley.
CONCERT South Devon Arts Centre Totnes. Carrie Tree, House of Hats.
- Fri 24** **DANCE** Exeter FDC, Baptist Centre, Palace Gate. Jeremy Child, live music
SONG Ley Arms, Kenn. Johnny Coppin
- Sat 25** **PLAYFORD** Teign Playford Club, Rydon Hall, Kingsteignton, 2.30 pm. Jean Foster, Gwyn George.
SONG Shammick Acoustic, Pack of Cards, Combe Martin. Lester Simpson.

Diary Dates (4)

- Sun 26** **SONG** Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill. 7.45 pm. David Newey & Shona.
SONG White Hart, Okehampton.
SONG Old Plough, Scorriton
- Mon 27** **CONCERT** Kingsmead School, Wiveliscombe. Martin Simpson. www.silverstreetsessions.co.uk
- Tue 28** **DANCE** Sidford FDC Social. Jane Thomas.
DANCE Country Dance Plymouth, Trinity URC Hall.
SONG Cross Hotel, Coplestone
- Wed 29** **DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH. Simon Maplesden, Stick The Fiddle.
SONG Magelake Pavilion, Uffculme. Craig & Willoughby. Josie Lloyd & Greg Hancock.
- Thu 30** **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's School. Mary Marker
DANCE, Exmouth FDC Withycombe Meth Ch Hall. Dennis Warry
SONG Teighmouth FSC, Oystercatcher Cafe.
- Fri 31** **SONG** Ley Arms, Kenn.
FESTIVAL Bampton After The Fair

November

- Sat 1** **CEILIDH** Church House Hall, Bridport. Simon Maplesden, Chris Toyne.
SONG Acorn FSC, Minehead, URC Hall. Exmouth Shanty Men
FESTIVAL Bampton After The Fair
- Sun 2** **SONG** Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm
SONG Devonshire Inn, Sticklepath
FESTIVAL Bampton After The Fair
- Tue 4** **DANCE** Sidford FDC at VH. Barn. Kim Smith, Amycrofters.
DANCE Country Dance, Plymouth, Trinity URC Hall.
SONG Rose & Crown, Sandford
- Wed 5** **DANCE** Halsway FD Group, Bicknoller VH. AGM . Club callers.
SONG Anchor, Sidmouth
MUSIC Jack Russell, Swimbridge

- MUSIC** (Irish). White Hart, Bow.
- Thu 6** **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's School. Ted Farmer
DANCE, Exmouth FDC Withycombe Meth Ch Hall. AGM. Club callers.
SONG Quayside Hotel, Brisham
SONG Bicton Inn, Exmouth
MUSIC Bridge, Topsham
- Fri 7** **SONG** Exeter Barnfield
SONG Brixham FSC, Theatre Bar
- Sat 8** **DANCE** Willand VH. Sarah Bazeley, Dartmoor Pixie Band.
- Sun 9** **SONG** Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm Vin Garbutt
SONG Shammick Abroad, George Hotel, South Molton. Rag Mama Rag
SONG Kings Arms, South Zeal.
- Mon 10** **MUSIC** Bell, Chittlehampton
CONCERT Kingsmead School, Wiveliscombe. Vin Garbutt. www.silverstreetsessions.co.uk
- Tue 11** **DANCE** Sidford FDC at VH. Social. Aileen Wills, Jigs for Gigs.
DANCE Country Dance, Plymouth, Trinity URC Hall.
- Wed 12** **DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH. Aileen Wills, Friendly Folk
SONG Globe, Lymptone
SONG Royal Oak, Malborough
SONG New Fountain, Whimpe
- Thu 13** **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's School. Alyson & Jerry Tucker
DANCE, Exmouth FDC Withycombe Meth Ch Hall. Rosie Shaw, Amycrofters.
DANCE Willand FDC at VH. Jane Thomas, Weston Band.
SONG Totnes FSC, Dartmouth Inn
SONG Bideford FSC, Joiners Arms. Barron Brady
- Sat 15** **DANCE** Tavistock Town Hall. Frances Oates, Silver & Gold
SONG Staghunters, Brendon
- Sun 16** **SONG** Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm
SONG Topsham FSC Matthews Hall. Peter Knight's Gigspanner
SONG Old Plough, Bere Ferrers

Diary Dates (5)

- Sun 16** **CONCERT** Acoustic Warehouse, Passage House Inn, Newton Abbot. Reg Meuross
- Mon 17** **MUSIC** Kings Arms, South Zeal
SONG Culm Valley, Culmstock.
- Tue 18** **DANCE** Sidford FDC at VH. Social. Simon Maplesden
DANCE Country Dance, Plymouth, Trinity URC Hall.
SONG Castle Hotel, Bradninch
SONG Pack Horse, South Brent
- Wed 19** **DANCE** Halsway FD Group, Bicknoller VH. Jane Thomas, Wassail Band.
DANCE Gittisham FDC at VH. Ted Farmer, Sou'westers
SONG Pennymoor Singaround, Cruwys Arms.
SONG Teign House Inn, Christow
SONG Jurassic FC, Dolphin, Beer
- Thu 20** **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's School. Chris Thorne
DANCE, Exmouth FDC Withycombe Meth Ch Hall. Jane Thomas
SONG Royal Oak, South Brent
SONG Ley Arms, Kenn. Philip Henry & Hannah Martin.
- Sat 22** **SONG** Shammick Acoustic, pack of Cards, Combe Martin. Tom Lewis
CONCERT Lisbee Stainton Duo St. Mary's Ch. Kingkerswell
- Sun 23** **SONG** Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm
SONG Tradesman's Arms, Scorriton
- Tue 25** **DANCE** Sidford FDC at VH. Social. Jane Thomas
DANCE Country Dance, Plymouth, Trinity URC Hall.
SONG Cross Hotel, Coplestone
- Wed 26** **DANCE** Gittisham FDC at VH. Graham Barrett, Fresh Aire
SONG Magelake Pavilion, Uffculme
- Thu 27** **DANCE** Tavistock FDC, St Peter's School. Frances Oates
DANCE, Exmouth FDC Withycombe Meth Ch Hall. Simon Maplesden
DANCE Willand FDC at VH. Ted Farmer, Friendly Folk

- SONG** Teignmouth FSC, Oystercatcher Cafe
- Fri 28** **DANCE** Exeter FDC, Baptist Centre, Palace Gate. Pam Hayes, live music
SONG Ley Arms, Kenn.
- Sat 29** **DINNER & DANCE** (Ticket only) Willand FDC at VH. Club callers, Folk Two.
- Sun 30** **SONG** Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm
SONG White Hart, Okehampton

December

- Tue 2** **DANCE** Sidford FDC at VH. Barn. Jeremy Child
SONG Rose & Crown, Sandford
- Wed 3** **DANCE** Halsway FD Group, Halsway Manor. Simon Maplesden, Friendly Folk.
- Fri-Sun**
5-7 **CONCERT** Show of Hands, Exmouth Pavilion 7.30pm
- Sat 6** **CEILIDH** Church House Hall, Bridport. Patchwork.

With thanks to Colin Andrews for compiling this diary.

STOP PRESS

This section contains last minute announcements - please read carefully as they are not in date order! ed.

Stop Press copy date 15th Oct, Feb, June

Miranda Sykes and Rex Preston

Future West Country dates in this tour are: 4th July, Calstock, 5th July, Abbotsbury, 12 July, Priddy, 26th July, Trowbridge, 2nd August, Sidmouth Festival, 5th September, Bridport, 6th September, Bradford-on-Avon, 26th September, Colebrooke.

Lucky 7 diary dates as follows:
September 2, 16, 30; October 7, 21;
November 4, 18; December 2 (Christmas Party)

sue@hamer-moss.co.uk

Sue Hamer-Moss

FREE

PULL-OUT SUPPLEMENT FOR YOUNGER READERS

 **Devoncoolfolk**



*Glory of the West's
Jenny Hubbard*

COOL FOLK



From the Wren Fiddle Day poster

PLEASE:

HELP us reach young people. Do you know young people, teachers or youth workers? We would love you to give them this. Devon Folk is committed to youth projects of all kinds and this is our vehicle to encourage young people into folk activities..

COOL FOLK is produced by Devon Folk, the regional folk body affiliated to the EFDSS.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET INVOLVED?

We are looking for contributors, production support, distribution outlets and, above all

SPONSORS!

Message us on facebook/devoncoolfolk or email devoncoolfolk@gmail.com

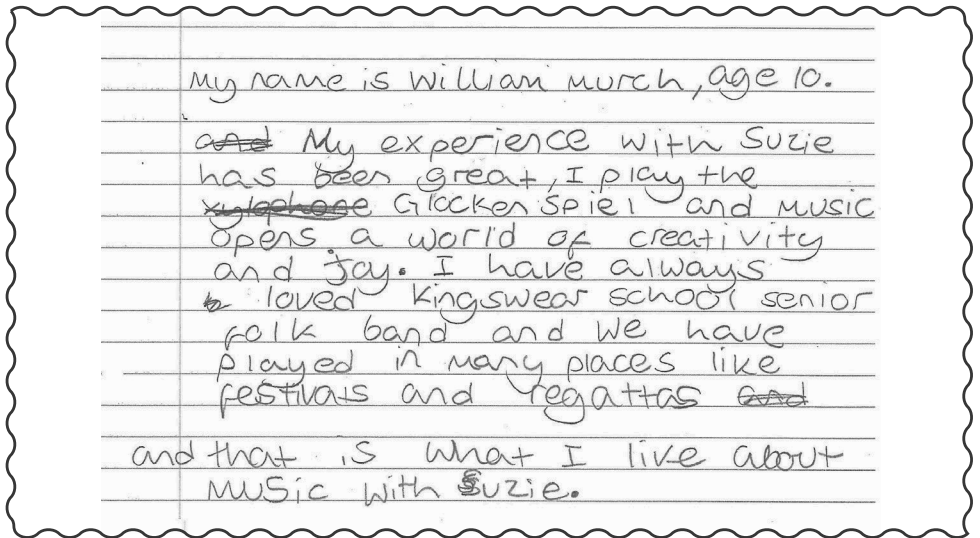
COOL FOLK


COMPETITION

Kindly Sponsored by : **Dartmoor Folk Festival-** www.dartmoorfestival.co.uk

AND THE WINNER IS.... 10 year old **William Murch**, from Kingswear Primary School. William plays in the school folk band. Thanks to all the other competitors - particularly from Kingswear School - and great work by teacher Suzie!

William wins **4 day tickets** to Dartmoor Folk Festival. Thank you Dartmoor!



See the other entries at  **Devoncoolfolk**

or at www.devonfolk.co.uk

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COOL FOLK



COOL PIX

**A MAYPOLE DANCER
ENJOYING MAYDAY AT
COLDRIDGE**

**THE AWESOME FOOLS
GAMBIT MORRIS AT
MORETONHAMPSTEAD ON
GREAT WESTERN'S WHIT TOUR
IN MAY**



**MUST-SEE BAND,
LADY MAISERY
APPEARING AT
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GET STOKED IN AUGUST AT DARTMOOR AND SIDMOUTH FESTIVALS

Catch these acts at Dartmoor Festival (8th-10th August)

Proud Sponsors of our competition - Thank You!!!

New Rope String Band, Lady Maisery, Greg Russell and Ciaran Algar (winners of the BBC Young Folk Awards 2013), Vicki Swan and Jonny Dyer, Chalktown, Pete White's Suitcase Circus, Trevor Organ's Cracking Crockery

Not only that, but there are ceilidhs, song and dance workshops, music sessions, a Children's Festival, Dartmoor dance competitions and even a ramble over Dartmoor!

Find out more at www.dartmoorfestival.co.uk

Sizzling Sidmouth -

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Children's Festival with the amazingly multi-coloured Gog Magog Molly dancers, Young performers showcase and special geo songs written by local children.

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Read more in **What's Afoot** main magazine. See ad inside.

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
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

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

daccordexeter9@gmail.com

Dartington Folk*

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

Devon Set Dancers*

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

Don't forget: Check for any changes online: www.devonfolk.co.uk OR



Devon.Folk.58

Devoncoolfolk

Folk dance contacts

Exeter Folk Dance Group*

Last Fri. 7.30 pm Palace Gate Centre, Baptist Church, South Street, Exeter. Tricia Henderson 07816 000148 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
1st Tue Barn Dance (B) for beginners. Otherwise mixed social dance (S).

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 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

Online News

Mike Norris' folk programme can be heard on <http://www.efds.org/listen> if you missed it.

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
 OM Landkey, Castle, 9pm F
 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, Coach and Horses M, 4th
 FC Beer, Dolphin Hotel M, 1&3
 SE Bow, White Hart. (Irish) M, 1st
 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
 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, White Hart M,last
 SE Parracombe, Hunters Inn F, 2&4
 SE Plymouth Barbican, Dolphin M, 1st
 SE Plymouth, Morley Arms 3-6 pm M, 3rd
 FC Scorrington, Tradesman's Arms M,4th
 SE Sticklepath, Devonshire Inn M, 1st
 SE Tiverton, Half Moon (noon) M,2nd
 FC Topsham, Globe Wk

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

Folk music & song contacts

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. Mason's Arms (?), Bodmin Mike Freemantle 01726 816454 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

Jurassic Folk

1st Wed Jam Session; 3rd Wed Come All Ye, Dolphin Hotel, Beer. Details: jurassic.pete@aol.com

Ken

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

Minehead

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, White Hart, Sandie Whittington Sandie. whittington@bopenworld.com;

Pennymoor Singaround*

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

Folk music & song contacts

Plymouth, Artillery Arms

Alt Tues. Artillery Arms, Pound Street,

Plymouth, Folk Roots

2nd Wed. Hyde, Mutley. Ali 01752 662002

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, Scorriton Farmhouse, Scorriton,
Buckfastleigh TQ11 0JB 01364 631308.

Sidmouth

1st Wed. traditional song. Anchor Inn

South Brent, Pack Horse Hotel.

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

South Brent, Royal Oak

Wed. 8.30 pm Alt Wed children's folk 7.30 -8.30
pm. Caroline 01364 73490. Also 3rd Thurs Mike
Bramich 01364 649339

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, Ballroom

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 Beds. 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

Maggie Anderson mag2anderson@yahoo.co.uk

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

Mary Neal mary.neal@blueyonder.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

John Blackburn 01237 476632

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

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

Crediton Folk Festival

Early May Pete Lister 01363 775695
creditonfolkfestival@yahoo.co.uk

Festivals, National Organisations

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.

3dB Ceilidh Band	01803 862393	Mullachabu	01626 871260
4 Reel Drive	01363 877216	Newlyn Reelers	01736 366284
Amicrofters Band	01404 46451	New Vintage Band	01363 774426
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 Airs	01392 811593	Slapjack	01823 601583
Fresh Aire	01823 257488	Smileyboots	01752 364596
Friendly Folk	01643 707294	Sou'westers	01395 266553
Full English	01271 866907	Spinach For Norman	01392 875239
Haymakers	01288 361625	Squeezum	01823 333567
Hips & Haws	01392 861466	Steve Gill & Andy Clarke	01803 290427
Hobson's Choice	01823 272537	Stick The Fiddle	01884 243295
Home Brew	01363 877216	Swain's Gold	01579 383554
Hot Punch	01271 373128	Tinners	01736 787951
Housewife's Choice	01363 774426	Up The Creek	01548 531525
Ivor Hyde's Band	01460 65159	Walter Shortage & Hosepipe Band	01837 52174
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		
More The Merrier	01626 854141		
Mrs Crotty's Ceilidh Band	01803 762645		
Mrs. Crotty's Rumpus	01548 531525		
Mrs Midnight	01363 775552		
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Callers

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Colin Andrews	01363 877216
Graham Barrett	01823 461632
Sarah Bazeley	01837 840775
Robert Blackborow	01823 491662
John Blackburn	01237 476632
Adrian Brayley	07791 703009
Linda Breeze	01363 776184
Tom Brown	01271 882366
Les Burden	01840 261708
Dick Carlyon	01458 272933
Jeremy Child	01392 422119
Ted Farmer	01392 466326
Judy Forrow	01626 864042
Ray Goodswen	01278 424332
Sue Hamer-Moss	01805 601323
Susan Heard	01823 462936
Martin Hodge	01392 217827
Joan Holloway	01626 870539
Gil Jefferies	01752 844138
Chris Jewell	01237 475138
Beryl Jukes	01209 712357
Graham Knight	01823 401271
Rosie Longhurst	01579 351201
Nicole Mac	01395 266553
Simon Maplesden	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
Tom Stevens	01872 240826
John Tarling	01297 34804
Jane Thomas	01884 855267
Garry Thompson	01271 865030
Les Thompson	01803 962393
Chris Thorne	01726 823275
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*10th July – Singers' Night
14th August – Singers' Night
11th September -Guest Night
"The Berrys"
9th October – Singers' Night
13th November – Singers' Night*

For further information ring
Anne & Steve Gill 01803 290427
or Andy Clarke 01803 732312

Barbara Brown reports on a brilliant Devonshire Association initiative to showcase local folk artists.

The second Living Tradition concert, organised by the Music Section of the Devonshire Association, was held at Sampford Peverell on the 15th February. For those not familiar with it, the Devonshire Association, which celebrated its 150th anniversary last year, exists ‘for the advancement of science, literature and the arts.’ The Music Section is only two years old and concerns itself with song and music of whatever genre that is indigenous to, or inspired by, the County. As last year at South Molton, the Living Tradition concert set out to present a wide range of traditional and contemporary material from Devon within the broad genre of ‘folk’.

The concert was well attended, although several people had cried off in anticipation of bad weather. Sadly, Amy Birch, who was to have sung songs from her family’s longstanding tradition, was unable to come to the concert due to ill-health in the family.

The concert opened with Becki Driscoll and Paul Wilson, both of whom work with Wren Music, a development agency which teaches and encourages people to sing, play and write songs and music throughout Devon. Paul (on accordion and guitar) and Becki (on fiddle) presented lively sets of tunes – some traditional, some self-penned, but all of which have found their way into the repertoire of tunes found at sessions throughout the county.

Ben Campbell followed with a superb set of modern songs all of which concerned tales and legends from Devon – from the history of a copper mine to the heart-rending story of Kitty J. Although not a native of the county, Ben has made Devon his home and his love of the county inspires his work. With his soaring voice and well-crafted guitar work, the audience were entranced.

The second half opened with two singers whose presence on the folk revival scene in Devon goes back to its very foundation (although they were very young when they started!). Bill Crawford and Dave Lowry gave the audience a delightful set of traditional songs, sung unaccompanied, both serious and humorous, including the Westaway’s version of Widecombe Fair – delightfully confusing those members of the audience who were not familiar with it as it features a different set of names to the more familiar version. Their interactions on stage added a further dimension to the entertainment.

Last, but by no means least, came Paul Downes. Paul is a professional musician and singer, rooted in his native Devon, who delights in the traditional songs from the area and who has developed an international reputation as a singer, musician, accompanist and musical director (and Exeter Chiefs’ No.1 fan). His set, utilising both guitar and banjo, included Cyril Tawney’s Oggie Man which he had arranged especially for the concert. Paul’s set, and the concert itself, finished, appropriately, with The Bellingring – one of the most famous Devon songs collected by the polymath and one-time President of the Devonshire Association, the Rev. Sabine Baring-Gould.

Demand from the audience suggests that there will be another Living Tradition concert in 2015, and in line with the principles behind it, the Music Section will be looking to hold it in another part of our huge county. The concert showed how our folk music traditions continue to evolve over time - may they never stagnate!

More information on the Devonshire Association and its branches and sections can be found at the website at www.devonassoc.org.uk.

Barbara Brown

Ley Arms Folk & Acoustic Music Club

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Friday 25 th July	Open Club Night
Friday 29 th August	Open Club Night
Saturday 6 th September	Concert Night – Greg Russell & Ciaran Algar
Friday 26 th September	Open Club Night
Friday 24 th October	Concert Night – Johnny Coppin
Friday 31 st October	Open Club Night
Thursday 20 th November	Concert Night – Phil Henry & Hannah Martin
Friday 28 th November	Open Club Night
Saturday 13 th December	Concert Night – Phil Beer

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The Cornelius Family – leyarmsfolk@hotmail.co.uk - Tel. 01392 210983

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FOR INFORMATION: www.shammickacoustic.org.uk OR RING 01271 882366



SOUTH BRENT FOLK



PRESENTS JACKIE OATES IN CONCERT
WITH MIKE COSGRAVE
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 'Jackie Oates'; 'The Violet Hour'; 'Hyper boreans'; 'Satur nine' and 'Lullabies' have attracted wide critical acclaim as well as collaborative work with various other projects. Jackie headlined the sell out concert during the 2012 South Brent Folk Festival and as she now lives in Oxford this will be a welcome return for her to Devon. Jackie will be accompanied by multi-instrumentalist Mike Cosgrave at 7.30pm in **South Brent Village Hall**. "Reel" Ale Bar - Doors open 7.00pm. Tickets £10 in advance from **Artworks South Brent** £12 on the door or phone **0794 730 8268** - email eileen.southbrentfolk@gmail.com
One of a number of events organised throughout the year to support the South Brent Folk Festival in July
www.southbrent.org

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What an excellently crafted CD this is! Each song has been diligently researched and carefully arranged. There is a lovely mixture of jolly toe-tapping tunes and atmospheric strings, with a generous North Devon flavour to the lyrics. Nick and Becki expertly mix their own compositions with arrangements of traditional songs resulting in a cohesive and eminently listenable-to CD.

The music is, however, much, much more than jolly tunes. It can be enjoyed on a more sophisticated level. Every single note is as clear as a bell. The deceptive simplicity of the arrangements enables each instrument to have an important part to play and gives the harmonies a balanced crispness, which is exquisite. Nick and Becki's expertise gives their sound a fun-filled confidence. They play with a complete togetherness - exciting rhythms and subtle little key changes here and there - including the listeners in their fun but keeping them on their toes.

Each of the tracks has its own excellent reason for being enjoyable, so it is difficult to pick favourites. I particularly enjoyed the traditional medley of jigs, as there were so many different musical surprises – not least the slightly tongue in cheek reference to Status Quo – although there were at least 4 chords in Nick and Becki's version of "Burning Bridges" (aka 'Darby Kelly')! 'The Cornwall Apprentice' is beautifully arranged, with strong, driving chords to match the vocals. It's followed by a delicately played hornpipe set with its carefree play on rhythms and little key changes, all supported by ultra-crisp bassoon from Becki. I defy you not to go round the house singing 'one, two, three, four, five, six' after listening to 'The Torrington Ringers'. The beautifully slow and slightly melancholy strings on title track, 'Handful of Sky' transport you to the top of a windswept hill with consummate ease, providing a brilliant contrast to the previous jolly jig track.

What I really appreciated about this album was the thoughtfulness in music and voice

arrangements which complement the subject matter in each of the tracks, and the composition of the album as a cohesive whole, including Hilary Bix's imaginative cover.

With this CD, Nick and Becki extend an invitation to a personal music party – accept and enjoy!

Sue Hamer-Moss

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Brian Chappell, Colin Andrews or Sue Hamer-Moss
(contact info p. 20)

Review

Exploring Folk Fiddle: An Introduction To Folk Fiddle Styles

Chris Haigh

Schott ISBN 978 1 84761 2687

At first glance this book looks and feels good. Despite the front cover being a fiddler playing a beaten up old fiddle, the matt finish gives it a very contemporary feel. If you're like me and you like to get lots for your money, then you're onto a winner here. It's a substantial volume at 208 pages. The layout is good, not too cluttered and the music notation examples are clear and easy to read. There is also an accompanying CD.

Although an 'introduction' to folk fiddle styles, this is definitely not for beginners of the instrument. To get the most from this book you need to be playing already and able to read music. The author states that the basis of the book is the 'Irish fiddle tradition'. I personally didn't find it 'too' Irish in its focus. There are techniques and tunes here from the Old-Time, Cajun, Scandinavian, Scots, English, Eastern European and Klezmer traditions. Each chapter discusses a specific topic and there is a lot of detail. There are chapters on the structure, rhythm and origins of tunes. Other chapters focus on ornamentation, bowing and getting the 'right feel' for the music. There are also chapters on modes, scales, open tunings, improvisation, playing sets, playing for dancing, playing in sessions and a whole lot more.

The accompanying CD has Audio tracks and Mp3 tracks that can be played on your laptop. In total there are nearly 100 tracks of tunes and examples! It's quite refreshing that some of the tune examples used are a little unusual and not the well worn standards that you might find elsewhere. 'The Beeswing Hornpipe' by the 19th century Newcastle fiddler James Hill, (in the not very often folk fiddle used key of B flat), being an example that is now in my repertoire. Overall I found this an excellent book for different styles and techniques that I'd thought about trying but never got round to. A really useful resource that can be worked through chapter by chapter, or dipped into now and again to work on a specific aspect of your fiddle playing. Excellent stuff!

Adrian Shearing

Great with hops Full of spirit Goes down well

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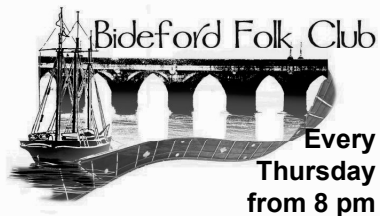
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www.bidefordfolkfestival.co.uk
Hilary Bix 01237 470792

Review

O'Hooley and Tidow

I recently heard Belinda O'Hooley and Heidi Tidow perform some of the tracks from this album at Starz Bar in Exeter, the venue for The Exeter Folk Project, started by Nic Jones' daughter Helen. Belinda, who plays piano, keyboard and accordion, has also played with Nic, as well as The Unthanks and Jackie Oates: both she and Heidi have powerful, haunting voices which work brilliantly together, and they held the audience at the intimate venue spell-bound.

Most of the tracks on the album were written by them, and several, including the title track, are firmly based in their Huddersfield home. The Hum refers to the background noise of a factory and is based on a conversation they had with a neighbour who is trying to sell her house: viewers are put off by the noise, but for her (and Heidi and Belinda) it is the hum of working and community life. Summat's Brewin celebrates the local breweries which not only provide real ales but also help to keep the community alive: 'Come one, come all raise your glass/To save the grand old local pub: Common beer not corporate!' Here the duo use the refrain from a traditional song collected by The Copper Family, 'Oh good ale, though art my darling', and at their gig they also performed a couple of traditional songs a cappella. Their strong political stance comes through on many songs, including Coil & Spring (with lyrics by Boff Whalley) which celebrates the protest of the Russian band Pussy Riot.

Two Mothers, probably my favourite track, is a moving song written for Jackie Oates whilst she was working on her Lullabies album: the tune is based on the lovely Celtic air 'Eochall' and tells the story of one of the many babies taken from their poor and unmarried mothers and sent to Australia for a 'new life' filled with 'sunshine and oranges', which often turned out to be one of virtual slavery. This tale has a happy ending, however, as the baby finds 'new hands, a bottle, kind eyes and a strange lullaby', and now has a child of her own. The album includes Ewan McColl's Just a Note – the note being a letter written home by a man who has had to leave


The Hum

No Masters Co-operative

Ireland to work as a road-builder, and a powerful version of Nic Jones' Ruins by the Shore. It ends with the delicate Kitsune, based on the Japanese legend of a 'shape-shifter' woman who turns into a fox: her lover waits for her but finds the dead body of the fox by the roadside.

There is a real range of feeling and sound on this album: it was produced by Gerry Diver who also plays fiddle, guitar and bouzouki, and Belinda exploits the full possibilities of the keyboard to create very different atmospheres for each of the tracks. But having heard them live and unaccompanied, I can also say that O'Hooley and Tidow use their voices as powerful and enchanting instruments as well – now that I have got to know CD, I am eager to listen to their first award-winning album, The Fragile.

Nicola King



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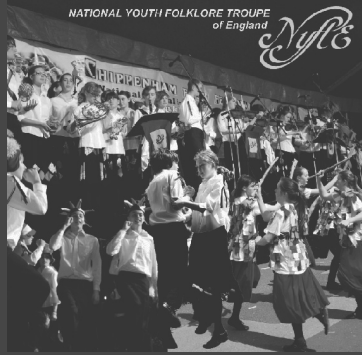
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Lynne Heraud & Pat Turner

Review

The Other Band

Still Going Strong

www.theotherband.co.uk

Twenty years since they were formed, the Other Band can certainly claim to still be going strong. They are a popular group in their native Cornwall, and make forays from time to time for gigs across the border into Devon. Mike Smith, their lead accordionist, was formerly with the Thunder & Lightning Band which had close associations with Carn Brea Morris.

Although they have previously issued a couple of CDs of live recordings, this is their first studio recorded album. The ten tracks feature a number of Mike's own compositions, a few tunes by other composers (for example, Last of The Summer Wine theme tune, and The Camels Are Coming from Peeping Tom's Ian Wilson), and some evergreen traditionals such as the Dorset 4 Hand, Soldiers Joy & Rakes of Mallow.

There is a good selection of different dance rhythms making the CD suitable for use by callers requiring recorded music. Alternatively, just sit back with a beer and enjoy the foot-tapping lively music from this down-to-earth folk dance band.

Colin Andrews

DEVON FOLK is on FACEBOOK: Find us at:

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Contact Pete Mac
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Review Borrowed Shoes

Polkaworks

G & T Music

G & T 001

With a formidable line-up, consisting of Nina Hansell (fiddle), Fi Fraser (fiddle), Sue Harris (Hammered Dulcimer), Katie Howson (melodeon and harmonica), Jeannie Harris (melodeon) and the ubiquitous Gareth Kiddier (piano), one can hardly expect to be disappointed.

Predictably, this CD has lived up to all expectations. The music is vibrant, exuberant and infectious, guaranteed to tempt the most reluctant dancer to get on their feet.

Every one of the thirteen tracks is excellent for both dancing and listening, and has been selected to provide a full selection of dance rhythms and lengths. There is a good selection of tunes, from traditional to the recently composed. These are well researched, and come from a wide range of sources, including various far-flung parts of the British Isles, plus the US and Australia. Two tunes, "Howson's Hoolie" and "The Whetstone Reel", are composed by band member Sue Harris.

The tunes are played in a straightforward, no-nonsense style, with every instrument playing an equal part, driven along by Gareth Kiddier's strong, rhythmic piano.

Unusually for me, there isn't one track that I didn't like, or that I felt was just there as a make weight, but if I had to choose a personal favourite, it would be "The Lost Jig" (track 2), a tune collected from Charlie Batchelor, a fiddle player from New South Wales in Australia..

This CD makes great listening and also serves as a valuable resource for dancers, musicians, callers and dance club leaders.

If you haven't heard Polkaworks yet, try and get to one of their ceilidhs. If you can't do that, buy the CD. Better still, do both!

John Blackburn

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

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martyngh@aol.com

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

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).

folk music & song on Sunday evenings at
topsham folk club



Come along and enjoy our singers' nights in the Globe Hotel Malthouse on Sunday evenings and our monthly concert nights at Matthews Hall in Topsham.

Please note that we close for August. The last singers' night before our summer break is Sunday 27 July. We start again on Sunday 7 September. We're also closed on Sunday 13 July for Topsham's Longest Table event.

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Kevin Burke

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details to follow



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all enquiries 01392 875332

Monthly instrumental session nights
featuring mainly English tunes are
held at The Bridge Inn, Topsham on
the first Thursday of each month
(not August) 8pm- 10.30pm.

Review

The Passing Moment

Liz Giddings & Roger Digby with Ken Lees

HOP009CD

What a lovely album – perfect, as Liz says in the sleeve notes, for easy listening on those long car journeys. I suspect, as she also comments, a few of the tunes will get ‘nicked’, as none of them are bog standard session pieces, but highly attractive, foot-tapping melodies. The only well-known offerings are three songs (The Old Mill Stream, Down By The Sally Gardens, & Tramps and Hawkers) featuring a guest appearance by Bob Davenport, probably the best traditional singer from the folk revival.

The album revives images of the iconic Flowers & Frolics band, who were recording albums before Liz was even born, particularly as Roger & Bob are joined by former Frolic member Ted Stevens. The CD also features Ken & Susan Lees and Martin Appleby.

I can honestly say that not one of the instrumental tracks fails to please. The melody led by Liz on fiddle or melodeon and Roger on anglo and the strong but not excessive rhythm from piano, bass, guitar & percussion make for a most attractive combination.

The tunes are drawn from a variety of sources – manuscripts, Jimmy Shand, Lucy Farr, Newfoundland fiddler Emile Benoit, to name but a few. Wonderful stuff!

Colin Andrews

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.*



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Venue News

Folk at Flavel

A new series of folk concerts was launched at The Flavel Arts Centre in Dartmouth in April called "Folk at the Flavel".

The brain child of Peter Johnson and Jonathan Needs of local promoters "Dart Gig Promotions", the aim is to bring some of the best folk performers in the UK to the venue and the first three concerts in the series have been announced. It started on Thursday 10th April with a performance by the brilliant Martin Simpson.

September 13th will see the renowned trio Coope, Boyes and Simpson at The Flavel performing their show in remembrance of the fallen in the First World War, In Flanders Field.

Barry Coope, Jim Boyes and Lester Simpson first came together in 1990. Since then they have garnered a terrific following leading to two nominations for Best Band and Best Album in the BBC Folk Awards. In Flanders Fields takes its name from the poem written by John McCrae who was killed near Ypres in the First War. The production is a tribute to lives caught up in the War to end all Wars and brings together the poetry of the era, the biting humour of the soldiers on the Western Front and the music of the time.

Peter Johnson says "when Jonathan and I first came up with the idea of promoting some concerts

in Dartmouth and formed Dart Gig Promotion, as fans of folk music, we decided we to start by seeing if we could bring in some top class folk musicians. I am delighted we have some of the best in the UK to start what I hope will be a very successful series".

Peter Johnson

Box Office
tel: 01803839530
www.theflavel.co.uk

Something to Look Forward To!

We were regrettably unable to find space for reviews of the following Wild Goose CDs:

Rattle of the Stovepipe - Old Virginia
Ron Taylor, Jeff Gillett - Try It, Buy It....
Dollymops - Wight Cockade

They are great CDs - see reviews in our next edition. Better still - why not give them a try?

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Review

A Day's Work (1st Performance)

Mick Ryan

Lympstone Village Hall 29/4/14

Cast: Maggie Boyle, Heather Bradford, Paul Downes, Pete Morton, Matt Quinn, Greg Russell and Mick Ryan.

2014 will see many events commemorating the centenary of the start of World War One. We already know the story, the horror, the sacrifice and the wanton disregard of lives seen as expendable by those in power. Deeply rooted in our cultural psyche 1914-18 stands as the benchmark of horror against which all other conflicts are judged. Mick Ryan originally wrote and performed "A Day's Work" in 1995, but has rewritten it for this centenary year. "A Day's Work" is described as a 'folk opera' but this is as misleading as calling 'Warhorse' a musical. This is a play, superbly acted, telling the story of three young men taken off to war and the impact that has on their families, with the added texture and insight that song and music brings.

I am usually uncomfortable when singers try to act; it takes great skill to enable an audience to see beyond the performer they know and become involved in their character instead. Many folk plays I have seen suffer from poor pace, stumbled cues and self-conscious performances. "A Day's Work" is the glorious exception. The acting is superb from everyone. Mick has assembled an outstanding cast who are "right" in every way; their physical appearance, their mannerisms and body language reinforces their characterisations, so we are with them every step of the way. Coincidentally, they are also all fine singers and instrumentalists so the vocal performances and arrangements are outstanding.

The play is in two acts, the first Christmas 1914 when the war has started but involved only regular soldiers or volunteer. Village life for the three main lads continues as normal. We see them performing a Mummers play, with nice sideways swipes at the conflict illuminating the absurdity of it all. Gradually their positions become clear but they are swept up and Act Two sees them eighteen months later at the front line. Each of them has a personal journey of discovery, but I won't give away the dramatic climax mid act. Greg Russell had the whole audience riveted; you could have heard a pin drop, with his singing of 'The Lark Above the

Downs.' What a fabulous voice this young man has, absolutely spell binding. Maggie Boyle as Mary, the mother of one of the lads, held us in the palm of her hand with her performance of 'Another Harvest'; solo in Act One then in duet with Mick Ryan in Act Two.

The play opens with Paul Downes catching our attention with edgy guitar and the song "The Foe." 'The Foe' who is loathsome and blindly hated, telling us that 1914-18 is an allegory for all the current and recent wars, so this is not just ancient history but relevant to our lives and our times. Heather Bradford plays Maureen, the narrator, who links the scenes with pithily cynical insights, keeping the pace and giving us time to reflect between scenes and songs. Pete Morton, Matt Quinn and Greg Russell are the three lads from the village whose journey to manhood this story tells. Paul Downes, as well as providing the heart of the musical arrangements also contributes a vicar and an officer to the plot, obviously type casting for Paul.

Like every good play there is contrast and variety, light and dark, humour and poignancy. The pace of the acting is varied and so are the musical styles and rhythms of the songs. Although all the words are by Mick Ryan (with the exception of Cicely Fox-Smith's Home, Lads, Home) six of the songs have music by James Patterson, Sarah Morgan or Steven Faux, bringing a wider range of musical styles to play.

By now you will realise that I was pleased by the evening, as was everyone else in the packed hall. All, who had seen the 1995 play, agreed this production had brought it to life anew, so, even if you did see the original production, I would strongly recommend you to see this show; nothing else this centenary year could express better the complex feelings we all have for this dark time in our history, and the ongoing bleakness that is war. In my opinion "A Day's Work" is the undisputed 'hit' of 2014 and deserves a universal audience. Finding a performance of "A Day's Work" takes some detective work. The best I found was:

<http://www.skinnymalinksmusic.co.uk/information/tourdates.html>

Jerry Bix



Morris Matters



Spring is Morris time - and this Spring has been no exception. Devon sides were out in force for May day, and the Whit Bank holiday (and an awful lot of

evenings in between!) but just over in Cornwall, (and I hate to admit it!), they go one better, dancing on Easter Monday.

Read on...

If you weren't in Launceston Town Square on Easter Monday morning you surely missed a treat, for on that day, each year, **Trigg Morris Men** from Bodmin Town and thereabouts give us a magnificent display of Traditional Morris Dancing. Up to 30 dancers and musicians, all in black breeches, (long black skirts for the lady musicians), white shirts, white socks, black shoes, baldrics embroidered with traditional emblems, bell-pads on their legs, and, to crown it all, straw hats bedecked with fresh spring flowers of every hue, arrived at 10.30 am. What a beautiful sight! Many people had already gathered to await the arrival of the team which processed from the Coach Park, along Westgate Street, musicians playing, and into the Square, accompanied by our very own Town Crier, Mr Robert Tremaine. He delivered a superb welcoming speech and announced that this 2014 visit is the Team's 42nd year to start their tour in Launceston, and they've never been rained off! Now there's a record!

The Traditional 'Obby Oss' in long black cloak and wooden 'horse's head' trotted among the onlookers, approaching all the young folk, who stroked and caressed the wooden head, to everyone's delight.

The Bagman, ex-dancer Vic Legg, that well known 'folk' figure from Bodmin, in his black breeches-suit trimmed with red braid and his black 'topper', conducted proceedings as Master of Ceremonies, introducing the dances and, as usual, throwing in many a Cornish joke to the amusement of the crowd! At one stage the Morris Men invited younger folk from the audience to join in the dancing which they willingly did, to rapturous applause.

The musicians, whose leader is Mr Chris Ridley, play such sweet lilting music and consist of three accordion players, and one each of concertina, recorder, washboard and cymbals players.

After just under an hour of rigorous dance, they all repaired to The White Hart Hotel lounge, bells jingling, for well-deserved refreshments before continuing their tour to dance at Lewannick, hence to Lanhydrock and other venues before finishing the day back in Bodmin.

Here's to next year!

Anna Read

People in Chagford, Moretonhampstead and the Devonshire Inn in Sticklepath were treated to a real spectacle of Morris Dancing by **Great Western Morris** and their guests, *Glory of the West*, *Seven Champions* and *Fools Gambit*. Great Western's performances are always great entertainment and this was no exception. There is a great age range in the side and it is a credit to them all that the energy (not to mention the leapfrogging!) was consistently high throughout. Their guests were not to be outdone. *Glory of the West* danced some really elegant Cotswold-style dances, with *Seven Champions* Molly providing a brilliant contrast with their inscrutable faces and hobnailed boots. *Fools Gambit* are a fantastic young side, with an infectious joy of dancing, excellent togetherness and wonderfully high jumping.

After a couple of great displays, the weather turned nasty, but that did not stop the dancing, which was successfully adapted to the small confines of the Devonshire Inn's public bar. I must also mention their very special coach driver who kicked off the lunchtime session at Moretonhampstead. No surprise really, as he is also a Winkleigh Morris man!

The tour proceeded to Lyme Regis on the following day and the customary dancing on Exeter Quay on Whit Monday.

Pictures on p.16

Sue Hamer-Moss

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Saturday 9 August
Mehal
Thursday 12 September
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Friday 3 October
Jim Diamond
Friday 1 November
Charlie Dore
Friday 8 November
Reg Meuross
Friday 22 November

Other Musical Highlights

Gypfunk
Friday 25 July
The Blues Band
@ **RHS Garden Rosemoor**
Friday 19 September
Alec Dankworth's World Trip
Friday 26 September
Albert Lee & Hogan's Heroes
Tuesday 30 September
The Tashi Lhunpo Monks
Saturday 4 October
**The Gugulethu Tenors
& Yolanda Y'awa**
Saturday 11 October
Dean Friedman
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