

FOLK *North West*

Autumn 1992

60p



**STOCKTON'S WING at
FYLDE FESTIVAL**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

**FESTIVAL
REVIEWS:**

**WIGAN REDCAR
CLEETHORPES
WIMBORNE
CAMBRIDGE
CHIPPENHAM
EDINBURGH**

plus

**EDALE / N. WALES
YORKSHIRE DALES**

Bluegrass festivals

DANCEABOUT

LIVE REVIEWS

CLUB REPORTS

**FULL CLUB
CALENDAR**

AND MUCH, MUCH MORE

THE MOST DATES - THE BEST REVIEWS

DISPLAY ADVERTISING

IS ACCEPTED AT THE
FOLLOWING RATES:

	CAMERA READY	OTHER
1/16 page	£3.75	£4.50
1/8 page	£7.50	£9.00
1/4 page	£15.00	£18.00
1/2 page	£30.00	£36.00
1 page	£60.00	£72.00

SIZE (Height x Width, mm)

1/16 page	65 x 44
1/8 page	65 x 92 or 135 x 44
1/4 page	135 x 92 or 65 x 185
1/2 page	135 x 185 or 275 x 92
1 page	275 x 185

Discounts are available for adverts booked in several issues. There is a discount for member clubs' advertising.

Send your copy to:

Paul Holden (Advertising)
7, Sunleigh Road,
Hindley, Nr. WIGAN WN2 2RE

MINI MARKET

Only £2.00 per 1/16 page
Maximum of 2/16 per advert

For Private sales & wants, club adverts, artists cards and many other items. Send Copy to:

Paul Holden (Advertising)
7, Sunleigh Road,
Hindley, Nr. WIGAN WN2 2RE

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Are available to the Magazine The price is just £4.75 for a year. This covers four issues. To subscribe, please send your cheque (payable to N.W.F.F.C. please) to:

Newsletter Subscriptions,
7, Sunleigh Road,
Hindley, Nr. WIGAN WN2 2RE

Editorial Address:

118, Bolton Road,
Aspull,
WIGAN
WN2 1XF



new releases



ENGLISH TRADITIONAL SONGS

A celebration of English folk songs sung by Maddy Prior, Cyril Tawney, The Watsons, Peta Webb, A. L. Lloyd, Roy Bailey, Dave Weatherall & Martin Hall, Linda Adams, Martyn Wyndham Read, Peter Bellamy, Hughie Jones, Patti Reid, The Wilsons, Bram Taylor, Damien Barber, Frankie Armstrong, John Kirkpatrick, Martin Carthy, The Arthur Family, Roy Harris, Shirley Collins, Dave Burland, Swan Arcade, June Tabor, Jez Lowe & The Bad Pennies.

Twenty five tracks, most of which were specially recorded for the project. 80 minutes of song.

CD - FECD87 Cassette FE087/c

IAN BRUCE OUT OF OFFICE

A second album from the Scots songwriter with the great voice.

CD - FECD85 CASSETTE - FE085-C



A long awaited second album from this very popular singer whose previous album was one of our best sellers.

CD - FECD86
Cassette - FE086/c

MARILYN MIDDLETON POLLOCK

And on our Jazz & Blues Label, LAKE Records, we welcome that master of the blues and boogie piano.

BOB HALL At the Window

with Dave Peabody, Top Topham and Robert Bond.

CD - LACD23 Cassette - LA5023/c

Distributed by Topic, CM, ADA and Projection.

Available direct at
CDs £11.00 and Cassettes £6.50 inc. p.+p.

FELLSIDE RECORDINGS, 15 BANKLANDS,
WORKINGTON, CUMBRIA, CA14 3EW

EDITORIAL

WELCOME to another issue of Folk North-West, which you may be reading at the North-West's premier Folk Festival, Fylde. (No disrespect intended to our other North-West Festivals).

I must first of all apologise to any contributors whose material has been omitted, but we have been extremely pressed for space this issue. In particular I must apologise to the Gallivanting Gallimores, George & Joan, who have been good enough to send me three reviews from festivals they have attended (with the free tickets you remember they were given for their Golden Wedding). I will print them all, but in the next issue. Watch this space!

Some brief guidelines now for anyone contemplating sending reviews of live events, festivals or records. To be fair to all we set the following guidelines:

- o Most record & concert reviews should be no more than 300 words.
- o A small or non-local festival should be around 300-400 words.
- o A major festival could extend to 500 words.
- o All reviews should ideally be typed or at least written clearly; we can also accept articles written on a computer - phone the Editor for more details.

Please note the closing date now that we have brought it forward in order to bring the magazine to you all the sooner.

All for now, see you at the end of November.

Nigel Firth
EDITOR

OUR NEXT ISSUE COVERS
DECEMBER '92 to FEBRUARY '93.
THE CLOSING DATE FOR ALL
SUBMISSIONS IS OCTOBER 15th,
NOTHING WILL BE ACCEPTED
AFTER THIS DATE

Editorial Address:

118, Bolton Road,

Aspull,

Wigan

WN2 1XF

FAX / Telephone : 0942 833293

CONTENTS

Volume 15 Number 2
Autumn 1991

Out And About with Nat Clare	...4
Diary Chat	... 7
Club Reporters	... 9
Club Scene (Swan, Kirkham & Queen's Head, Burnley)	...10
Book Review	... 10
Carrying It On - 3 / Youth Page	... 11
Danceabout - News on Social, Morris, Sword & Clog Dance	..12
Letters to the Editor	.. 13
Chairman's Ramblings	.. 14
Mini Market	...15
Club Calendar (September to November)	.. 16
Festival Reviews (Wigan, Redcar, Cleethorpes, Wimbourne, Bluegrass, Cambridge, Chippenham, Edinburgh)	.. 20
Tours News	.. 24
Concert Reviews (Across the Divide, Tom Robinson, Breakthrough)	.. 26
Record Reviews	..28
List of Member Clubs	..31

The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of either the Editor or of The Federation

The Editor accepts no responsibility for contributions claimed to be original or for any inaccuracies therein

OUT & ABOUT

with Nat Clare

THE HOUSE OF THE PRODIGAL SON

One of the best sartorial accessories I ever possessed was a black corduroy cap rather like the one worn by the incredibly youthful Bob Dylan on the sleeve of his first LP. Not only was it very useful in attracting the interest of the more naive members of the opposite sex - but it also helped me portray a rather unconvincing Donovan and a totally pathetic John Lennon. It was only when people started to mistake me for Jackie Stewart that I reluctantly decided to discard it. Nevertheless, I may decide to dig it out to welcome back a prodigal folkie who is returning to the folk scene after an absence of about seventeen years!

Frank Baynham, along with my old mate Steve Ashton - whom I last saw busking at Puck Fair in beautiful County Kerry - and Phil Seddon, collectively known as The Core are currently running a folk club at "Maxim's" in Bradshawgate in the very heart of downtown Bolton.

Their new season kicks off to what promises to be a rare old start on Wednesday 16 September when the guest will be the ever excellent **Bernard Wrigley** whom I first saw singing in a Bolton club with **Dave Brooks**, well over twenty years ago. In fact Bernard was so youthful that his voice had just broken.... no one knew then it was to break several times before it finally descended to its current resonant depths.

Its always nice to see new clubs so do your best to support them. Welcome back Frank, see you in September.. I will be the one in the daft hat!

"50P A STRIP.....£1 IF I DON'T!"

This retort was the reply to my query as to the price of raffle tickets on my recent visit to the White Lion in Swinton, home to a small but thriving folk club every Monday evening. Admittedly, the odds on winning the raffle were pretty good as the room is tiny but the bad news was that one of the audience had brought back last weeks prize - a cassette of the previous week's guest - and donated it for re-raffling! However, as most of the audience had been there to hear the previous guest, the idea failed to meet with approval.

The White Lion is a long running club with an impressive line in floor singers and the regulars seem like a friendly bunch, but I strongly recommend that you take an extra quid to avoid the dubious delights of the impromptu striptease; it is well worth it... honest. 4

FREE FOLK

Despite the ravages of the poll tax it is gratifying to see one or two of the more enlightened local councils in the North West actively promoting the culture and customs of the region. I, along with a couple of hundred others spent an idyllic (and idle!) Sunday this summer sitting on the grass in Werneth Park, Oldham in a pleasantly dog-mess free environment, listening in glorious sunshine to **The Oldham Tinkers**.

There was a strong focus on Lancashire music and composers from the rest of the musicians too, who included: **Brian Peters, Stanley Accrington, Roy Bailey, Jim Schofield** and locals, **The Band of The Rising Sun**, whose repertoire included tunes from the early 19th century manuscript book of Joseph Ker-shaw, a musician from Slack near Oldham. (I would have played as well but a slack musician from Bolton somehow didn't have the same ring.)

The one disappointing feature was the undrinkable "real ale" which presumably was the victim of the hot weather? Never before have I so devoutly wished for the days of Watney's Red Barrel!

Well done, Sue Finnigan and forward-looking Owdham Leisure Services for an excellent "Werneth Folk Weekend" particularly the free workshops and excellent free concert. See you next year but what about a "Real Vimto" tent, it tastes quite nice hot!

TIME FOR THE "F" WORD

Three, in fact.... Fylde Folk Festival! Over 900 events! Music, Song and Dance, Ceilidhs, Workshops, Singarounds, Pub Sessions, Clog Dancing Contests, Dialect Competitions and much, much more promises to make this festival true to its slogan as being "Simply The Most".

In true Olympic spirit, I will be downing some anabolic steroids before the "Who can suck a Fisherman's Friend lozenge longest contest" and possibly heckling the "Worst Singer in The World".... but I have often wondered, whether the prize is awarded to the person who comes first of the one who comes last? I am also rather partial to the "Poems 'n' Pints" session, although I am not too fussed about the poems! This festival brings Fleetwood to life and believe me as one who has holidayed there many times, that can take some doing.

WORLD WILDLIFE FUND "NATURAL CHORDS" SONG COMPETITION

At the end of 1991, the World Wildlife fund opened a competition, running in conjunction with Sidmouth Folk Festival, inviting anyone interested to submit a folk-type song dealing with the environment and/or environmental issues. The competition was to be judged by a member of the WWF committee plus **Roy Bailey** and **Martin Carthy**. Six first prize winners were to be announced and recently, Folk On Two informed us, that **JOHN CARTAIN**, the 1990 winner of the Great Northern Songwriting Contest, had been chosen as one of these, with his song "Time".

As judge Martin Carthy points out "Folk Music has always been the traditional music for dealing with issues of social concern. These songs are very much a part of that trend. They are not only great folk songs but a profound comment on the world around us."

John was invited to a special reception on 5th August to receive his £500 prize and to perform his song at the WWF Gala Evening that night along with the entire **Hands In Pockets**, plus **Steve Chatterley**. Hopefully, we will hear from one of our many Sidmouth visitors (*somebody send us a review in, please - ED*) about how the songs were received. Certainly, we hope to see more of this contest in "Folk Roots" and "Song And Dance", with possible airplay on Folk on 2.

Let us all offer our "Congratulations!" to John.

HIT ME WITH YOUR MORRIS STICK

When I was a young folkette, knee high to Liam Clancy's Arran jumper; I pleaded to be let loose on the dangerous and wildly exciting streets of Bolton town centre to indulge in my perversion for collecting cigarette packets from wastepaper baskets. So strong was my youthful desire to ramble the litter strewn streets of Cottonopolis that I rashly promised to do the household chores in return for the privilege of being let out, only for mi mam to tactfully remind me that the previous time she remembered my cleaning up was "last Preston Guild".

It was only many years later that this puzzling expression took on any meaning when I discovered from an intelligent Preston person (and yes there is such a thing) that the ancient civic festival of Preston Guild is celebrated only once every twenty years and can trace its history back to Royal charters granted to the citizens of Preston more than 800 years ago (so that is where they get the stuff they sell on the Thursday Market!).

During Guild Week (late August/early September) you will be able to encounter more Morris men than you can shake a stick at as over 100 add colour and 5

music to the build up to the celebrations by dancing in the streets culminating in a grand ceilidh.

Preston Guild celebrations will include processions, pageants, balls, feasts and many other events. ore information from Preston (0772) 203456

MORRIS.....I'M ONLY DANCING

The song that David Bowie should have recorded if he was man enough to brandish his coconuts and jingle his bells in public. Indeed, I remember a young ballet-tight clad Bowie prancing around in the Lindsay Kempe Mime Troupe one rainy night at Manchester's Free Trade Hall... and he was almost better than the infamous Morris... almost but alas not quite.

Those that heard Jim Lloyd's Radio 2 documentary "And This is Morris Dancing" will now know all there is to know about the Morris which was certainly being danced in the 14th century but seemed to have been subject to Victorian input regarding the choreography.

Poignantly, the broadcast told of how the First World War devastated the Morris teams of England, Douglas Kennedy - a friend of Cecil Sharp - in an interview recorded when he was 92 spoke thus "Of 300 first class dancers, only 4 came back able to dance".

Arguments continue to rage over the origins of the Morris (does it come from the Latin "Mores" meaning "Custom" or as a corruption of "Moorish"?) but by far the greatest controversy rages around the role of women in Morris dancing. Personally, I welcome this.... just as long as David Bowie is not allowed to take part.

WIGGIN

Isn't a Wig-in what Elton John used to attend when he was a Hippie? Alison Whittaker informs us that the final of the Wiggin Ceilidhs dance competition will be held on Friday 9th October. The competition is open to anyone who has written new dance in 1992. My entry is a dance called "The New Age Traveller"; it is simple; we all climb into a clapped out bus and refuse to move a muscle!

First prize is £75 and the closing date for entries is 31 August. For further details ring 0942 816569/814404.

FOLKWORKS

If you fancy crossing the North/South divide in October you could do worse than get along to the 1-Day "Folk Workout" to be held at South Hill Park Arts Centre, Bracknell, Berks., on Saturday 3rd October from 10-45am to midnight. This won't be a workout in the Jane Fonda mould (Q. What wears a leotard and smells of cheese...A. Jane Fondue) - but a much more relaxed affair involving an impressively organised and capably hosted day of folk workshops followed by a grand evening concert.

I like to work out at least twice a day... first I work out what time to get up and then, later, I try to work out where I live. In fact, I have just been asked to appear in my first action feature film which is about how to repair broken circuit boards; it is called "Universal Solderer".

THE ROAD TO CARLISE

If you find yourself up north then do check out the Carlisle Folk and Blues Club. (The name itself suggests a long established club) to be found at Tullie House, Castle Street, Carlisle. The programme looks most impressive: Keith Hancock (still not as funny as his dad.. I loved "The Blood Donor"!) Rory McLeod, Pete Morton, The Doonan Family... ring for more details from Sue or Ken on Carlisle 70580.

TREE OF STRINGS

This is not one of our very occasional misprint gremlins nor does it refer to the rather dilapidated condition of the Yamaha FG 40 Guitar I bought in Ireland with three strings missing... but rather to the recently published in-depth study into the origins and history of the Celtic harp available from Kinmor Music, Dept. STM, Shillinghill, Temple, Midlothian EH23 4SH.

IT'S A DOGS LIFE

That is about it for now; I am off to dog-sit as I am the proud father, so to speak, of 10 very exhausting St. Bernard puppies...never again..

SEE YA NAT CLARE

Special Events:

There is a **Peter Bellamy Memorial Day** on Saturday 3rd October 1992 at CONWAY HALL, Red Lion Square, Holborn, London. A veritable celebration of Folk Music with The Copper Family, Louis Killen, The Watsons, Tony Rose and many others. Full details in the advert on the back page. Proceeds go to the National Folk Music Fund and the Vaughan Williams Memorial Library. Information from Jenny Bellamy 0535 605714

There is a **HOE DOWN** in aid of The Lancashire branch of the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England (C.P.R.E.) on Friday 18th September in Mawdesley Village Hall from 8pm. It features the Turnpike Band with Caller Johnny Readett. Full details in the advert on the back page. Tickets & info from C.P.R.E., tel. 0772 456181.

FOLK MUSIC PROGRAMMES ON LOCAL RADIO

BBC Radio Lancashire
FM 95.5/103.9/104.5
MW 855/1551kHz

LANCASHIRE DRIFT presented by NIC DOW

Sunday 5.30-7.00pm

GMR (Manchester)
FM 95.1 / MW 1458kHz

No Programme other than Broadcasting "Folk on the Night Network"

BBC Radio Merseyside
FM95.8 / MW 1485kHz

FOLKSCENE presented by Stan Ambrose and Geoff Speed

Tuesdays 6.00-7.00pm

On most local BBC Stations:

FOLK ON THE NIGHT NETWORK presented by Henry Ayrton

Thursdays 7.05-8.30pm

The Editor Comments:

None of the programmes are repeated at any time, and there are no folk music programmes on any of the Independent Stations. (In fact there is almost no specialist music now on any of these stations, no Jazz, no Classical and very little Country Music). Write to their respective programme controllers and complain.

Even as I write this, Radio 2 is under pressure to become a National "Gold"-type station - no room there for specialist music programmes. Write NOW and support FOLK ON TWO!

DIARY CHAT

A Plea from the heart..

This is a plea from the heart to all organisers - please, (1) Send your dates in! (2) on time and (3) remember to put singers nights in as well. If you don't tell us, we cannot put anything in the diary. Incidentally, the worst offenders are a certain Fed chairman, an ex-chairman, a Fed secretary and a FNW assistant editor! No names, of course, but you know who you are!

It is not often that Cyril Tawney is seen nowadays, but he has been persuaded to guest at the Boddie Shop on a special scanner appeal charity night for Warrington Hospital. So if you have tried and failed to book him for your club, do not be upset - this is a one-off.

Sadly, Whitworth Folk Club has ceased existence, but organisers Mick & Sue Darling are busy with 2 others! They now run a club in the Commercial Hotel in Rochdale on Tuesdays and one just over t'border in Sourhall outside Todmorden, at the Dog & Partridge on Thursdays.

New Folk Club:

Welcome to the **ARNSIDE FOLK Club** who meet at the **Fighting Cocks Hotel**, Promenade, Arnside on each 3rd Sunday of the Calendar month. The residents include Steve Black & John Harper, John & Angela Cowall, John Storer, Frank Lewis. It is a Thwaites' pub by the way, and you can get more information from the organiser, Steve Black on 0524 761823.

Club Changes

The Potteries Folk Club moves to a new venue from September 4th 1992. You will find them at The Albion Hotel, Old Hall St, Hanley, Stoke-On-Trent.

Residents:

Folk at the Fleece hosts "Travel by Steam" are now called "Muddy Fox". There are also some other minor changes to the residents list, please see the full list overleaf for details

Who?

Ceol Cait : Tony Gibbons, John Murphy, Kevin Webster and Matt Fahey.

Special Events:

Sept 5th Ceilidh at The Derby Hall in Bury (Bury FC)

Sept 16th The Hairy Marys, plus "No Snakes please, we're Irish" & "Helicopters with Brogues" at Accrington and Rossendale College - the Rawtenstall Studio. Starts 7.30pm. £2.50(Mid-Pennine Arts).

Sept 22nd Garva at the 110 Club, Burnley (Burnley FC) tbc.

Sept 29th Carthy & Swarbrick at The Leopard Hotel, Market Place, Burslem, Stoke on Trent (Potteries FC).

Oct 30th Ceilidh at St John's Hall, Wright St, Southport with "Shake-A-Leg" £3 adv /£3.50 door (Bothy FC)

Nov 28th "Songs from Scotland" - The McCalmans with Stephen Quigg. Venue tbc (Burnley FC)

Advance Dates:

Arkwrights Dec 1st Dick Miles, 8th Mary Asquith, 22nd Les Barker; Jan 12th Annie Williamson & Hamish Whiteley

Black Horse Dec 1st Jack Hudson, 5th Harvey Andrews & Allan Taylor (concert at the Gladstone Theatre, Port Sunlight), 8th Deighton Family, 15th Jacqueline McDonald, 22nd Christmas Night - Tom Topping Band

Boddie Shop Dec 17th Ceol Cait, Wed 23rd Christmas night.

Bothy Dec 6th Keith Hinchliffe, 13th Steve Tilston & Maggie Boyle. 18th Ceilidh at St John's Hall, 20th The Office Party Mk 11

Brewery Arts Dec 2nd Sid Kipper & Dave Burland, 9th Alias Ron Kavana, 18th Bob Kerr's Whoopee Band; Jan 22nd & 23rd R Cajun

Bury Dec 5th Dick Miles, 12th Ceilidh, 19th Wassailers; Jan 2nd AGM & Party, 9th Pete Coe, 23rd Derek Gifford, 30th Nick Dow.

Cockermouth Dec 10th Tom McConville, 17th Christmas Party.

Gregson Lane Dec 3rd Lennon & Higham

Leigh Dec 6th Parsons Hog, 20th Christmas Party; Jan 3rd Stanley Accrington

Llandudno Dec 6th, 13th, 27th Singers' Night

Northwich Dec 4th New Hokum Boys, 11th Chris Newman & Maire ni Chathasaigh; Jan 15th Steve Tiston & Maggie Boyle

Potteries Dec 11th Dave Goulder, 18th Christmas Party; Jan 23rd Ceilidh at Chesterton Community Centre

Poynton Dec 5th Junior Drama Panto, 12th Ceilidh with Bilbo Baggins, 19th Kathryn Tickell & Ian Carr

Preston Dec 14th Brian Peters

New Levellers Dec 10th "Murphy's Night" Christmas Party

Red Lion Dec 4th Carolina Shout (Eddie Walker & John James), 11th Jez Lowe; Jan 8th Artisan.

Rhyl (ex-Bee) Dec 4th Pete Coe; Feb 5th Chris Newman & Maire Ni Chathasaigh; Mar 12th Geoff Higginbottom, 26th Tom McConville.

Runcorn Alternate guest & Singers' Night. Dec 16th Christmas Party, closed 23rd & 30th.

Tape & Spile Dec 1st Stanley Accrington

Tilston Dec 8th The Boat Band (Cajun - Christmas special), 22nd Closed; Jan 19th Sara Gray; Feb 16th Shave the Monkey (tbc). Rest Singers' Night.

White Swan December 2nd Harvey Andrews

Yarrow Valley Dec 1st Christmas Party Night; Jan 5th Singers' Night.

Festivals

18-20 Sept Langdale Charity Folk Festival. Just go to The Dungeon Ghyll & listen for the music. A tiny festival, no big names, all proceeds to SARDA. Note - No caravan site nearby - campervans & tents only.

Oct 3rd Cajun Festival - Bury. No more info, but it was a weekend festival last year.

21st Nov Gregson Lane Festival Day 3 - in association with Preston Folk Club. With Jez Lowe and the Bad Pennies, Strawhead, Ken Nicol, Stanley Accrington, Carl Hogsden & Jane Threlfall, and Cats In The Village.

STOP PRESS:

White Swan Dates:

September- 9th Sean Cannon; 16th Lewis, Pint & Dale, 23rd Richard Grainger; 30th Marie Little

October - 14th Martin Carthy; 21st Eliza Carthy & Nancy Kerr; 28th Tom McConville

November - 4th John Kirkpatrick; 11th Vin Garbutt; 18th Graham & Eileen Pratt

Another **New Folk Club**, just come to our attention is the **ROYAL** at Formby. They meet every Saturday, and claim they are the first NON-SMOKING club in the area. The organiser is Janet Kemp. Dave Day has more information.

MAGHULL Folk Club dates: Guests in September are Ben & Joe Broughton; In October Huw & Tony Williams. As always, you'll have to turn up at the club to find out which week it is.

CLUB RESIDENTS:

ARKWRIGHT'S - Charles Fyson & Rob Malaney

BLACK HORSE - Brian Jones

BLACKBURN - Flat Broke

BOTHY - Clive Pownceby, Pete Rimmer, Ray Rooney, Bev Sanders, Neville Grundy, Keith Mandle

BURNLEY - Liz Brown, Dave Cook, Steve Cook, Rod Finlayson, Roy Kelly, Linda Wright, Paul Bromley

BURY - Jean Seymour, Alan Seymour, Shelia Carruthers, Charles Fyson, Malcolm Bowden, Chris Whiting, Chris Nash

DARWEN - Chris, Paul & Gren, Dave Molloy.

PAVILION - Caught on the Hop, Quartz, Andy Anderson, Pota Portac

FOX & HOUNDS - Geoff Edwin-Scott & Rose Beasley

FLEECE FOLK - Muddy Fox, Brian Robertson, Parcel of Rogues, John Harper

FLEETWOOD - Spitting on a Roast

GREGSON'S LANE - Lammergeier

HORWICH - Joyce Riding, Tom Ferber

LEIGH - Calico, Gemini, Carole Jones & Mike Dermody, Jim, Martin & Angela, Jean Wrigley

LLANDUDNO - Highly Strung, Arthur Bowman

MAGAZINE - Cormac McCluskey, Pat Wilson, Roger Wright, Jack Coutts, Frank & Helen McCall, Adrienne Coutts

MAGHULL - Dave Day, Tony Gibbons, Steve Higham, Peter Egerton, Chris Lock, Phil Boardman, Sue Howard, etc.

NEW LEVELLERS - Tony Murphy, John Murphy, George Stratton

NORTHWICH - Sarah & Ian Sherwood, Sue Swan, John Moncor, Alan Carpenter, Sandy & Sean Boyle, Jamie Anderson

RED LION - Auld Triangle

RHYL - The Beez Knees

RUNCORN - Irish Rover (Bob, Dave & Albert)

PRESTON - Th' Antiques Roadshow

ST. ALBANS - Heirloom

TRITON - Chris Lock, Sue Howard, Bob Davies, Len Nolan, Demure, Colin Wilson & Jean Wrigley

WHITE SWAN - Dave & Helen Howard, Plan B, Maggie Billington, Graham Shaw, Dave Vaughan, Maureen Hotham

YARROW VALLEY - Derek Gifford, Mark Dowding, Nothing Yet

CLUB REPORTERS

CUMBRIAN SCENE

Hello again. I suppose you are wondering what happened to last issue's club report from Cumbria. Well it got lost in the postal system between Kendal and Kirkham (as did the gig lists for "Folk at the Fleece" and the Brewery Arts Centre). With a bit of luck they might turn up in time for the Summer 1993 issue.

Well, the festival season is in top gear again, the weather is great and it is time to give you the requisite reminders about the two Cumbrian Folk Festivals - Kendal and Langdale.

As usual Kendal F.F. took place over August Bank Holiday weekend at the Brewery Arts Centre and included the following acts:

R. Cajun, Ian Walker, Bram Taylor, The Wilsons, Brian Peters, Keith Hancock, Ken Nicol and Chris While, Melanie Harrold & Olly Blanchflower, Butter Mountain Boys, June Tabor Trio, plus others too numerous to mention.

For the second year running the Kendal Folk Festival was without a major sponsor so I hope you went along to give it your support.

Langdale Folk Festival, centred round the Old Dungeon Ghyll Hotel in the heart of Great Langdale, takes place over the 18th to 20th September with a similar line up to last year (a successful formula - obviously!).

Cumbrian Folk also has an international flavour on 17th October at the William Howard School, Bramp-ton, with EUROFOLKUS featuring artists from Portugal, France, Finland and the UK, hosted by Dave Swarbrick.

The good weather and the recession have resulted in some poor club turnouts in recent months, but some good nights of music.

Cockermouth F.C. are trying to initiate a non smoking policy which is mostly working (mind you there was only ever a handful of smokers present, at most, anyway!).

Folk at the Fleece, Kendal, is now held in the Coaching Room of the pub (at the rear) which is a much more intimate atmosphere and a better room acoustically. Please note that the club is carried over to Bank Holiday Monday (August Bank Holiday) as a "Folk Festival Survivors Night" as usual, so as not to clash with the folk festival main events on Sunday.

Keep Cumbrian folk music alive by giving us your support.

GREM DEVLIN

Cockermouth Folk Club

All tickets for the recent Julie Felix night were sold out 2 weeks before the event, and the night itself proved to be a great success with Julie performing songs with the same vigour and emotion that we remember her for.

We have just adopted a "smoke-free" club room policy and wondered if any other clubs had similar policies?

Fleetwood Folk Club

The Steamer is due for a modest amount of refurbishment, so our programme is only provisional. Before coming any distance it would be advisable to phone. Details will be in Blackpool & Fylde local press when they are finished. Do not forget our pre-festival concert on September 9th, with Strawhead plus support - hosts Spitting on a Roast, at The North Euston Hotel. Plus the pre-festival singaround at the Mount Hotel.

Burnley Folk club

The club stayed open (unofficially) through the summer for singarounds and singers nights, but will be re-opening on September 10th, with talented duo Jane & Carl launching us firmly into a new Autumn season. We are sticking with the successful format of guest / singers night / local featured singer / singaround for weeks 1/2/3/4 in each month. Entry to a normal guest night costs only £1.50, and we pass the hat every other week. We have got 2 special concerts organised for the Autumn, but we have had venue problems with both, so you'll have to check before coming. Garva will be appearing at the 110 club in Burnley on Tuesday Sept 22nd (we hope) or on the 23rd somewhere else. We are planning a "Songs From Scotland" theme concert, with the McCalmans and Stephen Quigg, but we have not confirmed a venue yet. That is on November 28th. It is definitely happening, we are just not sure where, yet. That is one of the problems with holding the club at a small venue.

CLUBSCENE

with Tony Gibbons

THE SWAN HOTEL, KIRKHAM

Wednesdays

Situated right in the centre of Kirkham, by the traffic lights, the Swan is one of few clubs on the ground floor, affording easy access to anyone with a mobility problem. Instead of being held in some secluded part of the pub, away from "Joe Public", the lounge area is where it all happens. At first I had mixed feelings, wondering if everyone was there purely for the music; there is no admission charge as such, just a glass passed around. My fears were unfounded as 99.9% of those present gave good order and showed enthusiastic appreciation for everything on offer.

The official name of the club is "8.45 at the Swan". Well, it didn't kick off until 8.50 but that was due to two members of the guest band getting lost on the way!! Phil Capper and Mike Evans are the resident duo, covering a good range of material with humour and authority. A P.A. System was in use on the night, superbly engineered by Eddie Green. I don't know if the system is used every week, or whether it was just for the benefit of the guests - the room is good enough not to warrant a P.A. but not everyone possesses a voice as profound as Phil or Mike! A cracking club overall, with a Landlord and Landlady only too keen to support it. I can recommend a visit - you would be made most welcome. Not set policy on what you can sing or play - anything goes.

THE QUEENS HEAD, BURNLEY

Thursdays

Held on Thursday nights this friendly, compact club was packed to the rafters the night I was there - indeed a lot of people had to be turned away! A small, square room that holds about 30-40 people. Good acoustics, Good residents (Rod Finlayson, Linda Wright, Dave & Steve Cook, Tony Hewitt) plus lots of excellent floor singers and musicians combine to make this a most enjoyable club. Though I did not bother to ask, I suspect there is no set policy on the kind of music allowed - the audience seemed to enjoy whatever was on offer. As with most clubs, there are a number of stairs to negotiate - the bar is downstairs.

The evening started just a bit late but that was due to so many people trying to get in. I can only see problems arising when a popular national or local guest is on - maybe a policy of ticket only for these nights would alleviate the problem. I thoroughly enjoyed the night and would recommend it to anyone whether you want to just go along to join in or listen, or even do a spot yourself. The audience and the organisers are assured of giving you a welcome. I suggest you phone Rod on 0282 - 39784 to get direction - He would be only too happy to hear from you.

Tony Gibbons

BOOK REVIEW

FOLK FESTIVAL GUIDE 1992

Hands up now. Who remembers the old "Folkweave" Festival Guide? Well, unfortunately, the original editor is no longer with us, but the mantle was taken up in 1990 by one Pete Fyfe and how it has grown up.

This is a glossy-cover, A5 mine of information. It is a well laid out, professionally produced, impressive and vital tool for any festival goer, full of adverts for most of your favourite festivals and features a comprehensive diary listing section.

This year, there are some useful additions. As club organisers, we have all had to deal with agents and we've all struggled occasionally to find a contact for an artiste. Which magazines should we check out?

Who is selling what in the folk world? If you do not fancy trawling through the EFDSS Folk Directory, then this section is for you! Loads of agents, artistes and businesses, with names, addresses, phone numbers and relevant quotes and info..

To be honest, I cannot understand why some festivals do not get listed here. It really is an invaluable document, which has told me about festivals I did not know existed and has made planning the "festival season" a whole lot easier.

The Folk Festival Guide 1992 costs £1.50 and is available from: 26, Cumberland Court, Cross Road, Croydon, CR0 6TE or telephone 081 680 4302. Get your order in for next year's!

10 PHIL CAPPER

LIVE: CARRYING IT ON 3

Melling Tithebarn 14th March

Uncle Dave has got the organisation of these events down to a fine art, so you know before it starts, that you are in for an evening of damn fine music from disgustingly young performers. What still surprises me, though, is their maturity and professionalism, well ahead of their years of stage experience. This was no case of the big people condescending to politely praise "talented youngsters". As an audience, we were comprehensively worked and thoroughly entertained by each of the acts in turn. Not only was the musicianship the expected treat, but they had all put together well-balanced sets which kept us totally engaged from beginning to end.

The dreaded opening spot fell to **The Workshop**, a lively and enthusiastic bunch from the free guitar tuition sessions at the Hare and Hounds. Their mentor Steve Higham had been helping them develop both their playing technique and presentation skills. The result was a fine set of songs solidly delivered with the "cop-for-this" confidence of a hard-bitten road-roughened band. Not even a snapped string fazed them. Brilliant stuff.

Next came **Richard Woods**, a past winner of the Fylde youth contest, and it was easy to see why. Oozing control and composure, he sang a range of contemporary songs superbly, with crisp and fluent guitar. I heard a voice behind me say "Allan Taylor, eat your heart out" and it was true. By the time he wound up with Vin Garbutt's "When The Tide Turns", we were raising the Tithebarn roof and recognising that here was a potential star of the future.

The slender figure of **Timothy Van Eyken**, from Somerset looked as if a puff of wind might blow him away but, instead, he played an absolute stormer of a set on melodeon and whistle, showing how he came to be last year's Fylde "Young Musician" winner. At just 14, he's already a virtuoso player with a glittering career ahead of him. We did a lot of clapping, foot-tapping and smiling during his varied and vivacious tunes but, for a lot of the time, we merely marvelled at his consummate musicianship.

Pota Portac are almost the event's resident band having featured in all three and they just get better and better. Let's face it, once Irish music players have reached a certain level of competence they can rattle out any number of jigs 'n' reels and get roars of delight. But these young-women-plus-bloke have that magical extra quality - a genuine sensitivity for their material coupled with a finely judged interplay between the instruments.

Kellie While will not be known as her mother's daughter for much longer. The power of her singing and the assurance of guitar work must pick her out for beckoning professional success in time. She built a lovely rapport with her audience which invited us into her songs. Then she pulled out all the emotional stops and let rip with some cool, classy and brassy vocals. Just knockout.

As this year's Radio 2 Young Tradition award winner, **Catriona MacDonald** came with the burden of greatness as a possible disadvantage. She was so totally relaxed, so obviously at peace with her music, it seemed to flow through her and out over the strings.

A perfect example of "Carrying It On", **Catriona** was taught Shetland-style fiddle by the legendary Tom Anderson. She demonstrated that a beautiful lament, played with delicate care and infinite skill, can be every bit as electrifying as the skirling, swirling stuff, which she also gave us, accompanied by accordionist **Iain Lowthian**. And he, I must say, was the most amazing sight of the evening. Not just supersonic, his playing took off on mesmerising flights of intricacy. Hang a sign round his neck - "Danger - Musical Genius At Work" - and tell Phil Cunningham to roll over.

The evening ended with one of those glorious madcap massed jam sessions and we went home exhausted and exhilarated, content that the tradition is safe in hands like these.

JACK COUTTS

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Anyone present at Wigan festival will probably have dropped by to see Youthquake in action. Held in the main hall, the kids were able to huddle in a corner and work undisturbed, while the wrinklies could sit and watch. Delightful. The talented team of Jenny Shottliffe, Richard Woods (yes, he actually appeared!) and Joe Broughton worked intensely with a small band of enthusiastic young musicians, and everybody gained something out of the afternoon. If you know any under-21 who would like to join in, let me know and I will put you in touch with the organisers. It is well worth it.

11 Linda Wright.

DANCEABOUT

News on Social, Morris, Sword and Clog Dance

Just at present I am recovering from a marvellous holiday, preparing for some serious kissing with nearly 50 French visitors, and trying to get the house looking habitable when a couple of them stay with us for a week - so please excuse the rush.

Reminder/ Commercials first: The Wiggin Ceilidhs Dance Competition (9th October); The French Music and Dance workshops plus evening ceilidh with Rosbif at Ince (10th October); a ceilidh with the Pandemonium Band at the Victoria Hall, Mobberley (17th October); the 14th Reading Cloggies Weekend (24th October - contact M Targett, 35 Somerton Gardens, Earley, Reading RG6 2XG); the Cock and Bull Band at Ince (13th November); and Wizzard Wheeze at Leyland (14 November) Phew!

Well, did anyone get to the Grand Ball of Europe? This summer we sampled the Austrian Tyrol - Mayrhofen in the Ziller Valley - 28 years after we promised we would return without a party of school children! We drank in the scenery - and the booze - and did all sorts of touristy things. Best of all we wallowed in the music, the dance and the song - going on from lunchtime until the late hours, and not a disco in sight! And what a treat to listen to music well amplified - not over-amplified - and with every instrument nicely balanced up. Solos, Duos and groups - many of the musicians multi-instrumentalists - looking and sounding as though they were enjoying themselves (even if it was the fourth time that week they had done that particular song or tune!) and carrying you along with them.

There were traditional tunes, beer hall songs, modern compositions in the Tyrolean idiom, Top Tunes going even as far back as the 50's and - shades of "Bounce Dancing" (or Victor Silvestor if you are as old as me!) - a wide variety of tunes played in strict ballroom tempo. You could quickstep, slow foxtrot, modern waltz (Slow waltz they call it), Viennese Waltz, Tango, CCha-cha, or Polka yourself to a frazzle. We even

ame across a group belting out "Red River Valley".

The people there were generally very good at getting up to dance, but they have reduced everything, to what I christened "The European Stomp" Dance "One-ah-two, One-ah-two" with fast turns, or "One-two-three, One-two-three" with slower turns and you can cope with pretty well anything the Band plays!! At the Wald Cafe one night a group of us tried to get everyone else joining in with a Veleya and a Barn Dance; horrors! it frightened them to death. The thought that when the tempo or perhaps the tune changed, you performed a new set of steps and figures, quite terrified them. "That's English Dancing" one lady said in refusal of the invitation to join in. We live and learn I guess.

The music, the dance and the song? Great Value for the price of a few drinks; and that reminds me: best value in booze was the schnapps from the barrels toted by the young ladies with the town band! For the equivalent of 50p you were given about as much as would cost you £2 at the Hotel!

On last thought: we have a lot to learn about skilful outdoor catering from the Europeans. In France - at a village band festival; in Germany - at a combined stag night/hen party held in the local fire station; and now in Austria - at a flower festival at the local railway station, we have watched hot food and chilled booze appear in the wink of an eye! Ever tried doing the same here?! Maybe we are getting too bogged down with legislation. As a local band marched off up the road a retired Leicester traffic cop was shaking his head: "They wouldn't be allowed to do that at home without an official escort", he said. My suggestion that - like any good North West Morris team - they probably felt there was enough of them to persuade any motorist to take a bit of care, simply drew a quizzical stare from him!

Keep dancing everyone!!

Roy Smith

Jon Harvison

Sept 3rd Walsall
Brewers Droop F/C

4th Newport
Plough Inn F/C

5th Bridgnorth*
Lion of Mbre F/C

8th Sheffield
No. Smoke Folk F/C

11th Stalybridge
Church Inn F/C

19th Huddersfield°
General Ludd F/C

20th Cullercoats
Bay F/C

21st Scarborough
Scarborough F/C

22nd Skipton
Skipton F/C

24th Preston
Gregson Lane F/C

26th Leicester
Phoenix Arts Centre (lunch)

26th Leicester
Rothley F/C (eve)

27th Halifax
Bradshaw F/C

30th Salford
The Star Inn F/C

Oct 5th Ashton-Under-Lyne
The Station F/C

10th Bury
Bury F/C

* Support to Allan Taylor
o With Pete Morton

For information, bookings,
tapes etc phone
0535 654836

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

New Folk Club

I am one of the organisers of a relatively new Folk Song Club which has been running in Bolton since Christmas 1991.

I have returned to the folk scene after an absence of about seventeen years. I was previously involved with Wigan Folk Club, at the now defunct and demolished Park Hotel, and also at Chorley College of Education until 1975.

We are currently situated at Maxim's in Bradshawgate, Bolton where we expect to remain for the foreseeable future.

Our meetings are every Wednesday night and the philosophy is based on singers nights with the occasional guest.

Our regular resident group is The Core, a trio consisting of myself, Frank Baynham on vocals and Phil Seddon, Guitar and vocals.

We are building a regular clientele and although we finished for the summer on Wednesday 24th June, we are reopening with Bernard Wrigley on Wednesday 16th September 1992.

We would be very pleased to see you at Maxim's.

Yours sincerely

Frank Baynham

Open Shanties.....

I thought you might be interested in my bit of good fortune.

The enclosed cutting tells you about the shanty competition, the report being incorrect at a couple of points which I have corrected.

The Open Shanty Competition took place in a singaround format - 3 hours on Saturday and 2 hours on Sunday. I sung eight shanties in all.

The magazine is now of the highest standard and yourself and all concerned are to be congratulated.

Yours sincerely

Frank Lewis

EDITOR'S NOTE: I reproduce below in full the cutting I was sent from the Lancaster Guardian. I have made two slight amendments to correct errors.

A CARNFORTH man has a rare voice and a trophy to prove it.

Mr Frank Lewis of Leapers View, Over Kellet, was awarded the Angus Russell memorial trophy when he won first place in a shanty singing competition held at Redcar Folk Festival.

Mr Lewis who is 65, sang over two days before winning the coveted award.

Next year he will be returning to Redcar, but this time as one of the judges.

Mr Lewis first picked up the hobby from his daughters. "Now they have both grown up and I am the only one who still sings" he said.

Shanty singing is a real pleasure and hobby to Mr Lewis, who retired from his work at Lancaster University at the end of last year.

Apart from visiting folk festivals up and down the country, he is a regular singer in his local club, the Fighting Cocks, Arnside.

"It is a sad thing that people do not realise what enjoyment there is to be had, not only in listening but also in partaking in folk singing", said Mr Lewis.

THE ELECTRIC COUNTRY DANCE BAND FOR THE 90's
HOE DOWNS, BOPS, CEILIDHS, BARN DANCES ETC.

SQUEEZEBOX, WHISTLES,
GUITAR, BASS
DRUMS

'SHAKE A LEG'

COUNTRY DANCE BAND

TO BOOK THE BAND TELEPHONE:
JOHN 0200 24969
OR PHIL 0254 397623

CHAIRMAN'S RAMBLINGS

Do you find that "Tempus is Fugit"-ing ever faster, or is it just me?? I have not really done too much folk wise these last three months, mainly because our daughter Catherine was getting married, and Jane, my long suffering and normally flexible boss finally put her foot down - temporarily!

We did get to Wigan Festival and had another great time - what a super weekend that has developed into over the years. Our club had over 30 members this year - How many did yours send? So - why not organise a small party to attend next year - Go up to your club organiser and offer to do it!! If you cannot wait till next year there is Kendal, Burnley and Fylde all coming up - All well worth a visit. Go on - DO IT!!

Next weekend Jane and I plan to visit the Liverpool Festival - the first for a few years - I will tell you about it next issue.

Now an update on those rising young stars - George and Joan Gallimore. They went to Cleethorpes and won the floor singers contest which involved an appearance on Radio Lincolnshire; they won a barrel of Beer which they presented for charity; you may be offered tickets at some event. If you are - dig deep.

Their next "Adventure" came when John Taylor, a lovely fella and organiser of Redcar Festival heard it was their Golden Wedding year and presented them with a double weekend ticket not just for this year, but for as many years in the future as they want to go. A man like that deserves good support so - if you are looking for a great July seaside festival next year you know where to go. The toilet block also provided the best all night singaround anywhere - Oh my aching head!! The generosity and goodwill George and Joan have prompted this year has really been wonderful.

At the other end of the scale, we have booked Ben and Joe Broughton to appear in Maghull in September. Joe is still only 15 or 16 years old and Ben is in his early twenties yet they just ooze talent and class. Their problem is they are local!!!

I am inviting ALL organisers to come along and marvel. Make sure YOUR organiser comes. If we do not encourage fine young artists how does the tradition get carried forward??

Congratulations to Mike Lennon and Steve Higham whose first CD/Tape of self penned, multi tracked songs will have been released by the time you are reading this. Again they are "our own" and need you help to make it a success.

See you all in three months - have a good summer and support your local festivals and artists!

Dave Day

ACROSS THE DIVIDE The Artist Exchange

8th to 24th May, 1992

I suppose that now is the time to reflect on the value and effectiveness of the "artist exchange" from the North-West clubs point of view. I managed to get to many of the venues which took part and which welcomed GEORGE WILSON and PETE WATKINSON, so I have a good idea of how the evenings went; it is also useful to look at it in a wider context.

Certainly, the artists were well received. George plays quite a lot of gigs in Hampshire and Dorset and, with his ready wit and genial manner, went down well everywhere and would, I think, be welcome again at any of the clubs he played: THE BEE, LEIGH, MAGHULL, KIRKHAM, BURNLEY

Pete Watkinson is a resident at one of the premier clubs in the SCoFF region and has a very easy-going style, which endeared him to his audiences. A nice balance of material as well. His initial nerves soon gave way to an appreciation of Northern warmth and supportiveness and, by his own admission, he learned a lot from this visit. As Hugh O'Donnell (Preston) put it, "He's excellent. He just needs a bit more experience.". Well, I know that Pete feels that he gained a tremendous amount from this visit.

BILLINGE, PRESTON, KIRKHAM, FLEETWOOD, NORTHWICH

A big thankyou to all these clubs for making the first exchange such a success. Both George and Pete have asked me to pass on their thanks for welcoming them and for helping make it all possible. A great big "thumbs up" to the natural warmth of our audiences.

Thanks go, as well, to Lawrence and Joan at Wigan. The Federation Concert was a success, raising valuable funds, which we will be using to help the next exchange.

Personally, I got the impression, that individual organisers' worries about taking the chance were proved pretty groundless. The scheme is, basically, a sound one, which can only benefit everybody involved. The artists get the exposure they deserve, the clubs get quality acts at a reasonable rate, the Federations get active and the audiences get someone new to hear. This is something I would like to see happen at least every quarter. All we need is the support of the member clubs. If you want to get involved with the next one, either get in touch with me or tell your organiser to "get active" with the rest of us! It only takes a telephone call on 0772-684537, day or night, including fax, so there is no excuse. Do yourself a favour!

14 Phil Capper

MINI MARKET

Only £2.00 per 1/16 page

Maximum of 2/16 per advert

For Private sales & wants, club adverts, artists cards and many other items.

Send Copy to:

Paul Holden (Advertising)

7, Sunleigh Road,

Hindley, Nr. WIGAN WN2 2RE

NEW SHADES OF BLUES

The original styles of

**RAPHAEL
CALLAGHAN**

with
**CHRISTINE
PURNELL** (bass)
Seen at Wath, Wigan and
Liverpool Folk Festivals
Also
Barnsley Blues Festival (Sept 26)
Wirral Jazz Festival (Oct 8)
Inquiries: 051-709 5484
051-227 2000, ext. 2476 (day)

The Bodhran

Can You Beat It?
is a cassette &
booklet covering:

- how to play
- drumming examples
- playing skills & styles
- choosing/making a bodhran
- and much more...

£7.50 post paid

Cheque/P.O. to Frank Lewis
9 Leape's View, Over Kellet
Carnforth Lanes LA6 1HL
TEL: 0524 734140

Bodhrans Hand-made
to order

A Gregson Lane 7A
FRIDAY NIGHT SPECIAL

in concert at the
club.....

**Bernard
Wrigley**
+ Pennyroyal

11th SEPTEMBER
8.00pm

Phone 0254 853929

This space
was
wasted!

For only £2 you
could have
placed an
advert!

DO IT NOW for
next issue

The New Levellers Folk
Club at the Flying Picket,
Hardman Street,
Liverpool

Require a resident
group of musicians
and/ or singers.

Acoustic Folk only
please

Are you interested?

Tel: 051 480 6579
Pat & Tony Murphy

A Gregson Lane 7A
FRIDAY NIGHT SPECIAL

in concert at the
club.....

**HUW & TONY
WILLIAMS**
+ Dr. Bodd's Old
Hat Band

2nd OCTOBER
8.00pm
Phone 0254 853929

TRADITIONAL IRISH FARMHOUSE

FULLY FURNISHED SLEEPS 8

Beautiful South-West Cork
Peace, Countryside, Music, The
Crack!

Ring Nat Clare (0204 47025)

Possible long Winter let

THE GUITARISTS EXPLANATORY CHORD SHAPE REFERENCE BOOK

Understand chord construction without the need to read music. All the chord symbols explained in plain English. New diagram method gives you fast reference to 2385 chords and the ability to create your own chord shapes from each master diagram.

SAE for further details if required, or to order by return of post send cheque or Postal Order for £7.00, together with your name & address (capitals please) to:

Shapes & Strings
121, Ryelands Road,
Stonehouse,
Glocs. GL10 2PG

ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL P.T.A.
present

A GRAND CEILIDH
with
CATS IN THE VILLAGE

At St. Mary's High School, Station Rd.,
Bamber Bridge, Nr. Preston, Lancs.

FRIDAY OCTOBER 9th. 8.00pm
TICKETS £3.00 (Children £1.50) ^{BAR}
TELEPHONE: 0254-853929 ^{+ REFRESHMENTS}

RIBBLESDALE CRICKET CLUB

Brownlow Street Clitheroe

Phil & June Introduce:

Sat. 10th Oct. - Tony Capstick

Sat. 14th Nov. - Ying Tong John

Fabulous Atmosphere

Supper Included - Limited Seating

Further Information - 0200 25606

September Dates

Sunday	6-Sep	13-Sep	20-Sep	27-Sep	
BOTHY		Lewis Pint & Dale	Singers Night	Artisan	
FLEECE FOLK	Guest tba	Bobby Eaglesham	Singers Night	Jane & Carl	
LEIGH			Opening Night	Nic Dow	
LLANDUDNO	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
PAVILION		Garva	Singers Night	Gary & Vera	
THE ALBION	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
WHEELTON	Music Session	Music Session	Music Session	Music Session	
Monday	7-Sep	14-Sep	21-Sep	28-Sep	
HORWICH	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
BEAUMARIS	Guest tba				
PRESTON	Singers Night	Jez Lowe & The Bad Pennies	Mark Roberts & Sandol Astrausky	Singers Night	
PUNCHBOWL	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
TRITON	Tony Gibbons	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
*SOUTHPORT ARTS		Lennon & Higham			
Tuesday	1-Sep	8-Sep	15-Sep	22-Sep	29-Sep
ARKWRIGHT'S		Nick Dow	Mick & Susie Darling	Singers Night	Geoff Higginbottom
BLACK HORSE	Closed	Opening Night	Brass Tacks	Les Barker	Derek Brimstone
FROG & FERRET	Music Session	Music Session	Folk Night	Music Session	Music Session
MAGHULL	Guest or	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
TAP & SPILE	Singers Night	Steve Tilston	Singers Night	Tom McConville	Singers Night
TILSTON	Singers Night	Singers Night	Wizz Jones	Singers Night	Singers Night
YARROW VALLEY	Pat Ryan	(Closed)	(Closed)	(Closed)	(Closed)
*BURNLEY				* Garva	
*POTTERIES					* Carthy & Swarbrick
Wednesday	2-Sep	9-Sep	16-Sep	23-Sep	30-Sep
BROMBOROUGH	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
BLACKBURN	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
8.45 AT THE SWAN	Keith Christmas	'Open house'	Thistle	Richard Woods	'Open house'
RUNCORN	Guest t.b.a	Singers Night	Guest t.b.a	Singers Night	Guest t.b.a
WHITE SWAN	No dates				
*MID-PENNINE ARTS			*Hairy Marys		
Thursday	3-Sep	10-Sep	17-Sep	24-Sep	
BURNLEY		Jane & Carl	Featured Singers	Singaround	
COCKERMOUTH	Singers Night	Marilyn Middleton-Pollock	Allan Taylor	Singers Night	
DARWEN	Closed	Singers Night	Closed	Singers Night	
FLEETWOOD	*Pre-Fest Concert	Singers Night	Sara Grey	Singaround	
FOLK AT THE GATE	No dates				
GREGSON LANE	Closed	Singers Night	Closed	Jon Harvison	
HASKAYNE	Singers Night	Singers Night	Chris While	Singers Night	
MAGAZINE	Ring for details	Ring for details	Ring for details	Ring for details	
NEW LEVELLERS	Tony Gibbons		Blues & Bluegrass		
THE BODDIE SHOP	Singers Night	Charity Night - Cyril Tawney	Singers Night	Sara Grey	
THE BUZZ	The Summerhouse	3rd Birthday Party Comedy special	The Mark Steel Solution	John Shuttleworth	
*BREWERY ARTS				Swarbrick & Carthy	
Friday	4-Sep	11-Sep	18-Sep	25-Sep	
NORTHWICH	Sid Kipper	Stravaig	Singers Night	Singers Night	
POTTERIES	Jez Lowe & The Bad Pennies	Singers Night	Mark Roberts & Sandol Astrausky	Singers Night	
RED LION		Judy Small	Julie Matthews & Pat Shaw	John Leonard & John Squire	
RHYL				Graham & Eileen Pratt	
*BREWERY ARTS		Midnight Train	John Renbourne & Isaac Guillory		
*GREGSON LANE		Bernard Wrigley & Penny Royal			
*SOUTHPORT ARTS		Strawbs		Jay Turner	
Saturday	5-Sep	12-Sep	19-Sep	26-Sep	
BURY	* Ceilidh - Derby Hall	The Riot Band	Singers Night	Jane & Carl	
POYNTON	Swarb & Carthy plus.	Ceilidh : Bilbo Baggins	R Cajun	Ceilidh Dance	
ST ALBANS		Once a month=>	Singers Night		
*BREWERY ARTS				Awatinas	

October Dates

Sunday	4-Oct	11-Oct	18-Oct	25-Oct	
BOTHY		Singers Night	John Pearson	Bob Fox & Stu Luckley	Bill Prince
FLEECE FOLK		Jim Couza	Residents Night	Full House	Huw & Tony Williams
LEIGH		Holly Burton & Ken Powell	Singers Night	Stravaig	Marie Little
LLANDUDNO		Sara Grey	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
PAVILION		Singers Night	Jez Lowe	Maxi & Mitch	Singers Night
THE ALBION		Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
WHEELTON		Music Session	Music Session	Music Session	Music Session
*POYNTON		Tom Paxton			
Monday	5-Oct	12-Oct	19-Oct	26-Oct	
HORWICH		Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
BEAUMARIS			Andy Caven	Sadie Green Sales	
PRESTON		Dave Swarbrick	Singers Night	Parson Hogg	
PUNCHBOWL		Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
TRITON		Singers Night	Len & Friends	Singers Night	Singers Night
*SOUTHPORT ARTS					Lennon & Higham
Tuesday	6-Oct	13-Oct	20-Oct	27-Oct	
ARKWRIGHT'S		Joan Blackburn	Singers Night	Dave & Helen Howard	Pete Ryder
BLACK HORSE		Club Night	Houghton Weavers	Andy Caven	Tom Baker & Colin Henderson
FROG & FERRET		Music Session	Music Session	Folk Night	Music Session
MAGHULL		Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
TAP & SPILE		Bernard Wrigley	Singers Night	John Howarth	Singers Night
TILSTON		Singers Night	John Pearson	Singers Night	Jack Orion
YARROW VALLEY		Singers Night	(Closed)	(Closed)	(Closed)
Wednesday	7-Oct	14-Oct	21-Oct	28-Oct	
BROMBOROUGH		Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
BLACKBURN		Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
8.45 AT THE SWAN		Phil Hare	Stanley Accrington	'Open house'	The Joyce Gang
RUNCORN		Singers Night	Guest t.b.a	Singers Night	Guest t.b.a
WHITE SWAN					
*SOUTHPORT ARTS			Tom Paxton	Stocktons Wing	
Thursday	1-Oct	8-Oct	15-Oct	22-Oct	29-Oct
BURNLEY	Graham & Eileen Pratt	'Open House'	Featured Singers	Singaround	Singers Night
COCKERMOUTH	Lorraine Jordan	Andy Caven	Singers Night	Terry Docherty	Bedlam
DARWEN	Closed	Singers Night	Closed	Singers Night	Singers Night
FLEETWOOD	Annie Moreson	Theme Night 'Go North Young Man'	Guest tba	Singers Night	Singaround
GREGSON LANE	Closed	Singers Night	Closed	Singers Night	Closed
HASKAYNE	Singers Night	Singers Night		Singers Night	Singers Night
MAGAZINE	Ring for details				
NEW LEVELLERS	tbc		Martin Carthy		tbc
THE BODDIE SHOP	Marie Little	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Heather Innes
THE BUZZ	The Barely Works	Comedy Special	Edward II		
*SOUTHPORT ARTS					Garry Hall
Friday	2-Oct	9-Oct	16-Oct	23-Oct	30-Oct
NORTHWICH	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Stephen Quigg
POTTERIES	Rhythm Rascals	Singers Night	Graham & Eileen Pratt	Singers Night	Pete Castle
RED LION	Companions of the Rosy Hours	Tripping Upstairs	Show of Hands	Shep Woolley	Harvey Andrews (tk only)
RHYL	Lorraine Jordan			Phil Hare	
*BOTHY					* Ceilidh
*BREWERY ARTS			Blues'n'Trouble		
*GREGSON LANE	Huw & Tony Williams + Dr Bold				
*SOUTHPORT ARTS					Gordon Giltrap
Saturday	3-Oct	10-Oct	17-Oct	24-Oct	31-Oct
BURY	Closed for Cajun Festival	Malc & Jeanie	Singers Night	Marie Little	Ceilidh & Workshops
POYNTON		Ceilidh	Bon Ton Roulez	Ceilidh : Bilbo Baggins	June Tabor Trio
ST ALBANS		Once a month=>	Singers Night		
*BREWERY ARTS	Rory McLeod (tbc)			Rose Among Thorns	Le Rue

November Dates

	Sunday	1-Nov	8-Nov	15-Nov	22-Nov	29-Nov
BOTHY		Singers Night	Annie Williamson & Hamish Whiteley	Singers Night	'Mabsant'	Singers Night
FLEECE FOLK		House Band	tba	tba	tba	Christine Kidd
LEIGH		Singers Night	Gary & Vera Aspey	Martin Hall	Vin Garbutt	Singers Night
LLANDUDNO		Wizz Jones	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
PAVILION		tba	Singers Night	Guest tba	Singers Night	Guest tba
THE ALBION		Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
WHEELTON		Music Session	Music Session	Music Session	Music Session	Music Session
	Monday	2-Nov	9-Nov	16-Nov	23-Nov	30-Nov
HORWICH		Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
BEAUMARIS		Singers Night	Singers Night	Dave Summers	Singers Night	Singers Night
PRESTON		Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
PUNCHBOWL		Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
TRITON		Singers Night	Hands In Pockets	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
*SOUTHPORT ARTS						Ralph McTell (tbc)
	Tuesday	3-Nov	10-Nov	17-Nov	24-Nov	
ARKWRIGHT'S		Lynn & Barry Hardman	Recycled	Monologue John	Singers Night	
BLACK HORSE		Gary & Vera	Vin Garbutt	Roots Quartet	Skaz (Russia)	
FROG & FERRET		Music Session	Music Session	Folk Night	Music Session	
MAGHULL		Guest or	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
TAP & SPILE		Chris White	Singers Night	Guest tba	Singers Night	
TILSTON		Singers Night	Red Ciel	Singers Night	Singers Night	
YARROW VALLEY		Geoff Higginbottom	(Closed)	(Closed)	(Closed)	
	Wednesday	4-Nov	11-Nov	18-Nov	25-Nov	
BROMBOROUGH		Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
BLACKBURN		Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
8.45 AT THE SWAN		'Open house'	Mike Silver	'Open house'	Dave Peabody	
RUNCORN		Singers Night	Guest t.b.a	Singers Night	Guest t.b.a	
WHITE SWAN		No dates				
	Thursday	5-Nov	12-Nov	19-Nov	26-Nov	
BURNLEY		Parcel of Rogues	'Open House'	Featured Singers	Singaround	
COCKERMOUTH		The House Band (tbc)	Singers Night	Jez Lowe	Stephen Quigg	
DARWEN		Closed	Singers Night	Closed	Singers Night	
FLEETWOOD		Disasters Theme Night	Steve Tilston	Singers Night	Pete Coe	
FOLK AT THE GATE		No dates				
GREGSON LANE		Singers Night	Closed	Gt Northern Songwriting Final	Closed	
HASKAYNE		Singers Night	Singers Night		Singers Night	
MAGAZINE		Ring for details				
NEW LEVELLERS			tbc		tbc	
THE BODDIE SHOP		Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Dick Gaughan	
THE BUZZ						
	Friday	6-Nov	13-Nov	20-Nov	27-Nov	
NORTHWICH		Singers Night	Singers Night	Sileas	Singers Night	
POTTERIES		Singers Night	Artisan	Singers Night	Brian Peters	
RED LION		Jung & Parker		Marie Little	The McCalmans (tk)	
RHYL		Dave Burland				
	Saturday	7-Nov	14-Nov	21-Nov	28-Nov	
BURY		Redmayne	Dave Summers	Singers Night	Jon Harvison	
POYNTON		tbc	Ceilidh : Shake The Dice	The McCalmans	Ceilidh : Quiet Man	
ST ALBANS			Once a month=>	Singers Night		
*BURNLEY					* The McCalmans & Stephen Quigg	
*SOUTHPORT ARTS		Chris Newman & Maire Ni Chathasaigh				

Notes:

* If club name has an '*' in front, it's not the usual club night.

* If entry has an '*' in front, it's being held at a different venue (unless venue is named)

MAGHULL FOLK CLUB

Tenth Anniversary Celebrations - April 1992

The 28th April 1992 was a very special day in the history of Maghull Folk Club - It was exactly 10 years to the day since the doors of the club first opened. Back in those far off days a small band of enthusiastic people decided to find somewhere they could meet weekly to indulge in their fantasies - singing songs, playing music and having a good "craic" (crack to you!). A superb venue was found - The "Hare & Hounds" - and on the 28th April 1982 a legend was born. The admission was set at 50p, the policy was "Anything goes" and standards were thrown out of the window. Initially a singers club with "Full House" signs every week, as the months went by it was decided to book the occasional guest. This has been the format ever since, and in that time regulars (and not so regulars!) have seen the likes of Andy Irvine, Jimmy Crowley & Stokers Lodge (twice), Maxi & Mitch, Vin Garbutt, Roy Bailey, Les Barker, Tonight at Noon, Julie Felix and last but not least Mary Black. All for 50p admission!!!!

It is still only 50p to get in after all these years. You may wonder how a club charging only 50p can afford to book artistes of such calibre. Well, as every Tuesday night is almost always packed to the limits it is easy to see why. The residents number about 52 in total (Though they are never all there on the same night) - pay to come in. So every once in a while we treat ourselves to something special.

The club also runs regular successful concerts at the Melling Tithebarn as well as performing charity nights around the local and not so local area. Added to this club swaps, mass invasions of festivals (Wigan, Fylde, Warwick etc), Plus yearly Holidays abroad to Ireland, Paris, Amsterdam and even Czechoslovakia! Most of you may have read all this or been told this before - I apologise if I'm boring you. However, there is a reason behind what I'm telling you.

None of this would have been possible without one person in particular - Dave Day. He it is who has been the inspiration and guiding light behind the success of Maghull Folk Club. I will go even further than that and state that he is Maghull Folk Club. 19

Without his determination, cajoling, even bullying, none of this would have happened. And so, on the occasion of the clubs 10th Birthday, the residents and regulars decided it was a perfect night to show their appreciation. Secret plans and collections were made, everyone (including Dave's wife Jane) was informed, and the stage was set. One of the original residents, Len Nolan, had the honour of running the night. Former residents of the club were invited - great to see Cathy Stuart in particular - and by 8.30 you could not move in the place. Another surprise, to me and most people, was a display of photographs taken over



The man himself - here pictured with Jenny Shotliffe

the years of various events connected with the club. This was a last-minute arrangement by Jane Day and added a nice touch to the evening. The evening was the usual mixture of all kinds of songs and music, friendly banter between the audience and performers, and in general the atmosphere was terrific. The highlight though, was when yours truly was given the honour of calling Dave Day forward to the stage and then embarrassing him by publicly stating how much we owed to him. "The Sisters" (Bella, Maria and Barbara) presented him with a Stereo Cassette Recorder

(ideal for all the clubs, concerts, festivals etc. he visits!). Then it was Jane's turn to be surprised when she was presented with a huge bouquet of flowers. This was in appreciation of her sterling work in organising charity nights, putting up visiting performers (and feeding them!) and generally for being the force behind the man! Thinking that was the end of the presentations, they were then presented with a beautiful inscribed cut-glass decanter. There was not a dry eye in the house. The night continued in a brilliant atmosphere, everyone enjoying themselves immensely. It was one of those nights you did not want to end. Bruce Scott (Scotty) christened Dave "El Padrino" - "The Godfather"! We at Maghull would not argue with that. I will just finish by saying that any of you are welcome in the family any time.

Tony Gibbons

FESTIVAL REVIEWS

Wigan Folk Festival

June 12th - 14th 1992

Excellent weather, a superb campsite and venues side by side, a good lineup, a fresh doughnut stall, food by the Singing Chef, singarounds and music sessions, some great craft and music stalls, Appalachian clog dancing, ceilidhs, an all round first-class weekend.

It was perhaps over-adventurous on booked guests, since most only did 25 to 30 minute spots, leaving the audience dissatisfied. Most annoying event of the weekend award must go to making Irish band **Garva** finish on time, after a late start. **Brian MacNeill** (ex-Battlefield Band) had joined with Garva at the end of the Saturday night concert, excitement was building as this was an unexpected climax to the evening, the audience and the band were just warming up when they were halted. Why? Because the organisers wanted everybody to attend their late night rock and roll extravaganza. As might be expected, this did not go down well.

Other great events included "Fiddlers Four" - top fiddlers **Brian MacNeill** and **Tom McConville** playing alongside our own rising star, **Jenny Shotliff** and Caught on the Hop's **Brian Padgett**. Main guests **Four Men and A Dog** were only there for the last hour of the weekend - an excellent climax, but why not put them on for longer, or even on twice?

Too many guests, too little time allocated for each, but it is still one of the best festivals around. **Bernie Forkin** and the team from Billinge Folk Club work hard, and the result is a great event every year!

Linda Wright

24th REDCAR FOLK FESTIVAL

10th-12th July 1992

We received a warm and enthusiastic welcome which remained throughout the weekend. After "booking in", we went straight to the campsite. The site was on good level ground, easy to peg out and patrolled 24 hours. On the downside, however, the showers and particularly the gents loo left much to be desired.

We started at The Swan with **Th' Antiques Roadshow**. They did a smashing set, culminating in three sea songs, which had the audience singing their hearts out. **Dave Summers** then entertained with his original brand of humour. On to Redcar Bowl, where a ceilidh and singaround were in full flight. We chose the latter; good stuff; indeed, all the singarounds were excellent.

Saturday's programme was impressive, with Shanty, Singer-songwriter and Piping competitions, informal sessions with the artists and afternoon and evening concerts, which presented such super artists as **Artisan, Jez Lowe and the Bad Pennies, Beggars Velvet, Bread And Roses, etc....** The audiences received each and every artist with the same enthusiasm and appreciation.

Sunday looked equally good, with **Dab Hand, Marie Little, Vin Garbutt, Stockton's Wing** and, of course, **The Wilsons**. Have you ever been having a quiet cup of coffee at 12 noon only to be dragged headlong into the day by these chaps doing a sound check, singing "John Barleycorn"? Good grief! What a shock to the system!

All the venues at this festival are good, though they do seem to be very scattered. Concert-hopping was difficult, especially during Saturday's torrential wet weather. The campsite was a good distance away and a couple of bus runs would have been useful.

Lasting memories? A tin whistle workshop with Vin and his delightful family (Vin was definitely upstaged by the youngest member) - a real soother for a Sunday morning. Impromptu singarounds, with the picture of **Charlie Yarwood** leading a gang of drunkards (incl. Wilsons) into the wee hours with roof-lifting choruses and the by-now-traditional singarounds at the campsite shower block. Hi-jacking a bus to get tired and weary 70° proof folkies back to the campsite. A slightly wobbly self-appointed bus conductor - no names, but he's from Maghull Folk Club cried "All aboard the Skylark" as he hawked for customers to fund the Beleaguered Bus Driver's Charity Trust. A night to remember. A festival to consider.

Chris Lock & Ian Tupling

22nd CLEETHORPES FESTIVAL

Spring Bank Holiday, 1992

To be truthful, this was a festival that selected me - I was the lucky winner of two weekend tickets from Henry Ayrton's "Folk On The Night Network", so, at short notice, we packed our tent and set off for Cleethorpes - and had a wonderful time!

The festival is based upon the Winter Gardens, right on the promenade, spilling over into nearby hotels before it ends on Monday night. Besides the spectacle of music and dance, the festival has a further attraction - the chance it presents for participation. Visitors can join in the many workshops and sessions and even a festival orchestra. Children have their own junior jam sessions in addition to entertainment from **Mogsy**.

An impressive bill of players and dance teams was headed by **Vin Garbutt** and **Dick Gaughan**, but it was **The Wilsons** who dominated events. To hear them and their audience together in full voice is one of the great festival experiences. One venue had a low arch over the stage. "Will they hit their heads on it?" enquired host **Tom McConville**. "They're all headbangers anyway!" replied **Robin Gar-side**.

Thanks go to all the performers, participants and organisers who contributed to such a successful weekend. I shall not hesitate to pay for my own tickets next year!

Henry Peacock

WIMBORNE FOLK FESTIVAL - "REVISITED"

12th to 14th June, 1992

Those who read my review of last year's festival will know that I enjoyed the weekend, so I was intrigued to see whether they could do it two years running. The line-up was even more impressive and, as with last year, there were plenty of dancers - 55 different sides - more than ever! The bells, the bells

The camping was better this year, with good water supplies and plenty of loos etc. The road signs were even better than last year. Witness the power of the press! After my review, they even introduced a campsite bus on Friday and Saturday, but not Sunday (why?); two out of three ain't bad though. It was my only real gripe last year, so well done!

It was a mark of how good the concerts were, that I only made the singaround once all weekend, whereas I spent much of the weekend there last year. From the start, we had new things to hear and favourites to look forward to. **Ashley Reed** may not be well known, but what a fiddler! Partnered by **Johnny Oslo**, he gave the weekend a flying start, followed by **Trio Hysteria**, comprising **Abbie** and **Kate** from the now sadly defunct **Tripping Upstairs**, plus **Sammy Hurden**, who put together an excellent unaccompanied set. I got back just in time to catch **Mike Silver's Road Dog** finish the evening in style. If you get the chance, go and see them.

Saturday saw two good concerts, with **Paul Downes** playing solo in the afternoon and compering the evening. I enjoyed superb sets from **The Joyce Gang** (just as good as last year) and **Stockton's Wing**. **Steve Tilston** hosted an excellent guitar workshop and was joined by the fine singing of **Maggie Boyle** for both concerts. I am not convinced about the current **Albion Band** line-up, but they drop the odd stunner into their set to keep you wondering. **Stockton's Wing** were excellent, winding up the evening with some wonderful music.

On Sunday, I was keen to see how **Ken Nicol & Chris While** would go down at their first southern gig. No problem! They played a blinder at their afternoon gig and followed that with the opening spot at the final concert, where they took a "cold" audience and finished with

them shouting for more! **Whippersnapper** carried on where they had left off in the afternoon. Again, superb music. Regular readers will understand my desire to see **Davy Spillane & Sean Tyrell**. A master musician indeed, he had me spellbound. Not totally sure about the value of Sean, but still wonderful. After seeing the next group at last year's Kendal FF, I was also looking forward to **Afterhours** and I was not disappointed. I rated these even higher than **Stockton's Wing** and when **Spillane** and **Tyrell** came back on stage to join them for a final fling, the hall went into raptures - mighty music!

Add to all this the ceilidhs, the dance processions, the sessions, the fringe events plus a keen and friendly bunch of organisers and you've come close to the ideal weekend. I thought last year was good, but this one was even better!

Phil Capper



Stockton's Wing

Edale Bluegrass Festival

May 28th-31st 1992

A special concert featuring **Mark O'Connor** launched this year's Edale Bluegrass Festival. Billed as the finest session fiddler in Nashville, many came on Thursday night (at £10 a ticket) just to see him. He was an excellent violinist - but I went to see a bluegrass fiddle player, and I left in disappointment. Not a great start.

Friday brought typical Edale weather - rain. It also brought a lot of non-festival-goers, who proceeded to spoil what used to be a great festival. Unofficial stalls sprang up all over the main camping field, with generators, bright lights and loud rock music. Lots of cigarette papers were on sale, but oddly, no Old Holborn. Due to last year's one violent episode, more police were in evidence, but they could not stop the change in atmosphere. Until the Sunday morning there was hardly any sign that bluegrass musicians had come to the festival! A few old-time sessions took place, some swing, C&W and cajun, but most bluegrass music was in the main venue.

Now for the positive side. **Alison Krauss** and **Union Station**, from the USA, were superb. One of the top bluegrass bands in America, they certainly prove it. Alison is a brilliant fiddle player with a beautiful voice. Her arrangement and rendition of "Two Highways" and "Foolish Heart" made me stop in my tracks. **Union Station** are a group of extremely talented bluegrass musicians who make a great team. Warm, friendly and thoroughly enjoyable. If you get the chance, go and see them. Be prepared to be jealous, though. Alison, with 4 albums to her credit, is only 21!

Other good points? New band **Grassfire** - inspiring. Watching guitarist **Chris Moreton** showed just why he is not allowed to compete in the guitar championships anymore. An exhilarating workshop on clogging, by **Rosie Davis**, followed by a display of Appalachian clogging by **Feet First**.

It has been suggested that next year, they ought to set a field aside that only BBMA (British Bluegrass Music Assoc.) members can camp in, to try to get the atmosphere back. Something will have to be done - a lot of regulars did not turn up this year, and many more are considering giving it a miss next year.

North Wales Bluegrass Festival

July 3rd - 5th 1992

The 4th North Wales festival, but the first in Trefriw, and the first wholly organised by John Les & Gill Williams. Overall a great festival, promising great things for future years. Problems arose - they always do - and lack of delegation meant that John & Gill had to deal with everything. They had to be in 5 places at once, a lack of information caused grumbling and the appalling weather kept people away. The non-bluegrass contingent threatened to make it another Edale (but a gentle word in their ear made them

behave), the local hooligan element caused trouble on the Saturday night, the field entrance was a quagmire and was it ever going to stop raining?.

Enjoyable memories of the weekend include watching the **Acme Bluegrass Band** being filmed by S4C when the PA decided to stop. Singing into microphones that did not work so that it looked right on camera, they gave a great performance, as did **Chris Moreton** who followed on. The PA team sorted the problem and made us appreciate just how difficult behind-the-scenes coordination can be. Superb bands included **Out To Grass**, **Wild Turkey** and **Grey Eagle**, while Czech band **Cop** (pronounced Tzop) went down a storm.

Concerts, sessions, workshops, all well-attended and enjoyed. On Sunday the sun came out, field events burgeoned and the festival ended on an upswing. John Les did not sleep, but he and Gill learned a lot. Next year, more delegation, more organisation and another great festival.

An added bonus for those who can get S4C - the festival was filmed. This is also a good festival to take the family to, as there are plenty of tourist attractions around, a park for the kids to play in, and the scenery is superb. There is plenty of other accommodation nearby if you do not want to camp and as a holiday it will take some beating.

Yorkshire Dales Bluegrass Festival

July 17th - 19th 1992

The first Yorkshire Dales festival, held on a holiday farm outside Silsden, near Skipton. A smaller, less ambitious affair than North Wales with one concert venue, fewer workshops, 3 stalls - all bluegrass-related, and completely on-site. The organisation seemed very laid-back - direction signs erected on the Friday were a source of frustration for those looking for the venue on Thursday. Workshops? Well, there were some, and they were probably in the barn, maybe a banjo and a bass workshop, but no-one knew for certain. So you learned to shrug your shoulders, and if you found the workshop, you went.

But what a great festival! Small, enclosed, just bluegrass music, the weather was good, there were sessions galore, the atmosphere was relaxed and friendly, the concert bands were of an excellent standard and everybody had a great time. Two memorable events were the band competition, won by Chester's **Johnny Plank & The Planktones**, and the band workshop, where we learned how the instruments relate to each other - who plays what and where, how to support vocals and instrumentals, how the balance is achieved, what to listen for.

The problem I can foresee for next year is growth. The campsite fitted the numbers this year, but word will spread, more will attend, and they will have to find more space. I bet other organisers wished they had that kind of problem!

Linda Wright (all 3 Bluegrass Festival Reviews)

ABBOT ALE CAMBRIDGE FOLK FESTIVAL

While the catering has always been cosmopolitan it has taken some time for the music at Cambridge to acquire a similar diversity, but this year eclecticism came with vengeance. From the opening strains of American Hammer Dulcimer story telling by the ludicrously gifted **John McCutcheon**, there was an almost tangible character of excellence. Even something as alien as Yiddish Jazz in the leafy suburbs of the university city got swept up in the spontaneity.

The English were remarkable mainly by their almost complete absence from the bill, **Dave Burland** strummed a tribute to Richard Thompson with almost each word, while **Martin Carthy** and **Dave Swarbrick** flew the flag for the folk clubs, with a set of real ale trad stuff, hollow, impudent fiddle mixed with state of the art folk singing. **Capercaillie** did themselves no harm what so ever, having changed beyond all recognition, and emerged as a gaelic funk machine. **Steve Riley** and the **Mamou Playboys** pumped out swamp dance tunes and sent the whole of Main Stage One up the bayou, their fiddle in particular having one hell of a hoe-down.

Tom Kimmel represented the "easy" side of America with a set so laid back it was horizontal, but the honours for singer songwriters was the all too rare showing of **John Prine**, a giant amongst acoustic guitar singers, his songs were stripped down honesty and earthy. I had never heard of them but perhaps they will make it big, **Shave The Monkey** - love the name - shook the club tent with a music based in morris dance but shooting off at Irish, Brazilian and African angles. The undoubted highlight came with a peaches 'n' cream set from **Nanci Griffith**, who it has to be said, was just perfect, her band produced tumbling, gentle country folk, topped by "A Song That Needs No Introduction", "From A Distance" has never been covered by anyone with such class, it remains her touchstone.

Why the **Blues Band** followed was a mystery, their set of squeaky clean Chicago songs lacking the passion and guts which Buddy Guy gave. With Paul Jones honking his harp through a blue collar labour number, you knew it was time to quit. So did the drunkard who lay blissfully snoozing mid path as the crowds streamed out. It had been a good one.

Simon Jones

CHIPPENHAM FOLK FESTIVAL

22nd to 25th May 1992

After the long haul down the roadwork-ridden M5, we arrived mid-afternoon in Chippenham. After checking in, we got our tickets and headed straight for the nearby campsite. What better start to the festival than a snooze in the sun and a beer?

The festival is a four day event, with things really getting into gear from Friday evening onwards. Both dancers and musicians are catered for equally at Chippenham, with a large variety of events taking place simultaneously all over the town. So, whether you feel like singing, having a bop or simply sitting back at a concert, there is something for you.

Before even considering the line-up, it soon becomes apparent why Chippenham remains ever-popular (it celebrated its 21st birthday this year!), as the actual location is ideal. The town is tailor-made for such an event, with pubs galore (they sell Theakston's!!) for sessions and singarounds, as well as excellent concert venues. The beauty of it is, they are all within five minutes walk of each other! Another pleasing aspect of this festival is that the whole town becomes involved, even closing down the main street for a day to hold the craft market.

Not being a dancer myself (three left feet!), I tended to head for the music events. The programme works so that each artist appears both in a large formal concert in the Town Hall and then in a more relaxed setting, such as a workshop or "meet the artist" spot. Hence each act appears several times at the festival, so that it is usually possible to catch up with an artist that you may have missed earlier.

Personal highlights for me included the harmony workshop with **Beggar's Velvet** (which culminated in the entire room splitting into four part harmony - wonderful!), and the discovery of **Token Women** - an excellent dance band. **Ric Sanders'** fiddle was as faultless as ever during his stint with **Simon Nicol** at the final concert and the other act worth mentioning was the duet of **Kathryn Locke** and **Jo Freya** (both from Token Women) who were, at times, little short of breathtaking - miss them at your peril!

My only quibble from the entire four days was the poor line-up for the final concert. Perhaps a little more variety would have been welcome, with more instrumental acts, but that is a minor complaint. We had a wonderful weekend and will no doubt be back next year at Chippenham - see you there!!

23 JANE THRELFALL



Capercaillie

EDINBURGH FOLK FESTIVAL

10th to 19th April

Any of you who have indulged in a visit to Edinburgh Folk Festival will know what I mean when I say that you require a particular kind of constitution to survive 10 days of it unscathed. This year was the 14th Edinburgh Folk Festival and I think I have only missed 3 of them, so I have now got into the habit of planning my drinking and eating and gigging carefully. The Festival club bars don't close until some ridiculous hour in the morning and the late night sessions are normally so good that it is an admission of defeat to leave before 2 a.m..

This year was Archie Fisher's last year as artistic director and, true to form, he booked a well balanced series of acts to ensure that there was plenty to interest most punters on most days.

Most events are in one building, Teviot Row Students' Union, with the larger gigs at the Queens's Hall and children's shows at the George Square Theatre, both only 5 minutes away, so very little footwork is required.

There were too many acts to give them all a mention but the following deserve honourable reports:

Outback, Melanie Harrold & Ollie Blanchflower, Carolina Shout, Deborah Henson-Conant, John Martin & Billie Ross (from Ossian), Michael Marra.

Clan Alba gave their debut gig at the Queen's Hall on the last night and, as the only true Scottish electric folk supergroup to be formed in recent years, gave an exciting concert which broke much new ground (and was a logistical nightmare for the sound crew). Clan Alba are:

Dick Gaughan, Brian MacNeill (ex Battlefield Band), Sileas, Davy Steele (Coelbeg), Gary West (Coelbeg), Dave Tullock and Mike Travis (Cauld Blast Orchestra).

If you get the chance, go out of your way to see them. The choice and presentation of material is of the best standard and the total effect is electrifying - it is like eating a marvellous meal with umpteen flavours, each mouthful different from the last, but the total effect being total satisfaction by the end. Look out for them at the main arts festival in Edinburgh in August and other big venues around the U.K. throughout this year.

The Harp Festival runs parallel to the Folk Festival and is centred at the Pleasance where it is possible to see such acts as **Coelbeg**, if you don't fancy what is on at the Folk Festival.

I hope that Jack Evans, the new artistic director maintains Archie Fisher's high standard in future years - he has a lot to live up to!

GREM DEVLIN

TOURS NEWS

Shave The Monkey whose excellent cassette "The Unseelie Court" was reviewed by Kath Holden in the last issue of Folk North-West, are embarking on a North West Tour in February next year. They still have some dates to fill in - Monday 15/2/93, Wednesday 17/2/93 and Friday 19/2/93. They may be also available to do a ceilidh on Saturday 20/2/93. If you are interested, phone me for further details.

The next three act, all interested for work in the region are, in fact all locals. However, there must be a few clubs out there who have never had the pleasure of seeing them, so I think they deserve a mention.

1 Lennon & Higham

Just released their new CD/Album/Cassette. Great local duo performing own songs, others and traditional material. Highly Recommended.

2 Raphael Callaghan & Christine Purnell

For me, the highlight of the recent Liverpool Folk & Arts Festival. Raphael's superb blues guitar/ Harmonica playing, plus his inspired singing, just has to be heard to be believed. Finally getting the recognition he so richly deserves - he has been around a long time, playing with the likes of Alexis Korner in the sixties and forming a well respected partnership with Jim James. Also played with local band "Breakdown" Now in partnership with Christine, who plays a mean bass. Well worth booking.

3 Ken Nicol and Chris While

I should not have to tell anyone about these! Brilliant performers/ songsmiths in their own right. As a duo they are as good as any I have ever seen. Shortly to represent the North West in the "Across the Divide" concerts in the South of England, maybe they are not appreciated enough in their own area. I have just returned from the Guernsey International Folk Festival where they went down an absolute storm - Last year Ken was the highlight of the festival. His songs, superb guitar playing and singing (He's also an accomplished deep sea fisherman!) aligned to Chris' stunning vocals and guitarwork (she also writes the most amazing songs) are a joy to behold. Lots of recorded material available, including a recent "Face to Face" live cassette. Should be on tour permanently!

Tony Gibbons

For details ring Roger on 0704 29118

**BOTHY
FOLK SONG
CLUB
CEILIDH**
(Established 1945)
ST. JOHN'S HALL
Wright St. Southport

FRIDAY 30th OCTOBER, 1992.
"FLORIDA"

FRIDAY 18th DECEMBER, 1992.
"SHAKE A LEG"

FRIDAY 26th FEBRUARY, 1993.
"PEEPING TOM"

FRIDAY 30th APRIL, 1993.
"POLKA BILLY"

FRIDAY 25th JUNE, 1993.
"WET RAKE"

WIGGINCEILIDHS

Advance ticket prices Waged/unwaged

Friday September 11th	THE MELLSTOCK BAND Music and dances from Thomas Hardy's Wessex Caller: DAVE TOWNSEND	£4.00/£3.50
WEEKEND SPECIAL		
Friday October 9th	Final of the "WIGGIN CEILIDHS" dance competition with SARABAND Venue: INCE PUBLIC HALL SPONSORED BY "ZIMMY'S RECORDS"	See below
Saturday October 10th	Daytime workshops in French music and dance workshops followed by an evening ceilidh with ROSBIF Venue: THE BEER ENGINE, POOLSTOCK, WIGAN	See below
Tickets: Weekend £6.00 Friday Evening £3.00 Saturday Afternoon £1.50 Saturday Evening £4.00 Saturday Lunchtime FREE Concessions available		
Friday November 13th	Returning by popular request COCK AND BULL Caller: BOB ADAMS	£4.00/£3.50

INCE PUBLIC HALL
 INCE GREEN LANE,
 INCE IN WAKFIELD,
 WIGAN
(near the Railway Station)

All prices are for advance ticket sales - 50p extra on the door
 BOOK FOR ANY THREE CONSECUTIVE CEILIDHS AND
 SAVE £1.00

Tickets/details from
 Peter or Alison
 on 0942 816569

TOM ROBINSON

"LIVING IN A BOOM TIME"

appearing In Concert at
LIVERPOOL IRISH CENTRE

Tuesday 15th September, 8:30 pm

*Tickets £5 from the Irish Centre
Mount Pleasant, tel. 051-709-4120*

NEW ALBUM OUT SOON ON COOKING VINYL

LIVE CONCERT REVIEWS

"ACROSS THE DIVIDE"

The Federation Concert

16th May, at The Douglas Gate, Wigan

This concert, held to link the NWWFC and Southern Counties Folk Federation artist exchange tours, promised to be a "special" event from its conception and, true enough, entertained the punters with a well balanced concert style event, coupled with a club atmosphere.

Wigan residents, **Lawrence Hoy** and **Joan Blackburn** opened the night before **Phil Capper** took over the formal compering and introduced us to **GEORGE WILSON** in his final appearance of the week. George, originally from the North East and at the end of his week of the "exchange", had a relaxed and friendly style, a nice line in patter and a well-balanced selection of songs. He finished his set with a blinder - "A Tolpuddle Man", written by Graham Moore (definitely a songwriter to watch out for).

PETE WATKINSON, who was making his North West debut, is a resident at the Railway FC in Fratton, Portsmouth - one of my old haunts in the 70's - and had an endearing style, with a confident approach and an interesting selection of material, which varied from trad. to Monty Python! He was rumoured to be very nervous, but this didn't come across in the performance.

The final act, providing the NW link of the exchange, were **KEN NICOL** and **CHRIS WHILE**: on this occasion, appearing as a duo. Together, on numbers such as Stephen Bishop's "One More Night", they exude an artistic chemistry which is exciting to witness. Highlights for me were Chris's "Living Apart" (the most optimistic of separation songs) and "Lonely Morning Blues", another While masterpiece with Ken's pyrotechnic blues lead guitar.

Sadly, Pete's set was badly disturbed by flashing lights as the bar staff experimented haplessly with the "background ambience" and the noise from the public bar was at times so loud, that the performers, although amplified, could not be heard above it. Also, it was after 11 pm before Ken and Chris took to the stage, due to a protracted raffle.

At the end of the day, it was good value entertainment and bodes well for future Federation Exchanges. Special thanks to Phil Capper for his organisation.

GREM DEVLIN

TOM ROBINSON

Sandbach Arts Festival

Sandbach Town Hall, 1st May

I found out about this, when an excited Chris While called to say, that she had been booked to do support. Well, it had been several years since I had seen Tom and I never need persuading to listen to Chris, so how could I stay away?

The evening was the opening event to the very first Sandbach Arts Festival, complete with street entertainment, concerts and pub sessions. As the compère put it, "If you live in Sandbach, you'll know just what this means!".

First up was **Chris While**. Her singing gets better and better and, coupled with her effervescent stage presence, she provided the perfect foil for the "main event". There were obviously quite a few supporters who had seen her at a recent club gig in Sandbach and they were lapping it up. When Ken Nicol joined her on stage, the atmosphere was buzzing. The only drawback was, that the bar area, which overlooks the concert hall, is not totally screened off, so an element of intrusive noise became a problem for those who wanted to listen, but Chris rose above that and left everyone delighted.

Tom Robinson opened up with something like "Right, this is the format. I sing lots of songs, you scream for more, I come back on and sing '2-4-6-8 Motorway' and everyone's happy. OK?" Audacious, but brilliant. New material blended with old and he demonstrated perfectly how to make use of one guitar (or one electric piano) and one voice in a truly professional show. Many a so-called professional solo performer in our clubs would have done well to witness this. All the old stage presence was there, with the cheeky smile and the bold statements. "You Tattooed Me" told how one person can completely blow you away and was possibly the most powerful song in the set.

As the end of the evening approached, he went from merely superb to stunning. His old anthem "Glad To Be Gay" had even more meaning now, considering his own current sexual situation and the whole audience was singing along. Encores were inevitable and he invited Chris and Ken to join him for part of this "extra" session, before reverting to a final solo song.

I had gone expecting to enjoy Tom. I had not expected to enjoy him so much.

PHIL CAPPER

THE "BREAKTHROUGH" CONCERT

A Charity Concert, 30th May 1992

How many went to church on Saturday, 30th May? The congregation, of which I was lucky enough to be part, numbered around 250. All those in attendance could be classed as true believers and our faith in what we hoped to witness was not misplaced. This particular gathering of the faithful occurred in Preston, which was only right and proper, as the man leading the "choir" was that much-travelled son of the town, **Ken Nicol**.

The venue was the old church of St. Peter, now tastefully converted into the Polytechnic Arts Centre, who kindly waived their fees (God bless 'em) as the worthy cause we fortunate ones donated £5 each towards was **BREAKTHROUGH**, a charity close to the Nicol family's heart.

Charlie Monck arrived from Basingstoke to get the show on the road. First on stage were **Plan B**, a Manchester couple whose excellent harmonies, backed by an unfussy guitar, set the standard for what was to follow. Next up - **Chris While** from Southport. Her dulcet tones sent a shiver down the spine. Great voice! "More! More!" we cried, already starting to feel clapped out, but the next guests were already heading stagewards.

Jez Lowe, together with **Bev Sanders** and two new (to me) members made up the **Bad Pennies**. Their highly successful appearance at last year's Fylde Folk Festival had included Rob Kay, but the new line-up works well. A great set in the time allowed.

A buzz of excitement heralded "the man", introduced by **Stanley Accrington** as "**Isaac Guillory**, from the World". Those amongst the audience who'd never seen him perform live were completely spellbound - Isaac at his very best.

Mike Silver, from Bristol, whose over-long set included a great rendition of "Where Would You Rather Be Tonight" brought us to the top of the bill, who was introduced by a pretty little girl as her "Uncle Ken".

Able assisted by the sweet fiddle of **Hugh O'Donnell** (Living In The Same City) and **Steve Conway** playing pedal steel (Last Night In Paris), **Ken Nicol** was at his brilliant best. Now Isaac was on back stage with him - two Master Musicians playing together as only they can. Then everyone was back, singing and playing together. Unrehearsed and unpaid, they loved it. So did we. Ken's encore "I Hate To Say Goodbye" was a poignant finish to wonderful evening.

Nick Dow, who recorded the concert for radio, had the unenviable task of editing it down to 30 minutes. Rather you than me, Nick!

TERRY ROBERTSON

Gregson Lane & Preston Folk Clubs

Present

FESTIVAL DAY '3'

with

Jez Lowe & The Bad Pennies

Strawhead

Ken Nicol

Stanley Accrington

Carl Hogsden & Jane Thelfall

Plus a GRAND CEILIDH with

Cats in The Village

at

St. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL

Bamber Bridge, Preston

on

**Saturday 21st
NOVEMBER 1992**

Midday - Midnight

Licensed Bar Food & Drink

Childrens Entertainment Singarounds

TICKETS £6 (Discounts for Block Bookings)

Available from : Gregson Lane Folk Club,
Preston Folk Club

or "The Music Cellar", Fox Street, Preston

Information from :

Tels: 0254 853929 and 0772 454593

KEEP MUSIC LIVE!!

RECORD REVIEWS

THE OLD LAMB AND FLAG

(SONGS OF PRESTON & ITS GUILD)

THE JOLLY FINE COMPANY COMPANY

DRAGON RECORDS DRGN CD921

The Jolly Fine Company Company (no it is not a typing error!) consists of Greg Butler, Malcolm Gibbons, Ken Howard, Chris Polington, Clive Pownceby, Pat Ryan, Tom Walsh and Alison Younger and they have recorded a selection of songs providing a history of Preston from around 1300 to the present day. As you might gather from the performers there is certainly an influence of Strawhead here, but not overly so and all the performers are able to show their own individual styles.

Several of the songs will be familiar I am sure to readers of this magazine, although some of the arrangements may be unfamiliar. The songs are all well chosen to illustrate the history of Preston and are all traditional except for the "Battle of Preston" which fills a gap in the potion related to the Civil War and which I would not have known was not traditional except for the notes.

Favourite Songs? It almost seems a pity to choose, but I will anyway. "Lord Derwentwater", an excellent ballad; "Flodden Field" here set to Flowers of the Forest; "The King enjoys his own again" with a rousing chorus and "The Handloom Weavers Lament", which is probably better known "Ye Tyrants of England".

What more can I say except to tell you that it comes as CD or cassette with its own booklet describing the songs and giving a brief history of Preston as a backdrop to the songs. An excellent CD and a wonderful record of Preston and its Guild and for many years to come. Go out and buy a copy!

Nigel Firth

IAN BRUCE "OUT OF OFFICE"

FELLSIDE FECD 85

I remember many years ago having a late night "session" in a small holiday cottage in Sidmouth during a festival week. Amongst the assembled and talented company was Ian Bruce, whom I had met previously through his brother Frazer - at one time well known on the folk scene. Ian impressed me with his fine voice and virtuoso guitar playing that night, and as I listen to this CD that early impression remains.

Although some material sounds superficially close to "easy listening" pop, Ian's writing has much more depth especially with songs such as "All Roads Lead to Home" and "The Touch and the Go", both co-written with Ian J Walker, and his own "Labyrinth of Chance".

Not all the songs are heavy going and he lightens the atmosphere with "Rattlers" which has some startling special effects to say the least, and he brings out the pathos in "Butlins Girl".

There is a definite "country" influence in some of the songs such as "Jimmy Come Solo" and, appropriately, "Night Time Cowboys", which are both well sung, although I found his mid-Atlantic accent slightly overwhelming on these tracks.

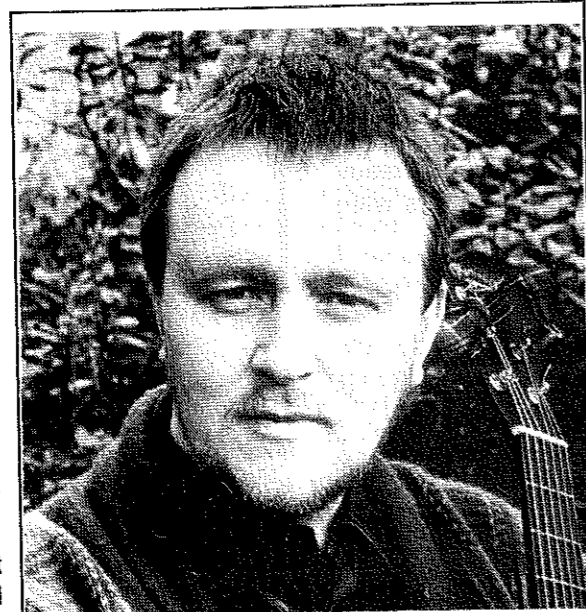
There is but one non-Bruce penned track, Utah Phillip's

"All Used Up" which is already becoming better known in the contemporary folk world. This is obviously one of Ian's favourites judging by the conviction of his delivery of the song.

He is ably supported by a confident and talented band of musicians and singers, including Marysia Lessnau (whose super voice reminded me of Fiona Simpson) and Tom McConville. It is excellently recorded and produced by Paul Adams at Fellside.

I might personally be an old "traddy" at heart, but this sort of contemporary folk is so good I find no problem in listening to such obvious professionalism.

Derek Gifford



Ian Bruce

Mike Lennon and Steve Higham "LENNON AND HIGHAM"

Streetwise Records STW CD007

Three years in the making, this new album has hit the streets at last. Both of them are well known around the North-West folk scene and have been entertaining us for years.

First impressions are often the keenest. I often feel that the order of tracks for an album should be approached similarly to a live set and I do not feel they have picked their strongest opener, especially when I have seen them open with track 9 at one gig.

Throughout the album, I found myself thinking "that sounds like", with the missing name ranging from Simon & Garfunkel, through CSN&Y to The Beatles. Several of the songs had the feel of a Graham Nash style of construction. The harmonies are superb and the instrumentation is fine. A few of the tracks fared less well with full backing than as live numbers, but, generally, the songs are well written, well played and well sung. I particularly liked "Loving You" and "City Of Dreams" which deals well with the drugs issue. "She's The One" bubbles along very nicely about love at first sight, but possibly the best song on the album is "Morning Rise". World War One is a well-worn theme, but Mike's lyrics never get drawn into cliches or maudlin stereotypes and the song rises above others of the genre quite easily.

Overall then? I would say, that three years has been too long to wait for this one. There are some excellent songs. Not a duff one in there, really. And it improves with a second hearing, which helps. Get out to see them and buy the album while you are there. You will probably be glad you did!

Phil Capper

ROLLING AGAINST THE FLOW

BRADBURN AND LUSH

"Poisoned Berries" PMEC 2081.

PAUL ROXBURGHE AND JULIE WOLFE

"Perfect Strangers"

Hmm, you CD owners with your shiny silver discs might think that you've got us cassette devotees outmoded but we'll have the last laugh. When Digital Compact Cassette is launched later this year, at least there will be "backwards compatibility" and in the meantime we just press to play.....

First up is BRADBURN AND LUSH with "Poisoned Berries" PMEC 2081. "Boy-girl guitar/vocals duo" as the local Labour Club would no doubt bill them, Susan and David respectively turn in their tape debut with this one, redolent of the curates egg. There are some good ideas at work here but equally moments of naffness particularly when it comes to David's 29

vocals. He is fine on harmonies - "Henry My Son" and "The Jolly Tinkerman" frinstance, but a version of Suzanne Vega's "The Queen and The Soldier" will not win any prizes for pitching or vocal technique. The guitar playing though is pretty good throughout with moments of pure inspiration such as using Black Sabbath's Paranoid riff to propel along the done-to-death "Husbands Got No Courage In Him".

They are somewhat eclectic when it comes to choice of material, Susan's voice is pleasant enough but "neither disappointing nor particularly exciting" is not a description that will persuade record stores to place repeat orders.

You would be delighted though, if, as attendees of Carlisle's Folk/Blues club must be, they were residents and this release will be a fine keep-sake if such is the case. Again a nice souvenir too, of a night on the Bulgarian Red if they had just played the wine bar round the corner. Otherwise if we are to judge "Poisoned Berries" as a commercial offering then more originality is called for. Their "Dimming Of The Day" draws faithfully on the Thompson version likewise a reading of "Same Situation" copies the same arrangement as Ms Mitchell.

Worlds are not being ignited here.

There are fires building though on PAUL ROXBURGHE AND JULIE WOLFE's "Perfect Strangers" - a worthwhile collection of Paul's wistful songs centred around themes of love in all its diverse stages. There is an overall "down" feel which is not unappealing to this old misery guts, but perhaps you'd have to be embroiled in a failing relationship crisis to get the most out of this tape. It is probably best played with a broken heart around midnight, when it is raining. "Best Thing Around" captures that late night, last-bar-closing mood with a nice desolate texture, whilst "Need You Tonight" is typical of Paul's well-crafted melodies.

Julie is a strong singer with a fine timbre to her voice (more flexible than her partner's) and Paul's guitar is tasty, recorded with a good metallic emphasis on the treble end of the scale. The vocals are mixed well up-front with a hint of reverb and I liked this one a lot. With repeated playings a few earlier reservations evaporated and I'd like to see 'em live (they are based in Todmorden). A new Clive and Chris they ain't (yet) and some of the lyrics I found clichéd - phrases such as "helping me make it through the night" and "love's an illusion" are hardly novel. At times too, the imagery tends towards the stylised but there IS potential here for development - the two have only been together for a year. Given time Roxburgh & Wolfe could be quite something. Ring 0706 817533 for copies of the tape and more info.

Neither of these releases will change the course of Folk music (or any other type of music) but then I don't suppose they expect to, but hang on, neither did Elvis Aaron Presley that day in Memphis long ago and far away and look what transpired. Hmm.

Clive Pownceby

BERNARD WRIGLEY "Buggerlugs"

Loofy Records - 011 (Cassette/CD)

Bernard Wrigley has always been something of an enigma; at once vulgar and base, exemplified in such tasteless renditions as "Let's All Shout for Hughie!" and the "Heavy Breather" and in the next moment poignant and sentimental with creative and touching songs like "When Granny Sang Me Songs" and "Young Molly Kershaw".

On the instrumental side he can outplay many a fine guitarist, as illustrated in his self-penned "Trials of Slody" and in Rogers and Hart's "Blue Moon", the sequel to which is a medley of Wrigley voices.

In lighter, but less vulgar vein, come "Buggerlugs Loves Sugar Butty" - with almost naive lyrics - "Our Bill and the Concrete Mixer" (an old joke but a new tune) and "Constable Oh Constable" which is a dig at the bobby on the beat without the malicious venom that some songwriters have employed in the past.

His "old" mate Dave Dutton co-wrote many of the compositions, but Bernard's inimitable style makes them unmistakably "Wrigleyish" (new word!). He even manages to emulate a "traditional" style with "The Pit Brow Lassies" and "Basque Whalers".

Being a Bolton lad, "The Only Place for Me" (Bolton - of course) was almost mandatory, even if it is a fairly awful song. There's even a tribute to Charlie Chaplin in "The Little Fellow".

On this, his umpteenth album, Bernard is accompanied by the Ganamar Band which includes such ly renowned musicians as Andrew Bilgerry and Linda Berrygrew to mention but two; if the social security get hold of it, it will spoil his aliases for years to come.

It is available on cassette or CD and represents Wrigley at his best and worst depending on your point of view in terms of the material. Buy it for a loved one - or your worst enemy.

Kered Droffig

THE WHISKEY PRIESTS "Timeless Street"

Whippet Records WPTCD6P

I found this CD quite an experience. I have never seen The Whiskey Priests and I have not met anyone else who has seen them. Consequently I felt at some disadvantage and certainly come to this CD without any pre-conceived notions. It is definitely different. The power of the driving rhythm on many of the tracks is quite startling. The playing is of a high standard and the arrangements have a feel of originality. Generally it bounces along with great vitality - all instruments given full value. The result is a wholehearted rave. The lead voice in the early tracks was unusual and I found it took time to tune into the accent. I particularly enjoyed "Goblins"; The arrangement of "Jim Jones" 30

was imaginative - were they actual whiplashes? "The Raven" was powerful and beautifully sung. The more I listened the more I enjoyed.

The sound is bright and the instruments clear. One minor quibble - I thought that the vocals could have been a little further forward. Fans of The Whiskey Priests will enjoy it and I look forward to seeing them.

Joe Roberts

The Best of Bluegrass 1990

Rounder Records CD AN 07

Normally, a 1990 album would not be getting reviewed here, but this is something special on a number of counts. It is a "sampler", that is, it has a selection of some of the best bluegrass singers and bands in America on it. It is an import, hence it has only just arrived. The main reason for its importance is that you get this great selection for only £8! If you want one album to help you discover bluegrass music, then this is it. 22 tracks, 65 minutes of Ricky Skaggs, Alison Krauss, Lyle Lovatt, The Johnson Mountain Boys, Bela Fleck etc etc.

You can order it from Jan Jerrold, 10 Bishops Wood, Goldsworth Park, Woking, Surrey GU21 3QA (0483 726110). He has just produced a catalogue of bluegrass albums, and there are some real bargains to be had. Discounts for BBMA members.

Linda Wright

THE NEW ALBUM



KEN NICOL & CHRIS WHILE

Face To Face

out now on cassette

Available for just £6 from SHOLA MUSIC,
4, Friary Close, Kirkham, Preston, Lancs., PR4 2XH

OFFICER	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
Chairman	Dave Day	170; Liverpool Road South; Maghull; Liverpool	051 526 6661
Treasurer	Kath Holden	7; Sunleigh Road; Hindley; Wigan	0942 58459
Editor	Nigel Firth	11B; Bolton Road; Aspull; Wigan	0942 833293
Assistant Editor	Phil Capper	4; Friary Close; Kirkham	0772 684537
Publicity	Phil Capper	4; Friary Close; Kirkham	0772 684537
Advertising	Paul Holden	7; Sunleigh Road; Hindley; Wigan	0942 58459
Tours Liaison Officer	Tony Gibbons	2a; Moss Lane; Maghull; Liverpool	051 526 6522
Membership Secretary	Joan Blackburn	66; Ince Green Lane; Ince; Wigan	0942 321223
Minutes Secretary	Joan Blackburn	66; Ince Green Lane; Ince; Wigan	0942 321223
Youth Activities Coordinator	Linda Wright	266; Todmorden Rd.; Sharneyford; Bacup	0706 877090
Development Officer	Linda Wright	266; Todmorden Road; Sharneyford; Bacup	0706 877090

THE AIMS OF THE FEDERATION SHALL BE

The promotion of Folk Music in the North-West by:-

1. The 'block booking of artists for tours.
2. Joint publicity of the Member Clubs
3. The general support of the Member Clubs
4. Joint organisation of Concerts & Ceilidhs in the area.
5. The support of Festival Organisers in the area.
6. The organisation of events to attract the 'under 18s'.



DAY/CLUB	TIME	CLUB ADDRESS	ORGANISER	PHONE NO.
SUNDAY				
ARNcliffe	8.30 pm	Fighting Cocks Hotel; Promenade; Arnside	Steve Black	0524 761823
BOTHY	8.00 pm	Blundell Arms; Upper Aughton St.; Birkdale	Clive Pownceby	051 924 5078
FLEECE FOLK	8.30 pm	The Fleece Hotel; Highgate; Kendal	Christine Britton	0539 732647
LLANDUDNO	8.30 pm	The London Hotel; Upper Mostyn Street; Llandudno	Mel Bowman	0492 622049
LEIGH	8.00 pm	St. Joseph's Sodality Club; Chapel St.; Leigh	Iheresa Ioolley	0942 842226
PAVILION	8.30 pm	The Pavilion; Main St.; Billinge	Bernie Forkin	0744 53058
THE ALBION	8.30 pm	Albion Hotel; Albion Street; New Brighton	A. Sims	no phone
MONDAY				
NORWICH	8.30 pm	The Toll Bar; Norwich; b	Joyce Riding	0257 792304
MONDAY MUSIC	8.00 pm	Bulkeley Hotel; Castle Street; Beaumaris	John Harley	no phone
POYNTON	8.00 pm	Poynton Folk Centre; Park Lane; Poynton	David Brock	061 483 6521
PRESTON	8.15 pm	The Unicorn; North Road; Preston	Hugh O'Donnell	0772 745498
TRITON	8.30 pm	The Liverpool; James Street; Liverpool	Jooreen Rickart	051 256 6180
TUESDAY				
ARKWRIGHT'S	8.30 pm	Arwrights' Alehouse; Vallets Lane; Bolton	Charles Fyson	0204 887970
BLACK HORSE	8.30 pm	Black Horse; Grange Rd. West; West Kirby; Wirral	Brian Jones	051 648 5117
FROG & FERRET	8.30 pm	The Frog & Ferret; 4; Uat Market; Nantwich	Jan Phillips	0270 629324
MAGHULL	8.30 pm	Hare & Hounds; Maghull; b	Dave Day	051 526 6661
TILSTON	8.30 pm	The Garden Arms; Tilston; Cheshire	Martin Green	0829 250516
TAP & SPILE	8.30 pm	The Tap & Spile; Hope Street; Kochdale	Bill Tucker	0706 35058
WARRIN VALLEY	8.30 pm	Grapes Hotel; Croston; Nr. Preston	Mark Dowling	0695 576215
WEDNESDAY				
BLACKBURN	8.30 pm	Foundry Arms; Birley St.; Blackburn	C Clayton	0254 201930
RUNCORN	8.30 pm	Castle Hotel; Halton Village; Runcorn	Bob O' Callaghan	051 424 5367
WHITE SWAN	8.00 pm	White Swan; Green Street; Fallowfield	Anne Morris	061 881 8274
8.45 at the SWAN	8.45	The Swan Hotel; (by traffic lights); Kirkham	Phil Capper	0772 684537
THURSDAY				
BURNLEY	8.15 pm	The Queen's Head; Curzon St. (Near Station); Burnley	Rod Finlayson	0282 59784
COCKERMOUTH	8.30 pm	The Barn Hotel; Station Street; Cockermouth	Terry Haworth	0900 604765
DARWEN	8.30 pm	The Kiosk; Sunnyhurst Woods; Darwen	Chris	0254 706318
FLEETWOOD	8.30 pm	Steamer Hotel; Queens Terrace; Fleetwood	Dave Kyan	0253 876351
BULK at the BAIT	8.30 pm	The Douglas Gate; Orchard Street; Wigan	Joan Blackburn	0942 321223
GREGSON'S LANE	8.30 pm	St. Joseph's Social Centre; Gregson Lane; Houghton	Graham Dixon	0254 853929
HASKAYNE	8.30 pm	The Ship Inn; Haskayne; Nr. Drmskirk	Ian Lupling	0695 579545
NEW LEVELLERS	8.30 pm	The Flying Picket; 24; Hardman St.; Liverpool	Pat Murphy	051 480 6579
MAGAZINE	8.30 pm	Magazine Hotel; Magazine Lane; Wallasey	Jack Coutts	051 220 0152
THE BUDDIE SHOP	8.30 pm	Railway Hotel; Heatley; Lymm	Graham Sowerby	0925 65503
THE BUZZ	8.30 pm	Southern Hotel; Mauldeth Rd. West; Manchester 21	Agraman	061 449 7482
FRIDAY				
BEE	8.30 pm	Bee Hotel; Bodfer Street; Rhyl	Dave Costello	0745 332488
NORTHWICH	8.30 pm	Harlequin Theatre; Queen Street; Northwich	Sarah Burdon	0606 48577
POTTERIES	8.00 pm	The Albion Hotel; Old Hall Street; Hanley; Stoke-on-Trent	Jason Hill	0782 813401
RED LION	8.30 pm	Red Lion Hotel; Wigan Road; Westhoughton	Pat Battv	0942 812301
SATURDAY				
BREWERY ARTS	8.30 pm	Brewery Arts Centre; 122a; Highgate	John Smyth	0539 25133
BURY	8.00 pm	White Lion; Bolton Street; Bury	Charles Fyson	0204 887970
MECHANICS	8.30 pm	Burnley Mechanics; Manchester Road; Burnley	Ian Wells	0282 30005
POYNTON	8.30 pm	Poynton Folk Centre; Park Lane; Poynton	David Brock	061 483 6521
SOUTHPORT ARTS	8.30 pm	Southport Arts Centre; Lord Street; Southport	Neil Johnstone	0704 40004

The Federation Clubs

HOE - DOWN

in aid of Lancashire C.P.R.E.

at

MAWDESLEY VILLAGE HALL

on

FRIDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER
8.00pm - 12.00pm

TICKETS AVAILABLE NOW

from: Council for the Protection of Rural England

Derby Wing
Worden Hall
Worden Park
Leyland
PR5 2DJ
Tel: (0772) 456181

C.P.R.E. Members: £3.50
Non-members: £4.50

Featuring

THE TURNPIKE BAND

from Leigh

Caller: Johnny Reader

HOTPOT SUPPER

(vegetarian catered for)

RAFFLE and WHISKY ROLL



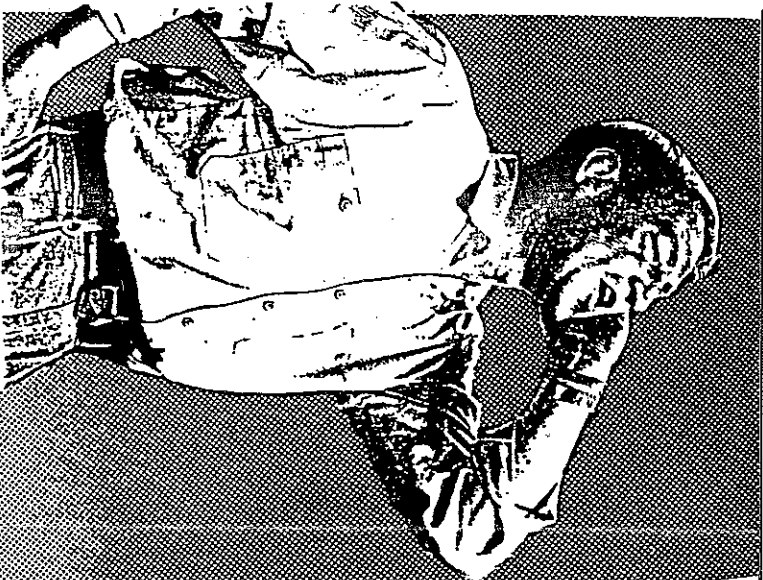
PETER BELLAMY

memorial day

Sat. 3rd October 1992

CONWAY HALL
Red Lion Square
Holborn
LONDON WC1

12.00 noon till 11.00 pm
2 min from Holborn tube
[Central & Piccadilly Lines]



artists include

The Copper Family
Louis Killen
The Watsons
Dave Swarbrick
John Kirkpatrick
Tony Rose
Tom McConville
Barry Dransfield
Maggie Boyle
Bob Bray
Jon Scaife
Damien Barber
Chris Sugden

exhibition, videos, films, concert, seminar sessions, singarounds, reminiscences, a special 'scratch' version of "The Transports", refreshments, bar and sales.

DAY TICKET: £5.00; EVENING TICKET [from 7.00 pm]: £5.00; COMBINED TICKET: £8.00

from Jenny Bellamy, 16 Agness Street, Kelghley, West Yorks, BD20 6AE tel: 0535 605714

PROCEEDS TO THE NATIONAL FOLK MUSIC FUND AND THE VAUGHAN WILLIAMS MEMORIAL LIBRARY

PLEASE SEND Day ticket(s) at £5.00 total

£

..... Evening ticket(s) at £5.00 total

£

..... Combined Ticket(s) at £8.00

£

enclose cheque for

name:

address: