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EDITORIAL

We are very fortunate in Devon to have not only a rich folk heritage but also a very vibrant folk scene. Even though some long standing clubs may struggle at times for numbers, new clubs and venues continue to appear. Dartmoor Folk Festival, started forty years ago by the late Bob Cann, has kept its successful 'village' atmosphere, and actively promotes the broom dancing and Dartmoor step dancing traditions. As part of BBC Music Day, the Sidmouth Festival has recently been awarded a Blue Plaque, which will be sited at the Ham. Devon folk singers and musicians have also helped to celebrate the lives of local celebrities at special productions in Throwleigh and Great Torrington.

Long may Devon ring out to the sound of music and song!

Colin Andrews

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Cover photograph: Lisa Sture in finals of Dartmoor Step Dancing competition, Dartmoor Folk Festival

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What's Good For A Song

Continuing the series of articles featuring local songwriters, Sylvia Watts describes how she got inspired.

So very many years ago, there were few females actually singing from the floor, let alone writing their own songs! My first foray could be viewed as an act of self awareness, but no one has ever heard it. It was a bit jazzy and bluesy, and used the allegory of a predatory spider for womankind. It was a start.

Going to folk clubs was a revelation. How could everyone know everyone else's songs and choruses? Not only that, how could they harmonize without dots? I slowly learned what they all knew, and enjoyed the process. The guys in Berkshire were very much into their shanties. I cut my teeth on The Watsons, the Wilsons, Crows, Isca Fayre, and not least, the Young Tradition. All these and more, permeating my brain, memory, psyche. Then one day I decided to write a song with a chorus that would lend itself to harmony, and that expressed my ideas. The few short poems in my 'opus' seemed to focus on the natural world so there was my theme. When I told a friend he said 'So-and-so sings a song called that'. My ignorance was an advantage in some ways – no chance of plagiarism– so I merely tweaked the title to 'The Seasons of the Year'. I think it has now reverted to Seasons Turn. This song has been a good friend to me in that it has introduced me to many other friends, some of whom have done me the great honour of singing it. When occasionally I also sing it I'm delighted to hear the harmony coming back.

I have always tried to adhere to what I call the 'John O'Hagan Five Verse Rule'. Cockersdale were singing at Reading Folk Club, and John waxed passionately about self-penned songs that are overly long. I have since heard others refer to this 'Rule'. Nothing wrong with a girt muckle ballad though.

Since childhood I learned from my mother a love of birds, birdsong, and flowers of all kinds. Having been born into a post-war frugality I had few toys. I do remember fondly a wooden pram - no doll, but a green and yellow elephant. I

was often sent out to pick different grasses or the smallest wildflowers to make a miniature arrangement. If I was bored and it was after dark I would be told to lie on the grass and count the stars! These, and other memories of childhood experiences, bear on my songwriting, as in Flowers of England, or Rise Like Larks. The latter is a memorial to my mother; the middle of the five verses is about her.

Occasionally a phrase will echo in my mind. I was browsing through a school text book when out jumped the words 'Everyone suddenly burst out singing'. Many months later, after I had moved back from Shetland, I eventually wrote a song interweaving themes of friendship, birdsong, and singing. I was pleased yet again that other people liked it enough to learn it and sing it out. When I decided to research the phrase that had inspired me I was amazed to find that the poet, Siegfried Sassoon, had a similar theme. Here is my chorus and his verse. Honestly, I had not read it before - EVER.

My Chorus:

*Everyone suddenly burst out singing
Filling the room with a warm delight
Sing like birds who've found their freedom
Rise like larks at the break of light
And their singing will never be done.*

Everyone Sang by Siegfried Sassoon

*Everyone suddenly burst out singing;
And I was filled with such delight
As prisoned birds must find in freedom,
winging wildly across the white
Orchards and dark-green fields; on- on- and out
of sight.
Everyone's voice was suddenly lifted;
And beauty came like the setting sun:
My heart was shaken with tears; and horror
Drifted away... O, but Everyone
Was a bird; and the song was wordless; the
singing will never be done*

Other themes that have called to me are drinking cider, out of which came Cider for Me. It's good to have a song I can do at cidery events, and at wassails. The chorus was the starting point for



this, and grew out of the necessity I felt to read the whole of The Bible from cover to cover. And which words did I recall long after? 'Comfort me with apples.' (Song of Solomon, 2:5) The middle verse, however, is lifted from Thomas Hardy's poem Great Things, after a friend suggested

it would fit the tune. I'm not sure what the copyright laws are on these matters, but as I have never made a groat out of songwriting I am not bothered.

I usually wait a very long time before singing a song out. At the moment I have one called England Wait for Me. It is autobiographical - about the places I have lived overseas, and been glad to leave for various reasons.

Maidenhead folk club still run a songwriting competition which I was happy enough to win twice. Those two songs made socio-political statements about matters I feel strongly about. The Singer Cried considers the idea of carpe diem, the oppression of the weak by those who should know better, honour and truth, and freedom of speech. All of that in four verses...

J O'H would be proud of me.

The Singer Cried

Dance while you may till daylight goes, and the last lean note decays

The blight of age is on the rose, the dew all blown away

And yet we hear fine and clear the drift of a song long ago

Sing it we will till time is still, forever and a day, Forever and a day.

Strong bind the weak, rich bleed the poor and those who dare to defy

To the glory of God or in the name of the law they made the song of the people to die

But memory holds though hopes lie cold, harmony ebony hard

Sing it we will till time is still forever and a day Forever and a day

On our island hills we stand in pride, proclaim

that we are free

Free to run, free to hide, from the fools we've come to be

Truth not lies will take the prize, our song will not be denied

Sing it we will till time is still, forever and a day Forever and a day

So dance while you may till daylight goes – sing and dance and play

On a sandy beach a river flows and slowly seeps away

Damn the tide the singer cried, voice bitter as sloes

Sing it we will till time is still forever and a day Forever and a day Forever and a day.

Another song in this genre was written in the 80's at the time of famines in Africa, and environmental summit meetings. It is sobering to realize progress is not being made

The Winter of the Earth

From spring's unfurling leaves to the flaring heat of summer

Reap the year's promise on a golden day Wrap it all around to ward off the winter

The winter of the earth is well on its way:

We have converted the cornfields to a cash crop of housing

Secret fields of orchids lie beneath the clay

Copses and dewponds have vanished forever

Forget the flowers and hedgerows. They don't pay.

The winter of the earth is well on its way.

The grey ribbons run from the northland to the southland.

Tangling the cities. Strangling all the towns.

The free land between – diminished and degraded,

As slow streams of nitrates seep into the ground.

The winter of the earth is well on its way.

And our green northern oceans, swelling still and sparkling.

Surf pounding south seas on beaches clean and white.

From the herring to the coral, life's dying and sinking.

*The seas of the earth are losing the fight.
The winter of the earth is well on its way.*

The hawk can see as it swoops down on the sparrow

*The marble of ages decaying in the haze.
Who cares if the dove carries the olive?
If our time be numbered in days.
The winter of the earth is well on its way.*

But there are those who endeavour to work towards a future.

Hope lives on while there still is life.

Success to our friends who fight to save our Mother.

*Without Her the children never will survive –
the winter of the earth. It's well on its way.*

Annoyance at despoiled areas of countryside inspired me to write *Life of a Traveller*. It has more than one viewpoint, my own being in the last verse. Whilst regretting the loss of a way of life for travellers all over Britain, I am not sympathetic to the wannabees who are not of any traveller or Romany stock. I don't sing this too often either as it can be misinterpreted and I do not wish to cause offence.

*Under the hedge lies a tangle of scrap
And the blackbird is guarding his nest
The breeze blows the plastic festooning the branch
And we're eager to move further west*

*O this is the life, oh give me the life.
This is the life of a traveller.*

*Leave now the field where we've passed a few weeks
While we hoped for a change in our luck
Leave now the geese and the stream full of trout
And what's left of an old flatbed truck*

*Into the town, to earn a few bob
Keep a look out and you'll get your pay
Where we used to sell flowers and heather and pegs*

We have found a much easier way

Gadgo and diddikai don't get the respect
That was due to the Romany Rai
They say what's mine's mine, and what's yours is mine
It's easy and free, and we say..

Me grandad's Daa was the last go about
A man of no fixed abode
How I'd loved to have been there to follow the gry
My heart still leaps when I take the road

I have been asked about, and have discussed in workshops, my process of writing. After the idea there is a prolonged thinking time. A few phrases will jotted down maybe. Before setting pencil stub to paper I will decide on the form and metre, as this will govern the tune, to come much later. There may be a structure to work to also, as in *Seasons Turn* where there is one verse for each of the seasons. So I will work on what is, I hope, a poem. I change and edit until I think it's done. It's difficult to start, and to know when to stop.

So the words will hang around the house for a while until I decide to sit at my piano and create the melody. And this I do love. That's why I have set some poets' work to tunes, for example Kipling's 'Patteran'. I do write down the tune on MS paper. I have to, as when I am learning a song I visualize the tune. That goes back to childhood again – years of piano lessons! So there is the progression – inspiration and idea, form/metre /structure, words, tune, learn and finally, sing. I intend to continue to write, mainly in the footsteps of the ancients' bucolic and pastoral work, but occasionally making a detour into the bawdy. If you want to hear the *Ballad of Upper Dicker* you will have to come and hear me sing it.

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Greetings everyone - I hope you're enjoying the start of the festival season. As I write this my wife is off performing at Chippenham, and it's half term so whilst I have lots of time to write I also have two over-active children to contend with.

Some thanks first: Many of my gigs involve calling for inexperienced dancers, and whilst I love doing the job, it's nice to occasionally get to call for some people who know what they're doing. Last Saturday I had the pleasure of calling at the Winkleigh Morris Weekend of Dance with the ever popular (for more than 40 years now) Bloatertown. Thank you to Colin Andrews for the opportunity, to Bloatertown for their wonderful music, and to the dancers for giving it their all after a full day of Morris Dancing.

Apart from EIFF (already gone), I'm not doing any festivals this year, and as I was wondering why, I realised that I don't enjoy dancing as much as I used to. As I contemplated this it occurred to me that one of the reasons is because I'm now a caller. Further musing made me realise that a number of things change when you become a caller, so I thought I'd share my thoughts on this with you. Prepare yourself for "A Caller's Perspective"...

Watching Other Callers

As a caller, I set myself very high standards, and I'm always trying to improve. Part of this process is "benchmarking" (to borrow a buzzword from business). This does not mean, as many think, "scoring" myself against other callers, but looking at what other callers do and trying to decide if I like it (in which case I ask "will it work for me?") or not ("do I do that? Stop it right now!"). This means that I'm concentrating on the caller, not the dance experience. Another unfortunate side effect is that if a caller is doing something really badly (or only slightly badly but still a "sin" in my eyes), then I get cross at them for letting the dancers down, which again affects my dancing experience.

Having to Shut Up (and Failing)

As many callers will tell you, the second worse people to have in a crowd of dancers are other

callers (in case you're wondering the worst are teachers - they just won't listen!) Callers in the crowd are quick to spot your mistakes and generally poor at keeping quiet about it. It is something I know I struggle with - keeping quiet when I know the caller's gone wrong.

Higher Expectations

The more you dance, the more different dances you do, and the more you get to appreciate the really good dances as opposed to the just good ones. As a result your expectations get raised, and you find yourself being disappointed by a perfectly good (but not superb) dance. As a caller you get to experience an even greater variety of dances, which only serves to exacerbate the problem. I have so far called over 200 different dances for the Exeter Contra series alone (yes, I do keep records!) Another aspect of this is that hardly anything is new.

The Beauty of the Dance

I find that I prefer calling to dancing. Things I love about dancing include the patterns, the shapes, the flow, the inherently mathematical nature of it all. As a caller you get to not only see this from the point of view of every role, but also for the dance as a whole. I have written a couple of dances where the whole dance has a flow or pattern to it that the individual dancers cannot see, only someone looking "from above" gets to appreciate it.

Getting the Choreography Right

There are times when I write a dance that works really well (I have written over 60, of varying quality!) The pleasure of seeing dancers walking through, understanding and finally "getting" it as they dance with massive smiles on their faces is unbeatable.

And finally (on another topic):

I have been interviewed by the BBC twice recently (only local radio but even so), both times in relation to my Gender Free dance series. Gender Free Calling seems to be becoming quite the thing in the folk dance world, and it's nice that the rest of world is taking an interest.

Obituaries

MURIEL FORREST 1920 -2017

One of Muriel's great passions was folk dancing. She could be seen at dances throughout the area, and eventually, without too much persuading, took over the leadership of the Exeter Folk Dance Club – the oldest folk dance club in Devon. Muriel was Queen Bee of the club and it ran very successfully for more years than we care to remember. With her committee she ran monthly dances in Exeter, and for many years organised a Christmas dance in Exeter on behalf of the former Devon District of the English Folk Dance & Song Society. Dancers came from all over the county and beyond. Although her husband Harry did not dance, he supported Muriel one hundred per cent. He could always be seen on the door selling entry tickets or doing whatever job he could to help. She and Harry were instrumental in helping to organise an annual street dance on behalf of the Council during Exeter Festival Week.. The High Street was filled with happy people, many enjoying a one-off experience to the calling of Dick Witt. Muriel became a caller herself, visiting many local clubs, and particularly Sidford, enabling that club to keep going during a period in the doldrums. She also made sure she passed on the dance traditions to the young people in Woodcraft Folk, - her other great passion.

Muriel loved to dance with her friends, and there were many hilarious dance evening in her large basement room at the family home in Portland Street, as well as 'special birthday' dances in the local hall.

She was still managing the odd dance and calling the odd dance or two at Exmouth Folk Dance Club until shortly before her death.

A great character and a great friend. We shall miss you, Muriel.

Aileen Willis

KEN HINCHLIFFE 1939 - 2017



When Ken and his wife, Jan, moved to Morchard Bishop in 1997 they soon became established as regular performers on the local folk scene, particularly at the Pennymoor and Sticklepath singarounds. Ken's interest in folk singing had started back in the 1960s in his native Sheffield, partly influenced by his father's cousin, Frank Hinchliffe, who was known as a singer of traditional songs. In Sheffield Ken had also been a member of Escafeld Morris Men and Grenoside Longsword, and in Devon he re-established his connection with morris as a musician for Winkleigh Morris.

Even before Ken and Jan moved to Crediton he was showing some loss of confidence in his singing and playing, and shortly afterwards he was diagnosed with Alzheimer's. Since last year he had been living in a care home but it was to pneumonia that he finally succumbed.

With remarkable foresight, Ken had been recording his songs and tunes over a number of years, to listen to when he was no longer able to sing or play his concertina or Scottish small pipes. Jan arranged for these recordings to be released on CD (reviewed in WA 113), with proceeds going to Alzheimer's Research UK.

We have been missing Ken on the folk scene for some time but listen to the CD and he'll be right there with you. Always in our fond memory.

Colin Andrews

Festival Round-Up: Sidmouth

SidmouthFolkWeek – ‘One of the best festivals on the planet!’ (Mike Harding) – is a week-long seaside festival of music, dance and song taking place in the beautiful East Devon regency coastal resort. In its 63rd year in 2017 from 4th – 11th August, the programme of 700+ diverse events has a broad ‘something for everyone’ appeal with both an ear to the past and an eye on the future.

Amongst the established stars appearing at the 2017 event are concerts at the Ham Marquee with THE SPOOKY MEN’S CHORALE, SHOW OF HANDS, LAU, CATRIN FINCH & SECKOU KEITA, RALPH MCTELL & WIZZ JONES, YVES LAMBERT TRIO, CHRIS WOOD, LEVERET, MARTIN CARTHY & SAM SWEENEY, CATRIN FINCH & SECKOU KEITA, EWAN McLENNAN & GEORGE MONBIOT’S Breaking The Spell Of Loneliness, DERVISH, DUNCAN CHISHOLM, JOSIENNE CLARKE

AND BEN WALKER and buzzing roots parties with SETH LAKEMAN, PEATBODG FAERIES & OYSTERBAND.

Amongst some of the fast-rising and exciting new talent on the scene are Folk Awards winners THE FURROW COLLECTIVE, RACHEL NEWTON, DAOIRI FARRELL plus great ‘introducing’ artists such as Dublin’s SLOW MOVING CLOUDS, old-time Vaudevillians SHEESHAM AND LOTUS & SON, young Highland piper BRIGHDE CHAIMBEUL, and exciting young trio ALDEN, PATTERSON & DASHWOOD.

The 8-day seaside event combines major concerts, lively roots parties; small intimate sessions; ceilidhs and folk dancing; storytelling; a brilliant Children’s Festival and youth-centred sessions; hands-on workshops and spectacular dance displays and much more. The town’s streets and venues burst with festive atmosphere and colour as holidaymakers and festival goers join together in the friendliest music-based holiday of the summer.

The week kicks off with three exciting Pre-Festival Concerts with Cornwall’s finest briny crew FISHERMAN’S FRIENDS; Scotland’s best-selling female album artist BARBARA DICKSON with NICK HOLLAND performing a wonderful range of material that draws on the singer’s folk roots and some of her classic hits and WHERE MY WELLIES TAKE ME – MICHAEL MORPURGO with VOICES AT THE DOOR– a performance in words and music for children and adults of all ages.

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Festival Round-Up: Dartmoor

THERE will be a celebratory feel when the 40th anniversary Dartmoor Folk Festival takes place in the foothills of Dartmoor at South Zeal, near Okehampton, from Friday to Sunday, August 11, 12 and 13.

It was 40 years ago that the festival was founded by the late Bob Cann, who lived in the parish of South Zeal. He had the dream of a folk event on his doorstep that would help to revive and preserve the music, song and dance traditions of Dartmoor.

Thanks to the efforts of Bob Cann, his family and friends, and lately his descendants and a strong committee, with the support of an army of volunteer stewards, the festival has grown into one of the top family-friendly folk events in the South West.

This year it will include a packed programme of events and activities suitable for all ages, including a hugely successful children's festival which will run alongside the main event.

There will be concerts, a ceilidh, craft

displays, dances, dance displays, a Dartmoor Fayre, music hall, pub sessions and music, song and dance workshops and competitions.

Free events include a starter's song session, a folk club, a ramble on Dartmoor, a church service and a youth music session.

A rich crop of local and national artists will take part during the weekend, and there will be a return for many of the favourite artists who have attended previous festivals.

Guests will include Fay Field and The Hurricane Party (Friday), Rob Heron and



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- Jul. 22nd** Moor Music Trio: the essence of Dartmoor tradition
- Aug. 12th** Closed for Carnival
- Aug. 26th** Dave Gibb, Scottish singer, songwriter & guitarist
- Sep. 9th** Open Night
- Sep. 23rd** John Kirkpatrick, virtuoso musician, singer & guardian of tradition
- Oct. 14th** Open Night
- Oct. 28th** James Hickman & Dan Cassidy, inspired by their transatlantic traditions
- Nov. 11th** Open Night
- Nov. 25th** Dana & Susan Robinson, old-timey music from USA couple

The Tea Pad Orchestra, The Jim Causley Trio, The Siobhan Miller Trio, Jackie Oates (*photo*), Gadarene (Sunday), Keith Donnelly, Geoff Lakeman, The Valiant Dance Band (Friday), Ramsley Minors and the Dartmoor Pixie Band (Saturday and Sunday).

Dance teams will include Bampton Traditional Morris, Mayflower Morris, Hook Eagle Morris, Cogs and Wheels and Tinnors Morris.

Children's Festival entertainment includes Entertainingly Different, Dan the Hat, Magic Martin (UK Family Entertainer of the Year 2017) and Furringers Puppet Theatre.

CHAMPIONSHIPS

Hotly-contested competitions will include the Dartmoor Broom Dance championships and Dartmoor Stepdance championships.

Dartmoor Broom dancing involves dancing with a broom, or rather over a broom, and is for primary school-aged children.

The Dartmoor Step dance sees dancers step on a 15-inch square board showing the different steps to try and outstep the previous dancer, until a final champion is decided upon. Adult and junior champions will be selected.

Classes to teach both broom dancing and step dancing are held during the festival and anyone is eligible to take part.

The Dartmoor Fayre, from 2.15pm to 5pm on Saturday, August 12, will include an afternoon of family entertainment. It is free for children and £4 for adults. The Sunday afternoon programme of events, from 2pm to 4.30pm, is similarly priced and will also include a programme of entertainment.

The Dartmoor Fayre will be opened at 2.15pm by Wendy Beard, wife of the late Tony Beard, who compered the Sunday evening Music Hall for many years. Tony Beard was well-known as an entertainer, was titled "The Wag from Widecome" and was a favourite presenter on BBC Radio Devon.

Wendy Beard will open the Dartmoor Fayre in the presence of the Mayor of West Devon to honour Tony.

Tony and Wendy's grandchildren, Oliver, Edward, Heather and Jeremy will appear in the Music Hall performing, along with other tunes, "Blackbird", which they played at Tony's memorial service at Exeter Cathedral in January this year.

To celebrate the 40th anniversary, there will be an historical display marking the history of the annual event.

The festival will also include a duck race, craft marquee, stalls and refreshments will be available.

A campsite operates (more than 200 pitches last year) and many people attend from across the UK.

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AND MOTHER AND ME JOINED IN!

Over a course of six weeks in the second half of the Spring Term, members of Winkleigh Morris visited East-The-Water Primary School in Bideford to teach two morris dances to a whole year group. Some initial misgivings about working with children as young as six were quickly dispelled as they were keen, attentive and for the most part very well coordinated in their movements. This was probably due to earlier lessons in other forms of dance from their class teacher. Grimspound's border style dance, Tinnors' Rabbits, was one dance selected, though using short sticks to reduce the risk of accidents, and the handclapping jig, Shepherd's Hey, was the second. On the final afternoon, each of the three groups performed in front of their parents in the school hall, after which all the parents were invited to join in.

Winkleigh Morris are well experienced in running workshops for children whether in schools, youth groups, or activity centres. They will also work with adult groups! Please contact Winkleigh Morris on 01363 877216 or see the website www.winkleighmorris.org.uk.



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PETE COE'S SCHOOL DAYS

Last year whilst planning South Brent Folk Day we approached Pete Coe, not only because he had recently received a Gold Award from EFDSS for his contribution to Folk over the years and his 'one man folk industry' tag, but mainly because he is 'GOOD' across so many strands of folk – dance, musicianship and song.

Pete, (an ex-teacher) agreed to a gig and workshop as long as we found a school that would arrange for him to teach Folk Dance and Song with the schoolchildren for a day. As a teacher he was able to explain the contribution to the curriculum which ordinary people cannot, so having found an amenable Head teacher and put them in touch with each other we found ourselves with 2 workable events.

Pete goes into the school and works throughout the day with each form in turn depending on their wants. Then, with a support Band, runs a Family Ceilidh in the early evening so that the children can practice their newly acquired skills and 'show off' and their parents and friends can enjoy a social dance too. All good fun and energising stuff !

The lucky recipients this year were Sparkwell School and the dance was held at Sparkwell Village Hall starting at 5.15pm on Friday June 30th and we are mighty pleased that we made the Schools Day happen. Well worth the effort of the Committee.

Pete also ran a workshop and headlined our evening concert at South Brent Folk Day on 1st July. What a wonderful contribution from an artist. His Gold Award is indeed well earned!

Eileen McKee

All contributions to cool folk should be sent to: coolfolk@devonfolk.org.uk



Devoncoolfolk

Footnotes

WITNEY SUPERSQUEEZE

Following on from successful weekends organised separately by Hands on Music for accordion, melodeon and concertina players, a new weekend workshop covering all three kinds of squeezebox is planned for this autumn. As with previous workshops this new event will take place at Henry Box School, Witney, nr. Oxford, on 10th - 12th November 2017.

Some course units will be for specific instruments, some will be for any squeezebox, and there will be band and ensemble options as well. The structure will be the same as previous Hands On courses, which will follow the same structure with various units working with different tutors, and a concert with them on the Saturday night. Music will be available a few weeks beforehand. As always there will be top-rated tutors, some familiar faces and some less-known, all with an established track record in teaching and inspiring.

The course is non-residential and is for adults who can already play their instrument. For further details contact Dave Townsend at dtmellstock@aol.com

VIN GARBUTT

It is sad to report that Vin Garbutt, one of the stalwarts of the folk club scene, passed away on 6th June only weeks after major heart surgery. He was 69. Hailing from Middlesbrough his career as a singer and songwriter spanned over forty years, with several albums to his name. Many of his songs were unashamedly cutting social comment. He was a true entertainer in every sense of the word.

SIDMOUTH THEMED SINGAROUNDS

Colin and Sonja Andrews have been hosting themed singarounds during Sidmouth Folk Week ever since Mrs Casey Music withdrew from running the festival. This year they will be at a new venue, The Royal Glen Hotel, every day Sunday to Friday, from 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm. See you there !

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or call Bruce on: 07811 886305

CLUB & SESSIONS UPDATE

The Torridge area has recently lost two regular sessions. The Clinton Arms at Frithelstock is now closed for business. The regular monthly sessions at the Royal Exchange in Torrington have ceased though an ad-hoc session there or in another local venue is always possible. The quarterly folk night at Hanlon's Brewery is no longer happening. Exmouth Folk Dance Club has now changed to fortnightly meetings

DR. MIKE JONES R.I.P.

It is with great sadness that we have to report of the passing of Dr. Michael Jones, ('Mike') in May this year aged 82 years. Those lucky enough to know Mike will remember how passionate he was about traditional songs and tunes and studied and sang in Gaelic and also in Welsh. He had a vast repertoire of material and was a regular singer at Teignmouth Folk Club and liked nothing more than to sing as a duo with his wife Mary. He was a regular at Pennymoor Song and Ale over the years and visited many local clubs.

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Telephone: 01837 840102

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

**11th - 13th
AUGUST 2017**



WWW.DARTMOORFOLKFESTIVAL.ORG.UK



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

WI Hall, North Street, Bridport DT6 3JQ £2.50 members. Visitors welcome at £3.00! Monty Crook 01308 423442, Jane 01308 898002

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 June, July & August)

Crewkerne Folk Dance Club

Thurs. St Bartholomew's Church Hall, Abbey Street, Crewkerne. 8 pm Jean 01460 72505 or Leslye 01460 75760

D'Accord*

3rd Fri. 8 pm. French & Breton dances, Matthews Hall, Newtown, Exeter. Pat Long 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 <http://exeter.folkdancing.co.uk>

Exmouth Folk Dance Group*

1st & 3rd 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. 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). 01404 813129 www.gittishamfolkdanceclub.org

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>

Kilmington

Mon. 2 pm - 4 pm, Kilmington VH. Janet Bulpin 01297 33019

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). Anna 01566 774400.

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. Tel. Helen 01395 514161 or Val 01395 568336 Ist

Contacts (2): Social Dance, Song & Music

Tue usually Barn Dance (easier dances), others Social Dance.

Sidford Scottish Folk Dance Club

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

South Brent Folk*

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

South Brent French

1st Friday, Recreational Hall.

South Hams Folk Dance Club*

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

Tavistock Folk Dance Club*

Thurs. Tavistock Town Hall (not July & August). Mrs Margaret Holt, 3 Copperfields, Horrabridge, Yelverton, PL20 7VB. 01822 855858

Teign Playford Club*

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

Totnes Scottish Folk Dance

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

University of Exeter Folk Dance Club

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

Willand Folk Dance Club*

Alt. Thurs. Willand VH. Zena Roberts, 7, Everett Place, Tiverton, EX16 6UN. 01884 253546

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.org.uk for updates.

Bere Ferrers

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

Bideford Folk Club*

Thurs. Joiners Arms. John Purser 01237 424286 bidefolk@gmail.com

Bishopsteignton

Thurs, Red Rock Brewery. John Morey 07791 054773. www.oldworkshop.org. 7.30 pm

Bodmin Folk Club

Fri, Bodmin Band & Social Club, Honey Street, Bodmin PL31 2DL www.bodminfolk.co.uk

Bow

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. Debbie Merrett, 01409 254144 or see www.budefolk.com

Calstock

2nd Tues. The Boot Inn, Fore Street, Calstock PL18 9RN Telephone Mike 07725 579718

Carhampton (nr. Minehead)

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

Chipshop (nr. Tavistock)

4th Tuesday – 8.00pm Copper Penny Inn, PL19 8NT (01822 833288, 07725 579718) mitilmusic@gmail.com

Chittlehampton

1st Fri. concerts, usually in Parish Church. Preconcert supper if pre-booked. 01769 540581 or 540887 events@chumpchurches.org.uk

2nd Mon. music session, Bell Inn

Combe Martin, Shammick Acoustic,

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

Crediton West Gallery Quire.

Alt. Thur. Details: Sonja Andrews 01363 877216

Denbury

Thurs. Union Inn. Acoustic mixed sessions. Steve Bassett 01803 812537

Exeter, Barnfield Theatre

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

Contacts (3): Song & Music

Exeter Folk & Acoustic Music Club

Last Fri. Victoria Park Tennis Club, St Leonards
Peter Cornelius 01392 210983 Also guest nights.
<http://www.exeterfolkclub.org>

Exmouth

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

Folk On The Moor, Lee Mill

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

Halsway Manor (Crowcombe)

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

Haytor

1st Friday – 7.00pm Tinpickle Session - Tinpickle
and Rhum, The Moorland, Dartmoor National
Park TQ13 9XT (01364 661407)

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

Minehead

Acorn Folk Club, Sat. 4 times a year. 07811 744158
or email acornfolkclub@googlemail.com

Nadderwater (Exeter)

1st Thursday Royal Oak Singing and instrumental
folk session. 3rd Tues. Royal Oak Traditional
song, mostly unaccompanied.

Pennymoor*

Pennymoor Singaround 3rd Wed. Music session
Last Sun. Cruwys Arms, Pennymoor. Nicola King
01837 82100. Jon Shapley 01363 83740

Plymouth

Plymouth Folk Roots 2nd Wed. Hyde, Mutley. Ali
01752 662002

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 or 07721 056826

Teignmouth Folk Club.

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

Topsham*

Sun. Globe Hotel 8.00 pm. John Stephens 01392
875332. Tickets for guest nights available one
month in advance. www.topshamfolkclub.org

Torquay

1st Monday Open Mic. Artizan Gallery 01803
428626. Robert Spence

Totnes

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

Bay Horse Weekly: 1st & 3rd Mon. open
session. 2nd & 4th Wed. mostly traditional song
unaccompanied

Uffculme, Culm Music & Performance Club,
Uffculme VH. Last Wed. Brian Bennelick, 01884
840192

Willand Club Band Workshop

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

PHOTOGRAPHS

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as a jpg, gif, tiff, or pdf format. Low resolution
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Contacts (4): Morris & Other Display

(F - Morris Federation, R Morris Ring, O 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, harrietcwhite@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)

Grace Brand 01598740645

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)

Janet Jeffery, janettejeffery@yahoo.co.uk (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)

Mike Boston 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

Isca Appalachian

Mary Goddard 01392)420535 (Tue)

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

Otter Morris

Benji Upchurch 07986 175612

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

Contacts (5): Display, Festivals, National

Shuffle The Deck (F)

Appalachian. Kathy Houlihan 01752 893335

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 Tinners@dhatton.plus.com

Trigg Morris Men (R)

Roger Hancock, 01208 73907

Uplyme Morris Men (R)

Timothy Fox 01297 443072

Tudor Dance Group

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

Winkleigh Morris (F)

Averil Stacey, Holly House, Manor Road, Landkey, EX 32 0JJ averil@cayster.co.uk 01271831461. (Tues) www.winkleighmorris.org.uk

Wreckers Border (F)

Constance Ashby 01752 669969

FESTIVALS

Baring-Gould Festival

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

Bude Folk Festival

Late May. www.budefest.com 07736 374003

Cornwall Folk Festival

August Bank Holiday weekend. 01208 812230

Dartmoor Folk Festival

11th -13th August 2017 Mrs J White, Sunnyhill, South Zeal, EX20 2JL. 01837 840102
www.dartmoorfolkfestival.co.uk

Pennymoor Song & Ale

Early June. Clare Penney 01884 860023

Sidmouth Folk Week

4th -11th August 2017
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

Intervarsity Folk Dance Festival

Richard Mason 01392 411434

REGIONAL CONTACTS

Folk Around Kent

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

Folk in Cornwall

John Tremaine, 7, The Moors, Lostwithiel, PL22 0BX 01208872124 mail@folkincornwall.co.uk

Folklife West

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

Folk London

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

Folk South West

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

Mardles (Suffolk, E. Anglia)

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

Somerset & Dorset

www.folkmusic Somerset.co.uk www.sadfolk.co.uk sancho Bramble@hotmail.com

Unicorn (Beds, Herts, Camb. area)

Simon Bailes, unicornmagazine@hotmail.co.uk

NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

English Folk Dance & Song Society

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

The Morris Federation

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

The Morris Ring

Jon Melville, 57, Shakespeare Drive, Nuneaton, CV11 6NW. 02476 345543. jon_melville@yahoo.co.uk www.themorrisring.org

Open Morris

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

National Youth Folklore Troupe of England*

Dave Leverton, Manor Farm Cottage, Chewton Keynsham, Bristol BS31 2SU. 01179 866316 or 07831 101755 david.leverton2@btinternet.com

Regular Events

Bold type—further details in club section, specific diary dates or advert. Assume 8 pm start unless otherwise shown. Please note that some clubs do not operate all the year round.

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)

QUARTERLY

- SONG Minehead, Acorn FSC. United Reformed Church Hall, Bancks Street

Sunday

WEEKLY

- OP MIC Appledore. The Beaver, 8.30pm
 MUSIC Appledore, Coach & Horses. 4.00pm
 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 Bere 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 **BereFerrers, Old Plough** (3rd) 8.30pm

- OP MIC Chagford, Sandy Park. (3rd)

- SONG **Scorriton, Tradesman's Arms**, (4th)
 7.30pm

- MUSIC **Pennymoor, Cruwys Arms** (last).
 Lunchtime

Monday

WEEKLY

- SESSION Appledore, Royal Hotel. 8.30pm
 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
 DANCE Kilmington VH 2-4 pm
 OP MIC **Kingsteignton Passage House Inn**. 7.30pm
 DANCE **Sidford Scottish** SidfordVH. 8.00pm
 SESSION Torquay, Crown & Sceptre. 8.30pm

FORTNIGHTLY

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

- SESSION Totnes, Bay Horse (2nd & 4th) Irish

- SESSION Fremington, New Inn (1st, 3rd)

- DANCE Northam Third Age

MONTHLY

- SESSION Clovelly, Red Lion 9 pm (1st)

- OP MIC Northlew, Green Dragon (1st) 8.30pm

- OP MIC Torquay, Artizan Gallery (1st) 7.30pm

- 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)

- SESSION Moretonhampstead, White Horse (L)

Regular Events

Tuesday

WEEKLY

- SESSION Appledore, The Champ. 7.30pm
 SESSION Bude, Falcon Hotel, 9 pm
 DANCE **Country Dance Plymouth.** Trinity U.
 R. Church Hall.(Not June, July & Aug)
 CLUB Exeter Ukulele Club
 DANCE **Isca Allemanders Square Dance Club**
 Kenn Centre, Kenford
 DANCE Isca Playford Group
 DANCE **Launceston FDC**, St Johns Ambulance
 Hall (not July & Aug) 01566 774400
 DANCE **Sidford Folk Dance Club** Sidford
 Village 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- White Lion,
 3rd- Castle Hotel (guests)
 SESSION **Exmouth Folk Club**, Manor Hotel
 (3rd& 5th)

- DANCE **Kingsteignton Folk Dance Club**
 SONG **South Brent, Pack Horse** (2nd,4th)
 8.30 pm
 OP MIC Landkey, Castle. 9.00pm
 SONG Plymouth, Artillery Arms (1st, 3rd)
 8.30pm
 DANCE **Wiveliscombe FDC**, Community
 Centre (not June - Aug)
MONTHLY
 SESSION Frogmore, Globe Inn (1st) 8.30pm
 SONG **Sandford, Lamb Inn.** (1st)
 MUSIC Topsham, Bridge (1st) (not August)
 SESSION Calstock, The Boot Inn (2nd) 8.00pm
 SESSION Chideock, George Inn, (3rd) 8.30pm
 SONG **Exeter Traditional Music Club**,
 Nadderwater, Royal Oak (3rd)
 SESSION Chipshop (Nr Tavistock), Copper
 Penny (4th)
 SONG **Copplestone, Cross Hotel** (Last)
 (Winter months only)
 STORY Stone Soup (Last) (Sep. to April)



Thursday 28th December 2017

Twixt Christmas and New Year



CÉILIDH

Chill out and enjoy the music after the Christmas
 festivities or dance your (new) socks off
 with

BUTTONED UP

with caller **KATE FINCHAM-POWELL**

at **South Brent Village Hall - 7.30pm**

Doors open 7.00pm Reel Ale Bar

Tickets on the door or from *artworks* 01364 649424, South Brent

Entry £7.50 (includes one free non alcoholic drink)

For further information contact 01364 73699

<http://southbrentfolk.org.uk>



Regular Events

Wednesday

WEEKLY

- SESSION Appledore, Royal Hotel
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, Ryans Bar
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, Royal Oak, Okehampton Street
SONG **Totnes, Bay Horse** (2nd& 4th) 8.45pm

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*.

The details in this section are believed to be correct at the time of compilation. The editor accepts no responsibility for subsequent changes. Our website www.devonfolk.org.uk has the latest updates.

Please notify us of any changes to contact details for clubs, etc.

diary@devonfolk.org.uk

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 **Lypstone, 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 **Pennymoor Singaround**. Cruwys Arms. (3rd)
OP MIC Teignmouth Acoustic Blues Club Oystercatcher Café (3rd)
OP MIC Chagford, Globe. (Last) 8.15pm
SESSION Dawlish, South Devon Inn. (Last)
MUSIC Exeter, Globe Inn. (Last)
SONG **Uffculme, Village Hall** (Last)



The Mooncoin Ceilidh Band

South Devon based band
playing lively dance music with
a strong Irish flavour.
Own Caller

Instruments include Melodeon,
Guitar, Bouzouki, Fiddle, Bodhran,
Whistle & Uilleann Pipes

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Anniversaries, Conferences etc.

To book the band please contact
Anne & Steve Gill
01803 290427
annemgill@tiscali.co.uk

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
 SONG **Denbury, Union Inn**
 SESSION Plymouth, Minerva Inn 8.30pm
 DANCE **Tavistock Folk Dance Club**, Tavistock
 Town Hall (Not July & Aug)
 OP MIC Totnes, Bay Horse 8.45pm

FORTNIGHTLY

- DANCE **Exmouth Folk Dance Club, (1st & 3rd)**
 Withycombe Methodist Church Hall
 (Not June - Aug)
 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)
 SESSION Nadderwater, Royal Oak (1st)
 OP MIC Okehampton Plymouth Inn (1st). 9.00
 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,
 Marlдон, Paignton TQ3 9NN (2nd)
 SESSION Exeter, City Gate (3rd) 7.30pm
 SESSION Frogmore, Globe Inn. (3rd). 8.30 pm
 SESSION Nadderwater, Royal Oak, Exeter EX4
 2JH (1st) 8.00pm
 SESSION **South Brent, (Royal Oak)** (3rd).
 SESSION South Molton, Coaching Inn (3rd).
 MUSIC Totnes, Barrel House. Klezmer (3rd)
 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)
 SESSION Haytor, Tinpickle & Rhum (1st) 8.30

- 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**, St Matthews
 Hall, Newtown, Exeter. (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 Plympton, Union Inn (Last) 8.30 pm

Specific Diary Dates (1)

JULY

SATURDAY 22nd

CONCERT Shammick Acoustic, Pack o' Cards, Combe Martin. Moor Music trio.

SUNDAY 23rd

SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill. 7.45 pm. Robin Laing

WEDNESDAY 26th

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club. Aileen Wills, Jeroka

THURSDAY 27th

CONCERT Outside Courtyard - Otterton Mill, Otterton, nr Budleigh Salterton. FB Pocket Orchestra

SONG Teignmouth FC, Oystercatcher Cafe Simon Barron

AUGUST

Week 1

WEDNESDAY 2nd

CONCERT Exeter Phoenix, Gandy Street, Exeter EX4 3LS- Faith Folk and Anarchy

THURSDAY 3rd

CONCERT Outside Courtyard - Otterton Mill, Otterton, nr Budleigh Salterton. Daniel Smith Blues Band

CONCERT The George Hotel, South Molton Bayou Seco (USA) Cajun, Chicken Scratch and Cowboy

FRIDAY 4th

CONCERT Plough Arts Centre, Great Torrington The Honey Cutters. 8.00pm

FESTIVAL Sidmouth Folk Week

SATURDAY 5th

FESTIVAL Sidmouth Folk Week

SUNDAY 6th

FESTIVAL Sidmouth Folk Week

MONDAY 7th

FESTIVAL Sidmouth Folk Week

Week 2

TUESDAY 8th

FESTIVAL Sidmouth Folk Week

WEDNESDAY 9th

FESTIVAL Sidmouth Folk Week

CONCERT St Andrews Church Ashburton - The

Gigspanner Big Band - (Gigspanner + Phillip Henry & Hannah Martin)

THURSDAY 10th

FESTIVAL Sidmouth Folk Week

FRIDAY 11th

FESTIVAL Sidmouth Folk Week

FESTIVAL 40th Dartmoor Folk Festival

SATURDAY 12th

FESTIVAL 40th Dartmoor Folk Festival

SUNDAY 13th

FESTIVAL 40th Dartmoor Folk Festival

Week 3

THURSDAY 17th

CONCERT Outside Courtyard - Otterton Mill, Otterton, nr Budleigh Salterton - Ragged Union

Week 4

SATURDAY 26th

SONG Shammick Acoustic, Pack o' Cards, Combe Martin - Dave Gibb

CONCERT The George Hotel, South Molton Wizz Jones

Week 5

THURSDAY 31st

CONCERT Outside Courtyard - Otterton Mill, Otterton, nr Budleigh Salterton Kathryn Roberts & Sean Lakeman

SEPTEMBER

week 1

SATURDAY 2nd

CONCERT Nourish Festival, Bovey Tracey. Cosgrave & Banks

CEILIDH Bridport Ceilidhs featuring Old Pull and Push with Helen Woodall calling at Church House (St Mary's) Hall, South Street, Bridport DT6 3NW

CONCERT Plough Arts Centre, Great Torrington The Rancheros

SUNDAY 3rd

SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm Jimmy Aldridge and Sid Goldsmith

TUESDAY 5th

DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club - Aileen Wills Jeroka

Specific Diary Dates (2)

WEDNESDAY 6th

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club in Honiton
Coombe Raleigh - Club Callers - Iain
& Margaret Bryden

DANCE Halsway Folk Dance Group - meeting
at St.Audries Holiday Park

THURSDAY 7th

DANCE Tavistock Folk Dance Club .John Estall

Week 2

FRIDAY 8th

DANCE Contra Dance - Countess Wear Village
Hall, Exeter, EX2 6LB - 7.30pm Jeremy
Child

SATURDAY 9th

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

DANCE Willand Folk Dance Club Ivan Aitken
English Contra Dance Band

TUESDAY 12th

DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club . Simon
Maplesden

WEDNESDAY 13th

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club. Ted Farmer
Jeroka

THURSDAY 14th

CONCERT Otterton Mill, Otterton, nr Budleigh
Salterton, Devon, EX9 7HG . Edwina
Hayes

DANCE Tavistock Folk Dance Club. Frances
Oates

DANCE Willand Folk Dance Club. Gill Spence
The More The Merrier

Week 3

FRIDAY 15th

CONCERT Exeter Folk and Acoustic Music Club
Victoria Park Tennis Club, Lyndhurst
Road, St. Leonards, Exeter, EX2 4NX
Jez Lowe

CONCERT Church House, South Tawton. 8:00pm
Granny's Attic. Tickets £8:00

SUNDAY 17th

CONCERT Exminster Victory Hall, Main Road,
Exminster EX6 8DF . Phil Beer

SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee
Mill, 7.45 pm. Dan Walsh

TUESDAY 19th

DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club. Ted Farmer

WEDNESDAY 20th

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club. Eileen
Nightingale, Pair of Shears

DANCE Halsway Folk Dance Group. Ray
Goodswen, Jeroka. Bicknoller VH

CONCERT Plough Arts Centre, Great Torrington
Winter-Wilson

THURSDAY 21st

DANCE Tavistock Folk Dance Club. Chris
Thorne

Week 4

FRIDAY 22nd

CONCERT Exeter Corn Exchange, Market Street,
Exeter, EX1 1BW. Phil Beer Band

CONCERT Plough Arts Centre, Great Torrington
Zion Train + support Zamba

SATURDAY 23rd

DANCE Sue's 60th Big Devon Folk Evening +
music, etc. Clinton Hall, Merton,
EX20 3EQ 7.30 pm. 01805 601323

CONCERT Shammick Acoustic Open Night, Pack
o' Cards, Combe Martin with John
Kirkpatrick

CONCERT The Watermark, Erme Court, Leonards
Road, Ivybridge PL21 0SZ. Richard
Navarro with The Mayflower Chorus

SUNDAY 24th

CONCERT Topsham Folk Song Club. Melrose
Quartet, Matthews Hall, Fore Street,
Topsham EX3 0HF

TUESDAY 26th

DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club . Janet Bulpin

WEDNESDAY 27th

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club . Simon
Maplesden, Petronella

CONCERT Culm Valley Music and Performance
Club . Guest night with Winter Wilson

THURSDAY 28th

CONCERT Otterton Mill, Otterton, nr Budleigh
Salterton, Devon, EX9 7HG. Hollie
Rogers

DANCE Willand Folk Dance Club. Ted Farmer
Iain and Nick



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Specific Diary Dates (3)

OCTOBER

Week 1

SUNDAY 1st

SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee Mill, 7.45 pm. Real Time

TUESDAY 3rd

DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club . Jeremy Child

WEDNESDAY 4th

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club in Honiton Club Callers, Eileen and Graham Barret

DANCE Halsway Folk Dance Group. Eileen Nightingale , Stringaccord . Bicknoller VH

THURSDAY 5th

DANCE Tavistock Folk Dance Club - caller TBA

FRIDAY 6th

CONCERT The Flavel, Flavel Place, Dartmouth, Devon TQ6 9ND - Cara Dillon

SATURDAY 7th

CEILIDH Bridport Ceilidhs - Church House (St Mary's) Hall, South Street, Bridport DT6 3NW. Eileen Nightingale, Fresh Aire

CONCERT Plough Arts Centre, Great Torrington Nick Wyke and Becki Driscoll

Week 2

SUNDAY 8th

CONCERT Exeter Corn Exchange, Market Street Exeter, EX1 1BW. Ralph McTell

TUESDAY 10th

DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club . Mark Moran

WEDNESDAY 11th

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club. Aileen Will, Friendly Folk.

THURSDAY 12th

CONCERT Otterton Mill, Otterton, nr Budleigh Salterton, Devon, EX9 7HG. Carrivick Sisters

CONCERT The Cafe on the Green, Widecombe in the Moor, TQ13 7TA. Fake Thackray

DANCE Willand Folk Dance Club . Simon Mapelsden, Quantock Quarenders

FRIDAY 13th

DANCE Contra Dance ,Countess Wear Village Hall, Exeter, EX2 6LB - 7.30pm . Jeremy Child

CONCERT Plough Arts Centre, Great Torrington Baka Beyond

SATURDAY 14th

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

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

Week 3

SUNDAY 15th

CONCERT Topsham Folk Song Club, Matthews Hall, Topsham EX3 0HF. Gordie MacKeeman & His Rhythm Boys

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

TUESDAY 17th

DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club . Mary Marker

CONCERT Exeter Corn Exchange, Market Street, Exeter, EX1 1BW. Kate Rusby 25 Years

WEDNESDAY 18th

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club. Jane Thomas, Jigs for Gigs

DANCE Halsway Folk Dance Group, Robert Blackborow, Ivor Hyde Band . Bicknoller VH

THURSDAY 19th

DANCE Tavistock Folk Dance Club. Club callers

FRIDAY 20th

SONG Exeter Folk and Acoustic Music Club Victoria Park Tennis Club, Lyndhurst Road, St. Leonards, Exeter, EX2 4NX Wizz Jones

SATURDAY 21st

DANCE Willand Folk Dance Club, Willand Village Hall, Gables Road, Barrie Bullimore, Chris Toyne's Big Band

Week 4

TUESDAY 24th

DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club. Aileen Wills

WEDNESDAY 25th

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club. Colin Andrews, Home Brew

Specific Diary Dates (4)

THURSDAY 26th

- DANCE Tavistock Folk Dance Club. John Estall
 DANCE Willand Folk Dance Club. Ted Farmer
 Ivor Hyde's Band
 SONG Teignmouth Folk Club 14th Birthday
 with Guest Dave Wood

FRIDAY 27th

- CONCERT The George Hotel, South Molton
 Blueswater

SATURDAY 28th

- CONCERT Shammick Acoustic Open Night, Pack
 o' Cards, Combe Martin with James
 Hickman and Dan Cassidy

Week 5

SUNDAY 29th

- SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee
 Mill, 7.45 pm. Tom Lewis

TUESDAY 31st

- DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club . Jane Thomas

NOVEMBER

Week 1

WEDNESDAY 1st

- DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club in Honiton
 Club callers, Iain & Margaret Bryden
 DANCE Halsway Folk Dance Group. Club
 callers and musicians. Bicknoller VH

THURSDAY 2nd

- DANCE Tavistock Folk Dance Club. Chris
 Thorne

FRIDAY 3rd

- CONCERT Exeter Corn Exchange, Market Street,
 Exeter, EX1 1BW. The Ukulele
 Orchestra of Great Britain

SATURDAY 4th

- CEILIDH Bridport Ceilidhs Church House (St
 Mary's) Hall, South Street, Bridport
 DT6 3NW. Jeremy Child

- DANCE Launceston Town Hall, Bring and
 share supper. Friendly Folk

TUESDAY 7th

- DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club. Jeremy Child
 Meter Rite

Week 2

WEDNESDAY 8th

- DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club.
 Simon Maplesden, Jeroka

THURSDAY 9th

- DANCE Tavistock Folk Dance Club. Frances
 Oates
 CONCERT Otterton Mill, Otterton, nr Budleigh
 Salterton. Vergonica Sbergia & Max
 de Bernhardt
 DANCE Willand Folk Dance Club. Aileen Wills
 The More The Merrier

FRIDAY 10th

- DANCE Contra Dance, Countess Wear Village
 Hall, Exeter, EX2 6LB Jeremy Child
 CONCERT Exeter Folk and Acoustic Music Club
 Jim Causley
 CONCERT Church House, South Tawton. 8:00pm
 Cardboard Fox. Tickets £8:00

SATURDAY 11th

- SONG Shammick Acoustic Open Night, Pack
 o' Cards, Combe Martin.
 DANCE Willand Folk Dance Club, Willand
 Village Hall, Sarah Bazeley, Dartmoor
 Pixie Band

SUNDAY 12th

- SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee
 Mill, 7.45 pm. James Keelaghan

TUESDAY 14th

- DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club. Ted Farmer

Week 3

WEDNESDAY 15th

- DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club. Eileen
 Nightingale, Meter Rite
 DANCE Halsway Folk Dance Group . Aileen
 Wills, Wassail Band. Bicknoller VH

THURSDAY 16th

- DANCE Tavistock Folk Dance Club. Club
 callers

SATURDAY 18th

- DANCE Tavistock Folk Dance Club. Sarah
 Bazeley, Dartmoor Pixie Band

SUNDAY 19th

- CONCERT Exeter Corn Exchange, Market Street,
 Exeter, EX1 1BW. Oysterband 40th
 Celebration Special

TUESDAY 21st

- DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club. Club callers

Week 4

WEDNESDAY 22nd

- DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club. Ray
 Goodswen, Fresh Aire

Specific Diary Dates (5)

CONCERT Exeter Corn Exchange, Market Street,
Exeter, EX1 1BW. Steeleye Span

THURSDAY 23rd

DANCE Tavistock Folk Dance Club. John Estall

DANCE Willand Folk Dance Club . Ian
Ludbrook, The Merry Makers

CONCERT Exeter Phoenix, Gandy Street, Exeter
EX4 3LS. Afro Celt Sound Sytem +
The Dhol Foundation

SATURDAY 25th

CONCERT Shammick Acoustic, Pack o' Cards,
Combe Martin. Dana and Susan
Robinson

DANCE Willand Folk Dance Club Dinner and
Dance. Ted Farmer, Jane Thomas
Friendly Folk

SUNDAY 26th

CONCERT Topsham Folk Song Club, Matthews
Hall, Topsham EX3 0H. Peter Knight's
Gigsrunner

SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee
Mill, 7.45 pm. George Papavgeris

TUESDAY 28th

DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club. Eileen
Nightingale

Week 5

WEDNESDAY 29th

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club. Gill
Spence, Chris Toyne

CONCERT Exeter Phoenix, Gandy Street, Exeter
EX4 3LS. Lau

THURSDAY 30th

CONCERT Unit23, Ford Road Ind Estate, Totnes
TQ9 5LE. Boo Hewardine

CONCERT Exmouth Pavilion, The Esplanade,
Exmouth EX8 2AZ. Show of Hands
with special guest Kirsty Merryn

ARE YOUR CLUB DETAILS UP TO DATE?

Please check listings and send any changes to
diary@devonfolk.org.uk

If you don't tell us we probably won't
know

DECEMBER

Week 1

FRIDAY 1st

CONCERT Exmouth Pavilion, The Esplanade,
Exmouth EX8 2AZ. Show of Hands
with special guest Kirsty Merryn

SATURDAY 2nd

CEILIDH Bridport Ceilidhs Church House (St
Mary's) Hall, South Street, Bridport
DT6 3NW. Jane Thomas, Jigs for Gigs

SUNDAY 3rd

SONG Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, Lee
Mill, 7.45 pm. Mrs Ackroyd

TUESDAY 5th

DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club. Gill Spence
Amycrofters

WEDNESDAY 6th

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club in Honiton
Club callers, Stick the Fiddle

DANCE Halsway Folk Dance Group. Jane
Thomas, Friendly Folk. Halsway Manor

THURSDAY 7th

DANCE Tavistock Folk Dance Club TBA

CONCERT Brixham Theatre, New Road, Brixham,
Devon, TQ5 8TA. St Agnes Fountain

For regular updates of events see
www.devonfolk.org.uk

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Bands & Callers

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

BANDS

3dB Ceilidh Band

01803 862393

Abacus

01392 411434

Amycrofters Band

01404 46451

Autumn Gold

01840 261708

Babelfish

07971 148531

Back to Square One

01392 422119

Barnstormers

01392 882036

Bloatertown Band*

01237 476632

Blue Jewel

07957 855458

Broad Band

01884 840816

Bridgwater Band

01823 491662

Choughed to Bits

01752 851990

Country Style

01803 813555

Dartmoor Pixie Band*

01837 840775

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

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New Vintage Band

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Occasion Ceilidh Band

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Oggle Band*

01271 865030

Old Boys

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01803 520799

Park Bench Aristocrats

01548 810038

Petronella

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Tinners

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Up The Creek

01548 531525

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Band 01837 52174

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01363 877216

Weston Country Dance Band

01934 813326

CALLERS

Tom Addison

hawkes1880@yahoo.co.uk

Andy Clarke

01803 732312

or 07792009374

Colin Andrews

01363 877216

Steve Banks

01803 782219

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01823 461632

Sarah Bazeley

01837 840775

Robert Blackborrow

01823 491662

John Blackburn

01237 476632

Mike Boston

07789 714498

Adrian Brayley

07791 703009

Linda Breeze

01363 776184

Tom Brown

01271 882366

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01840 261708

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01392 422119

Ted Farmer

01392 466326

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01823 333742

07789 796993

Judy Forrow

01626 864042

Ray Goodswen

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Sue Hamer-Moss

01805 601323

Susan Heard

01823 462936

Joan Holloway

01626 870539

07562 766960

Gil Jefferies

01752 844138

Chris Jewell

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Beryl Jukes

01209 712357

Graham Knight

01823 401271

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01884 33571

Mary Marker

01626 854141

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aeled-weccan@outlook.com

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259042

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

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

and 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

Devon Folk News

The committee would like to thank the Castle Community Centre at Great Torrington for welcoming us to use their new centre for our St. George's Day Eve folk day and facilitating a venue for the AGM. A relaxed day in warm sunshine with dancing from Winkleigh Morris, Bideford Phoenix Morris, Angle Twitch Border and Borderline. Thanks must also go to Colin Andrews for arranging all the activities during the day and to Winkeildh Band for supplying the music for the evening Ceilidh. Thanks also to Sue Hamer-Moss who shared the calling with Colin during the evening. We would also like to thank Peter Beer from the Bideford Folk Club for hosting the very successful afternoon sing around.

The latest Devon Folk event was the Music Workshop which was held at Chudleigh Community Hall in April. Thirty-one musicians prepared tunes from England, Scotland and America with the help of Mary Marker and later 30 dancers enjoyed Circles, Sicilians and Squares to the lively workshop band with Jane Thomas calling. A good time was had by all and the profit of £126.31 was donated to Devon Folk.

A donation of £100 was received from the South Hams Folk Dance Club and £15 from the Teignmouth Folk Club. Devon Folk is always grateful for donations which help towards the sponsorship of local events and support has been made to the Bradninch Acoustic Music Club, South Brent Folk Festival and the Teignmouth Folk Festival.

A new venture for Devon Folk was the publication of a publicity leaflet advertising a selection of folk activity in Devon. These have been distributed to various tourist information centres, libraries etc. throughout Devon.

Eileen Conway

DEVON FOLK MEMBERSHIP

APPLICATION FORM

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

I wish to pay the annual subscription of £5 for 3 issues of What's Afoot.

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Email

I enclose a cheque (payee: Devon Folk)

I wish to pay by bank transfer (details will be sent by email)

Magazine to be sent by post email

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Email

Magazine to be sent by post email

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

Devon Folk will not pass on your email to any third party

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Andy Cutting

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Taking Steps

Lisa Sture, featured on the front cover, is four times winner of the Dartmoor Step Dancing Competition. She is Project Coordinator for a new initiative to find out more about this local tradition.

tasc



The organisation Traditional Arts Support in the Community (TASC) has just embarked on a new project on Dartmoor called Taking Steps. Working in partnership with Dartmoor Folk Festival, it will research the Devon step dancing tradition, talk to its exponents, and run workshops and community events. Recent years have seen a growing interest in regional stepping styles, and people are curious to find out more. We hope this will go some way to meeting that curiosity.

Today's competitors perform on a small board of 15 inches square (though another school of thought prefers an 18 inch board) placed on a wagon. The musician playing for the dancers has his back to them so there is no favouritism. It is a very friendly event, which encourages everyone to have a go, and the numbers entering have grown considerably.

The Dartmoor Festival was originally set up by the famous Dartmoor musician Bob Cann, with the help of family and friends, to preserve the linked traditions of song and dance, crafts and music, on and



around Dartmoor. Key players in keeping the festival running are Mark Bazeley, Bob Cann's grandson, and Jason Rice whose grandfather, Jack Rice from Chagford, played harmonica and piano accordion, and was a judge of the dance competitions. Another member of the family, Les Rice, ("Great Uncle Les") was a noted step dancer. There are many other dancers that are recorded, but we don't have much information on them – yet!

The Taking Steps wants to find out all it can about the steps and tunes of the area, and what it meant to those taking part. We are interested in your memories and photos. The fieldwork will be co-ordinated by Lisa Sture, herself four times step dance champion, and linked to an education programme from Spinningpath Arts under the direction of Jenny Read, the 2016 competition winner.

So, we need your help! Do you remember seeing step dancing, or do you have an elderly relation or neighbour who does? Do you have any photographs of stepdancing, older or more recent? We are interested! If you would like to help at one of our events, or can put up posters or distribute leaflets, we would love to hear from you.

All of the information gathered, along with some newly filmed step dancing lessons, will be available on a new website that is being created as part of the project. This is the year we invite you to join in the fun and learn to stepdance.

CONTACT: devonstepdancing@gmail.com
07971148531

Stepping Out Differently

There are many ways in which you can put your best foot forward and try something different.

Just starting up in Exeter is a new **Appalachian** style dance group, who are looking for new members and musicians, both male and female. No previous experience is necessary. They will be meeting for practice on a Tuesday evening at Ide Village Hall, from 7.45 pm to 10.00 pm. For further details contact Mary on 01392 420535.

The various **morris** sides in Devon (want to know how many? - look in the listings section!) will be starting their practice season again in the autumn, and it is always the best time for people who have never done it before to give it a go. Most teams are very keen to recruit new members. Exeter Morris Men and Glory Of The West are planning to hold another taster session at the Chapter House of the Cathedral in October, as they have done for the past two years. Winkleigh Morris are going to try a number of taster sessions at other centres of population within about 15 miles of Winkleigh, though details aren't yet finalised.

Folk dance and ceilidh clubs usually take a break during the summer, certainly in August but sometimes also June and July. They too will be starting up again in September and will be pleased to welcome new faces. Whilst there are several dance clubs along the south coast of Devon, a couple in Bideford, and long established clubs at Willand and Tavistock, the middle part of Devon between the Moors is largely devoid of any regular folk dance activities.

An opportunity there for some keen persons to get something going?

Apart from the listing of a **rapper sword** group at Exeter University there now also seems to be a dearth of sword dance teams in the county. While some morris sides may include rapper or **longsword** as part of their repertoire it would be good to see this traditional form of dancing also better represented in the county. No matter that the dances have their origin in the North-East - Appalachian, North West, Cotswold and Border Morris aren't exactly indigenous to the county either!

Whatever form of dancing takes your fancy, give it a go this autumn. It's good exercise, good fun - and you'll meet some very sociable people.

Teignmouth Folk Club

The Oystercatcher's Café
12, Northumberland Place
TQ14 8DD

***Last Thursday in the Month
(except July)***

8pm Free admission

20th July Guest Night

Simon Baron

31st August - Singers/Musicians Open Night
28th September - Singers/Musician Open Night

**26th October - Celebrating the Club's 14th
Birthday with Guest Dave Wood**

30th November Singers/Musicians Open Night

Further details from

Martyn Hillstead

01626 778071/07904037812

martyng@[aol.com](mailto:martyng@aol.com)

The Miss Varwell's Throwleigh

In 1938, Emmie Varwell had a book published entitled *Throwleigh – The story of a Dartmoor village*.

Emmie moved to Throwleigh from Brixham, with her sister, in 1909, as an unmarried lady of independent means. She was interested in the landscape, nature, local history, the people and their way of life and concerns. But, as an incomer herself, she was particularly fascinated by the 'characters' she encountered and their stories, sometimes of events long ago. Her book reflects a way of life centred around the church, that would have been typical of many other contemporary villages, both on Dartmoor and beyond. When the book was written, Throwleigh had changed little in comparison to the social revolution that would occur in the mid and later twentieth century, and describes a way of life that was soon to change forever.

Last year (2016) an idea was conceived, to attempt to bring some of the stories back to life as a stage production in the village hall, by interpreting Emmie's writing quite freely to develop a script. This was read by the 2 principal characters, Emmie and her sister, with other people mentioned in the book brought to life from time to time. In addition, a wide variety of over 20 tunes and songs were incorporated. Some of these were specially written using words from the book, whilst others were drawn from the English folk and ecclesiastical traditions, together with some contemporary popular songs mentioned in Emmie's book. These were performed live by a choir of 10 and a band of 6 local musicians. Holding everything together was a large screen, centre stage, displaying many images from the Throwleigh Archive collection, carefully selected to be relevant to the

current goings-on. The music and song created a powerful atmosphere for there was humour and fun but also some sad moments, none more so than near the end when the two sisters left and passed back into history in the churchyard.

The whole performance was an unqualified success, with 100 seats sold out for all 3 nights, over a week in advance, and the dress rehearsal was opened to the public to meet the demand. As one reviewer put it: It was really an astonishing achievement. I doubt if many of the larger towns of Devon have ever put on something to match it. A wonderful remembering of a time gone by. But in truth it was itself a magical moment that will be remembered long into the future by all those of us who were there. Great stories, wonderful songs and moving music. A triumph.

Throwleigh Archive had the 1938 book reprinted and for sale at the show, and is now available at £15 plus postage. A video recording of the performance was made, (not very high quality as lighting had to be low for the slide projection) and this will be available to order, at £5. Enquiries to Dave Hatton, 01647 231051 or email archive.throwleigh@virgin.net

(Photo: Chris Chapman)



Ideas That Blossomed

Sow the seeds of a good idea and they may in due course grow and blossom.

While on a camping holiday with his brothers and friends on Dartmoor, a young William Keble Martin made a detailed and accurate painting of a wild flower he had found, and added its name underneath. A friend commented that it would be wonderful to have a book with colour pictures of every flower in Britain with their Latin and English names.

Keble Martin, who was born in 1877, developed an interest in flowers and the natural world as a child and went on to study Botany at Oxford. Like his father and grandfather, however, his calling was to the church. In the many different parishes across the country in which he served as curate or rector he continued to follow his interest in flowers, carefully drawing and painting every new flower he came across to add to his collection.

The Reverend Keble Martin came to Great Torrington in 1934 and served there tirelessly as Vicar through a very difficult and stressful period. Even so, he still added further flora to his collection of illustrations as time allowed. He moved near to Teignmouth in 1943, before resigning at the age of 70. After his wife died in 1960 he continued to work on his drawings, with the intention of getting his work published. His second wife, his former housekeeper, helped him with the correspondence. Publishers were reluctant to take on a project which required so many colour plates. but when HRH Prince



Philip offered to write a foreword, having been sent a draft copy, Keble Martin, at the age of 88, eventually saw his lifelong work published. The Concise British Flora sold over half a million copies, with new editions in 1969 - the year the author died - and 1974. A new edition, with updated information and again a foreword by Prince Philip, was produced in 1991.

In 2015 Torrington based botanist and folk singer, Colin Porter, had the idea of putting on some kind of event to celebrate the life and work of Reverend Keble Martin. Other singers and musicians at the Royal Exchange sessions were supportive of the idea, and over the early months in 2017 plans began to take shape for a concert which would incorporate an account of his life, interspersed with songs and tunes with a floral theme. Faced with far more suggestions than could possibly be included, Colin worked well to produce a workable, informative and entertaining programme.

The concert took place in the parish church in Torrington on Friday, 16th June. Opening with a verse from the song *English Country Garden*, a set of morris dancers processed up the aisle and performed a simple stick dance to the same tune. The first episode of Keble Martin's life followed, then the morris tune *Ring of Bells* was played - appropriate since during his time at Torrington, the church bells were returned, after being recast. Several songs and tunes featured roses - *Bright Blue Rose*, *Red Is The Rose*, *Don't Neglect The Rose* (as if we could!) - and other flowers - *Lavenders Blue and Edelweiss* (not found in an English garden but some poetic license was taken). The penultimate musical item was *Ye Banks and Braes*, sung by Gwyn, with bagpipe introduction and ending, and the whole show was rounded off with *Wild Mountain Thyme*, in which the audience were invited to join in.

The singers and musicians were Colin Porter, Phil Heming, Mark Knott, Ian Holleran, John Golightly, Matt Bluge, Lou Knight, Ned Morgan, Rob Darch, Colin Andrews & Gwyn. The morris dancers were Colin Andrews, Phil Heming, Susie Golightly, Amanda May, Peter and Bella Knott.

WILLAND FOLK DANCE CLUB

SATURDAY DANCES

Willand Village Hall

September 9 th	Ivan Aitken and English Contra Dance Band
October 21 st	Barrie Bullimore and Chris Toyne's Big Band
November 11 th	Sarah Bazeley & The Dartmoor Pixie Band
November 25 th	Dinner and Dance (Ticket Only) Ted Farmer & Jane Thomas and Friendly Folk
December 16 th	Eileen Nightingale and Weston Country Dance Band
December 31 st	New Year's Eve dance - Jane Thomas & Gill Spence and Kit and Boodle

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

Club Nights 2nd & 4th Thursdays 8.00 – 10.30pm in the Village Hall
Members £3.50 / Non-members £4.00 – See Diary Dates for more information
Contact Marilyn Broom 01404 47200 or Zena Roberts 01884 253546

Exeter Folk & Acoustic Music Club

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EX2 4NX – 8.00pm

-- NO JULY CLUB NIGHT -- SUMMER BREAK --	
Friday 25 th August	Open Club Night
Friday 15th September	Guest: Jez Lowe
Friday 29 th September	Open Club Night
Friday 20th October	Guest: Wizz Jones
Friday 27 th October	Open Club Night
Friday 10th November	Guest: Jim Causley
Friday 24 th November	Open Club Night
Friday 15 th December	Christmas Party Open Club Night
<i>---- No club night Friday 30th December ----</i>	

For more information contact
The Cornelius Family – exeterfolkclub@outlook.com - Tel. 01392 210983

Festival Round-Up: Teignmouth

Twenty-nine dance teams performed in Teignmouth over the weekend in glorious sunshine. We were delighted to welcome a traditional Welsh dance team Cwmni Gwerin Pontypwl (*right*) for the first time.



This year we used the venue of the Teignmouth Players and had sell out concerts for both Friday night with headline Ewan McLennan and Saturday night with Chris Wood. The Saturday night Ceilidh with the Mooncoin Ceilidh Band was also full and Otter Morris performed during the interval.

The festival folk services in the United Reformed Church has become an integral part of the festival with the theme this year 'Journeys to Freedom' incorporating a few traditional songs. We were pleased to welcome back Barron Brady and Canaan's Land for the final concert to round off a very successful weekend.



*Right : Winterbourne Down Border Morris
Below: Hobos Morris*



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.

CD Review

DIFFRACTIONS

OLLIE KING www.olliekingmusic.com

Though I'd corresponded via email with Ollie King and heard a lot about his reputation as a musician and singer, it wasn't until he appeared as a guest at Bideford Folk back in February that I had actually heard him perform. I was suitably impressed to buy both his albums.

Diffractions is his second album, only released in February. I must admit that I prefer the instrumentals since he is truly amazing on melodeon and duet concertina. The opening track features Haydn's *Austria* (actually the tune for the German national anthem) and Holst's *Thaxted*. I like his innovative use of chords of the melodeon. Classical composers Handel and Purcell are also the source for a pair of 3/2 hornpipes, which include the well-known tune *Hole In The Wall*. *The First of March*, composed by Ed England, is I suppose what one might call

experimental - a very openly structured piece that doesn't stick to a particular key or metre. A bit weird on first listening but it did grow on me.

On this album, at least, Ollie seems to go for the quieter slow-paced songs, including the traditional Sweet Lemeny and the setting by Vaughan Williams of the William Barnes poem, *Linden Lea*. He is joined in the vocals by Tom Wright and Rosie Hood, while further instrumentation is provided by Tom Kitchen on fiddle and Al Simpson on trombone. *Ruins By The Shore* is a very moving song from the pen of Nic Jones. I had not heard it before.

If I have any criticism of this album it is in the decision to put three very slow tracks at the end - the Nic Jones song, the powerful but depressing song *Winter Odds* by Lal Waterson, and Arthur Sullivan's tune *The Long Day Closes*. Though they are all good I was left with a rather 'let-down' feeling. I like happy endings! I would also have liked to have had more instrumental tracks.

Colin Andrews



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CD Review

HADELIN

Chris Foster

Green Man Productions

Chris Foster is a subtle and expressive guitarist with a gentle, heart-warming voice. Originally from Somerset and now living mostly in Iceland with his partner, the singer Bara Grimsdottir, he released two highly regarded albums in the 1970s, *Layers* and *All Things in Common*. He was then involved in other artistic projects, with a few more albums of mostly traditional songs appearing over the next 30 years. His latest, *Hadelin*, was produced by Jim Moray and in collaboration with several other musicians and singers, including Grimsdottir, Jim Causley, John Kirkpatrick and Jackie Oates (who worked with Grimsdottir on her album *Lullabies*). Foster says in the sleeve notes that the songs he has chosen 'refer to the natural world, the rhythm of the seasons, birth, life, death, love, betrayal, the ebb and flow of the struggle for justice and human rights' – the subjects of traditional song, in fact!

This is a CD which grows on the listener – it begins with the song of the nightingale and a lovely version of 'The Seeds of Love', and ends with the only song Foster has written so far, the up-lifting 'Spring Song': the chorus runs: 'Hail the hum of hedge and hive, Hail the hope that new growth brings, Hail life's wild diversity, It's good to be alive'. Other traditional songs include 'Rosie Ann', a version of the Lucy Wan ballad, 'The Trees They Do Grow High' and 'The Gardener'. On many tracks the gentle lilting sound of Oates on five-string viola really makes the song work. There are three songs by Leon Rosselson on the CD: one of these, 'Once When I was Young', I confess to finding quite dreary in its delivery, but another, 'Who Reaps

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Rosemary Phillips
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the Profit, Who Pays the Price?' with its powerful chorus, could not be more timely. The singers Foster has gathered together create a really strong and up-lifting sound, especially in the chorus of 'The Trees They're All Bare', a song recorded in Sussex in 1960: Chris says he based the arrangement on the style of the Coppers from Rottingdean – which is probably why it is my favourite track!

Nicola King

Jon Palmer

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CD Review

I AM THE SONG: the children's poems of Charles Causley.

Jim Causley and Friends WGS

Jim's latest venture, after the success of the beautiful Cyprus Well and Forgotten Kingdom, his Devon-based album of self-penned songs, was produced as part of the centenary of the birth of his 'distant relative' Charles Causley. His friends include Nick Wyke and Becki Driscoll, members of The Jim Causley Trio, Anahata and Mary Humphries, Matt Norman, Keith Kendrick and Mick Ryan, who harmonise beautifully with Jim on 'One For the Man', a song about smuggling. This is one of the poems set to music by Jim which I would say are not necessarily for children: others of this kind are the haunting 'A Mermaid from Zennor' and the ballad 'Lord Lovelace', both of which recall the quality of the songs on Cyprus Well.

But as Jim says, this is not a Cyprus Well 2: Causley's 'Collected Poems for Children' had just been re-published, and so Jim decided to use his residency at Charles' old house in Launceston to create an album of his poems for children set to music. These poems are wonderfully comic, surreal, sometimes satirical and often locally-based: Causley was a primary-school teacher, of course, and a musician, and his poems often use ballad or nursery-rhyme metre. Jim has come up with an amazing variety of tunes for these verses, entirely in keeping with their humour and the bizarre events they recount, including the



well-known Colonel Fazackerly and his haunted castle, and 'I Saw a Jolly Hunter' which rejoices in the accidental self-shooting of the hunter of a hare. 'Python on Piccolo' lists the instruments played by a list of unlikely animals and 'Tabitha Tupper' tells of what happens to children who eat bizarre mixtures of disgusting foods. These poems are already a gift to teachers who want to encourage children's inventiveness and their love of rhythm and rhyme, and this CD will add hugely to children's enjoyment of the poems – there are a generous 21 on the CD, which ends with the wonderfully celebratory I Am the Song: 'I am the man, I am the mountain, I am the fire whose light burns long, I am the water in crystal fountain, I am the singer I am the song.'

Nicola King

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Sarah Bazeley and the Dartmoor Pixie Band

8.00 pm - 11.30 pm (bring and share supper)

Contact: Margaret Holt 01822 855858

CD Review

PAINTED CONSERVATOIRE FOLK ENSEMBLE

The UK's biggest folk band, led by Joe Broughton, celebrates its 20th Anniversary with this new album. The material is drawn from world-wide sources and influences, with the occasional title that you might recognise. Initially you might even recognise a tune, like *The Fairy Dance* until it gets the full 50-strong big band treatment with all kinds of innovations and experimentations. The opening track, a very attractive Irish style jig, *Banish Misfortune*, unfortunately also suffers the same fate.

There is evidently some very accomplished musicianship on the album but on playing it through I soon reached for the volume control and almost on one occasion pressed the off button. Frenetic and raucous are words used on the accompanying notes to describe some of the offerings, and I can't disagree. Soothing the music is definitely not. However, despite first negative impressions, I persevered, and while I would be reluctant to go as far as saying the album really grew on me, there are actually some pleasing tracks, of which the gentle song, *Rain and Snow*, is by far the best. *William Taylor* is sung in a similar style, though the melody was unfamiliar.

If you like a big band sound, if you like your folk music jazzed up with intricate arrangements and experimentation with rhythm and percussion, then you'll have a field day with this album.

Colin Andrews

HERE AND NOW MORAI WGS 421CD

The members of the trio, Moirai, are all well-known as accomplished performers in other groups; Jo Freya in Blowzabella, Token Women and Fraser Sisters, Sarah Matthews with Cupola and Melanie Biggs formerly with All Blacked Up. This is their second album, and as before,

offers a pleasing variety of songs and tunes, both traditional and more recently composed.

There are no tracks that disappoint but some that particularly stand out. Jo's song, *Rolanda's Grandmother*, is very moving and poignant. I love their version of *The Bedmaking* - the euphemistic *Cuckoo's Nest* by another name - with instrumental interludes that include one of the other many versions of the *Cuckoo's Nest* tune and *Coleg y Brifysgol Abertawe (University College Swansea)* from Pat Shaw. Jo's tune, *Muna and Mimi*, coupled with *Steve Fisher's Lament* from Mel Briggs are a couple of attractive mazurkas, while The Black and Grey, discovered in archives at Halsway Manor, and *The Green Ship* really get one's feet tapping.

Look out for Moirai at folk festivals or at a folk club. In the meantime, enjoy their latest album.

Colin Andrews

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CD Review

WE HAPPY FEW THE DRYSTONES

'We Happy Few' is the third album from this (still) young energetic and musically accomplished Priddy based duo, Alex Garden and Ford Collier. For the last 2 years they have been at Universities at opposite ends of the country but that doesn't show in this excellent CD. Unlike a lot of young performers, they resist the urge to play fast and frenetically and instead produce a sound which exhibits their skill as musicians.

The album comprises eight sets of tunes and three songs. I would have preferred more songs, but maybe that's because I am a singer. Having said that the tunes are varied and the accompaniment is good and solid throughout without being overpowering. I was impressed with the use of the whistle on several tracks and the fine fiddle playing. The clarity of the percussion is also notable. My favourite track must be the first song 'My Son John'; an updated version of an old traditional anti-war song. The almost Phil Spector-like driving wall of sound behind the vocal makes for a powerful presentation. I think the other two songs, Man of Words and Katy Cruel are pitched a bit low but nonetheless are well sung. The Purcell tune 'Hole in the wall' is a haunting hornpipe which is well placed before the final set of tunes which starts and finishes with 'More Nyah,' written by Ford, it is the closet we get to frenetic! A good finisher to this excellent album.

Bill Crawford

We are happy to receive letters for publication - if you wish to comment on an article or bring something to our attention, please get in touch via editor@devonfolk.org.uk. Better still, post something on our Facebook page!

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CD Review

THE SONGS OF EDWARD CAPERN, THE POSTMAN POET

Imagine walking the rural lanes of North Devon in the mid-19th century marvelling at creation and the natural world. You can almost see Edward Capern trudging along the country lanes on his daily round of delivering the post, watching the seasons come and go, observing the changing wild flowers through the year, the birds courting and feeding their young, the farming year and the day to day happenings in the villages. As Edward Capern walked his journey of life, he commented on the highs and lows of life in his poetry and this CD portrays all this with great insight. As you listen you can imagine walking these lanes to the walking feel of the rhythm, hearing the old school dinner bell depicting the haves and the have-nots, sharing the sadness of a mother losing her son to the sea and the joy of Merry Christmas Time in Devon. He loved his job, despite the weather and the long hours, and it is this love that comes across in his poetry written from the heart. It's a CD to be enjoyed over & over again.

This CD was born out of a collaboration between Liz Shakespeare, (author of the

novel 'The Postman Poet', and 'The Poems of Edward Capern', a collection of 34 of his 600 poems,) and Nick Wyke and Becki Driscoll, who have set some of his poems to music and included two of Capern's own melodies.

In his lifetime Edward Capern was nationally known, and famous people such as Charles Dickens, Lord Tennyson and Lord Palmerston subscribed to his first volume of verse. This CD will perhaps, once more, bring recognition for him in the 21st century - 200 years after his birth.

*O, the postman's life is as happy a life
As anyone's I trow
Wand'ring away where dragon-flies play
And brooks sing soft and low.*

(From 'The Rural Postman' by Edward Capern)

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Melrose Quartet

Sunday 24 September 2017 at 8pm £12 adv/£14 door

Melrose Quartet are truly an all-round folk act with both tight a capella harmony and energy-packed instrumentals. Nancy Kerr (2015 BBC Folk Singer of the Year), James Fagan, Jess & Richard Arrowsmith present a bold take on old and new English songs and tunes with a powerful treatment of traditional material alongside some of the best modern song-writing in the folk world.

Gordie MacKeeman and His Rhythm Boys

Sunday 15 October 2017 at 8pm £14 adv/£16 door

Gordie MacKeeman exemplifies the term natural showman. An ace fiddle player nicknamed 'crazy legs' for his frenetic loose-limbed step-dancing, he just loves to perform. Along with excellent multi-instrumentalist comrades His Rhythm Boys, this Prince Edward Island-based combo are highly sought-after performers on the international roots music circuit.

Peter Knight's Gigspanner

Sunday 26 November 2017 at 8pm £14 adv/£16 door

Legendary fiddle player Peter Knight along with Roger Flack on guitar and Sacha Trochet on percussion explore traditional music and song and their related themes with energy, brilliance and spontaneity.

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Our last singers' night before our summer break is Sunday 30 July. We start again on Sunday 3 September.



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Morris Matters



SANDFORD REVEL MORRIS - 1988 – 1991

The idea was to form a dance side to perform at the annual Village Revel and have fun. We were all young, with children and there were some with dance experience – two had danced with Glory of the West and one with Great Western Morris. There were several musicians in Sandford who performed with us and were able to come to a practice before any event.

It was all quite relaxed and uncomplicated, hopefully like the village sides in the past. One of the group was an artist, and she arrived early on with a waistcoat with yellow, green and white tatters, and the idea of wearing straw boater hats and white trousers. So we all made our waistcoats and got ready for our first time out in public at the Revel on Sandford playing field, August Bank Holiday weekend, 1988.

After that, over the next three years, we were asked to participate in several other village events such as a Harvest Supper (we danced in Wellington boots!), a street market, a pantomime and one or two school fund-raisers. We also danced out on the sea front at the Sidmouth Folk Festival, and were invited to join Great Western Morris on one of their Whit tours, where we were introduced as a 'traditional village morris side'.

It was great fun while it lasted, but we were all busy people, and finding time to practice wasn't always easy. Although we never charged, somehow we managed to make some money, which we donated to charity.

Susie Williams.

WINKLEIGH MORRIS WEEKEND OF DANCE

Winkleigh's biennial event took place over the weekend of 19th - 21st May - the traditional *Franken's Nights period. Based at the Clinton

Hall, Merton, as it has been for several occasions, it was a much quieter affair than two years ago when Winkleigh celebrated their 25th anniversary. Among the nine sides attending were old friends Ripley Morris Men from Derbyshire and St Clements Clog from Kent, while the other sides were from Devon or bordering counties. Traditional Dartmoor liquid sunshine rather curtailed the performance at Castle Drogo, while neither of the other two tours escaped without some dampness. However spirits were not dampened and the evening ceilidh with Bloatertown and Jeremy Child went very well. The skies brightened too for the Sunday morning massed display with the five sides that were there for the whole weekend. One sobering thought - two polypins of real ale were returned untapped to the brewery.

Colin Andrews

**Franken's Night - Google for more information*

BLACK OUT IN THE OPEN

From time to time the custom of 'blacking up' adopted by many Border and some Molly sides, comes under public scrutiny. Whilst some exponents may regard it as an imposition of political correctness on a long-established tradition, there is nevertheless an obligation of morris sides to comply at least with the spirit of the law, as set out in the Equality Act of 2010. The Morris Federation has published guidelines in a circular which has also been adopted by the Morris Ring and Open Morris. In short, it recommends sides which do black up to consider either using a different form of disguise or a different colour face paint, to avoid the possibility of being excluded from certain events or the risk of litigation.

We have a number of excellent border sides in Devon. Some whom I have seen recently have already introduced changes to their facial appearance.

Colin Andrews



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Friday 4 August 8pm

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The Rancheros
Saturday 2 September 8:15pm

Winter Wilson
Wednesday 20 September 8:15pm

Zion Train + support Zamba
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Nick Wyke & Becki Driscoll
Saturday 7 October 8pm

Baka Beyond
Friday 13 October 8pm

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The George Hotel, South Molton
Friday 27 October 8pm

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The Beach Boys Story
Thursday 17 August 8pm

Cloudbusting (The Music of Kate Bush)
Friday 1 September 8pm

Hi-on Maiden + Support
Friday 15 September 8pm doors

Ben Maggs
Sunday 24 September 7:30pm

Johnny Hates Jazz
Friday 6th October 8pm

**John Illsley & his Band (Founder member
of Dire Straits)**
Thursday 2 November 8pm

Judie Tzuke
Saturday 11 November 8pm

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