

Devon Folk *What's Afoot*

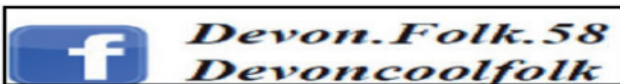
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SPRING/SUMMER 2016



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Contents: What's Afoot No. 110

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EDITORIAL

Well, here I am back in the driving seat again, hopefully only temporarily until the search for a new editor proves successful. Sue instigated a number of changes which I'm not intending to reverse, but rather move cautiously forward as we continue to explore how to be most effective in the use of the media.

I have been experimenting with using Microsoft Word & Publisher to produce the magazine, both of which have some advantages over the InDesign package Sue and I were using previously. However, I've still much to learn so for this issue I have returned to the programme I know well.

I have however experimented with some new formats for listings and a different font for the text which I hope will be clearer to read. I welcome feedback - positive or otherwise!

One major change is that all the What's Afoot team have emails linked to the domain www.devonfolk.org.uk. This will make it much easier to ensure continuity when a team member changes. Also it will not matter whether you enter [.co.uk](mailto:devonfolk.co.uk) or [.org.uk](mailto:devonfolk.org.uk) when logging on to devonfolk website, though [.org.uk](mailto:devonfolk.org.uk) must be used for emails.

Colin

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Wassail Wassail

Mark Bailey (front cover picture) donned his Green Man disguise for two separate wassails in January. He has been involved with the Sandford Wassail for several years, and this year played a leading role in a new wassail at Efford (near Shobrooke) with the Exeter Morris Men.

EFFORD

On the evening of Saturday, 16th January, a large number of people gathered at the home of Ann & Jerry Parkinson to wassail the apple trees in their small orchard, and spread the good fortune also to the large commercial orchard opposite. The Exeter Morris Men danced in the Parkinson's barn (photo: back inside cover) while cake was distributed to the audience to identify the wassail king or queen - whoever found the peg of clove in their slice!

Mark Bailey and the wassail queen led a procession along a candle-lit route to the orchard. Cider was poured around the roots of the selected tree, a slice of cider-soaked toast wedged among its branches, and a wassail sung, followed by lots of banging, rattling, shouting and the firing of a shotgun.

Back then to the barn for some more morris dancing, with everybody joining in the final 'Bonny Green Garters' dance. Feasting, drinking, singing, music and general merrymaking continued until late in the evening in Ann & Jerry's house.

We had a fabulous evening. Many thanks to Ann & Jerry for their generous hospitality and flawless organisation. And it all came about through a chance remark at meeting of a walking group just before Christmas.

Colin Andrews

SANDFORD

On a dark winter's evening in Sandford there is a murmur of excitement building in the square. Through the mist eight flaming torches come into view flanking a mysterious figure with a distinctive green hue. It is a magical scene that has graced the streets of England's cider making counties for centuries. The Green Man is, of course, leading the wassail procession. Wassail, from the old Norse 'vaeshael' meaning good health, has been occurring throughout England since feudal times to bless the orchards and scare

off evil spirits to ensure a good harvest the next year. It has been resurrected in recent years by those keen that these traditions should not fade in the winter night and it is, also, magnificently good fun!

In Sandford, flaming torches guide hundreds of revellers of all ages through the narrow streets accompanied by all sorts of weird and wonderful costumes and traditional music. The crowd gathers in the village square (conveniently adjacent to The Lamb Inn) where The Green Man, encapsulated wonderfully by Mark Bailey, welcomes everyone and begins proceedings. After a burst of Morris dancing, apple cake is passed around, the apple queen is crowned and the wassail song is practiced by all in the crowd. The procession then begins its final leg to the Orchard.

The old traditional orchard has been wonderfully decorated with tea lights and lanterns leading the wassailers to gather around the oldest tree. Scrumpy is returned to the soil and poured around the roots, toast is hung in the branches for the Robin and a tremendous chorus of the traditional song is belted out by the increasingly excited crowd. This is followed by a volley of shotgun fire and everyone making a tremendous din to scare off any evil spirits and awaken the trees from their winter slumber. The bonfire spectacularly roars into life. All of our senses have come alive with the smell of the bonfire wafting through the air and we are handed a warm cup of delicious Sandford Orchards mulled cider.

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Everyone is now gathered around the impressive bonfire and the Brown Paper mummies take to their improvised stage. St George and The Dragon is the tale of choice which is hilariously depicted much to the delight of the audience.

As the embers of the fire simmer down and the crowd heads back to the pub for another cider or two, I get a chance to have a chat with Sandford Orchards boss Barny Butterfield who has been the driving force behind bringing the tradition back to life in Sandford. "When we were starting out I did a lot of work fixing up old farmhouse orchards around here and it gave me a real connection to the amazing cider making tradition in the community. It was really something that bought everyone together and something they were deeply proud of," he explains. "Hopefully by putting the time and effort into evenings like tonight we're creating that kind of spirit again". I feel that with Bailey and Butterfield at the wheel Wassailing in Sandford will be a favourite fixture in the social calendar for people from miles around. Wassail!

Dan Poulson

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for more information on the club
www.bidefordfolkclub.com
Jerry Bix 01237 470792

In With Both Feet **Jeremy Child's New Folk Dance Page**

Hi! I'm Jeremy, your new dance correspondent. Some of you will know me but for those who don't, I've been dancing folk for about 20 years, and calling for about 10. I run the Exeter Contra series as well as calling at a number of local clubs. My first love is Contra, and after that Modern Western Square Dancing (otherwise known as Chess on Legs). I'm a frequent festival goer, and like to be mentally challenged when I dance. I also dabble in choreography, although most of my compositions end up too difficult for me to dance!

Looking around I see a wonderful folk dance scene in Devon: Ceilidh, Contra, Square, Irish, Scottish, Playford, European, Klezmer, French, Appalachian and many more. The people are friendly, love their dancing, and generally know how to have fun. A quick glance at Flaxey Green's listings shows 20 regular folk dance clubs in Devon or nearby, 47 Callers and over 40 Dance Bands. On top of this there are numerous one off events within the folk world, as well as dances run by non-folk societies.

When Colin and Sue asked me if I was willing to help out with What's Afoot, I said "Yes – but doing what"? I didn't want to do finance or administration (having retired from that), I'm no good at desk-top publishing, and I don't make a good committee member (too fond of my own opinions). After a while cogitating, I came up with the idea of getting more dance stuff in the

magazine, something I think has been sadly lacking. The committee seemed to like the idea, and, well, here I am.

So what am I going to do as "Dance Correspondent"? The intention is for this to be a regular feature, with the aims of discussing topics of interest and concern to the dance community, supporting and promoting folk dancing within the South West, and occasionally doing something for the betterment of that community. I want it to reflect and address the concerns of the readers, so if you have something to say, please feel free to say it! A few rules though: Don't write in asking me to publicise your club / dance event – the proper place for those is the listings (or pay for an advert!) Morris Dance has its own "Morris Matters" section, so if you write in about Morris, please ensure it's in the wider context of All Folk Dance.

I have a number of ideas for areas the column

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could look at. Two I want to start with are:

The persistent decline in numbers seen by clubs and bands. Where are all the dancers? Clubs are struggling to attract new members, numbers are down across the board, and losing a series like Great Western Ceilidhs cannot be a good sign. Why is this? What can we do to reverse the decline?

Second is Date Clashes. It is almost impossible to find a day that does not clash with something else, especially for regular events. Do we have too many events (and is this contributing to the lack of numbers)? Do our events cater for too narrow a range of styles? Is there any need or desire for some sort of coordination (as they do in other dance worlds)?

I'm going to cover both of these more in the next issue, so if you have any thoughts or ideas, please let me know. After that I'm going to start delving into what the community wants, exploring such questions as:

How far will you travel for a dance?

What makes you go to / avoid a dance?

Festivals – what do you go to / avoid?

Further down the line I'm planning to look at the differences between folk dancing in the UK and in America (I think there are some practices over there we could take advantage of over here) as well as some of more recent social changes that are starting to affect dance world, such as evolving terminology and the decline of traditional gender based roles and designations in a world where biological gender and social gender are becoming distinct.




If you see me at a dance, come and say "Hi" and tell me what you think.

Until the next issue, keep dancing...

Jeremy Child

dance@devonfolk.org.uk

www.barndancecaller.net

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Folk Club Forum

'FOLK PLUS' ACOUSTIC MUSIC CLUB - a promising start in Torbay.

We started our club at Ye Olde Smokey House, Marldon, Paignton, hoping that it would interest people who enjoy sharing music that comes from and moves on from the folk and singer/songwriter traditions.

The club meets on the second Thursday of each month from 7.30pm - 10.45pm and attendances have grown steadily since its first session in October 2015. We are keen to welcome and encourage undiscovered and inexperienced performers, on an equal basis with more experienced musicians. It's great that people are commenting on the friendliness of the club and coming from far and wide to enjoy our evenings.

Chris and I have been performing as 'Folk Inspired', mainly in the Torbay area, since 2008 and have often been asked by friends and contacts to try to get a club going in the Paignton area. We aim to use it to promote awareness and enjoyment of folk and acoustic music in general, while drawing members' attention to the other clubs and musical events in the locality.

So far so good! There have been too many special moments involving the achievements of "novice" performers to mention - enough to say they keep coming back for more. Also we have been honoured to welcome and enjoy the performances of those from further afield, bringing their own different styles and love of music.

We have a facebook page, "Folk Plus Acoustic Music Club Paignton", or email us on p.woodhouse47@sky.com to find out more.



Paul & Chris Woodhouse

FOLK CLUB 'LEYD' TO REST'

Emotions were running high as the Cornelius Family held their final open club night at the Ley Arms, Kenn. It was, as usual, a fantastic evening full of variety.

Along with hosts, Peter, Maggie & Martyn, several other performers - Sue Mentz, Colin Andrews, Charlie & Emma Wilson, and Dave Hoad—were also at the inaugural meeting in November 2012. The club had relocated to the Ley Arms when the room at the nearby Seven Stars in Kennford became unavailable. Many singers and musicians from South Devon and further afield have performed regularly at the club since it started, though John White and Alan Howlett were the only other 'old stagers' for the finale. In recent months, however, Paddy Reardon, (Owly) Dave Ramsden, Joules Jones, Jo, Jill & Tony of the Random Mackerel Band, Paul Hunter of the Whipton Music Club, and Libby (literally just flown back from holiday) have become familiar faces at the club with music, accompanied & unaccompanied song. The evening's line up also included Exeter folk scene stalwart Jackie Williams, former Tiverton folk club organiser, Susannah Billiter, future club guest Simon Barron, and, for the first time, Paul & Chris Woodhouse, whose new club is described opposite.

Most appropriately, the evening closed with a moving rendition of Tom Paxton's song, The Honour of Your Company:

*Thank you for the honour of your company
The music was as sweet as the good red
wine*

*Thanks for the company and thanks for the
Harmony
I'm pleased to say the honour was all mine*

- BUT THE FAMILY FOLK CLUB RISES AGAIN

as the Exeter Folk And Acoustic Music Club. It will still be open club night on the last Friday on the month (except July) at the new venue, Victoria Park Tennis Clubhouse, Lyndhurst Road, Exeter, EX2 4NX. It's between the City Centre and the RD&E Hospital. For full details, see the display advert

Hilary Bix : Farewell Dear Friend

Barnstaple Crematorium was packed to capacity, with many people standing and as many again listening outside to the warm and often emotional tributes to Hilary Bix from her close family and friends.

I realised, listening to her brother, husband and sons, that I had experienced but a mere glimpse of Hilary's amazing artistic and musical talents over the many years I had known her. But her warmth and love for family and friends and, indeed, for life itself were evident to everyone who met her. In the past four years or so, whilst fighting a prolonged battle against cancer, she had remained positive and kept her sense of fun

I first came across her name when we bought one of her iconic hand-crafted alphabet puzzles for our infant son. Soon afterwards, inevitably, our paths crossed on the folk scene.

Hilary & Jerry met in the early seventies at Rolle College, Exmouth. It was almost love at first sight, for they very soon became engaged and married. Hilary decided to apply her creative skills in making educational toys for children rather than working in the classroom, though Jerry did teach for a few years, while supporting her growing business at home.

A large number of friends from the folk song and morris world attended her funeral,




and many more joined the gathering afterwards at the Halsannery Centre, Bideford, to celebrate her life with music, dance, and song. Winkleigh Morris provided the guard of honour at the crematorium, and later performed 'Bixstix', a new dance created especially for Hilary & Jerry. Tarka Morris came out of retirement to dance for her memory.

One can hardly mention 'Bideford' and 'Folk' without thinking of Hilary. For many years she and Jerry have been key people in the running of the weekly

Bideford Folk Song Club. They were instrumental in setting up and running the successful albeit short-lived week-long Bideford Folk Festival for three or four years. Before joining Winkleigh Morris, she danced with Bideford Phoenix. She sang with Shake a Leg, Exmoor Carollers, in a duo with Liz Crow, as well as being a superb solo singer, whether of traditional ballads, comic songs or her own compositions. On of the most moving parts of the ceremony at the crematorium was to hear Hilary singing *The Blackbird*, recorded along for several other songs, at the church on Lundy. Hopefully, a CD will be produced.

Hilary was a very special person. She'll be with us always.

Colin Andrews



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ARTICLES

Articles can be accepted in any text format (doc, docx, odt, txt) but **not** jpg or pdf.

The editor reserves the right to edit articles but will normally contact the contributor if major changes are required.

Photographs or illustrations embedded in the text should also be sent separately.

Exeter Folk & Acoustic Music Club

Victoria Park Tennis Club, Lyndhurst Road, St. Leonards, Exeter, EX2 4NX – 8.00pm

Friday 25 th March	Open Club Night
Friday 8th April	Martyn Wyndham-Read
Friday 29 th April	Open Club Night
Friday 27 th May	Open Club Night
Friday 10th June	John Kirkpatrick (Venue to be confirmed)
Friday 24 th June	Open Club Night

----- NO JULY CLUB NIGHT ----- SUMMER BREAK -----

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Cool Folk

A new generation of folk

South Zeal Steppers are a dance team with a variety of talent, from tap dancing to morris. Jenny Read teaches several classes with an age range of 4 to 18, and different abilities. Some classes perform at events locally and elsewhere. Every year we perform at the Dartmoor Folk Festival, where we can show off our new dances.

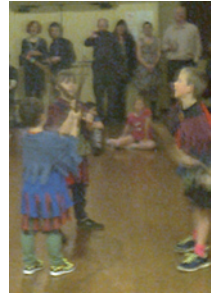
In 2015 the senior roots team decided to learn a new type of dance - rapper!, in which 5 to 8 people create shapes and complicated moves with metal swords. We discovered there was a competition in Bristol called DERTY (Dancing England Rapper Tournament Youth). Up to 10 youth teams danced a rapper routine to a panel of judges. It was a new experience for us, as we had never taken part in a competition like this before. The first dance went well but there was improvement for the Agents of RAPPER. After some words of wisdom from the judges, we had to make this dance the best, so we worked extra

hard. In the end we came 3rd which made us very proud and excited.

This year we are still deciding whether to go to the 2016 DERTY in Manchester, so look out for more information to come. For more details on the South Zeal Steppers, go to website

www.spinningpatharts.org.uk

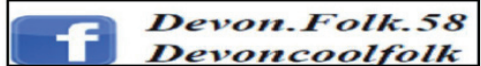
Christabel White, dance student & assistant



The 'Tiny Tinnars' show the Tinnars stick dance at South Zeal New Year's Eve ceilidh. South Zeal Steppers also danced Appalachian.

All contributions to cool folk should be sent to:

coolfolk@devonfolk.org.uk . See also:



BRIXHAM FOLK CLUB

**First Friday in the month
7.30pm – 11.00pm**

We meet in the lounge/bar of Brixham Theatre, New Road, Brixham, TQ5 8TA

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Occasional featured guest nights

More information from Anne & Steve Gill
01803 290427 or John Miles 01803 858394

For more information on forthcoming folk concerts in the theatre visit www.batsweb.org.uk

Len Christopher: singer, storyteller ...

... comper, musician, wordsmith and most important of all, dear friend.. Clare Penney asked Pennymoor Singaround members to tell what first came to mind when thinking of him.

Without exception they came back:-

Sense of humour, wit, the warm welcome, enthusiasm, support and encouragement of new singers whether they were aged 8 or 80. Then; thoughtful, kind, tolerant, sense of honour and love of justice, a gentleman.

Len was born in Durrington near Worthing in 1938. He left school at 15 and worked in horticulture for a short while before going into the building industry. Conscripted at 18, he joined the R.A.F. and signed on for 5 years in order to take advantage of the apprenticeship scheme which led to him becoming an aircraft fitter. He met his Dutch wife Cissy whilst posted to Germany and they married in 1960. He returned to the building industry and to Worthing. He and Cissy moved to Devon in 1973.

I first got to know Len and Cissy when they took over the Cruwys Arms in Pennymoor in 1979 where he remained as landlord until 1984. It had become our local when Ken Penney and I moved to Westland in 1969. There was plenty of singing in those years – some of you will remember The Reverend Bill Brewster, Bill Taylor who loved the singing, Cubby Payne, one of our most colourful Landlords, and Jack Maunder who could start a good song though more rarely finish it, but whose step dancing always brought an audience.

However, there was no regular monthly song session until Len became involved. He ran the bar for us at one of our early song festivals and surprised us all by breaking out into song - the one which gives a reason why dogs sniff each other's bottoms when they meet.

Len went on to develop a wide repertoire of songs to add to those from his past. Some thoughtful and poignant, some rousing chorus songs and many that remained funny no matter how often you heard them. Len, Ken and Alan Greenslade formed an informal trio and were



invited to entertain in pubs all over Devon, Cissy and I tagging along, most likely doing the driving.

Ken would start the evening with his powerful voice. Alan had a wide repertoire of funny songs but he also kept a ferret in his trousers which would occasionally poke its little pink nose through the zip and take a sup of beer out of his pint. Len with his quick wit and ability to win over the most unlikely people would soon have the place rocking with song and laughter.

There was one memorable occasion in Southern Ireland, shortly before the troubles erupted again. We had organised a coach trip to Dungarvan in Co. Waterford. Thirty of us stayed in a large hotel and were soon on good terms with the local singers and musicians. Although the sessions were great fun they were also a bit chaotic so Len 'took control'. He decided everyone should have a turn and so when an Irishman got up to sing two songs in a row Len interrupted saying 'Just a minute, it's not your turn' There was a stunned silence, then the Irish man said 'Sure and I have never been asked to desist from singing in my own pub before let alone by an Englishman, and I can't understand why I don't mind.'

The monthly song sessions in the Cruwys Arms begun at that time have never missed a month in the 35 years that followed though we had to move to another venue for a while when the Cruwys Arms fell upon hard times. Len took over the compering role when Ken died and was still doing this in his inimical style into the beginning of 2015.

He enjoyed playing accordion for his own pleasure having learned along with other Pennymoor members from Tish Stubbs and Sam Richards in the mid 80's but could not often be persuaded to play in public.

He was always ready to help with the practical jobs that had to be done in setting up the venue for the Song and Ale and together with Gerald

Palmer would happily sit at a cold draughty table on reception when everyone else was enjoying themselves.

In later years more of his time was taken up with farming activities and Pennymoor Village affairs but he never stopped attending and compering the Singarounds and was always willing to play his part in the other activities. He was actively involved in the World War 1 concert performed in many village halls and churches in 2014/15..

Len was always ready to help Pennymoor Singaround raise money for charity; Air Ambulance, Hospiscare, Church and Village Hall roofs, Cancer Research – the list is endless. He was our comper for many a village hall concert with Margaret Palmer, Jason Rice, Geoffrey Hannaford to mention just a few.

He had great respect for the Devon culture, dialect and sense of humour. He was involved from the beginning when Sam Richards with Pennymoor Singaround produced the annual Jan Stewer evenings – a celebration of the author A. J. Coles who was a school master at Puddington Village School. Len together with Cissy took this forward and as well as ensuring that the tradition continued raised thousands of pounds over the years for the Puddington Village Hall.

With the passing of this extraordinary and talented man, all those in the folk world who knew him and in particular Pennymoor members will remember him with grateful thanks for the warmth and enthusiasm he brought to folk music, and our lives.

Clare Penney

Reeling Reels – Propelling Jigs – Relaxing Airs



Fresh Aire
Acoustic Band
for Dance and Music

01823 461632

www.freshairelive.co.uk

FOOTNOTES

THANKS TO JEAN After 17 years on the What's Afoot team with responsibility for distributing the magazine to subscribers, Jean Warren has decided to retire. She continued on her own after her husband, Tom, died in 2006. Devon Folk would like to thank Jean for her dedication over the years. Membership Secretary Sheila Chappell has now taken on the role.

FOLK SONG CLUBS are often subject to the changing circumstances in the hostelrys where they are usually located. The Cornelius family have decided to move their club from the Ley Arms due to uncertainty about the availability of the room. They are now at the Victoria Park Tennis Club.

LOSS OF HIGHLY RESPECTED FOLK SINGER. Roy Harris, a fine singer of traditional songs and a stalwart of the folk club scene since the sixties died in February this year.

LONG ESTABLISHED FOLK DANCE CLUBS are in some cases facing falling numbers due to ageing membership. Lucky Seven Folk Dance Club from Liverton is the latest to follow MADCAPS, Totnes, Honiton & Devon Playford Club in folding.

PENSILVA FOLK DANCE CLUB

COUNTRY DANCE

with

Autumn Gold

Caller

Les Burden

at

Liskeard Public Hall

On

Saturday 16 April 2016

8pm-11.30pm

Entrance £6

Bring and Share Supper - Raffle

(For more details contact Ray 01579 382402)

folk music & song on
Sunday evenings at

topsham folk club

concerts at Matthews Hall
Fore Street - Topsham EX3 0HF

Kris Drever + Siobhan Wilson

Sunday 3 April 2016 at 8pm
£14 adv / £16 door

Chris Wood

Sunday 22 May 2016 at 8pm
£14 adv / £16 door

Concert tickets can be bought online at
www.topshamfolkclub.org also on
singers' nights or at concerts

all enquiries 01392 875332

www.facebook.com/topshamfolkclub

www.topshamfolkclub.org

NB - no singers' night on Sunday 3 July 2016

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



singers nights

at The Globe Hotel
Fore Street
Topsham EX3 0HR

**We're at the Globe Hotel
Malthouse every Sunday
(apart from concert nights)
for our singers' nights from
8pm- 10.30pm. Informal
tunes session from 7.30pm.
Free entry. All welcome
- sing, play, listen,
join in...**

FREE feature spot:
17 April 2016 8pm
- an hour with

Winter Wilson

"Kip Winter and Dave Wilson
have a lively chemistry and
it's easy to see why they are
a popular pair on the folk
circuit" - *Daily Telegraph*



FREE feature spot:
19 June 2016 8pm

- an hour with
Hooper & Mills

...spirited acoustic
delta blues from popular
harmonica / guitar duo
Alan Hooper and Andy Mills

Contacts (1): Social Dance

(*affiliated to EFDSS)

SOCIAL DANCE CLUBS

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.

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 <https://gittishamfolkdanceclub.wordpress.com/>

Great Western Ceilidhs*

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

Halsway Folk Dance Group

1st & 3rd Wed. 8pm Halsway Manor (TA4 4BD), Bicknoller VH (TA4 4EQ) or 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

<http://iscaallemanders.webs.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

Newton Abbot

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

Salcombe Regis Folk Dance Club*

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

Sidford Folk Dance Club*

Tues. Sidford VH, Byes Lane EX10 9QX.

Contacts (2): Social Dance, Song & Music

Telephone Helen 01395 514161. 1st Tue usually Barn Dance (easier dances), others Social Dance.

Sidford Scottish Folk Dance Club

Mon. SidfordVH, Byes Lane. 8 pm. Brian Martin, 01404 850416

South Hams Folk Dance Club*

Wed. West CharletonVH. 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. WillandVH. Zena Roberts, 7, Everett Place, Tiverton, EX16 6UN. 01884 253546

WiveliscombeFDC

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 for updates.

BereFerrers

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

Bideford Folk Club*

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

Bishopsteignton

Thurs, Red Rock Brewery, John Morey 07791 054773.

www.oldworkshop.org. 7.30 pm

Bodmin Folk Club

Fri, BCA Rooms, Mount Folly, Bodmin, PL31 2DB www.bodminfolk.co.uk

Bow

2nd Sun. White Hart, Bow. Mainly traditional Colin & Sonja 01363 877216. 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 (nrMinehead)

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

Chittlehampton

1st Fri. concerts, usually in Parish Church. Preconcert supper if pre-booked. 01769 540581 or 540887. 2nd Mon. music session, Bell Inn

Combe Martin, Shammick Acoustic,

2nd & 4th Sat. 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 mic session. Jerry 07843 419178

Exeter Folk & Acoustic Music Club

Last Fri. Victoria Park Tennis Club, St Leonards Peter Cornelius 01392 210983 Also guest nights

Exmouth

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

Lee Mill, Folk On The Moor

Sun. 7.45 pm Westward Inn, Lee Mill. Anton

Contacts (3): Song & Music

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

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 27859

Nadderwater (Exeter)

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

Okehampton

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

Pennymoor

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

Plymouth

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

Seaton, Jurassic Folk and Jam

Eyre Court, 2 Queen Street, Seaton. EX12 2NY
1st and 3rd Wed: Music jam session. Andrew
Mycroft 01404 46451 or Adrian 01404 549903

Scorriton

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

3rd Mon music session. Mark Bazeley 01837
840775

Sticklepath (Okehampton)

1st Sun. Devonshire Inn. Derek Moore 01837

840316

Teignmouth

Acoustic Folk and Blues Night. Last Fri. Palmers
Tea Rooms, Northumberland place, Teignmouth
Anne Darby 07443 617076

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

Totnes

Folk Song Club: 2nd Thurs. Dartmouth Inn. Steve
& Anne Gill, 01803 290427.

Bay Horse Weekly: 1st & 3rd Mon. open
session. 2nd & 4th

Tues. mostly traditional song unaccompanied

Uffculme, Culm Music & Performance Club,

Magelake Pavilion. Last Wed. Brian Bennelick,
01884 840192

Willand Club Band Workshop

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

Totnes Folk Club



Dartmouth Inn, The Plains
Totnes, TQ9 5EL

2nd Thursday in the Month - 8pm

14th April - Singers' Night plus
Eileen Conn & Jackie Williams
12th May & 9th June
Singer's Night with featured spots
to be confirmed

14th July Guest Night
Steve Turner

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

Contacts (4): Morris & Other Display

(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, Harriet White, harrietcewhite@yahoo.co.uk

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 613894
www.catseyemorris.co.uk

Cogs & Wheels (F)

Ann Palmer annpalmer@lineone.net 01837 851659 (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@greatwestern.org.uk (Mon)

Green Willow Clog (F)

Marilyn McKechnie 01803 524110

Grimspound Border Morris (F)

Lee Merry, 8, Waterside, Bovey Tracey, TQ139SX 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, EX332NR lindacorcoran@btopenworld.com

Isambard Gasket Rats (F)

Debs : 01626 770238 bag@isambardsgasketrats.co.uk

Kings Arms Pace Egg & Mummers*

Dave Denford, The Cottage, Ramsley, SouthZeal, EX10 2LD

Lodestone Border (F)

Mike Pike, 01822 855281

Mayhem Border Morris (O)

Wellington. Gordon 07789 796993.

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

Raddon Hill Clog Morris (F)

Barry Lewis 01395 443408

Rough Diamonds Appalachian

01460 220607

Shuffle The Deck (F)

Appalachian. Kathy Houlihan 01752 893335

Contacts (5): Morris, Display & Festivals

Sidmouth Steppers NW Morris (F)

Ruth Lewis, 07976 251929 steppers@

sidmouthsteppers.com

Sidmouth Traditional Mummers

Henry Piper, 21B, Broad Street, Ottery St

Mary, 01404 811491 henry.piper@zoom.co.uk

Tinners Morris Men (F)

Dave Hatton 01647 231051 Tanners@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

01271831461. (Tues)

www.winkleighmorris.org.uk

Wreckers Border (F)

Constance Ashby 01752 669969

FESTIVALS

Bampton After The Fair

End of October. Clare Penney 01884 860023

Baring-Gould Festival

October. Wren 01837 53754 info@wrenmusic.

co.uk

Bude Folk Festival

Late May. www.budefest.com 07736 374003

Dartmoor Folk Festival

2nd weekend in August Mrs J White, Sunnyhill,

South Zeal, EX20 2JL. 01837 840102

www.dartmoorfolkfestival.co.uk

Intervarsity Folk Dance Festival

Richard Mason 01392 411434

Pennymoor Song & Ale

Early June. Clare Penney 01884 860023

Sidmouth Folk Week

End July early August

www.sidmouthfolkweek.org.uk

South Brent Folk Festival

Eileen McKee, 01364 73699

Teignmouth Folk Festival*

Mid June www.teignmouthfolk.co.uk Anne Gill,

01803 290427

Cornwall Folk Festival

August Bank Holiday weekend. 01208 812230

CONTACT DETAILS for clubs, bands, and callers and **DIARY DATES** for regular and specific events are now being co-ordinated by Trevor Paul. Any information sent to diary@devonfolk.org.uk or to trevor@flaxey-green.co.uk will be shared between Devon Folk publications (What's Afoot & website) and flaxey-green website. For latest updates see www.devonfolk.org.uk

Regular Events

*The details in this section are believed to be correct at the time of compilation, and the editor accepts no responsibility for subsequent changes. For latest updates see www.devonfolk.org.uk. Please note some clubs do not operate all the year round. **Bold type**—further details in club section, specific diary dates or advert. Assume 8 pm start unless otherwise shown.*

Session: unknown, or mixed music & song Op Mic : open mic, may include genres other than folk

Saturday

FORTNIGHTLY

SONG **Shammick Acoustic**, Pack of Cards,
Combe Martin (2nd & 4th)
SESSION West Anstey, The Jubilee Inn (1st)
7.00pm

SONG **Brendon, Staghunters** (3rd)

MONTHLY

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

Regular Events

Sunday

WEEKLY

- OP MIC Appledore. The Beaver, 8.30pm
 MUSIC Appledore, Coach & Horses. 4.00pm
 MUSIC Frithelstock, Clinton Arms.
 SONG **Folk on the Moor**, Westward Inn, Lee Mill. 7.45pm (Not Aug)
 SONG **Topsham Folk Club**, Globe Hotel

FORTNIGHTLY

- SONG **Bude Folk Club**, Falcon Hotel
 SESSION Parracombe, Hunters Inn. (2nd & 4th)
 SESSION **Plymouth, Morley Arms**, (1st & 3rd) 3.00pm

MONTHLY

- OP MIC Beer Ferrers Old Plough (1st) 8.30pm
 SESSION Exmouth, Bicton Inn., 9.30pm (1st)
 MUSIC Plymouth, Barbican, Dolphin (1st) 1.30 pm
 SONG **Sticklepath (Okehampton)**, Devonshire Arms. (1st)
 SESSION Topsham, Bridge.(1st) Lunchtime
 SESSION Totnes, Bay Horse, Bluegrass. (2nd)
 SONG **Bow, White Hart** (2nd)
 SONG **BereFerrers, Old Plough** (3rd) 8.30pm
 OP MIC Chagford, Sandy Park. (3rd)
 SONG **Scorriton, Tradesman's Arms**, (4th) 7.30pm
 SONG **Okehampton, Fountain** (Last) 8.00pm

Monday

WEEKLY

- SESSION Appledore, Royal Hotel. 8.30pm
 SESSION Bideford, White Hart. Irish.
 DANCE Bridport Folk Dance Club
 CLUB Budleigh Ukulele Strumming Club
 DANCE **Chudleigh Folk Dance Club**, Chudleigh Town Hall (term time)
 OP MIC Exeter, Oddfellows. 9.00pm
 OP MIC Exmouth, Famous Old Barrel. 8.30pm
 OP MIC Gunnislake, Tavistock Arms Hotel
OP MIC Kingsteignton Passage House Inn. 7.30pm
 DANCE **Sidford Scottish** SidfordVH. 8.00pm
 SESSION Torquay, Crown & Sceptre. 8.30pm
 MUSIC Westleigh, Westleigh Inn. 8.30pm

FORTNIGHTLY

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

- DANCE Northam Third Age

MONTHLY

- SESSION Clovelly, Red Lion 9 pm (1st)
 OP MIC Northlew, Green Dragon (1st) 8.30pm
 MUSIC **Chittlehampton, Bell Inn.** (2nd)
 SESSION Plymouth, The Dolphin Inn (2nd) 7.30pm
 SESSION Topsham, Bridge, Blues. (2nd)
 MUSIC Welcome, Old Smithy. Irish. (2nd)
 STORY South Devon Storytellers Pie Street Totnes (2nd) 7.30pm
 MUSIC **South Zeal, Kings Arms**, (3rd)
 MUSIC Totnes, The Bay Horse (4th) Irish 8.30pm
 SESSION Moretonhampstead, White Horse (Last)

Tuesday

WEEKLY

- SESSION Appledore, The Champ. 7.30pm
 DANCE **Country Dance Plymouth.** Trinity U. R. Church Hall.(Not July & Aug)
 CLUB Exeter Ukulele Club
 DANCE **Isca Allemanders Square Dance Club** Kenn Centre, Kenford
 DANCE Isca Playford Group
 DANCE **Launceston FDC**, St JohnsAmbulance Hall (not July & Aug)
 DANCE **Sidford Folk Dance Club** SidfordVillage

Hall. (Not Jun-Aug)

- DANCE **Totnes Scottish Folk Dance**, King Edward V1 School. 7.15pm
 OP MIC Plymouth, The Crown & Anchor.
 SESSION Weare Giffard, Cyder Presse. 8.30pm

FORTNIGHTLY

- MUSIC **Bere Ferrers, Old Plough**, (1st& 3rd)
 SONG **Bradninch Folk Club.** 1st– Whitelion, 3rd- Castle Hotel (guests)
 SONG Plymouth, Artillery Arms (1st& 3rd) 8.30pm

Regular Events

SESSION **Exmouth Folk Club**, Manor Hotel (3rd& 5th)
 DANCE **Kingsteignton Folk Dance Club**
 SONG **Totnes, Bay Horse** (2nd& 4th) 8.45pm
 SONG **South Brent, Pack Horse** 8.30pm
 SONG Plymouth, Artillery Arms, 8.30pm
 OP MIC Landkey, Castle. 9.00pm
 DANCE **Wiveliscombe FDC**, Community Centre (not June- Aug)

MONTHLY

SESSION Frogmore, Globe Inn (1st) 8.30pm

MUSIC Topsham, Bridge (1st) (not August)
 SONG **Sandford, Lamb Inn.** (1st)
 SESSION Christow (nr. Exeter), Teign House Inn (2nd) 8.30pm
 SESSION Chideock, George Inn, (3rd) 8.30pm
 SONG **Exeter Traditional Music Club**, Nadderwater, Royal Oak (3rd)
 SONG **Copplestone, Cross Hotel** (Last) (Winter months only)
 STORY Stone Soup (Last) (Sep. to April)

Wednesday

WEEKLY

SESSION Appledore, Royal Hotel
 SESSION Appledore, Coach & Horses (not 4th)
 OP MIC Axminster, Axminster Inn. 9.00pm
 DANCE **Bideford Folk Dance Club**, Northam Hall.
 SESSION Exmouth, Beacon Vaults
 DANCE **Gittisham Folk Dance Club** Gittisham VH (1st Wed, Mackarness Hall Honiton)
 DANCE Isca Scottish Folk Dance Club, Budleigh Salterton Masonic Hall
 OP MIC Kingsbridge, The Creeks End Inn
 DANCE **Newton Abbot Irish Set Dance**, Jolly Farmer
 OP MIC Plymouth, Compass Inn. 7.00pm
 SESSION **South Brent, (Royal) Oak.** 8.30 pm
 DANCE **South Hams Folk Dance Club**, West Charleton Village Hall
 SESSION Torquay, RyansBar
 OP MIC Totnes, The Albert.

FORTNIGHTLY

DANCE **Halsway Manor Folk Dance Group** (1st& 3rd)
 MUSIC **Jurassic Folk and Jam** Eyre Court, 2, Queen Street, Seaton. EX12 2NY. (1st and 3rd)
 MUSIC Exeter, Mill on the Exe

MONTHLY

MUSIC **Bow, White Hart.** Irish. (1st)
 OP MIC Kingsbridge, Creeks End Inn (1st)
 SONG Sidmouth, Anchor. (1st)
 MUSIC Swimbridge, Jack Russell. (1st)
 SONG Bradnich Acoustic. Baptist Hall(2nd)
 SESSION Honiton, Beehive Arts Centre. (2nd) 7.30pm
 SONG **Lympstone, Globe Inn.** (2nd)
 SESSION Malborough, Royal Oak. (2nd)
 SESSION **Plymouth, Hyde Inn.** Mutley. (2nd)
 SESSION Bridport, George Hotel. (3rd)
 SESSION Brixham, Maritime Inn. (3rd) 9.00pm
 MUSIC Exmouth, Bicton Inn. (3rd)
 OP MIC Hatherleigh, Tally Ho. (3rd)
 SONG **Penny Moor Singaround.** Cruwys Arms. (3rd)
 OP MIC Teignmouth Acoustic Blues Club Oystercatcher Café (3rd)
 SONG Appledore, Coach & Horses. (4th)
 SONG Christow, Teign House Inn. (4th)
 OP MIC Chagford, Globe. (Last) 8.15pm
 SESSION Dawlish, South Devon Inn. (Last)
 MUSIC Exeter, Globe Inn. (Last)
 SONG **Uffculme, Magelake Pavilion.** (Last)

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Regular Events

Thursday

WEEKLY

- SONG **Bideford Folk Club**, Joiners Arms
 SONG **Bishopsteignton, Red Rock Brewery**
 7.30pm
 OP MIC Exeter, Globe Inn
 SESSION Exeter, Wells Tavern
 DANCE **Exmouth Folk Dance Club**,
 Withycombe Methodist ChurchHall
 (Not June - Aug)
 SONG **Denbury, Union Inn**
 SESSION Plymouth, Minerva Inn 8.30pm
 DANCE **Tavistock Folk Dance Club**, St Peter's
 School. (Not July & Aug)
 OP MIC Totnes, Bay Horse 8.45pm

FORTNIGHTLY

- MUSIC **Willand Club Band** (1st& 3rd)
 SESSION Exmouth, Beacon Vaults
 DANCE **Chard Folk Dance Club**, Combe St.
 Nicholas Village Hall
 DANCE **Willand Folk Dance Club**, Willand
 Village Hall (not July & Aug)

MONTHLY

- SONG Brixham, Quay Side Hotel. (1st)
 MUSIC Churchstow, Church House Inn. (1st)
 SESSION Exmouth, Bicton Inn (1st)
 OP MIC Okehampton Plymouth Inn (1st). 9.00
 MUSIC Topsham, Bridge Inn. (1st)
 SESSION Chulmleigh, Red Lion (2nd)
 SESSION Plymstock, Morley Arms (2nd)
 SONG **Totnes Folk Song Club**, Dartmouth
 Inn (2nd)
 SONG **Folk Plus Acoustic Music Club**, Ye
 Olde Smokey House, Vicarage Rd,
 Marldon, Paignton TQ3 9NN (2nd)
 SESSION Exeter, City Gate (3rd) 7.30pm
 SESSION Frogmore, Globe Inn. (3rd). 8.30 pm
 SESSION **South Brent, (Royal Oak)** (3rd).
 SESSION South Molton, Coaching Inn (3rd).
 MUSIC Totnes, Barrel House. Klezmer (3rd)
 MUSIC Torrington, Royal Exchange (4th). 8.30
 SESSION Ashprington, Durant Arms (Last)
 SESSION Exeter Folk Project, Starz Bar. (Last)
 OP MIC Okehampton, Kings Arms (Last). 9.00
 SONG **Teignmouth Folk Club**, Oystercatcher
 Cafe. (Last)

Friday

WEEKLY

- SONG **Bodmin Folk Club**, BCA Rooms
 DANCE **Bideford Ceilidh Club**, Northam Hall
 DANCE **Dartington Folk Dance Club**,
 Dartington Village Hall
 OP MIC Gunnislake, Tavistock Arms
 SESSION Torquay, Crown & Sceptre, 8.30 pm
 DANCE **Salcombe Regis Folk Dance Club**, St
 Peter's Church Hall, Sidford

FORTNIGHTLY

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

MONTHLY

- DANCE **South Brent, Fest Noz**, Palstone
 Recreation Room (1st, Not August)
 OP MIC Beer, Dolphin Hotel (1st)
 SONG **Brixham Folk Club** Theatre Bar(1st)
 SONG **Exeter Barnfield Theatre** (1st)
 SONG **Carhampton, Butchers Arms** (2nd)
 DANCE **Exeter Contra Dance**, St. Katharine's
 Priory. (2nd)7.30 pm

- OP MIC Exeter, Whipton Music Club, Whipton
 Institute Social Club. (2nd)
 SESSION Tiverton Acoustic, Old Heathcoat
 School Community Centre. (2nd) 8.30
 DANCE **D'Accord French Dance**, IdeVillage
 Hall. (3rd)
 SONG Milton Abbot (Ma's) Folk Club, Milton
 Abbot Village Hall (3rd)
 SESSION South Molton, Coaching Inn. (3rd)
 DANCE **Exeter Folk Dance Club**, Palace Gate
 Centre (4th, Not July, Aug)
 SONG **Exeter Folk and Acoustic Music Club**,
 Victoria Park Tennis Club, Lyndhurst
 Road, St. Leonards, Exeter, EX2 4NX
 (Last. Not July) + guest nights
 SESSION Lee Mill, Westward Inn. (Last) 8.30
 SONG Acoustic Folk and Blues Night,
 Palmers Tea Rooms, Northumberland
 Place, Teignmouth (Last) 8.00pm

Specific Diary Dates (1)

April

FRIDAY 1st **1st FRIDAY**
 CONCERT Harberton Village Hall - Namvula

SATURDAY 2nd **1st SATURDAY**
 DANCE Teign Playford Club - Jean Foster,
 Gwyn George

CONCERT Stokeinteignhead Village Hall-
 Namvula

SUNDAY 3rd **1st SUNDAY**
 CONCERT Topsham Folk Song Club - Kris Drever
 with Siobhan Wilson

CONCERT Tavistock Wharf - Maddy Prior

TUESDAY 5th **1st TUESDAY**
 CONCERT Beehive Honiton - Show of Hands:
 Long Way Home (duo) Tour

DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club - Gill Spence,
 Jeroka

WEDNESDAY 6th **1st WEDNESDAY**
 DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club in Honiton.
 Club callers - Chris Toyne

DANCE Halsway Folk Dance Club, Bicknoller
 VH American square dance with Ziggy

CONCERT Exeter Corn Exchange - Feast of
 Fiddles

THURSDAY 7th **1st THURSDAY**
 DANCE Tavistock Folk Dance Club - John
 Estall

DANCE Exmouth Folk Dance Club - Jane
 Thomas

FRIDAY 8th **2nd FRIDAY**
 CONCERT Exeter Phoenix Voodoo Lounge -
 Ferocious Dog + Support from The
 Leylines & Gaz Brookfield

SONG Exeter FSC Victoria Park Tennis
 Club - Martyn Wyndham-Read

SATURDAY 9th **2nd SATURDAY**
 CONCERT Exeter Phoenix Voodoo Lounge -
 Sound of Sirens

MUSIC Winkleigh Music Day. Workshops,
 Ceilidh, Choirs, Jam sessions. Details
 01837 82980

DANCE Willand Folk Dance Club - Bob
 Morgan - Momentum

CONCERT Teignmouth Folk concerts - Alistair
 Anderson

SONG Shammick Acoustic Open Night
 with Martyn Wyndham-Read,

Pack o' Cards, Combe Martin.

CONCERT St Mary's Parish Church,
 Kingskerswell, Undercover Hippy

SUNDAY 10th **2nd SUNDAY**
 SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn,
 Lee Mill, 7.45 pm – Louise Jordan

TUESDAY 12th **2nd TUESDAY**
 DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club – Club
 Callers - Amycrofters

WEDNESDAY 13th **2nd WEDNESDAY**
 CONCERT Stokeinteignhead Village Hall -
 Dallahan - Traditional and Irish music

CONCERT Exeter Corn Exchange - John Otway &
 Wild Willy Barrett

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club -
 Graham Barrett - Fresh Aire

THURSDAY 14th **2nd THURSDAY**
 MUSIC Crabshell Inn, Kingsbridge

DANCE Willand Folk Dance Club - Frances
 Hilson – Petronella

DANCE Exmouth Folk Dance Club - Denis
 Warry

DANCE Tavistock Folk Dance Club – Tony
 Dawe

CONCERT Bideford Folk Song Club – Lucy Ward

FRIDAY 15th **3rd FRIDAY**
 CONCERT Church House Concerts, South
 Tawton - The Dovetail Trio

SATURDAY 16th **3rd SATURDAY**
 CONCERT Beehive Honiton - Rusty Shackle

DANCE Barrington Village Hall - Over
 Stratton Folk Dance Club Jigs for Gigs
 with Jane Thomas

CONCERT St Mary's Parish Church,
 Kingskerswell - Lucy Ward

SUNDAY 17th **3rd SUNDAY**
 CONCERT Exeter Phoenix - Kathryn Roberts
 and Sean Lakeman + support from
 Kitty McFarlane

CONCERT The Royal Oak, Ashburton - Cosgrave
 & Banks

TUESDAY 19th **3rd TUESDAY**
 DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club – Aileen
 Wills – Chris Toyne

WEDNESDAY 20th **3rd WEDNESDAY**
 DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club - Jane
 Thomas - Stick the Fiddle

Specific Diary Dates (2)

DANCE Halsway Folk Dance Group
– Bicknoller VH – Ray Goodswen -
Jeroka

THURSDAY 21st **3rd THURSDAY**

DANCE Exmouth Folk Dance Club – Club
Callers

DANCE Tavistock Folk Dance Club – Club
callers

SATURDAY 23rd **4th SATURDAY**

DANCE Bridport Ceilidhs - Teasing the Cat
- Dick Carlyon - Church House Hall
Bridport

CONCERT Shammick Acoustic, Pack o' Cards,
Combe Martin. Sunjay

CONCERT The Churston Farm Shop, Dartmouth
Road, Brixham - Ange Hardy -
support Maggie and Mike

SUNDAY 24th **4th SUNDAY**

SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn,
Lee Mill, 7.45 pm – Sunjay

MONDAY 25th **4th MONDAY**

CONCERT Exeter Corn Exchange - Spirit of
Ireland

TUESDAY 26th **4th TUESDAY**

DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club – Jeremy
Child

WEDNESDAY 27th **4th WEDNESDAY**

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club - Club
callers - Friendly Folk

THURSDAY 28th **4th THURSDAY**

DANCE Willand Folk Dance Club - Jane
Thomas – Amycrofters

DANCE Exmouth Folk Dance Club - Simon
Maplesden - Jigs for Gigs

DANCE Tavistock Folk Dance Club – Chris
Thorne

FRIDAY 29th **5th FRIDAY**

CONCERT Harberton Parish Hall - Gigspanner
'Big Band'

SONG Exeter FSC Victoria Park Tennis
Club, Open Club Night

SATURDAY 30th **5th SATURDAY**

CONCERT St Mary's Parish Church,
Kingskerswell - 3 Daft Monkeys *May*

TUESDAY 3rd **1st TUESDAY**

DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club – Simon
Maplesden – Jigs for Gigs

WEDNESDAY 4th **1st WEDNESDAY**

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club in Honiton
- club callers – Jeroka

DANCE Halsway Folk Dance Club – Bicknoller
VH – Jane Thomas – John and Mary
Brock

THURSDAY 5th **1st THURSDAY**

CONCERT Hazelwood House Loddiswell - Robin
and Bina Williams in concert

DANCE Exmouth Folk Dance Club – Wendy
Hoare

DANCE Tavistock Folk Dance Club – Alyson
and Jerry Tucker

FRIDAY 6th **1st FRIDAY**

CONCERT St Mary's Parish Church, Kingskerswell
- Sam Carter

SUNDAY 8th **2nd SUNDAY**

SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee
Mill, 7.45 pm – Clive Gregson

MONDAY 9th **2nd MONDAY**

CONCERT Exeter Corn Exchange - The Fureys

TUESDAY 10th **2nd TUESDAY**

DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club Party
Eileen Nightingale – Quantock
Quarenders

WEDNESDAY 11th **2nd WEDNESDAY**

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club – Eileen
Nightingale - Jigs for Gigs

THURSDAY 12th **2nd THURSDAY**

CONCERT Beehive Honiton - Police Dog Hogan

DANCE Exmouth Folk Dance Club – Chris
Miles

DANCE Tavistock Folk Dance Club – Jim Reade

DANCE Willand Folk Dance Club - Mary
Marker - Chris Toyne

SATURDAY 14th **2nd SATURDAY**

DANCE Willand Folk Dance Club - Jane
Thomas – Broad Band

CONCERT Teignmouth Folk concerts - The
Wilson Family + Andy Clarke

SONG Shammick Acoustic Open Night with
Paul Wilson & Marilyn Tucker, Pack o'
Cards, Combe Martin.

WEDNESDAY 18th **3rd WEDNESDAY**

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club - Robert
Blackborow - Bridgewater Band

DANCE Halsway Folk Dance Club – Bicknoller
VH – Aileen Wills – Wassail Band

Specific Diary Dates (3)

THURSDAY 19th **3rd THURSDAY**

DANCE Exmouth Folk Dance Club - Club callers - end of season party with bring & share supper

DANCE Tavistock Folk Dance Club - John Estall

SONG Bideford Folk Song Club – John Kirkpatrick

SUNDAY 22nd **4th SUNDAY**

CONCERT Topsham Folk Song Club - Chris Wood

SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm Lander Mason

WEDNESDAY 25th **4th WEDNESDAY**

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club - Aileen Wills - Meter Rite

THURSDAY 26th **4th THURSDAY**

DANCE Willand Folk Dance Club - club callers - The More the Merrier

DANCE Tavistock Folk Dance Club – Tony Dawe

FRIDAY 27th **4th FRIDAY**

MUSIC Totnes - Party In The Town – evening

SONG Exeter FSC Victoria Park Tennis Club Exeter - Open Club Night

June

WEDNESDAY 1st **1st WEDNESDAY**

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club in Honiton - Club callers - Ivor Hyde and Holly

DANCE Halsway Folk Dance Club – Bicknoller VH – Club callers – Friendly Folk

THURSDAY 2nd **1st THURSDAY**

DANCE Tavistock Folk Dance Club – Club callers

SATURDAY 4th **1st SATURDAY**

DANCE Bridport Ceilidhs featuring G.I.G. Ceilidh Band - Chris Shaw - Church House (St Mary's) Hall, Bridport

SUNDAY 5th **1st SUNDAY**

SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm – Quicksilver

WEDNESDAY 8th **2nd WEDNESDAY**

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club - Eileen Nightingale - Fresh Aire

THURSDAY 9th **2nd THURSDAY**

DANCE Willand Folk Dance Club - end of

season party - Gill Spence - Fresh Aire

DANCE Tavistock Folk Dance Club – Chris Thorne

FRIDAY 10th **2nd FRIDAY**

SONG Exeter FSC Victoria Park Tennis Club Exeter - John Kirkpatrick

SATURDAY 11th **2nd SATURDAY**

DANCE Willand Folk Dance Club - Ted Morse - Friendly Folk - Willand Village Hall

CONCERT Teignmouth Folk concerts - Paul Metsers (+Amanda Diamond and Eddie Wheaton) - Alice Cross Centre

SONG Shammick Acoustic Open Night , Pack o' Cards, Combe Martin.

CONCERT St Mary's Parish Church, Kingskerswell – Martyn Joseph

TUESDAY 14th **2nd TUESDAY**

SONG Hanlon's Brewery. Thorn & Roses. Bill Crawford. Great Western Morris.

WEDNESDAY 15th **3rd WEDNESDAY**

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club - Jeroka - Simon Maplesdon

DANCE Halsway Folk Dance Club – Bicknoller VH – Gill Spence – Iain Bryden and Nick

THURSDAY 16th **3rd THURSDAY**

DANCE Tavistock Folk Dance Club – Alan and Marion Finch

FRIDAY 17th **3rd FRIDAY**

CONCERT Church House Concerts - Moore Moss Rutter - The Church House, South Tawton,

FESTIVAL Teignmouth Folk Festival

SATURDAY 18th **3rd SATURDAY**

FESTIVAL Teignmouth Folk Festival

SUNDAY 19th **3rd SUNDAY**

FESTIVAL Teignmouth Folk Festival

WEDNESDAY 22nd **4th WEDNESDAY**

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club - Colin Andrews - Home Brew

THURSDAY 23rd **4th THURSDAY**

DANCE Tavistock Folk Dance Club – Frances Oates

SONG Bideford Folk Song Club – Kirsty Bromley & Lucy Wise

FRIDAY 24th **4th FRIDAY**

CONCERT Julie Felix in concert - Hazelwood House Loddiswell, Kingsbridge

Specific Diary Dates (4)

SONG Exeter FSC Victoria Park Tennis Club ,
Exeter - Open Club Night

SATURDAY 25th **4th SATURDAY**

SONG Shammick Acoustic, Pack o' Cards,
Combe Martin. Flossie Malavialle

SUNDAY 26th **4th SUNDAY**

SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee
Mill, 7.45 pm – Flossie Malavialle#

WEDNESDAY 29th **5th WEDNESDAY**

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club - Jane
Thomas - Jigs for Gigs

THURSDAY 30th **5th THURSDAY**

DANCE Tavistock Folk Dance Club - John Estall

July

WEDNESDAY 6th **1st WEDNESDAY**

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club in Honiton
- Club callers - Amicrofters

DANCE Halsway Folk Dance Group – Bicknoller
VH – Simon Maplesden - Jeroka

SATURDAY 9th **2nd SATURDAY**

DANCE Willand Folk Dance Club - Simon
Maplesdon - Pipe Factory Ceilidh Band
- Willand Village Hall

CONCERT Teignmouth Folk concerts - To be
arranged - Alice Cross Centre

SONG Shammick Acoustic Open Night , Pack
o' Cards, Combe Martin.

SUNDAY 10th **2nd SUNDAY**

SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee
Mill, 7.45 pm – Ian Bruce and Ian
Walker

WEDNESDAY 13th **2nd WEDNESDAY**

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club - Gill Spence
- Jigs for Gigs

THURSDAY 14th **2nd THURSDAY**

SONG Totnes Folk Club guest night with
Steve Turner

SATURDAY 16th **3rd SATURDAY**

DANCE Teign Playford Club, Rydon Hall,
Kingsteignton, 2.30-5.30pm. Jean
Foster and Gwyn George.

WEDNESDAY 20th **3rd WEDNESDAY**

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club - Aileen
Wills - Chris Toyne

DANCE Halsway Folk Dance Group – Bicknoller
VH Ray Goodswen – John and Mary
Brock

SATURDAY 23rd

4th SATURDAY

SONG Shammick Acoustic, Pack o' Cards,
Combe Martin. Greg Russell & Ciaran
Algar

SUNDAY 24th

4th SUNDAY

SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee
Mill, 7.45 pm – Jim Causley

WEDNESDAY 27th

4th WEDNESDAY

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club – Simon
Maplesden with club callers - Stick
the Fiddle

FRIDAY 29th

5th FRIDAY

FESTIVAL Sidmouth Folk Week starts

SATURDAY 30th

5th SATURDAY

FESTIVAL Sidmouth Folk Week

August

SUNDAY 1st to FRIDAY 6th

FESTIVAL Sidmouth Folk Week

FRIDAY 6th to SUNDAY 8th

FESTIVAL Dartmoor Folk Festival, South Zeal

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Regional & National Contacts

Regional Contacts

Dorset Folk

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

Folk Around Kent

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

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Somerset & Dorset

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

Taplas (Wales)

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

Unicorn (Beds, Herts, Camb. area)

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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 Antuar, 01263 715762, email: secretary@open-morris.org

National Youth Folklore Troupe of England*

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Bands & Callers

*Those in bold text have an advert elsewhere in his magazine. * EFSS affiliated.*

BANDS

3dB Ceilidh Band
01803 862393
Amicrofters Band
01404 46451
Autumn Gold
01840 261708
Babelfish
07971 148531
Back to Square One
01392 422119
Barnstormers
01392 882036
Bloatertown Band*
01237 476632
Blue Jewel
07957 855458
Broad Band
01884 840816
Bridgwater Band
01823 491662
Choughed to Bits
01752 851990
Country Style
01803 813555
Dartmoor Pixie Band*
01837 840775
David Mashford
01752 822010
Eel Grinders
01647 440020
Five Pound Fiddle
01409 211340
Flash Company
01392 851496
Folk Two
01548 550004
Fox Amongst The Chickens
01579 351201
Fraich 'Airs*
01392 811593
Fresh Aire
01823 461632
Friendly Folk
01643 707294

Full English
01271 866907
Haymakers
01288 361625
Hips & Haws
01392 861466
Hobson's Choice
01823 272537
Home Brew
01363 877216
Hot Punch
01271 373128
Housewife's Choice
01363 774426
Ivor Hyde's Band
01460 65159
Jeroka
01935 824674
Jiggerypipery
01647 433390
Jigs For Gigs
01460 241326
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
**Mooncoin Ceilidh Band* 01803
290427**
More The Merrier
01626 854141
Mrs Midnight
01363 775552
Mugdock
01643 707294
Mullachabu
01626 871260
New Vintage Band 01363
774426

Occasion Ceilidh Band
01752 337501
Oggle Band*
01271 865030
Old Boys
01726 837432
Other Band
01326 563564
Paddy's Whiskers*
01803 520799
Park Bench Aristocrats
01548 810038
Petronella
01626 854141
Pigs Might Fly
01392 411434
Pig's Whisper
01392 250355
Phoenix
01392 833088
Quantock Quarenders
01984 656459
Red Shed
01363 774339
Reel Thing
01460 240671
Rumpus
01548 531525
Rusty Buckets
01398 323494
Scratchbox
01803 847689
Sheer Hopody
01769 520595
Slack Ma Girdle
01823 680523
Slapjack
01823 601583
Smileyboots
01752 364596
Spinach For Norman
07970 151059
Squeezum
01823 333567
Steve Gill & Andy Clarke 01803
290427

Bands & Callers

Note: some callers work only with one band or specific bands. Likewise some bands will only work with certain callers. Check when you book!

Stick The Fiddle

01884 243295
Swain's Gold
01579 383554
Tinnars
01736 787951
Up The Creek
01548 531525
Walter Shortage & Hosepipe
Band
01837 52174
Winkeilidh Band
01363 877216
Weston Country Dance Band
01934 813326
Woodshed Band

01840 261708
Dick Carlyon
01271 882366
Jeremy Child
01392 422119
Ted Farmer
01392 466326
Gordon Francis
01823 333742
07789 796993
Judy Forrow
01626 864042
Ray Goodswen
01278 424332
Sue Hamer-Moss

01805 601323
Susan Heard
01823 462936
Martin Hodge
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Joan Holloway
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What's Afoot is looking for a new EDITOR

Colin Andrews has returned as interim Editor but would like to hand over to someone who would be willing to move the magazine forward in the future.

Interested?

Email editor@devonfolk.org.uk or ring Colin on 01363 877216 for an informal chat. Help will be given. Familiarity with a dtp publishing software (e.g. Word, Publisher, Open Office, InDesign, etc) would be very useful.



Devon Folk

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Devon Folk News

Devon Folk supports and encourages folk song and dance activities across Devon. We are always grateful for donations which help towards the sponsorship of local events. South Hams and Dartington Folk Dance Clubs have both generously sent donations and financial support has been provided for Bradninch Acoustic Music Club which has written to inform Devon Folk of the ways in which the previous support has been used. A. Gill, the chairman of Devon Folk, has followed up her successful folk dance event for the Paignton Brownies.

Unfortunately, another dance club, Lucky Seven, closed in December.

Devon Folk would like to congratulate past Devon Folk Award winners (2012), Paul Wilson and Marilyn Tucker founders of Wren Music, who have now been awarded the Gold Badge Award for 2015 from EFDSS.

The committee were sorry to hear the news of the deaths of Joyce Cann and Hilary Bix (of whom an appreciation is given elsewhere in this edition).

Eileen Conway

DEVON FOLK MEMBERSHIP is available free to

- anyone paying £5 annual subscription for What's Afoot magazine.
- any EFDSS member living in Devon
- 2 nominated members of any Devon club affiliated to EFDSS

is also available

- to any person paying an annual fee of £2
- to 2 nominated members of any club paying an annual subscription of £10

Only individuals or clubs paying the annual subscription of £5 or £10 respectively are entitled to receive the magazine. It is now possible to receive What's Afoot by email and pay for subscriptions and advertisements by bank transfer. Applications forms are also available on our website www.devonfolk.org.uk

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

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I/We agree to Devon Folk contacting me/us by email as indicated above and for occasional notifications.

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Devon What's Now Afoot

Over the past three months much discussion has taken place to consider how Devon Folk can be more effective in promoting folk activities across the whole of the county. A key factor is the means of communication not only to dedicated folkies but to the wider audience of the general public and various organisations for whom participation in folk music, dance and song may be of interest. Whether the potential involvement may be only as a spectator at a morris display or as a one-off event in school, social club or corporate entertainment, knowledge of what is available needs to be more widespread and readily accessible.

What's Afoot magazine has been the prime means of communication amongst Devon Folk members for 35 years. In that time, it has more than doubled in size and become the main source of revenue for Devon Folk, through advertising and sales almost exclusively via folk outlets. However, it is preaching to the converted, and even within the folk fraternity its existence is far from widely known. Responses to the recent survey (almost all completed on-line), whilst very positive in respect for the printed magazine, nevertheless suggested an ageing readership; almost all returns were from the over-60s, and no-one under 50 replied.

It is intended to make the magazine available electronically by subscription, initially as an email attachment. The printed magazine will continue for the foreseeable future. Ways of expanding its availability through non folk specific outlets are being explored. Though a small team is now working on the magazine production, the search continues for someone to take over as editor, following Sue's withdrawal and Colin's interim return. Enquiries welcome!

Devon Folk has had a web domain (www.devonfolk.co.uk) for several years. Until recently, it redirected to another address but now links to www.devonfolk.org.uk, on which up-to-date information about events, contacts, etc. can be found, together with notices and reviews. It may be that in due course the website will be redesigned, but the content, format, and by implication, the target audience has yet to be

considered in detail. Any input with thoughts and suggestions in this respect will be very much appreciated.

A more recent development is the setting up of a Facebook presence for Devon Folk and for Devon Cool Folk, the latter intended to appeal to the young generation of folk enthusiasts. Visiting and 'liking' and sharing these pages will certainly help to boost their profile. Effective use of Facebook and other on-line social media platforms is a vital means of bringing Devon's folk scene to the attention of people who have grown up with laptops, tablets and smart phones.

The fact remains that there are thousands of people that still just do not know of Devon Folk, What's Afoot, and its web presence. One solution may be to produce an eye-catching leaflet to place, along with the other 'attraction' leaflets in libraries, tourist information centres, pubs, hotels, etc. A concerted effort in effective distribution will obviously be required. Volunteers please!

Plans are afoot to make Devon Folk's profile more appealing and more extensive by embracing 21st century technology. There is still much we need to discuss in order to achieve this aim.

Colin Andrews



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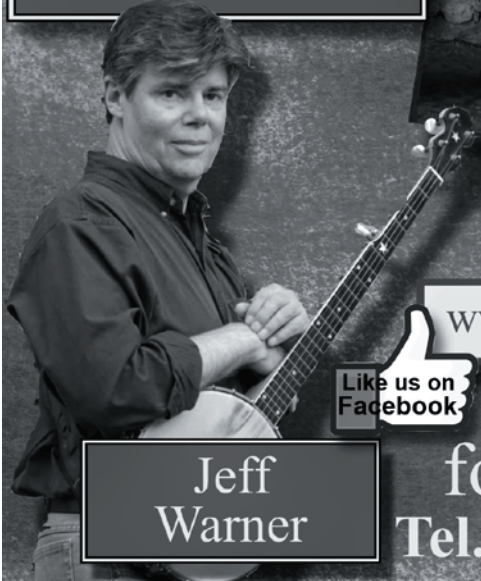


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Dartmoor Legacies

TONY BEARD :

Thanks from the festival

Tony Beard, the Wag from Widecombe, recently received a gift from the Dartmoor Folk Festival Association (DFFA), which organises the annual three-day Dartmoor Folk Festival each August.

Tony had been the compere for the Music Hall held on the last night of the festival for the past 35 years. In recognition of this, the festival association commissioned South Zeal artist Kari McGowan to paint a watercolour to convey thanks and appreciation of everything he had done. Bill Murray together with Tich Scott stood in as MC at the Music Hall last August as Tony was unable to attend due to illness.

Jason Rice, DFFA chairman, along with Mark Bazeley, artistic director and local musician and entertainer, Bill Murray, travelled to Widecombe in the Moor to present Tony with the watercolour painting.

Jason Rice said, "“Tony, who was recently given the all clear following his treatment for bladder cancer, has been a fantastic supporter of the folk festival through his BBC Radio Devon Sunday Request Show, and acted as MC at our festival Music Hall event for 35 years.. We were pleased to present Tony with the gift for all he has done for the festival and we wish him all the best for the future.”

The watercolour shows a scene from the folk festival, including children broom dancing, musicians, step dancing, morris men, people watching, a marquee and Dartmoor hills in the background.

Alan Quick

Sadly, Tony passed away at the end of January, the cancer having returned. He had always been very supportive of folk music in Devon. It is very fitting that he was able to receive the recognition from Dartmoor Festival earlier in the month.

Tony Beard, third left, receives the watercolour painting from Jason Rice, right, on behalf of the Dartmoor Folk Festival Association, with Mark Bazeley, left and Tony's wife, Wendy, second left.

JOYCE CANN

Festival President 1990 -2016

On the death of her husband and Dartmoor Folk Festival founder, Bob Cann, in 1990, Joyce took over as the festival's president. She had supported the festival ever since its launch at Wood Country House in 1978, When Bob was awarded the B.E.M, for services to folk music, he particularly thanked Joyce for her support.

Joyce took great pride in that her family and friends continued to run the Festival after Bob's death and that the Dartmoor Pixie Band has also continued so successfully with Mark, their grandson, taking the lead with his wife, Sarah, as caller. The folk music legacy continues with her great-grandchildren, Thomas, Charlie & Laura.

Joyce passed away with her family at her side on January 18th 2016.



(Above) Joyce Cann with her children, grand-children & great grandchildren at her 90th birthday party last summer.





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For full details visit our website or send an S.A.E. to:

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www.dartmoorfolkfestival.org.uk





HALSWAY MANOR

National Centre
for Folk Arts

A taste of our Spring programme:

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Faustus Weekend

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MON 4 - FRI 8 | APR

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FRI 8 - SUN 10 | APR

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MON 11 - FRI 15 | APR

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FRI 15 - SUN 17 | APR

Playford Weekend

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able weekend with caller Andrew Swaine and 5-piece band Albireo.

FRI 22 - SUN 24 | APR

Nyckelharpa Weekend

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MON 25 - FRI 29 | APR

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CD Reviews

BIDING TIME BILL CRAWFORD

Exeter born, traditional solo singer and currently a member of the four parta cappella group 'The Claque', MC, folk correspondent, avid trekker, to name but a few things Bill Crawford does. If you don't already know Bill, this fine traditional singer of mainly south west material, has recorded this CD of unaccompanied singing to delight those traditional fans like myself. So many splash the cash to enhance sales by including big stars on their recordings, forgetting when they do a solo performance, many may be disappointed having heard a padded out version first. On this recording I am pleased to say that 100% of what you will hear on the CD is what you would get at a live performance. He does have a little help on the occasional track from Dave Lowry and on some choruses from Eileen Conn, Jackie Williams, 'Ollie' Holland and Penny Rigby, which would probably happen anyway in a sing around or club.

I like the artwork and the inside sleeve notes give you good background information on the origin of all the tracks, many from the Baring Gould collection with details of the original source. I am pleased he has included a track from the late Cyril Tawney.

I would love to have heard a "live" track or two to show us Bill's sense of humour or a song of his own if he has written one - jealous as my repertoire of South West material is so limited.

As for the tracks, I found it difficult to single any out as they were all enjoyable. The Oxen Ploughing song had a verse which was new to me and the lovely Tallow Candles reminded me of Ben Hall and Camborne Hill.

I would urge you to go out and buy this CD and support this traditional style of singing which has stood the test of time and will surely be around much longer than many of the songs from today's songwriters.

Steve Gill

THE WHISPERING ROAD SERIOUS KITCHEN WGS 413DC

An enthralling story, told in true storytelling tradition with the requisite simplicity and repetition, beautifully enhanced by the music and song. The storyteller, Nick Hennessey, has a wonderful voice with excellent diction which draws in and captivates the listener, and there are parts of the CD that are almost magical in atmosphere.

The music, influenced by traditional Scandinavian and English instruments, is played with a quality and life one has come to expect from Johnny Dyer and Vicki Swan, and Vicki's songs, sung in Swedish and echoed in English also add to the atmosphere created.

A story that is appealing to young and old alike but, I felt its only drawback is its length. At 72 minutes it can be far too long to listen to in one session. However, since there are eleven tracks it is possible to split into more manageable bites.

This is a quality CD with beautiful music and song and a well-told story.

Carole Henderson-Begg

Teignmouth Folk Club The Oystercatcher's Café Northumberland Place

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30th June - Open Night

Further details from
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martyngh@aol.com

Concert Review: Show of Hands

THE LONG WAY HOME SHOW OF HANDS

When I saw Show Of Hands last November I managed to get hold of a pre-release signed copy of this new album. Let me say that I think The Long Way Home is one of the best albums they have made.

I was a little disappointed in their last album, Wake The Union. Despite including some great songs - Now You Know, Aunt Maria - I wasn't that keen on the American direction. I also found it to be a bit bloated and a case of too many guests evaporated the band's familiar live sound. Some may argue that the two albums before that - Arrogance, Ignorance and Greed and Witness - might be accused of the same, but I found the direction of those albums more interesting and enjoyed the heavy production there.

With The Long Way Home Steve and Phil return to their gritty British folk roots, as was intended, and it is like welcoming an old friend back into your home. The album includes some traditional song arrangements (April Morning, for example) and even the more contemporary songs, like the two composed by Chris Hoban, Hallow's Eve and Along The Old Lych Way have a strong traditional feel and fit in well with the general tone. In fact it is the most 50/50 split of Knightley-penned songs and covers on an album since 1997's Dark Fields.

The album is very well-produced by the renowned producer Mark Tucker, who utilizes the modern production tricks and techniques to broaden their sound but in a way that blends in well with whatever Steve, Phil, Miranda or any of their other guests are doing. The production work on Along The Old Lych Way is particularly impressive, creating a wonderfully atmospheric, haunting and beautiful sound. Unlike the last album I never feel like they are running the show and the directness of our leads' instruments are kept in the forefront.

Another bonus on the new album is PHIL BEER! Now, obviously, as a member

of Show Of Hands he is always a highlight but on this new album he is given more to do in the vocal department. He sings the lead vocals on two songs and also takes whole verses in several other songs on the album. It is great to see his vocal talents utilized more and is treated almost equally to Steve. One thing that has confused me though is why he doesn't take a verse in Hallow's Eve when they perform it live?

All the tracks, in my opinion, are truly excellent but my current favourite ones include Hallow's Eve, Hambledon Fair, The Long Way Home, Keep Haulin' and Along The Old Lych Way.

One part of the album that I will pick at is the Morris Dancers' stick percussion on April Morning. I think their inclusion works well enough, particularly on Steve's tune at the end, but the execution of it is a little distracting to my ear. The timing of the stick effects could have been a little better and they sometimes seem to strike at any old time rather than with the specific beats of the song.

For a time I always preferred to hear new Show Of Hands material live than on record but this is a collection of new songs that I feel can easily be enjoyed both at home and live. The Long Way Home has already become highly-acclaimed and is enjoying commercial success so I recommend that you join the hype machine and purchase a copy.

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

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Contact: Margaret Holt 01822 855858

CD Review: Jim Causley

FORGOTTEN KINGDOM

JIM CAUSLEY

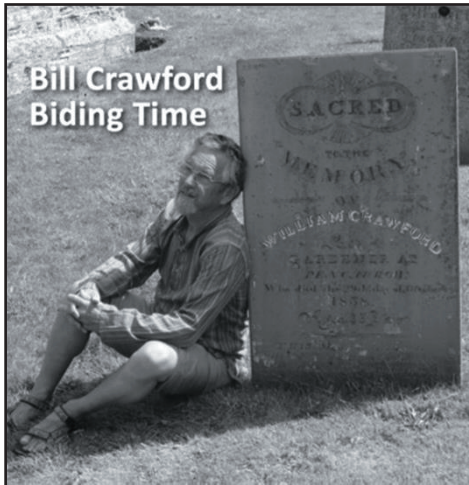
Hands on Music HMCD41

The 'forgotten kingdom', the title of Jim Causley's brilliant new CD, is the ancient Celtic kingdom of Dumnonia, comprised of present-day Devon and Cornwall, now divided - however, as Jim sings in The Peninsula Prayer, 'the land doesn't recognise the lines that humans draw'. This is the first album Jim has recorded in Devon and all the songs are his own, although some contain snatches of traditional song or re-tell traditional stories. Jim has gathered some of his oldest friends and musical collaborators for this album, including Nick Wyke and Becky Driscoll, Phil Beer and Steve Knightley, Kathryn Roberts and Jackie Oates, Phillip Henry and Hannah Martin, with Steve Tyler and Katy Marchant adding the more unusual sounds of hurdy-gurdy, shawm, flageolet and English bagpipes.

Central to all the tracks, of course, is Jim's voice – variously compared to fruity real ale, nectar, honey or rich chocolate – take your pick!

The album was produced by Phil Beer and Mark Tucker and is comprised of a generous 15 tracks: many celebrate or remember the rural customs, history and landscape of the West Country and their tone ranges from the elegiac and haunting to the comic and bouncy, with influences from bluegrass and music-hall as well as traditional folk and ballads. The album demonstrates for the first time Jim's ability as a lyricist as well as a writer of fine tunes (as on his previous album, Cyprus Well). Reigning Men, a powerful duet with Kathryn Roberts, makes a strong and necessary political statement: 'When despots pass judgements on the flaws of our lives/Judging things that they never have lived'. Home, set to a jaunty tune with an American bluegrass feel asks the important question: 'Do we all have somewhere we belong to?/ Somewhere we tell folks we're from?' and tells the all-too familiar story of townspeople who fancy a country life of 'Period Living and shabby chic' (and I hope I'm not seen as one of them!) replacing the people who really belong there.

The highlights of this album are, for me, Goodnight Ballad, a beautiful farewell- to- love-song accompanied by the haunting fiddle of Phil Beer, and the elegaic The Pastoria, with Jim on piano, evoking the past and partly-forgotten legends of his beloved Dumnonia, and 'the songs I believed from my time'. Rewind creates the image of a hot and drowsy summer's day with nature the stage for human activity: Jim sings 'to me it all goes hand in hand/The music and the land/Now who could fail to understand/Such simplicity?' – who indeed could fail to respond to the sound of Jim's voice, the beauty and joy of the musical arrangements and the stories and images he creates. I know how long Jim has nurtured and developed the songs which make up this album and it has been well worth the wait.



'BIDING TIME'

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Nicola King

Concert Review: Fotheringay

Plough Arts Centre Torrington,
12th December 2015

When Sally Barker began to sing Nothing More, the first number of the reformed Fotheringay's concert at The Plough back in December, I could hardly believe that I wasn't hearing the great Sandy Denny herself. Barker's voice has the soaring purity and raw emotion of Denny; Barker and Kathryn Roberts, together with singer and guitarist P.J.Wright (of Little Johnny England, TradArr and The Dylan Project, here taking the place of Trevor Lucas) have joined with three original members of the band – the amazing guitarist Jerry Donahue, drummer Gerry Conway and bass player Pat Donaldson - to recreate the sound and play the songs, many written by Denny herself, of the brilliant but short-lived Fotheringay, whose one album was released in 1970. Many years later Donohue re-worked some of their original material and released Fotheringay 2 in 2008.

Highlights of this great concert were, for me, Denny's own songs: the haunting The Sea, sung by Roberts with the beautiful and delicate accompaniment of Donohue's guitar, and given added power by Barker's voice towards the end; Late November; and the traditional The Banks of the Nile, sung as a duet by Barker and Roberts. Kathryn said that Denny had always been her musical heroine, but that she never expected to be singing her songs with members of the original Fotheringay, and this was also a moving

experience for (probably) many members of the audience who knew and loved Fotheringay and Fairport Convention in the time of Sandy Denny. Some of the songs written and recorded by Denny as a solo artist were also included, including, appropriately, Solo, movingly sung by Kathryn. More upbeat elements were added by P.J.'s rendition of The Ballad of Ned Kelly and Knights of the Road (co-written by Trevor Lucas) and Dylan's Too Much of Nothing. P.J. also added a mean pedal slide guitar to It'll Take a Long Time, beautifully sung by Barker, and the sell-out audience joined in whole-heartedly with the chorus of Peace in the End. The encore, Memphis Tennessee, enabled Sally Barker (who took second place in The Voice in 2014 and also sings with The Poozies) to use the more bluesy, earthy quality of her voice, which apparently moved Tom Jones to tears in the TV contest. This was the last 2015 concert of the band's tour but there are more to come in 2016 – sadly none in the south-west, but do catch them if you can for a powerful and memorable evening.

Nicola King

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CD Review: The Casey Sisters

SIBLING RIVALRY THE CASEY SISTERS

Oldbridge Music OBMCD22

For those people whose only exposure to Irish folk music is the fast and furious pub sessions, where all the reels and jigs begin to sound the same and any songs have a strong influence of the Dubliners, this album will come as a surprise - and a very pleasing one at that! It's truly captivating.

The Casey Sisters (Nollaig Casey, Maire Ni Chathasaigh and Mairead Ni Chathasaigh) are all highly talented performers in their own right, with All-Ireland & Pan-Celtic awards for their singing and musicianship, particularly on fiddle and Irish harp. Nollaig has toured with Riverdance, played solo in over 20 feature films, and recorded or performed with an impressive number of musical celebrities.

I was impressed from the first track, a gentle hornpipe, *The Humours of Castlebernard*, with piano accompaniment, and a more pacy reel. (Castlebernard is in their home town in Co. Cork). All three songs are a delight, but my favourite is

The Bonnie Boy In Blue, which has been passed down in the family.

There is a tremendous variety in the tunes selected, some with a long history and others more recently composed. *Katherine O'Moore* is one of O'Carolan's less familiar tunes to a British audience but very pleasant to the ear, as one might expect. The CD ends with a superb set of six tunes of their own composition - all very different but all capturing one's attention. The tune, *The Earl of Cork's Allemand*, almost had me reaching for my squeezebox to try to learn it. Some time later perhaps!

This is one album which I guarantee will not disappoint you, whatever your prior exposure to Irish music.

Colin Andrews

FEEDBACK

Feedback is very important. Your comments will help us to improve the quality and service of the magazine and our media presence. Please also notify us of any changes to contact details for clubs, etc.

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CD Review: Beamont & Lee

BOXES FIDDLE & DRUMS PHIL BEAMONT & PETER LEE

Phil & Peter are two musicians from West Devon who have been on the folk scene in the county for over 30 years. Phil first played the melodeon for morris in 1972 and Peter only took up the fiddle again nearly two decades after lessons at school. He also plays bodhran.

Their music on this album shows influences both from the playing of Bob Cann and from traditional Irish music. The result is a pleasant mix of attractive tunes. Some, like *Dingle Regatta*, *Walter Bulwer's Polka*, *Woodland Flowers* and *Steamboat*, will be familiar to the ear (even if you don't recognise the name) while others are less well known. Interestingly, it's the first time I've heard *Fanny Power* played as a jig rather than in the usual waltz time - and it works well.

The CD represents good value for money, as the 15 tracks fill up the disc with barely a second between the end of one tune and the start of the next. It's perfect for easy listening, on a long

car journey for example, or pleasing background music for an evening at home in the armchair with a good book and a glass of beer or wine. It's good, unadulterated folk music in traditional style.

Colin Andrews

Details: burraton@beamont.eclipse.co.uk

COLIN ANDREWS AUTHOR & PERFORMER

Folk Song

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CD Review: Doug Eunson & Sarah Matthews

SONG AND LAUGHTER

DOUG EUNSON & SARAH MATTHEWS COTHCD010

Sarah and Doug have already established themselves firmly on the folk club and festival circuit - and that's in addition to their other commitments with Cupola, Stone Monkey and Pecssetan. This, their third album (somehow I missed their first), again provides their distinctive blend of great tunes, on melodeon & fiddle, and cracking songs, often in 2 part harmony.

I could see the opening song, *In Praise of Alcohol*, delivered by Doug with obvious feeling, becoming a standard in morris pub sessions, like *Bring Us A Barrel* or *Good Ale*. To further promote the theme, there's another - *Good Ale For My Money*, taken from a broadside. Even on titles that seem familiar, they have found interesting variants. *The Ordeal of Andrew Rose* has a more serious tune and gives a fuller account of the brutal torture of a sailor by the captain and mate. It is based on a true incident, and, as this version tells, the perpetrators were convicted on

the ship's return to Liverpool. The captain was hanged.

Apart from the song just described, the whole atmosphere of the CD title is jolly, though despite the title, there are no offerings that will have you rolling in the aisles with laughter. I was pleased they included the song, *The Dutch On The Medway*, which I'd heard before, but didn't know the title nor its origin. It's a Kipling poem to a tune by Peter Bellamy.

There are only two purely instrumental tracks on the album, both worthy of mention. *Songbirds in June* is a delightful Mazurka written for friends, while Tom Coulter's *Waltz* and *Treasure Trove* were written by friends!

I think I am very fortunate to have had the opportunity to review three quite different albums in the issue, all of which I have thoroughly enjoyed.

Colin Andrews

www.dougandsarahduo.wordpress.com

Folk in the attic: old music manuscripts, song & dance books may be of value. Don't throw them away without checking!



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- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
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| Apr. 23 rd | Sunjay, folk & blues singer & virtuoso guitarist |
| May 14 th | Open Night with Paul Wilson & Marilyn Tucker |
| May 28 th | Closed for Hunting of the Earl of Rone |
| Jun. 11 th | Open Night |
| Jun. 25 th | Flossie Malavialle, French chanteuse/naturalised Yorkshire lass |
| Jul. 9 th | Open Night |
| Jul. 23 rd | Greg Russell & Ciaran Algar, award-winning young duo |
| Aug. 13 th | Closed for Combe Martin Carnival |
| Aug. 27 th | Anna Shannon, acclaimed songsmith, singer & musician |



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Morris Matters



LOOKING BACK ...

The series of features on former morris sides in Devon continues with two contributions from Angie Guest. Quite appropriately, the foundations for Devon Oak were laid at Acorn House in Thorverton, the home at the time of Rod Ballard, fiddler for Exeter Morris Men, who used to practise just up the road at the Exeter Inn.

Devon Oak Clog Dancers

Devon Oak was formed in the late '70s by wives of Exeter Morris Men, particularly Barbara Chambers, wife of Derek. In their costumes of 'oak brown' and cream they performed ritual, clog and stepping dances including some with hoops and garlands. Devon Oak ladies performed throughout Devon and Dorset, and often joined the Morris Men on their Whitsun coach tours. On summer 'dance outs' it was always fun to join with other teams including Sweet Coppin. In 1989 a visit to Normandy was enjoyed, accompanying a local Twinning group for a Bastille celebration. It was always encouraging to see some children of the dancers performing a Broom Dance and they also joined in with other dances - until they became teenagers of course ! The group enjoyed a full band often with several 'squeezeboxes' and fiddle. Devon Oak's heyday came to an end in the late 90's due to decreasing numbers.

Flaming Morris 1987 - 2010

Flaming Morris was named after the famous Tar Barrel tradition celebrated on November 5th in Ottery St Mary. Their brightly coloured distinctive rag waistcoats of red, orange and yellow represented the tar barrel flames. They danced mixed traditions and in particular stave dances, a favourite being from Stourton Caundle in Dorset danced to the 'Dorset Four Hand Reel'. The staves were of rough stripped natural wood with a small wooden barrel as a stave head and a mass of red /orange streamers attached. The leader had a stave with a clown's head instead.

Roy Dommett took workshops for the stave dances in January 1991. The team took part in many festivals and events, including dancing out with Sweet Coppin and New Forest Medlars. They also performed Mummings plays and visited Normandy with a local Twinning group.

...AND LOOKING FORWARD

Otter Morris is new Border Morris side being established in East Devon - practicing in Feniton on the 1st and 3rd Mondays every month from January 2016. They are looking for musicians to join the band. Please email or telephone 07986 175612. Just over the Somerset border, in Wellington, a new mixed border side, **Mayhem Morris**, are fully operational. Their website is quite impressive. Details: 07789 796993, mayhembordermorrisuk@gmail.com

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Devon Oak archives



That man's holding a strange light stick!

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Flaming Morris



the plough

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Monday 4 April 8pm

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Friday 29 April 8pm

Blair Dunlop Band

Saturday 30 April 8pm

Blowzabella

Friday 13 May 8.30pm

Philip Henry & Hannah Martin

Friday 27 May 8pm

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Saturday 28 May 8pm

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Saturday 2 July 8pm

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Tom Robinson

Friday 6 May 8pm

Buddy Holly & The Cricketers at Devon Hall

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