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# What's Afoot



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**£1.00**

**No. 108**

**AUTUMN 2015**

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## Devon's Folk Magazine

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*www.devonfolk.co.uk*  
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**August 2015**

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**[www.dartmoorfolkfestival.org.uk](http://www.dartmoorfolkfestival.org.uk)**  

## Articles, letters, listings

**Sue Hamer-Moss**

1, Beara House, Langtree,  
Torrington EX38 8NE  
01805 601323  
sue.hamermoss@gmail.com

## Diary dates

**Colin Andrews**

01363 877216  
bonnygreencolin@googlemail.com

## Copy Dates

1st Feb for 1st April  
1st June for 1st Aug  
1st Oct for 1st Dec

## Advertising

Enquiries & copy to:  
**Anne M. Gill**  
01803 290427  
annemgill@tiscali.co.uk

## Rates

Full page £30 (portrait)  
Half £18 (landscape)  
Quarter £12 (portrait)  
Eighth\* £6 (landscape)  
(\*minimum 3 issues)

Discounts - enquire

## Distribution & Subscriptions

**Jean Warren**

51, Green Park Road,  
Plymstock, Plymouth,  
PL9 9HU

01752 401732

## Individual copies

£1.00 + S.A.E. / A5  
Subscription (see form)  
£5 per 3 issues)

## Bulk orders (pre-paid)

£10 per 10 incl. p&p

**Please enclose cheque payable to "Devon Folk" with all orders and adverts**

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## Editorial

We welcome back **COOL FOLK** in this issue containing festival information and other summer ideas for younger readers. However, we are still struggling to find a young person who can produce it and manage the online version. IF YOU KNOW ANYONE under 35 who would be interested, please get in touch. Enthusiasm is more important than experience!.

Our new diary listings are slightly rearranged from the last edition to accommodate **COOL FOLK**. Please check contents list above.

Sadly, I will be unable to continue producing WA from 2016. for personal reasons. I have really enjoyed working with everyone. Thanks for your great support! So we need a new editor! If you are a keen Devon-based internet-savvy folkie interested in desk-top publishing with ideas to move the magazine forward including online, please contact any of the editorial team for more info.

sue.hamermoss@gmail.com

Sue Hamer-Moss

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Front cover photograph: Kate Rusby - courtesy of Sidmouth Folkweek

Printed by Hedgerow Print, Crediton. Tel. 01363 777595

*August is the month of our two big festivals - Sidmouth and Dartmoor. Both festivals have a fantastic line up this year.*

*Sidmouth Folk Week's taster programme is very tasty indeed (see below) while Dartmoor offer an exciting blend of traditional favourites and hot leading acts (see ad on page 2). Here is a taster of what's on offer..*

### Sidmouth Preview

[www.sidmouthfolkweek.co.uk](http://www.sidmouthfolkweek.co.uk)

**July 31st - August 7th**

**Sidmouth**

This year the festival has an ear to the past, and an eye on the future! Building on the success of last year's Diamond Anniversary celebrations, the quality bar remains high - with major names from the folk music scene as well as fantastic emerging talent – moving forward into the next generation of the festival. FolkWeek offers a diverse range of events to suit all interests – from major concerts to intimate sessions, from fantastic folk dance to cracking ceilidhs, from high quality Children's Festival family fun to Shooting Roots' youth sessions, storytelling to special shows, spectacular displays and processions and an unrivalled 200+ event workshop programme. This year a revamped Bulverton Marquee, where evening roots and dance parties are held, includes a new late night Betsy's Lounge chill-out venue, **with a new special ticket deal available for 18-25 year olds.**

#### **Pre-festival concerts**

Two amazing pre-festival concerts feature South West shanty-singing favourites: firstly Port Isaac's Fisherman's Friends (with support from Devon's creamiest singer Jim Causley) on Fri 31st July at 3pm, and secondly darling of the British folk scene, and its most famous contemporary singer Kate Rusby (with support from Dorset's Ninebarrow) on Thurs 30th July at 8pm. Audiences are guaranteed an unforgettable concert experience! With her nightingale pure voice and disarmingly intimate delivery, Rusby cuts to the emotional quick; her hauntingly beautiful narratives balanced with warm Barnsley banter, and the intuitive support of a band featuring the cream of British folk musicians.

Appearing at only a handful of carefully chosen festivals this summer, Sidmouth will see Kate showcasing material from latest release Ghost (Nov 2014) and a selection of much-loved classics from her back catalogue stretching over her two decades of music making.

**Headliners throughout the week** include: Irish stars Altan; Festival Patrons and outstanding acoustic trio Show Of Hands; Australian vocal tour-de-force The Spooky Men's Chorale; Gaelic singing sensation Julie Fowlis - of Pixar's Brave fame; Skye-based party starters Peatbog Faeries; radical English and reggae roots from Edward II; the spectacular and athletic Demon Barber's XL new show Disco At The Tavern; Bristol's minimalist masters Spiro and The Poozies featuring Sally Barker from BBC One's The Voice amongst many others.

Upcoming artists are featured in the EFDSS Folk Rising Plus concerts with Ange Hardy, Maz O'Connor, Jaywalkers and more, as well as fRoots Cellarful of Folkadelia sessions Stick In The Wheel, Martha Tilston, Heg & The Wolf Chorus, Amadou Diagne, Lynched and the new up-tempo Hootenanny@Carinas evenings with the likes of Keston Cobblers Club, Rob Heron & The Tea Pad Orchestra and Harp and a Monkey.

As well as concert and roots party fun, expect diverse dance traditions taking to the streets – from the Tibetan Tashi Lhunpo Monks to Bacup's Britannia Coco-nut Dancers!

# Telling Tales

When did you first get involved at  
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2015 marks the Golden Jubilee of the Halsway Manor Society. TELLING TALES is an oral history project to document and celebrate 50 years of folk arts at Halsway Manor.

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To find out more, contact TELLING TALES Project Manager Yvette Staelens: 07952 106220 / [tellingtales.halswaymanor@gmail.com](mailto:tellingtales.halswaymanor@gmail.com).

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## Special Feature

contd from p 4

## Festival Preview

### Sidmouth contd

Thanks to the generous support of Creative Scotland we are able to run a series of Spotlight Scotland events for the fourth year running, showcasing the breadth and depth of talent from North of the border. A major part of this year's funding is focused on Feis Rois Ceilidh Trail, a Scottish traditional music outreach programme, who will perform on main stages and join our own Shooting Roots youngsters for joint workshops and events. Other emerging acts booked as part of Spotlight Scotland include The Tweed Project, Barluath, Rachel Newton, Mischa Macpherson, Ewan McLennan Trio, Twelfth Day and Arthur Coates. They will have opportunities to share stages with the likes of Peatbog Faeries, The Poozies and Emily Smith.

*Catch what is on for younger people in our Cool Folk magazine - back in this edition of WA, packed with interesting stuff! [Ed]*

The Taster Programme is now available at [www.sidmouthfolkweek.co.uk](http://www.sidmouthfolkweek.co.uk), giving a flavour of what's on offer throughout the week. The full programme will be available in July.

*Sarah Coxson*

## Dartmoor

August 7th-9th

## Festival Preview

South Zeal, Near Okehampton

Top local and national artists will headline at the 38th Dartmoor Folk Festival.

They include Jez Lowe and The Bad Pennies [*pictured on opposite page*], Phillip Henry and Hannah Martin [*also pictured*], Huw Williams and Maartin Allcock, Alistair Anderson, Jeff Warner (USA) [*also pictured*], The Dovetail Trio, Liam Robinson Dance Band and Kestor Stringband. Other artists attending are The Dartmoor Pixie Band (Friday and Sunday night), Tony Beard, Entertainingly Different, Dave Wills and various morris and dance teams.

The annual family-festival includes concerts, a ramble on Dartmoor, a ceilidh, folk service, craft displays, dances, a dedicated Children's Festival, a Dartmoor Fayre, music hall, pub sessions and music, song and dance workshops. Hotly-contested competitions are the Dartmoor Broom Dance championships and Dartmoor Stepdance Championships.

It was 38 years ago that the festival was founded by the late Bob Cann [*see photo on opposite page*] who lived in the parish of South Zeal. He had the dream of a folk event on his doorstep that would help to revive and preserve the traditions of Dartmoor.

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

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

For further details, visit the website: [www.dartmoorfolkfestival.org.uk](http://www.dartmoorfolkfestival.org.uk).

Ticket enquires: telephone 01837 840102

email: [enquiries@dartmoorfolkfestival.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@dartmoorfolkfestival.org.uk).

*Alan Quick*



*Dartmoor festival pictures  
(with thanks to Alan Quick)  
Immediate left -  
the late Bob Cann (festival  
founder)*

*Anticlockwise from left:-  
Philip Henry and Hannah  
Martin*

*Jeff Warner*

*Jeze Lowe and the Bad Pennies*

# Jeremy Child

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"Everyone had a great time from young to old and it was a great way for our guests to mingle and break the ice. Jeremy was a brilliant and enthusiastic caller." **Alex and Rhian Hamilton**

[www.barndancecaller.net](http://www.barndancecaller.net)

01392 422119 [jeremy.m.child@gmail.com](mailto:jeremy.m.child@gmail.com)

*Robert Harris shares a fascinating personal insight into the history of Ockington Morris and the origins of their dances and Mummings plays.*

The genesis of the Ockington dances was Roy Dommett's renegade Farnborough Morris side which I had joined in the mid 1960s. The Dommett family was a big influence on Hampshire Mumping, which I encountered as a youngster; we went off to the Boxing Day performances of the Crookham Village Mummings nearly every year.

When I moved with my own growing family to Devon in the 1970s I was determined to find - or found - a specifically West Country ritual male dance tradition. Armed with some oblique references from local Churchwarden's accounts of providing sustenance for the 'stick dancers' on May Day, and a very vague suggestion from my ancient Devon Uncle that there had been some sort of dancing at Merrivale Quarry in his youth, Ockington was born - named for Ockerton Court, an ancient settlement on Dartmoor. First there was a Mummings' play - based on an orally transmitted text from Hampshire - which saw the light of day in North Tawton around Christmas time in 1978. We were a disparate group of characters who - for some reason or other - met regularly in Hatherleigh on Friday nights, and we concocted some choreography within our play for the combats between King George, Bold Romer, Bold Slasher and the Turkish Knight. These routines were complex and aggressive and proved popular with audiences. It seemed apposite to put together some complete dances for the group separate from, but complimenting, the play itself. As time went on Ockington Morris took the limelight from the Mummings' play - although that continued to be performed regularly for two decades (and is still performed very occasionally by the survivors of the group).

From the outset the group was unconventional. Ockington eschewed bells and handkerchiefs; principally the dancers used heavy 'cudgels' and wore tunics of streamers which represented the natural colours of the Moor. In the early days, faces were blackened for the Mummings' play and for the dances; later, animal masks were used in some dances - this harkened back to medieval manuscripts which showed masked ritual dancers. At first each mask was designed and made by its wearer; in time a set of masks was made by Wendy Dacre, more reminiscent in style of aboriginal or north-west coast ritual masks. Wendy also made a set of masks for the Mummings, grotesque enough to grace a Star Wars film: some of these are now in the collections of folk museums while others are still brought out from dusty attics on special occasions.

There were five stick dances in total, all prosaically named: the Three Man Dance, the Four Man One Stick Dance, the Four Man Two Stick Dance, the Five Man Dance and the Combat Dance. In addition there was a dance performed with iron bars; the bars were 600mm in length and 25mm in diameter. Each dancer carried two of these heavy bars and the dance was progressive, commencing with two dancers and building up to eight dancers, then reversing until only two dancers were left. The full dance (irreverently known as the most boring morris dance in the world - and probably the longest) was notable for the percussive sounds of the iron bars clashing together. The dance supposedly originated with the stonemasons in Merrivale Quarry on Dartmoor, and is known as the Stonemasons' Dance; the iron bars are representations of the 'feather and tare' - tools used by the workers in that quarry to split the granite. Ockington performed the dance in the disused and flooded quarry at Merrivale every year - with spectacular visual and aural effect.

The final dance was the Fire Dance. This was performed around a cast iron 'cauldron' which was charged with paraffin and rags, then set alight. Each dancer carried a hollow steel rod some 1100mm long, wound at one end with a heavy duty wick. The wicks were soaked in paraffin prior to the dance. Six dancers circled the lit cauldron and chanted to the music, carrying their unlit 'sticks' upright. In unison the sticks were dipped into the cauldron and ignited, then the set commenced, involving dancing and throwing the sticks over the cauldron (and being caught by the opposite man). At the climax of the dance each man in turn jumped over the flaming cauldron, the last man to do so then



throwing theatrical flash powder into the flames - producing a dramatic explosion. Justification for the Fire Dance was the finding of a medieval woodcut showing ritual dancers wearing flowing streamers which are catching on fire, the flames engulfing the performers. Music for the dances was provided by members of the group, generally involving fiddle, melodeon, concertina, English bagpipes and large drum. Tunes evolved along with the dances.

In its heyday Ockington travelled far and wide. Destinations included the Inter Celtique Festival in Lorient, Brittany, where the Fire Dance literally brought all proceedings to a halt! They also danced at the St Chartier Festival in central France, were invited to several venues in Normandy - and 'appeared' on French radio. The group danced for Harold Wilson on St Mary's, Scilly Isles, in the 1980s, causing the retired PM to state that in all his life he had '...never seen anything quite like...' Ockington Morris. Also during that period a group of Morris Dancers from Minnesota arrived in Devon on tour and watched Ockington perform. They took back with them one of the Ockington dances - the Four Man One Stick - and published it! Ockington dances were hitherto always passed on by oral tradition only. Now, if you make a Google search for Ockington Morris you will find pages of references, notations and videos from across the world, all stemming from that one point of contact. It's a matter of contention for me that none of the American groups ever respected our insistence that the tradition was specifically a male ritual dance...

The close-knit group that was Ockington grew old with their dances, and finally ran out of steam in the late 1990s, after two decades of energetic pursuit of their tradition. Latterly, I was approached by Mike Palmer who had founded The Tinnars and asked if we would allow them to learn some of our dances. We were happy with this and that side has acquired and now regularly and most proficiently performs the Four Man One Stick Dance and the Stonemasons' Dance. Ockington has passed into history (or is resting, perhaps), but the tradition lives on!

*Robert Harris*

## **TAVISTOCK FOLK DANCE CLUB**

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Contact: Margaret Holt 01822 855858



## BRIXHAM FOLK CLUB

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**THURSDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> JULY 7.30pm**

**BRIXHAM FOLK CLUB EXTRA – Lounge/Bar**

**Mick Ryan & Paul Downes** with support **"Missin' Tackle"**

MICK RYAN is well known on the folk scene as a fine singer of traditional and original songs. He was described by "Folk Roots" as 'definitely the most underrated singer in the country'. Having written both comic and serious material for the very popular band "Crows" in the 1980's, he has since written for radio and a series of highly successful folk musicals: 'A Tollpuddle Man' (with Graham Moore) - 'A Day's Work' - 'The Voyage' 'Tanks for the Memory' and recently 'The Navvy's Wife'.

The reviews say it all: 'Mick Ryan's words and music are superb' ("Folk on Tap"); 'wonderful songs' ("South Tipp Today").

PAUL DOWNES has a sensitive, yet fun approach to live performances which puts him among the most respected artists on the British acoustic music scene today. He has been introduced (to his embarrassment) as one of the greatest acoustic guitarist in the world. It is easy to see why when you see the dazzling array of styles he performs with effortless brilliance, but, at the same time, considers himself a singer of songs rather than a guitar technician.

**Admission £8.00 on the door (no concessions) & no advance tickets.**

**Forthcoming events in Brixham Theatre**

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September 7.30pm. *Dart Gig Promotions* presents**

**Martin Simpson, Andy Cutting and Nancy Kerr**

**All tickets £14.00** Theatre Box Office 01803 882717 or at theatre on Saturday mornings 10.00 – 12.00 noon – [www.batsweb.org.uk](http://www.batsweb.org.uk) for more details or [www.wegotickets.com](http://www.wegotickets.com)

## Feature - New Venture

### Folk 'platform' at Hanlons

We have just been notified of a new folk event in Devon. A 'platform' folk evening has been started at Hanlons Brewery, just outside Exeter, which is intended to offer something a little bit different. Although there are many sessions in the area, the idea is to give some of our great local folk talent a more formal performance opportunity. The hope is also to draw together folk enthusiasts from the various clubs across the region.

Hanlons (formerly O'Hanlons) has been relaunched in a new brewery building, just beyond Cowley Bridge on the road to Crediton. Its location has good access, parking and is central. Upstairs there is a modern bar ~ a bit like a wine bar ~ with a window overlooking the brewery floor (where bigger gigs can be held).

There is a feature spot in each half of the evening, called "Hanlons' Half Hour", and a different guest MC each time. The events are starting with song, but plans are afoot to include music, dance and story-telling if sessions in 2015 prove popular. Audience interaction with guests, such as chat or questions about their act, songs, anecdotes etc., will also be encouraged.

This is a 'seasonal' event, to be held on the second Tuesday in June (Summer), September (Autumn) and December (Winter). The entry charge is £5, but this includes a pint and a pasty!

By the time this issue appears, the first session featuring Flash Jack, Steve Thomason and Martyn Babb will already have taken place, but the autumn session, featuring Bill Murray, Jackie Williams and Eileen Conn, and Joan Holloway will be on 8 September (see separate advert).

We wish this new venture every success.

*folk@bowstation.com*

AUTUMN FOLK AT THE BREWERY



HALF MOON VILLAGE, EX5 5AE  
**Tuesday 8 September 2015**

Featuring Hanlons' Half Hours with

**Bill Murray**

**Eileen Conn & Jackie Williams**

Guest MC

**Joan Holloway**

FLOOR SINGERS WELCOME

DOORS 7:30PM START PROMPT 8:00PM

ENTRY £5 INCLUDES PINT & PASTY

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:**

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That's what you'll see in the men who started out with Winkleigh Morris 25 years ago - and quite a few greying hairs amongst the original Winkleigh ladies as well. But the side is still going strong a quarter of a century after the landlady of the former Winkleigh Hotel cajoled her regulars into taking up morris dancing.

While there are only a few original members still dancing, a full set of 'Wrinklies', including two from Australia, turned out at the Sunday morning massed show of our celebratory weekend of dance in mid-May. Considering they hadn't danced together for fifteen years or so, they performed surprisingly well, to the appreciation of the many sides that had been invited for the weekend.

We've run a weekend of dance every two years since 1993 but this was the biggest we had ever attempted. Some 280 dancers from 22 sides on six coaches toured West & North Devon on the Saturday. Though not all were camping for the whole weekend at Merton, the logistics of fitting in up to 4 dozen mobile homes in the car park at the Clinton Hall and tents around the football pitch were quite challenging.

Silver was the theme for the weekend; anyone not wearing an item of silver was fined 50p for charity, a set of silver spoons (actually packets of Silver Spoon sugar!) was awarded as the prize to the best answer in our silver quiz and the Winkleigh dancers waved brand new silver handkerchiefs instead of the usual spotty red ones. We also had commemorative badges for all who wanted one.

The Winkleigh team spirit was marvellous – everyone chipping into help with whatever needed doing. The amazing decorations for the hall and the props for our Frankensnight Play came from two of our newest members. Much appreciation was also given to our caterer, Tim Horner, whose meals, as always, were superb, and to Nick Walden & The Diatonics for an excellent Saturday evening ceilidh. And, of course, we again give a special word of thanks to the inimitable all-singing, all-dancing Ripley Morris Men for preparing their legendary cooked breakfasts for the whole company.

Now if any of us are still around for our golden anniversary ...  
*Winkleigh's silver-themed 25th anniversary welcome decor*

*Colin Andrews*



## Silver and Gold Country Dance Band's Final Bow

*An extract from Rhona Hitchcock's account of forty years with Silver & Gold, culminating in their final booking at Tavistock last November, appeared in the previous issue. She tells us more about the popular band, established after the 1973 Sidmouth Festival, where core members Dave Mashford, Den Fairchild, Rhona and Raymond Hitchcock first met up at a music workshop.*

Standing in as volunteers to cover for a festival dance when John Kirkpatrick had been double-booked, we worked well together, and found out we lived close enough to start playing as a band. We wanted to play for events locally and aspire to "greater" things! We assembled a collection of tunes for dances then popular with callers, as we wanted to work with as many different callers as possible. Joined by my brother, Andy Wilson, on fiddle and Den's wife Shirley on tambourine, we practised together weekly for 6 months before taking a booking. We also attended workshops at festivals and national courses organised by the EFDSS.

Our hard work, enthusiasm and previous contacts paid off and we were soon in demand. We were booked at the Sidmouth Folk Festival in 1975, and again in 1976 and 1997, when Judith Cooper joined us on bass. Bands in those days normally only received invitations to play for 2 years consecutively! Peter Dashwood therefore asked us to take on a week at Broadstairs the following year. Years later he apologised for having worked us so hard there. Success breeds success, and we were invited to other festivals - Laycock and Chippenham (1979), Bromyard (1980), South Petherton (1981), and even for a dance at Cecil Sharp House in 1978! At festivals we enjoyed working with many experienced and well-known callers. Over our 40 years we have certainly worked with about 80 different callers from all over the country.

In 1979 we recorded a tape, but we far preferred playing for live events, which we continued to do at a frenetic pace until about 1980 when we drastically reduced our bookings. Den and Shirley had a very young son, Raymond and I also had children by this time, and Dave was always busy with other commitments. We limited bookings mainly to Devon and Cornwall, but also with some weekends away. The remainder of the band became closely associated with the Isca dance team and we played both at practices and for performances at various festivals (Turku in Finland, Sidmouth, Winchester, and Bridgnorth), though dressed in Isca kit rather than our familiar turquoise and black. After the rest of us turned our attention to other things, Dave continued to play for Isca for several more years, accompanying them to Portugal and Sweden.

With the help of others, including Kathy Wallis, Dennis Sharman and Sheena Kingdom, Raymond and I developed the Roundabout Club, a children's group in Plymouth which met every Saturday morning. Children participated in many kinds of folk activity - singing, playing and dancing. The club arose out of the Children's Festivals in the Plymouth Guildhall for which we had played previously. One child had enjoyed dancing and wanted to continue. Her mother contacted us but nothing else suitable existed at that time for children to join in.

Roundabout Club flourished. The most competent musicians played with us and Steve Hunt as "Roundabout Special" at the Sidmouth Festival Arena and at Chippenham Festivals. Children from the Club danced for the Plymouth Lord Mayors Day, for a National Gathering/Festival in Finland, and twice for national TV, displaying Devon Broom Dancing. Several children became founder members of NYFTE whilst Raymond and I helped to set up the team musically. Raymond taught morris, sword and country/folk dance for several more years until our son Russell left the team.

In 2000 Silver and Gold returned to perform at the Sidmouth Folk Festival, augmented by our daughter on recorder and son on keyboard. Both have deputised on fiddle and melodeon respectively on some occasions. We were delighted that Judith Cooper, who had moved away, returned to play with us on our final event as Silver and Gold. Den will retire from playing but Dave will continue, taking bookings in his own name. Raymond and I intend to do more dancing - and keep our diaries clearer!

*Rhona Hitchcock*

# FOOTNOTES

It is very sad that Pete & Nicole Mac have had to withdraw from playing for folk dancing due to ill health. They have both made a tremendous contribution to folk dancing since they moved to Devon, particularly around the folk dance clubs. Pete also ran several workshops for musicians, and both served on the Devon Folk Committee. We wish them well.

After the demise of several long-established folk dance clubs over the last couple of years, it is encouraging to report the setting up of a new venture. Jeremy Child will be running regular sessions for contra dancing at the St Katharine's Priory, Exeter.

By the time this magazine comes out another new venture will have held its inaugural event. Dick & Melanie Henrywood are running a quarterly folk song evening at the recently opened Hanlon's Brewery, Half Moon, Exeter (on the A377 just north of Cowley). There will be an opportunity for some floor singers but each occasion will have a guest MC and give an extended spot to two worthy

local artists. Admission will be £5, to include a pint and a pasty. See article and ad on page 11. No major changes are noted in folk song singaround this time, though the Okehampton singaround on the last Sunday has reverted to the Fountain. Wetherspoons, reportedly, are renovating the White Hart! The 'regular events' section of the diary has been extended to include more pub sessions. Many of these are 'open mike' format and may well include genres other than folk.

*Colin Andrews*

## STOP PRESS

### Obituary - Len Christopher

Sadly Len Christopher of the Pennymoor Singaround passed away on the 20th June after a short illness. There will be an obituary in the next issue.

## **ACOUSTIC WAREHOUSE**

### Open Mic Music Club

Passage House Inn, Kingsteignton, Newton Abbot, TQ12 3QH  
Monday 7.30 – 10.30pm

All Acoustic Musicians/Songwriters Welcome

### Featured Artist Events

17 <sup>th</sup> August	The John White Band
7 <sup>th</sup> September	Verity Greenway
21 <sup>st</sup> September	My Black Hat
12 <sup>th</sup> October	Chris & Paul Woodhouse
26 <sup>th</sup> October	Cornelius Family
23 <sup>rd</sup> November	Steve Buxton
7 <sup>th</sup> December	John Lockwood

For more information 01626 362528  
email - [acoustic.warehouse@gmail.com](mailto:acoustic.warehouse@gmail.com)

# Devon Folk News

This year's Devon Folk AGM was held at South Brent Village Hall courtesy of South Brent Folk. It was followed by a "West Country" concert which was thoroughly enjoyed by those who stayed. Thanks are due to South Brent Folk for their hospitality which was greatly appreciated by those who attended. Having served their elected period on the committee, we were sorry to lose the services of Nicola King and Ben van Weede who have stepped down owing to other commitments. We are very pleased to welcome Martyn Cornelius to our committee. Martyn has been connected to the folk world since he was young and is a singer and a fine instrumentalist. He has also been a regular contributor to What's Afoot with CD reviews so he will be familiar to many of our readers.

Devon Folk Committee continues to have several vacancies and is always pleased to welcome new members to the committee. Full committee meetings are usually held in Exeter four times a year on a Saturday morning, in addition to the business meeting held after the AGM.


The latest Devon Folk event, held in March, started with a music workshop of tunes for traditional British dances and for American contras and squares led by Mary Marker and was followed by a session of these dances called by Aileen Wills. This was a successful event with 23 musicians attending the workshop and subsequently playing for 42 dancers. A profit of just under £100 was made.


A donation of £100 was received from the South Hams Folk Dance Club in appreciation of all the benefits received from Devon Folk. Devon Folk is always grateful for donations which help towards the sponsorship of local events.


*Eileen Conway*

## Introducing our Sponsors

*We are delighted to welcome our sponsors, Devon Telecom, Devonshire Asset Management and Fidelius Insurance Services for another year and to thank them for their support of What's Afoot and Devon Folk.*

	<b>Play the moment, pause the memories</b> info@devontelecom.co.uk
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	<b>Not sure about investment? Try our independent help.</b> Contact Graham at Devonshire Asset Management T: 01271 327500 or E: <a href="mailto:Graham@dam-ltd.co.uk">Graham@dam-ltd.co.uk</a>
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	<b>Contact Fidelius Insurance Services for all your event insurance needs</b> on <a href="mailto:info@fidelius-insurance.co.uk">info@fidelius-insurance.co.uk</a> , <a href="http://www.fidelius.co.uk">www.fidelius.co.uk</a> or 01271 355346
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*A warm welcome and thanks to our new sponsors.*

**Devon Telecom** are local experts who help domestic and business customers get best value for money and the right telecoms service for their specific needs. MD Clive is an avid folkie!

**Devonshire Asset Management** are independent financial advisers. Graham's personal service helps you feel in control but with the added benefit of his extensive knowledge.

**Fidelius** are Devon based insurance brokers offering competitive specialist products for small businesses and individuals. They have a proud history of insuring many Devon folk events.

Would You or Your Business like to

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**WHAT'S AFOOT?**

Contact [sue.hamermoss@gmail.com](mailto:sue.hamermoss@gmail.com)

# Devon Folk Committee\*

## President

**Terry Underhill**

## Vice-Presidents

**Jo Trapnell**

**Aileen Wills**

## Treasurer

**Brian Chappell**

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

## Webmaster

**Trevor Paul**

trevor@flaxey-green.co.uk

www.devonfolk.co.uk

## Members of the Committee

### Chairman

**Anne Gill**

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

### Vice Chairman

**Colin Andrews**

Bonny Green, Morchard Bishop,  
Credon, EX17 6PG. 01363 877216

### 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

**Martyn Cornelius**

10, Loram Way, Alphington, Exeter,  
EX2 8GG 01392 210983

mcs spooky7@hotmail.co.uk

**Steve Gill**

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

**Dick Little**

Collaton Grange, Collaton, Malborough,  
Kingsbridge TQ7 3DY 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

**Eileen McKee**

Woodland Cottage, South Brent, TQ10  
9ES 01364 73699

eileen.southbrentfolk@gmail.com

## Co-opted Members

**Sue Hamer-Moss**

1, Beara House, Dragon Hill, Langtree,  
EX38 8NE 01805 601323

sue.hamer-moss@gmail.com

**Jean Warren**

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

## Devon & Cool Folk New Email

**c/o Sue Hamer-Moss**

devoncoolfolk@gmail.com



**Devon.Folk.58**

**Devoncoolfolk**



## DEVON FOLK MEMBERSHIP 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 April 2015

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. **FORMS CAN BE DOWNLOADED FROM DEVON FOLK WEBSITE***

*Silver and Gold band cutting  
their 'final bow' cake -  
see article page 13*



# Contacts 1 - Social Dance

\*Affiliated to EFDSS

## **Social Dance**

### **Aylesbeare Folk Dance Club**

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

### **Beacon Wheel Chair Dancers**

Sue Cummings 01803 554799

### **Bideford Ceilidh Club\***

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

### **Bideford Folk Dance Club\***

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

### **Bridport 3 Days Late Ceilidh Club**

Monthly ceilidhs, St Mary's Church House Hall. 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 (Not July & August)

### **D'Accord\***

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

### **Dartington Folk\***

Most Fridays, Dartington VH, 8.00 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

### **Exeter Contra Dance**

2nd Fri, St Katharine's Priory, Exeter, 7.30 - 10.30 pm. (Beginners 7.30 - 8.00 pm) Jeremy Child 01392 422119 [contraexeter@gmail.com](mailto:contraexeter@gmail.com).

### **Exeter Folk Dance Group\***

Last Fri. 7.45 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 10 am - 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 Tues & Wed, Sept - May. Mr & Mrs V.J. Tyler, 66, Ivydale, Exmouth. 01395 276913

### **Gittisham Folk Dance Club\***

Wed, Gittisham VH., nr. Honiton. (1st Wed: Mackarness Hall, Honiton). Gill Spence, 20 Ridgeway Gardens, Ottery St Mary, EX11 1DU. 01404 813129 [www.seered.co.uk/gittisham.htm](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 Club**

1st & 3rd Wed. 8pm Halsway Manor (TA4 4BD), Bicknoller VH (TA4 4EQ) or Crowcombe VH (TA4 4AQ) Ring Brian Graham 01643 707294 to check venue if not given in diary.

### **Isca Allemanders Square Dance Club**

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

### **Kingsteignton Country Dance Club\***

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

### **Launceston Folk Dance Club**

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

### **Lucky 7 Folk Dance Club\***

Alt. Tues. Liverton VH. 8 pm. Mrs. Julie Lavers, 2 Grays Meadow, Queens Road, Moretonhampstead, TQ13 8NB 01647 440754

### **Newton Abbot**

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

## Contacts 2 - Social Dance, Song & Music

### **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. Ist Tue usually Barn Dance, others Social Dance.

### **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

## **Song & Music**

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

### **Beer**

Jurassic Folk, Dolphin Hotel. 1st Wed: Music jam session. Andrew Mycroft 01404 46451. 3rd Wed: Folk club. Peter Arnold 01297 20068

### **Bere Ferrers**

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

### **Bideford Folk Club\***

Thurs. Joiners Arms Jerry & Hilary Bix, 36, Lower Gunstone, Bideford. Tel/fax 01237 470792

### **Bishopsteignton**

Thurs, Red Rock Brewery, John Morey 07791 054773. [www.oldworkshop.org](http://www.oldworkshop.org). 7.30 pm

### **Bodmin Folk Club\***

Fri, BCA Rooms, Mount Folly, Bodmin, PL31 2DB [www.bodminfolk.co.uk](http://www.bodminfolk.co.uk)

### **Bow**

2nd Sun. White Hart, Bow. Mainly traditional. Ollie 01363 85022 1st Wed Irish music session

### **Bradninch**

Acoustic Music Club 2nd Wed. Bradninch Baptist Church. Colin Wilson 01392 882036. Folk club

1st Tue, Old White Lion, guest night 3rd Tue. Castle Hotel. 8.30 pm. Rob Reeves, 01392 881014

### **Brendon**

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

### **Brixham**

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

### **Bude**

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

### **Carhampton (nr Minehead)**

2nd Fri The Blazing Stump Folk Club, Butcher's Arms TA24 6LP (01643 821333, Lynda Baker: 01643 702994, [lyndabaker731@gmail.com](mailto:lyndabaker731@gmail.com)

### **Chittlehampton**

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

# Contacts 3 - Song & Music

## **Combe Martin**

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

## **Denbury**

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

## **Exeter, Barnfield Theatre**

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

## **Exmouth**

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

## **Folk On The Moor**

Sun. 7.45 pm Westward Inn, Lee Mill. Anton Horwich, 4, The Green, Milton Combe, Yelverton, 01822 853620

## **Halsway Manor (Crowcombe)**

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

## **Kenn**

Folk club, last Fri. Ley Arms. Peter Cornelius 01392 210983. Also guest nights.

## **Kingsteignton**

Mon. 7.30 pm Acoustic Warehouse Open Mic Music Club, Estuary Courtyard, Passage House Inn. Nigel 07989 180091

## **Lympstone**

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

## **Minehead**

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

## **Nadderwater (Exeter)**

3rd Tues., Royal Oak Traditional song, mostly unaccompanied.

## **Okehampton**

Last Sun, Fountain Sandie Whittington, Sandie. [whittington@btopenworld.com](mailto:whittington@btopenworld.com)

## **Pennymoor Singaround\***

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

## **Plymouth, Folk Roots**

2nd Wed. Hyde, Mutley. Ali 01752 662002

## **Plymouth, Morley Arms**

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

## **Sandford**

1st Tue, Lamb Inn. Paul & Hazel 01363 776275

## **Scoriton**

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

## **South Brent**

Pack Horse Hotel.: Alt. Tues. 8.30 pm. Song. Eileen KcKee 01364 73699

Oak (formerly Royal Oak): Wed., 8.30 pm . Music. Caroline 01364 631308 (Alt Wed children's folk 8.00 - 9.00 pm.). Also 3rd Thurs.- music session with Mick Bramich.

## **South Zeal**

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

## **Sticklepath (Okehampton)**

1st Sun. Devonshire Inn. Derek Moore 01837 840316

## **Teignmouth**

Teignmouth Folk Club. Last Thurs. Oystercatcher Cafe, 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](http://www.topshamfolkclub.co.uk)

## **Totnes Folk Song Club**

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

## **Totnes, Bay Horse**

Weekly, 1st & 3rd Mon: open session. 2nd & 4th Tues: mostly traditional unaccompanied

## **Uffculme**

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

## **Willand Club Band Workshop**

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

## Contacts 4 - Ritual & Display

### Ritual & Display Groups

*(F - Morris Federation, R Morris Ring, Open Morris member) Day indicates regular practice night/ dance out night*

#### **Alive & Kicking (F)**

Appalachian. Jo Wright 01392 462531

#### **Angletwitch (F)**

Elizabeth Wozniak 01271 325425

#### **Beltane (F)**

Border, Dilys Morgan-Scott 01803 295442

#### **Bideford Phoenix Morris (F)**

Frances Hall, 01409 281877

#### **Blackawton Morris (F)**

Chris Janman, 01803 712362

#### **Black Bess (F)**

Jayne Thomas 01626 366844 blackbessborder@gmail.com

#### **Borderline (F)**

Tony Whitson, 01271 321431. bag@borderlinemorris.org

#### **Bovey Tracey Mummers (R)**

Rod Wilkins 01803 812581

#### **Bradninch Millers Morris (F)**

Duncan Harrington 01884 855270

#### **Cat's Eye Border (F)**

Sally Safford 07768 613894www.catseyemorris.co.uk

#### **Cogs & Wheels (F)**

Enid Maguire 01409 220060 cogsandwheels@hotmail.com. (Thurs)

#### **Countess Isabella's Automata (F)**

Doug Bleazey 01392 670393

#### **Dartmoor Border (F)**

Mark Tregaskis 01752 299700

#### **Dartington Morris Men (R)**

Roy Hartwell, 01548 831159 bagman@dartingtonmorrismen.org.uk (Fri)

#### **Exeter Morris Men (R)**

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

#### **Exeter University Rapper (F)**

Alice Lockwood alice.lockwood@hotmail.co.uk

#### **Exmoor Border Morris (F)**

Sue White, 01237 451261 (Wed)

#### **Firestone**

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

#### **Glory of the West Morris (F)**

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

#### **Great Western Morris Men (F)**

Ade Brayley 07791 703009 bagman@great-western.org.uk (Mon)

#### **Green Willow Clog (F)**

Marilyn McKechnie 01803 524110

#### **Grimspound Border Morris (F)**

Lee Merry, 8, Waterside, Bovey Tracey, TQ13 9SX lmerry@live.co.uk

#### **Harberton Navy (F)**

Jan Culf JanCulf@harberton.co.uk

#### **Heather & Gorse (F)**

Maggie Anderson mag2anderson@yahoo.co.uk

#### **Ilfracombe Red Petticoats (F)**

Linda Corcoran, 5, Stanbury Rd, Knowle, EX33 2NR lindacorcoran@btopenworld.com

#### **Isambard Gasket Rats (F)**

Debs : 01626 770238 bag@isambardsgasketrats.co.uk

#### **Kings Arms Pace Egg & Mummers**

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

#### **Lodestone Border (F)**

Mike Pike, 01822 855281

#### **Newton Bushel Morris (F)**

Dave Warren daveatishw@talktalk.net

#### **North Devon Mummers**

Francis & Barbara Verdigi, 01271 861553

#### **Old Town Twelves**

Alison Chapman, 07541 385463

#### **Plymouth Maids (O)**

Sue Hawes, 01752 345054 plymouthmaids@hotmail.com

#### **Plymouth Morris Men (R)**

Joe Cumming, 01752 217684  
www.plymouthmorrismen.org.uk

# Contacts 5 - Ritual & Display, Festivals, Regional

## **Raddon Hill Clog Morris (F)**

Barry Lewis 01395 443408

## **Rough Diamonds Appalachian**

01460 220607

## **Saffron Maids (F)**

Janet Ridley 01637 880394 [www.saffron-maids.org.uk](http://www.saffron-maids.org.uk)

## **Shuffle The Deck (F)**

Appalachian. Kathy Houlihan 01752 893335

## **Sidmouth Steppers NW Morris (F)**

Ruth Lewis, 07976 251929 [steppers@sidmouthsteppers.com](mailto:steppers@sidmouthsteppers.com)

## **Sidmouth Traditional Mummers**

Henry Piper, 21B, Broad Street, Ottery St Mary, 01404 811491 [henry.piper@zoom.co.uk](mailto:henry.piper@zoom.co.uk)

## **Tinners Morris Men (F)**

Dave Hatton 01647 231051 [Tinners@dhatton.plus.com](mailto:Tinners@dhatton.plus.com)

## **Trigg Morris Men (R)**

Roger Hancock, 01208 73907

## **Uplyme Morris Men (R)**

Timothy Fox 01297 443072

## **Tudor Dance Group**

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

## **Winkleigh Morris (F)**

Averil Stacey, Holly House, Manor Road, Landkey, EX 32 0JJ [averil@cayster.co.uk](mailto:averil@cayster.co.uk) 01271 831461 [www.winkleighmorris.org.uk](http://www.winkleighmorris.org.uk) (Tues)

## **Wreckers Border (F)**

Constance Ashby 01752 669969

## **Festivals**

### **Bampton After The Fair**

End of October. Clare Penney 01884 860023

### **Baring-Gould Festival**

23rd -25th October. Wren 01837 53754 [info@wrenmusic.co.uk](mailto:info@wrenmusic.co.uk)

### **Bude Folk Festival**

Late May. [www.bundefest.com](http://www.bundefest.com) 07736 374003

### **Dartmoor Folk Festival**

Mrs J White, Sunnyhill, South Zeal, EX20 2JL. 01837 840102 [www.dartmoorfolkfestival.co.uk](http://www.dartmoorfolkfestival.co.uk). 7th -9th August 2015

## **Intervarsity Folk Dance Festival**

Richard Mason 01392 411434

## **Pennymoor Song & Ale**

Early June. Clare Penney 01884 860023

## **Sidmouth Folk Week**

[www.sidmouthfolkweek.org.uk](http://www.sidmouthfolkweek.org.uk) 31st July -7th Aug 2015

## **South Brent Folk Festival**

Eileen McKee, 01364 73699

## **Teignmouth Folk Festival**

Mid June 2015 [www.teignmouthfolk.co.uk](http://www.teignmouthfolk.co.uk) Anne Gill, 01803 290427

## **Wadebridge**

August Bank Holiday weekend. 01208 812230

## **Regional Contacts**

### **Around Kent Folk**

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

### **Dorset Folk**

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

### **Folklife West**

Sam Simmonds, 16, Barrett Rise, Malvern, WR14 2UJ. 01684 575704 [editor@folklife-west.co.uk](mailto:editor@folklife-west.co.uk)

### **Folk London**

Sue West, 102, Gosport Road, Walthamstow, E17 7LZ. 020 8509 0545. [www.folklondon.co.uk](http://www.folklondon.co.uk)

### **Folknews Kernow**

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

### **Folk South West**

Eddie Upton, Church Farm, Leigh, Sherborne, DT9 6HL. 01935 873889 [folksw@folksw.org.uk](mailto:folksw@folksw.org.uk)

### **Mardles (Suffolk, E. Anglia)**

Mary Humphreys [editor@suffolkfolk.co.uk](mailto:editor@suffolkfolk.co.uk) 01638 720444 5

### **Somerset & Dorset**

[www.folkmusicsomerset.co.uk](http://www.folkmusicsomerset.co.uk) [www.sadfolk.co.uk](http://www.sadfolk.co.uk) Tony & Peter's Folk Diary - email for list: [sanchobramble@hotmail.com](mailto:sanchobramble@hotmail.com)

### **Taplas (Wales)**

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

## Contacts 6 - Regional & National

**Unicorn** (Beds, Herts, Camb. area)  
Simon Bailes, 10 Chapel Street, Dunton  
Biggleswade Bedfordshire SG18 8RW Tel:  
01767 310 424 unicornmagazine@hotmail.co.uk.

### 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**  
Jon Melville, 57, Shakespeare Drive, Nuneaton,  
CV11 6NW. 02476 345543. jon\_melville@  
yahoo.co.uk  
www.themorrisring.org.

**Open Morris**  
Brian Antaur 01263 715762, email: 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



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**sue@hamer-moss.co.uk**

## **Nigel Sture Concertinas**

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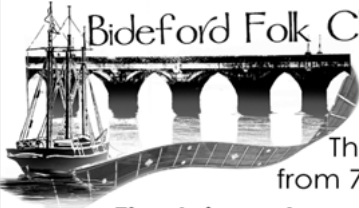
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**Hillside Cottage, Frogmore,  
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**Bideford Folk Club**

Every  
Thursday  
from 7.30pm

**The Joiners Arms  
Market Place Bideford EX39 2DR**

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

### **Concert Nights...from 8pm**

**9th July - The Teacups**

**17th Sept - Commemorative presentation  
in songs, music and readings by  
The Pennymoor Singers -  
"The War To End All Wars" at  
St Mary's Church Bideford**

**8th Oct - Lynne Heraud & Pat Turner**

for more information on the club

**www.bidefordfolkfestival.co.uk**

# Contacts 7 - Bands

## Bands

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

3dB Ceilidh Band	01803 862393	Mrs Midnight	01363 775552
4 Reel Drive	01363 877216	<b>Mugdock</b>	<b>01643 707294</b>
Amicrofters Band	01404 46451	Mullachabu	01626 871260
Autumn Gold	01840 261708	New Vintage Band	01363 774426
Babelfish	07971 148531	Occasion Ceilidh Band	01752 337501
Back to Square One	01392 422119	Off The Square	01395 268902
Barnstormers	01392 882036	Oggle Band*	01271 865030
<b>Bloatertown Band</b>	<b>01237 476632</b>	Old Boys	01726 837432
<b>Blue Jewel</b>	<b>07957 855458</b>	Other Band	01326 563564
Broad Band	01884 840816	Paddy's Whiskers*	01803 520799
Bridgwater Band	01823 491662	Park Bench Aristocrats	01548 810038
Choughed to Bits	01752 851990	<b>Petronella</b>	<b>01626 854141</b>
Country Style	01803 813555	Pigs Might Fly	01392 411434
Dartmoor Pixie Band*	01837 840775	Pig's Whisper	01392 250355
David Mashford	01752 822010	Phoenix	01392 833088
Eel Grinders	01647 440020	Quantock Quarenders	01984 656459
Fiery Clockface	01822 612281	Red Shed	01363 774339
Five Pound Fiddle	01409 211340	Reel Thing	01460 240671
Flash Company	01392 851496	<b>Rumpus</b>	<b>01548 531525</b>
Folk Two	01548 550004	Rusty Buckets	01398 323494
Footloose	01647 433464	Scratchbox	01803 847689
Fox Amongst The Chickens	01579 351201	Sheer Hopody	01769 520595
Fraich 'Airs	01392 811593	Slack Ma Girdle	01823 680523
<b>Fresh Aire</b>	<b>01823 257488</b>	Slapjack	01823 601583
<b>Friendly Folk</b>	<b>01643 707294</b>	Smileyboots	01752 364596
Full English	01271 866907	Spinach For Norman	07970 151059
Haymakers	01288 361625	Squeezum	01823 333567
Hips & Haws	01392 861466	Steve Gill & Andy Clarke	01803 290427
Hobson's Choice	01823 272537	<b>Stick The Fiddle</b>	<b>01884 243295</b>
<b>Home Brew</b>	<b>01363 877216</b>	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
Jiggerypipery	01647 433390	Weston Country Dance Band	01934 813326
<b>Jigs For Gigs</b>	<b>01460 241326</b>	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		
Mischief & Mayhem	01395 514291		
<b>Mooncoin Ceilidh Band*</b>	<b>01803 290427</b>		
More The Merrier	01626 854141		

## WHAT'S AFOOT

*could reach more of the folk community.*

## CAN YOU HELP?

Take some copies with you to events  
Tempt people by leaving old copies  
in libraries, arts centres, tourist info etc.

### Contact

**Brian Chappell, Colin Andrews or Sue Hamer-Moss**  
(contact info p. 21)



## Contacts 8 - callers

### Callers

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

Tom Addison	01392 420694
Colin Andrews	01363 877216
Graham Barrett	01823 461632
Sarah Bazeley	01837 840775
Robert 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
<b>Jeremy Child</b>	<b>01392 422119</b>
Ted Farmer	01392 466326
Ray Goodswen	01278 424332
<b>Sue Hamer-Moss</b>	<b>01805 601323</b>
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
Simon Maplesden	01297 680201
Mary Marker	01626 854141
Richard Mason	01392 411434
Barry Moule	01288 361625
Eileen Nightingale	01297 443915
Frances Oates	01209 217918
Mike Palmer	01647 433464
Kate Fincham-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
Helen Wilson	01392 882036

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Quality traditional dance & Ceilidh music with that special *BOUNCE*  
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***SPECIAL COUNTRY***

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***Jerry & Alison Tucker***

Recorded Music

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

8pm – 11.30pm

**Callington Town Hall**

NO CHARGE / NO PRESENTS / NO

CARDS

JUST YOURSELVES

Bring and Share Supper will be much appreciated

(For more details contact Ray 01579 382402)

*DO-SI-DO CIRCLE RIGHT CIRCLE LEFT DO-SI-DO*



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*A versatile & experienced  
group of musicians*

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*Club, Social, Ceilidh & Barn Dances*

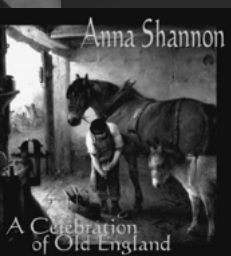


# WildGoose Records

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## Anna Shannon



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songs collected from 2 Minehead sea captains, James Vickery & Robert Lewis, and new songs written for the Minehead Harbour Heritage Project



## 40th Anniversary

## Rattle on the Stovepipe



RATTLE ON THE STOVEPIPE

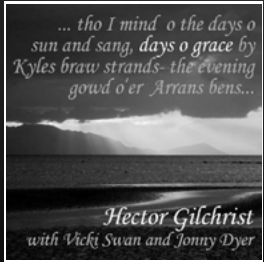


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With Vicki Swan & Jonny Dyer

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*2014 Broom dance champion at Dartmoor Festival - Photo Alan Quick*

**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?**

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AWESOME AUGUST - TOO MANY FESTIVALS TO CHOOSE FROM.....

*So here they are.... SIDMOUTH, DARTMOOR AND BEAUTIFUL DAYS....*

*Take a look below at what's on - catch their media pages for up to date info.....*

## SIDMOUTH FESTIVAL

[www.sidmouthfolkweek.co.uk](http://www.sidmouthfolkweek.co.uk)

SHOOTING ROOTS descend on Sidmouth in 2015 with a programme of workshops, sessions, performances and events specifically tailored by young people, for young people. If you want to try something out for the first time, or hone already serious skills, everything with our name on is just for you.

Shooting Roots workshops are well known as being open, friendly, creative, challenging and fun in equal measure - we've been running them for more than 20 years, so they should be by now! Bring your instruments, your enthusiasm and your ideas, though all you'll really need is yourself.

If you thought it was just workshops, think again - look out for Shooting Roots at sessions, on stages and shaking up ceilidhs 'til the early hours. Our tutors are some of the most exciting artists on the scene and you'll spot them stepping, stomping, strumming and singing their ways into Sidmouth FolkWeek legend. We know exactly where

the best young acts can be found around the festival. Just ask!

So, if you're wondering where to find a warm welcome, a big grin, a stack of new friends and a crammed week of workshops, showcases, sessions and more - wonder no more, you've just found Shooting Roots and we'll be thrilled to meet you.

Stream of Sound also return with song workshops for young people and present What Polly Did Next, their much anticipated sequel to their acclaimed performance of The Beggar's Opera

For more info visit :

[www.sidmouthfolkweek.co.uk](http://www.sidmouthfolkweek.co.uk)

## DID YOU KNOW?

Sidmouth festival is the home of the JOHN GASSON JIG COMPETITION.

*If you thought Morris dancing is for old people outside pubs, think again!*

*High energy, leapfrogs and high jumps - and that is just the musicians !! LOL*

*See for yourself at Blackmore Gardens Marquee at 3pm on Sunday 2nd August*

## DARTMOOR STEP DANCE AND BROOM DANCE

Dartmoor festival is famous for its traditional stepdance and broomdance competitions.

The stepdance competition is open to all ages. Dancers step on a 15 inch square board showing their different steps to try and outstep the previous dancer until a final champion is decided upon. The thing that is so unique about this type of stepdance is that anyone can take part.

The festival runs a workshop in the morning that teaches people the basic steps and the order they need to be danced in, so by the end of the hour most people are able to enter the

competition if they wish. There are junior and senior championships, so young people can't outstep their parents!! It is recommended that you wear a shoe with a hard sole if you want to enter the competition, as this will make a louder and clearer sound on the board.

As the title suggests the broomdance involves dancing with a broom, or rather over a broom. If you would like to learn how to do this why not go to the workshop which is for adults and children, although the competition is for primary school aged children only. Another tradition to Dartmoor, this dance is lots of fun for you all to try.

## BEAUTIFUL DAYS

This year the festival continues to attract music from folk, punk, world, acoustic and DJ, not to mention even poetry and theatre and this year is no exception.

On the folk side (most of the folkier-acts are housed in the big-top), artists include the likes of the Oysterband, Eddi Reader, Peatbog Fairies, Phil Henry & Hannah Martin and Rev Hammer's Freeborn John show, which includes musicians like Rory McCleoud, Maddy Prior, Kathryn Roberts and Sean Lakeman.

The festival has influenced other festivals, including Fairport's Cropredy Convention.

## WREN MUSIC DAY

How many of you know about the brilliant stuff organised by WREN MUSIC?

*For example,*

**THE WREN MUSIC FIDDLE DAY ON 20TH JUNE 2015**, where fiddle and viola players from across the South West were invited to an exciting day of music-making with a European flavour led by expert tutors in Okehampton...  
*(for more get What's Afoot magazine)*

Why not go to their website

[www.wrenmusic.co.uk](http://www.wrenmusic.co.uk) to find out what's on?

***If you took part, tell us all about it and you may win an amazing prize in our COMPETITION - such as free tickets to big events. What are you waiting for?***



# COOL FOLK



*Hanging out at Sidmouth's Shooting Roots Festival*

## LIKE COOL FOLK?

Why Not Get

*What's Afoot*

Inside the new issue of What's Afoot...

*Review of the Levellers DVD - A curious life*

*7 pages of club and event info*

*7 pages of diary info - what's on til November*

Available in Folk Clubs and Arts Centres all over Devon. **52 pages of stuff - only £1!**  
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### COOLEST PLACE...

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Email us at [devoncoolfolk@gmail.com](mailto:devoncoolfolk@gmail.com)

### DO YOU KNOW...????

about all the cool folk activities for younger people?

*The EFDSS has a **Full English Learning Programme** which reaches out to Schools and Colleges throughout England doing all kinds of folk activities.*

*To find out more, visit their new Education Resource Bank [www.efdss.org/resourcebank](http://www.efdss.org/resourcebank). Barnstaple's pathway school had enormous fun learning local songs in a fun way.*

***Shooting Roots** runs brilliant courses at festivals for under 25s. Visit them on*

 /Shooting Roots

# Specific Diary Dates

July- September

## JULY

- Thu 23 SONG Brixham FSC, Theatre Bar.  
Mick Ryan & Paul Downes. 7.30 pm
- Sat 25 PLAYFORD Teign Playford Club,  
Rydon Hall, Kingsteignton, 2.30 -  
5.30 pm. Gwynn George, Jean Foster.  
SONG Shammick Acoustic, Pack of  
Cards, Combe Martin. Kimber's Men  
CEILIDH Mischief and Mayhem. All  
Saints CH Sidmouth. 7.30pm.
- Sun 26 SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward  
Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm. Carrivick  
Sisters
- Wed 29 DANCE Gittisham FDC at VH.  
Frances Hilson, Jeroka.
- Fri 31 SIDMOUTH FOLK WEEK starts

## AUGUST

- Sat 1 SIDMOUTH FOLK WEEK
- Sun 2 SIDMOUTH FOLK WEEK
- Mon 3 SIDMOUTH FOLK WEEK  
CONCERT Dartington Summer

- School. Great Hall. Strings, Wheel &  
Fingers - Steve Wishart 10 pm
- Tue 4 SIDMOUTH FOLK WEEK
- Wed 5 SIDMOUTH FOLK WEEK
- Thu 6 SIDMOUTH FOLK WEEK
- Fri 7 SIDMOUTH FOLK WEEK  
DARTMOOR FOLK FESTIVAL
- Sat 8 DARTMOOR FOLK FESTIVAL
- Sun 9 DARTMOOR FOLK FESTIVAL  
CONCERT Dartington Summer  
School. Great Hall. Kathryn Tickell  
& The Side. 7.45 pm
- Mon 10 CONCERT Dartington Summer  
School. Great Hall. 7.45 pm Mhairi  
Lawson & Joanna MacGregor
- Thu 13 CONCERT Dartington Summer  
School. Great Hall. 5.15 pm As I  
Walked Out One May Morning. Folk  
Choir, Kathryn Tickell et al.
- Fri 14 CEILIDH Dartington Summer  
School. Great Hall. 10 pm

**FOLK COMES TO TOWN** Baring-Gould Folk Weekend  
OKEHAMPTON  
*The small festival with a great heart*  
FRIDAY 23 - SUNDAY 25 OCTOBER 2015



LADY MAISERY | DANDARI | JANET RUSSELL | CHRIS FOSTER

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BILL MURRAY, GEOFF LAKEMAN, MARTIN SCRAGG,  
MARILYN TUCKER & PAUL WILSON, MEMBERS OF THE WREN BAND,  
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& WRECKERS MORRIS

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IF PURCHASED BEFORE END OF SEPTEMBER

*"This festival has something for everyone  
and is the perfect way to spend a weekend  
for the whole family. Don't miss it."*  
PHIL BEER



Join an orchestra | Join a choir | **Love music!**

For more info visit [www.baring-gould.co.uk](http://www.baring-gould.co.uk) or call 01837 53754

**Teignmouth Folk Club**  
The Oystercatcher's Café  
Northumberland Place

**Last Thursday in the Month**  
8pm Free admission

27<sup>th</sup> August Open Night  
27<sup>th</sup> September Open Night  
**29<sup>th</sup> October**  
**Folk Club's 12<sup>th</sup> Birthday**  
**with special guests**  
**Simon Barron & Ros Brady**

Further details from  
Martyn Hillstead  
01626 778071/07904037812  
[martyng@aol.com](mailto:martyng@aol.com)

# Specific Diary Dates

*August/September*

Mon 17	SONG Acoustic Warehouse, Passage House Inn, Kingsteignton, 7.30 pm John White Band	Sat 12	CONCERT Plough, Torrington. Reg Meuross DANCE Willand VH. Ted Farmer, Friendly Folk
21 -23	BEAUTIFUL DAYS FESTIVAL, Escot Park.	Tue 15	DANCE Sidford FDC at VH. Jeremy Child
Sat 22	SONG Shammick Acoustic, Pack of Cards, Combe Martin. Debby McClatchy	Wed 16	DANCE Gittisham FDC at VH. Gill Spence, Jigs For Gigs
Wed 26	SONG Culm Valley Music Club, Magelake Pavilion, Uffculme. Guest tbc. DANCE Gittisham FDC at VH. Aileen Wills, Stick The Fiddle	Wed 16	DANCE Halsway FD Group. Halsway Manor. Chris Turner, English Contra Dance Band
		Thu 17	CONCERT Plough, Torrington. Greg Trooper CONCERT St Mary's Church, Bideford. Pennymoor Singaround's War To End All Wars presentation DANCE Tavistock FDC, St Peter's School. Ted Farmer DANCE Exmouth FDC, Withycombe Meth. Ch. Hall. Club callers

## **SEPTEMBER**

Wed 2	DANCE Gittisham FDC, Mackarness Hall, Honiton. Laurelie Gifford	Fri 18	SONG Ley Arms guest night Reg Meuross, Jess Vincent
Thu 3	DANCE Tavistock FDC, St Peter's School. John Estall DANCE Exmouth FDC, Withycombe Meth. Ch. Hall. Chris Miles	18 - 20	MINEHEAD MUSICIANS FESTIVAL. Details from Acorn Folk Club contacts.
Fri 4	CONCERT Plough, Torrington. Betty & The Boy	Sun 20	SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm. Brooks Williams Trio
Sat 5	DANCE Bridport St Mary's Church House Hall. Chris Toyne	Mon 21	SONG Acoustic Warehouse, Passage House Inn, Kingsteignton, 7.30 pm My Black Hat
Sun 6	SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm Damien Barber & Mike Wilson	Tue 22	DANCE Sidford FDC at VH. Jane Thomas
Mon 7	SONG Acoustic Warehouse, Passage House Inn, Kingsteignton, 7.30 pm Verity Greenway	Wed 23	DANCE Gittisham FDC at VH. Club callers, Stick The Fiddle
Tue 8	SONG Hanlon's Brewery, Half Moon Exeter. Bill Murray, Eileen Conn & Jackie Williams. MC Joan Holloway DANCE Sidford FDC at VH. Simon Maplesden, Chris Toyne	Thu 24	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, Meter Rite
Wed 9	DANCE Gittisham FDC at VH. Eileen Nightingale, Jeroka	Fri 25	DANCE Exeter FDC, Baptist Centre, Palace Gate. Jeremy Childs
Thu 10	DANCE Tavistock FDC, St Peter's School. Chris Thorne DANCE Willand FDC at VH. Ted Farmer, Quantock Quarenders DANCE Exmouth FDC, Withycombe Meth. Ch. Hall. Janet Bulpin SONG Totnes FSC, Dartmouth Inn. Stanley Accrington		



# Specific Diary Dates

September/October

- |     |    |  |     |    |  |
|-----|----|--|-----|----|--|
| Sat | 26 | CONCERT Plough, Torrington. Cara Dillon (support: Rose Rebecka) SONG Shammick Acoustic, Pack of Cards, Combe Martin. Mick Ryan & Paul Downes   | Mon | 12 | SONG Acoustic Warehouse, Passage House Inn, Kingsteignton, 7.30 pm<br>Chris & Paul Woodhouse                                 |
| Sun | 27 | SONG Brixham Theatre Bar. Martin Simpson, Andy Cutting & Nancy Kerr.<br>SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm. Anthony John Clarke.<br>SONG Topsham FSC, Matthews Hall Dovetail Trio & Greg Russell | Tue | 13 | DANCE Sidford FDC at VH. Aileen Wills, Ivor & Holly  |
| Tue | 29 | DANCE Sidford FDC at VH. AGM. Eileen Nightingale   | Wed | 14 | DANCE Gittisham FDC at VH. Graham Barrett, Fresh Aire  |
| Wed | 30 | DANCE Gittisham FDC at VH. Aileen Wills, Chris Toyne   | Thu | 15 | DANCE Tavistock FDC, St Peter's School. Tony Dawe<br>DANCE Exmouth FDC, Withycombe Meth. Ch. Hall. Wendy Hoare & Chris Miles |
|     |    |  | Fri | 16 | SONG Ley Arms guest night. Nick Wyke & Becki Driscoll, James Budden.   |
|     |    |  | Fri | 16 | CONCERT St Hieritha's Church. Chittlehampton. Winter Wilson  |

## **OCTOBER**

- |     |    |   |     |    |   |
|-----|----|---|-----|----|---|
| Thu | 1  | DANCE Tavistock FDC, St Peter's School. Jim Reade<br>DANCE Exmouth FDC, Withycombe Meth. Ch. Hall. Ted Farmer   | Sat | 17 | DANCE Callington Town Hall. Jerry & Alyson Tucker.<br>DANCE Willand VH. Sarah Bazeley, Dartmoor Pixie Band  |
| Sat | 3  | CONCERT Plough, Torrington. Elaine Hayes (support: Keira Osment)<br>DANCE Bridport St Mary's Church House Hall. Pete Gritton, Jigfoot   | Sun | 18 | SONG Topsham FSC, Matthews Hall John Kirkpatrick  |
| Tue | 6  | DANCE Sidford FDC at VH. Simon Maplesden  | Tue | 20 | DANCE Sidford FDC at VH. Jane Thomas, Jigs For Gigs   |
| Wed | 7  | DANCE Halsway FD Group. venue tbc. Aileen Wills, Jeroka<br>DANCE Gittisham FDC, Mackarness Hall, Honiton. Jigs For Gigs   | Wed | 21 | DANCE Halsway FD Group. Bicknoller VH. Ray Goodswen, Meter Rite<br>DANCE Gittisham FDC at VH. Jane Thomas, Jeroka   |
| Thu | 8  | DANCE Tavistock FDC, St Peter's School. Club callers.<br>DANCE Willand FDC at VH. Jane Thomas, More The Merrier<br>DANCE Exmouth FDC, Withycombe Meth. Ch. Hall. Aileen Wills<br>SONG Bideford FSC, Joiners Arms. Lynne Heraud & Pat Turner | Thu | 22 | DANCE Tavistock FDC, St Peter's School. Alan & Marion Finch<br>DANCE Willand FDC at VH. Ted Farmer, Chris Toyne<br>DANCE Exmouth FDC, Withycombe Meth. Ch. Hall. Club callers                 |
| Sun | 11 | SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm. Lynne Heraud  | Fri | 23 | BARING-GOULD FESTIVAL   |
|     |    |   | Sat | 24 | BARING-GOULD FESTIVAL<br>PLAYFORD Teign Playford, Rydon Hall, Kingsteignton, 2.30 - 5.30 pm..<br>Jean Foster, Gwyn George<br>SONG Shammick Acoustic, Pack of Cards, Combe Martin. Helen North |

# Specific Diary Dates

*October/November*

- |     |    |  |  |
|-----|----|--|--|
| Sun | 25 | SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm. Winter Wilson<br>BARING-GOULD FESTIVAL   | Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm. Steve Hunt<br>SONG Topsham FSC, Matthews Hall<br>A Day's Work (Mick Ryan folk opera)   |
| Mon | 26 | SONG Acoustic Warehouse, Passage House Inn, Kingsteignton, 7.30 pm<br>Cornelius Family   | CONCERT Plough, Torrington. Fish & Bird  |
| Tue | 27 | DANCE Sidford FDC at VH. Jeremy Child  | Tue 10 DANCE Sidford FDC at VH. Eileen Nightingale, Fresh Aire.  |
| Wed | 28 | SONG Culm Valley Music Club, Magelake Pavilion, Uffculme. Winter Wilson<br>DANCE Gittisham FDC at VH. Frances Hilson, Mischief & Mayhem  | Wed 11 DANCE Gittisham FDC at VH. Club callers, Stick The Fiddle   |
| Thu | 29 | SONG Teignmouth FSC 12th Anniversary. Oystercatcher Cafe, Barron Brady.<br>SONG Bideford FSC, Joiners Arms. Ninebarrow<br>DANCE Exmouth FDC, Withycombe Meth. Ch. Hall. Rosie Shaw, Amycrofters. | Thu 12 SONG Totnes FSC, Dartmouth Inn. Sarah McQuaid<br>SONG Bideford FSC, Joiners Arms. Bob Fox<br>DANCE Tavistock FDC, St Peter's School. Alyson & Jerry Tucker<br>DANCE Willand FDC at VH. Eileen Nightingale, More The Merrier<br>DANCE Exmouth FDC, Withycombe Meth. Ch. Hall. Muriel Forrest |
| Fri | 30 | CONCERT Plough, Torrington. Willy & The Bandits<br>DANCE Exeter FDC, Baptist Centre, Palace Gate. Aileen Wills, Balcony Band<br>AFTER THE FAIR FESTIVAL<br>Bampton                               | Sat 14 DANCE, Willand VH. Ray Goodswen, Pendragon<br>Tue 17 DANCE Sidford FDC at VH. Aileen Wills, Jeroka<br>Wed 18 DANCE Halsway FD Group. Halsway Manor. Eileen Nightingale, Wassail Band<br>DANCE Gittisham FDC at VH. Simon Maplesden, Jigs For Gigs   |

## **NOVEMBER**

- |     |   |   |  |
|-----|---|---|--|
| Sat | 1 | AFTER THE FAIR FESTIVAL   |  |
| Sun | 2 | AFTER THE FAIR FESTIVAL   |  |
| Tue | 3 | DANCE Sidford FDC at VH. Kim Smith, Amycrofters   |  |
| Wed | 4 | DANCE Halsway FD Group. Bicknoller VH. Club callers & music<br>DANCE Gittisham FDC, Mackarness Hall, Honiton. Chris Toyne |  |
| Thu | 5 | DANCE Tavistock FDC, St Peter's School. Ted Farmer<br>DANCE Exmouth FDC, Withycombe Meth. Ch. Hall. AGM Club callers      |  |
| Sat | 7 | DANCE Launceston Town Hall. Jane Thomas, Amycrofters.   |  |
| Sun | 8 | SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward   |  |
|     |   |   | Thu 19 DANCE Tavistock FDC, St Peter's School. Chris Thorne<br>DANCE Exmouth FDC, Withycombe Meth. Ch. Hall. Simon Maplesden           |
|     |   |   | Fri 20 SONG Ley Arms guest night. Kathryn Roberts & Shaun Lakeman<br>CONCERT St Hieritha's Church. Chittlehampton. Martyn Wyndham-Read |
|     |   |   | Sat 21 DANCE Tavistock Town Hall. Sarah Bazeley, Dartmoor Pixie Band   |
|     |   |   | Sun 22 SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm. Martyn Wyndham-Read   |
|     |   |   | Mon 23 SONG Acoustic Warehouse, Passage House Inn, Kingsteignton, 7.30 pm<br>Steve Buxton  |

# Specific Diary Dates

November/December

- Tue 24 DANCE Sidford FDC at VH. Jane Thomas
- Wed 25 DANCE Gittisham FDC at VH. Jane Thomas, Meter Rite
- Thu 26 DANCE Tavistock FDC, St Peter's School. Frances Oates.  
DANCE Willand FDC at VH. Jane Thomas, Broad Band  
DANCE Exmouth FDC, Withycombe Meth. Ch. Hall. Chris Miles, Jigs For Gigs.
- Fri 27 DANCE Exeter FDC, Baptist Centre, Palace Gate. Pam Hayes.
- Sat 28 SONG Shammick Acoustic, Pack of Cards, Combe Martin. Kathryn Roberts & Shaun Lakeman
- Sun 29 CONCERT Plough, Torrington. Martin Simpson

## DECEMBER

- Tue 1 DANCE Sidford FDC at VH. Club callers
- Wed 2 DANCE Halsway FD Group. Bicknoller VH. Simon Maplesden, Friendly Folk  
DANCE Gittisham FDC, Mackarness Hall, Honiton. Jeroka
- Thu 3 DANCE Tavistock FDC, St Peter's School. Club callers  
DANCE Exmouth FDC, Withycombe Meth. Ch. Hall. Denis Warry
- Sat 5 DANCE Bridport St Mary's Church House Hall. Dick Williams, Arish Mel
- Sun 6 SONG Topsham FSC, Matthews Hall  
Belshazzar's Feast

**Got something to tell us? Get in touch:**  
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[facebook/Devon.folk.58](https://www.facebook.com/Devon.folk.58)

# WILLAND FOLK DANCE CLUB

## SATURDAY DANCES

### Willand Village Hall

- September 12<sup>th</sup> Ted Farmer & Friendly Folk
- October 17<sup>th</sup> Sarah Bazeley & The Dartmoor Pixie Band
- November 14<sup>th</sup> Ray Goodswen & Pendragon
- November 28<sup>th</sup> Dinner Dance (*Ticket Only*) Club Callers & Petronella
- December 19<sup>th</sup> Simon Mapelsden & O'Dalaighs Ceilidh Band
- Thursday December 31<sup>st</sup> New Year's Eve Dance – Jane Thomas, Gill Spence & The Works Band

Admission £7.00 Bring & share supper Raffle  
Contact: Zena Roberts 01884 253546 [www.willandfolkdanceclub.co.uk](http://www.willandfolkdanceclub.co.uk)

Club Nights 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays 8.00 – 10.30pm in the Village Hall  
Members £3.00 / Non-members £3.50 – See Diary Dates for more information  
Contact Marilyn Broom 01404 47200 or Zena Roberts 01884 253546

# Regular Events (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. Clubs and regular sessions are shown below. Please note some clubs do not operate all the year round. **Bold type** - further details in club section and/or guest nights in listings by date. **Bold Italic** - see also advertisement.*

*Session - unknown or mixed music & song  
Op Mike - open mike. May include other genres.*

*Assume 8 pm start unless otherwise shown*

## MONDAY

### WEEKLY

SESSION Appledore, Royal Hotel. 8.30 pm

SESSION Bideford, White Hart. Irish.

**DANCE Chudleigh Folk Dance Club  
Chudleigh Town Hall (term time)**

OP MIKE Exeter, Oddfellows. 9 pm

OP MIKE Exmouth, Famous Old Barrel 8.30 pm

**OP MIKE Kingsteignton Passage House Inn  
(except BH) 7.30 pm**

**DANCE Sidford Scottish Sidford VH. 8pm**

SESSION Torquay, Crown & Sceptre, 8.30 pm

MUSIC Westleigh, Westleigh Inn. 8.30 pm

### FORTNIGHTLY

DANCE Northam Third Age

SESSION Totnes, Bay Horse (1st & 3rd) 8.45

### MONTHLY

MUSIC Chittlehampton, Bell Inn. (2nd)

SESSION Clovelly, Red Lion 9 pm (1st)

MUSIC South Zeal, Kings Arms, (3rd)

SESSION Topsham, Bridge, Blues. (2nd)

MUSIC Welcome, Old Smithy. Irish. (2nd)

## TUESDAY

### WEEKLY

DANCE Isca Playford Group

DANCE Isca Allemanders Square Dance  
Club Kenn Centre, Kenford

DANCE Country Dance Plymouth. Trinity  
United Reformed Church Hall.  
(Not July & Aug)

DANCE Launceston FDC, St Johns  
Ambulance Hall (not July & Aug)

DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club Sidford  
Village Hall. (Not Jun-Aug)

DANCE Totnes Scottish Folk Dance, King  
Edward VI School. 7.15 pm

SESSION Weare Giffard, Cyder Presse, 8.30 pm

### FORTNIGHTLY

SONG Bradninch Folk Club. 1st - White  
Lion, 3rd - Castle Hotel (guests)

MUSIC Bere Ferrers, Old Plough, (1st, 3rd)

SESSION Exmouth, Manor Hotel (3rd & 5th)

DANCE Kingsteignton Folk Dance Club

OP MIKE Landkey, Castle. 9 pm

DANCE Lucky 7 Folk Dance Club,  
Liverton, VH. Sept 1, 15, 29. Oct 6,  
20, Nov 3, 17, Dec 1

SONG Plymouth, Artillery Arms, 8.30 pm

SONG South Brent, Pack Horse 8.30 pm  
(From Aug 11th)

SONG Totnes, Bay Horse (2nd & 4th) 8.45

DANCE Wiveliscombe FDC, Community  
Centre (not June- Aug)

### MONTHLY

SESSION Chideock, George Inn, 8.30 pm (3rd)

SONG Copplesstone, Cross Hotel (last)

SESSION Frogmore, Globe Inn (1st) 8.30 pm

SONG Nadderwater, Royal Oak (3rd)

SONG Sandford, Lamb Inn. (1st)

MUSIC Topsham, Bridge (not Aug) (1st)

## WEDNESDAY

### WEEKLY

SESSION Appledore, Royal Hotel

SESSION Appledore, Coach & Horses (not 4th)

OP MIKE Axminster, Axminster Inn. 9 pm

DANCE Bideford Folk Dance Club.  
Northam Hall.

SESSION Exmouth, Beacon Vaults

DANCE Isca Scottish Folk Dance Club,  
Budleigh Salterton Masonic Hall

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club,  
Gittisham VH (1st Wed  
Mackarness Hall Honiton)

DANCE Newton Abbot Irish Set Dance,  
Jolly Farmer

MUSIC South Brent, (Royal) Oak. 8.30 pm

# Regular Events (2)

## *Weds weekly contd.*

**DANCE** South Hams Folk Dance Club, West Charleton Village Hall

OP MIKE Totnes, The Albert.

### **FORTNIGHTLY**

**DANCE** Halsway Manor Folk Dance Group (1st & 3rd)

### **MONTHLY**

**SONG** Appledore, Coach & Horses. (4th)

**SESSION** Bampton, Quarryman's Rest (last)

**MUSIC** Beer, Dolphin Hotel (1st)

**SONG** Beer, Dolphin Hotel, (3rd) 7.30 pm

**MUSIC** Bow, White Hart. Irish. (1st)

**SONG** Bradnich Acoustic. Baptist Hall (2nd)

**SESSION** Bridport, George Hotel (3rd)

**SONG** Christow, Teign House Inn. (4th)

**SESSION** Dawlish, South Devon Inn. (last)

**MUSIC** Exeter, Globe Inn (last)

**MUSIC** Exmouth, Bicton Inn. (3rd)

OP MIKE Hatherleigh, Tally Ho (3rd)

**SESSION** Honiton, Beehive Arts Centre (2nd) 7.30 pm

OP MIKE Kingsbridge, Creeks End Inn (1st)

**SONG** Lypstone, Globe Inn. (2nd)

**SESSION** Malborough, Royal Oak (2nd)

**SONG** Pennymoor Singaround, Cruwys Arms. (3rd)

**SESSION** Plymouth, Hyde Inn, Mutley. (2nd)

**SONG** Sidmouth, Anchor (1st)

**MUSIC** Swimbridge, Jack Russell. (1st)

**SESSION** Teignmouth, Oystercatcher. Blues. (3rd). 8.30 pm

**SONG** Uffculme, Magelake Pavilion. (last)

## **THURSDAY**

### **WEEKLY**

**SONG** Bideford Folk Club, Joiners Arms

**SONG** Bishopsteignton Red Rock Brewery

**SONG** Denbury, Union Inn

OP MIKE Exeter, Globe Inn

**SESSION** Exeter, Wells Tavern

**DANCE** Exmouth Folk Dance Club, Withycombe Methodist Church Hall (Not June - Aug)

**SESSION** Plymouth, Minerva Inn 8.30 pm

**DANCE** Tavistock Folk Dance Club, St Peter's School. (not July Aug)

OP MIKE Totnes, Bay Horse 8.45 pm

### **FORTNIGHTLY**

**DANCE** Chard Folk Dance Club, Combe St Nichloas Village Hall

**SESSION** Exmouth, Beacon Vaults

**MUSIC** Torrington, Royal Exchange (2nd & 4th)

**MUSIC** Willand Club Band (1st & 3rd)

**DANCE** Willand Folk Dance Club, Willand Village Hall (not July & Aug)

### **MONTHLY**

**SESSION** Ashprington, Durant Arms (last)

**SONG** Brixham, Quay Side Hotel. (1st)

**SESSION** Red Lion, Chulmleigh. (2nd)

**SESSION** Exeter, City Gate (3rd)

**SESSION** Exeter Folk Project, Starz Bar. (last)

**SESSION** Exmouth, Bicton Inn (1st)

**SESSION** Frogmore, Globe Inn. (3rd). 8.30 pm

OP MIKE Okehampton, Kings Arms (last). 9pm

**SESSION** South Brent, (Royal Oak) (3rd)

**SONG** Teignmouth Folk Club, Oystercatcher Cafe. (last)

**MUSIC** Topsham, Bridge Inn. (1st)

**MUSIC** Totnes, Barrel House. Klezmer (3rd)

**SONG** Totnes Folk Song Club, Dartmouth Inn (2nd)

## **FRIDAY**

### **WEEKLY**

**DANCE** Bideford Ceilidh Club, Northam Hall

**SONG** Bodmin Folk Club, BCA Rooms

**DANCE** Dartington Folk Dance Club, Dartington Village Hall

**DANCE** Salcombe Regis Folk Dance Club, St Peter's Church Hall, Sidford

**SESSION** Torquay, Crown & Sceptre, 8.30 pm

### **FORTNIGHTLY**

**DANCE** Aylesbeare Folk Dance Club, Aylesbeare Village Hall

**DANCE** Exeter Contra Dance, 7.30 pm St Katharine's Priory. (2nd)

**SESSION** Ermington, Crooked Spire (2nd & last)

# Regular Events (3)

*Fri. contd.*

## MONTHLY

- OP MIKE Beer, Dolphin Hotel (1st)  
**SONG** *Brixham Folk Club Theatre Bar (1st)*  
**SONG** *Carhampton, Butchers Arms (2nd)*  
**DANCE** *D'Accord French Dance, Ide Village Hall. (3rd)*  
**SONG** *Exeter Barnfield Theatre (1st)*  
**DANCE** *Exeter Folk Dance Club, Palace Gate Centre (4th, Not July, Aug)*  
 OP MIKE Exeter, Whipton Music Club, Whipton Institute Social Club. (2nd)  
 SESSION Lee Mill, Westward Inn. (last)  
**SONG** *Ley Arms Folk Club, Ley Arms, Kenn. (last. Not July) + guest nights*  
**DANCE** *South Brent French, Recreational Hall, South Brent. (1st)*  
 SESSION South Molton, Coaching Inn. (3rd)  
 SESSION Tiverton Acoustic, Old Heathcoat Sch Coomunity Centre. (2nd) 8.30 pm

## SATURDAY

### FORTNIGHTLY

- SONG** *Shammick Acoustic, Pack of Cards, Combe Martin (2nd & 4th)*  
**SONG** *Brendon, Staghunters (3rd)*  
**SONG** *Minehead, Acorn Folk Club, United Reform Church Hall (1st)*

### MONTHLY

- OP MIKE Okehampton. Ockment Centre (2nd)  
 SESSION South Molton, George Hotel (1st)

## SUNDAY

### WEEKLY

- OP MIKE Appledore. The Beaver, 8.30 pm  
 MUSIC Appledore, Coach & Horses. 4 pm  
 MUSIC Frithelstock, Clinton Arms.  
**SONG** *Topsham Folk Club, Globe Hotel*  
**SONG** *Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill. 7.45 pm (Not Aug)*

### FORTNIGHTLY

- SONG** *Bude Folk Club, Falcon Hotel*  
 SESSION Parracombe, Hunters Inn. (2nd & 4th)  
**SESSION** *Plymouth, Morley Arms, 3 pm (1st & 3rd)*

### MONTHLY

- SONG** *Bere Ferrers, Old Plough (3rd) 8.30 pm*  
 OP MIKE Beer Ferrers, Old Plough (1st) 8.30pm  
**SONG** *Bow, White Hart (2nd)*  
 Session Exmouth, Bicton Inn., 9.30 pm (1st)  
**SONG** *Okehampton, Fountain (last)*  
 MUSIC Plymouth, Barbican, Dolphin (1st) 1.30 pm  
**SONG** *Scorrion, Tradesman's Arms, 7.30 pm (4th)*  
**SONG** *Sticklepath (Okehampton), Devonshire Arms. (1st)*  
 SESSION Topsham, Bridge.lunchtime (1st)  
 SESSION Totnes, Bay Horse, Bluegrass. (2nd)

## Totnes Folk Club



Dartmouth Inn, The Plains  
 Totnes, TQ9 5EL

*2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday in the Month – 8pm*

13<sup>th</sup> August Singers' Night

10<sup>th</sup> September Guest Night

**Stanley Accrington**

8<sup>th</sup> October Singers' Night

12<sup>th</sup> November Guest Night

**Sarah McQuaid**

**For more information phone**

**Steve & Anne Gill**

**01803 290427**

**or Andy Clarke 01803 732312**



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*folk news* £2



Tar Barrels, Ottery St Mary, Devon. 18 Oct 2014. Photos © Colin Davies

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## Review

## A Long March Home

*Mike Reinstein*

*IRR096*

There are very many singer-songwriters whose themes focus on social protest or love, unrequited or otherwise, and some produce the odd good song. Mike Reinstein, from Sussex, is one of the few able to sustain the appeal across a whole album, with both topics well represented. This is the third of his albums I have reviewed, the previous one being of songs for children. For the variety of attractive tunes and arrangements, good lyrics and, not least, his superb singing, *A Long March Home* is certainly his best CD so far.

Some songs stood out immediately on first hearing while I was pottering around doing other things. *Cheap At Twice The Price*, the opening track, reflects on our consumer society where bargains often come at the expense of exploited workers in the third world. *Gefehlt Mir Mein Heym* (I Love My Home) and *Your Help's Long Overdue* are very poignant and moving. The latter is probably my favourite track.

Further playings, giving more attention to the lyrics, reveal some absolute gems. In fact I can honestly say there's not a dud offering amongst them – and that's from someone for whom this genre is not one with which I feel most comfortable. The black humour and irony of *Advice* is brilliant - a dialogue between God and warmongering world leaders – and the piano accompaniment is inspired.

Full marks too for the instrumental backing on all of the songs. Brass, keyboard, percussion, bass and guitar, supplemented by other instruments, all contribute very effectively to the overall presentation. I'd be very tempted to go to a live performance by Mike. Perhaps when I'm next in the Brighton area...

CD is available from [www.mikereinstein.co.uk](http://www.mikereinstein.co.uk)

*Colin Andrews*

## Report

## Coldridge Maypole Dancing

MAYPOLE Dancing was enjoyed in Mid Devon on Coldridge Village Green on the first Bank Holiday Monday in May.

The dancing was watched by a smaller number of spectators this year due to another event in the parish, which also resulted in less children attending. Despite this, all those who went along enjoyed watching the dancing and listening to the music.

The musicians were Rob Murch, Jason Rice, Ed Rennie, Jon Shapley and Colin Munday.

During an interval, cream teas were served in the Village Hall in aid of Coldridge Parish Church, and these were greatly enjoyed.

While the cream teas were being consumed, Rev Tony Connell, made the announcement that the newly-born baby to the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge had been named Princess Charlotte Elizabeth Diana, which resulted in a round of applause from those present.

A raffle was also held. A few spots of rain prevented further dancing so the musicians played for the audience in the hall. A profit of just over £200 was raised for the church funds and Rev Connell thanked all those who attended, those who provided the cream teas and especially the musicians for their entertainment.

*Alan Quick*





*A young Maypole dancer enjoying Coldridge's May Day celebration.*

*Photo courtesy of Alan Quick*

# Contra Dance in Exeter

Second Friday in Every Month (except August): 7:30pm to 10:30pm

**[www.tinyurl.com/ContraExeter](http://www.tinyurl.com/ContraExeter)**

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Check Website for Dates (Usually Third Friday)

01392 422 119 / 07969 297 633 [contraexeter@gmail.com](mailto:contraexeter@gmail.com)

## *The Levellers Story*

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

It is safe to say that this documentary, *A Curious Life*, starts off rather curiously, as we follow the bassist of the Levellers, Jeremy Cunningham, into his extremely humble and ordinary home existence and watch him feed a pair of seagulls which regularly visit his garden with cat food.

Initially you might not expect a member of a band, who defied the trend of folk, being un-cool and ending up making a no.1 charting album, to live such a modest existence. But then you think that considering the free-spirited hippy mentality of the band as a whole, it makes sense that Jeremy would not lead a life of luxury or succumb to the benefits of wealth, which is so nice to see in this day and age. The band's name tells it all as the members are very level-headed and down-to-earth.

As with the opening scene, the rest of this fascinating documentary largely follows Jeremy Cunningham around to locations that are important to the Levellers history, which makes this an intimate and engaging watch, without the tired use of a narrator over a bunch of live footage many might have already seen.

For fans of the band this will probably be a real eye-opener with some surprising stories.

From Jeremy's perspective we get to see the run-down location where the band's artwork seen on countless album covers and T-Shirts are created by him, the shop where he goes to buy his favourite whiskeys and his parents home, where we are treated to their views on the band and their son.

We can tell once we meet them that they are extremely proud and have been busy helping to archive the band's history, collecting memorabilia from posters, programmes and magazine articles.

Apart from getting an in-depth look at the life and times of Jeremy Cunningham, including his past drug addiction, we get to see fellow band members, Mark Chadwick and Simon Friend as well, all who seem to lead pretty normal existences (unless you choose to call Simon living on a canal boat abnormal!). Also interviewed are those who contributed to the rising success of the band, but the documentary isn't afraid to name check a few people who have not contributed and made life tough for them.

Beginning in the late 1980's out of the clubs and pubs of the vibrant Brighton rock scene, they emerged with a distinctive sound, influenced by the likes of The Waterboys, The Pogues and McDermott's 2hrs (whose albums have been reviewed in this magazine previously) and took the world by storm.

Surviving some bumps along the way, they have continued to put a valuable mark on this land with their blend of folk and punk and significant social/political views and have become the hosts of one of the most successful festivals in the UK, Beautiful Days, located at Escot Park in Devon.

*[For more on the Beautiful Days festival - check out our Cool Folk centrefold or visit us on facebook]*

Like the festival, this documentary serves to remind us how important The Levellers were and still are to the folk scene in general and how they continue to made folk cool in the 21st century.

For more information about the Levellers visit:  
<http://www.levellers.co.uk/>

For more information about the Beautiful Days festival visit: <http://www.beautifuldays.org/>

*Martyn Cornelius*



**Devoncoolfolk**

*Reeling Reels – Propelling Jigs – Relaxing Airs*



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## Report

## European Violin Flavours Visit Devon

### **Wren Music Fiddle Day**

[http:// www.wrenmusic.co.uk](http://www.wrenmusic.co.uk)

Fiddle and viola players from across the South West were invited to an exciting day of music-making with a European flavour led by expert tutors in Okehampton. The Wren Music Fiddle Day on Saturday 20th June was a chance for experienced players and complete beginners to develop their playing and their knowledge of the instrument. The day focused on learning new skills and techniques as well as repertoire development, on both violin and viola, with a chance for other acoustic instruments to join in the afternoon.

This year's tutors were fiddle player Dave Shepherd from Euro dance band Blowzabella (intermediate/advanced) and Becki Driscoll (beginners). Dave's workshop looked at tunes and techniques from all over Western Europe, with a particular focus on French music. The beginner's workshop with Becki focused on basic technique and learning simple tunes. There was something for everyone to play. Instruments were available to be loaned to complete beginners.

They were joined in the afternoon by fantastic diatonic accordionist Anna Pack and Nick Wyke on guitar and fiddle, when the day was opened to other acoustic instrument players to create a massed folk orchestra. In the evening, the tutors gave a concert at Fairplace Church in Okehampton, a beautiful venue with amazing acoustics. This concert featured the two duos of Dave & Anna and Nick & Becki playing a mix of English and European traditional music, along with new compositions and rousing songs.

This annual event, now in its 7th year, has brought internationally recognised fiddle players and tutors to the heart of Devon. Event organiser Becki Driscoll of Wren Music says: "This day really has something for everyone. Even if you've never played before, you can come along and try it out. You don't need to be able to read music, but we will provide sheet music. And the best bit is: you get to spend all day playing the fiddle!"

*Wren Music*

*Workshop participants are invited to write about their experiences for the next edition of Cool Folk - ed*



### **FOLK AND ACOUSTIC MUSIC**

The Pack O' Cards, High St., Combe Martin, EX34 0ET  
8pm 2<sup>nd</sup> (open nights) and 4<sup>th</sup> (concerts) Saturdays most months  
[www.shammickacoustic.org.uk](http://www.shammickacoustic.org.uk)  
enquiries: 01271 882366

- Aug. 8<sup>th</sup> Closed for Carnival.
- Aug. 22<sup>nd</sup> Debby McClatchy, authentic old-time American music & song.
- Sep. 12<sup>th</sup> Open Night: sing, say or play – or just listen!
- Sep. 26<sup>th</sup> Mick Ryan & Paul Downes, great singer, great musician, fantastic songs.
- Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> Open Night: again...
- Oct. 24<sup>th</sup> Helen North, captivating original songs, full of charm and/or humour.
- Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> Open Night featuring Kelly Oliver.
- Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> Kathryn Roberts & Sean Lakeman, eclectic mix of trad., modern & original.
- Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> *Celtic Christmas Strings* w. Chris Newman & Maire ni Chathasaigh.
- Dec. 26<sup>th</sup> Closed for Boxing Day.

## Review

Sideways

*Morai*

*Wild Goose WGS 410CD*

The name of the group (it means Spinners of Destiny in Greek Mythology) may be unfamiliar but not its three members – Jo Freya (Blowzabella, Token Women etc), Sarah Matthews (Cupola, etc) and Melanie Biggs (All Blacked Up). Such a combination of top-rate musicians and singers is guaranteed to provide a performance to make you sit up and take notice.

And so it proves - captivating instrumental tracks, which often leave you guessing what's going to come next. Only the Ufton Court Schottische and All Saints are tunes I'd ever have the slightest chance of replicating on the melodeon! The opening bourrees are certainly challenging, and Kusnacht/ La Chapka are far from the bog-standard session tunes. Only Pete's Pub did I find rather repetitive and uninspiring.

The songs, too, are interesting. Twiddles is a tongue-in cheek take on the Jolly Jack Tar theme. Garden of Love, a William Blake poem set to music, and Candlelight are beautiful gentle songs, appropriately dedicated to well-loved folk performers no longer with us. Strangely, the title song, Sideways in this case, is the weakest offering.

*Colin Andrews*

*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!



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Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	Open Club Night
<b>Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Nick Wyke &amp; Becki Driscoll (with James Budden)</b>
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Open Club Night
<b>Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Kathryn Roberts &amp; Sean Lakeman</b>
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	Open Club Night

For more information contact  
The Cornelius Family – leyarmsfolk@hotmail.co.uk - Tel. 01392 210983

# Report

Jeremy Child

## Exeter Contra Dance Sessions

[exetercontra@gmail.com](mailto:exetercontra@gmail.com)

In the last edition, I wrote about a series of contra dances I was thinking of doing in Exeter. We've now had two such monthly dances, with good attendances of around 40 dancers. Readers can see photos and videos from both dances at <http://barndancecaller.net/exetercontra.html>.

I thought your readers might be interested in the story of how they came about.

I decided to go for recorded music for a number of reasons: reduced cost to the dancers, reduced financial risk to myself, and from my position as organiser, having it completely within my control. I was unsure of the effect this would have on the experience, and indeed on the draw to the folk dancing world. Whilst there were a few teething troubles with the music at the first dance (poor acoustics and occasional inappropriate speeds), these didn't detract too much from the dancing, and were all sorted out by the second event. What I did observe was that people's focus was on the dancing, and that the music was an enabler rather than the reason people went.

What I thought would be easy, but turned out to be the biggest problem, was finding a hall. Personal practicalities mean that a Friday is by far the best day for me, and this accorded with the dancers' wishes. Having started with a list of requirements (parking, location, size, cost, atmosphere, PRS/PPL licenses), and expecting to "have my pick", I quickly found out that the majority of halls in Exeter are already booked on a Friday night.

We started off with the Kenn Centre in Kennford - good size and location with parking, but not available in the winter, so we're moving on to St Katherine's Priory - somewhat smaller and slightly more tricky to get to from outside Exeter but otherwise OK.

Dates were also awkward, with almost every Friday clashing with something else. I solved this by picking a date which didn't clash with Exeter Folk Dance Club and left it at that. The dances are now held on the second Friday of each month (except August).

[Check out our diary dates section if you are unsure - ed]

The dance programmes consist mostly of contras, with the occasional square or similar formation (e.g. four couple Becket). There are simpler dances to start with, leading to more challenging ones as the evening progresses. This was part of my reason for doing these dance events, to give the opportunity to have a go at more difficult dances. It seems to have been a success, with people coping with (and enjoying) a higher level of dancing. (Swing thru in a diagonal 8 person tidal wave, anyone?) We get through about 15 dances in three hours with a break for tea / coffee / biscuits, so we're going at a fair pace.

As a result of this enthusiasm from the dancers, and requests for more frequent dances, I am now doing a Challenging Dances session once a month. This is more akin to a workshop than a dance, and aimed at stretching the dancers' brains, and possibly some dance development. Ever done a Becket dance where you swap sides as you go up/down the room? A patter called contra? Would you like to try? If so, then this is for you.

If anyone would like to join us, for either the Contra Dance or Challenging Dance, we'd love to see you. You don't have to have done contra before, but some folk dance experience and the ability to think on your feet are necessary.

Email [exetercontra@gmail.com](mailto:exetercontra@gmail.com), or check out <http://barndancecaller.net/exetercontra.html>

Jeremy Child

*Great with hops Full of spirit Goes down well*

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New CD now available

## Review

**Maid on the Shore**

**Niamh Boadle**


*WGS411CD*

I almost dismissed this CD half way through the first track. The intrusive, discordant guitar accompaniment was so irritating I couldn't be bothered to listen to the lyrics. I'm glad I persevered further, however, for on the rest of the album there are some real gems and interesting material. Niamh's beautiful clear voice comes over very effectively on the unaccompanied, and, to me, unfamiliar Irish ballads. Dark Inishowen and The Flower of Finae are particularly attractive. The bodhran backing on Creggan White Hare is certainly skilful but I'm in two minds whether it's appropriate for the song. Generally, the instrumentation on other tracks is very good – guitar, mandolin, whistle and fiddle from Niamh, often double-tracked, supplemented occasionally by Paul Sartin on piano or oboe. There is a good mixture of traditional and contemporary material, including an Australian version of Green Bushes, and a gentle, poignant song about a homeless Belfast girl penned by Anthony John Clarke. The best track by far, though, is a captivating fiddle tune, Ice On The Water. Of the three compositions by Niamh, only Red Dust Road had any appeal to me. Unfortunately, the title song, the last one on the album, is totally ruined after the first verse by a changing to an upbeat treatment with a guitar backing even more unappealing than on the opening track.

Nimh (pronounced 'Neeve') hails from Lancashire and is currently a student on the Folk Degree course at Newcastle. Since an early age she has been immersed in both English and Irish folk traditions (her father is Irish!) and has many credits to her name from competitions for young performers. She is a member of Star & Shadow rapper.


Niamh is amazingly talented. I hope she will concentrate on the traditional aspect of her performance rather than the experimental contemporary arrangements, which, on this album, don't appeal to me.

*Colin Andrews*



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## The Dovetail Trio / Greg Russell

Sunday 27 September 2015 at 8pm £10 adv/£12 door

As The Dovetail Trio, Jamie Roberts, Rosie Hood and Matt Quinn present England's traditional songs with a bold and fresh approach, infectious energy and a passion for musical heritage.

Greg Russell is no stranger to Topsham folk club being a regular performer at our singers' nights in recent times. He now has a national profile on the British folk scene.

## John Kirkpatrick

Sunday 18 October 2015 at 8pm £10 adv/£12 door

John Kirkpatrick is one of the most prolific figures on the English folk scene, performing solo, in duos, acoustic groups and electric bands. With an enviable reputation as an instrumental virtuoso and session musician he is a leading interpreter of English folk music. As songwriter, composer, choreographer and musical director, he has contributed to over sixty plays in the theatre and on radio.

## A Day's Work

Sunday 8 November 2015 at 8pm £12 adv/£14 door

Mick Ryan has written and performed many successful folk operas. This revival of A Day's Work (first performed in 1995) shows his mastery of words, music and the spoken word. It is about the move by a group of farm workers from the land to the Western front in the first world war and features Paul Downes, Heather Bradford, Pete Morton, Matt Quinn, Greg Russell and Ciaran Algar.

## Belshazzar's Feast

Sunday 6 December 2015 at 8pm £12 adv/£14 door

Belshazzar's Feast start with traditional folk music, add a touch of classical and jazz, throw in a bit of pop and music hall, and top it off with wry humour. Singer, oboist and violinist Paul Sartin performs and records with Bellowhead and Faustus while accordionist Paul Hutchinson is well known from his work with Hoover the Dog, Karen Tweed and the Playford Liberation Front.

Buy concert tickets online at [www.topshamfolkclub.org](http://www.topshamfolkclub.org)  
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Please note there will be no singers' night on  
Sunday 27 December 2015



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and contemporary  
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**Please note that we close for  
August.** The last singers' night  
before our summer break is  
Sunday 26 July. We start again  
on Sunday 6 September



Instrumental **session** (mainly  
English) at **The Bridge Inn** Topsham  
on the **first Tuesday** every month  
(not August) 8pm- 10.30pm.

Following the success of last year's 60's folk revival reunion weekend, we again met at Halsway Manor in the beautiful surroundings of the Quantocks in Spring. The event was again smoothly organised by the hard work of Meg Rose, Bill Crawford and the Halsway staff.

We had a wonderful weekend of singing sessions and camaraderie. The comfortable bar, wood-panelled hall, and slightly creaky upstairs rooms all added to the homely ambience of Halsway, and we were again warmly welcomed by the staff. The singing was really fantastic this year, with some great chorus songs and some brilliant deliveries of ballads. Quite a lot of ale was consumed! But all you had to do was stagger upstairs to bed at the end of the evening.

Though the weather was cooler than last March, it didn't stop us having coffee and tea, and even lunch, outside, or strolling down the lane past blossoms and spring flowers. It was so nice to have the time to chat to old and new friends. This weekend was full of reminiscences. There were many people from the old Jolly Porter days, including Dave Robins, a founder of the Jolly Porter folk club in Exeter in the 60's and who sang with the late Ken Penney and Ged Higson (also there) as 'The Journeymen'. The therapeutic property of song was demonstrated when Dave led 'Tallow Candles', the first time he had sung since suffering a stroke some 12 years ago.

On Saturday morning Bob Berry presented an interesting talk with photos and a video about the origins and development of Chippenham Folk Festival. The audience remembered some very young-looking folk musicians and singers. After the lunchtime song session on Saturday Bob and Gill Berry shared their favourite 'Desert Island Discs' with us, hosted by Dave Longly and Meg Rose. Later, Doc Rowe showed his DVD of Peter Bellamy's ballad opera 'The Transports' filmed at Portsmouth in 1987. It tells the story of the first convicts to be sent to Australia (many of the cast now sadly passed on).

The Saturday evening song session was again of excellent quality, though it became very crowded

as there were several day visitors so seats were at a premium. The bar didn't shut until 1a.m. and singing continued until 1.30 a.m!

On Sunday morning, there were two options: either the 2.5 mile Halsway Loop walk on the hills with Bill which provided a very enjoyable, though rather windy, leg stretch and the chance to hear a cuckoo, or an excellent ballad session in the bar hosted by Meg. This was followed by the final song session led by Bob and Gill Berry. At Archive time on Sunday, Bob and Jackie Patten presented an old video of Westward TV's 'Sing Inn', the folk programme hosted by Cyril Tawney. This was followed by a moving film 'Faces Remembered', from Doc Rowe's archive of well-known singers, now dead, whom many people present had known. These included the fabulous singing of Tony Rose, Cyril Tawney, Bob Copper, Louis (Louisa) Killen, Ray Fisher, Sheila Stewart, Ken Penney and others. There were a few tears as people remembered them.

Jane and John Spree, who met at the 'Jolly Porter' celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary this weekend and there was a special celebration cake for them at tea-time, when everyone sang 'Come Write me Down', the traditional Copper wedding song. Some people left after that, but many stayed on for the excellent Sunday evening farewell sing at the nearby Carew Arms, followed by a late-night session in the bar back at Halsway – with added silly frolics from some of the old Isca Fayre!

We went away happy to have spent so many hours in good company and having heard and sung so many excellent songs.

The weekend attracted many good singers and it became apparent that the relaxed bar was overcrowded at times; Bill and Meg need to give this some thought for their next Traditional Song weekend which will be held 18-20 March 2016.

*Jackie Williams*





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| 20 SEPTEMBER | BROOKS WILLIAMS TRIO        |
| 27 SEPTEMBER | ANTHONY JOHN CLARKE         |
| 11 OCTOBER   | LYNNE HERAUD                |
| 25 OCTOBER   | WINTER WILSON               |
| 8 NOVEMBER   | STEVE HUNT                  |
| 22 NOVEMBER  | MARTYN WYNDHAM-READ         |

7.45pm  
SUNDAYS

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# ***Pennymoor Singaround***

## ***Song and Music Session***

**3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday**

**8pm**

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

**Contact:**

**[www.users.waitrose.com/~pennymoor](http://www.users.waitrose.com/~pennymoor)**

**Nicola King: 01363 877748**

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***Also run by Pennymoor members:***

***The Lamb, Sandford, Nr Crediton - 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday***

***Contact: Hazel or Paul 01363 776275***

***The Devonshire Inn, Sticklepath – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday***

***Contact: Derek 01837 840316***

***The White Hart, Bow, Nr Crediton - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday***

***Contact: Ollie or Sal 01363 85022***

This 38-track double CD is the record of a concert held in Bow last June, part of the celebration of the life and work of Cicely Fox Smith (described in the Winter 2014 issue of WA). The concert was recorded and engineered to an impressively high standard by Ross Henrywood: it features over 20 singers from all parts of the country, people who know and love the work of CFS. These include Martyn Wyndham-Read, who sings the moving Farewell to Anzac; Moira Craig, who finished the concert with the late Sarah Morgan's beautiful setting of Home Lads Home, and Tom Lewis, who spent many years in Canada, where CFS immersed herself in the lives and stories of the sailors on Vancouver Island.

CFS wrote hundreds of poems about life at sea and the country life of England at peace and war. Many of her verses follow the rhythm and pattern of traditional songs, inspiring folk musicians such as Dave Webber, Rupert Kirby and Danny McLeod to set them to music: all the songs on the CD, except the first, are settings of words by CFS. Rupert Kirby is a fine singer and guitarist, and one of the highlights of the CD is his rendition, with other members of Shake A Leg from North Devon, of The Blue Peter. Others, for me, are Tom Lewis's All Coiled Down, two powerful shanties by Gideon Barrett and Nigel Chapman, and Lee Fore Brace, sung by Jackie Williams.

The CD also includes readings of the poems, some humorous and some rooted in a sense of place, most notably The Old Cob Wall read in local dialect by Doreen May of Bow. The CD conveys the atmosphere of the concert and the pleasure the audience took in hearing so many fine singers inspired by the work of CFS, and in joining in the choruses of songs they know and love. Highly recommended for some fine performances of powerful songs, the CD can be obtained via

[www.barleycornproductions.co.uk](http://www.barleycornproductions.co.uk) or by email: [folk@bowstation.com](mailto:folk@bowstation.com) (see separate advert).

*Nicola King*

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*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).*

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- 2 Concert Introduction: Dick Henrywood
- 3 Song for Cicely: Sylvia Watts
- 4 Sold Foreign: Chris Arscott
- 5 The Good Intent: Chris Arscott
- 6 Pacific Coast: Bev Arscott
- 7 Old Fasnet: Barrie Mathers
- 8 The Figurehead: Barrie Mathers
- 9 Lee Forr Brace: Jackie Williams
- 10 The Race of Long Ago: Mike Warman
- 11 Cornish Saint: Chris Mason
- 12 Ryegrass and Clover: Chris Mason
- 13 Mainsail Haul: Gideon Barrett & Nigel Chapman
- 14 Dead Man's Bay: Gideon Barrett & Nigel Chapman
- 15 The Cape Horners: Joyce & Danny McLeod
- 16 Copper Ore: Joyce & Danny McLeod
- 17 The Half Tonn: Joyce & Danny McLeod
- 18 Port o' Dreams: Joyce McLeod
- 19 The Tryphena's Extra Hand: Danny McLeod
- 20 Dan: Joyce & Danny McLeod

### DISC TWO

- 1 Shanghai Passage: Jim Saville
- 2 The Traveller: Jim Saville
- 3 Deep Water: Liz Crow
- 4 Shipmate Sorrow: Hilary Bix
- 5 The Blue Peter: Shake a Leg
- 6 150 Days Out From Vancouver: Tom Lewis
- 7 The Tow Rope Girls: Tom Lewis
- 8 All Coiled Down: Tom Lewis
- 9 The Eternal Feminine / Traveller's Rest / The Conversation Book / Domestic Problem: Chris Skinner & Jim Glover
- 10 Limehouse Reach: Jim Glover
- 11 By the Old Pagoda Anchorage: Chris Skinner
- 12 The Lancashire Hare: Peter & Barbara Snape
- 13 North Country Hounds: Peter & Barbara Snape
- 14 From the North: Peter & Barbara Snape
- 15 The Old Cob Wall: Doreen May
- 16 Old Wood is Best: Bill Wilkes
- 17 Farewell to Anzac: Martyn Wyndham-Read
- 18 Home, Lads, Home: Moira Craig

Recorded live at Bow Congregational Church, Devon, 21 June 2014

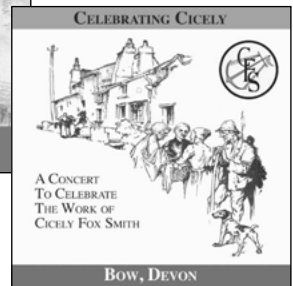
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*How often have vigorous discussions broken out among Morris dancers about where it all came from? It seems that there are as many opinions as dancers - if not more! Below is an extract from John Summerscales' research into the History of Morris.*

In 1381, John of Gaunt set up a Court of Minstrels at Tutbury in Staffordshire [1, 2]. This was presided over by an elected King and was allowed to exercise authority over all the craft in five of the Midland counties. In 1386, John of Gaunt brought back a troupe of Moorish dancers from Spain. The combination of their practices with those proper to the English Fool's Dance is said to have provided a basis for the Morris Dance. It was in honour of John of Gaunt, therefore, that the Robin Hood and Morris dancers continued to wear his emblem of three ostrich feathers and the Red Lion on his shield after his marriage with Constance of Castile. These symbols provided the name of inns (eg Padstow and Kingston-upon-Thames) which were for centuries the starting point for ceremonial May Day dances. Note that although the name Morris may be a distortion of the word Moorish, there is not a direct line of descent but an intertwining of that culture with an older English tradition.

The earliest direct references to morris dancing refer to objects with representations of morris on them left in wills [3]. In 1458, Alice de Wetenhale, who was the widow of a merchant from Bury St Edmunds, and who had thereafter married a London merchant [4]:

*lego Caterine filie mee ... iij ciphos argenti sculptos cum moreys daunce cum unico cooperculo ad eosdem (I leave to my daughter Catherine 3 silver cups with a morris dance engraved on them and with a single cover to them)*

Also in 1458 at York, from the will of Sir Thomas Chaworth [5]:

*Sir Thomas praith his seid executors that ... thai delyvere to William Chaworth his eldest soon ... iij peces of silver ... the which oon of thaym coveryth, another with a flatt knoppe and with a Moresk yeron.*

In the 1510 will of a Coventry fishmonger called Jackson [3] there is:

*My cuppe wt the morres daunce*

There was one morris cup belonging to the royal family, which appeared in the records until Charles II disposed of it to the Netherlands where it was probably melted down - he was short of money at the time.

References to actual dancing do not occur until December 1466 and New Years Day 1467 in the household accounts at Lanherne in Cornwall as 'moruske' (morisk or moresque) [6]. Lanherne is on the current Ordnance Survey map in the village of St Mawgan (as are Higher Lanherne and Lower Lanherne at OS/SW880680 and OS/SW874674 respectively. A possible translation is pilchard (hernen) enclosure (lan)!). The Guild records for London indicate dancing on the 28th June 1477 for a dance specifically called 'morisre' [7]. The reference to dancing in Plymouth in 1482 on the next page is then potentially only the third record of morris dancing in the history of England.

### References

- 1 - Young "History of British Music", 1967.
- 2 - Roy Dommett "What was Morris?", The [Morris Ring] Circular, Feb 1994, 23, p 3.
- 3 - E-mail from Mike Heaney<heaney@uk.ac.ox.vax> Tue, 5 Apr 1994 09:27:14.
- 4 - Alice Wetenhale (Will) PRO Prerogative Court of Canterbury Stokton 24-25, 1458.
- 5 - Sir Charles Chaworth (Will) "Testamenta Eboracensia: A Selection of Wills from the Registry at York, Part II" George Andrews, Durham, 1885.
- Publications of the Surtees Society 30(CLXXIX), 220-229.
- 6 - HL Douch "Household Accounts at Lanherne" Journal of the Royal Institution of Cornwall (New Series), 1953, 2(1), 25-32.
- 7 - AH Johnson "The History of the Worshipful Company of the Drapers of London" Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1915, 2(ii), 273.

*John Summerscales*



# Morris Matters



*We have been lucky enough to benefit from 2 national Morris events in the South West - Joint Morris Organisation in Bristol (April) and the Morris Federation*

*Dance weekend in Bath (end September). Meanwhile our Devon teams have taken part in activities ranging from the adventurous to the celebratory to the traditional.*

At the time of writing Great Western Morris Men are visiting New York & Boston as guest of local sides there. They also organised a walking tour of Exeter for sides visiting the Inter Varsity Folk Dance Festival, hosted by Exeter University earlier this year.

*Photograph on the opposite page shows Great Western MM performing on that day outside Exeter Central Station.*

Winkleigh Morris held a very successful 25th Anniversary Weekend of Dance in May, with over 20 visiting sides. See full report elsewhere in this issue.

Most morris teams in Devon are keen to recruit new members. If you would like to have a go, either as a dancer or as a musician, see the contacts pages to get in touch with your local group. The Autumn is the best time to start, with a full practice season ahead.

*Colin Andrews*

## **Easter Monday Morning in Launceston**

The Atlantic storms of wind and rain surely made way for the most beautiful sunshine and skies of blue on this glorious spring morning when, on the dot of 10.30 a.m., our own Town Crier, Mr Robert Tremaine, led Bodmin's Trigg Morris Men and their five musicians along Westgate street and into Lanson Square where, by tradition, they begin their Easter Monday Tour every year. This year was their 44th visit – and they've never been rained off once! Now, there's a record!

The people of Launceston and surrounding areas were well represented and formed a large

circle round the square to watch the colourful scene – the Morris men, with “sticks” clashing, handkerchiefs twirling, wearing green ‘baldrics’ over their white shirts, and their musicians sporting their straw hats, heavily bedecked with fresh spring flowers and pheasant plumes, making such sweet, lilting dance – music!

Their “Bagman”, (master of ceremonies) Mr Vic Legg, born in St Stephens, Launceston, and himself a dancer over many years, announced the names of the various ancient dances and their origins, one of which was ‘The Nutting Girl’. Vic, as usual, dropped in several “interesting” anecdotes for the local audience – in his true Cornish accent! He told us that ‘Lanson’ translates into the Cornish language as “Guard Town” and I have no reason to doubt his word! You never know who may have tried to cross the Tamar Water into Cornwall in those ‘long-ago’ days!

After almost an hour's entertainment of music and dance, members of the audience were given the chance to join the Morris men in a ‘handkerchief’ ring dance, while the ‘Obby’ ‘Oss moved among the onlookers, allowing the children to stroke his wooden head – lots of adults had a go too!

Dancing on cobbles for almost an hour can't be the easiest thing in the world to do, so at the end of the event the team danced in procession across the Square and into the White Hart Hotel for refreshments before setting off to Five Lanes, Lewannick, and many other venues on their long day's tour.

Well done Trigg Morris!

*Anna Reade*



*Great Western Morris dancing at IVFDF*

the plough

ARTS CENTRE

Great Torrington

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## Forthcoming Musical Events

### Folk Music

**Betty and the Boy**

Friday 4 September 8pm

**Reg Meuros**

Saturday 12 September 8.15pm

**Greg Trooper**

Thursday 17 September 8pm

**Cara Dillon + Support Rosa Rebecka**

Saturday 26 September 8pm

**Edwina Hayes + support Keira Osment**

Saturday 3 October 8pm

**Willie and the Bandits**

Friday 30 October 8pm

**Fish and Bird**

Sunday 8 November 4pm

**Martin Simpson**

Sunday 29 November 7.30pm

**Fotheringay (with Sally Barker + Kathryn**

**Roberts & Sean Iakeman**

Saturday 12 December 8pm

### Other Musical Highlights

**A Solitary Man - The songs of Neil Diamond**

Saturday 8 August 8pm

**Rat Pack @ Devon Hall**

Thursday 20 August 7:30pm

**Radio Baska**

Monday 24 August 8pm

**Barbara Dickson with Nick Holland**

Friday 11 September 8pm

**John Lees' Barclay James Harvest**

Friday 18 September 8pm

**Larry Miller**

Friday 25 September 8pm

**The New Jersey Boys @ Devon Hall**

Friday 2 October 7:30pm

**Judie Tzuke**

Saturday 31 October 8pm

**Jo Harman and Friends**

Saturday 10 October 8pm

[www.theploughartscentre.org.uk](http://www.theploughartscentre.org.uk)