





A clean sweep at the Dartmoor Festival !

DEVON'S FOLK MAGAZINE

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Bonny Green, Morchard Bishop, Crediton, EX17 6PG Tel/fax 01363 877216 ponnygreen@btinternet .com	Sidmouth 2005 and Beyond Touring With Taplas Aileen Will Bideford First Footnotes Reviews Morris Matters	$ \begin{array}{r} 4 \\ 6 \\ 8 \\ 10 \\ 11,12 \\ 32 - 41 \\ 42 \end{array} $
Diary entries free	Devon Folk Devon Folk News Devon Folk Committee	15 16
1st Feb for 1st April 1st June for 1st Aug Ist Oct for 1st Dec	Listings Useful contacts Diary dates	17 - 20, 26 - 31 21 - 25
Advertising Enquiries & copy to: Dick Little, Collaton Grange, Malborough, Kingsbridge,TQ7 3DJ Tel/fax 01548 561352 <u>Rates</u> Full page £25 Half £15 Quarter £9 Eighth* £4 Lineage* £3 for 15 words Discounts - enquire (*minimum 3 issues)	I offer no apologies for focusing on the same topic in two consecutive editorials - Sidmouth. Since the last issue of this magazine, the Golden Jubilee Festival has passed and hard decisions have been made; Steve Heap and Mrs Casey Music have pulled out, and East Devon District Council have pulled the plug on direct funding. Just as the town itself has weathered the battering from recent October storms, so the festival spirit, hard hit by deep depressions of funding and shifting sands of political expediency , has remained very much alive. Many groups and individuals have already committed themselves to the folk week in Sidmouth in 2005 and beyond, and it is clear that a substantial range of folk interests will be catered for. In some areas, such as Social Dance, and Arena Shows, plans are already well advanced, while other familiar components such as workshops, concerts,	
Please enclose cheque payable to "Devon Folk " with all orders & adverts	ceilidhs, singarounds, to name but a few, are at various levels of organisation and planning, with co-ordination & support being given high priority. Sidmouth in 2005 will undoubtedly be different - and, who knows, with more 'grass roots' involvement, it may prove to be even more stimulating and enjoyable. Colin Andrews	
Distribution & Subscriptions Tom & Jean Warren 51, GreenPark Road, Plymstock, Plymouth, PL9 9HU	Cover Picture: Broom Dance fin Festival. Winner (centre of picture Ford Farm, South Zeal	
01752 401732 Individual copies 50p + S.A.E/ (35p, A5) Subscription (see form) £3 per 3 issues Bulk orders (pre-paid) £5 per 10 incl. p&p	What's Afoot is published three tin Devon Folk. Please note that the v herein are not necessarily those of the of Devon Folk. Devon Folk is an English Folk Dance & Song So charity number 305999). The Edito accept no liability for the content of advertisers.	views expressed LOGO e Editor or those 1 affiliate of the ciety (registered or & Devon Folk

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Sidmouth 2005 ... and beyond

Plans are coming together for a week of events under the title 'Sidmouth Folk Week 2005' to replace the former Sidmouth International Festival which has been held in the Devon town during the first week in August for the last fifty years.

Ever since the former organisers of the Sidmouth International Festival (Steve Heap and Mrs Casey Music) announced that they would not be running the festival in 2005, there has been uncertainty about what would happen to the event next year.

Over the last three months, several individuals and organisations have been planning their own events in the town during the first week in August. But now these organisers have come together to co-ordinate their approach. Eddie Upton, Director of Folk South West said, 'I am greatly encouraged by the positive and co-operative spirit of the people who are dedicated to putting on folk music and dance events in Sidmouth in 2005. This could be a really exciting week of events, capturing the underlying spirit of the annual festival'

Amongst the events being planned are:

Concerts of folk music and song in The Manor Pavilion and hopefully The Bedford Hotel, organised by three separate groups – Eddie Upton of Folk South West, Wren Music and local folk musicians Barry Lister and Tom Addison. Eddie is a former Arena and Dance Producer at the festival, whilst Barry is a former Song and Arena Producer.

A social dance programme, organised by the festival's most recent social dance advisor Ray Goodswen, probably using Sidmouth College and St Francis Hall. Workshops during the day and evening dances are planned, with bands such as Pendragon, Orion's Ring and Kelly's Eye and dance callers and workshop leaders including Colin Hume, Chris Turner, Charles Bolton and Mike Courthold.

Arena concerts at the outdoor Knowle Arena. Confirmed guests include Show of Hands, The Strawbs, The Worzels and Battlefield Band. The events are being organised by Stuart Hughes and Chris Wale, Sidmouth-based festival supporters who also organise the town's Caribbean Night and Carnivals.

Morris dance displays in the town are being co-ordinated by local dance group Sidmouth Steppers who have spread the fame of the festival at Morris dance gatherings in many parts of the country.

Informal song and music events in several of the pubs and hotels in the town, including The Anchor (the Middle Bar Singers), The Radway (music session), The Bedford Hotel bar, The New Tavern and the Sailing Club.

Workshops and other events are likely to include the West Gallery Music Association, Cornwall Songwriters, storytelling, French dance workshops and a song collectors' forum. Links have also been made with Budleigh Salterton Arts Festival.

There are also plans for **Ceilidhs and a** camp-site and an application to hold a



'Late-Night Extra' event has been submitted to the authorities.

Sidmouth Folk Week 2005 is supported by Sidmouth Town Council, whilst East Devon District Council is providing some services including several venues.

Although the organisers of each event, or series of events, will be responsible for their own activities, an umbrella website has been set up on <u>www.sidmouthfolkweek.org.uk</u> and this will contain details of events and venues and, in due course, performers and ticket prices. There will also be links to the websites of individual event organisers, where these exist. There are currently no plans for a season ticket, but visitors to the town will be able to purchase tickets for individual events in advance, just like other arts festivals.

It is hoped to produce a collective programme of events in the Spring, with the Sidmouth Tourist Information Centre handling ticket sales. Currently, however, there is no funding for producing such a programme.

Individuals who are interested in joining the Sidmouth Folk Week mailing list are asked to send stamped and addressed envelopes to: Tony Day, Harvest Home, 8 Underhill Crescent, Lympstone, Devon, EX8 5JF. Or to email <u>SidmouthFolkWeek@exmouth.demon.co.uk</u> Details will be kept on a database.

Anyone else who is interested in putting on events, or in helping with the arrangements, or in sponsoring events or publicity, can also use these contact details.

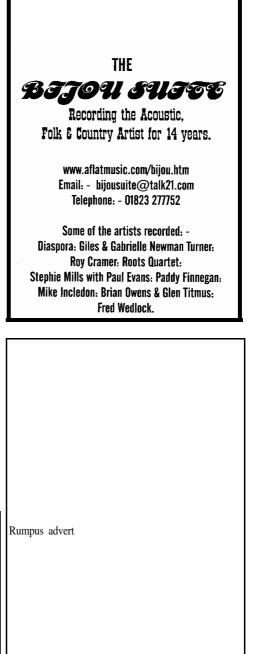
The dates of Sidmouth Folk Week 2005 will be Friday 29 July to Friday 5 August 2005.

Press release, 9th November, 2004

The Barn Owls Country Dance Band East Cornwall

Dennis Cook

01822 832002



Touring with Taplas

Have you ever considered using What's Afoot as a travel guide? I mean planning a county-wide tour of Devon's attractions to take in a different folk venue each evening of the week? I tried putting Taplas, the Welsh Folk Magazine, to a similar test in working out my itinerary for various places all over the Principality that I wanted to visit for the first time, or to refresh vague memories from the distant past - some 55 years in one instance!

While the magazine carries quite a comprehensive list of folk song, dance and Morris clubs across Wales, as well as details of more informal pub sessions, current 'local' knowledge is also valuable, since between going to press and publication there's always a chance that a pub may have closed, burnt down or just changed hands to a folkophobic landlord, or other unforeseen circumstances may have curtailed a club's activities - like the squire running off with the foreman's partner. A couple of phone calls to Carreg Las Border Morris (Cardigan) and Eryri Morris (Bangor) settled some of my queries - though neither side were actually dancing out, being in the A.G.M. and post- Bromyard mode, respectively. A spell on the internet with Multimap was also necessary, to locate some of the more obscure villages.

Bangor was my first destination. I went the pretty way, and by the time I arrived amidst gales and driving rain, I was too tired and hungry to visit the Sunday session at the Maltloaf, Conwy, just a few miles away. By way of compensation, the monthly session at the Nelson, in Bangor, on the following night was just yards from my B & B., so I again gave the Folk Club at the Maltloaf a miss. The Nelson was probably the best single session of the whole week, with musicians, young and old, drawn from about a forty mile radius for a predominantly Welsh music session. Flutes and fiddles were much in evidence, along with squeezeboxes, guitars and bodhrans, and the occasional vocal offering. I was familiar with about a third of the tunes, busked about the same, and tried, without success, to remember the names of the rest.

I found the only familiar face during the week on Tuesday night at Aberystwyth's weekly folk club. John Black, who used to sing around the Exeter folk clubs, was one of the few resident singers - or indeed, few people - there that night. Most of the students had not yet arrived back from Summer vacation, but it was a very friendly atmosphere, even though the upstairs club room wasn't sound-proofed from the invective of a Celtic supporter in the bar below who was blaming the referee for his club's defeat in the UEFA cup match. on T.V.

The next night, the Cooper's Arms also hosted Aberystwyth's regular Irish session which, I discovered, had moved some time ago from the Ship & Castle. The downstairs bar soon filled up not with macho males in green & white strip but with nubile young females - and their boyfriends. The three session musicians (myself excluded - I can't follow most Irish stuff on my box) played some great music, but were regarded by most of the clientele as 'atmospheric background'.

Heading further south on Thursday, Taplas offered a choice between three venues. A song session at Brechfa, I was told, had probably ceased. My informant was unsure about the New Ship at Drefach Felindre, but thought that the Cwmann Tavern, on the outskirts of Lampeter, was still going. A lunchtime recce proved inconclusive as the pub was closed, but a phone call later confirmed that there was indeed a session that week. I never did find out if it was weekly or fortnightly! Arriving at 8.30 ish, a long table had been set aside for the folkies, of whom about five turned up - a smaller than usual number, I was informed. The pub was quite full, and there was some competition from the juke box in the other bar, but nevertheless I enjoyed a pleasant mixture of song and music, the latter tending towards the Irish style.

I hadn't expected to do any Morris dancing during the week, but a chance call at the Tourist Information Office in Llanwrytd Wells provided a wealth of background to the 'Morris in the Forest' festival, held every July. The lady in the Office was one of the organisers for the weekend of ceilidhs, walking, pub sessions, and, incidentally, Morris in this 'smallest town in Britain'.

I'd heard from various sources about the annual Pencader Piping Festival, on the Carmarthen/ Cardigan border, and having confirmed that, despite rumours to the contrary, it was actually going to take place, I'd booked B & B in a nearby village. The publicity wasn't very prominent - but word of

mouth seemed to have been quite effective, for the village church at Llanfiangel Ar Arth was comfortably full (even if the pews weren't so comfortable - those in the know, i.e., everybody but me, had brought their own cushion!). The Pencader Pipers, led by Ceri Matthews, opened the concert. These were Welsh bagpipes, blown, like their Scottish counterparts, but with fewer drones and much more melodious. In previous years the festival had featured all kinds of bagpipes and pipers (including Eel Grinder's David Faulkner), but for reasons I wasn't party too, the 2004 event was more low key, with mainly local performers and featuring other instruments - flute, guitar, Welsh triple harp, and a curious Estonian bowed harp, as well as some Welsh ballads. Both bars in the tiny pub opposite the church were soon crammed with musicians and followers after the concert. When I succumbed to fatigue just before 1.00 am, the session was really livening up.

The Saturday evening concert in the Old Chapel in the next village of Pencader was similar in format to the Friday, but the activities during the day were delightfully informal, and, apart from the feast, decidedly ad hoc. A coracle session on the River Teifi, cancelled due to high water levels, was replaced by a Celtic wrestling workshop. The 'meet the musicians' session soon evolved into a discussion on the authenticity and antiquity of Welsh and Irish music and dance, and the rhythmic qualities thereof. Unlike smooth Irish reels, the Welsh reels are more akin, rhythmically, to the English rant, the step of which I was asked to demonstrate.

Forget the music, the feast, on the Saturday afternoon, I had been told by all and sundry, was the high spot of the weekend. Nearly sixty of us sat down in the local hall to a four-course home cooked blowout of fresh organic produce, plus as much beer or wine as one could drink, and the whole affair interspersed with impromptu songs and music. I couldn't understand the words, but the actions in one left me in no doubt that I was hearing a Welsh version of the cumulative song, "Tree in the Bog'. From the assembly we also had songs in Czech, Estonian, Cornish, German and English (myself, with a drinking song). Little wonder that I put my name on the mailing list for next year's festival !

Sunday, unfortunately, I had to return home, stopping off for lunch with my son in Cardiff. I did spot, however, the Blue Dragon, new venue for Cardiff's Friday Folk Club, which moved from the now boarded up St Peter's Rugby Club.

Colin Andrews

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Aileen Will

... not quite retire (despite rumours!)

After 50 years of doing my best to put people through their folk dance paces, I don't think I could give up entirely. What I am going to do is retire from calling at EFDSS Saturday night dances once the bookings in my diary are done. It was never something I set out to do - it just happened. I prefer to encourage people to learn and improve their knowledge and dance technique through the clubs and groups, so I shall still be available for club evenings, day & weekend courses, as well as fun evenings for beginners, using the knowledge gained as an ancillary member of the EFDSS staff in Devon. You won't get rid of me quite so easily!

If there are any clubs whose members would like the occasional club night, or short session before the club begins, geared to improving their dance technique or learning something specific, I would be pleased to help. Maybe a session on stepping, or one on dances of the West Country, or even help with a club dance team for a special occasion.

I would also be pleased to help, if I can, any budding new club callers. We all have to start somewhere. When I began it was more difficult to get started; we had to be "approved". After many callers courses, much criticism, eyes on the dancers and not glued to the crib sheet, I was let loose on youth clubs! The Society's regime was quite formal - it was quite a hard learning curve. Despite it all we stuck with it and were eventually approved. Today it is much easier for us to have a go if we want to, and so give us a much greater number of callers all with their various talents to offer.

Many clubs are, I know, happy to continue as they are and feel perhaps it could all become too serious and spoil the fun of the evening. Not so. It could mean even greater fun for some members. I am already in contact with many clubs who know me well. If they, and any other clubs, feel they would like to try a little extra, do please let me know.

Aileen Wills (01392 258719)

Irish Set Dancing Classes Wednesdays 8.30-10.30 pm. Rydon Community Hall, Kingsteignton . Teacher: Mary Bingham. Details : 01803 290427 Oggle Band advert



	Bideford First
Nigel Sture Concertina ad	Bideford's first Folk Festival, which took place from 18th -22nd August, 2004, was an over- whelming success with far more people coming to the events and concerts than the organisers ex- pected. Nearly £1,000 was collected to provide starter funds to make this an annual event. Fortu- nately, the weather was kind on Saturday so local Morris sides danced around the town and quay in the morning and then more than 400 people listened to the afternoon concert in Victoria Park. A lot of these people brought blankets, chairs and picnics so they could relax and listen to a varied fare of modern and traditional folk music from the best of our local musicians. Although the perform- ers were amateurs who all live locally this was "as good as a concert at the Sidmouth International Festival", as one person put it. It was an afternoon with great voices, exciting playing and songs to make you laugh, dance and feel good.
	The festival started on Wednesday 18th with an American Music session at Tanton's Hotel, followed by a concert on the Thursday at The Joiner's Arms with Chris Coe, an internationally acclaimed traditional singer. Friday saw a Country Dance at the Pollyfield Centre with the Bloater-town band and it finished with a grand pub session Saturday evening in the Joiner's Arms. In all, about 800 people attended the events with around 70 local people giving their time free as helpers and performers.
L:aunceston FDC ad	Bideford Folk Festival was organised by a collabo- ration of local music and dance clubs to showcase our own North Devon talent, attract visitors and make us all feel good about living here. Local clubs met most of the expenses and everyone involved would like to thank Torridge District Council, The Joiner's Arms and Tanton's Hotel for providing the venues so the money collected can be used to publicise next year's Festival.
	In every way this first Bideford Folk Festival exceeded expectations and has been a great success. If anyone would like to know more about folk music and dance in North Devon telephone 01237 470792 or come up to Bideford Folk Club; every Thursday night at the Joiner's Arms in Bideford.
	Jerry Bix, 36 Lower Gunstone, Bideford, EX39 2DE Daytime: 01237 426402, evening 01237 470792 Email: jerry@ndea.org.uk

Footnotes ...

South-West Quires Day

Following the success of the day held in March 2004, there will be another chance for singers and instrumentalists to learn and perform "West Gallery" music on 19th March, 2005. The workshop day will take place at Cheddon Fitzpaine, near Taunton, from 10.00am-4.30pm. During the lunch break there will be time to enjoy the beautiful setting of the hall.

The tradition of "West Gallery music" or "country psalmody" as this genre of music has come to be known, has distinct harmonies. The music was familiar in communities from the early 1700s to the mid-1800s. Each vocal part was accompanied by an instrument or instruments. Today it provides an opportunity to sing and play with zest and if you are not already doing so, you will be wanting to sing it regularly by the end of the day.

For further information, please contact Toby Parker (<u>ajparker42@hotmail.com</u>) tel 0117-924-3 083 or Jacqueline Patten (<u>patten@kerlistz.free</u>serve.co.uk) tel 01363-877503.

Cyril Tawney

Many people will know that Cyril has been unwell for some time, and has had quite a long spell in hospital. After receiving specialist treatment in Plymouth, including oxygen in a pressurised chamber (an unpleasant experience for a reluctant submariner) Cyril is now back in Exeter. Rosemary, his wife, reports that he is making good progress, and is looking forward to coming home.

New Licensing Act

Much has already been written about the new Licensing Act and the way in which it could affect our folk interests. As this magazine goes to the printers, the consultation period comes to an end for responses to the Draft Statement of Licensing Policy which each local authority has had to draw up. Those drafted by Torridge and Mid Devon appear reasonably sensible, and have received some response from some of us in the folk world. Comments from anyone who has seen or responded to proposals in other parts of the county would be welcome. Time will no doubt tell how things will work out in practice. Jerry Bix from Bideford has studied the Bill in some detail and hopes to write a feature for inclusion in the next What's Afoot.



Playford Ball

Another successful Ball took place at Oldway Mansion, Paignton, last June. The ornate ballroom, with its glass doors opening on to a balcony, overlooks the extensive gardens and is the perfect setting for such an occasion. The dancers, dressed in period costume or formal dress, enjoyed arriving up the sweeping staircase, to be welcomed with a glass of wine.

Hilary Herbert led the dances with her usual competence and dry humour, and provided the dancers with a varied programme of dances from the 17th Century to modern ones in Playford style. Steve & Genni Hunt, otherwise known as Orion's Ring, kept the dancers on their toes with their music. Over a buffet supper dancers were able to meet up with friends and discuss 'dancing news'.

Next years's Ball, again organised by the Devon Playford Committee, will be on 25th June 2005. Details on 01803 873290 or 01392 882156.

Bampton Charter Fair

Pennymoor Singaround"s project to celebrate, preserve and enhance this Fair has been shortlisted for Heritage Lottery Funding

Footnotes ...

Concert for Children's Hospice South West The Fremington Friends Group of the Hospice are presenting a folk evening with **Two Rivers Folk** at Fremington Village Hall on Saturday, 12th March, 2005, starting at 7.30 pm. Dev Deverell and Geoff Hocking who make up Two Rivers Folk are giving freely of their time and talents, and they perform both traditional and contemporary material. Audience participation will be encouraged, with some song booklets for those less familiar with the words. All proceeds will go to the Hopsice at Little Bridge House. Tickets, to include a light buffet, are £3.50. Further details from 01271 379542.

Tribute to Bob Copper

An afternoon and evening at Cecil Sharp House, 2, Regents Park Road, London, devoted to the the life and songs of Bob Copper. Saturday 2nd April 2005. Both sessions £20, single session £15. Further details from 020 748 52206 ext 14.

Devon Award 2004

This annual award was presented this year to Bob Franklin at the Civic Hall Totnes on 3rd July by Devon Folk President, Terry Underhill. Bob, who was calling at the monthly dance, received two engraved Dartington Glass wine glasses and a framed citation in recognition and appreciation of his valuable contribution to Folk activities in





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Devon. He was for many years Chairman of the Devon Folk Committee and used his organisational skills in arranging, amongst other things, Teacher Training Days and Dance Weekends. Although now retired from the Committee, he is still very actively involved in calling for Playford and Social Dance, particularly in South Devon.

Dartmoor Festival

This year's Dartmoor Festival proved to be one of the best ever. All the usual attractions were there - Step Dance & Broom Dance, Crafts, Concerts, Ceilidhs, Morris, etc, with many top-line guests, including the reformed Flowers and Frolics, All Blacked Up, Spiers & Boden, Sara Grey & Kieron Means as well as regular favourite performers. A marvellous effort from all involved !

Not at all sad

www.sadfolk.co.uk is the new website for folk activities in Somerset and Dorset.



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Devon Folk News

Singin' Spring 2 12th March 2005

Morchard Bishop will again be the venue for this full day of workshops, singarounds, and evening concert. The nine workshops, a choice of three in each of the three sessions, will include song accompaniment, songwriting, collecting, parodies, chorus songs, voice technique, folk choirs, West Gallery, and folk drama. The concert will feature The New Scorpion Band. For further details and booking, please see the display advert on page 28.

AGM 2005

Readers are reminded of the next Annual General Meeting of Devon Folk, to be held on Saturday 23rd April at 6.30 pm in the Public Hall, Budleigh Salterton. Nominations are invited for a President and Treasurer (both elected annually) and for seven vacancies on the Committee. Four members of the present committee are due to retire by rotation but are eligible for re-election. A nomination form is included below, and photocopies will also be accepted. All nominations, together with details of Proposer and Seconder, should be sent to me, Sheila Chappell, by 23rd March, 2005.

Exmouth Folk Dance Club are sponsoring the AGM and also a **music workshop**, led by Pete Mac, during the afternoon from 2.30 to 5.00 pm. The workshop is for folk dance musicians and will be at an intermediate level, though easier versions of some tunes will be available. To book and to obtain photocopies of the music in advance, please contact Pete on 10395 266553. The cost of the Workshop is £3 and cheques should be made payable to Devon Folk.

The AGM will be followed by a folk dance with John Bone and the Weston Country Dance Band. Donations

The Committee would like to thank the following clubs for their donations and continued support:-

Bideford Folk Dance Club £50 Dartington Morris Men £50

Sheila Chappell

DEVON FOLK COMMITTEE PROPOSAL FORM		
I propose the nomination of to the Devon Folk Committee		
Proposer	EFDSS Memb. No. or Club	
Seconder	EFDSS Memb. No. or Club	
I, the undersigned, am willing to stand for election to the Devon Folk Committee		
Name		
Address		
Signature		
EFDSS Memb. No. or Club		
	ed by 20th March 2005 to rns, Lease Hill, Exeter, EX5 4QA	

Folk Committee* Devon

President **Terry Underhill**

Vice-Presidents **Dennis Darke Aileen Wills** Jo Trapnell

Treasurer

Brian Chappell 2, Penstone Barns, Lease Hill, Hele, Exeter, EX5 01803 832319 4QA. 01392 882156

<u>Members of the Committee</u>

Chairman **Euphine Bromell** Rosala, 39, Blandford Road, Lower Compton, Plymouth, PL3 5DS. 01752 221557 euphine@euphine.freeserve.co.uk

Vice Chairman Frances Franklin,

3, Stabb Close, Paignton, TQ4 7JA. 01803 843402

Secretary Sheila Chappell,

2, Penstone Barns, Lease Hill, Hele, Exeter, EX5 Maleth, 11, Cleveland Road, Torquay, TQ2 4QA. 01392 882156 chappell@penstone.fsnet.co.uk

Membership Secretary Pat Kenworthy

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Minutes Secretary **Dick Little**

Collaton Grange, Collaton, Malborough, Kings-bridge, TQ7 3DJ. 01548 561352

Elected Members Colin Andrews

863802

Bonny Green, Morchard Bishop, Crediton, EX17 6PG. 01363 877216. Alan Bromell Rosala, 39, Blandford Road, Lower Compton, Plymouth, PL3 5DS. 01752 221557 John Brooke Flat 2, 4, High Street, Totnes, TQ9 5RY. 01803

Chris Eccleshall

1, Orchard Park, Dartington, Totnes, TQ9 6HS 01803 840758 Sue Little

Collaton Grange, Collaton, Malborough, Kingsbridge, TQ7 3DJ. 01548 561352 Andrew Mycroft

4, Sycamore Close, Honiton, EX14 2XP. 01404 46451

Irene Peachey

Patricia Reid

46, The Roundway, Kingskerswell, Newton Abbot, TQ12 5BW. 01803 873841 Brian Thomas

Higher Brithayes Farm, Silverton, EX5 4BY. 01884 855267 Jean Warren

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

Co-opted Members John Culf (Webmaster)

West Lodge, Tristford, Harberton, TQ9 7RZ. 01803 863468 Anne Gill

5BD. 01803 290427 Steve Gill

Maleth, 11, Cleveland Road, Torquay, TQ2 5BD. 01803 290427 Pete Mac

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www.homebrewband.co.uk email: <u>bonnygreen@btinternet.com</u>

Useful contacts (1)

*Affiliated to EFDSS

Social Dance

Aylesbeare Folk Dance Club Ted Farmer, 01392 466326. Alt. Fri. Avlesbeare VH.

Beacon Wheel Chair Dancers Sue Cummings 01803 554799

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

Bideford Folk Dance Club* Miss Pat Kenworthy, 5, Allenstyle Road, Yelland, Barnstaple, 01271 860193

Chard Folk Dance Club Details: 01460 62816. Alt.Thurs., Combe St Nicholas VH. 8 pm.

Country Dance, Plymouth* Mrs Mary Wolton, 32, Treveneague Gardens, Manadon, Plymouth. 01752 778544. Tues. Trinity United Reform Ch. Hall, Tor Lane, Hartley, Plymouth. 8 pm.

D'Accord French & Breton Dances, Exeter Phoenix Arts Centre, 3rd Friday Tomkins, 01392 811593 8 pm. Pat

Dartington Folk* John Gibson, 15, Manor Rd, Bishop-steignton. 01626 778058. Most Fridays, 7.30 pm. www.dartfolk.fsnet.co.uk

Devon Playford Club* Mrs. J. Alderslade, 22, Rosehill Gardens Playford Society (MADCAPS)* Kingskerswell, TQ12 5DN. 01803 Mrs Jean Fillan, 29, Droridge, Darting-873290. Monthly, Sat. 2.30 pm John ton. 01803 866380. Mon. Marldon New Stocker Middle School, Buddle Lane, VH. Exeter.

Exeter Folk Dance Group* Mr Chris Miles, 7, Highbury Park, Ex-mouth, 01395 275592. Last Friday, Baptist Ch. Centre, Palace Gate, Exeter.

Exmouth Folk Dance Club* Thursdays, Withycombe Rd. Methodist Ch. Hall. Mr. Chris Miles, 7, Highbury Park, Exmouth. 01395 275592. Park, chrisandhighbury@zoom.co.uk

Exmouth YWCA³

Wednesdays, 2.30 pm. Alexandra

House, 57, Imperial Rd. Mainly Playford. Mrs S. Harper, Flat3, 6, Carlton Hill, Exmouth, EX8 2AJ. 01395 267171.

Great Western Ceilidhs* Monthly, John Stocker Middle School, Exeter. Pete Langley 01392 491228

Halsway Folk Dance Club Alt. Wed. Halsway Manor, Crocombe, Somerset.

Hennock & Teign Valley Folk Club See under song

Honiton Folk Dance Club Wednesdays, Gittisham VH. 8 pm. Andrew Mycroft, 4, Sycamore Close, Honiton, EX14 2XP. 01404 46451

Kingsteignton Country Dance Club* Mrs M. Sainsbury, 202, Exeter Road, Kingsteignton. 01626 367615. Twice monthly, Tuesdays.

Kingsteignton Irish Set Dancing Classes, Wednesdays, 8.30 pm. Rydon Community Hall. Anne Gill 01803 290427

Launceston Folk Dance Club St. John's Ambulance Hall, Tues. 8 pm (not July & August). 01579 362423

Lucky Seven Folk Dance Club* Mrs Margaret Moxom, 7, Newcourt Rd, Topsham, Exeter. 01392 873606. Alt. Tues., Liverton VH. 8 pm.

Marldon & District Country &

Minehead Folk Dance Club Peter Jackson, 01984 640763. Catholic Ex- Ch. Hall, Minehead.

Pilton Folk Dance Club Joan Lusted, Heatherdale, Mortehoe. 01271 870793.

Plymouth Group

Miss Gladys Cann, 27, Underlane, Plymstock, Plymouth. 01792 401747.

Salcombe Regis Folk Dance Club* Fri. Sidmouth College. Mrs D. Cooper, 6, Darnell Close, Sidmouth. 01395 513131

Useful contacts (2)

Sidford Folk Dance Club* J. Westwood, 01404 813863. Tuesday, Sidford VH. 8 pm.

Sidford Scottish Folk Dance Club Brian Martin, 01404 850416. Mondays, Sidford VH. 8 pm.

South Hams Folk Dance Club* Philip Worth, Greenbank, Hope Cove, TQ7 3HP. 015448 561415. Wednesday, West Charleton VH.

The Sunday Club Peter Boskett, 57, Park Lane, Pinhoe, Exeter. 01392 468462.

Tavistock Folk Dance Club* Mrs Margaret Williams, 14, Walters Rd. St Budeaux, Plymouth. 01752 350498. Thursday, Molly Owen Centre. (not July & Aug)

Teign Playford Club* Bob Franklin, 01803 843402.

Totnes Folk Dance Club* Mr H Lowe, 12, Benedicts Rd, Liverton, Newton Abbot, TQ12 6JL. 01626 821045. Third Thursday, Methodist Ch. Hall, 8pm (Not June, July, August).

University of Exeter Folk Dance Club Richard Mason, 3, Kingfisher Drive, Exeter, EX4 4SN. 01392 411434.

Willand Folk Dance Club* Miss H.J. Webb, Spindles, 6, Church Road, Alphington, Exeter, EX2 8SB 01392 270174. Alt. Thurs., Willand VH. EX2 8SB.

Willand Club Band Workshop Mary Marker 01626 854141 or Hazel Ridd 01884 820438. Willand Chapel, Gables Road, Willand.

<u>Song & Music</u>

Folk song clubs are sometimes forced to change venue at short notice due to a change in management of a pub. Please check with contact given if in doubt.

Ashburton

1st &3rd Mon. 8.15 pm. Silent Whistle. Details 01364 654700.

Bampton

Tues., Bridge House Hotel. Bob Craig, Exeter, Guitar Club 01398 361478

Bere Ferrers

3rd Sun. Old Plough. Contact Jane on 01822 841064

Bideford Folk Club

Jerry & Hilary Bix, 36, Lower Gunstone, Bideford. Tel/fax 01237 470792. Thurs. Joiners Arms, Market Place, Bideford. 8.30 pm.

Black Dog, Pennymoor Singaround* 3rd Wednesday, Black Dog Inn. Clare Penney, 01884 860023

Bodmin

Vic Legg, 01208 75261. Friday, Garland Ox, Bodmin.

www.bodminfolk.freeserve.co.uk

Bovey Tracey Song & music session, 1st Sunday, 1 pm, King of Prussia. Chris Eccleshall, 01803 840758

Braunton

1st Sat . Mariners Arms.Kath Davey, 01598 760354.

Brendon

3rd Sat. Staghunters. John & Eileen Moore, 01643 709394.

Brixham

Wed. 8.30 pm. Maritime Inn. Contact Marg. on 01803 855961

Brompton Regis

1st Thurs. The George. Martyn Babb 01643 821200. Pub undergoing alterations - please check.

Chudleigh Last Wed. Open mike session, Old Coaching House.

Combe Martin

Shammick Acoustic, 2nd Sat. Top George Inn, Combe Martin. Tom & Barbara Brown 01271 882366

Dartington

Queens Arms. 3rd Thurs. Chris Eccleshall 01803 840758

Exeter, Globe

2nd Friday. Globe Inn, Newtown, Exeter

Useful contacts (3)

2nd Friday, Whipton Community Centre (Old church). Roger Hutton, 01392 873729

Exeter, Exe Folk Club 3rd Friday, Golden Lion, Clifton Street, 8.00 pm. Peter Beer, 01884 253524 / 07775 811919

Exeter, Welcome Inn. Sunday lunchtime

Folk on the Moor, Wotter

Sunday, Moorland Hotel, Wotter, nr Shaugh Prior. Anton Horwich, 3, Wood-side Cottages, Milton Combe, Yelverton, Plymouth. 01752 261669 (day), 01822 853620 (eve).

Hennock

Hennock & Teign Valley Folk Club, 3rd Tues. Hennock VH. (Song & dance). Trevor Instone, 1, Pool Mill Cottages, Hennock, TQ13 9NS. 01647 277594

Holsworthy Kings Arms. Phil Williams 01288 341388

Horndon 3rd Wed. Elephant's Nest, Horndon, nr. Tavistock.

Ivybridge 2nd & 4th Tue. The Sportsman, Exeter Road. . World Folk Music. 8.30 pm. Nick Reilly 01752 895014

Kingsbridge 1st Thurs , Crabshell Inn. Bob & Brenda Burnside, 01548 853351

Luxborough 2nd Fri., Royal Oak. George Ody 01463 704347

Lympstone 1st Wed. Swan Inn. Music, song & words. Jenny Moon 01395 276569

Malborough 01548 561481. Wed. Royal Oak. Nigel

Sture 01548 561975

Minehead

Acorn Folk Club,Old Ship Aground. John & Eileen Moore 01643 709394, acornfolkclub@ntlworld.com. 1st Sat. www.exmoorfolkmusic.co.uk

Newton Abbot Sun. Two Mile Oak. 01626 208116

Petrockstowe

4th. Wed. Laurels Inn. English music session. Kate Nye 01837 810566

Plymouth, Artillery Arms Geoff Rodd, 36, Downham Gardens, Tamerton Foliot, Plymouth. 01752 709809. Alt. Tues. Artillery Arms Pound Street, Stonehouse.

Plymouth, Hyde Folk Club Mon., Hyde Park Hotel, Mutley Plain Denise Couch, 10, Short Park Road, Peverell, Plymouth, PL3 4PZ . 01752 661367.

Scoriton

3rd Fri. Tradesman's Arms. Sue & Simon Williams 01364 631308

South Brent

Alt. Tues. Pack Horse Hotel. Keith Beeby 01364 72587

Sticklepath (Okehampton) 1st Sun. Devonshire Inn. Bill Murray 01647 231286

Teignmouth

3rd Thurs., Ivy House, Teignmouth. Steve & Anne Gill, 01803 290427QUERY THIS - now at Oystercatcher Cafe?

Teignmouth

Last Thurs. Devon Arms Hotel, North-umberland Place. Martyn Hillstead. 01626 778071

Thorverton

Last Friday, Exeter Inn. Terry & Mary Graham, 01392 216498

Tiverton

1st Tues., Racehorse Inn. Susannah Billeter 01884 821286

Torquay Folk Song Club

2nd Thursday, Crown & Sceptre. Steve & Anne Gill, 11,Cleveland Road, Torquay. 01803 290427

Torquay Fri. Crown & Sceptre, St Marychurch.

Useful contacts (4)

Topsham

Sunday, Globe. Pete Hargrave, 01395 577605. <u>www.topshamfolkclub.co.uk</u> 8.30 pm (guest nights 8pm). Tickets for guest nights available one month in advance from Gill Lowry 01392 254021

Totnes

Tuesday, Kingsbridge Inn. Irish session. Andy Clarke 01803 732312

Umberleigh

2nd Mon, Rising Sun. 01769 560447

Walkhampton (Yelverton) Last Wed. Walkhampton Inn. Also live mostly 'folky' live music, alt. Sats.

<u>Storytelling</u>

Mid Devon Story Club 3rd Sunday, Tom Cobley Tavern, Spreyton. 01837 82719

Totnes Storytell Quarterly, Kingsbridge Inn. Lin Bramich 01803 863558

<u>School & Youth Goups</u>

Exeter

Muriel Forrest, 109, Portland Street, Exeter. 01392 257550

Exeter College (Special Needs) Mrs H. Budd, 19, Springfield Road, Exmouth, EX8 3JY

High St Primary School, Plymouth Mrs J.M. Parry, High Street Primary School, Stonehouse, Plymouth.

Rockbeare Primary School. T.Green, Rockbeare CE Primary School, Rockbeare, Exeter.

All details of events are published in good faith, but we cannot accept responsibility should information given to us be wrong, or for any subsequent changes. If in doubt, please contact the organisers. Events start at 8.00 pm unless otherwise stated. Weekly club meetings are not listed unless so requested by the organisers. VH = Village Hall. Ch. = Church FDC = Folk Dance Club FSC = Folk Song Club.

Quick guide to weekly clubs

(NB: folk song clubs are included but not weekly pub sessions - see full listing for details).

SUNDAY

SONG: Folk on the Moor, Moorland Hotel, Wotter SONG: Globe Inn, Topsham MONDAY SONG: Hyde Folk Club, Plymouth DANCE: MADCAPS Club, Marldon VH, Paignton. 7.45 pm TUESDAY SONG: Bridge House Hotel, Bampton DANCE: Launceston FDC, St John's Ambulance Hall DANCE: Country Dance, Plymouth. Trinity UR Church Hall, Hartley. DANCE: Sidford FDC, VH, Byes Lane. (Sept. to May). **WEDNESDAY** DANCE South Hams FDC, West Charleton VH DANCE: Exmouth YWCA FDC, Alexandra House, Imperial Rd. 2.30 DANCE Irish Set Dance, Rydon Hall, , Kingsteignton 8.30 pm DANCE: Bideford FDC, Bridge Hall. DANCE: Honiton FDC, Gittisham VH THURSDAY SONG: Bideford FC, Joiner's Arms DANCE: Exmouth FDC, Methodist Ch. Hall, Withycombe Road, 7.30 pm DANCE: Tavistock FDC, Molly Owen Centre FRIDAY SONG: Bodmin FC, Garland Ox DANCE: Bideford Ceilidh Club, Athletic Club, The Pill. DANCE: Dartington Folk at VH. 7.30 DANCE: Salcombe Regis FDC, Sidmouth College.

Have you any folk memorabilia or possible archive material sitting around in your attic? If so, please let us know at What's Afoot. Don't let it end up on the bonfire or tip !

Diary Dates (1)

November

Sat 27 DANCE Public Hall, Budleigh Salterton. Robert Blackborow, Weston Band. SONG Acorn FC, Old Ship Aground, Mine-head. Tom Napper & Tom Bliss Sun 28 SONG Folk on the Moor, Moorland Hotel, Thu 9 Wotter. Tom Napper & Tom Bliss. Mon 29 DANCE MADCAPS Club, Marldon VH. Tue 30 DANCE Lucky 7 FDC, Liverton VH Sidford FDC at VH. **December** Wed 1 DANCE Fri 10 Honiton FDC, Gittisham VH. Halsway Manor FDC. Jane Thomas & Alan Corkett. **STORY & SONG** Swan Inn, Lympstone. Thu 2 DANCE Exmouth FDC, Withycombe Meth. Ch. Hall. Jane Thomas & Andrew Mycroft. Chard FDC, Combe St Nicholas VH SONG Crabshell, Kingsbridge Sat 4 DANCE Civic Hall, Totnes. Colin Andrews, Sat 11 Home Brew Band. CONCERT Ariel Centre, Totnes. Show of Hands. SOLD OUT. SONG Old Ship Aground, Minehead. Hotwell Howlers. Hyde FSC, Ashmore Rock, Saltash. 90 max. £1 mike.manning@virgin.net Sun 5 SONG Folk on the Moor, Moorlands Wotter Globe, Topsham. Tom McConville CONCERT Dylan Project, Phoenix Arts Centre, Exeter. (Simon Nicol, Dave Pegg etc)

Mon 6 DANCE

MADCAPS club, Marldon VH Tue 7 DANCE Lucky 7 FDC, Liverton VH. Christmas Party. Sidford FDC at VH. SONG Racehorse, Tiverton. Wed 8 DANCE Honiton FDC, Gittisham VH. SONG Abbotskerswell VH. St Agnes Fountain Christmas Show. Chris Leslie, David Hughes, Chris White & Julie Matthews Tickets £12.50 01803 813876 DANCE Exmouth FDC, Withycombe Meth. Ch. Hall. Peter Moxom. Willand FDC Christmas Party at VH. Jane Thomas & Haymakers. Bring & share supper. SONG Torquay FSC Christmas Special at Crown & Sceptre, St Marychurch. CEILIDH Winkleigh VH. Colin Andrews & Home Brew Band. Pennymoor Singers. Tickets 01837 83601 DANCE Exeter FDC Christmas Party, Baptist Hall, Palace Gate. Chris Miles. Bring & share supper. SONG Exe FSC Golden Lion, Exeter (2nd Fri. this month only) Globe, Newtown Exeter. Mick Ryan & Pete Harris Luxborough. Royal Oak, CEILIDH John Stocker Middle School, Exeter. Florida. DANCE Fremington VH (Pilton FDC). Sarah Bazeley, Dartmoor Pixie Band. Bring & share supper SONG Shammick Acoustic, Top George, Combe Martin. DANCE Totnes Club Xmas Dance, Meth Ch. Hall Peter Moxom, Devonians Sun 12 SONG Folk on the Moor Christmas Party. Moorlands Hotel, Wotter. Mon 13 DANCE MADCAPS club, Christmas Party,

MADCAPS club, Christmas Party, Marldon VH. Aileen Wills & Sundowners.

Diary Dates (2)

Tue 14 DANCE Kingsteignton FDC at Comm. Hall Sidford FDC at VH. Wed 15 DANCE Honiton FDC Christmas Party, Gittisham VH. Halsway Manor FDC Christmas Party. Peter Moxom, Sundowners. SONG Pennymoor Singaround, Black Dog. Horndon, Elephant's Nest CONCERT Sherwell Centre, North Hill, Plymouth. Tickets & info. 01752 564847 Thu 16 DANCE Exmouth FDC Christmas Party. Withycombe Methodist Ch. Hall. Chard FDC, Combe St Nicholas VH. SONG Oystercatcher Cafe, Teignmouth. Fri 17 SONG Thorverton FSC (3rd Sat this month only), Exeter Inn. DANCE D'Accord Frrench & Breton. Phoenix Arts Centre, Exeter. Sat 18 DANCE Willand VH. Robert Blackborow, Silver & Gold. Sun 19 SONG Folk on the Moor, Moorland Hotel, Wotter. Jay Turner. Topsham FC Globe Guest tba. **NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE** Fri 31 Civic Hall, Totnes. Alan Davies, Devonians. £5. NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE Willand VH. Eileen Nightingale, Jane Thomas & Amycrofters Band. £4 <u>January 2005</u> Sun 2 SONG Folk on the Moor, Moorland Wotter. Tue 4 DANCE Lucky 7 FDC, Liverton VH Sidford FDC at VH.

Wed 5 DANCE Honiton FDC, Gittisham VH. **STORY & SONG** Swan Inn, Lympstone Thu 6 SONG Crabshell Inn, Kingsbridge Sat 8 CEILIDH John Stocker Middle School, Exeter. Hekety. CEILIDH South Brent VH. Jocosity. £5. Tickets 01364 72516 or 72972 SONG Acorn FC 3rd Annual Party, Old Ship Aground, Minehead. Pagan Gypsies Shammick Acoustic, Top George, Combe Martin. Sun 9 SONG Folk on the Moor, Moorland Hotel, Wotter. Simon Barron & Ross Brady Mon 10 DANCE MADCAPS Club, Marldon VH. Tue 11 DANCE Sidford FDC at VH SONG Crabshell Inn, Kingsbridge Wed 12 DANCE Honiton FDC, Gittisham VH Thu 13 SONG Bideford FSC, Joiners Arms. Mary Humphries & Anahat Torquay FSC, Crown & Sceptre. DANCE Willand FDC at VH. Peter Boskett. Fri 14 DANCE Dartington FDC at VH. Barbara Kinsman & Gwyn George SONG Royal Oak, Luxborough Globe. Exeter Sat 15 DANCE Willand VH. Geoff Elwell, Petronella PLAYFORD John Stocker Middle School, Exeter. 2.30 pm. Barbara Kinsman & Gwyn George SONG Staghunters, Brendon. Sun 16 SONG Topsham. Globe, Paul Downes. Folk on the Moor, Moorlands Wotter.

Mon 17 DANCE

22

SONG

Racehorse, Tiverton.

Diary Dates (3)

MADCAPS club, Marldon VH. Tue 18 DANCE Sidford FDC at VH Lucky 7 FDC, Liverton VH Wed 19 SONG Pennymoor Singaround, Black Dog. Horndon, Elephant's Nest DANCE Honiton FDC, Gittisham VH. Thu 20 DANCE Totnes FDC, Methodist Ch. Hall. SONG Teignmouth Oystercatcher Cafe, Dartington, Queens Arms, Fri 21 SONG Exe FSC, Golden Lion, Exeter. Scoriton, Tradesman's Arms, DANCE D'Accord French & Breton. Phoenix Arts Centre, Exeter. Sat 22 DANCE Public Hall, Budleigh Salterton. Aileen Wills & Pete Mac Band CONCERT St Clare's Centre, Seaton. Martin Carthy . See display advert. Sun 23 SONG Folk on the Moor, Moorland Hotel, Wotter, Sean Lakeman & Kathryn Roberts Tue 25 DANCE Sidford FDC at VH Wed 26 DANCE Honiton FDC, Gittisham VH. MUSIC Laurels Inn, Petrockstowe. Thu 27 DANCE Willand FDC at VH. Robert Blackborow, Bridgwater Band. SONG Devon Arms, Teignmouth. Fri 28 DANCE Exeter FDC, Baptist Hall, Palace Gate Aileen Wills SONG Thorverton FSC, Exeter Inn. Sun 30 SONG Folk on the Moor, Moorland Hotel, MADCAPS club, Marldon VH.

February

Tue 1	WHAT'S AFOOT COPY DATE		
	SONG		
	Racehorse, Tiverton		
	DANCE		
	Lucky 7 FDC, Liverton VH Sidford FDC at VH		
Wed 2	DANCE		
	Honiton FDC, Gittisham VH		
	STORY & SONG		
	Swan Inn, Lympstone		
Thu 3	SONG		
	Crabshell Inn, Kingsbridge		
Fri 4	SONG		
a	City Gate, Exeter.		
Sat 5	DANCE		
	Civic Hall, Totnes. Frances Oates, Pete Mac Band.		
	SONG		
	Braunton, Mariners Arms Acorn FS Old Ship Aground, Mine-		
	head. Andy Barnes.		
Sun 6	SONG		
	Folk on the Moor, Moorland Hotel,		
	Wotter. Mike Silver		
Mon 7	DANCE		
т о	MADCAPS club, Marldon VH		
Tue 8	DANCE		
	Kingsteignton FD C, Comm. Hall Sidford FDC at VH		
Wed 9	DANCE		
weu 9	Honiton FDC, Gittisham VH		
Thu 10	SONG		
1 IIu 10	Torquay FSC, Crown & Sceptre.		
	DANCE		
	Willand FDC at VH. Sarah & Mark		
	Bazeley		
Fri 11	SONG		
	Royal Oak, Luxborough		
	Globe, Exeter		
Sat 12	CONCERT		
	St Clare's Centre, Seaton. Acoustic		
	Strawbs. See display advert.		
	CEILIDH		
	John Stocker Middle School, Exeter.		
	Flash Company		
	DANCE Willard VH Tad Farmar Falk Two		
	Willand VH. Ted Farmer, Folk Two. WORKSHOP		
	See display advert p.39		
	SONG		
	Shammick Acoustic, Top George,		
	Combe Martin.		

Mon 31 DANCE

Wotter.

²³Sun 13 SONG

Diary Dates (4)

Folk on the Moor, Moorlands, Wotter Mon 14 DANCE MADCAPS Club, Marldon VH Tue 15 DANCE Lucky 7 FDC Anniversary Liverton VH Sidford FDC at VH Wed 16 SONG Pennymoor Singaround, Black Dog SONG Horndon, Elephant's Nest DANCE Honiton FDC, Gittisham VH Thu 17 DANCE Totnes FDC, Methodist Ch. Hall SONG Teignmouth, Oystercatcher Cafe SONG Dartington, Queens Arms Fri 18 DANCE Dartington FDC at VH. Robert Moir D'Accord French & Breton. Phoenix Arts Centre, Exeter. SONG Exe FSC, Golden Lion, Exeter Scoriton, Tradesman's Arms, Sat 19 SONG Acorn FSC Old Ship Aground, Minehead. Brian Peters, Pat Smith, Ned Clamp Brendon, Staghunters, PLAYFORD John Stocker Middle School, Exeter. Robert Moir, Gwyn George. 2.30 pm Sun 20 SONG Folk on the Moor, Moorlands Hotel, Wotter. Brian Peters. SONG Bere Ferrers, Old Plough Mon 21 DANCE MADCAPS Club, Marldon VH Tue 22 DANCE Sidford FDC at VH Wed 23 DANCE Honiton FDC, Gittisham VH MUSIC Laurels Inn, Petrockstowe Thu 24 DANCE Willand FDC at VH. Harry Turner

SONG

Devon Arms, Teignmouth Fri 25 DANCE Exeter FDC, Baptist Hall, Palace Gate Peter Moxom SONG Thorverton FSC, Exeter Inn Sat 26 DANCE Public Hall, Budleigh Salterton. Peter Moxom, Sundowners CALLER'S SWAP Eagle House Hotel, Launceston. 10.30 -1 pm, 2- 5 pm CONCERT St Clare's Centre, Seaton. Kissmet. Sun 27 SONG Topsham, Globe, Sean Lakeman & Kathryn Roberts Folk on the Moor, Moorlands, Wotter Mon 28 DANCE MADCAPS Club, Marldon VH <u>March</u> Tue 1 DANCE Sidford FDC at VH Lucky 7 FDC , Liverton VH SONG Racehorse, Tiverton Wed 2 DANCE Honiton FDC, Gittisham VH **STORY & SONG** Swan Inn, Lympstone Thu 3 SONG Bideford FS Joiners Arms. Judy Cook Kingsbridge, Crabshell Inn, Sat 5 CEILIDH South Brent VH Rumpus. 01364 72516 DANCE Fremington VH. Jane Thomas, band to be confirmed Civic Hall, Totnes. Sarah Bazeley & Dartmoor Pixie Band. SONG Old Ship Aground, Minehead. White Satin Slippers. SONG Sun 6 Folk on the Moor, Moorland Hotel, Wotter. Judy Cook Mon 7 DANCE MADCAPS Club. Marldon VH

Tue 8 CONCERT Axmouth Ch. Kletivo. 7.30 pm DANCE

Diary Dates (5)

Kingsteignton FDC at Comm. Hall Sidford FDC at VH Wed 9 DANCE Honiton FDC, Gittisham VH Thu 10 SONG Torquay FSC, Crown & Sceptre. Ed Rennie DANCE Willand FDC at VH. Rob Zikking Fri 11 SONG Roval Oak, Luxborough Globe. Exeter WORKSHOPS & CONCERT Sat 12 Singin' Spring, Morchard Bishop. Tim Laycock, New Scorpion Band, Eddie Upton + more. See display advert CEILIDH John Stocker Middle School, Exeter. Whapweasel. DANCE Willand VH. Mike Barraclough, Cruise Control CONCERT Ariel Centre, Totnes. Hoover The Dog. CONCERT Fremington VH. Two Rivers Folk. PLAYFORD Kingsteignton Community Hall, 2.15 pm Bob Franklin SONG Shammick Acoustic, Top George, Combe Martin. Sun 13 SONG Topsham, Globe, Mike Silver Folk on the Moor, Moorlands, Wotter Mon 14 DANCE MADCAPS Club, Marldon VH Tue 15 DANCE Sidford FDC at VH Lucky 7 FDC, Liverton VH Wed 16 DANCE Honiton FDC, Gittisham VH SONG Pennymoor Singaround, Black Dog Horndon, Elephant's Nest

Thu 17 DANCE Totnes FDC, Methodist Ch. Hall.

SONG Dartington, Queens Arms

Teign mouth, Oystercatcher Cafe, Fri 18 DANCE Dartington FDC at VH. Colin Hume D'Accord French & Breton. Phoenix Arts Centre, Exeter. SONG Exe FSC, Golden Lion, Exeter Scoriton, Tradesman's Arms. Sat 19 DANCE Public Hall, Budleigh Salterton. Eileen Nightingale, Amycrofters. PLAYFORD John Stocker Middle School, Exeter. 2.30 pm. Colin Hume, Gwyn George SONG Staghunters, Brendon SONG Sun 20 Folk on the Moor, Moorlands Hotel, Wotter. Derek Brimstone. Bere Ferrers, Old Plough, Mon 21 DANCE MADCAPS Club, Marldon VH Tue 22 DANCE Sidford FDC at VH Wed 23 MUSIC Laurels Inn, Petrockstowe Thu 24 DANCE Willand FDC at VH. Tony Mawson Fri 25 DANCE Exeter FDC, Baptist Hall, Palace Gate. Chris Miles. SONG Thorverton FSC, Exeter Inn. Sat 26 DANCE Launceston Town Hall. Sarah Bazeley, Dartmoor Pixie Band Sun 27 SONG Folk on the Moor, Moorlands, Wotter Tue 29 DANCE Lucky 7 FDC, Liverton VH Thu 31 SONG Devon Arms, Teignmouth <u>April</u> Sat 2 SONG Old Ship Aground, Minehead. Tim Laycock Sun 3 CONCERT Harberton VH. Dr. Faustus

SONG Folk on the Moor, Moorlands Hotel, Wotter. Rum & Shrub.

Useful contacts (5)

* Affiliated to EFDSS

<u>Ritual & Display Dance</u> <u>Groups (Morris, Sword,</u> <u>Clog, Appalachian, etc)</u>

Alive & Kicking Appalachian. Julie Page, Trelawney, Polson Hill, Morchard Bishop, Crediton. 01363 877546

Appalachian Controlee Jackie Holt, 17, Lower Fern Road, Newton Abbot. 01626 366731

Beltane Di Brooks, 01626 872903

Bideford Phoenix Morris Martin Boyle, 01237 423716

Blackawton Morris Chris Janman, 1, Castle Lane, Blackawton, Totnes. 01803 712362

Black Bess Suzanne Lovell, 01803 873908

Bovey Tracey Mummers Rod Wilkins 01803 812581

Churchwardens Morris Men Pat Dillon 01803 842176

Cogs & Wheels Fiona Elsworth, Sunopot, Liftondown, Lifton, PL16 7DB. 01566 784646 mandf.elsworth@btinternet.com

Dartmoor Border Steve Bussey, 01822 853085 steveandalisonbussey@tiscali.co.uk

Dartington Morris Men Brian Marks, 36, Powderham Road, Newton Abbot, TQ12 1EZ. 01626 360990 bagman@dartingtonmorrismen.org.uk

Exeter Morris Men Nick Lambert, 6, Chrystal Close, Tipton St John, EX10 0AY. 01404 813787

Exmoor Border Morris Lesley Wormald 01271 830759

Flaming Morris Colin Payne, 01404 850503 Firestone*

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

Glory of the West Morris Carol Mantell, Beggar's Roost, Higher Ashton, EX6 7QR. 01647 252740

Great Western Morris Men Trevor Cook, 1, Croft Cottage, Church Lane, Cheriton Bishop. EX6 6JU 01647 24307 <u>bagman@great-western.org.uk</u>

Green Willow Clog Sue Fildes 07768 625333

Grimspound Border Morris Gil Gill 01626 779795

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

Heather & Gorse Jenny Gill 01626 779795

Ilfracombe Red Petticoats Janet Ellis, 01271 342351

Meavy Morris Minors Sue Jones, 01822 859220

Newton Bushel Morris Men Anthony Job, 29, Innerbrook Road, Chelston, Torquay. 01803 607987

North Devon Mummers Francis & Barbara Verdigi 01271 813843

Plymouth Maids plymouthmaids@hotmail.com Jean Hawkins, 01752 303939

Plymouth Morris Men John Rundell, 01752 863113 plymmorris@cheerful.com

Raddon Hill Clog Morris Lesley Downes, Lower Brocks, Dunsford, EX6 7AB 01647 252767

Sidmouth Steppers NW Morris Jean Salt 01395 516590

Sweet Coppin Georgie Humble, 150 Henson Park, Chard, TA20 1NL. 01460 64569

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Useful contacts (6)

Tarka Morris Men Phil Heming 07785 478282 phil@bearstreetpharmacy.co.uk

Tormohun Morris Frances Popley, 01803 322543

Trigg Roger Hancock 01208 73907

Tudor Dance Group (16th Century Dance) Elizabeth Thurgood, Brookfield, Combe Water, Cotleigh, Honiton, EX14 9SQ. 01404 831512

Wheal Sophia NW Morris Colin Baker, 01404 841359

Winkleigh Morris Anne Bendix 01805 603599

Wreckers Morris SallyHamlyn 01822 832548 sally-@wreckers-morris.co.uk

National Organisations

EFDSS National HQ Cecil Sharp House, 2, Regent's Park Road, London NW1 7AY. 020 7485 2206

The Morris Federation Fee Lock, 28, Fairstone Close, Hastings, Sussex. 01424 436052. www.Morrisdancing.org

The Morris Ring John Frearson, 7, Birch Grove, Sandy, Beds. SG19 1NG. 01767 681057 www.themorrisring.org

Open Morris Ann Baines, 3, Admiral Way, Berkhampsted, Herts. 01442 872432

National Youth Folklore Troupe of England* Dave Leverton, 9, Garden Ground, Tadley Acres, Shepton Mallett, BA4 4DJ. 01749 344517 daveleverton@lycos.co.uk

<u>Festivals</u>

Bampton After The Fair End of October. Clare Penney 01884 860023

Baring-Gould Festival End of October. Tel/fax 01837 53754 sbg@wrentrust.co.uk

Bideford Folk Festival Mid- August. Jerry Bix 01237 470792

Cornwall Folk Festival. August Bank Holiday. 01736 850630

Dartmoor Folk Festival* August. P.J. Holmes, 78, Addison Close, Exeter, EX4 1SN

English Country Music Festival* Jason Rice, 12, Church Street, Crediton, EX17 5UU

Intervarsity Folk Dance Festival Richard Mason, 3, Kingfisher Drive, Exeter, EX4 4SN. 01392 411434

Malborough Music Festival Mid-August., 01548 561481 malborough.festival@ukonline.co.uk

Minehead Folk Festival Early July. Mike & Di Dibble 01643 841597

Pennymoor Song & Ale 1st weekend in June. Jon Shapley, 9, Higher Ley Nymet Rowland, Crediton, EX17 6AJ

Plymouth Folk Festival Marilyn Goldsbrough 01752 564847

Sidmouth Folk Week 29th July - 5th August 2005. www.sidmouthfolkweek.org.uk

Sourton, Fox & Hounds. Song weekend, 14th - 16th May 2005. Kathy Wallis & Jon Heslop 01579 363505. <u>Kathy.wallis@nasuwt.net</u>

Tavistock Children's Festival 2nd Sat. in May, Pannier Market. Mrs Margaret Owen 01822 855858

Teignmouth Folk Festival* June. Anne Gill, 01803 290427

Halsway Manor advert

(7) Useful contacts

01803 290427

01884 820438

01803 762645

01398 324018

01736 366284

01752 337501

01271 865030

01752 345045

01326 563564

01548 810038

01823 432642 01395 266553

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Bands

(Those in **bold type** have an advert. elswehthis magazine. * EFDSS affiliated)).

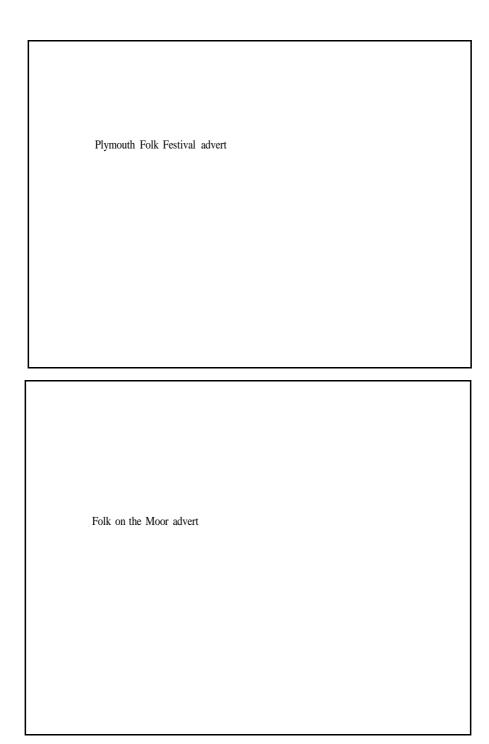
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Useful contacts (8)

Callers

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

Tom Addison 01392 420964 Colin Andrews 01363 877216 Graham Barrett 01823 461632 01837 840775 Sarah Bazeley Robert Blackborow 01823 322652 01237 476632 John Blackburn Peter Boskett 01392 468462 Adrian Brayley 01392 882036 01363 777009 Ken Breeze Linda Breeze 01363 776184 Tom Brown 01271 882366 Antony Brunt 01884 32701 Les Burden 01840 261708 Dennis Cook 01822 832002 Ted Farmer 01392 466326 Judy Forrow 01626 864042 Ray Goodswen 01872 560344 Sue Hamer-Moss 01805 601323 01823 323490 Susan Heard Jan Hewett 01404 41182 Gil Jefferies 01752 844138 Beryl Jukes 01209 712357 01579 351201 01395 266553 Rosie Longhurst Nicole Mac Mary Marker 01626 854141 Richard Mason 01392 411434 Barry Moule 01288 361625 Peter Moxom 01392 873606 Eileen Nightingale 01297 23409 Frances Oates 01209 217918 Mike & Sheila Palmer 01647 433464 Christine Potter 01278 451665 Kate Powell 01626 866257 John Searle 01872 862360 Tom Stevens 01872 240826 John Tarling 01297 34804 Jane Thomas 01884 855267 Garry Thompson Chris Thorne 01271 865030 01726 823275 Harry Turner Fred Ward 01823 664745 01271 882626 <u>Storytellers</u>

01837 82719 M & W Dacre Rough Magic (A.Oakley & 01837 810198 D.Newton) 01395 276569 Jenny Moon

Regional Contacts

Folknews Kernow Chris Ridley, Trenillocs, St. Column, Cornwall. 01637 880394

Avon Folk Diary

Dave Leverton, 9, Garden Ground, Tadley Acres, Shepton Mallett, BA4 4DJ . 01`749 344517

Dorset Folk

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

Folk London

Sheila Finn, 4a, Kenilworth Road, Petts Wood, Kent, BR5 1DY. 01689 825263

Folk South West

Eddie Upton, The Stables, Montacute House, Montacute, TA15 6XP. Tel. 01935 822911. Fax 01935 822024 folksw@folksw.org.uk

Halsway Manor Magazine Alan Corkett, Greengarth, Nether Stowey, Somerset. 01278 732202 alan-@bcorkett.freeserve.co.uk

Puddingstone (Herts) Libby Byne-Grey, 01920 460553

Shreds & Patches (Shropshire) Sheila Mainwaring, 1, Herbert Avenue, Wellington, Telford, Shropshire, TF1 2BT. 01952 240989

Somers Folklife

Sam Simmonds, 16, Barrett Rise, Malvern, WR14 2UJ. 01684 575704. somers.folklife@virgin.net

Taplas (Wales)

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

Wiltshire Folk Geoff Elwell, 3, Sarum Avenue, Melksham, Wilts. SN12 6BJ . 01225 703650

Worcestershire Folk Rosie McMinn 01527 854378

SOMETHING TO SHOW Mick Ryan and Pete Harris - WildGoose WGS 318 CD

"Something to Show - a mix of traditional songs and Mick Ryan's own compositions sung by one of the best traditional singers in the country. Pete Harris provides vocal harmonies and rich instrumental accompaniments." That's what it says on the box, so who am I to argue. What this bald statement can't convey is the richness of this CD. This CD is full of riches: rich in the selection of songs, rich in the sheer quality of their voices, both singly and together. Rich because traditional songs like *Farewell my dearest dear* and *The Two Brethren* are arranged and performed in a fresh, rhythmic style and yet still manage to keep true to the traditional unaccompanied approach.

Pete Harris plays a variety of instruments and is helped by Paul Burgess on fiddle, Paul Sartin on oboe and Tim Van Eyken on melodeon so there is greater tonal variation than previous CD's. Maybe because my own guitar playing background is in blues I find Pete's arrangements particularly pleasing. They are always accompaniment, they sit behind and support the song yet have a strong rhythmic drive that adds movement and interest behind Mick's voice. This works particularly on *Jack Went A-sailing*, a variation on the girl wanting to go to battle theme, with a happy ending. Maybe I'm just sentimental but this is my favourite track on this CD, with a lovely light touch and an Irish tune *The Maid Behind the Bar* set into the middle of the song to keep you in suspense for the outcome.

Anything I didn't like - well on a few of the tracks I found Mick's voice rather harsh, so I went and listened to their other CD's, just for comparison, and I think it must be choice of microphone or EQ on recording. The booklet is very informative on the sources of the songs and the background to Mick's compositions, but the song notes are not in the same order as the tracks, which managed to fool me a couple of times - but then that says more about me I suppose.

If you haven't heard Pete and Mick before this CD will be a good introduction. Whether you have or not, we have booked them for Bideford Folk Club on Thursday 14th April 2005 - so come and hear them then. This is a rich, diverse CD from a pair of the most talented folk performers in England - what more could you want!

IN PAPER HOUSES Pete Coe

Backshift Music BASH CD53

Whenever Pete Coe is on the programme of festivals we visit we always make sure we see him perform so I have heard most of these songs a number of times before coming to this CD. I have been trying to imagine what it would be like to listen to this CD if you like traditional folk but had never heard Pete Coe (alright I know that's unlikely but bear with me). I can only think that you would be completely blown away. Here are variations of songs and themes that you will instantly recognise but made fresh by their distinctive tunes, and Pete's performance and arrangements. Here you will find a minor key version of the *Mermaid* from Dorset, a spine-tingling *Outlandish Knight*, the *Northill May Song* and a *Wassail Song*. All familiar and yet made completely fresh. Pete not only opens your eyes (or should that be ears) to the wonderful diversity of our folk tradition but he also makes you realise that if you want to sing songs like these you too can look through the many collections and find a version that is mostly overlooked and make it your own.

This is a CD of many textures; on many songs he has Chris Coe and Johnny Adams singing and playing and the instruments include Pete on Appalacian dulcimer, banjo, bouzouki and melodeon, Chris on duet concertina and hammered dulcimer and Johnny on fiddle, keyboards and trombone! I haven't heard all of Pete's other CD's but I do know this captures his live performance in a studio recording. How often can you say that? If you do see Pete at a festival then you can buy this with complete confidence, it's every bit as good as listening to him in the flesh.

The booklet is very informative about the songs and sources and is very distinctive with its cover artwork. What's that all about then? I've sat here looking at it but I can't make it out, perhaps it's something to do with his shirt - the only way you will find out what I'm on about is to buy this CD - which would be a very wise move on your part.

Jerry Bix

Jerry Bix

DEJA FOU The Strawbs WM CD 2020

I introduced the Strawbs album to my CD player several weeks ago and settled down to listen attentively, hoping that I could write a rave review. As some say, 'first impressions last', and I have always trusted my first impressions. After the first play through, and had my lap top been open and on, I would have written a far from complimentary review. On several of the tracks it sounded as though the lead singer was on his way to the scaffold and was softly crooning to the grave he was soon to fill. However, I was wrong, oh so wrong! This album needs several plays and a careful examination of the lyrics. It is quite clever and the impending noose style of David Cousins really only kicks in with the words it is presumably intended to emphasise. Cousins is at his woeful best in the penultimate track, *Here Today*, Gone Tomorrow, but is subtlety different in the more lyrically upbeat tracks. After a couple of more plays I was reminded of Neil Young and his more or less use of mournful tone.

Once I was past my initial discomfort of the vocals I began to concentrate upon the instrumental elements of the album. It is obvious that the Strawbs are accomplished musicians and are very comfortable together. I'm not aware of how much remixing was necessary but the album has a very live feel to it. The aforementioned, Here Today, Gone Tomorrow simply pairs David Cousins and John Hawken with vocals and piano, but throughout the rest of the album there is an interesting mix of sounds from the main members of the band and occasionally additional help from a five piece orchestral string set. Though I am relatively new to the folk scene I expected this album to be very much in the folk genre. There are certainly tracks which I would describe as 'folksy'. However, there is also quite a hard edge to some the music which makes this album quite difficult to pigeon hole.

I started this review negatively but I hope it is obvious that I do like 'deja fou'. 12 tracks, 53 minutes of varied high quality musical talent is only really spoiled by one thing; a dire album cover. The blue background with red squiggles does nothing to sell it. The music does.

Patrick Pugh

(The Strawbs are at the St Clare's Centre, Seaton, on 12th February).



FAIR PLAY

PJ 008

And what is a puzzle jug? Well, I'm told on good authority that puzzle jugs go back a couple of hundred years or so and basically are a drinking vessel. But, as you may have guessed, a drinking vessel with a difference. The difference being, that around the rim is an arrangement of holes, the holes occasionally being interspersed with and through an intricate arrangement of cavities, linked to spouts. The principle object or use of a puzzle jug is to have a laugh at the expense of some unsuspecting soul. I'll leave you to use your imagination.

Puzzlejug

However, do not think that the name 'Puzzlejug' is in anyway a reflection on the group or indeed the music which they play. This is a very enjoyable CD, made by a group of five enthusiastic non-professional musicians.

There are 18 tracks on the CD - that alone has got to be value for money - which comprise a well balanced selection of material covering a wide area of the Folk idiom, from the very traditional, *The Irish Girl*, to two fine contemporary songs, *Drink The Winter Away* and *Joe Jones'* by Martin Graebe and Gwilym Davies respectively. It is, I feel, the overall variety of material that makes this CD so listenable.

Throughout the CD there is some sterling banjo playing by Colin Roffe underpinning many of the tracks and I particularly enjoyed the *Wild Hills O' Wannies*, a beautiful Northumbrian air hauntingly played on whistle by Geoff Ramshaw. This CD has everything with which to entertain the listener; traditional songs, contemporary songs, chorus songs, beautiful melodies and concludes in contemplative mood with a poem, *Cotswold Choice*.

I have just two criticisms. With two fiddles, two melodeons, two guitars and a keyboard available, *Fanny Power* could/should have been developed much further than the once-through setting. My second criticism is more fundamental. Appreciating the high standard of musicianship of Puzzlejug, I was disappointed by some of the lead singing, which for me, was lacking in quality. In a commercial world, this did have the effect of taking the edge off an otherwise excellent CD full of goodies.

Ken Hinchliffe

	Any folk website of interest?
Sounds Direct advert	Please let us know so we can pass of the details to others.
	What's Afoot operates a maga- zine exchange with folk publi- cations from other counties. Copies of magazines from other areas are always wel- come.

Available from Gwilym Davies. 01242 235662. (NB Gwilym is one of the workshop leaders at the forthcoming Singin' Spring).

SWAN-UPMANSHIP The Old Swan Band Wildgoose WGS 320 CD

Old Swan have been one of the most influential bands on the English folk dance scene for over thirty years, and it is most surprising that this album is their first recording for some twenty years. Their focus at the outset on melodeondriven English traditional tunes in slow polka rhythm augmented by brass ruffled more than a few feathers amongst the more conservative folk dancing fraternity, but they were at the forefront of the newly-developing 'ceilidh' scene which attracted a lot of new - and younger - blood to the delights of dancing to a vibrant, rhythmic sound.

When founder-members Rod & Danny Stradling left the band in 1982, the squeeze-box lead was replaced by an all fiddle melody line-up, which has been retained to this day. Three better English style fiddlers than Paul Burgess, Fi Fraser and Flos Headford you would be hard put to find ! The brass is still there, with the trombone of John Adams, tenor sax of Jo Freya and bass sax of Neil Gledhill, and the strong rhythm remains a key feature, with Martin Brinsford still on drums, and Heather Horsley on keyboard.

Their repertoire on this CD, though still largely English, nevertheless incorporates wider influences, and the range of rhythms that one would usually find on a folk dance album - reels, polkas, hornpipes, jigs, and waltz. Indeed, I can't believe any old stick-in-the-mud would find fault with the dance music on offer here; other bands are now pushing the boundaries and ruffling the feathers.

I thoroughly enjoyed this album. There's some old favourites, like Jimmy Garson's March, Winster Gallop, Soldier's Joy and Morpeth Rant, two different versions of Flowers of Edinburgh on different tracks, and some familiar strains of Oyster Girl found in a Basque tune (the title Basquet of Oysters is a very apt pun). Even if the high quality of the musicianship were not enough, several less familiar tunes gleaned from local sources in Gloucestershire to a waltz and schottiche from Sweden add to the interest. and Hopefully we won't have to wait another twenty vears for the next Old Swan recording! While they may not be at the cutting edge of the so called e-ceilidh scene, they are still as sharp as ever.

Colin Andrews

35

John Tarling Calling to recorded or live music Beginners to experienced All ages - children a speciality Up to 30 miles from Axminster Tel. 01297 34804

FURZE CAT WildGoose WGS319 CD

Hekety

Now here's a band of young musicians who are very much in the limelight in the modern folk scene, with Sidmouth Festival and Great Western Ceilidh appearances under their belt in this part of the world. Hailing, now, from Sheffield, three of the band (Richard & Jess Arrowsmith and Gavin Davenport) also perform with the song group, Crucible (reviewed in an earlier W.A.) and have been brought up in a folk music environment.

Their music is not quite so way out or experimental as some other bands doing the ceilidh scene, and to my mind they have achieved a delicate balance between their own contemporary compositions, such as Downhill Dream and Watergoat March (the sleeve notes give an amusing account of the naming of the latter) and traditional sounding offerings - though the Oddington version of *Young Collins* is one of the very few actual traditional tunes. The five- piece line up is used very effectively, the bass and guitar/cittern giving the driving rhythm, and the melodeon, clarinet and fiddle/viola intertwining melody and harmonies. By the way, Furze Cat, the title tune, is another name for the hare, an animal associated with the goddess Hecate. As they say on their notes, Hekety are a dance band, but also aim to make music worth listening to. They succeed on both counts.

Colin Andrews

(NB. Hekety are at the Great Western Ceilidh in January)

DISORDER HAG011 McDermott's 2 Hours versus Levellers

It's wasn't clear, until I'd looked at the sleeve notes, whether I'd got the title and group(s ?) name the right way round. It wasn't obvious, either, from the cover depicting classical style ORGANISED BY 'DEVON FOLK'

MUSIC WORKSHOPFOR FOLK DANCE MUSICIANS Led by Pete Mac

SATURDAY 23RD APRIL 2005

2pm for 2.30 - 5pm

THE PUBLIC HALL, STATION ROAD, BUDLEIGH SALTERTON,

The workshop will be at an intermediate level, and easier versions of some of the tunes will be available.

There will be some photocopies, and please bring Band Swing (arranged by Pete Mac and published by Dave Mallinson) if you have a copy - it will available on the day, should you wish to purchase it.

To book and to obtain photocopies in advance, contact Pete on 01395 266553. The cost of the workshop will be $\pounds 3$ - cheques payable to 'Devon Folk'.

THANKS TO EXMOUTH FOLK DANCE CLUB FOR SPONSORING THE WORKSHOP, AND FOR ORGANISING TEA AND BISCUITS.

Devon Folk AGM 6.30 pm Dance with John Bone & Weston Band at 8 pm

nudes, some hairy humanoid and a cloaked figure, what the album was all about. The notes weren't user friendly; the small white italic text on a dark background was in fact the lyrics of the songs written not as verse, but continuous text. All gave an impression of disorder - perhaps that was the intention - but nevertheless instilled a sense of curiosity.

The content is itself curious, almost anachronistic, with lyrics and subjects echoing the 'protest' songs of the sixties and seventies, though events referred to are often more recent. Perseverance with this album does pay off, however, for the vocal and instrumental arrangements are very well done, the lyrics well crafted and thought provoking, even where the message is inclined to be hard-hitting or possibly uncomfortable. *Party to the Process*, composed like all the other songs by Nick Burbridge, came across very powerfully - the Northern Ireland troubles encapsulated in the union of a Catholic girl and a British soldier.

Only after listening to the album a couple of times did I venture on to the listed websites, <u>www.burbridgearts.org</u> and <u>www.levellers.co.uk</u> for further background information. McDermott's 2 Hours and The Levellers are both folk-rock bands from the Brighton area, the first having appeared at Broadstairs and Wallingford Bunkfest, while the latter are at the Queen's Hall, Barnstaple, on 1st

FOOTLOOSE BARN DANCE BAND FOUR PIECE BAND OWN CALLER Mike & Sheila 01647 433464 Trevor 01769 520595 December. Between them, the five members of the groups on this CD feature guitars, bodhran,fiddle, mandolin, bass & drums, and additional instrumentation and vocals are provided by several guests.

I can't say that this album will have universal appeal to our readers (does, indeed, any?) but of its genre, it's darn good. At least you should have some idea of what to expect now the enigimatic packaging has been unwrapped.

Colin Andrews

TRACKS NORTH Music from Shetland **Double CD (Shetland Arts Trust)**

They don't come from much further afield in the British Isles than this double CD which I think is a promotional album rather than a commercially available product in its own right. Its aim is to demonstrate that these small and remote group of islands has its own very rich folk music heritage not just Aly Bain and Catriona Macdonald, two Shetland artists whose names are familiar in the folk world - and is no minnow in contributing to the wider popular music scene in this country. One CD is given over to 'traditional' music, with various bands playing largely 'local' tunes, though the medley of West End Musical numbers by the Alan Nicholson Band sticks out like a sore thumb in this respect. With regard to the second CD of 'contemporary imprints', the fact that the artists come from the Shetlands is almost incidental, talented though they undoubtedly are. Much selfpenned material shares the programme with John Lennon's Imagine (sung far better, in my opinion, by Exeter's own Martyn Cornelius, than by Jillian Isbister on this CD), and Somewhere Over The Rainbow softly crooned by Hom Bru (That's not something you'll get from our Home Brew Band!).

For more information on the the performers featured on this album, see www.shetland-music.com or ring 01595 692941. There are some good CDs of Shetland music out there !

Colin Andrews

NARRATIVE Fellside FECD185

Ed Rennie

Since Ed moved to Crediton a couple of years or so ago, regulars at clubs and pub sessions in Devon have come to appreciate that he's not only the box player with the Bismarcks, but a very fine singer as well. In a singaround format he often sings unaccompanied, so one would not necessarily be aware that guitar and cittern accompaniments also feature among his talents.

I first heard his CD 'unedited , unpolished' and untitled, as he'd asked permission to 'borrow' a song from my repertoire and was interested in my reaction to his arrangement. Ed need not have worried - with some subtle variations in the tune and a gentle guitar accompaniment to the Wimborne Valentine, he has certainly given the a new lease of life to this little gem.

Ed Rennie has one of those crystal clear voices, gentle yet holding one's attention in lengthy ballads such as Lord Bateman or The Little House Carpenter as well as in the more compact songs of love (whether fulfilled or unrequited) as in Green Grow The Laurels, The Young London Waterman, and My Love is Like. Who am I to disagree with his sleeve notes (on Colin & Phoebe) that Colins are underepresented in folk songs. Ed hasn't forsaken his melodeon, for the album includes three instrumentals, from Scan Tester (played very much in Mark Bazeley's Dartmoor stepdance style), from Finland (*Umreen Alotus*) and from the computer (4th Dragoon's March).

Ed's name is already beginning to feature on the

Bloatertown advert	guest list at folk fes- tivals around the country and with such a wealth of good material on this album, attractive art work on the cover, and the endorsement of Fellside, one of the top folk labels in the country, his bill- ing is bound to be- come even more prominent. Colin Andrews
	(Ed Rennie will be one of the workshop leaders at Singin' Spring)

GHOSTS & LOVERS The Mellstock Band

SER 007

GLAD TIDINGS: a West Gallery Christmas The Mellstock Band SER 008

The CDs above are the latest from The Mellstock Band and are perfect for Christmas presents for anyone who enjoys traditional music performed at its best. The enthusiasm and fun of the band's live performances is conveyed and will raise the spirits instantly.

On Ghosts & Lovers the material is drawn from a show that the band launched in 2003 in which they 'bring you tales of dread and delight from hidden byways of rural tradition'. Among the 19 tracks, there are 5 instrumentals, all of them excellent: both The Kingsbridge Variations, variations on a West Gallery tune called Kingsbridge, and the final track, The Reel, a medley inspired by a recording of Tintagel & Boscastle Players made in 1943 incorporating the main theme, *Dorset Four-Hand Reel* with *Mark Well My Words, The Furry Dance* and *The Sherrifs Ride*, have been played many times since the CD was acquired. The remainder of the tracks are folk songs in the broadest sense. The West Country is with songs drawn from well represented Cornwall, Devon and Dorset. These include ballads, a psalm setting and nonsense songs such as Colin's Ghost, which might amuse our editor.

Glad Tidings brings together some of the band's favourite carols, 'familiar Christmas carols in unfamiliar guise'. The band are joined by Vivien Ellis, Helen Chadwick, Jeremy Avis and Ian Giles on vocals, Pete Copper and Giles Lewin on violin, and Gill Redmond on cello. The combination is ideal. The renditions have a vitality to suit the style of traditional harmony singing that has become known as "West Gallery music" or "country psalmody". The music dates from the early 1700s and has seen a revival within the past 15 years. Some versions are taken from living carolling traditions, some form the American tradition of Sacred Harp singing and some from contemporary music books. If you are not already doing so, you will want to sing carols like these once you have heard this CD.

Having bought the CDs, which I strongly recommend, you may want to book the band for a concert or sing West Gallery music. To book the band contact them at the address below; to sing West Gallery music, come to Singing Spring in 3 piece Dance Band Accordion, fiddle, keyboard

Petronella

Specialists in Scottish, Playford,, Contras & Squares

Contact Mary 01626 854141 or Hazel 01884 820438

Morchard Bishop on 12th March 2005 where there will be a workshop, and, to the South West Quires Day near Taunton on 19th March 2005, both mentioned above.

The CDs are available from direct from the SERPENT PRESS, 22, Swinbourne Road, Littlemore, Oxford OX4 4PQ. (www.mellstockband.com)

Jacqueline Patten

Just received from Veteran:

Yon Green Banks New 'live' recordings of Will Noble and John Cocking from South Yorkshire VT147CD

Old Uncle Tom Cobleigh And All A compilation of folk songs from Somerset Devon & Cornwall featuring Bob Cann, George Withers, Charlie Pitman and Tommy Morrissey. VTC9CD

Full review in next What's Afoot. In the meantime, visit Veteran's new website at:

www.veteran.co.uk

Moon Coin advert

WILLAND FOLK DANCE CLUB

THURSDAY CLUB NIGHTS

8.00 - 10.30 pm in the Village Hall

Dec.9th Club Christmas Party. Jane Thomas & The Haymakers. 8 -11 pm. Bring & share supper. Members free, non-members £2 Everyone welcome.

Jan. 13thPeter Boskett & tapesJan. 27thRobert Blackborow & Bridgwater BandFeb. 10thSarah Bazeley & Mark Bazeley*Feb. 24thHarry Turner & club musiciansMar. 10thRob Zikking & tapesMar. 24thTony Mawson & club musicians

Advance notice: April 14th Annual Dinner & Dance at V.H. Ticket only. 7.30 - 11.30 pm. Aileen Wills & Weston C.D. Band

Contact: Vivien & David Challinor 01823 274810 *Committee Meeting



EXMOUTH FDC advert

NO EXCUSES GUIDE - CELTIC MUSIC NO EXCUSES GUIDE - DIDGERIDOO

It's not often something really original and interesting comes through my door, but these two PC & Apple compatible CD-ROMs genuinely are intended to make learning and playing an instrument fun.. They are part of a series of instructional guides for other instruments - guitar, drums, keyboard, bass etc - and interactive jam sessions.

The Celtic package consists of a CD-ROM, which provides instruction and background information on the music and the instruments, a tune book, and an interactive DVD featuring top session band The Sturdy Beggars. The 5 piece group, which includes flautist Matt Walklate (whose CD was reviewed in an earlier issue) and members of the young band Uiscedwr, winners of BBC Young Folk Musicians award. Set in a bar (where the pint of guinness remains unconsumed!) you can watch the group play, join in, or even replace one of the group yourself. There's a good selection of interesting tunes, mostly Irish, but also with a Scottish and Breton set, though no Welsh! The package is worth it, just for the DVD alone!

The Didgeridoo is a rather specialist and , to some, an acquired taste, but the pack here certainly explores its full potential , with playing techniques & styles, breathing exercises, history,

and even a D.I.Y didge making guide. The audio CD which accompanies the CD-ROM contains a selection of tracks from other No Excuse guides & DVDs. Some tracks feature the didge.

These packs are available from Moonroller Ltd, 6, Mavins Rd, Farnham, GU9 8JT. More details on <u>www.noexcusesguides.com</u> and www.moonroller.com

Colin Andrews

THE FIRST WEEK IN AUGUST Fifty years of the Sidmouth Festival Derek Schofield

It's ironic that Sidmouth International Festival Ltd, publishers of this book have now pulled out of the festival !. Nevertheless, this is a superb illustrated account of the history of Sidmouth festival, from its tiny beginning in 1955 wilh a hundred EFDSS folk dancers to the vibrant, multi-faceted event that has attracted thousands of participants and spectators to the town for many years. Derek Schofield has done an excellent job researching the background , and collecting photographs and anecdotes, to produce a highly readable, entertaining and informative volume that every Sidmouth veteran should buy.

Colin Andrews

Available, price £25, from P.O.Box 296, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 3XU isbn 0954750209

EXMOUTH YWCA FOLK CLUB

You are invited to a WORKSHOP on Audrey Laver's

SIDMOUTH COLLECTION

Saturday 12th February 2005

2.30 - 4.30 pm

ALEXANDRA HOUSE 59 IMPERIAL ROAD EXMOUTH

Further details from Audrey Laver, Sidmouth 516577

We meet every Wednesday at Alexandra House, 2.15 - 4.30 pm Wide repertoire of Playford dances

Everybody welcome

Morris Matters

CHINESE TAKEAWAY? Just returned from an extended visit to China, **Baz Bix** of **Tarka Morris**, accompanied by Chloe Watson and two students, have been teaching Morris and English music to children there and recording ethnic music from some of the more remote regions of that vast country. A full report is expected in the next What's Afoot.



BOXING CLEVER John Golightly, from Langtree, was this year's winner of a brand new Hohner D/G melodeon in the 2004 Melodeon Competition at the Sidmouth Festival. Sponsored by The Music Room, competitors were required to perform two pieces of their own choice within a 7 minute time limit using an instrument from the diatonic melodeon familv. John is now a regular musician with Winkleigh Morris, but has been playing music for over 30 years on piano accordion, C/C# melodeon, and for the last year the D/G meldeon (a special birthday gift from his partner, Sue Hamer-Moss). John was a founder member of Hexham Morris (along with Paul Tabbush, father of the talented young group, the Tabbush Sisters), and has also played for Guernsey-based Belles and Broomsticks, and Jackstraws, from Farnborough, with whom he and Sue still have an active association.

A 300th CELEBRATION KenHudson In celebration of their own 50th Jubilee, the Uttoxeter Morris Men played hosts for the 300th meeting of the Morris Ring, and chose the village of Abbots Bromley in Staffordshire as the venue

for these two events. From close to the Derbyshire border, tours moved off on the Saturday morning in various directions in a variety of vintage (or at least veteran) buses and coaches. Dartington Morris Men found themselves on a double decker Western National Bus (circa 1930), apparently borrowed from our own Dart Valley Railway for the Summer and proudly displaying 'Plymouth' as its destination. Our tour took in Ashbourne, Carsington Water Visitors' Centre, Crich Tramway Museum and the ruins of Tutbury Castle. The Sunday procession to the village church was led by a Shire horse from Coors Brewery, and, afterwards, a full performance of the traditional Abbots Bromley Horn Dance was a highlight of the weekend. The 'old Squire', Cliff Marchant, of **Chanctonbury Ring MM**, danced out to his successor, Bob Cross, of Chalice MM, who 'danced in'.

Dartington Morris Men's winter programme includes: Sat. 18th Dec., Dartington Cider Press; Sun. 26th Dec., The Plains, Totnes; Sat. 1st Jan., Hope & Anchor, Hope Cove. All at midday.

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