

No 140 October - December 2025 *What's Afoot*

The official
magazine of

Devon Folk
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What’s Afoot 140 Oct-Dec 2025

COVER PICTURE

OUR main picture by Kyle Baker captures one of the magnificent creatures taking part in the farewell procession at Sidmouth Folk Festival. Some say that this year’s firework display at the end of the festival was the best for many years.

There is a report on the festival in this issue. It is a bit morris-biased because your editor was “embedded” with Catseye Morris for the duration of the event. Other viewpoints are always welcome and if you have something to say about the folk scene in your area or feel we should cover certain topics, we are always pleased to hear from you.

The most important thing I learned from this year’s Sidmouth Festival? If someone offers to show you a shortcut to Connaught Gardens and it’s up Jacob’s Ladder and you are carrying a fiddle, amplifier and a packed lunch and flask, politely decline and go the road way.

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The (Long) Life of Brian



As the Sidmouth Steppers' lead musician Brian Lewis celebrates his 90th birthday, friends line up to pay tribute

SIDMOUTH Folk Festival opened on the Thursday night with a performance in the Market Square by Sidmouth Steppers, pushed along by their lead musician Brian Lewis. It's become a regular part of the festival but this year was particularly special. Brian was just a few weeks short of his 90th birthday.

Brian, who turned 90 on Sunday August 24, has been playing melodeon for the Steppers since 1999. Remarkably, he had never touched a musical instrument until the age of 63 when he started to learn the melodeon because his wife Ruth had just joined the newly formed Steppers in 1998.

He had to make rapid progress. For their first first season the Steppers danced with a melodeon player and a drummer. Then their melodeon player moved to faraway Salcombe so Brian had to step in.

Says Ruth: "We danced the first season with Brian to the only three tunes he could play:

Winstor Gallop, Grandfather's Clock and Salmon Tails Up The River."

Since then Brian has learned many more tunes and still chooses and arranges those the Steppers use. Says Squire Liz Clode: "I've known Brian since he joined steppers. He learnt the melodeon as I learnt to dance. He's been a true friend and stalwart through thick and thin, always with a smile on his face."

Brian has had his share of health problems but as Stepper Alexa Baker says: "He always has a twinkle in his eye and you never know what he's going to come out with next."

He insists on standing up to play but to get around at festivals and outs he has a mobility scooter. "I persuaded him to get the scooter because he kept falling over while walking and I was fed up of picking him up," says Ruth.

She is 21 years younger than Brian and still dancing with the Steppers. They first met when she was 33 and he was 54 and they were both

Age is Just a Number

volunteers for a charity to help adults with learning difficulties. Both had been married previously and it was definitely not love at first sight on Ruth's part. "I was an absolute bitch to him. I'd had a very bad relationship and didn't want anything to do with men. I was horrible to him but he persevered. One night when it was raining, I did let him drive me home. I said, 'You can come in for coffee – but that's all you're getting.'"

But Brian was smitten and after three years his kindness and patience paid off. He and Ruth married 32 years ago. Brian had brought up two sons but suddenly he was faced with bringing up two young stepdaughters. He coped and the family gathering to celebrate his birthday at their home in Honiton was attended by children, grandchildren and great grandchildren from both sides of the family.

Brian was born in Barnsley but claims some sort of Scottish ancestry – he proudly wore a kilt for his birthday. He was a landscape architect and environmental advisor for the Highways Agency and was working in Glasgow when he saw a job advertised in Devon. He has stayed here ever since.

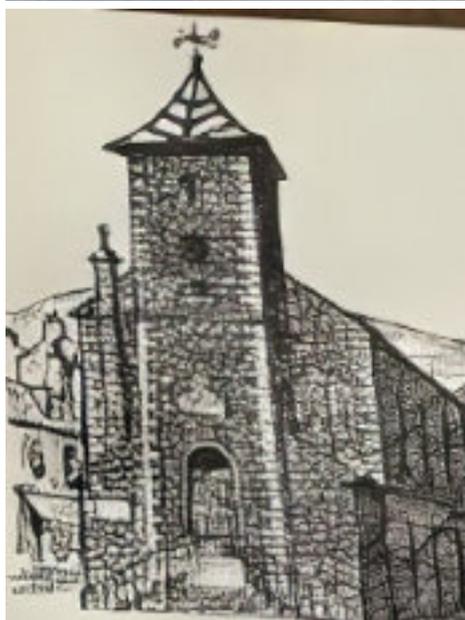
He is multi-talented. Stepper Cath Nettleton points out: "He does an amazing version of the monologue *Albert And The Lion* – and he's always up for a laugh."

Brian is also a very fine artist. As a sideline to keep his family fed, he drew pen and ink pictures of famous landmarks which the Gatehouse Press turned into cards. On the right is one of them: his Keswick Moot Hall.

But Brian's main talent is to inspire respect and friendship. Richard Akehurst, for many years squire of Wreckers Border Morris, recalls: "I met Brian many moons ago when Steppers came to dance at Wreckers' end of season day of dance in Cawsand: a lovely chap who actively supported me as a fairly new squeezebox player. He let me play for the ladies to dance and appeared to really enjoy playing with the massed band we developed.

"Later on, Wreckers and Sidmouth Steppers met at Buckland Abbey to dance in the grounds. I distinctly remember him doing Buddy Holly's *It Doesn't Matter Any More* for the Steppers' dance Whitby Shindig.

"The Wreckettes were jiving outrageously to it just on the edge of Brian's eyeline. When he spotted it, he nearly folded, laughing. Suffice to say that the lovely Ruth hadn't a clue why the music was falling apart."



Ex-drummer still beating time

Picture: NINA HANSELL



TO HAMMER home the point that music keeps you young, here's a picture of Cyril May, former drummer for the Dartmoor Pixies, at Dartmoor Folk Festival. Cyril, known to the Pixies affectionately as Squirrel, hits 92 on December 15 and is still playing.

These days Cyril plays mouth organs, or gob irons as he calls them. Mark Bazeley of the Pixies says: "He played with us in the pub on the Monday after the festival. I was listening to him and he's still absolutely on it.

"He's the last one I know that plays the vamping style. Bill Murch, father of our banjo player Rob Murch, used to play that style, too. So did Mike Bond who lived in South Zeal but passed away a few years ago.

"For this style, you put more of the mouth organ in your mouth but block some of the holes on one side with your tongue so you play the note out of the side of your mouth. Then you lift your tongue off in rhythm to create the vamping behind the tune. I don't know if anyone else plays like that.

"Most people don't know this is going on as you can't see what he's doing inside his mouth."

You can hear Bill Murch on mouth organ and Cyril on drums on *A Dartmoor Country Dance Party* (Veteran).

"Sung like glee, wistful and water, honey and the ground" (The Times)

"A great vocal duo" (The Daily Telegraph)

"A beautiful folk trio" (The Independent)

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New voice stands out on the folk scene

WE HAVE looked at two veteran musicians. Now it's time to focus on an up and coming performer. Detta Kenzie, only 30 – a mere child by folk standards – had slipped under my radar until I heard her at Dartmoor Folk Festival. Accompanied by Chris Cleverley on guitar, she performed a fine set, her voice complementing her skills as a songwriter and performer of traditional material.

She has already impressed Phil Beer, who plays on her debut EP CD. He says: “Detta is the most exiting young folk musician I’ve been associated with for a couple of years. It was a pleasure to contribute to her debut recording.

“I met her through Lucas Drinkwater, who was producing her debut album. He asked me to play fiddle on her song *Wistman’s Wood*. This resonated with me because I used to live near there.

“It just so happened I was doing a couple of gigs that had space for support slots so I put her on.”

It was a good decision. After the Dartmoor folk festival, Detta went on to perform at the Beautiful Days festival so she is building up an impressive record on the circuit.

And her talent is attracting some very capable musicians to work with her. She says of her new accompanist Chris Cleverley, a fine guitarist, singer and songwriter from the Midlands: “I met Chris through my friend Tobias ben Jacob, who I was working with last year.

“Currently I am working with Sam Kelly as my producer and Sam and I are also co-writing some songs.”

Detta came to folk music as a teenager, through listening to Cara Dillon and Kate Rusby and busking a lot. Her debut CD has just four songs but they are impressive. The title



track, *Wistman’s Wood*, is one of her own compositions, a lament for lost love set in that mysterious Dartmoor beauty spot, near Two Bridges.

Her other self-penned song *An English Selkie*, imagines those mysterious seal-like creatures luring unfaithful men to their deaths. There is a nod to the tale of brave Ulysses with one mariner lashing himself to the mast to try to avoid his watery fate.

Detta also tackles two traditional songs. There is more than a touch of Sandy Denny in her interpretation of *Reynardine*, that haunting ballad that Bert Lloyd would have us believe is about a were-fox. Detta readily admits that Sandy, who tragically died some 17 years before Detta was born, is a strong influence on her own music.

The other traditional ballad is *Black Is The Colour* and Detta breathes new life into this much-covered song.

The CD is available on all streaming platforms. You can find details of this and her upcoming concerts on her website dettakenzie.com

Pennymoor Singaround

Please check venue and time changes in red

Song and Music Sessions

Song Sessions: 1st Thursday – 12 noon The London Inn, Morchard Bishop, Nr. CREDITON Contact: Jon 07840524318

3rd Thursday 7.30pm The London Inn, Morchard Bishop Nr CREDITON Contact: Jon 07840524318

Music Session: Last Sunday 12 noon Half Moon Inn, Cheriton Fitzpaine, Contact Clare 01884860023

Visit Facebook: Pennymoor Singaround

To confirm updated venues or contact:

Biddy: 01271 373305 biddy.mallabone@outlook.com

Jon: 07840524318 – jon_shapley@hotmail.com

Also run by Pennymoor members:

1st Sunday 8.00pm The Devonshire Inn, Sticklepath
Contact: Derek 01837840316

1st Tuesday 8.00pm Lamb Inn, Sandford
Contact: Hazel or Paul 01363 776275

Last Tuesday 8.00pm The New Inn, Coleford
Contact: Dave 01363 84914

4th Wednesday – 8.30pm Stoke Canon Inn, Nr. Exeter
Paul and Alison 07709324836

Life isn't all plain sailing for Phil

There has been plenty for the master fiddler to do since Show of Hands. But he still found time for a sea cruise

BACK in the day Royal Naval ships would have a fiddler sitting on the capstan to encourage the men to work (CS Forester's Hornblower book *The Happy Return* has a fine description of one in action). It's good to see Phil Beer reviving the tradition aboard the Cornish pilot cutter Tallulah.

Straight after appearing at Sidmouth Folk Festival, Phil, who learned to sail while a pupil at Teignmouth Grammar School, set off for the Maritime Music Festival at Paimpol in Brittany.

Skipper on the boat was Diggory Rose, son of the late, great Tony Rose, who did so much for West Country folk music. Phil remembers first seeing Tony perform at the Exeter trad folk club and still sings some of his songs.

At Paimpol, they managed to tie up close to the main stage. Although it's a proudly French festival the main stage is named after the great British shantyman Stan Hugill.

The festival was a good break for Phil who has been far from idle since Show of Hands played their last gig together in 2023.

He has been doing up to seven solo gigs a month and has reunited with his old partner Paul Downes. Phil has also been out with two trios, one including former Show of Hands bandmate Miranda Sykes. And there is his work with Reg Meuros's project, *Woody*



Guthrie Fire and Dust, to which he contributes slide guitar, mandolin and fiddle. The project, which celebrates the life of the American singer in new songs and was performed by Reg and Phil at Sidmouth, was commissioned by Pete Townshend, who few people would have guessed is a great Woody Guthrie fan.

Pete co-produced the album and Phil is full of admiration for Pete as a producer. "He has a fantastic studio at his country home on the edge of Gloucester. It was a terrific experience working there."

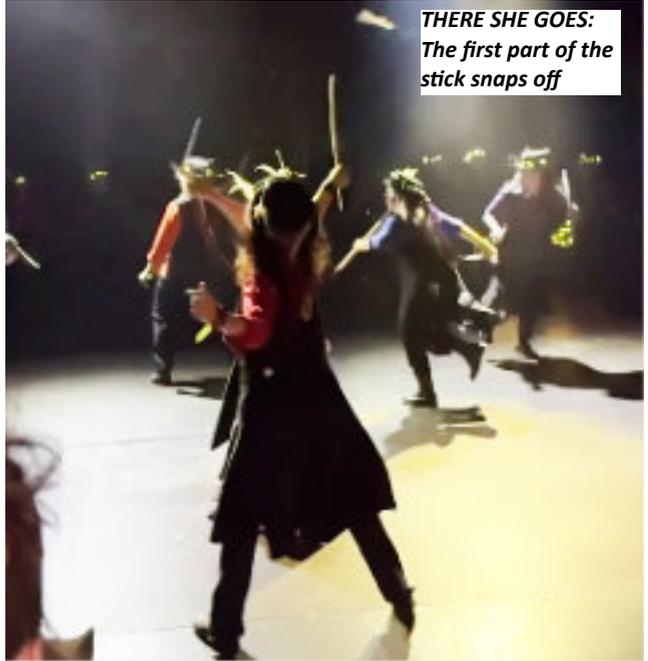
PHIL is no mean producer himself and his main project since Show of Hands disbanded has been putting together the band's box set. He is taking this project so seriously that he has actually moved his own recording studio out of his home and into new premises to help him concentrate.

He is a little vague about when the box sets will appear and quite cagey about the prospects of a Show of Hands reunion. There is the possibility of some secret gigs but so secret he would have to kill me if he told me about them.

He is touring a lot in the coming months although not doing much in Devon. However, you can catch him at Teignmouth Pavilions on Wednesday October 8.

Sidmouth Sketches

It's a morris nightmare. You're at one of the most prestigious events and in mid-dance your stick starts to snap. But the show must go on. How do you cope? We find how one dancer tackled the LNE Horror.



THERE SHE GOES:
The first part of the stick snaps off

THE Late Night Extra at the Bulverton Marquee is a key event at Sidmouth Folk Festival. It attracts the most fervent ceilidh dancers. Every night at around midnight they take a break while an invited morris side puts on a display, *writes John Foxen*

This is a nerve-racking time for the morris dancers. They know they are not being watched by the general public but by real aficionados who will be analysing their every move. Squires and foremen have been known to work themselves into a nervous frenzy while trying to drill their sides to perfection for this peak moment. They aim to guard against every error – but how do you cope if a stick breaks in mid-dance?

It's a dancer's nightmare. And this year the victim was Jules Sutton of Catseye Morris from Liskeard. Disaster struck at the worst time: on the first Friday night of Sidmouth, the first LNE and the very first dance.

Catseye were getting into their stride with *Sixty Nine*. Jules, who lives in Totnes, was dancing opposite Squire Robert Nutkins, no

gentle hitter. As they clashed, part of her stick broke. The show must go on so Jules kept going with a shortened stick. Then more broke off. With only a few inches left, she cast it to one side. And mimed.

She was right in the centre of the lens of Tony Carsley, who not only captured the scene for posterity but also slowed it down. The video looks like the last reel of a kung fu movie with Jules as a warrior princess, weaponless

You can find the video of Jules's stick disaster at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kFVRqehvu6Q> or scan this Qr Code



but gracefully fending off her enemy with her bare hands. This is apt because the dance *Sixty Nine* was inspired by a street fight in

Plymouth.

In a masterpiece of improvisation she substitutes her hat for her lost stick to make a sweeping gesture to the audience.

At three minutes 15 seconds, in the right-hand side of the frame, you can see a member of the audience gesturing with the remains of Jules's stick. But this was no use to Jules who

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Sidmouth Sketches



Steve meets an old hand and a dab hand with pans



THE best of our folk singers and musicians always embrace the old and the new. So it was no surprise to see Steve Knightley honouring Martin Carthy at the Bedford Hotel (which Steve calls Sidmouth Festival's spiritual heart).

Steve says Martin is “the man who started it all for me: a towering figure in English traditional music and one of my greatest inspirations. An honour to share a moment with him here”.

But Steve also has an eye for new talent. At last year's festival, he spotted singer and one-armed guitarist Tina Bridgman busking in the street and brought her on

to the main stage to share the spotlight with him (see *What's Afoot 136* for the full story). So it was no surprise to find him on Friday busking on the esplanade with a relative newcomer, Dan Salvatore, who plays and makes handpans.

Dan, from Colyford, performed on the esplanade all week, showing his skill as artist and artisan. He got his first pan in 2015 and progressed to making them. Dan also offers workshops in playing them.

You can find out more about Dan and his pans at www.salavatorehandpans.com which also has links to videos of him and Steve playing together.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

completed her part of the dance still empty-handed but successful and left the stage – much to her relief.

Just a one-off? Not so. The same thing happened to Lisa Schneidau of Beltane Morris at their Late Night Extra last year. She says: “It was in the middle *Cross Tree*. All I could do was mime.

“Fortunately I was on the inside ring of that dance so it wasn't so noticeable.”

As Auric Goldfinger memorably said to James Bond: “Once is happenstance, twice is coincidence. The third time it's enemy action.”

Will this happen again next year and if so can we put it down to a Bulverton bugaboo? Is there a ceilidh cousin of the Hairy Hands of Dartmoor who, instead of wrenching the

steering wheel out of the hands of an unwary car driver, delights in snapping sticks?

That's far too fanciful for *What's Afoot*. So I'll leave the theory in the capable hands of Lisa Schneidau, who also happens to be a storyteller. I think we can rely on her to weave the Mystery of the Morris Menace into Devon's folklore. Look out for it on her page www.facebook.com/LisaSchneidauStoryteller

CATSEYE really need to invest in stronger sticks (or invest in talismans to ward off phantom stick snappers). Another one snapped while they were dancing at Port Royal with Sheffield City Morris. A fragment of stick left on the ground was snapped up by Sheffield's front man Pete Delamere.

Later he came up to Catseye and said: “You

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Sidmouth Sketches

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should have kept that bit of stick. I've just sold it to a chap over there for £5."

One Catseye member was outraged: "YOU. SOLD. OUR. STICK!" he spluttered.

"Oh aye," said Pete with a wink. "And by the way, do you know that there's no such word as gullible in the English dictionary?"

PETE DELAMERE is a gem whose humorous introductions are as good as the dances. But he admits he has always been inspired by the wit and wisdom of Mike Boston, the Fool of Great Western Morris. Mike, who died in 2022 (see his obituary in What's Afoot 126) "dazzled and distracted crowds across the continents while we got on with the boring job of morris dancing", according to Dave Hubbard of Great Western. This year Mike received a tribute he would have loved when the Boston Bar was unveiled in the marquee in Blackmore Gardens. This was followed by dancing to his favourite band Blowzabella.

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AN IMPORTANT source of cash to keep Sidmouth Festival afloat has always been the collecting buckets. These have now been updated with addition of QR codes and card readers. Some collectors, like Jonathan Mills of Catseye, found the new technology bit unnerving.

He was using a card reader to collect a £5 donation from a punter and the man was far more tech savvy than Jonathan and checked his phone to see if his bank had paid up. "Hey," he said, "You've taken £500 from my account not £5." Jonathan was horrified: "Oh my god, I'm so sorry. What can I do?" he stuttered. Then he realised the man was grinning broadly. And do you know there's no such word as gullible...

THE bus from the campsite to the town is a great place for meeting people and hearing stories. I was chatting to two proud grandparents who told me their six-year-old granddaughter had learned more about violin playing at the Sidmouth workshops than she had in a whole term at primary school. They said they were going on from Sidmouth to Dartmoor Folk Festival where the girl's father was performing.

At this point the child piped up: "My daddy's famous. He's Saul Rose."

Happy the man who stays a hero to his daughter. In teenage years it can be a different story. Years ago, when I was working on a Newspaper That Must Not Be Named, there was a lovely young intern whom the lads in the office were trying to impress by telling her they played guitars in rock bands.

"Oh yes, my dad does that," she said in that voice teenage girls reserve for telling you how boring dad is. When she mentioned dad was revered rock guitarist Steve Howe, the lads almost fell to their knees in adoration. But to her, he was just, dad. Saul, here's hoping your daughter always stays proud of you – and admits it, even in her teenage years.

TALKING of children, it was inspiring and enjoyable to see the young performers from the Fosbrook Educational Trust of Stockport. Excellent musicians and dancers, they were popping up everywhere during the festival to assure us that the traditions we love are being carried on by the next generation and beyond.

Saving voices from the past



SINGING THE OLD SONGS: Pete Coe with Viv and Vic Legg and Mossy Christian

ARARE treat at the Dartmoor Folk Festival was hearing veteran singer Pete Coe recount how he recorded the songs of three remarkable Cornish travellers, Sophie Legg and Betsy and Charlotte Renals.

Back in 1978, Pete had tried to interest various folk record labels in recording these singers before it was too late. In the end he found out that if he wanted it done then he would have to do it himself. So after a crash course in using a borrowed tape recorder, he set off for the South-west.

He was greeted with some scepticism by the women, who wanted to know “Why do you want to record songs from people like us?”

His answer: “Because I sing those sorts of songs.” He had to prove it by singing one of his songs but after that he was trusted.

The result was an LP entitled *Catch Me If You Can: Songs from Cornish Travellers* and it has just been re-released by Veteran, the traditional music label. The CD also includes rediscovered interview excerpts of the singers telling stories from their lives in their own words.

To celebrate the re-release, Pete has been giving concert-lectures. At Dartmoor he was joined on stage by Sophie Legg’s children Vic and Viv Legg, and Mossy Christian.

The founder of the Dartmoor Folk Festival,

Bob Cann was passionate about preserving West Country ways and would have certainly applauded this event.

The new *Catch Me If You Can* CD is available from veteran.co.uk.

It should be mentioned that Vic Legg has also done more than his fair share of preserving and promoting the old songs and customs. Back in 2019, Vic, born in Launceston and now living in Bodmin, was rewarded for his work in spreading music, dance and songs by being presented with his English Folk Dance and Song Society Gold Badge at the Dartmoor Folk Festival.

THIS year Vic also shared memories of his family and a way of life that has almost vanished. For example, his grandfather was a fairground prizefighter, taking on all-comers and coming home covered in bruises but always with a purse of prize money.

With Pete and Vic getting on a bit – even by the standards of the folk world – our motto should be “Catch them while you can”, especially since Pete has said he is cutting down on his touring.

This year was also special for Pete’s wife Sue. She fulfilled a long-held ambition and called a dance for The Dartmoor Pixie Band at their ceilidh spot.

Beth steps up to the mark



DARTMOOR wouldn't be the festival it is without the annual step dance and broom dance championships. This year the step dance trophy went to Beth Frangleton who grew up in South Zeal, where the festival is held.

Beth, 26, pictured left, is a former broom dance champion, and described winning the step dancing as "a dream come true".

Second in the competition was Christabel White and third was Evelyn Hansell.

Thirteen dancers took part in the final, performing on a 15 inch square board on top of a hay wagon in front of several hundred people.

The Broom Dance competition is for primary school aged children. This year Ella Stephenson, 10, of Woodcote, near Oxford, was the winner.

If you fancy your chances next year remember there are always workshops in step dancing and broom dancing on the Saturday morning of the festival. Good luck!



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Beautiful Days



The Pixies go punk

HERE'S something we never thought we'd see: Mark Bazeley proudly displays his Beautiful Days Festival T-shirt and on the back – the Dartmoor Pixies are sharing the billing with the Sex Pistols! Can we look forward to a new album from the band carrying on Bob

Cann's legacy: *Never Mind The Billhooks, Here Come The Sex Pixies?*

And now that those rebellious Sex Pistols are celebrating their 50th anniversary, do they count as folk music?

Can we expect to hear in singarounds acoustic (and slightly creaky) versions of *Pretty Vacant* and *God Save The Queen*?

On a more serious note, the Pixies had a great time playing at Beautiful Days, The Levellers' festival in Escot Park in August.

Mark says: "We owe huge thanks to Sean Lakeman for having this crazy idea of a family ceilidh at the festival and putting us forward for it.

"Here's to Dave, Laura and Jenny at Beautiful Days for having faith in us, to all the crew and volunteers for making it all happen, always with big smiles on their faces.

"And here's to all the people that came and danced to us. I was prepared for about a dozen and we must have had two or three hundred dancing right from the start and as many sat or stood watching.

"I absolutely loved my weekend at this beautiful festival. It exceeded all expectations and was our biggest gig ever.

"Next stop: the Pyramid Stage at Glastonbury Festival."

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News in Brief



THESE morris dancing otters have been spotted scampering across Dartmoor looking for a new home. Maurice and Molly are not, as you might think, members of Otter Morris. They are, as their colours show, members of Dartmoor Border Morris. They got confused when the side moved from Meavy and to a new home at Walkhampton Memorial hall, PL20 6JN. Otters and dancers are now reunited and Dartmoor will be having its practice sessions on Wednesday nights at usual with a music session at the Walkhampton Inn afterwards

Totnes Folk Club

Dartmouth Inn, The Plains
Totnes, TQ9 5EL



*2nd Thursday in the Month 7.30pm
Except August*

**9th October – Singers Night
13th November – Singers Night
11th December – Singers Night
with Traditional Carols**

For more information contact
Andy: ndclarke6@gmail.com
Anne: anne.m.gill@icloud.com
Visit our Facebook page or contact
Steve & Anne Gill
01803 290427
or Andy Clarke 01803 732312

Blue Jewel Ceilidh Band

**"THE MOST ENJOYABLE
AND HAPPY PARTY WE
HAVE EVER HAD. WE
DANCED OUR HEARTS OUT!"**



www.bluejewel.info

News in Brief

Anniversary tour 2

OCTOBER will be a busy month for Kathryn Roberts and Sean Lakeman as they set off on the second leg of their 30-year anniversary tour.

They are travelling the length and breadth of the country but you can catch them in Devon at The Watermark, Ivybridge, on October 11, The Plough at Great Torrington on the 18th and the Village Hall, Milton Combe on the 19th.

Brent folk

SADLY, we have lost the South Brent Folk Festival, which, although small, punched well above its weight. However, it's good to see that the town is still putting on some fine events.

On Saturday October 11 there is an autumn ceilidh (see advert below). On Saturday November 8 Sam Richards and Martin Scragg will present Rising Voices: Songs of Struggle and Survival (see advert on page 18). Saturday December 27 sees a 'Twixt Christmas and New Year ceilidh (see advert on page 20).



FOLK ON THE MOOR
The Moorland Hotel
Wotter

PROGRAMME

| | |
|--------|---------------------|
| 5 Oct | Singers' Night |
| 12 Oct | Tom McConville |
| 19 Oct | Singers' Night |
| 26 Oct | Winter Wilson |
| 2 Nov | Singers' Night |
| 9 Nov | Gerry Colvin Band |
| 16 Nov | Singers' Night |
| 23 Nov | Crows |
| 30 Nov | Singers' Night |
| 7 Dec | Dartmoor Pixie Band |
| 14 Dec | Christmas Party |

Club meets every Sunday at 7.45pm
Club closed 21 and 28 Dec

For directions or more information, check our
website: www.moorfolk.co.uk
or email: folkonthemoor1@gmail.com



Saturday 11th October 2025

AUTUMN CÉILIDH

with

Ashburton Community Folk Orchestra



**Calling by
David Faulkner**



at South Brent Village Hall

at 7.30pm; (Doors open 7.00pm) Reel Ale Bar

Entry £8; Tickets from [artworks](http://artworks.org.uk) in South Brent, or by BACS - contact mavis.hewitt@hotmail.co.uk
or on the door (if any left). For further information contact 01364 73117

For further information contact 01364 73117

<http://southbrentfolk.org.uk>

Winter Warmers

THE GREAT GREY MARE HUNT

Sticklepath

Friday October 31

ONCE again on Hallowe'en, the children of Sticklepath and beyond will join forces with the ghost of Tom Pearce's Grey Mare to hunt down the ruthless riders who drove the mare to her death, as recorded in the song *Widcombe Fair*.

Sticklepath, where a Tom Pearce is buried, claims that this man was owner of the ill-fated mare and that Tom Cobleigh and the rest of the reckless rascals set off from Sticklepath for Widcombe Fair. The villagers say that the ghost of the mare will not rest easy until the riders repent their beastly behaviour.

This year families will gather in the village hall at 6pm for storytelling by Tich Scott, dancing by morris maidens Cogs & Wheels and songs from the Balm maidens. They will be introduced to the ghost of the mare then set off round the village (weather permitting) to hunt down the ghosts of Bill Brewer, Jan Stewer and co, before returning to the hall.

At 8pm the action shifts to the Devonshire Inn where mummers will re-enact repentance

of those selfish seven. A song and musical session will follow. If you bring a song then it ought to be ghoulish for Hallowe'en.

The event has a very local flavour but visitors willing to embrace the tradition are always very welcome. Last year the event even attracted

a visitor from Hanoi in Vietnam, Trang Tran, pictured above with Sarah Miller who has the unenviable job of making the ghost of the Grey Mare behave. For more details, contact: derekmoore60@hotmail.com or 01837 840316.



SOUTH BRENT FOLK

presents

'Rising Voices: Songs of Struggle & Survival'

An evening with Sam Richards and Martin Scragg.



Saturday 8 November 2025

in The Old School Community Centre, South Brent

at 7.30pm. Doors open 7pm.

Tea, coffee, soft drinks & snacks available.

Tickets £6 from [artworks](http://artworks.org.uk) in South Brent, or by BACS - contact ma/s.heath@hotmail.co.uk or on the door (if any left), email stco@southbrentartworks.co.uk or phone 01364 73117.

<http://southbrentfolk.org.uk>

Winter Warmers

FIRE FESTIVALS

Ottery St Mary

Tuesday November 5

Hatherleigh

Saturday November 8

FORGET Guy Fawkes night. It can't compare with the spectacle of blazing tar barrels flying through the streets of a Devon village.

Our county is home to two such English festivals. At Ottery St Mary every November 5 teams of men and women run through the village bearing blazing barrels of tar. The origins of this ritual are unknown but some say it started after the Gunpowder Plot of 1605. Other suggestions include the fumigation of cottages or a warning of the approach of the Spanish armada.

This is no festival for the fainthearted and the organisers warn spectators to watch the barrel movements at all times. It could change direction at any moment.

- Do not attempt to run from the barrel as it approaches just take a step back and lean away from it. Trying to run away will cause a crowd surge.
- Do not try to touch the burning barrel.

The festival at Hatherleigh, which is held on the second Saturday in November, is a little more restrained – but not very much. On the Friday evening before the big day the tar barrels, strapped to a sledge, are hauled up Market Street accompanied by musicians to be in position for 5am on Saturday.



Beware the blazing barrels of Ottery St Mary

At dawn the barrels are ignited and dragged through the town at a fair pace – somehow without setting fire to the many thatched roofs.

During the day there is a carnival and display of floats. Competition between the floats is as heated as the burning barrels. At 6pm the float parade gathers in the Market Place and by 7.30pm is joined by the torchlit procession. At around 9.30pm the rest of the barrels are lit and sped through the town. Afterwards the barrels form the nucleus of the bonfire.

PUDSEY DAY

Tavistock

Saturday November 15

ONCE again Tavistock faces its annual morris dancing invasion but it's all in a good cause. Dartmoor Border Morris (DBM) is hosting 15 other sides who will be performing in and around Bedford Square to raise money for the BBC Children In Need appeal.

This is a landmark date for DBM. It's their tenth year running the event. As usual they will be joined by Pudsey Bear and dancing will continue from 10am until 4pm. All the time there will be people quietly going round with collecting tins. Last year a record £2,824 was collected on the streets.

This brings the total raised in the past nine years to £14,236.

In addition to money from the generous

public, the funds have been boosted over the years by Dartmoor Brewery, which again this year will be donating kegs of beer. The pints will be dished out at £2 as pint to thirsty morris men and women at the Stannary Arms in King Street. Once again the pub is generously giving over its back room as a base for the dancers.

After the dancing, there will be a music session in that back room. Last year it moved into the main bar at the landlady's request.

This year Cornish sides Pensans Morris, Tywardreath Morris, Carn Brea Morris, Boscastle Morris, Catseye and The Wad will be joining the fun. From East Devon we have Glory of the West, Otter Morris and Black Bess.

For more information contact DBM via www.dartmoorbordermorris.com or check out the side's Facebook page.

KELLIWICK GOLOWI

Callington

Saturday November 15

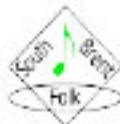
From 5pm

NOW in its third year, the Kelliwick Golowi is on the verge of becoming a tradition. Kelliwick is the Cornish name for Callington. Golowi is Cornish for illumination so this mini festival celebrates light in the dark time of winter. It opens with a parade from Callington Primary School and finishes at the junction of New Road and Fore Street. Young people have been making Golowi creations which will be on display. Also expect to see beasts like those pictured right.

We are promised lots of lanterns and fire entertainment – which will include a dance with flaming torches by Catseye Morris. Other morris dancers will be in attendance to take over in case Catseye members have to be rushed to the Serious Burns Unit.

There will also be belly dancers and performances by Callington Town Band and the Kelliwick Golowi Band (which is known as the KGB – let's hope they don't decide to stage an invasion of Liskeard) and assorted beasts on display.

There will be food stalls but don't get too full because there will be a lot of Cornish dancing.



Saturday 27th December 2025

Twixt Christmas and New Year



CÉILIDH

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

THE OFFSHOOT BAND

with caller **KIP PRATT**
at **South Brent Village Hall**

(from 'Spinach for Norman')

at 7.30pm

Doors open 7.00pm - Real Ale Bar

Entry £6 (includes one free non-alcoholic drink)

Tickets from [atworks](#) in South Brent, or by BACS - contact

mavis.beest@hotmail.co.uk or on the door (if any left)

For further information contact 01364 73117



<http://southbrentfolk.org.uk>

THE latest listings appear in the following section. The details in this section are believed to be correct at the time of compilation. We try to keep up to date but this magazine is looking three months ahead and a lot can happen in that time. Pubs can close or come under new and uncooperative ownership, organisers can fall ill or guests may have to cancel at the last minute.

Where possible we advise you to check with the venue before setting off for an event. We always urge event organisers to provide a contact phone number or an email or website address.

You can also check on our own website, www.devonfolkdirectory.org. Either type the address into your web browser or use your



phone to scan the QR code provided here.

You can also use the magazine and the website to advertise your own events. Listings are free for Devon Folk members and for subscribers and advertisers in What's Afoot.

Coming events should be sent to devonfolkwebmaster@gmail.com or devonfolkeditor@gmail.com

If you submit an entry for the listings, it is your responsibility to ensure that details are up to date and that we are informed of any changes. One person can be the contact for multiple listings at no extra cost.

The editor cannot accept responsibility for changes by club organisers or because of unforeseen events.

Now the Flaxey-Green website has ended after more than two decades, the web Directory provides an alternative for all kinds of folk activity in the county. We are pleased that Trevor Paul, the former Flaxey-Green webmaster, is helping to run the directory and the new Devon Folk website.

Teignmouth Folk Club

The Brass, Hollands Road
Teignmouth TQ14 8ST

First Monday in the Month

8pm Free admission

Monday 6th October

22nd Birthday Night

Guest – Chris Robson

Monday 3rd November

Singer's & Musician's Open Night

Monday 1st December

Singer's & Musician's Open Night

Monday 5th January

Guest Night- Five Finger Eddie

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

Song and Music

Folk song clubs and sessions are sometimes forced to change venue at short notice. Please check . See also www.devonfolk.org for updates.**ASHBURTON**

2nd Monday 7pm. Klezmer and Eastern European session. Ashburton Arts Centre, 15 West Street. TQ13 7DT. bunelik@gmail.com

BIDEFORD

Thursday. Bideford Folk Club. Joiners Arms. John Purser 01237 424286 or email bidefolk@gmail.com

BISHOPSTEIGNTON

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

BODMIN

Friday: Bodmin Folk Club. St Petroc's Parish Centre, Priory Rd, Bodmin PL31 2DP. www.bodminfolk.co.uk

BRADNINCH

2nd Tuesday 8pm, Castle Hotel, 1 Fore Street, Bradninch EX5 4NN

BRIXHAM

4th Monday 8pm. The Birdcage, New Road. TQ5 8LT
1st Friday 7.30pm. Brixham Folk Cub. The Edge, Bolton Street, Brixham TQ5 9DH

BUCKLAND

MONACHORUM

2nd Sunday 7.30pm. The Drake Manor Inn, PL20 7NA
1st Wednesday 8.30pm. The Drake Manor Inn, PL20 7NA

COLEFORD

Last Tuesday 8pm. The New Inn. Dave 01363 84914

CHERTON FITZPAINE

Last Sunday noon. Half Moon. Clare Penny 01884 860023

CHIPSHOP (Nr Tavistock)

Tuesday: 7.30pm The Copper Penny Inn. Singaround, all styles. Copperpennysessions@gmail.com

COLEFORD

Last Tuesday: 8pm The New Inn Coleford, Crediton EX17

5BZ Tel: Dave 01363 84914

CULLOMPTON

Alternate Thursday Crediton West Gallery Quire. Sonja Andrews 01363 877216

South West Shape Note

Singing, Cullompton Steve 07976 605692

DARTINGTON

Last Monday: 7pm New Lion Brewery, Meadowbrook, TQ9 6JD. Mark Jefferys markjefferys7@gmail.com

DENBURY

Thursday (weekly) 8.30pm. Denbury Folk. Union Inn, The Green, Denbury, TQ12 6DQ. Mostly sing-around but also tunes, stories and poems. Telephone 01803 812537

ERMINGTON

Last Monday: 8pm Crooked Spire Inn, The Square, PL21 9LP. Acoustic session "Country meets Folk".

EXETER

Last Wednesday: 7.30pm Cornish and Devonian Folk Music Session. The Mount Radford, 73-75 Magdalen Rd, Exeter EX2 4TA

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

EXMOUTH

4th Sunday: 7pm. GWRSA Railway Club 3-5 Royal Avenue, Exmouth EX8 1EN. Chris Austin 07812 688432
1st Thursday 7.45pm Bicton Inn Folk session 01395 272589

3rd Thursday 8.30pm Bicton Inn Folk session 01395 272589. Becky Brooks

4th Thursday 8.30pm Bicton Inn Folk club night 01395 272589. Derek Brooks

FROGMORE

Alternate Wednesdays 8pm The Globe Inn, Frogmore, TQ7 2NR. Nigel & Sarah 01548 531525

IPPLEPEN

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

KINGSTEIGNTON

1st Wednesday 7.30 pm Acoustic Warehouse – Music & Performance Club, Estuary Courtyard, Passage House Inn. Nigel 07989 180091

LYMPSTONE

4th Wednesday 8pm.

Lympstone Folk, Roots and Acoustic, The Swan Inn, The Strand, Town Centre, **Exmouth** EX8 5ET. 01395 225075/07741409265

MARLDON

3rd Friday 7pm. Ye Olde Smokey House, Vicarage Road, TQ3 1NN. Folk Plus Acoustic Music Club. Paul 07894 961010

MILTON COMBE

Fortnightly Tuesday 7.30pm. American Roots song and tune session. The Who'd Have Thought It Inn, Milton Combe, PL20 6HP martinr.54@virgin.net

MORCHARD BISHOP

1st Thursday 12 noon. The London Inn, Morchard Bishop, nr Crediton EX17 6NW. Jon 0136383740

OKEHAMPTON

1st Thursday 8.30pm. Wren Music Folk Club, The Plume of Feathers, 38 Fore Street, EX20 1HB. www.wrenmusic.co.uk

PLYMOUTH

2nd Monday 7.30pm. Tunes and songs. The Dolphin Hotel, 14 The Barbican, PL1 2LS. Jake Rowlinson 07805970075

saxonjaxon@hotmail.co.uk.

3rd Monday 7.30pm. The Plymouth Singers Session, Providence Inn, 20 Providence Street, PL4 8JQ Unaccompanied folk songs. Jake Rowlinson 7805970075 saxonjaxon@hotmail.co.uk.

Song and Music

PLYMOUTH

2nd and 4th Tuesdays

7.30pm. Cafe Momus, 14 Manor Street, PL1 1TL. Song and instrumental session.

Marilyn Cowan 01752 309983

ST DOMINICK

2nd Saturday 7.30pm.

Who'd Have Thought It Inn, PL12 6TG Mike 07725 579718

SANDFORD

1st Tuesday 8pm Lamb Inn

Paul & Hazel 01363 776275

3rd Wednesday 7.30pm

Lamb Inn Jon Shapely

0136383740

jon_shapley@hotmail.com

SCORITON

4th Sunday 7.30 pm.

Tradesman's Arms Sue & Simon Williams, Scorrifton Farmhouse

SOUTH BRENT

3rd Thursday 8pm Pack

Horse Inn. Mixed session.

mickbramich@gmail.com

SOUTH ZEAL

3rd Mon music session Kings

Arms markbazeleymobile

@gmail.com

STICKLEPATH

1st Sunday 8pm. Devonshire

Inn. Derek Moore 01837 840316

STOKE CANON

4th Wednesday 8.30pm.

Stoke Canon Inn. Paul and

Alison 07709324836

TALLATON

3rd Sunday noon. Mostly

English session. The Talaton

Inn, EX5 2RQ.

jon@devonstrings.co.uk

TEIGNMOUTH

1st Monday 8pm. Teignmouth

Folk Club, The Brass, 3 Hollands

Rd, TQ14 8SR. Martyn

Hillstead, 01626 778071.

TOPSHAM

1st Monday 7.30pm. Mainly

English instrumental session

at The Bridge Inn, EX3 0QQ

Tuesday singers' night

7.45pm at The Globe, Fore Street, EX3 0HR.

Monthly Concerts.

Matthews Hall, Fore Street,

EX3 0HF

TOTNES

2nd Thursday: Folk Song

Club. Dartmouth Inn. Steve

& Anne Gill, 01803 290427.

1st & 3rd Tuesday 8pm. Bay

Horse. Music and Song

session (English)

2nd & 4th Tuesday 8pm. Bay

Horse. Music session (Irish)

WILLAND

Willand Club Band

Workshop. Willand Chapel,

Gables Road. Mary Marker

01626 854141

WOTTER

Sunday 7.45 pm. Folk on The

Moor. The Moorland Hotel,

PL7 5HP (01752 839228).

Anton Horwich, 4, The

Green, Milton Combe,

Yelverton, 01822 853620.

Social Dance

BIDEFORD

Bideford Country Dance Club,

Northam Hall, Fore St, EX39

1AN. Fridays 8pm. 01237

476632.

Bideford Folk Dance Club,

Northam Hall, Fore St,

Northam, EX39 1AN. Last

Wednesday in September to

first in May. 01237 423554.

BRIDPORT

Bridport Folk Dance Club, WI

Hall, North Street, DT6 3NW.

Monday except holidays.

7.15pm. 01308 863552.

CHARD

Chard Folk Dance Club,

Combe St Nicholas Village Hall

Nr Chard TA20 3NY. Fortnightly

Thursday 7.30pm. Hilary & Bill

Durrant 01460 61996.

CHUDLEIGH

Chudleigh Folk Dance Club.

Chudleigh Town Hall, Market

Way, Chudleigh, TQ13 0HL.

Mondays (not October 28,

December 23 & 30. Musicians

arrive 7pm, dancers 8pm

Contact Mary Marker, 01626

854141.

DARTINGTON

Dartington Folk Dance Club,

Dartington Village Hall. on

Fridays 8pm. 01822 852442.

GITTISHAM

Gittisham Folk Dance Club,

Gittisham Village Hall, EX14

3AF nr. Honiton. Usually

Wednesdays. 8pm Telephone

Rosemary 01395 515403.

LAUNCESTON

Launceston Folk Dance Club,

St John Ambulance Hall,

Westgate Street, Launceston.

Tuesdays 8pm.

Not July and August.

Tel: Rosemary 01566 774491.

NEWTON ABBOT

Newton Abbot Irish Set

Dance, Jolly Farmer,

8 Market Street, TQ12 2RB.

Wednesdays: 01626204350.

<https://devonirishsetdancers.uk>

SIDFORD

Sidford Folk Dance Club,

Sidford Social Hall, Byes Lane

EX10 9QX. Tuesdays 8pm

September to May.

Tel: 01395 514161

or 01395 568336.

SOUTH HAMS

South Hams Folk Dance Club,

West Charleton Village Hall

TQ7 2AG. Wednesdays

7.45pm September to April.

Tel: Philip 01548 561415.

TAVISTOCK

Tavistock Folk Dance Club,

Parish Centre PL19 8AU or

Methodist Church Hall,

PL19 8DX.

1st and 3rd Thursdays

2pm to 4pm.

Not June, July August.

Tel:01822 855858.

Social Dance

WHIMPLE

Irish Set Dancing, Whimple
Victory Hall, School Hill EX5
2TS, (3rd Sun) 2pm. <https://>

devonirishsetdancers.uk/

WILLAND

Willand Folk Dance Club,
Willand Village Hall, Gables

Road, Willand, EX15 2PL.

Thursday (2nd and 4th) 8pm.

Tel: 01844 253546

or 01404 47200.

Events

OCTOBER

WEDNESDAY 1

Irish Set Dancing. Jolly
Farmer, Newton Abbot
TQ12 2RB

Gittisham Folk Dance Club

Caller: Patricia Donnithorne
Band: Petronella Gittisham
Village Hall, EX14 3AF

Thursday 2

Reg Meuross "Stolen from
God" with Suntou Sasso and
Karen Gledhill (narrator).
Brixham Methodist Church,
Fore Street, Torquay
TQ5 8AA

Friday 3

India Electric Co. Beehive
Arts Centre, Dowell Street,
Honiton EX14 1LZ

Saturday 4

Willand Folk Dance Club.

Caller: Ray Goodswen Band:
Pendragon. Willand Village
Hall, Gables Road, EX15 2PL

Leveret. Calstock Arts, The
Old Chapel, Sand Lane,
Calstock PL18 9QX

Harbottle & Jonas. Crediton
Arts Centre, East St, EX17 3AX

The Legendary Hennock

Barn Dance 2025. Spinach
for Norman. Beechleigh
Farm, Furzeleigh Lane, Bovey
Tracey, TQ13 9LU

Monday 6

Teignmouth Folk Club (22nd
Birthday Night): Chris
Robson. The Brass, Hollands
Road, Teignmouth TQ14 8ST

Tuesday 7

Sidford Folk Dance Club.

Caller: Mary Marker Band:
Sidford Social Hall, Byes Lane
EX10 9QX

Wednesday 8

Irish Set Dancing. Jolly

Farmer, Newton Abbot TQ12
2RB

Gittisham Folk Dance Club

Caller: Jane Thomas Band:
Ian and Margaret. Gittisham
Village Hall, EX14 3AF

Phil Beer Trio. Pavilions

Teignmouth, The Den, TQ14
8BG

Thursday 9

DakhaBrakha. The Civic Hall,
Market Square, High Street
Totnes, TQ9 5SF

Willand Folk Dance Club.

Caller: Chris Jewell Band:
Dancing Keys. Willand Village
Hall, Gables Road, EX15 2PL
"Stolen from God" Reg
Meuross and Suntou Sasso
with Karen Gledhill (narrator).
Ashburton Arts Centre, 15
West Street, TQ13 7DT

Friday 10

Exeter Folk and Acoustic

Club: Tom McConville.
Victoria Park Tennis Club,
Lyndhurst Road, St Leonards,
EX2 4NX

Saturday 11

Kathryn Roberts & Sean

Lakeman. The Watermark,
Erme Court, Leonards Road,
Ivybridge PL21 0SZ

Ninebarrow. The Flavel,

Flavel Place, Dartmouth,
Devon TQ6 9ND

South Brent Folk Autumn

Ceilidh with the Ashburton
Community Folk Orchestra .

South Brent Village Hall,
Station Approach, TQ10 9JL

d'Accord French & Breton

dance and music: Dave
Shepherd and Anna Pack.
St James Church Hall, Mount
Pleasant Road, Exeter
EX4 7AH

Sunday 12

Folk on the Moor: Tom

McConville. Moorland Hotel,
Wotter, Plymouth PL7 5HP
K'antu Ensemble. Calstock
Village Hall, The Quay,
Calstock, PL18 9QA

Tuesday 14

Hayseed Dixie. Exmouth
Pavilion, The Esplanade,
Exmouth EX8 2AZ

Sidford Folk Dance Club.

Caller: Simon Maplesden
Band: TBA. Sidford Social
Hall, Byes Lane EX10 9QX

Wednesday 15

Irish Set Dancing. Jolly
Farmer, Newton Abbot
TQ12 2RB

Hayseed Dixie. Arena

Torquay, 39-41 Torwood
Street, Torquay TQ1 1DZ

Gittisham Folk Dance Club

Caller: Simon Maplesden
Band: Pair of Shears.
Gittisham Village Hall,
EX14 3AF

Thursday 16

The Haar. Livermead Cliff
Hotel, Seafort, Torbay Road,
Torquay TQ2 6RQ

Tobias Ben Jacob & Friends:

The Songs of Bob Dylan.
Calstock Arts, The Old
Chapel, Sand Lane, PL18 9QX

Bideford Folk Club: Cohen

Braithwaite-Kilcoyne. The
Joiners Arms, Market Place,
Bideford, EX30 2DR

Friday 17

James Kerry Trio. Cygnet
Theatre, Friars Gate, Exeter
EX2 4AZ

Saturday 18

Ceilidh night: Celebrating 50
Years of the City of Plymouth
Pipe Band. The Watermark,

Events

Erme Court, Leonards Road, Ivybridge PL21 0SZ

Police Dog Hogan. The Quad Theatre, Marjon, Derriford Road, Plymouth, PL6 8BH

Moscow Drug Club. Gateway Theatre, Fore Street, Seaton EX12 2LE

Sunday 19 October

Irish Set Dancing. Whimble Victory Hall, School Hill, Whimble EX5 2TS

Sutherland. The Wharf, Canal Road, Tavistock, PL19 8AT

Topsham Folk Club: Old Spot. Matthews Hall, Fore Street, EX3 0HF

Tuesday 21

Shackleton Trio Bradninch Folk Club. The Guildhall, Fore Street, Bradninch EX5 4NN

Sidford Folk Dance Club. Caller: Zena Roberts Band: Accordion to Taste. Sidford Social Hall, Byes Lane EX10 9QX

Wednesday 22

Irish Set Dancing. Jolly Farmer, Newton Abbot TQ12 2RB

Gittisham Folk Dance Club Caller: Ray Goodswen Band: Fresh Aire. Gittisham Village Hall, EX14 3AF

Thursday 23

Dan Whitehouse & Gustaf Ljunggren. Crediton Arts Centre, East St, EX17 3AX

Willand Folk Dance Club. Caller: Simon Maplesden

Band: The More the Merrier. Willand Village Hall, Gables Road, EX15 2PL

Saturday 25

Launceston Folk Dance Club: Bring and Share Supper Anne Gill with The Mooncoin Barn Dance Band. Town Hall PL15 7AR

Exeter Ceilidhs: Spinach for Norman. Kenn Centre, Exeter Road, Kennford, EX6 7UE

Stick in the Wheel.

Exeter Phoenix, Gandy Street, Exeter EX4 3LS

Sunday 26

Fisherman's Friends. Exeter University Great Hall EX4 4PZ

Folk on the Moor: Winter Wilson. Moorland Hotel, Wotter, PL7 5HP

Tuesday 28

Sidford Folk Dance Club. Halloween dance Caller: Jane Thomas Sidford Social Hall, Byes Lane EX10 9QX

Wednesday 29

Irish Set Dancing. Jolly Farmer, Newton Abbot TQ12 2RB

Gittisham Folk Dance Club Colin Andrews and Chris Toyne. Gittisham Village Hall, EX14 3AF

Thursday 30

Bideford Folk Club: Applcorers Shanty. The Joiners Arms, Market Place, Bideford, EX30 2DR

NOVEMBER

Saturday 1

Baskery. Calstock Village Hall, The Quay, PL18 9QA

Willand Folk Dance Club. Ian Aitken, Pair of Shears. Willand Village Hall, Gables Road, EX15 2PL

Sunday 2

This Flight Tonight: The Songs of Joni Mitchell. Tavistock Wharf, PL19 8AT.

Meridianum Ensemble.

Calstock Arts, The Old Chapel, Sand Lane, PL18 9QX

Tuesday 4

Sidford Folk Dance Club.

Caller: Ali Highfield Band: Fresh Aire. Sidford Social Hall, Byes Lane EX10 9QX

Wednesday 5

Irish Set Dancing. Jolly Farmer, Newton Abbot TQ12 2RB

Gittisham Folk Dance Club Bridget Flett Jeroka. Gittisham Village Hall, EX14 3AF

Thursday 6

Riverdance 30: The New Generation. Princess Theatre, Torbay Road, Torquay TQ2 5EZ

John Smith. Exeter Phoenix, Gandy Street, EX4 3LS

Friday 7

Riverdance 30: The New Generation. Princess Theatre, Torbay Road, Torquay TQ2 5EZ

Exeter Folk and Acoustic Club: BarronBrady. Victoria Park Tennis Club, Lyndhurst Road, St. Leonards, Exeter, EX2 4NX

Saturday 8

d'Accord French & Breton dance and music: Kantref afternoon workshop with Annette Davies. St James Church Hall, Mount Pleasant Road, Exeter EX4 7AH

South Brent Folk 'Rising Voices: Songs of Struggle and Survival' with Sam Richards and Martin Scragg. The Old School Community Centre, Totnes Road, TQ10 9BP

Riverdance 30: The New Generation. Princess Theatre, Torbay Road, Torquay TQ2 5EZ

Sunday 9

Riverdance 30: The New Generation. Princess Theatre, Torbay Road, Torquay TQ2 5EZ

Folk on the Moor: Gerry Colvin Band. Moorland Hotel, Wotter, Plymouth PL7 5HP

Tuesday 11

Sidford Folk Dance Club. Caller: Jane Thomas Band: Chris Toyne. Sidford Social Hall, Byes Lane EX10 9QX

Wednesday 12

Irish Set Dancing. Jolly Farmer, Newton Abbot TQ12 2RB

Gittisham Folk Dance Club Caller: Jane Thomas Band: Ian and Margaret. Gittisham Village Hall, EX14 3AF

Thursday 13

Flook. The Flavel, Dartmouth, TQ6 9ND
Willand Folk Dance Club. Caller: Robert Blackborow,

Events

Fresh Aire. Willand Village Hall, Gables Road, EX15 2PL

Friday 14 November

Big Yellow Tambourine Man Band. The Watermark, Erme Court, Leonards Road, Ivybridge PL21 0SZ

Sunday 16

Irish Set Dancing. Whimple Victory Hall, School Hill, EX5 2TS

Topsham Folk Club: Kris Drever. Matthews Hall, Fore Street, EX3 0HF

Kathryn Roberts and Sean Lakeman. St. Mary's Church, Denbury, TQ12 6DH

Tuesday 18

Sidford Folk Dance Club. Chris Jewell. Sidford Social Hall, Byes Lane EX10 9QX

Wednesday 19

Irish Set Dancing. Jolly Farmer, Newton Abbot TQ12 2RB

Gittisham Folk Dance Club Dancing Keys. Gittisham Village Hall, EX14 3AF

Riverdance 30: The New Generation. Plymouth Pavilions Arena, PL1 3LF

Thursday 20

Riverdance 30: The New Generation. Plymouth Pavilions Arena, PL1 3LF

Saturday 22

Rejig Ceilidh. Lustleigh Village Hall, TQ13 9TA

Exeter Ceilidhs: Contra (American). Kenn Centre, Exeter Road, Kennford, EX6 7UE

Benji Kirkpatrick. B-Bar, Barbican Theatre, Castle Street, Plymouth PL1 2NJ

Sunday 23

The Lost Trades. Exeter Phoenix, Gandy Street, EX4 3LS

Folk on the Moor: Crows. Moorland Hotel, Wotter, PL7 5HP

Monday 24

Grace Petre. Exeter Phoenix, Gandy Street, Exeter EX4 3LS

Tuesday 25 November

Sidford Folk Dance Club.

Simon Maplesden Sidford Social Hall, Byes Lane EX10 9QX

Wednesday 26

Irish Set Dancing. Jolly Farmer, Newton Abbot TQ12 2RB

Gittisham Folk Dance Club

Caller: Patricia Donnithorne
Band: Fresh Aire.
Gittisham Village Hall, EX14 3AF

Peter Knight & John Spiers.

Pavilions Teignmouth, The Den, TQ14 8BG

Thursday 27

Peter Knight & John Spiers.

B-Bar, Barbican Theatre, Plymouth PL1 2NJ

Willand Folk Dance Club.

Patricia Donnithorne and Chris Toyne. Willand Village Hall, Gables Road, EX15 2PL

Friday 28

Knight & Spiers. Calstock Arts, The Old Chapel, Sand Lane, Calstock PL18 9QX

Saturday 29

Our Atlantic Roots. B-Bar, Barbican Theatre, Castle Street, Plymouth, PL1 2NJ

Exeter Ceilidhs: Tight

Squeeze. Kenn Centre, Exeter Road, Kennford, EX6 7UE

Sunday 30

Fishermans Friends.

Plymouth Pavilions Arena, Millbay Road, Plymouth PL1 3LF

DECEMBER

Tuesday 2

Sidford Folk Dance Club.

Jane Thomas Christmas Music. Sidford Social Hall, Byes Lane EX10 9QX

Wednesday 3

Irish Set Dancing. Jolly Farmer, Newton Abbot TQ12 2RB

Gittisham Folk Dance Club

Simon Maplesden Jason and Rob. Gittisham Village Hall, EX14 3AF

Friday 5 December

Sound of Sirens. Exeter Cathedral, 1 The Cloisters, EX1 1HS

Saturday 6 December

Steve Knightley & The Winter Yards Band. Exeter Corn Exchange, Market Street, EX1 1BW

Willand Folk Dance Club.

Christmas Party: Sarah Bazeley, Dartmoor Pixie Band. Willand Village Hall, Gables Road, EX15 2PL

Sunday 7

Topsham Folk Club: The Sandy Denny Project. Matthews Hall, Fore Street, Topsham EX3 0HF

Folk on the Moor: Dartmoor Pixie Band. Moorland Hotel, Wotter, Plymouth PL7 5HP

Tuesday 9

Sidford Folk Dance Club. Mary Marker, Marylea Shed Folk. Sidford Social Hall, Byes Lane EX10 9QX

Wednesday 10

Irish Set Dancing. Jolly Farmer, Newton Abbot TQ12 2RB

Gittisham Folk Dance Club

Jane Thomas, Chris Toyne. Gittisham Village Hall, EX14 3AF

Thursday 11

St Agnes Fountain. Beehive Arts Centre, Dowell Street, Honiton EX14 1LZ

Totnes Folk Club: Singers Night with Traditional Carols. Dartmouth Inn, The Plains, Totnes, TQ9 5EL

Willand Folk Dance Club.

Party night: Bring and share supper. Jane Thomas. Pair of Shears. Willand Village Hall, Gables Road, EX15 2PL

Friday 12

Mad Dog Mcreea. Arena Torquay, 39-41 Torwood Street, TQ1 1DZ

St Agnes Fountain. The Watermark, Erme Court, Leonards Road, Ivybridge PL21 0SZ

Events

Saturday 13

d'Accord French & Breton dance and music: Steve Turner and Helena Torpy. St James Church Hall, Mount Pleasant Road, Exeter EX4 7AH

Saturday 13 December

Seth Lakeman. Beehive Arts Centre, Dowell Street, Honiton EX14 1LZ

Folk on the Moor: Christmas Party. Moorland Hotel, Wotter, PL7 5HP

Monday 15 December

Grace Will Lead Me Home.

Exeter Phoenix, Gandy Street, Exeter EX4 3LS

Tim Eddy. Ashburton Arts

Centre, 15 West Street, Ashburton, TQ13 7DT

Wednesday 17

Irish Set Dancing. Jolly Farmer, Newton Abbot TQ12 2RB

Gittisham Folk Dance Club

Ali Highfield, Fresh Aire.

Gittisham Village Hall, EX14 3AF

Tuesday 16 December Sidford Folk Dance Club.

Christmas Party: Simon Maplesden and Chris Toyne. Sidford Social Hall, Byes Lane EX10 9QX

Thursday 18

Jackie Oates and John Spiers. Livermead Cliff Hotel, Seafront, Torbay Road, Torquay TQ2 6RQ

Gittisham Folk Dance Club

Christmas Party. Caller: Jane Thomas Band: Jigs for Gigs. Broadclyst Victory Hall, Broadclyst, EX5 3DX

Friday 19

Exeter Folk and Acoustic Club: Christmas Special Open Night. Victoria Park Tennis Club, Lyndhurst Road, St Leonards, Exeter, EX2 4NX

Sunday 21

Irish Set Dancing. Whimble

Victory Hall, School Hill, Whimble EX5 2TS

Mad Dog Mcrea. Tavistock Wharf, Canal Road, Tavistock PL19 8AT

Monday 22

Mad Dog Mcrea. Tavistock Wharf, Canal Road, PL19 8AT

Saturday 27

Twixt Christmas and New Year Céilidh with The Offshoot Band. South Brent Village Hall, Station Approach TQ10 9AQ

Exeter Ceilidhs (Twixmas Ceilidh): Barnstormers.

Kenn Centre, Exeter Road, Kennford, Exeter EX6 7UE

Wednesday 31

Willand Folk Dance Club. New Year's Dance Bring and Share Supper Caller: Simon Maplesden Band: Chris Toyne's Big Band. Willand Village Hall, Gables Road, EX15 2PL

Exeter Folk & Acoustic Music Club

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

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Friday 10 th October | Concert Night: Tom McConville |
| Friday 31 st October | Open Club Night |
| Friday 07 th November | Concert Night: Barron Brady |
| Friday 28 th November | Open Club Night |
| Friday 19 th December | Christmas Special Open Club Night |

Saturday 07th February 2026 – Special Concert Night
Simon Mayor & Hilary James
(A Jubilee Hall, Stoke Canon & Exeter Folk Club Presentation)

All events are at Victoria Park Tennis Club, Exeter, unless otherwise stated.

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

Morris and Display Teams

F - Morris Federation, R Morris Ring, Open Morris Day: regular meeting ALIVE & KICKING (F)
Appalachian. Jo Wright
01392 462531
AURORA (Appalachian)
auroradance18@gmail.com
<https://auroraappalachian.wixsite.com/dance>
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BIDEFORD PHOENIX MORRIS (F)
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BLACKAWTON MORRIS (F)
Chris Janman, 01803 712362
BLACK BESS (F)
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Bands

BANDS in bold text have an advert elsewhere in this magazine.

*** EFDSS affiliated.**

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

Accordion to Taste 07885 427116

Amber Fire 01803 862393

Babelfish 07971 148531

Backalong Steve Verge 07989068825

stevejverge@gmail.com

Barnstormers 01392 882036

Blue Jewel 07957 855458

Bridgwater Band 01278 691370

Choughed to Bits 01752 851990

Chris Toyne Band chris.toyne@btinternet.com

Classic Ceilidh Band 07778 105739

Dartmoor Pixie Band* 01837 840775

Dancing Keys 07813 774967 hazelridd@gmail.com

Eel Grinders 01647 440020

Flash Company 01392 851496

Flash Jack 01566 785233

Folk Two 01548 550004

Fox Amongst The Chickens 01566 785233

Fraich 'Airs'* 01392 811593

Fresh Aire 01823 257488

Full English 01271 866907

Haymakers 01288 361625

Hips & Haws 01392 861466

Hobson's Choice 01823 272537

Hot Punch 01271 373128

Jeroka 01460 54568

Jigs For Gigs 01460 241326

Kick up the Dust 07742917101

Lucy Lastic 01884 258892

Meltdown 01278 732202

Meter Rite 01823 401271

Mischief & Mayhem* 01395 514291

Mist The Boat 01409 211340

Mooncoin Ceilidh Band*

01803 290427

More The Merrier 01626 854141

Mrs Midnight's 07469 773353

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

Piping Hot 01803 528234

Phoenix 07971220462

Quantock Quarenders 01984 656459

Rakes Adrift 01271 865030

Red Shed 01363 774339

Reel Thing 01460 240671

Scratchbox 01803 847689

Sheer Hopody 01769 520595

Slack Ma Girdle 01823 680523

Spinach For Norman 07970 151059

Squeezum 01823 333567

Steve Gill & Andy Clarke 01803 290427

Stick The Fiddle 07790 760462

Stringaccord 016430707294

Tinners 01736 787951

Up The Creek 01548 531525

Walter Shortage & Hosepipe Band 01837 52174

Winkeilidh Band 01363 877216

Weston Country Dance Band 01934 813326

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<http://www.folklife.uk/>

ENGLISH FOLK DANCE & SONG SOCIETY

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Telephone: 0161 442 9682
www.nyfte.org.uk

HALSWAY MANOR

marketing@halswaymanor.org.uk.

EVERYTHING POSSIBLE

Miranda Sykes and Jim Causley
Available from Miranda Sykes'
Bandcamp page

EVERYTHING POSSIBLE follows hard on the heels of Jim Causley's *The Georgic*, reviewed in What's Afoot 139. It couldn't be more different. After *The Georgic*'s strong Devon theme, here Jim teams up with Miranda Sykes to perform a selection of their favourite songs from all sorts of sources.

It is an inspired collaboration. Right from the first track it is clear this is going to be something special with an assured version of Karine Polwart's *The Sun's Coming Over The Hill*. Miranda's sensitive rendition adds to the emotional punch of the song, while being matched perfectly with Jim's accordion and backing vocals.

Jim Croce's *Time In A Bottle* is next. Miranda and Jim's version is slower than the original and this allows the lyrics to shine. At times Jim's accordion is reminiscent of something you might hear on the left bank of the Seine, but it works really well and throws a new light on the song.

How Far is a musical conversation where Miranda's clear pure voice is contrasted with Jim's rich baritone.

New Favourite/When You Were Mine is one of the album's many highlights. Jim's vocal has the ache of lost love but then midway through the song the accordion breaks in with an uplifting melody and Miranda joins in to take the song to joyful new heights.

Jim accompanies himself on piano for Ralph McTell's *Easter Lilies*, the Norwegian name for daffodils (the song is set in Oslo, hence the reference to Schweigaards Gate). Here, the flowers symbolise a more hopeful future after a love affair ends.

Sally's Pigeons also features the piano, and is the poignant story of a lost friendship sung beautifully by Miranda.

Jim's strong rhythmic accordion playing features on *Strange Lover*, a modern folk song about coal mining by Ed Pickford of Durham.

In *Find My Way Back To My Heart*, Miranda sings about the importance of being true to yourself although this can have its emotional costs.



Lowlands has a gospel feel to it and is sung a capella by Miranda and Jim to a drumbeat accompaniment. It shows off both singers voices to great effect.

To follow *Lowlands*, Miranda and Jim do a spirited version of the Chris While and Julie Matthews song *The Light In My Mother's Eye* which also has a slightly gospel feel to it.

What easily could have been a slip up with *Way Over Yonder*, through some Sykes & Causley magic, has turned what in other hands might have been a rather hokey song (by Woody Guthrie and Billy Bragg), into a triumphant celebration of being yourself.

Let Us Begin shows the effects war can have on ordinary people and questions "what are we making weapons for?". Viewed through the eyes of an American, a Russian and a mother it is a powerful song wonderfully performed.

Miranda and Jim's version of the Oysterband's mystical *The Soul's Electric* is a measured, stripped back affair and all the better for it. With only an accordion as backing, added to the clarity of both singers voices, it really allows the song to breathe. Another highpoint.

Laughing Matters, is a Bette Middler song that could easily have been written by Noel Coward. Jim reminds us of the importance of keeping our sense of humour amongst the tidal wave of bad news.

The title track of the album, *Everything Possible*, is simply wonderful. The song by the Rev Fred Small is about a parent telling their child that they can live their life the way they want and will still be loved. Miranda and Jim sing it with touching sensitivity. This song should be compulsory listening for everyone.

Planets is the final track. Miranda and Jim sing about making our way through the world. It has a suitably positive message on which to end the album.

The album shows us that although we may have to live through dark times and face an uncertain future, there is always hope.

Everything Possible is a superb achievement and one of which Miranda and Jim should be justifiably proud. We are indeed fortunate to have such talented musicians here in Devon.

Keith Way

RUMPLED MUSLIN

rumpledmuslin@gmail.com

I HAVE played this CD a few times and have been asked to give my opinion on the six tracks from Alison Frosdick, Amanda MacLean and Wendy Lanchin.

I must admit that I was familiar with Alison's voice, having remembered how well she sang *The Streets of Derry* at Halsway Manor in March.

Horn Fair is the first track and features all three singers. The style of cutting the words short is something that I personally am not too keen on, but other than that it is a lovely song.

The line in the song about a young girl not wanting a young man to rumple her muslin gave the trio their name.

The Crow on the Cradle is a well known song from the pen of Sydney Carter with Alison taking the lead vocals with harmonium backing, joined by Amanda and Wendy.

Dashing Away with the Smoothing Iron I remember from school, but to be fair this was well sung and a lot of thought has gone into the arrangement.



Eppie Morrie is a classic traditional ballad from the north-east of Scotland. It is a tale of forced marriage and authentically sung by Amanda who is from Glasgow.

There is sympathetic backing on harmonium and vocals from Wendy and whistle and vocals from Alison. It is well-arranged, as are all the tracks.

I Drew My Ship is also known as *I Will Set My Ship In Order*. A traditional night visiting song collected by John Stokoe in 1893 in Northumberland, this track, which is beautifully sung by Alison, made the hairs on the back of my neck stand up.

Keep You In Peace was written by Sarah Morgan, inspired by the words of the Irish blessing which she found on printed on a tea towel. This was my second favourite track on the CD with all three singing together a capella.

I missed *Rumpled Muslin* at Sidmouth this year but would love to hear them in concert some day.

Steve Gill

UNDERNEATH THAT TREE

Julia Disney

Available from Bandcamp

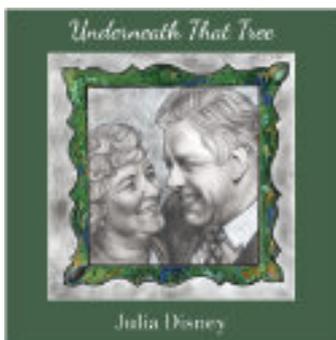
JULIA DISNEY, a singer, songwriter, musician and music teacher from Stourbridge, has brought out her first album, *Underneath The Tree*. It's an interesting collection of songs in the folk-rock, country idiom.

The title track is a reminder that love can endure, as strong and rooted as the tree, under which a couple first met, even into old age when minds can become confused but still recognise devotion.

The opening track, *I Am The Water*, has a good, strong tune and looks at the ways we try to pass through life – going with the flow or trying to remain firm like a rock.

Other songs deal with love, loss and friendship.

But for me the stand-out song is *Morecambe*



Bay. The Morecambe Bay disaster, in which at least 21 Chinese migrant workers were cut off by the tide and drowned while collecting cockles, has been commemorated in two other songs that I know of.

There are *On Morecambe Bay* by Kevin Littlewood (covered by Christy Moore) and *Cockles* by Stanley Accrington (who is so much more than just a writer of comic songs).

Julia's moving version of this tragic story includes the refrain "Sinking, I am sinking", which recalls the last desperate phone message to the emergency services by one of the doomed workers who spoke little English: "Sinking water."

Then his call was cut off.

At the time of writing, Julia has no gigs in the South-west. She is worth watching out for.

John Foxen

Jeremy Child

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Alex and Rhian Hamilton

www.barndancecaller.net

01392 422119 jeremy.m.child@gmail.com

Exeter Ceilidhs

27th Sep: Stepcote Hill

25th Oct: Spinach for Norman

22nd Nov: Contra (American)

29th Nov: Tight Squeeze

27th Dec Twixmas Ceilidh: Barnstormers

Kenn Centre, Kennford 8pm – 11pm

07969 297 633 www.exeterceilidhs.net



How you can help us maintain traditions

DEVON Folk is a non-profit organisation dedicated to promoting traditional music song and dance throughout the county.

It publishes this magazine and helps with festivals and other activities. You can support the association by joining it, using the form printed on the next page, or by subscribing to What's Afoot, which is published every quarter.

For just £15 a year you will receive four copies of the magazine through the post. PDF editions can be emailed to you for £10.

We particularly need young people to take an active interest in pushing forward ideas to Devon Folk and helping to run activities.

If we cannot pass the tradition on to young hands then it will eventually fade and die.

Full committee meetings of Devon Folk are usually held at Ide near Exeter four times a year on a Saturday morning.

This is in addition to the business meeting after the annual general meeting, which is usually held in March.

WILLAND FOLK DANCE CLUB

SATURDAY DANCES

Willand Village Hall

- October 4th Ray Goodswen & Pendragon
November 1st Ivan Aitkin & Pair of Shears
December 6th Christmas Dance - Sarah Bazeley & Dartmoor Pixie Band
December 31st New Year's Dance – Simon Maplesdon & Chris Toyne's Big Band

(Bring & Share Supper – Tickets £12.00 on the door)

Admission £10.00 - Tea & Biscuits - Raffle

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

Club Nights 2nd & 4th Thursdays 8.00 – 10.30pm in the Village Hall
Members £4.00 / Non-members £4.50 – See Diary Dates for more information
Contact Marilyn Broom 01404 47200 or Zena Roberts 01884 253546



**DEVON FOLK MEMBERSHIP
APPLICATION FORM**

Please complete and return to the Devon Folk
Membership Secretary
Anne Gill, Maleth, 11, Cleveland Road,
Torquay, TQ2 5BD

Email anne.m.gill@icloud.com Phone 01803 290427

SUBSCRIPTION AND MEMBERSHIP

Devon Folk supports all kinds of folk activity throughout the County and publishes the magazine What's Afoot four times a year.

Membership of Devon Folk is available to any individual, family at the same address, club, group or organisation paying
Option No. 1 £15.00 a year and receiving printed copy of WAF 4 times a year in the post
Option No. 2 £10.00 a year and receiving a pdf copy by email 4 times a year.

The membership includes four issues per year of What's Afoot and free listings in the Devon Folk Directory.

APPLICATION FORM

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| <input type="checkbox"/> | I wish to join Devon Folk as an Individual member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | We wish to join Devon Folk as a family group |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | We wish to join Devon Folk as a Group, Club or Organisation |

Name of individual, club, group or organisation _____

Contact person (for group, club or organisation) _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ Telephone _____

Email _____

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| Cheque enclosed payable to Devon Folk <input type="checkbox"/> | Post form together with cheque to the address above |
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I wish to pay by BACS Payment: NatWest Bank – Sort Code 56-00-49 – Account No.71468161
Please use reference : Membership & Name on your payment and email a copy of this form to membership secretary

| | | |
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|--|--------------------------------|---------------|

I/We agree to Devon Folk contacting me/us as indicated above and for occasional notifications. Your email will not be passed to any third party. Signed _____ Date _____

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Jim Causley

VICE PRESIDENT

Aileen Wills

CHAIR and

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Anne Gill

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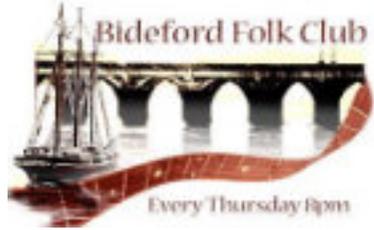
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The Joiners Arms

Market Place, Bideford, EX30 2DR

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

Singarounds most weeks with eight guests per year.
Upstairs in the skittle alley 7.30 for 8.00pm

GUEST NIGHTS

16th October

Cohen Braithwaite-Kilcoyne

30th October

Applecorers Shanty

John Purser

01237 424286

bidefolk@gmail.com

The Mooncoin Barn Dance Band



Available for
Wedding Ceilidhs
Birthdays
Anniversaries etc.
Own Caller

Instruments include Melodeon,
Guitar, Bouzouki & Fiddle
Available as a 2 or 3 piece band
with caller

To book the band contact:
Anne & Steve Gill 01803 290427
Email: anne.m.gill@icloud.com

or Andy Clarke 07792009374

folk music & song at
topsham folk club www.topshamfolkclub.org

Concerts at Matthews Hall • Fore Street • TOPSHAM EX3 0HF

Leveret

Sunday 28 September 2025

8pm £18 www.leveretband.com
Instrumental virtuosity from Andy Cutting
Rob Harbron and Sam Sweeney



Old Spot

Sunday 19 October 2025

8pm £14 www.oldspotmusic.com
Old time Appalachian tunes and songs
with Rowan Piggott and Joe Danks



Kris Drever

Sunday 16 November 2025

8pm £18 www.krisdrever.com
Award-winning guitarist, singer, songwriter
and leading light on the UK roots scene



Sandy Denny Project

Sunday 7 December 2025

8pm £20 www.thesandydennyproject.co.uk
Fine interpretation of Sandy's wonderful
work by impressive folk-rock lineup



Coming in 2026

18 January - Chris Hoban • 1 February - Jim Moray
8 March - Spiers & Boden • 29 March - Daoini Farrell
17 May - Jez Lowe

Concert tickets can be bought online at
www.wegotickets.com
or via link from www.topshamfolkclub.org
also on singers' nights
or from Matthews Hall Café (Tue-Sat 9am-3pm)
www.facebook.com/topshamfolkclub
all enquiries 01392 874718



singers nights at The Globe Fore Street Topsham EX3 0HR

We're at The Globe every
Tuesday (apart from August)
for our singers' nights from
7.45pm. Arrive by 7.45pm to
book a slot if you'd like to
perform. Non-performers
are always most welcome



Our monthly (mainly English)
instrumental session is on the
first Monday at The Bridge Inn
Topsham EX3 0QQ
- 7.30pm - 9.30pm (not August)



Please note that there will be
no singers' night on Tuesday
30 December 2025.

half price - folk concerts
special offer for ages 26
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folk club concerts
- limited availability