

No 119 Spring What's Afoot

The official magazine of
Devon Folk
dance song music mores



Pete Morton and Geoff Lakeman in Here At The Fair. Picture: Robert Jones

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Phillip Henry and Hannah Martin will be making a return to the Flavel with their new band, Edgelarks. They are now well established as one of the leading acts on the folk music scene and their track record of terrific live performances and superb albums was recognised at the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards where they won Best Duo in 2014 and were nominated in both 2016 and 2018. Edgelarks is both the name of their new band but also their 4th album released in 2017. Their 2019 tour will feature material from a new album to be released in May. *"Subtly atmospheric": Robin Denselow The Guardian*

STOP PRESS: Flavel perennial favourite *MARTIN SIMPSON* returns on Thursday 12th September in a concert featuring work from a new album to be released in the summer.

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EDITORIAL

'Thou mettest with things dying, I with things newborn.'
These words from Shakespeare's The Winter's Tale seem appropriate in an issue where we bid farewell to three more people who have passed on to the great session in the sky. For on the plus side, April sees the New Roots competition in St Albans where talented youngsters from across the country gather to show their skills and win an opportunity to perform at leading folk clubs and festivals, including Sidmouth. A few years back, I was at a club where two boys barely in their teens performed a brilliant "showcase prize" spot on melodeon and fiddle. Jim Causley, who, with the band Mawkin, was the main act, joked: "It's not fair! A few years ago WE were the Young Musicians of the Year. There ought to be a rule to stop bright youngsters coming up after us!" Fortunately for us all, the youngsters keep coming. In the century before last, Baring-Gould feared folk music was dying out but this hardy plant keeps going. If you're attending the Sidmouth festival this year, do make an effort to seek out and cheer on the next generation of talent.

NEXT COPY DEADLINE: MAY 20th 2019

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Geoff squeezes



Concertina virtuoso and singer GEOFF LAKEMAN explains how he got roped into Mick Ryan's latest opus, Here At The Fair

WHEN the home phone rang and a soft-voiced male said: “Hi Geoff, it’s Mick Ryan here,” I had no idea what was in store. “We’ve not met,” he said and I secretly thought to myself how I’d only ever seen him sing a couple of times. But what a voice! And his reputation as a writer of “ear-worm” songs and author of half-a-dozen previous folk operas was certainly the hook for me.

He’d written yet another musical, he went on, and would I like to be in it? To be fair, I don’t think I was first choice. Finding able and suitable artists for such a project must be a super headache. I know Paul Downes, the Topsham guitarist and singer who appears in the band Crows with Mick and others, had decided to step down after appearing in other shows.

Then the hugely talented Greg Russell and Ciaran Algar – who wanted to be involved – found their gig dates becoming overcrowded. I think Mr Coopes, of Coopes, Boyes and Simpson, was also toying with the idea of taking a part.

But why me? Mick said he loved my debut CD *After All These Years* which has prompted a string of unexpected festivals, arts centres, folk clubs and other gigs over the past couple of years, and my name had been mentioned by other “professionals.”

After 50 years as a journalist in “Fleet Street”, I was supposed to be retired. But to be properly validated as a musician, after an adult lifetime of being involved at amateur level in folk clubs – Mick’s offer was just too much for my ego!

“There’s eight of us in the cast and we’ll all act,” said Mick. “Whoah,” I said. “I’ve never acted in my life, don’t know if I could even remember the words.” Mick’s retort was: “No bother, it’s just

like learning lines of a song.” (The silver-tongued wotsit.)

“And, as well as singing solos, you’ll be in the band for the whole show,” he added. “I’ve written 20-plus original songs and you’ll have to learn to sing and play them all.”

TWENTY SONGS! That’s like two new CDs’ worth, I thought. And I don’t even read music.

But I needn’t have worried because neither does Mick, despite the genius that he displays in writing both the libretto and music of his shows.

He sent me a CD of him singing all the songs, with a professional pianist pal accompanying him.

So...it was down to the hard work at my cottage on Dartmoor, laboriously learning the words and notes, working out the chord progressions and playing them over and over again.

I was captivated. Firstly, by the theme of the show. *Here at the Fair* is about a group of travelling players in 1849 and there is a real carnival atmosphere about much of the production. But, like all of Mick’s projects, there is a serious socio-political background to the story. In this case it connects to this year’s 100th anniversary of the Peterloo Massacre in Manchester in 1819.

I was aware of the story, because I am a Socialist and campaigner for human rights and equalities. But this was an episode sadly – to this day – virtually ignored in our schools and general education: a meeting of between 60,000 and 80,000 people at St Peter’s Field in a peaceful demonstration to demand emancipation (and this was for men, never mind women). If you want to understand the brutal truth of it all, go see Mike Leigh’s vivid *Peterloo* film which depicts the story

into a new role



IF YOU haven't seen the show or would like a souvenir, it has been recorded. As you'd expect from Mick Ryan, *Here At The Fair* is stuffed with good songs. These range from the rollicking *Maldini's Cure All* (by our Geoff) to the poignant *The Old Joke* and biting social commentary, *You Can't Fool Me* by Cohen Braithwaite-Kilcoyne. Cohen reminds us entertainment has been used to divert the masses from the real problems of the day since the time of the Roman circuses. That point is driven home by the final song, *People Must Be Amused*. There is no dialogue but if you haven't seen the show the sleeve notes help with the plot. The most "visual" song is Pete Morton's *I Have Fleas!* with his instructions to his performing insects bringing the flea circus to life. The double CD is just £9.99 from Wild Goose.

in graphic detail. The worried city fathers of Manchester, ruled by the greedy mill owners, feared Henry Hunt, the main speech-maker and the reforms that were being demanded.

Don't forget these had been revolutionary times in both France and America, and the establishment were anxious to preserve the status quo.

AFTER the local mounted militia were sent into the peaceable crowd – which included many innocent women and children – there was mayhem. Many of the troopers were drunk and trampled the folk with their horses or slashed at them with their sabres. It is thought 600 were wounded and anything between 11 and 18 may have died. Exact figures were difficult to establish because victims feared prosecution or losing their jobs if it was known they'd been at the demonstration.

So, all this sounds heavy fare for a folk musical. But, don't be put off, because it is a rollicking family show, with many light-hearted moments – with gentle and subtle reminders here and there of the Peterloo Massacre background. I, for example, play the Great Maldini, a snake-oil salesman/purveyor of dodgy "medicine". But one poignant moment in the play is when I sing a song that tells how I was actually at Peterloo with my wife, who was run down by the troopers and later died.

The other "bait" to join the show was the

amazing cast members. There is Mick, of course, and another folk legend, Pete Morton, who has appeared in several previous shows.

Alice Jones, the all-singing, all-dancing Yorkshire Whirling Dervish, as I call her, had already signed up, together with veteran actress and singer Heather Bradford. The icing on the cake was securing the services of three of the brightest new talents on the folk scene, Granny's Attic, all of whom have just graduated from different music colleges: Lewis Wood on fiddle, George Samsone on guitar and euphonium and Cohen Braithwaite-Kilcoyne on anglo concertina and melodeon.

Logistics were a bit of a nightmare. The three young lads live in Yorkshire, the West Midlands and Southampton. Mick is in Poole, Dorset, I'm in Devon, Heather is in Winchester, Alice in North Yorkshire and Pete never seems to live anywhere – he's always on the move.

So, getting together for three days at a time, for rehearsals, proved difficult. I missed the first get-together because I was out gigging. Then, horror of horror, at the first rehearsals I attended, I launched into the title, first song of the show... only to be stopped by Mick.

"Oh, sorry," he said. "We've changed the key. In fact, we've changed the keys of most songs, mainly to fit the voices of the characters."

I was a bit stumped because I'd slaved over

folk music & song on Sunday evenings at

topsham folk club

spring concerts 2019



Daoiri Farrell - Matthews Hall • Fore Street • Topsham EX3 0HF
Sunday 7 April 2019 at 8pm £12 adv/£14 door

Dublin-born traditional singer and bouzouki player Daoirí (pronounced 'Derry') Farrell is being described by some of the biggest names in Irish folk music as one of most important singers to come out of Ireland in recent years. Winner of the Horizon Award and Best Traditional Track at the BBC Folk Awards 2017. www.daoiri.com

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Sunday 7 July 2019 at 8pm £10 adv/£12 door

Ryan Young, who is a young fiddle player from Scotland, has exploded onto the traditional scene in the last 18 months - one of a 'new wave' of young players bringing fresh and inventive ideas to traditional Scottish music. Ryan focuses mainly on Scottish music, bringing new life to very old, often forgotten tunes by playing them in his own unique way. He is accompanied here by Jenn Butterworth on guitar. www.ryanyoung.scot

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Folk Opera



*GEOFF mentions he was able to deal with key changes in the score of **Here At The Fair**, because his instrument is chromatic. He plays the Crane duet system, once favoured by the Salvation Army which considered the layout of the keys “more suited to the playing of sacred music”. As this picture of one of his concertinas – a Jeffries – shows, there are five rows of keys. The three inner rows can be thought of as the white notes on a piano, while the two outer rows are the black notes, the flats and sharps. Like the English system, the note is the same whether the bellows are pulled out or pushed in. Unlike the English, a whole scale can be played on one side so a melody can be performed with the right hand while the left hand provides an accompaniment.*

learning the songs. Although my Crane duet concertina is a fully-chromatic instrument, I didn't think I could instantly just “bang out” the tunes in other keys. But the three young Turks were my saviours, calling out the chord progressions so I could mark up my copy of the “score” and quickly re-learn the songs.

It was a challenge for me, because Maldini was the very first speech and song in the show after the opening number sung by the whole cast. But Mick, Heather and Pete, with their experience, were a huge help, with tips about how to move about the stage and play and sing at the same time.

The thing I loved the most – although I have played in trios and, of course, in many sessions – was being in a six-piece band, backing all the cast on their various songs. I think this was captured ever so well by the producer Doug Bailey at Wildgoose Records when we recorded the show.

At subsequent rehearsals we speeded up the continuity between the speeches/lines and tunes and grew in confidence in telling our story.

There are moments of high humour, especially Pete Morton's animated demonstration of a flea circus, dressed as a “ringmaster” in top hat and riding boots. And Alice Jones devised a stepdance sequence to depict the stampeding, sabre-slashing massacre that is riveting.

We've kept stage props sparse... and even the dialogue spoken by the characters is minimal. The

story is told by the songs and the stirring music behind them. Others have told me that our “premiere” of the show, on the main stage at last year's Chippenham Folk Festival, was a triumph. This summer we have a half-a-dozen major performances coming up, including Shrewsbury and Warwick Festivals and another show in Ripponden, Yorkshire.

Sadly, no gig yet in Devon. But if you are west-country based then catch *Here At The Fair* at Bude Folk Festival in May or at Cornwall Folk Festival at Wadebridge.

My two solos are strong songs. I've done them in sessions and might well put them in a gig. *Maldini's Cure-All* is a tongue twisting comic affair and *I Was There* is a solemn recall of the actual Peterloo Massacre.

● **Here At The Fair is scheduled for: Bude & Stratton Folk Festival, Saturday 25 May, 8pm in the Falcon Hotel, Breakwater Road, Bude, (www.budefolkfest.com) and the Cornwall Folk Festival on the main stage, Sunday August 25, 7:30pm (<https://cornwallfolkfestival.com>). For Geoff's solo gigs, check our listings pages and keep an eye on the Flaxey Green website.**

● **Geoff's Here At The Fair co-stars, Granny's Attic can be seen at the South Brent Folk Day on Saturday July 6 Also appearing are Geoff's son Sean and daughter-in-law Kathryn. See the advert on page 40 for more details.**

21st Teignmouth Folk Festival

21st 23rd June 2019



Jim Payne from Newfoundland, Paul Wilson & Marilyn Tucker - Shore to Shore

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Contact: Anne Gill 01803 290427

Many a good tune has been played on this very old fiddle



Festival hears the violin that once played for Baring-Gould

A FIDDLE that belonged to one of Sabine Baring-Gould's Dartmoor musicians sounded out loud and clear at the South Brent festival.

Becki Driscoll performed the music of William Andrew on the violin that had been passed down through his family for generations although its historic connection had been forgotten.

William was a farmer at West Hellingtown Farm, Sheepstor, and a keen amateur musician who played for himself and for local dances. In the ceiling of his cottage he had rack full of music.

Baring-Gould visited him several times to collect songs and tunes. The first meeting was a failure but in 1892, when the parson came with his collaborator Frederick Bussell, William's "shyness was broken down and we spent two hours with him, noting down his old airs.

"We might have got more," Baring-Gould wrote, "but the Rector kindly came in and insisted on our going to tea with him. We could not refuse and then had to hasten to catch our train to return and, as we passed, more than an hour after having left the old man, we heard him still fiddling."

The instrument William was playing then is probably the one heard at South Brent.

William passed on a wealth of material but, as

Baring-Gould's biographer Martin Graebe (see WA 118 for a review of his book, *As I Walked Out*) has pointed out, the parson could often be a bit sloppy when it came to details. He recorded the farmer's name as Andrews not Andrew and that error has been perpetuated.

The Wren Trust has produced a fine collection, *The William Andrews Tunebook*. The title may be slightly wrong but everything else is right and the collection shows William was no mean fiddler, with the melodies not just staying in the average fiddler's "safe" keys of D and G but straying into C, F and Bb. In this magazine we give an example tune (not found in the Wren book) that jumps from E minor to E major. At the South Brent concert, Becki performed two untitled hornpipes in Bb and F from the book.

So how did the instrument come into Becki's hands? After William died on January 1, 1895, the fiddle stayed in his family, ending up with his great-granddaughter, Jillian Elford of South Brent.

"We had no idea what it meant," she said. "My aunt used to play it and our daughter Penny took violin lessons on it."

But it was their other daughter Lucy, now living in the United States near Chicago, who discovered

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Blast From The Past

the violin's historic role while researching her family tree. When she told her parents, they took it to Devon Strings in Exeter where Jonathan and Rebecca Springall set about restoring it.

Devon Strings then contacted expert fiddle players Becki and her partner Nick Wyke who have done a great deal to promote the music of William Andrew through their concerts and workshops. "Devon Strings told us about it," said Becki. "I was allowed to borrow it for the South Brent concert."

What sort of violin is it? Jonathan Springall said: "It's a 19th century German copy of a Giovanni Palo Maggini but with a little bit of Strad as German makers would mix up styles. It's not a bad violin. The equivalent today would cost about £1,000. Sadly, it's in quite a delicate state. Full restoration would take a lot of work but we got it into a playing condition. We set it up with a wound G, a gut D and A and a steel E."

Becki commented: "It's very different kind of instrument from mine. I couldn't quite get to grips with it until I played the bouncy hornpipes from William's book and then it worked. Suddenly the fiddle just came alive."

The tunes certainly did come alive and it was a privilege to hear the tunes as Baring-Gould might have heard them. There are two videos on YouTube of Nick playing William Andrew melodies on the instrument. Google: Nick Wyke Trip to the Cottage or Nick Wyke Lord Nelson's Hornpipe.

Let's hope this fiddle is allowed to make another outing. Keep an eye on Nick and Becki's website, www.englishfiddle.com The book can be obtained from the Wren Trust or Devon Strings, 1 Bartholomew St W, Exeter EX4 3AJ.

John Foxen

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A Devon Tune

Old Adam The Poacher

Tune collected from William Andrew by Sabine Baring-Gould



BARING-GOULD collected this dance tune from William Andrew a year before the farmer's death.

William said there was a song attached to it but could not remember the words, only that they told of the adventures of "Old Adam, the Poacher". The parson wrote his own words for the second edition of *Songs Of The West* but they are not really worth

printing here. Far more interesting is the way the tune jumps from E minor to E major. It's a hypnotic melody and could possibly have been used for some sort of round dance. What's Afoot would be interested to hear the views of dancers and callers on the the sort of dance that Old Adam might have accompanied.



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| April 27 | Jim Causley, Devon's own |
| May 11 | Open Night |
| May 18 | (3 rd Sat) John Doyle, Irish singer/musician over from the US |
| June 8 | Open Night |
| June 22 | Alison Frosdick & Jack Burnaby, trad, music-hall and original songs |
| July 13 | Open Night |
| July 27 | Helen North, captivating singer and songsmith's second visit |



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Members £3.50 / Non-members £4.00 – See Diary Dates for more information
Contact Marilyn Broom 01404 47200 or Zena Roberts 01884 253546

What's On Where

THE latest listings appear in the following section. We try our best to keep up to date but events can be subject to change (especially at folk clubs) so we suggest you check before setting off, either by ringing the organisers or going to the venue's website.

If no contact details have been provided, an excellent reference point is the flaxey-green website www.flaxey-green.co.uk

Contact details for clubs, bands and callers and diary dates for regular and specific events are now being coordinated by Trevor Paul. Any information sent to [diary@](mailto:diary@devonfolk.org.uk)

devonfolk.org.uk or trevor@flaxey-green.co.uk will be shared between Devon Folk publications (What's Afoot and website) and the 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 Devon Folk website www.devonfolk.org.uk has the latest updates that we have been given.

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

Teignmouth Folk Club The Oystercatcher's Café Northumberland Place

Last Thursday in the Month
8pm Free admission

Thurs 25th April – Guest Night
Back Beach Boys

Thurs 30th May Musicians/Singers Open Night

Thurs 27th June Musicians/Singers Open Night

Further details from
Martyn Hillstead
01626 778071/07904037812
martyng@aoi.com



The Joiners Arms
Market Place, Bideford, EX30 2DR

Friendly weekly club – bring a song or tune, join in or just sit and listen. Everyone welcome.
Singsounds most weeks with about eight guests year.
Upstairs in the skittle alley.

April 25th - Guest Night
'Silvinton'

June 13th - Guest Night
'Quicksilver'

Website: www.bidefordfolkclub.com

John Purser
01237 424286
bidefolk@gmail.com

Regular Events

MONDAY WEEKLY

SESSION Appledore Royal Hotel Totnes, Bay Horse

DANCE

Bridport FDC (except hols). WI Hall. 7.30pm Monty Crook, 01308 423442.

Chudleigh FDC, Chudleigh Town Hall. Term time. From 7pm. Mary Marker 01626 854141

Kilminster VH, 2-4pm. Janet Bulpin 01297 33019

Sidford Scottish at VH

SONG Kingsteignton, Acoustic Warehouse, Passage House Inn, 7.30pm. Nigel 07989 180091

MONDAY FORTNIGHTLY

SESSION

Fremington New Inn (1st, 3rd)

Totnes, Bay Horse (1st, 3rd) 8.30pm

MONDAY MONTHLY

MUSIC

Chittlehampton, Bell Inn (2nd).

Totnes, Bay Horse (4th) Irish.

Welcome, Old Smithy (2nd) Irish.

SESSION

Clovelly, Red Lion (1st)

Moretonhampstead, White Horse (last)

Plymouth, Dolphin (2nd)

South Zeal, Kings Arms (3rd)

Topsham, Bridge Inn (2nd) Blues

STORY Totnes, Pie Street. (2nd) South Devon Storytellers, 7.30pm

TUESDAY WEEKLY

SESSION Appledore, The Champ **DANCE**

Exmouth Isca Scottish Dancers, Sept-May. East Budleigh Church Hall 7.30pm. Mr & Mrs VJ Tyler, 01395 276913

Farringdon VH, EX5 2HZ, Isca Allemanders Square Dance Club. 7.30pm Carol Lockton 01626 867392

Launceston FDC (Not July, Aug). St John Ambulance Hall. Rosemary

01566 774491

Plymouth, Country Dance. (Sept - May). Trinity URC Hall. Jacqui Joint, 01752 774484

Sidford FDC at VH. Helen 01395 514161

Totnes Scottish Folk, 7.15pm King Edward VI School

TUESDAY FORTNIGHTLY

SONG Bradninch White Lion(1st), Castle (3rd)

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

SESSION Exmouth Manor Hotel (3rd, 5th) Jeff Lewis 01395 269232 **DANCE Kingsteignton** FDC.

Church Hall. Jean Foster 01626 363887 (2nd, 4th)

Wiveliscombe FDC, (2nd, 4th). Community Centre. 01984 624595 breadpud85@outlook.com

SONG

Plymouth, Artillery Arms (1st, 3rd) 8.30pm Marilyn Cowan 01752 309983

South Brent, Pack Horse (2nd, 4th) 8.30pm Eileen McKee 01364 73699

TUESDAY MONTHLY

SESSION

Albaston, Queens Head, 1st

Bradninch, West End Hall. (2nd).

Colin Wilson 01392882036

Calstock, Boot Inn (2nd) Mike 07725 579718

Chipshop (nr Tavistock) Cooper Penny, 8pm (4th)

Frogmore, Globe Inn (1st). 8.30pm.

Shebbear, Devil's Stone (2nd)

SONG Coleford, New Inn (last) 01363 84914

Nadderwater, Royal Oak (3rd) Exeter Trad. FSC

Sandford, Lamb Inn (1st) Paul & Hazel 01363 776275

MUSIC Topsham, Bridge Inn (1st)

WEDNESDAY WEEKLY

SESSION Appledore, Royal Hotel

DANCE Bideford FDC, Northam

VH. Chris Jewell, 01237 423554 **Gittisham** FDC at VH. 01404 813129

Newton Abbot, Jolly Farmer. Irish. Maggie Daniel, 01626 204350

West Charleton VH. South Hams

FDC, Philip Worth 01548 561415 **Isca** Scottish Dancers, Sept-May.

Budleigh Salterton Public Hall.

10am-12pm. VJ Tyler, 01395 276913

SESSION

Exmouth, Beacon Vaults

Torquay Ryans Bar

WED FORTNIGHTLY

DANCE Crowcombe, Halsway Manor FDG (1st, 3rd)

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

WEDNESDAY MONTHLY

SESSION

Brixham Maritime Inn. 9pm (3rd)

Dawlish, South Devon Inn. (last)

Honiton, Beehive Centre (2nd) 7.30pm

SONG

Lympstone, Globe. (2nd) Brian Mather 01395 27859

Lympstone, Saddler's Arms (4th) 01395 225075

Malborough, Royal Oak, (2nd)

Pennymoor Singaround, Cruwys Arms (3rd). Biddy Mallabone 01271 373305

SESSION Plymouth, Hyde Inn (2nd). Alis 01752 662002

MUSIC Seaton. Eyre Court (3rd) Jurassic Folk. Adrian 01404 549903

Swimbridge, Jack Russell Inn (1st)

SONG Sidmouth, Anchor (1st)

Uffculme Culm Music &

Performance Club at VH. (last). Brian Bennelick 01884 840192

THURSDAY WEEKLY

SONG

Bideford FSC, Joiners Arms. John Purser 01237 424286

Regular events

Bishopsteignton, Red Rock Brewery 7.30pm. John Morey 07791 054773

Denbury, Union Inn, Steve Bassett, 01803 812537

DANCE

Crewkerne FDC, St Bartholomew's Church. Jean 01460 72505

Newton Poppleford, American Square Dance class, VH, 2-4.30pm.

Tavistock FDC, Town Hall (Not July, Aug). Margaret Holt, 01822 855858

SESSION Plymouth, Minerva Inn, 8.30pm

THURS FORTNIGHTLY

DANCE Chard FDC, Combe St Nicholas VH. 7.30pm Hillary Durrant 01460 61996

Exmouth FDC (1st, 3rd).

Withycombe Methodist Ch Hall. (Not June-Aug). Chris Miles 01395 275592

Willand FDC at VH. (2nd, 4th) Zena Roberts 01884 253546

MUSIC Willand Club Band, VH. (1st, 3rd) Mary Marker 01626 854141

WEST GALLERY Crediton, St Lawrence Chapel. Sonja Andrews 01363 877216

THURSDAY MONTHLY

SONG Brixham, Quayside Hotel (1st)

MUSIC Churchstow, Church House Inn (1st)

Totnes, Barrell House. Klezmer (3rd)

South Brent, Pack Horse Inn (3rd) **SESSION**

Exmouth, Bicton Inn (1st)

Frogmore, Globe. (3rd) 8.30pm

Nadderwater, Royal Oak (1st)

SONG

Teignmouth FSC, Oystercatcher Cafe (last)

FRIDAY WEEKLY

DANCE

Bideford Country Dance Club,

Northam VH. John Blackburn 01237 476632

Dartington FDC at VH.

Sheila Chappell, 01392 882156

Newton Poppleford American Square Dance classes. VH 10am-12.30pm 01395 578306

SONG Bodmin FSC, The Old Library, 10 Lower Bore Street, PL31 2JX www.bodminfolkclub.co.uk

FRIDAY FORTNIGHTLY

DANCE Aylesbeare FDC at VH. Ted Farmer 01392 466326

FRIDAY MONTHLY

DANCE

Exeter D'accord French, St Matthew's Hall. Mike Long 01392 811593. Not regular.

Exeter Contra Dance, Kenn Centre, Exeter Road, Kennford, EX6 7UE, 7.30pm (2nd). Jeremy Child 01392 422119.

South Brent Fest Noz, Palstone Recreation Hall (1st)

SONG

Brixham FSC, Old Coaching Inn (1st). Mark Harrod mnharrod@yahoo.co.uk

Carhampton, Butchers Arms. (2nd). Lynda Baker 01643 702994

Exeter Folk & Acoustic Club, Victoria Tennis Club (last). Peter Cornelius 01392 210983.

Marldon. Old SmokeyHouse (3rd) Folk Plus Acoustic Club. Paul 01803 550153

Milton Abbot Ma's FSC at VH (3rd) **SESSION Plympton**, Union Inn (last)

SAT FORTNIGHTLY

SONG Combe Martin, Shammick Acoustic, Pack Of Cards. (2nd, 4th). Tom & Barbara Brown 01271 882366

SATURDAY MONTHLY

SONG Brendon, Staghunters. (3rd) Carole Henderson-Begg, 01769 540581

Linkinhorne, Church House Inn (1st) Mike Warman 01579 382711 Oct-March only)

SESSION West Anstey, Jubilee Inn (1st) 7pm

SUNDAY WEEKLY

MUSIC Appledore, Coach & Horses, 4pm

SONG

Lee Mill, Westward Inn. Folk on the Moor. 7.45pm. Anton Horwich 01822 853620

Topsham FSC, Globe Hotel. Guest nights at St Matthew's Hall. John Stephens 01392 875332

SUNDAY FORTNIGHTLY

SONG Bude FSC, Falcon Hotel Debbie Merrett, 01409 254144 **SESSION Parracombe**, Hunter's Inn. (2nd, 4th)

SUNDAY MONTHLY

SONG

Bere Ferrers, Old Plough. (3rd) 8.30pm

Okehampton, Plume of Feathers, Okey Folky. (last) Debbie Jessop 07773 479375

Scorriton, Tradesman's Arms. (4th) 7.30pm. 01364 631308

Sticklepath, Devonshire Inn. (1st) Derek Moore 01837 840316

MUSIC

Pennymoor, Cruwys Arms. (last) Luncheon

Plymouth, Dolphin. (1st) 1.30pm **SESSION Totnes**, Bay Horse. (2nd) Bluegrass.

CLUBS, DAY

UNSPECIFIED

DANCE Beacon Wheel Chair Dancers. Sue Cummings 01803 554799

DANCE Teign Playford Club. Mrs Jean Foster 01626 363887

DANCE University of Exeter Folk Dance Club

Specific Events

APRIL

TUESDAY 2ND

DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club.

Jane Thomas

CONCERT Kingskerswell, St Mary's Parish Church, TQ12 5LD, 7pm. VRI

WEDNESDAY 3RD

DANCE

Gittisham Folk Dance Club. Monty Crook, Jigs for Gigs

Halsway Folk Dance Group.

Bicknoller Village Hall. Ted Farmer, Pair of Shears

THURSDAY 4TH

CONCERT

Plymouth B-Bar, Barbican Theatre, Castle Street, The Barbican, PL1 2NJ, 8.30pm. Geoff Lakeman

Higher Eggbeer Farm, Cheriton Bishop, EX6 6JQ, 7pm. Steve Knightley

FRIDAY 5TH

CONCERT Plymouth, B-Bar, Barbican Theatre, Castle Street, 9pm. Circe's Diner

SATURDAY 6TH

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

CONCERT Kingskerswell, St Mary's Parish Church, TQ12 5LD, 7pm.

GypsyFingers

SUNDAY 7TH

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

Topsham Folk Club, Matthews Hall, EX3 0HF, 8pm. Daoirí Farrell

CONCERT Kingskerswell, St Mary's Parish Church, TQ12 5LD, 7pm. Ninebarrow

TUESDAY 9TH

DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club.

Mark Moran

CONCERT Kingskerswell, St Mary's Parish Church, TQ12 5LD, 7.00pm. Hannah Sanders & Ben Savage

WEDNESDAY 10TH

DANCE Gittisham FDC. Linda Byrt and Hazel Ridd, Ray Goodswen

THURSDAY 11TH

DANCE Willand FDC. Jane Thomas, Stick The Fiddle

SONG Totnes Folk Song Club, Dartmouth Inn, 28 Warland, TQ9 5EL, 8pm. Old Gaffers to finish.

FRIDAY 12TH

MUSIC Exeter, Stand Off, Portland House, Longbrook Street, EX4 6AB, 9.30pm. The O'Marley's

SATURDAY 13TH

DANCE

Willand FDC. Village Hall, Gables Road, EX15 2PL. Ray Goodswen, Pendragon.

Plymouth, Ceilidh, Stoke Damerel Church, 85 Paradise Rd, PL1 5QL. 7.30pm £7.50. Lynher Band

CONCERT Exeter, St James Church Hall, Mount Pleasant Road, EX4 7AH, 7.30pm. Harbottle & Jonas

Mamhead Village Hall, Stud Hill, EX6 8HP, 7.30pm. Daria Kulesh

Sheepstor Village Hall PL20 6PF, 7.30pm. The Drystones

Kingskerswell, St Mary's Parish Church, TQ12 5LD, 7pm. Phil Beer "String Theory"

Exeter Folk and Acoustic Music Club. Victoria Park Tennis Club, Lyndhurst Road, St Leonards, EX2 4NX, 8pm. Tom McConville

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

SUNDAY 14TH

CONCERT Exeter Phoenix, Gandy Street, EX4 3LS, 8pm. Gadarene

Lee Mill, Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, 7.45pm. Anthony John Clarke

MONDAY 15TH

CONCERT Exeter Phoenix, Gandy Street, EX4 3LS, 8pm. Salt House

TUESDAY 16TH

DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club.

Jeremy Child

WEDNESDAY 17TH

DANCE

Gittisham Folk Dance Club. Gill Spence, Chris Toyne

Halsway Folk Dance Group. Bicknoller Village Hall. Simon Maplesden. StringAccord

FRIDAY 19TH

CONCERT

Black Dog Memorial Hall, Black Dog, nr Crediton EX17 4QS, 7.30pm. The Drystones

Exeter Phoenix, Gandy Street, EX4 3LS, 7pm. Ferocious Dog

MUSIC Exeter, Stand Off, Portland House, Longbrook Street, EX4 6AB, 9.30pm. The O'Marley's

SUNDAY 21ST

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

TUESDAY 23RD

DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club. Club callers

WEDNESDAY 24TH

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club. Janet Bulpin, Petronella

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Specific Events

THURSDAY 25TH

DANCE Willand Folk Dance Club. Mary Marker, Iain and Nick

CONCERT Otterton Mill, nr Budleigh Salterton, EX9 7HG, 8pm. Steve Tilston

FRIDAY 26TH

CONCERT Scoriton Village Hall, nr Buckfastleigh TQ11 0JB, 7.30pm.

James Hickman & Dan Cassidy
MUSIC Exeter, Stand Off, Portland House, Longbrook Street, EX4 6AB, 9.30pm. The O'Marley's

SATURDAY 27TH

CONCERT Combe Martin Shammick Acoustic, Pack o' Cards. Jim Causley

DANCE

Exeter D'Accord's French Music and Dance. St Matthew's Hall, Newtown, EX1 2LJ, 7.15pm. Levraid

Exeter Ceilidhs. The Kenn Centre, Exeter Road, Kennford, EX6 7UE. 8pm. Dumbo's Feather

Bridport Ceilidh. Church House (St Mary's) Hall, 3NW, 7.30pm. BFDC Annual Dance, "Miss Mayne's Party", Weston Country Dance Band + Dick Williams

Launceston Folk Dance Club. Town Hall, PL15 7AR, 8pm. Saturday Dance, The Dartmoor Pixie Band

SUNDAY 28TH

CONCERT Exeter Phoenix, Gandy Street, EX4 3LS, 8pm. Jim Causley

SONG Lee Mill, Folk on the Moor, Westward Inn, 7.45pm. Ian Bruce

TUESDAY 30TH

DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club. Simon Maplesden, Jigs for Gigs

CONCERT Dartington Great Hall, Totnes TQ9 6DE, 8pm. Sam Lee

MAY

WEDNESDAY 1ST

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club.

Gibby Swaine and Ian Anderson

Halsway Folk Dance Group. Bicknoller Village Hall. Jane Thomas, Iain & Nick

THURSDAY 2ND

CONCERT Dartmouth, The Flavel, Flavel Place, TQ6 9ND, 7.30pm. Flook

SUNDAY 5TH

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

MONDAY 6TH

CONCERT Exeter Phoenix, Gandy Street, EX4 3LS, 8pm. Kris Drever

WEDNESDAY 8TH

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club. Aileen Wills, Raleigh Reelers

THURSDAY 9TH

DANCE Willand FD Club. Simon Maplesdon, Weston CD Band

CONCERT

Exeter Phoenix, Gandy Street, EX4 3LS, 7.30pm. Sharon Shannon & Seckou Keita: Sacred Earth

Exeter The Lemon Grove, St German's Road, EX4 6TG, 7.30pm. Wildwood Kin

SONG Totnes FSC. The Dartmouth Inn, 28 Warland, TQ9 5EL.

FRIDAY 10TH

SONG Exeter Folk and Acoustic Music Club. Victoria Park Tennis Club, Lyndhurst Road, St Leonards, EX2 4NX, 8pm. Reg Meuross

SATURDAY 11TH

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

DANCE Willand FDC. Village Hall, Gables Road, Cullompton, EX15 2PL. 8pm. Barrie Bullimore, Friendly Folk

CONCERT Exeter St James Church Hall, Mount Pleasant Road, EX4 7AH, 7.30pm. Kirsty Merryin

TUESDAY 14TH

DANCE Sidford Folk Dance Club. Aileen Wills, Quantock Quarenders

CONCERT

Exeter Corn Exchange, Market Street, EX1 1BW, 8pm. Show of Hands

Kingskerswell St Mary's Parish Church, TQ12 5LD, 7pm. Henhouse Prowlers.

WEDNESDAY 15TH

DANCE

Gittisham Folk Dance Club. Rosie Shaw, Pair of Shears

Halsway Folk Dance Group. Bicknoller VH. Ian Lubrook, Petronella

SATURDAY 18TH

DANCE Exeter D'Accord's French Music and Dance. St Matthew's Hall, Summerlands Place, EX1 2LJ

CONCERT

Combe Martin, Shammick Acoustic, Pack o' Cards. John Doyle

Kingskerswell St Mary's Parish Church, TQ12 5LD, 7pm. John Otway & Wild Willy Barrett

SUNDAY 19TH

SONG Topsham Folk Song Club. St Matthew's Hall, EX3 0HF, 7.30pm. RANT

CONCERT Torrington RHS Garden Rosemoor EX38 8PH, 8pm. Show of Hands

WEDNESDAY 22ND

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance.

Jeremy Child, Stick the Fiddle
CONCERT Kingskerswell St Mary's Parish Church, TQ12 5LD, 7pm.

Sara Grey & Kieron Means

THURSDAY 23RD

DANCE Willand Folk Dance Club.

Club Callers, More The Merrier

FRIDAY 24TH

SONG Exeter FSC Victoria Park Tennis Club St Leonards. Open night

SATURDAY 25TH

DANCE Exeter Ceilidhs. The Kenn Centre, Exeter Road, Kennford, EX6

Specific Events

7UE, 8pm. Phoenix

WEDNESDAY 29TH

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club.
Mark Moran, Jigs for Gigs

THURSDAY 30TH

CONCERT Tavistock Wharf, PL19
8AT, 7.30pm. Steve Turner

JUNE

SATURDAY 1ST

SONG Pennymoor Song and Ale .
Sally spool2@btinternet.com

DANCE Bridport Ceilidhs. Church
House (St Mary's) Hall, South
Street, DT6 3NW, 7.30pm. Ray
Goodswen, Fresh Aire

WEDNESDAY 5TH

DANCE Gittisham FDC. Robert
Blackborow, Bridgewater Band

FRIDAY 7TH

CONCERT Otterton Mill, nr

Budleigh Salterton, EX9 7HG.

Jim Causley

SATURDAY 8TH

SONG Combe Martin, Shammick
Acoustic Open Night, Pack o' Cards,
DANCE Willand FDC. Village Hall,
Gables Road, Cullompton, EX15
2PL. 8pm. Ivan Aitken, J.I.P

WEDNESDAY 12TH

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club.
Monty Crook, Fresh Aire

THURSDAY 13TH

DANCE Willand Folk Dance Club.

Ray Goodswen, Stringaccord

FRIDAY 14TH

DANCE Exeter Contra (American
Barn) Dance. The Kenn Centre,
Exeter Road, Kennford, EX6 7UE,
7.30pm. Jeremy Child, Fresh Aire

WEDNESDAY 19TH

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club.
Graham Knight, Meter Rite

FRIDAY 21ST

Teignmouth Folk Festival

SATURDAY 22ND

Teignmouth Folk Festival

DANCE Exeter D'Accord's French
Music and Dance. St Matthew's
Hall, Summerlands Place,
Newtown, EX1 2LJ

Concert Combe Martin.

Shammick Acoustic,
Pack o' Cards, Alison Frosdick &
Jack Burnaby

SUNDAY 23RD

Teignmouth Folk Festival

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

WEDNESDAY 26TH

DANCE Gittisham Folk Dance Club.
Ray Goodswen, Jeroka

THURSDAY 27TH

DANCE Willand Folk Dance Club.
Gill Spence, Fresh Aire

General Information

REGIONAL CONTACTS

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info@efdss.org

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01424 436052
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jon_melville@yahoo.co.uk

OPEN MORRIS

Norm Warren
secretary@open-morris.org
NYFTE (National Youth Folklore
Troupe of England)

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

Morris and other display

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

Alive & Kicking (F)

Appalachian. Jo Wright 01392 462531

Anglewitch (F)

Elizabeth Wozniak
01271 325425

Beltane (F)

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

Bideford Phoenix Morris (F)

Frances Hall, 01409 281877

Blackawton Morris (F)

Chris Janman, 01803 712362

Black Bess (F)

Jayne Thomas 01626 366844
blackbessborder@gmail.com

Borderline (F)

Grace Brand 01598 740645
bag@borderlinemorris.org

Bovey Tracey Mummers (R)

Rod Wilkins 01803 812581

Bradninch Millers Morris (F)

Duncan Harrington 01884 855270

Cat's Eye Border (F)

Catseyebag@aol.com
www.catseyemorris.co.uk

Cogs & Wheels (F)

Donna Tombs
dtombs65@gmail.com (Thurs)

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)
mikepainter25@gmail.com

Exmoor Border Morris (F)

Marlene Cann, marlenecann61@yahoo.co.uk (Wed)

Firestone

(Appalachian & Irish).
info@firestonedance.co.uk

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, EX33 2NR
lindacorcoran@btopenworld.com

Isambard Gasket Rats (F)

Debs : 01626 770238
bag@isambardsgasketrats.co.uk

Kings Arms Pace Egg & Mummers*

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

Lodestone Border (F)

lodestonemorris@hotmail.co.uk

Mayhem Border Morris (O)

Wellington.
Mayhembordermorriskus@gmail.com

Newton Bushel Morris (F)

Dave Warren, 07773 088445
dave@newtonbushelmorris.uk

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

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)

andrew@frangleton.co.uk

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)

(Tues) Angela Haines, Hollacott, Hollocombe, Chulmleigh EX18 7QE
01837 83219

daveyhaines@btinternet.com

Wreckers Border (F)

wreckers.bag@gmail.com

If your contact details change, please email devonfolkeditor@gmail.com

Bands and Callers

BANDS

Bands and callers in bold have an advert in this edition of What's Afoot that will give you more information about them

* EFDSS affiliated.

3dB Ceilidh Band 01803 862393

Abacus – email Julie Mason
mason.je@btconnect.com

Amycrofters Band 01404 46451

Autumn Gold 01840 261708

Babelfish 07971 148531

Back to Square One 01392 422119

**Banned From The Moor 01364
631401**

Barnstormers 01392 882036

Blue Jewel 07957 855458

Broad Band 01884 840816

Bridgwater Band 01278 691370

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

Flash Jack 01566 785233

Folk Two 01548 550004

Footloose 01647 433464

Fox Amongst The Chickens

01566 785233

Fraich 'Airs'* 01392 811593

Fresh Aire 01823 257488

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

Housewives' Choice 01363 774426

Ivor Hyde's Band 01460 65159

Jeroka 01935 824674

Jiggerypipery 01647 433390

Jigs For Gigs 01460 241326

Long Odds & Short Straws

01460 61996

Lucy Lastic 01884 881385

Meltdown 01278 732202

Meter Rite 01823 401271

Mischief & Mayhem*

01395 514291

Mooncoin Ceilidh Band*

01803 290427

More The Merrier 01626 854141

Mrs Midnight 01363 775552

Mugdock 01643 707294

Mullachabu 01626 871260

New Vintage Band 01363 774426

Occasion Ceilidh Band

01752 337501

Oggle Band* 01271 865030

Old Boys 01726 837432

Other Band 01326 563564

Paddy's Whiskers* 01803 520798

Park Bench Aristocrats 01548

810038

Petronella 01626 854141

Pigs Might Fly 01392 465462

Pig's Whisper 01392 250355

Phoenix 07971220462

Quantock Quarenders 01984

656459

Rakes Adrift 01271 865030

Red Shed 01363 774339

Reel Thing 01460 240671

Rumpus 01548 531525

Rusty Buckets 01398 323494

Scratchbox 01803 847689

Sheer Hopody 01769 520595

Slack Ma Girdle 01823 680523

Slapjack 01823 601583

Smileyboots 01752 364596

Spinach For Norman 07970 151059

Squeezum 01823 333567

Steve Gill & Andy Clarke 01803

290427

Stick The Fiddle 01884 243295

Swain's Gold 01579 383554

Tinners 01736 787951

Up The Creek 01548 531525

Walter Shortage & Hosepipe Band

01837 52174

Winkeilidh Band 01805 938213

Weston Country Dance Band

01934 813326

Woodshed Band 01803 558929

CALLERS

Tom Addison

hawkes1880@yahoo.co.uk

Andy Clarke 01803 732312

or 07792009374

Colin Andrews 01363 877216

Steve Banks 01803 782219

Graham Barrett 01823 461632

Sarah Bazeley 01837 840775

Robert Blackborow 01278 691370

John Blackburn 01237 476632

Mike Boston 07789714498

Adrian Brayley 07791703009

Linda Breeze 01363 77618

Tom Brown 01271 882366

Les Burden 01840 261708

Dick Carlyon 01458 272933

Jeremy Child 01392 422119

Ted Farmer 01392 466326

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Ray Goodswen 01278 424332

Sue Hamer-Moss 01769 560708

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Chris Jewell 01237 423554

Beryl Jukes 01209 712357

Graham Knight 01823 401271

Rosie Longhurst 01566 785233

Simon Maplesden 01884 33571

Mary Marker 01626 854141

Richard Mason 07900 588713

Barry Moule 01288 361625

Eileen Nightingale 07811 367966

Frances Oates 01209 217918

Dave Outhwaite
aeled-weccan@outlook.com

Mike Palmer 01647 433464

Kate Powell 01626 866257

Tom Stevens 01872 240826

Matt Swindlehurst

matt.swindlehurst@btinternet.

com

John Tarling 01297 34804

Garry Thompson 01271 865030

Helen Wilson 01392 882036

Clubs And Sessions

Folk song clubs (FC) and sessions (SE) are sometimes forced to change venue at short notice due to changes in management at a pub. Please check if in doubt. Clubs with an asterisk have an advert in this issue. See also www.flaxey-green.co.uk or www.devonfolk.org.uk for updates.

APPLEDORE

Tues, The Champ, 5 Meeting Street, Appledore (nr Bideford), EX39 1RJ. 8pm-10pm

BEAWORTHY

2nd Tues The Devil's Stone Inn Shebbear, Beaworthy EX21 5RU,

BERE FERRERS

3rd Sun Old Plough. 01822 841064 song & music, 8pm **1st & 3rd Tues** music session. 8pm

BIDEFORD FOLK CLUB*

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

BISHOPSTEIGNTON

Thurs, Red Rock Brewery, John Morey 07791 054773.

www.oldworkshop.org. 7.30 pm

BODMIN FOLK CLUB

Fri, The Old Library, 10 Lower Bore Street, Bodmin, PL31 2JX (at the top of Fore Street) www.bodminfolk.co.uk

BOW

1st Wed Irish music session White Hart, Bow.

BRADNINCH

1st Tues. Bradninch Folk club *

Old White Lion, guest night

3rd Tue. Castle Hotel. 8.30pm.

Rob Reeves, 01392 881014

2nd Tues. Acoustic Music Club

Bradninch West End Hall, West End Road Bradninch EX4 4QW.
Colin Wilson 01392 882036.

BRENDON

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

BRIXHAM

1st Fri. The Old Coaching Inn, 61 Fore Street, Brixham TQ5 8AG
Mark Harrod
mnharrod@yahoo.co.uk

3rd Wed. The Golden Lion 65 New Road Brixham TQ5 8NL, David Lee 01803 846 346

BUDE

Sun, twice monthly. Falcon Hotel. Debbie Merritt 01409 254144 or see www.budefolk.com

CALSTOCK

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

CARHAMPTON

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

CHITTLEHAMPTON

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

2nd Mon. music session, Bell Inn

COMBE MARTIN

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

CHIPSHOP (NR TAVISTOCK)

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

COLEFORD

Last Tue. 8pm Acoustic night The New Inn Coleford, Crediton EX17 5BZ Tel: Dave 01363 84914

4th Tue 8pm. Acoustic evening

CREDITON

Alt Thurs Crediton West Gallery
Quire 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

Last Fri. Exeter Folk & Acoustic Music Club* Victoria Park Tennis Club, St Leonards Peter Cornelius 01392 210983 Also guest nights www.exeterfolkclub.org

EXMOUTH

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

LEE MILL

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

HALSWAY MANOR

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

HAYTOR

1st Fri, 7pm Tinpickle Session - Tinpickle and Rhum, The Moorland, Dartmoor National Park TQ13 9XT (01364 661407)

4th Tues. Shape Note singing Methodist Church, East Street, Ippeldeston, TQ12 5SX
jeremyjamesdonaldson@gmail.com

KINGSTEIGNTON

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

LYMPSTONE

4th Wed. Lymptstone Folk, Roots and Acoustic, The Saddler's Arms, Exmouth Road, Lymptstone EX8 5LS. 01395 225075/07741409265

Clubs And Sessions

MARLDON

3rd Fri. Ye Olde Smokey House, Vicarage Road, Marldon, TQ3 1NN. Folk Plus Acoustic Music Club*. Paul 07894 961010 or 01803 550153.

METHERELL

1st Sat, Oct to March. Church House Inn, Linkinhorne. Mike Warman 01579 382711

MORETONHAMPSTEAD

Last Mon, The Horse Pub, George Street, TQ13 8PG

NADDERWATER (EXETER)

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

1st Thurs Royal Oak Singing and instrumental folk session.

OKEHAMPTON

Last Sun. Okey Folky. Plume of Feathers Okehampton. Open-to-all mixed music and song session
Debbie 07773479375

PENNYMOOR

3rd Wed. Pennymoor Singaround* Cruwys Arms, Pennymoor. Jon Shapley 01363 83740

Last Sun Music session Cruwys Arms, Pennymoor. Biddy Mallabone 01271 373 305 Jon Shapley 01363 83740

PLYMOUTH

2nd Wed. Plymouth Folk Roots

Hyde, Mutley. Ali 01752 662002

1st Tues. Lamb Inn. Paul & Hazel 01363 776275

1st and 3rd Tues. The Artillery Arms. Mixed song and instrument session Marilyn Cowan 01752 309983

SCORITON

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

SEATON

3rd Wed: Jurassic Folk - Eyre Court, 2, Queen Street, Seaton. Music jam session. Adrian 01404 549903

SOUTH BRENT

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

3rd Thurs, Pack Horse Inn 8pm. Mixed session

SOUTH ZEAL

3rd Mon music session email markbazeleymobile@gmail.com

STICKLEPATH

(OKEHAMPTON)

1st Sun. Devonshire Inn. Derek Moore 01837 840316

SWIMBRIDGE

1st Wed The Jack Russell, Swimbridge Nr Barnstaple Al Cruse pamnal2@btinternet.com

TEIGNMOUTH

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

TOPSHAM

Sun. Topsham Folk Club Singers nights Globe Hotel 8pm. John Stephens 01392 875332
www.topshamfolkclub.org

TORQUAY

3rd Monday Open Mic. Artizan Gallery 01803 428626. Robert Spence

TOTNES

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

1st & 3rd Mon. open session (English) 2nd & 4th Mon. open session (Irish). 2nd & 4th Wed. mostly traditional song unaccompanied Bay Horse

UFFCULME

Culm Music & Performance Club, Uffculme Village Hall, 5 Bridge Street EX15 3AX. Last Wed. Brian Bennelick, 01884 840192

WILLAND

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

FESTIVALS

An asterisk indicates that you'll find more information in an advert in this magazine

DART MUSIC FESTIVAL

Friday 10 May 2019 to Sunday 12 May 2019 - Multi-genre largely free festival.
<https://www.dartmusicfestival.co.uk/>

BUDE & STRATTON FOLK FESTIVAL

Friday 24 May 2019 to Monday 27 May 2019
<http://www.budefolkfest.com/index.html> (As mentioned in our main article, Geoff Lakeman will appear, solo and with Here At The Fair)

PENNYMOOR SONG & ALE

First weekend in June. Sally Holland 01363 85022

21ST TEIGNMOUTH FOLK FESTIVAL*

Friday 21 to Sunday 23 June 2019
<http://teignmouthfolk.co.uk>

8TH ANNUAL SOUTH BRENT FOLK DAY*

Saturday 6 July 2019 <http://southbrentfolk.org.uk/>
A little festival that punches way above its weight

FESTIVALS

CHAGSTOCK FESTIVAL

Friday 19 July 2019 to Saturday 20 July 2019

<https://chagstock.info/>

Mostly rock acts but this year it will feature Mad Dog McCrea and 3 Daft Monkeys

SIDMOUTH FOLK WEEK*

Friday 2 August 2019 to Friday 9 August 2018

<https://sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk/>

The big one – but among the national and international stars look out for our own Dartmoor Entertainers as well as Devon superstars Knightley and Seth Lakeman

42ND DARTMOOR FOLK FESTIVAL

Friday 9 to Sunday 11 August 2019

<http://www.dartmoorfolkfestival.org.uk>

Follows right on from Sidmouth but this intimate little festival has a charm all of its own. If you have the energy, sign up for a Dartmoor stepdancing lesson – or just relax and watch the experts compete.

BEAUTIFUL DAYS FESTIVAL

Friday 16 August 2019 - Sunday - 18 August 2019

<https://www.beautifuldays.org/>

46TH CORNWALL FOLK FESTIVAL

Thursday 22 August 2019 to Monday 26

<https://cornwallfolkfestival.com/wp/>

Our Cornish cousins have roped in Steve Knightley and Geoff Lakeman - and who can blame them?

LYME FOLK WEEKEND

Lyme Regis - Friday 30 August - Sunday 1 September

2019 <https://www.lymefolk.com/>

TEIGN SHANTY FESTIVAL

Teignmouth - Saturday 28 September - Sunday 29

<https://www.teignshantyfestival.co.uk/>

BARING-GOULD FESTIVAL

October. Wren 01837 53754



FOLK ON THE MOOR THE WESTWARD INN LEE MILL, nr IVYBRIDGE



GUEST LIST

| | |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| 14 APR | ANTHONY JOHN CLARKE |
| 28 APR | IAN BRUCE |
| 12 MAY | DICK MILES |
| 19 MAY | BERT & LINDE NIJLAND |
| 9 JUN | FRANK BURKITT |
| 23 JUN | BECKY MILLS & RUTH ANGELL |
| 7 JUL | TRIALS OF CATO |

**7.45pm
SUNDAYS
Non-specified
dates are
Open
House**

For directions or more information ring Anton on 01822 853620, Ben on 01752 708770, Keith on 01752 331121 or check our website: www.moorfolk.co.uk

NEW FOREST
FOLK
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JULY 3 - 7 (2019)

**Powells Farm, Plaitford, Romsey
Hampshire, SO51 6EE**

4 Day Ticket - £95 , 1 Day Ticket - £35

Ticket prices from June 1st 2019 - £105 & £40



Ralph McTell - Oysterband - Ashley Hutchings Morris On Band
Gigspanner Big Band - 3 Daft Monkeys - Jez Lowe & the Bad Pennies
Richard Digance - Reg Meuross - Banter - Listen-Listen Songs of Sandy Denny
Merry Hell - Then Came the Wheel - Urban Folk Quartet - IOTA - Flossie Malavialle
Palmerston - Plum Hall - The Devils Damned String Band - Matt Black
Oxford Fiddle Group - Plaitford Common - Southampton Ukulele Jam - Lines & Squares Poets



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Folk Festival
With Camping**

**Delicious Home
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Children 5 - 15 half price, under 5 free

**Wednesday - Singaround
Morris Dancing & BBQ**



**Thursday - all day
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**Enjoy a variety of
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www.newforestfolkfestival.co.uk





THE SIDMOUTH FOLK FESTIVAL

2ND - 9TH AUGUST 2019

Ear to the Past - Eye on the Future

Julie Fowlis



Martin Simpson



Richard Thompson



Flook



Hannah James' JigDoll Ensemble

Richard Thompson (Solo Acoustic)

The Spooky Men's Chorale • Steve Knightley & Friends • Julie Fowlis
Seth Lakeman • Peatbog Faeries • Martin Simpson • Flook

The Young 'Uns: The Ballad Of Johnny Longstaff • Sam Sweeney: The Unfinished Violin
Le Vent Du Nord • Topette!! • Sam Kelly & The Lost Boys

Hannah James' JigDoll Ensemble • The Shee • Lisa O'Neill • Martin Carthy

Nancy Kerr & James Fagan • Blackbeard's Tea Party • Lady Maisery

Belshazzar's Feast • John Kirkpatrick • Iona Fyfe • Çiğdem Aslan

Rowan Rheingans: Dispatches On The Red Dress • Granny's Attic

The Road to Peterloo: Pete Coe, Laura Smyth, Brian Peters • Mama's Broke

The Askew Sisters • Matthew Byrne • Rachael McShane & The Cartographers

Jimmy Aldridge & Sid Goldsmith • Brian Peters • Emily Portman & Rob Harbron

Jim Causley • Broom Bezzums • Jeff Warner • Debs Newbold

Matthew Crampton & Paul Sartin: Living By The Sea

Robb Johnson: Ordinary Giants • Ben Walker • Nick Hart • Burd Ellen

Whapweasel • Banter • Token Women • Kirkophany • Faustus • Threepenny Bit

The Committee Band • Tautas Rokas • Out of Hand • Boldwood • Wild Ride • The Linda Game Trio

English Contra Dance Band • Diane Silver • Stuart Marsden • Mic Spenceley

Vicky Yeomans • Megan Hatto • Kerry Fletcher • Avitar Indian Dance

and many more

Lindisfarne
(Pre-Festival
Thursday 1st)

Concerts • Ceilidhs • Folk Dances • Roots Parties
Dance Spectaculars • Children's Festival
Youth Festival • Hugs Workshop Programme

Ralph McTell
(Pre-Festival
Friday 2nd)

A festival with a view: a seaside town set in majestic red cliffs and a lush green valley

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www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk
or call the box office 01395 577952



The man who lent all of us his ears

*We have a treasury of music and folklore,
thanks to the efforts of the late Bob Patten*

I DON'T think I ever heard him sing but he was always at concerts listening and appreciating.

And he was always ready to record anything. We need people like him." This is how Dartmoor singer Bill Murray remembers Bob Patten, the great archivist of West Country music and customs .

Bob, who lived in Morchard Bishop, died last October at the age of 70. He leaves us an amazing collection of folklore, song and music, lovingly

built up over the years with the help of his wife, Jacqueline. Thousands of hours of tape were accumulated because Bob was ready to record anywhere, any time. He worked on the Hoover principle: suck it all up because it might be valuable to somebody. A fraction of the collection is available on line courtesy of the British Library at <https://sounds.bl.uk/World-and-traditional-music/Bob-and-Jacqueline-Patten-Collection>. Log

Exeter Folk & Acoustic Music Club

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

Saturday 13th April Concert Night – Tom McConville

Friday 26th April Open Club Night

Friday 10th May Concert Night – Reg Meuross

Friday 31st May Open Club Night

Friday 28th June Open Club Night

--- No JULY Club Night - Summer Break ---

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

Collecting

HOLDING ON TO TRADITION: Bob Patten doing what he loved - recording the sounds of the West for posterity



in and sample what the site calls “a very large collection of field recordings of traditional songs, music, storytelling and customs made between 1969 to 2001 mainly in the south west of England, in Somerset, Dorset, Devon and Cornwall. The collection features unique performances of West Gallery Music and Shape Note singing, English carols during house-visiting wassailing and children’s rhymes, songs and games”.

The variety is overwhelming: sacred songs from a church in Ashburton and pace-egging from Beer; carols from Black Dog rub shoulders with Your Baby Has Gone Down The Plughole; a candle auction from Honiton Fair mingles with the Hunting of the Earl of Rone at Combe Martin.

Jacqueline pointed out: “Cecil Sharp had to be selective. He had limited resources. The tape recorder gave Bob more freedom. I think his approach is important because people never value what’s happening around them. It’s only when it is threatened, they realise it is special.”

At Bob’s farewell on October 18, 2018, celebrant Alison Orchard commented: “Held in the highest regard by many, Bob’s sharp intellect, his enthusiasm for gaining knowledge and his fascination—with so many things—was inspirational and, unfailingly meticulous and careful, anything Bob did, was done well; he set

high standards for himself and was a natural archivist and custodian.”

Born in Somerset, Bob was brought up on the Blackdown Hills. His family had lived in east Devon and south Somerset for generations. In the Crediton Courier Alan Quick wrote: “From his late teens Bob became absorbed by local and social history. He spent many an evening, weekend and holiday, travelling to local pubs, listening and taping people’s memories, stories and songs; he loved folk music and folk clubs.”

AT THAT time he got to know people who would rise to the top in the folk world such as Tony Rose and Chris Foster. Bob’s collecting was inspired by Kingsley Palmer, whom he knew from school. They kept in touch while Kingsley completed an M.Phil. at the Institute of Dialect and Folk Life Studies in the late Sixties.

After university in Aberystwyth, Bob worked in many parts of the country as a production manager in milling but his aim was to return to the West Country. In 1985 he and Jacqueline settled in Morchard Bishop.

Bob started to create an archive of recordings, photographs, notes and library of English culture and folklore. With Jacqueline he did meticulous research and highlighted this important area of

Collecting

social and local history. They had fun doing it and inspired many others. They enjoyed working with others to further the research and use of the material for future generations.

Steven Burrows of Drayton Wassail wrote: "Bob will be remembered by all of us involved in the Drayton Wassail party as a friend and very welcome addition to our special night, we all enjoyed his humour and enthusiasm for all things traditional."

Bob and Jacqueline were on the committee of Dartmoor Folk Festival from 1987 and attended and promoted and sometimes organised, many other events. Bob carried out in-depth research into carols and mummers' plays, inspiring people to perform them and let them live again.

In his working life, Bob became an expert in the milling industry. He was a well-respected and trusted manager, employer and colleague. "His knowledge and experience were a great source of information which he readily shared. At the same time he was excellent company and modest with it. A true gentleman who will be greatly missed," wrote one colleague.

NEAR to home, Bob created an orchard with 82 varieties of West Country fruit trees. As well as filling the freezer and making single-variety apple juice, the cider apples were sold to Sandford Orchards. Some reading this may have drunk cider made with the apples.

For the past seven years Bob was proud to be Morchard Bishop parish clerk. With his usual conscientious approach, the work was done well, and when appropriate with a sense of humour that made even the mundane seem interesting. Since 2014 he wrote about all the people whose names appear on the War Memorial from both World Wars and of some who were not included.

In August Bob was told there was cancer on his brain and spine yet he stayed active until almost the end. Visitors from near and far came daily and he continued to uplift them with his smile, gentle humour and generosity.

As an epitaph you might paraphrase the words Sir Christopher Wren had engraved on the floor of St Paul's: If you seek my monument look around. If you seek a monument to Bob Patten, go to the British Library website and listen.

Friends of Bob Patten

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"A superb caller and a bundle of fun to boot - he made our party go with a swing" **John Kelly**

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THIS month's subjects are Exeter Ceilidhs, A Sad Loss and Gender Free Dancing (again – but a different take on it).

The second Exeter Ceilidh in January was a rip-roaring success with nearly 70 dancers almost filling the hall and the foot-stomping music of Pigs Might Fly. From the earlier standards (Boston Tea Party, La Russe, Bridge of Athlone) to more challenging dances (Double Sicilians, Square Thread the Needle) there was a constant air of joy and laughter, along with occasional hysterics when things went awry. A good time was had by all.

To see so many people having such a good time is well worth the considerable effort – including an hour washing up at the end of each gig! I'd like to say a big “thank you” to all those who came and all the musicians. Thanks also to the Exeter Folk Dance Club whose kind donation kick-started the whole programme. I'm now confident enough to begin planning the next season's programme.

In December we said goodbye to Jean Stickland, a regular on the dance scene and a powerful force in the development of MWSD in the area. You will be greatly missed, Jean.

So: gender free. Having been a strong proponent, I have found my thoughts evolving. It has been particularly interesting to see the effects of gender free, both as a caller, and as a dancer.

Attempts at gender free calling at festivals (IVFDF, Sidmouth) and other events have led to some kickback and sometimes lower attendance. While there are undoubtedly some dinosaurs out there, the scale of the reaction was surprising, as was the source and the nature of the objections.

Gender free terms were causing confusion, even among seasoned dancers, especially at contra dances. I expected this to improve but it doesn't seem to have. A number of “complaints” refer to being unable to enjoy the dancing because of having to think too much about the role.

Gender free role names also cause problems for beginners. They have a lot to remember and an arbitrary role name is a big additional burden. For most people the advantage of dancing your “natural” role is that you don't have to think “am I a Man (Lady)?”, Whereas “am I a Lark (Raven)?” adds significantly to the cognitive process. You now have to take in an instruction, process whether it's meant for you, then recall the instruction and

do it. Much quicker to be able to just do it. Another aspect to gender free terms has been ignored in our desire to do “right”. Many people like the traditional approach. “I like being called a lady,” said one regular contra dancer. Is this wrong? I find it hard to see why it would be.

And it's putting people off. Apart from discouraging beginners, some people refuse to attend gender free dances. Several have said they will not attend the Exeter Ceilidh Series because it's gender free – yet it isn't.

I started to wonder if gender free was the right approach. Indeed, were we trying to solve the right “problem”? There's no point having a gender free dance scene if there are no dancers. Is it necessary to change the words we use? I'm beginning to think the answer is no.

Let's look at the Gay MWSD scene in the US. They still use gendered terms (because they have no choice), yet there is no objection. People do not feel their gender is assumed, they just accept the terms are role identifiers and get on with dancing.

I'm not even sure changing the words will work long term either. I have noticed most couples still line up in the traditional manner: male on the left, female on the right. Ultimately Larks will come to mean Men, and Ravens Women, and we're back where we started. The issue (IMHO) is acceptance. People should be able to dance whatever role they like without negative reaction or being told they're “on the wrong side”.

Nowadays people are mostly comfortable with two men dancing together (having always been so with two women), and with couples who swap roles. We may be in danger of thinking we have fixed the problem when we may have just driven it underground.

What we are trying to achieve can be done in other ways. We can all be accepting. Dancers: don't tell people they're the wrong way round (it's not “wrong”). If you're sure they intend to dance male on the left, female on the right and they're not standing that way round, ask if they intend to dance swapped roles.

Callers can promote acceptance without artificial terms. “If you're on the left you're dancing the man's role, if on the right, the lady's role. I don't care which you actually are but those are the terms we use. Swap sides if you want to.”

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ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE DEVON FOLK COMMITTEE

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
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| Terry Underhill | Bishop, Crediton EX17 | com | Cromartie, Oldway, |
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| Jo Trapnell Aileen | SECRETARY | Trevor Paul | 01626 854141 |
| Wills | Eileen Conway | webmaster@devonfolk.org.uk | annmarker5@btinternet.com |
| TREASURER | 151 Kingsdown Crescent, | MINUTES SECRETARY | |
| Brian Chappell | Dawlish, EX7 0HB. | Jean Foster | Eileen McKee |
| 2 Penstone Barns, Lease | 01626 862312 | 1 Lowicke House, | Woodland Cottage, |
| Hill, Hele, Exeter EX5 | MEMBERSHIP | Ringslade Road, Newton | South Brent, TQ10 9ES. |
| 4QA. 01392 882156 | SECRETARY | Abbot, | 01364 73699 |
| CHAIR | Sheila Chappell | TQ12 1QF | eileen.southbrentfolk@gmail.com |
| Anne Gill | 2 Penstone Barns, Lease | Steve Gill | Jane Snow |
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| 01803 290427 | WHAT'S AFOOT EDITOR | 01803 290427 | |
| VICE CHAIR/PUBLICITY | John Foxen | | |
| Colin Andrews | | | |

DEVON Folk ran a workshop on music for Morris dancing at Chudleigh in December (see Morris Matters on page for full details). It raised nearly £50 to Devon Folk funds.

The next Devon Folk supported event will be a Music and Dance workshop in Chudleigh on April 27. M Marker will lead the musicians and J Thomas will call for the afternoon dance on the theme of English and American Longways dances (for more details, see advertisement elsewhere in this edition).

The committee would like to thank Brian and Sheila Chappell for all their hard work over the years in distributing What's Afoot. This role has been taken over by Steve Gill.

A third publicity leaflet will be produced this year. The committee has again agreed to support the South Brent and Teignmouth Folk festivals financially. Devon Folk is always grateful for donations such as that given by Dartington Morris Men, as these help towards sponsoring local events.

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

Eileen Conway

DEVON FOLK COMMITTEE NOMINATION FORM

Nominee

Proposed by

Seconded by

I, the undersigned, am willing to stand for election to the Devon Folk Committee.

Name

Address

.....

.....

.....

Telephone

Email

Please return this form to:

*E. Conway, 151 Kingsdown Crescent,
Dawlish, Devon, EX7 0HB.*

Email: conway@kingres.eclipse.co.uk

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 £6 for four issues.

I wish to claim free membership of Devon Folk through my subscription.

I wish to join Devon Folk for the annual fee of £2. I understand this does not entitle me to the magazine.

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Our club is affiliated to EFDSS.

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I/We agree to Devon Folk contacting me/us as indicated above and for occasional notifications. Devon Folk will not pass your email to any third party.

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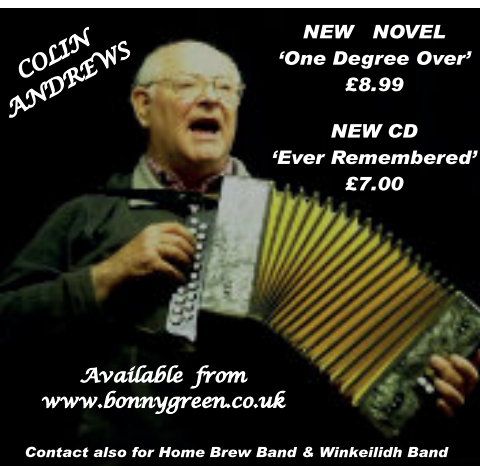
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 - Any EFDSS member living in Devon
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- And is also available to:

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- Only individuals or clubs paying the annual subscription of £6 or £12 respectively are entitled to receive the magazine. It is now possible to receive What's Afoot by email and pay for subscriptions by bank transfer. Application forms are on our website www.devonfolk.org.uk

SPECIAL OFFER TO EFDSS MEMBERS

Free membership of Devon Folk used to be granted automatically to any member of the English Folk Dance and Song Society living in Devon because Cecil Sharp House passed on names and addresses to Devon Folk. Due to Data Protection Legislation they can no longer do this. If, as an EFDSS member, you would like free membership of Devon Folk, send your name, address and EFDSS membership number to: Mrs Sheila Chappell, 2 Penstone Barns, Lease Hill, Hele, Exeter, EX5 4QA or email bschappel@tiscali.co.uk



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The never-ending quest: Bring in more musicians

TALENT SPOTTER:
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Packed sessions across the county prove we have plenty of musical talent but how to persuade them to play for dancing? STEVE GILL tried recruiting through a workshop

MY IDEA for a workshop for Morris musicians was by way of a change from Mary Marker's band workshops aimed at playing for barn dances, contras and Playford etc.

Fifteen musicians booked in for the morning workshop in Chudleigh Community School on December 1 and were joined in the afternoon by dancers from Newton Bushel Cotswold Morris and Heather and Gorse North West Clog, so they could experience playing for dancing. The day proved fun with smiling faces all around.

Many of the musicians found it hard to watch the dancers and play at the same time, a skill few

seem to have these days, but for those who managed it, my aim was to open new doors for them so they could experience the beauty and thrill of playing for the Morris.

We touched on all six main traditions: Cotswold, Border, Longsword, Molly, North-West, and Rapper. I found photos of sides from the traditions going back as far as 1912 and with some research, was able to give a brief history of the different styles of which our country should be so proud.

Maybe we can do another workshop some day. I must thank Mary Marker for all her all the work she put in arranging the day.

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11th April Singers' Night
9th May Guest Night
'Windjammer'
13th June Singers' Night

See Totnes Folk Club Facebook page
for more information

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

***It was time
for a rhyme in
South Zeal...***

FOLK poetry is just as important as song or dance
and the tradition is being kept alive on Dartmoor
as **BILL MURRAY** reports.

IT was Limerick Night at the Kings Arms in South
Zeal on Tuesday 26th February and the pub was full
of anxious people waiting to hear Dave Denford,
Robin Tilley and Bill Murray sing out this year's
compositions and to find out if their misdemeanours
and failings over the previous 12 months had been
recorded in five lines of poetic mastery.

The judge for the evening was Professor Nick
Groom of Exeter University whom I could see
taking a careful note of the audience reaction to
each of the submissions.

As usual there were many entries, nearly 60 in
all, however any that were thought not to be
original (and we all know the ones that I mean)
were read out but disqualified from the judging.

The winner was Freddie Lawrence who was there
behind the bar to collect the wonderful trophy.
Sadly, his brilliant offering is a little too "politically
sensitive" to publish in What's Afoot.
However, we can print the following ode from the
second prizewinner Alan Simons:

*"There's a pub down the road called The Kings,
Where Mariners Away sometimes sings,
They sound bloody awful,
I think it's not lawful,
In my ears the racket still rings."*

A very good time was had by all and about £50
was raised for The Devon Air Ambulance.

● **KEEP THE CUSTOMS GOING: If
your village has something
similar to the annual limerick competition
or you have another old tradition that is
kept going – or even a new "tradition"
that has been kickstarted then please let
us know at devonfolkeditor@gmail.com**

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Contact: Hazel or Paul 01363 776275

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Contact: Derek 01837 840316

The New Inn, Coleford - Last Tuesday

Contact: Dave 01363 84914

AN EVENING WITH JIM CAUSLEY: LIVE IN WIDECOMBE

Hroc Music

LISTENING to this live CD is almost as joyful as being in the audience of one of Jim's concerts. Recorded at The Cafe on the Green in Widecombe (aka The Widecombe Sailing Club, thanks to Steve Knightley) by Mark Thomas in December 2016, it comprises 22 tracks which demonstrate the variety of material in Jim's repertoire.

In some respects it is a pity Jim's introductions and repartee have been edited out in order to include all the songs. However, the call for an encore and exchanges with the audience are included at the end of the CD, giving a flavour of the warmth and humour of his gigs.

The tracks include traditional (or semi-traditional) material, some with a Devon flavour such as *Old Uncle Whiteway* (of cider fame) and *Devon Glorious Devon*. There are Cyril Tawney's *In the Sidings* and Ralph McTell's *Summer Girls*

(Ralph is one of Jim's favourite song-writers) and comic (and slightly bawdy) numbers such as *The Mower*, *The Dyslexic's Alphabet* and *My Grandfather's Ferret*.

We also have several songs from Jim's beautiful Cypress Well CD, on which he set some of the poems of Charles Causley to music. These include the haunting *Angel Hill*, *Trusham* and *Who?* which demonstrate Jim's strong links and affinity with his ancestors and Devon roots.

The beautiful Welsh song *Can Wil Y Tloty* (*The Song of Will from the Workhouse*) was new to me. Jim learned it from Julie Murphy, who worked with him on Cypress Well.

St Boniface Day is one of the many songs Jim has written for the Villages in Action local history project.

On recent CDs Jim has employed a wide range of other musicians and singers to great effect but this album demonstrates his ability to hold an audience and (more than) fill an evening with no more than his voice, accordion and keyboard.

It would be a brilliant introduction to Jim Causley for anyone not familiar with his work, and definitely worth adding to the collection of established fans.

Nicola King

TWELVE MONTHS & A DAY

Vicki Swan and Jonny Dyer


Wet Foot Music WFM190201

IT'S a pleasant surprise to get a CD from nationally respected artists that opens with a tribute to hard-working Devon musician. The first track on Swan and Dyer's new album is *Andy Clarke's*, three fine tunes dedicated to the singer and bouzouki and guitar player who helps run Totnes Folk Club.

Jonny and Vicki appeared at the club last year and actually gave a stage debut to one of the tracks, *Grandpa Jones*, a contra dance style song that is a total contrast to the *Andy Clarke's* set.

Variety is a keynote for these two fine musicians who say their aim with this album is to give a snapshot of a year's work.

That's like trying to take a snapshot of a humming bird as they skip nimbly from one genre to another. There are tunes in the Swedish style spotlighting Vicki's stunning nyckelharpa playing. There is a setting of William Morris's mock medieval poem *Two Red Roses Across The Moon* and a genuine medieval song, *Ai Vis Lo Lop*

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(which features an even more ancient instrument, a Roman cornu). The haunting *Elegy* showcases Vicki's gorgeous double bass playing and Jonny's piano. An American lament for a dead son, *John Lover*, contrasts with a horror story, *The Gallows Tree* which includes some fabulous Celtic-style flute playing by Vicki. If I have a complaint, it's that we don't hear Jonny's accordion or Vicki's bagpipes but that is a minor point.

My standout track is *Folk Club Friends*, a tribute to people they have met while travelling the country from gig to gig.

The next chance for Devon folk to see this talented duo is on Saturday June 8 at Hatch Court Barn, Loddiswell, Kingsbridge.

John Foxen

ROAM THE COUNTRY THROUGH

Jeff Warner WGS 425 CD

JEFF WARNER has long been a favourite American visitor to Devon and this year is one of the guests at the Sidmouth Festival. If you are lucky enough to hear him, he may sing some of the tracks from this latest CD. There are 17 traditional tracks,

many collected by his parents Anne and Frank, from the Warner Collection and others from friends and acquaintances he met along the way.

Alice Jones on keyboards and vocals and Ben Paley on fiddle join Jeff on this recording but it is so subtly done that it is not far from hearing Jeff live, which I always prefer. This is a very honest recording.

I find many American songs often a tad wordy but Jeff seems to have picked a few real gems this time. The highlights for me are the lovely Amish Hymn *Beautiful Life*, *Better Home* with a similar tune to the first mentioned, *Jamestown Homeward Bound* and of course the well known Carter Family's version of *My Dixie Darling*. I can see an Appalachian side dancing to this one.

When you have heard Steve Turner's version of the *Isle of St Helena*, Jeff's version seems tame and this would be my least favourite on the album.

Alice's harmonium playing gives a lift and warmth to this beautiful album from my favourite American traditional singer.

I must add that having seen him perform at Sidmouth in the Ham marquee, he can totally hold



Saturday 6th July 2019

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Reviews

an audience with the spoons and the best “Jig Doll” dancing ever. He is without doubt the ultimate professional and a really nice guy to boot.

Stephen Gill

LATE CUT

Steve Turner The Tradition Bearers LTCD1106
IT’S said you can tell a man by the company he keeps. This says a lot about Steve Turner when he can call upon the likes of Eliza Carthy and Martin Simpson (to name just a couple) to help out on his new album.

And it says even more that this veteran performer is not overwhelmed by an all star-backing. In fact, a stand-out track is *Evening Love Song* (words by Devon’s own Sam Richards) which features just Steve and his English concertina.

Steve is an eclectic but tasteful song-gatherer. He offers us pieces by Henry Clay Work (a joyous *Babylon Is Fallen*), Bob Dylan (*Is Your Love In Vain?* revisited by Steve after 40 years) and a new song from Paul “*Farewell To The Gold*” Metsers (the heartfelt *Palestine*). He also brings us rarely heard versions of folk standards *The Two Sisters* and *Lily Of The West*.

For two tracks, *Ain’t Gonna Work Tomorrow* and *Sullivan’s Farewell*, Steve lays aside his concertina and relies on his strong and engaging voice and the instrumental talents of his friends. They all have cause to be pleased with these tracks.

This may be a late cut – Steve, who started performing in the Sixties but dropped out for 13 years – proves that some artists just get better with age.

Devonians have an opportunity to see him in concert at the Tavistock Wharf on May 30.

Mab Foxen

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COMMANDER PETER RITCHIE SHANTYMAN WHO SERVED ON THE ARK ROYAL

THESE days there are plenty of shantymen but few who have earned the honour of a burial at sea by the Royal Navy. Peter Ritchie, a stalwart of Mariners Away, was such a man. A flight deck engineer who served on the Ark Royal and HMS Londonderry and retired with the rank of commander, Peter was a mine of information about the history of the service as well as a fine singer.



Peter, who died in January aged 74 after a long illness, moved to Cheriton Bishop after leaving the Navy, and was a member of Mariners Away for 10 years. Bandmate Bev Hilton recalls: “His enthusiasm for singing was infectious. During his 10 years with Mariners, we know he spent well over 2,000 hours in our company.

“Even when he was having chemotherapy treatment at RD&E, he always managed to turn up for a practice session at the Kings Arms on a Thursday and on Friday with Folkus, a local folk group of which he was an original member.

“Gidsong [the monthly session at Gidleigh village hall] was a key day in his calendar. He even managed to get the hospital to change his chemo dates so he would be bright and breezy for Gidsong.

“Peter had many interests. As he loved trains he was a volunteer at for the Dartmoor Railway at

Okehampton Station where he took on many different tasks. Visitors heard announcements in every accent under the sun, Geordie, Brummie, West Indian and Irish Ian Paisley style.”

Singer Bill Murray also remembers Peter’s gift for mimicry: “He would sing Sloop John B in a West Indian accent and at times people would upbraid him for being ‘politically

incorrect’. He would reply that he did it out of respect because he had learned the song from West Indians while he was serving in the Caribbean so that was the way he was going to sing it.”

Bev Hilton added that Peter was a staunch supporter of the church, parish magazine, local school as governor and many other activities around Cheriton Bishop.

He said: “Peter was warm, generous and liberal-minded, a larger than life person who will be hugely missed by all who knew him.”

Peter can be heard on the Mariners Away CD, *On The Mariners Way*, leading the singing on *Herzogine Cecile* and *Farewell To Nova Scotia*.

He also made cine films of his time on the Ark Royal which have been converted to video. They can be found on Mike Spice’s YouTube channel. Google: Peter Ritchie Ark Royal

COLIN MAYFIELD MUSICIAN AND DANCER

IT IS with sadness I write once again of the death of one of my contemporaries.

Colin came to Exeter from his native Yorkshire in 1953 after National Service in the RAF to train at St Luke’s Teacher Training College and made Exeter his home for the rest of his life.

He soon came on to the folk scene. He was one of the founder members of Exeter Morris Men, a dancer, caller, founder member of Exeter Folk Song Club, a member of Devon District Committee of the EFDSS and chairman of Exeter Folk Dance Club.

While teaching at Countess Wear Junior School, he met Mary and they married in 1957.

Five of us formed The Rakes Country Dance Band. Colin like me, played melodeon and Mary played tea chest. We played at numerous events locally – never getting paid I may add.

When they started their family Mary handed over the tea chest to the man who became my husband, but Colin continued to play, dance Morris and contribute much to folk in Devon.

Oh happy memories – we all had such fun.

Aileen Wills

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Saturday 13 April 8pm

The Askew Sisters
ThePlough@TheGeorge, South Molton
Wednesday 17 April 8pm

Harbottle & Jonas
ThePlough@TheGeorge, South Molton
Saturday 4 May 8pm

Winter Mountain
ThePlough@StAnne's Barnstaple
Friday 17 May 8pm

Show of Hands
@RHS Garden Rosemoor
Sunday 19 May 8pm

Belshazzar's Feast
Thursday 23 May 8pm

Thea Gilmore
Friday 31 May 8pm

Gordon Giltrap
Saturday 8 June 8pm

Gordie MacKeeman & His Rhythm Boys
Thursday 13 June 8pm

Reg Meuross
ThePlough@StAnne's, Barnstaple
Friday 21 June 8pm

Other Musical Highlights

Elles Bailey
Friday 5 April 8pm

The NewGrass Cutters
Saturday 6 April 8pm

The Afrocentrics
Saturday 13 April 8pm

**The Rancheros Blues Band +
Speed The Plough No. 19**
Saturday 4 May 8:30pm

**The Animals & Friends
@RHS Garden Rosemoor**
Saturday 18 May 8pm

**The Beach Boyz Tribute Band
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Wednesday 22 May 8pm

Kent Duchaine Delta Bluesman
Friday 24 May 8pm at **ThePlough@StAnne's**
Saturday 25 May 8pm at **ThePlough@TheGeorge**

Albert Lee & His Band
Friday 7 June 8pm

John Coghlan's Quo
Friday 14 June 8pm

Lil' Jimmy Reed
Saturday 15 June 8pm

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