FOIL North West

Autumn 1993

70p



CAUGHT ON THE HOP at FYLDE and MAGHULL Music Day

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

YOUTH PAGE DANCEABOUT

LIVE REVIEWS:
SALVATION JANE,
MARTIN PLEASS,
EAST LANCS CLOG
FOLK FESTIVALS:
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GIRVAN, WERNETH,
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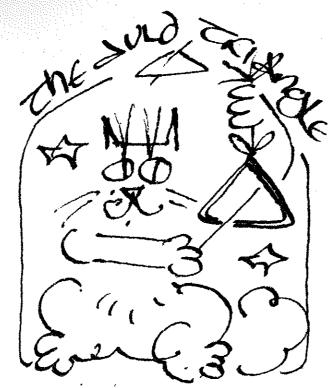
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EDITORIAL

WELCOME to the latest issue of Folk North-West!

A mixture of good and bad news this issue on the club front; all the new clubs we've reported over the last few issues are all still going, although whether they are all going well I can't say. On the down side, the Yarrow Valley Folk Club in Croston is to close on its tenth birthday!

YouthQuake continues to flourish under Jenny Shotliffe, and I hope this idea can be developed further to help us to cultivate a future audience for our folk clubs and festivals.

In November, Maghull is host to its first Day of Music, a venture that has brought many of our folk clubs together. It features a host of top names as well as many local club residents and YouthQuake. I hope you'll agree it is well worth giving your support to! Full details are in the advert on the back page of this issue.

That's all for this issue, I hope we will see you all again at the end of November for our Winter issue.

OUR NEXT ISSUE COVERS DECEMBER '93 TO FEBRUARY '94. THE CLOSING DATE FOR ALL **SUBMISSIONS IS OCTOBER 22nd. NOTHING WILL BE ACCEPTED** AFTER THIS DATE

> **Editorial Address:** 118, Bolton Road,

> > Aspull, Wigan

WN2 1XF

FAX / Telephone : 0942 833293

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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

LOVEJOY'S RUIN?

Having queued up for eight or nine hours when the antiques Roadshow visited Bolton's finely restored Albert Hall, clutching several family heirlooms of suspect origin, that I was convinced would provide me with the wherewithal to retire. Only to be told by the BBC's expert, (Struggling vainly to control his obvious mirth) that my "Victorian Neo-Classical water colours" were in fact, fakes. I have been gratified lately, to have had the pleasure of being surrounded by some genuine antiques of the folk world!

I refer of course, to the "lads" of the excellent "Th' Antique Roadshow" - one of the residents of the Preston Folk Club (held on Mondays at the Unicorn) and guests at many the folk club and festival held up and down the country.

Nick Caffrey, the fine-voiced singer with the group, has kindly provided me with their latest cassette release, hot off the presses, representing thirteen songs drawn from their wide repertoire. It features Nick on vocals, George Critchley on vocals and his unique and instantly recognisable 12-string guitar accompaniment, and Rob Malaney on vocals and concertina.

My personal favourites are the whaling song **lcy Acres** (where I suspend my anti-hunting sentiments and concentrate on the song's theme of separation and longing to return) expertly sung with some fine three part harmonies, and **Lady of Autumn** that I will probably, in the best of folk tradition, steal and include in my own repertoire.

There are also songs which evoke pleasant memories in a fellow antique like myself, including what sounds like <u>The Young Tradition's</u> version of **The Barley Straw** (not quite as seductive as Reg Holdsworth's water-bed, perhaps?) and **The Cuckoo**, which brought memories of <u>Shirley Collins</u> flooding nostalgically back.

The cassette entitled "Old Songs" should be available from the group at any of their gigs and will certainly be available from their club at the Unicorn, why not pop along and support what is an excellent club with a long tradition of providing a varied and enjoyable evenings entertainment?

I attended one of their singers nights recently and enjoyed it immensely as I did on the, unfortunately, poorly attended, guest night, when Artisan competently performed more of the highly interesting songs of the prolific and amiable Brian. (Brian's songs often remind me, stylistically, of Peter, Paul and Mary, who in those days of young, provided a thought provoking

alternative to the profound lyrics of "Freddy and The Dreamers and the incisive social commentary of Frank Ifield. I would have traded my shrunk-to-fit-Levi bell-bottomed underpants to have been in that trio, but then Peter, Paul and Nat does not have the same ring to it!

IS THIS THE BEST WAY TO OLDHAM?

Anyone who remembers music hall's precursor to Ben Elton, Max Miller, will be able to answer this dubious geographical query; finding Werneth Park did prevent a slight problem but I was sensible enough not to wind down my window and pose this question to any local likely lad anticipating his probable less than helpful response!

Werneth Park, again provided and excellently picturesque and gloriously sunny setting for Oldhams Werneth Folk Weekend.

Highlight of the free Sunday concert for some was Manchester singer/songwriter Clive Gregson - now without Christine Collister but still with the big hat to hide is testosterone ravaged scalp - but for me the afternoon belonged to Cythara, whose combination of hammered dulcimer and Celtic Harp made the hairs on many heads rise, the excellent harmonies of Th'Antique Roadshow and Bolton's fine small pipe player, the youthful and bizarrely sartorial Adrian Schofield, whose pierced ears, nose, lips and eyebrows, not to mention the pink mohican haircut, shook many's the Aran sweatered folkie (me included) out of there pipe-puffing complacency. I came across Adrian in some salubrious Bolton watering hole some days after the festival and he talked enthusiastically about his mentor the famous Billy Pigg. For my money Adrian can play as well as Davy Spillane and Ms Tickell and I do not just say that because he comes from Bolton (or because of the ten quid he promised me). If you do not believe me, catch one of his live gigs or book him for your club; he is a real virtuoso player who really does need to be seen live to be appreciated.

Also, congratulations to Leigh Folk Club's Theresa Tooley, whose won the Song Contest Championship and the Buzz's enterprising Agraman (the human anagram) who compared the afternoon concert (What did he compare it to? - ED). As both of these kind people have, in the distant past, booked me to perform at their respective clubs, I am pleased to be able to report that, in all other respects, their judgement remains unfuddled.

GIG OF THE CENTURY?

Not Bob Dylan performing an acoustic set including the song that inspired the Beetles to write Sgt Pepper, "It's Alright Ma - it's only Froggy goin a-courtin" but your very own Nat Clare (no satirical comments please Nigel!) who will perform acoustic, solo, without the aid of a safety net, accompanying himself on (as they used to write in the day's of legible sleevenotes) guitar and mouth harp and accompanied by 17 pints of foaming liquid, at the Cross Keys, Uppermill on Wednesday 15 September and at the Medlock Tavern, Daisy Nook, Droyslden on Sunday 19 September.

I'd love to see all my friends there; especially the ones that owe me money! (Whaddya mean "What friends"? - have you ever tried fingerpicking in a pair of Medlock Tavern gardening gloves?). Speaking of the Medlock Tavern (which in case you did not know is a free admission club), I had the rare privilege recently to be given bona fide permission to sing 'Sally Free and Easy' by the man who spent many years sleeping with Cyril Tawney - do not worry it is not leaked from the Sunday Sports Folk correspondent ("Julie Felix ate my Hamster"!?), I refer to Cyril's brother Archie, a regular singer at the Open Door; thanks Archie!

MONEY FOR NOTHIN

Well more admission for nothin' anyway. Saw the brilliant acoustic guitarist/singer Ken Nicol at the Unicorn in Preston a wee while ago for the first time and I was much impressed. This guy can make a guitar talk, sing, cry and think and, once again, the Sunday night gigs are free. I felt like throwing my little Yamaha FG 140 through the window (which is often how my audiences feel about me!).

Later in the evening (much later in fact), Ken was joined for a couple of numbers by the fine-voiced Chris While who as you may know has recently joined the much acclaimed Albion Band. Maybe Ken needs a new partner now Chris has gone? How about "Ken Nicol on guitar and Nat Clare holding his plectra? (Seems like a nice boy!).

WHO WATERS THE WORKERS BEER?

I only wish they had! I went to see one of the rare performances by that fine folk club act The Wassailers at Blackburn Beer Festival a few weeks back. Iv'e always thought The Wassailers one of the most musical and entertaining groups to grace the North West folk Scene (along with Jolly Jack) and I have had many enjoyable evenings listening to and singing along with both excellent groups.

Unfortunately, a beer festival is <u>not</u> the best place to perform as the "audience" usually has other things on its collective mind like "Why am I sitting on the ceiling?" or "God, if you let me live, I promise never to drink again!" Nevertheless despite this, the poor 5

acoustics and a troublesome P.A., The Wassailers - now augmented to a 5 piece - won the audience round, got everyone singing and earned a well deserved encore. Well done lads - now, please give me a hand getting down!

REMEMBER, REMEMBER THE 6TH OF NOVEMBER.....

Especially this year as no less than 10 folk clubs are involved in organising a 12 hour extravaganza "Day of Music" at Maghull Town Hall. So instead of rummaging through the embers of last night bonfire in search of that elusive jacket potato, dud banger or that best jacket and trousers that your little daughter thought would look so pretty on the Guy, get down to what is bound to be an excellent day from noon to midnight.

Headed by the aforementioned Christine Collister and Maxie and Mitch, there are at least nine other first rate singers and groups including Carolina Shout, Marie Little, Th'Antique Roadshow, (three mentions, must be worth a drink lads?) and many more.

All of this for a pathetic measly little £6.00 Brilliant Day, Brilliant Value. I'll be there for one, but do not let that put you off!

IT'S THE "F" WORD AGAIN

Three in fact, Fylde Folk Festival! Do not forget to get down to Fleetwood on the weekend following the bank holiday - that is the 3rd/4th and 5th September - to attend what is accurately described as "one of the last great summer musical events!"

Using up to 16 venues, employing over 60 acts, and involving nearly 200 people in 100 events, Fylde offers the very best in traditional and contemporary music, song and dance. If the closest you've got to Fylde is strumming Bram Taylor's guitar - then do yourself a favour and have a memorable weekend.

ROSIE OH ROSIE

If anyone out there (besides Nigel!) is old enough to remember Don Partridge and is blessed with D.I.Y skills then I need your help. I have; one bass drum, one foot pedal. What I require is someone who can magically transform this into a drum that can be mounted Partridge like on my back and played by a slight movement of my right leg without having to kick like a Tiller Girl. I would be grateful for any help, diagrams, answers on a postcard etc. Give us a ring.....

Cheers. See Ya next time.

Nat Clare.

Wiggin Ceilidhs

There have been some last minute changes to Wiggin Ceilidh's European Folk Music Promotions in the autumn. Jams, the band from East Berlin, have unfortunately had to cancel their British Tour, but they will be replaced by HOLDERLIN, billed as "Germany's top young Folk Band". As they will be presenting a concert and a dance, the venue has been changed to the Carnegie Hall, Westhoughton.

La Ciapa Rusa have altered the dates of their tour, so the concert at Leigh College Drama Centre has been put back from 6th to 20th November.

For other details see the advertisement elsewhere in this magazine or phone Peter and Alison on (0942) 816569.

Help please ...

As you already know, Maghull's first Day of Music is to be held all day on Saturday November 6th at Maghull Town Hall. The Federation have been offered a stall, which it is proposed will be a sort of Car Boot/ White Elephant/ Second Hand Records etc. stall, specialising in items connected however vaquely to folk music.

Can you help? Either with items for the stall, or to help man the stall on the day? If you can please contact Kath Holden on 0942 58459 or Nigel Firth on 0942 833293. All proceeds go to help Youthquake and struggling folk clubs.

The North-West Federation of Folk Clubs

Annual General Meeting/ Open Meeting

To be held at Blackrod Folk Club, Green Barn, Manchester Road, Blackrod Village on Wednesday September 15th at 8pm

All club organisers/ club attendees welcome to attend

More Information from Secretary: Linda Wright, 0706 877090

"youthquake!"

MUSIC WORKSHOPS FOR U21's - BY U21's

"I liked the way the emphasis was on session playing and not solos"

"I like the idea that everyone - even the teachers were under 21"

Next at Fylde Folk Festival contact Jenny Shotliffe 0695 623641

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 Monday 8.30-10.00pm

GMR (Manchester) FM 95.1 / MW 1458kHz

No Programme at present all (not even a "Roots Music" show)

BBC Radio Merseyside FM 95.8 / MW 1485kHz

FOLKSCENE presented by Stan Ambrose and Geoff

Tuesdays 6.00-7.00pm

On some local BBC Stations:

FOLK ON THE NIGHT NETWORK presented by Henry Ayrton

Sundays 8.30 - 10.00pm

(Currently this is only being broadcast by BBC Radio Cumbria and BBC Radio Leeds; Radio Cumbria is audible (just) on a clear night as far south as Wigan)

The Editor Comments:

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!

The few programs we have are under enormous pressure of limited budgets and restricted airtime. Please keep writing (and ring in as well when there is an opportunity), both to the programme itself and to the programme controller.

Popular programmes prosper!

DIARY CHAT

Where have all..

To paraphrase a well-known song - Where have all the folk clubs gone? Low attendance has obviously caused some to fold (the planned demise of Yarrow Valley at the end of 1993 is a sad example), but some organisers just don't answer their mail, and we end up printing details about clubs that unbeknownst to us have closed or changed location. The Diary dates pages are a little sparse this time due to a decision that unless we were recently updated with club info, the entry would be removed. All clubs should still be mentioned on the inside back page though (well, they are if the editor remembers to print the latest list, that is!).

EDITOR'S NOTE: You may also find your favourite club has been deleted because of non-payment of fees and for sold magazines

No-Smoking Clubs



Formby

Two Ships

Cockermouth

Bacup

Leigh ('Refrain from smoking' policy)

Access for Disabled



Two Ships Mechanics

Bacup

Change of Location?

Blackburn - Fernhurst Hotel, Bolton Rd, Ewood, Blackburn

Tap & Spile - same location, now called the Two Ships.

Who?

"Seldom Heard" are Dave Day, Dave Bresnan & Chris Wilson. (All right - who said 'if only that was true'?)

"LocTup Together": Chris Lock and Ian Tupling

Special Venues:

Bacup: Bacup Leisure Hall: Nov 19th 'Celtic Traditions' Concert with Garva and Parcel O'Rogues.

Bothy Ceilidhs at St John's Hall, Wright St, Southport : Oct 29th Hookes Law; Dec 17th The Barking Spiders et al.

Bury Concerts/Ceilidhs at The Met. Sep 18th ceilidh, Oct 16th Roy Bailey and John Kirkpatrick. Oct 30th Ceilidh with Band of the Rising Sun.

Fleetwood: Pre-festival concert Sept 3rd, at North Euston Hotel with Steve Tilston & Maggie Boyle.

Gregson Lane: Concerts in The University Arts Centre (presumably Preston?), compered by Brian Preston, - Sept 9th Ken Nicol & friends, Oct 30th Robb Johnson & Pip Collings & Dave Gardner, Nov 11th Gary Hall (ex-Stormkeepers), Dec 18th Chris Parkinson & Richard Grainger

Leigh: Barn dance Oct 1st at Formby Hall, Atherton, with Kamikaze Ceilidh Band.

Maghull: Concerts in Melling Tithebarn - Oct 2nd tba, Nov 27th Cuckoo Oak, Keith Hancock & Lee Collister etc.

Formby Guildhall Nov 13th Cream of the Barley with Maghull Folk Club.

Monday Music Nov 22nd Singers Night is at Ye Olde Bulls Head Hotel. Reason unknown.

Music Sessions:

Liverpool Irish Centre, Mondays.

Appleton Village Social Club, Appleton, Widnes, Wednesdays.

Jolly Anchor, Waterfoot, Rossendale, Thursdays

Extra Dates:

(SN = Singers Night)

Black Horse Dec 7th Windmill Folk, 14th Brass Tacks, 21st Tom Topping Band

Bothy Dec 5th SN, 12th Lennon & Higham, 17th Ceilidh with Barking Spiders, 19th Artisan Christmas Show, 26th Closed; Jan 2nd Closed, 9th Roger Downing, 16th Mike Silver, 23rd SN, 30th Chris While & Ken Nicol; Feb 6th Allan Taylor, 13th SN, 20th John Pearson, 25th Ceilidh with All Blacked Up, 27th SN.

Bury Dec 4th Roy Harris, 11th Christmas Ceilidh, 18th Pat Ryan & Ken Howard, 25th Closed; Jan 1st closed, 8th Stanley Accrington, 15th AGM & SN, 22nd Eddie Upton

Cockermouth Dec 2nd Terry Docherty, 9th SN, 16th SN, 23rd Christmas Party, 30th closed

Formby Dec 4th Seldom Heard, rest SN

8.45 at Lane Ends Dec 8th Hobson & Lees, 16th SN. 22nd Ken Nicol & Chris While, 29th Christmas Ceilidh with Caught on the Hop (tkt only)

Leigh Dec 5th SN, 12th Th'Antiques Roadshow, 19th Christmas Party; Jan 9th Richard Grainger & Portway Pedlars (Len & Barbara Berry), 23rd Artisan; Feb 20th Donal McGuire

Levellers Dec 2nd Neil Senior, 16th Christmas Party

Potteries Dec 3rd SN, 10th Ian Bruce, 17th Christmas Party; Jan 7th SN, 14th John Kirkpatrick, 21st SN, 28th Black Eyed Biddy; Feb 4th SN, 11th Tom McConville

Poynton Dec 4th Junior drama Panto, 10th Steeleye Span, 11th Bilbo Baggins - Ceilidh, 18th Cajun Night, 25th closed; Jan 1st closed, 8th Ceilidh, 15th Dave Goulder, 22nd Ceilidh, 29th Cajun Night; Feb 12th Ceilidh, 26th Ceilidh

Preston Dec 6th Keith Hancock, 13th SN, 20th Christmas Party.

Red Lion Dec 3rd Show of Hands 10th Jez Lowe, 17th,24th,31st closed; Jan 7th Artisan, 14th Roy Bailey

Southport Arts Dec 7th Steeleye Span

Tilston Dec 7th Kate Barfield & Tony Weatherall (Cajun), 14th SN, 21st Turkey Rhubarb

Two Ships Dec 7th Sara Grey, 14th SN, 21st Chris While.

White Swan Dec 16th Christmas Party with Stanley Accrington

Yarrow Valley Dec 7th 10th Anniversary plus closing down night!

Festivals

Sept 17 - 19 Langdale Charity Folk Festival.

Just go to The Dungeon Ghyll (Lake District) & listen for the music. A tiny festival, no big names, all proceeds to SARDA (Search & Rescue Dog Assoc.). Note - No caravan site nearby - campervans & tents only. Weekend ticket £12. Contact Mick Mead 05394 37466

Nov 6th Maghull Day of Folk -

Christine Collister, Maxie & Mitch, Carolina Shout, Hobson & Lees, Tom Travis Band. £6. Contact 051 526 6661.

Don't Forget:

Club Dates and other club information should be sent to:

Linda Wright, 266, Todmorden Road,

Sharneyford,

BACUP

OL13 9UR

TEL: 0706 877090

CLUB RESIDENTS:

ARNSIDE - Steve Back, John Harper, John & Angela Cowell, Frank Lewis, John Storer

8.45 at the LANE ENDS - Scold's Bridle, Rebecca Green

BACUP - Linda Wright, Pete Piwzuk, Len Quinn, Judith & Sue

BLACK HORSE - Brian Jones, Colin Henderson, Eddie Morris

BLACKBURN - Flatbroke

BLACKROD - Paul Wordsworth, John Dawson, Frank Wilson

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

BURNLEY - Steve Cook, Roy Kelly, John Harrison, Liz Brown, Ray Ashworth, Shelia Hill.

BURY - Malcolm Bowden, Shelia Carruthers, Alan & Jean Seymour, Charles Fyson, Chris Nash, Dave Weatherall

CASTLE - Wild Rover

COCKERMOUTH - Terry Haworth, Linda Lockney

FLEETWOOD - Spitting on a Roast

GREGSON'S LANE - Lammergeier

HORWICH - Joyce Riding, Tom Ferber

LEIGH - Theresa Tooley, Mike Dermody, Steve Andrews, Jim Moden etc.

LLANDUDNO - Highly Strung

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

LEVELLERS - Mark Butterworth, Dave Cox

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

POYNTON - Geoff Higginbottom, Holly Burton, Steve Finn, Pete Hughes, One Two Many, Andy Kinnerton, The Timekeepers, Dave & Helen Howard

PRESTON - Jane Treifall & Carl Hogsden, Rob Malaney, John MacAlister, Simon Booth, Ian Brownwood

RED LION - Auld Triangle

TILSTON - Geoff Edwin-Scott

TRITON - Sue Howard, Bob Davies, Len Nolan, Demure, Colin Wilson, Bob Tyrer

TWO SHIPS - Bill Tucker

WHITE SWAN - Maggie Billington, Patrick Gallagher, Phil Dunne, Carl & Jane, Maureen Hothan, Jon Harvison

YARROW VALLEY - Derek Gifford, Mark Dowding, Nothing Yet

CLUB REPORTERS

Poynton Folk Club

Poynton Folk Centre is a registered charity run by unpaid voluntary helpers. We are an independent club in our own premises and are currently in receipt of absolutely no council or arts council funding and no sponsorship deals. All events at the club are fundraising activities designed to help maintain our non-profit making organisation. We would appreciate any genuine offers of help in running the club.

Poynton does not appear to have suffered the worst effects of the recession as some clubs have, and, with the likes of Tom Paxton and Steeleye Span on our current programme, we have good reason to be proud that we are offering a more intimate and informal alternative to theatres and arts centres for big name entertainment.

However, the enormous overheads involved in the upkeep of our huge 155 year old building mean we can by no means be complacent about the future and would very much appreciate the continued support of Folk North West readers.

The club is almost invariably open on Saturdays and Mondays, with ceilidhs every 2nd and 4th Saturday in the month

Yarrow Valley Folk Club

Regrettably, the club will be closing with the December 7th meeting. Ironically, this will be the 10th anniversary of the club being run by Derek Gifford in the Mawdesley/Croston area so by having a Christmas/10th birthday/Closing night we hope to go out with a bang!

The main reason for closing is the old story of not enough bums on seats to keep the coffers topped up. Running the club once a month means that we tend to live hand to mouth with perhaps a sufficient float to make up shortfalls on the night, however with recent attendances barely reaching double figures for one reason or another it has been decided to cut our losses at Christmas.

Hopefully we won't lose money but we have had to cancel one of the guests for the Autumn and since the pub changed hands last year we have had to pay for the room which over 12 months takes enough money for a guest out of our funds.

Perhaps all is not dead. There is talk of running a session on the odd occasion in one of the other pubs in the village after the new year but this will be discussed at a later date.

Bacup Folk Club

A slight difference of opinion with management caused Bacup Folk club to move venues. (They wanted the jukebox and TV on in the adjoining bar, and we didn't - always a problem with clubs held in the pub proper.) Then, disaster! We were due to move to The Market Hotel, all the posters had gone up, when we heard that the landlord had gone bust!

A temporary move to Bacup Leisure Hall was followed by an official move to the Market Hotel. The first night there was a 'dry night', as the pub hadn't officially opened. Talk about a secret society - the pub doors were closed, so a notice instructed folk club members to knock on the window! Landlady Julie, a 'folkie' in her own right, also intends to hold folk evenings in the pub on other nights. The new room is all we could wish for - the acoustics are excellent and we can seat lots of people (35 was the maximum we could accommodate at The Flowers).

Singer/songwriter Linda Wright has now been joined in the residency by singer guitarists Len Quinn, Pete Piwczuk and new duo Judith & Sue.

Bothy Folk Club

We're now 28 years old and still in the same venue - whoever thought it would last this long?

Burnley Folk Club

What a great night we had recently. Skipton folk club residents 'Alchemy' entertained us one evening, with nice songs, shanties and excellent poetry. . A great trio, they provide something for everybody and we recommend them to any club organisers out there.

Travellers' rest, St. Helens

When is a Folk Club not a Folk Club? The answer to that may be, when it's a buskers club. And if you want to know what that is, come up to the Travellers Rest in St Helens on a Monday evening. But in case you can't make it for a few weeks yet, I shall attempt to give you a few hints, starting from how we began, and moving to Now We Are (Still) Very Young.

Folk music at the "Travs" has a long history - there was a folk club in former days - and Graham Dunn sings regularly in the bar every Sunday and Thursday evening. He had not been doing so for very long before people began to appear asking to sing; and what they sang was often of a highly "listenable" quality. Predominantly the bias was towards Irish music, but with a sprinkling of Dylan, a touch of Vin Garbutt and an injection of English song. It soon became obvious that what was emerging was far more than "our Jack getting up to do his song when he's tanked up enough", and it was not long before a group got together to start the Busker's club.

From the start, it was about people singing and playing together. People arranged themselves in a sort of loose circle, and played or sang from where they sat, with anyone being welcome to join in with an accompanianment if they had one to offer, and it was appropriate. Those with similar interests tended to group themselves together, so that we now have the "bluegrass section" well dug in, in one corner of the room, balanced by a tendency of the players of jigs and reels to congregate in the other. This gives some people a slight identity problem, like the fiddler who is happy playing "Orange Blossom Special" as he is with the "Belfast Hornpipe!"

Guests are booked when there is enough money to pay them, and on several occasions they have finished their set by inviting both singers and instrumentalist to join in with them, getting well into the spirit of the club.

Possibly the most valuable aspect of the Busker's Club is the way it has drawn a following from people who have regarded a folk club as a real option for an evening's entertainment. We suspect there is a lesson here for the folk scene in general - we can become rather cosy about "our" music, and even rather snobbish about what many people like to listen to, or join in with. But there's a lot of talent out there. and an even larger number of people who are ripe to be introduced to something new, starting from what they know and recognise. Come and meet some of them, any Monday!

Michael Bartram

HASKAYNE FOLK CLUB

Haskayne Folk Club, the Ship Inn, Haskayne, reopens on 2nd September after the Summer Break.

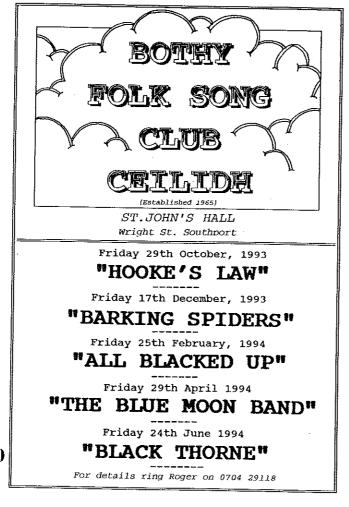
The residents, "LocTup Together", (Chris Lock and lan Tupling), and Lyn Thompson, would like to say thank you to those people who supported us over the past year. The year started fairly quietly with only a handful of people in the club in the first few weeks after Christmas, but the members gradually grew and steadied by mid July. When we closed the numbers were very healthy. Thanks to ALL those people who supported us regularly - no names - you know who

Thanks to the guests we had during the year, to Acoustic Reps. Jack Orion, Marie Little, Martyn Wyndham-Read, Graham Dunne, Ian Bruce and Bob Greenwood's Rythem Rascals. All superb artists who entertained us in fine style. Thank particularly to Seldom Heard (Dave Day, Dave Bresnan & Chris Wilson) who did an extended spot on our last night (Nice One Chaps!!)

A special night for our new season will be October 7th when we welcome the incredibly talented and humorous OLD ROPE STRING BAND. Seating space will be limited so come early! Phone lan on 0695 579545 for details.

We look forward to seeing all our customers again for the winter season and hope that we can welcome some new faces. Audiences, singers and musicians are welcome.

Chris, Ian & Lyn



YOUTH ACTIVITIES PAGE

Youthquake is a joy to run - We have loads of young people who are desperately keen to play folk music and they're giving it everything they've got. We took youthquake to Wigan Festival and to the Liverpool Folk and Arts Festival this summer, as you read this we'll be at Fylde Folk Festival. Young people need all the support they can get to stand a fighting chance,

they need that support from each other, from festivals and from you. If your local folk club is anything like mine there aren't many people under 30 in there, that is unlikely to change drastically in the near future but a bit of support and encouragement could still make a difference.

There will be a Youthquake day in September in Billinge and we will be at Maghull Day of Folk,

as always you can get details from me, my number is in the back cover. If there are enough requests we might even repeat the Youthquake rounders match or bowling trip (maybe we can even work out who won this time, there was far too much advanced cheating

to know where we were with the score - I think we've been teaching that side of things too well!!),

For anyone aged between 13 and 26 I have details of, and application forms for the National Youth Folklore Troupe of England, NYFTE. The founder Peter Mayes has been running events for young people for years some of which I went to myself. His intention is to have regional troupes which meet together in school holidays producing a performance deserving of the same respect as the National Youth Orchestra and including all forms of folklore (mumming, dancing, singing...). Anyone who is interested can get details from me.

I'll leave you with a comment from the inter Youthquake rounders match, some poor man who shall

remain nameless swung the bat at the ball with everything he'd got - completely missed and ended up in rather a nice pirouette. One of his team mates retorted "you were supposed to hit the ball, your'e not at a ceilidh now you know".

11

Jenny Shotliffe

YOUTHQUAKE

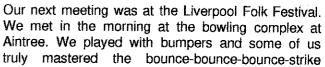
We met on Saturday afternoon at Wigan Folk Festival.

Around 1 pm Jenny organised a game of French Cricket, which was superseded by rounders. The

number of players grew and fell, and at the end there were 3 fielders, 4 batters and 2 bases. With an amount of skill you could hit the ball under a caravan, making fielding difficult.

Later, at 6pm, the musical members learnt several tunes with many instruments flute, guitar and violin seemed to dominate, but bouzouki and clarinet managed to fit in.

The teachers were very good and all of us enjoyed it.



method. There is one question who has all the number 8 balls?

Next we played Quaser. According to the computer, I was "Real Cannon Fodder", and with a score of 800 to match, it has a point. Also I hit members of my own team 7 times while they only hit me 4 times.

The afternoon workshop was very good. One of the guitar teachers gave me a lecture on the advantages of using a pick, while another, like me, rejected the idea. Learning by ear and tuition minus written music were the objectives, and the flautists, violinists and quitarists succeeded.

I am now looking forward to meeting everyone again at the Fylde Folk Festival.

Edward Peacock - age 11

CHAIRMAN'S RAMBLINGS

I've spent the last few weeks looking for money - it's quite a hard job. Once we had decided to hold our own first 'One Day' event run by Maghull Folk Club, we had to look for help in presenting it. We've been very successful considering there's a recession on and everything is being cut back.

First off our own Town Council gave us the Maghull Town Hall Complex free of charge, then we have managed to get financial support from Sefton Council's Cultural Fund, from the Foundation for Sport and the Arts and lastly from the North West Arts Board.

In each case you have to work out how to present your idea in the way the individual organisation wants to see it. That's basic advice, but how many fail to follow it and then complain when they get no help?

What we have come up with is advertised on the back page, and what's really pleasing is that we have managed to get so many local folk clubs involved in 'The Day'. If you can come along, come up and say hello. (Next year's is August 20th, 1994 - put it in your diary!)

Wigan was another super weekend, though I wasn't too impressed with Battlefield Band. Now, Barely Works - well, my heroes were well up to form! Garva and Brian McNeill were a revelation. Good on yer, Bernie. Redcar was another great weekend - great lineup, friendly stewards and an unflappable director!! Now if only they had a free circulating bus like Warkwick festival do - it's ideal for us 'old uns', especially when the campsite is 20 minutes walk from the main venue.

Each edition I try and tell you someone to watch out for. Well, this time it's a group with more than 30 members - Fossbrooks from Stockport - what great talent. They are an orchestra, and dance troupe, and much else. See them clog dance and play the fiddle at the same time. Great credit to whoever is responsible for guiding and developing them.

See you at Fylde in September and hopefully in Maghull in November, or in Melling in October or November.

Enjoy!

Dave Day.

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BOOKSHELF

THE JOSEPH KERSHAW MANUSCRIPT

THE MUSIC OF A 19TH CENTURY SADDLEWORTH FIDDLE PLAYER

INWAC Publishing 15 New Street, Uppermill, Nr Oldham Tel:- 0457 - 876506

I was sent this manuscript by Jamie Knowles, late of the "Tom Shepley Band" and now doing a sterling job with the "Band of The Rising Sun", playing and promoting the traditional music of Lancashire - mainly the Saddleworth/Oldham area. As I can't read a note of music (some would say can't play either!) I asked the renowned fiddle player Sean McNamara, leader of the Liverpool Ceilidh Band, to review the manuscript and offer his comments on it. Here's what he thought......Tony Gibbons.

My first reaction when I opened this book was very favourable. It is beautifully presented with a clear print of the music and is very well set out, making it easy to read the music. The foreword is an interesting introduction and whets the appetite to delve into the tunes which were played around Saddleworth more than 150 years ago. I was surprised to see so many familiar titles of tunes which are still being played, and more surprised to find that the arrangements are so similar to those in use today. Saddleworth must have been fairly remote in those far-off days (before the M62!), and its amazing how the Irish and Scottish tunes reached into the Pennines, and how tunes of local origin remains in the repertoire of today's musicians.

The notes at the back of the book about the various tunes are interesting, but are not complete. For example tune no 47 "Jocky to the fair", is a popular set dance for Irish Step dancers and is found in the O'Neill collection "The Dance Music of Ireland", which was collected from Irish musicians in Chicago, U.S.A., in the last century and published in 1907 in Chicago. There is very little difference in the arrangement. This is an interesting and unusual tune because there are the usual 8 bars in the first half, but 14 bars in the second half. The last bar in each half of the Kershaw manuscript is incomplete, and I would suggest that a dotted crotchet should be added t complete the bar.

Tune no 43 "Calder Fair." is recognisable as the popular nursery rhyme "Sing a Song of Sixpence", and some other tunes have a familiar theme.

I agree with the publishers claim that some of the tunes are very suitable for beginners and indeed the first tune is a nice, tuneful, easy jig. It would complement the book and assist all, if a cassette was produced to illustrate how the tunes should be played.

Sean McNamara

The Ceilidh Band Pack - By Robin Dunn, Ed. Alistair Anderson

Folkworks Publishing, 4 Black Swan Court, 69 Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 1SG Tel:- (091) 222 1717

The Ceilidh Band Pack enables children (or indeed adults) to start their own band.

It is a good tutorial for any musician for whatever instrument and however you learn your tunes. The book comes with a tape for those who find it easier to learn by ear and the music for those who find that way easier. If you are like me you can use a combination of both.

You can listen to the tape to get an idea of how the tunes sound. It has a tuning note and on the other side it has different instruments playing the same tunes but separately, so that people who may be finding it difficult don't get left out.

Each set has the details of the dance and how to call the steps. It is full of handy tips on playing and calling - and how to liven up the music or tone it down.

I found this form of playing great fun as an alternative to my usual classical music.

Using the Ceilidh Band Pack I found I could pick up the tunes very quickly although in some cases the tape is a bit fast and hard to understand in the more complicated parts.

The whole pack costs £10 and I believe it is great value for money - and a must for anyone starting a ceilidh band from scratch.

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Chris Coutts (14)

Hannah Coutts (10)

MYSELF WHEN YOUNG DID **EAGERLY FREQUENT.** By William Ganiford

(Available from Galliard Promotions, 19 Bentham LA1 4JX Rd. Lancaster,

Price £3.50 (p & p £4.00)

"Willie" Ganiford was just a child when Cecil Sharp, successfully fighting his corner against the rival approach to Folk by Mary Neal, founded the EFDS; and still a young teenager when, through his schoolteacher who was under Sharp's spell, he joined the Society and came to the notice of Douglas Kennedy. its director following Sharp's death. Now in his 80's and physically disabled for the last 15 years by a stroke, he has proved in this booklet that his memory is in no way impaired. Written in stages over 5 years. it contains dozens of "essays", each dealing with one of the many facets of his life as dancer, leader and musician - the last involving classical music no less than folk. Though autobiographical, the whole is not an autobiography, because the strands of his activities have been separated to suit his purposes; in periods of time they overlapped, and so the narrative is not continuous and references overlap also. Nonetheless it reintroduces partly forgotten people and events to those of us who knew William's excellence in one or more of those activities, and introduces all of us I would guess to aspects of that excellence which we had not met. He's a worthy holder of the Society's Gold Badge awarded in 1974.

William offers no personal comments on the changes in society generally during his lifetime which have inevitably been (and will continue to be) mirrored in the Society and its standing. It is for his readers to reflect on the losses and gains, their memories stirred by this record of his. As an aid to that stirring, this booklet is recommended to those who have not known him; those who have will surely want their copies in any case.

Tom Cook

"HOW TO PLAY FOLK FIDDLE" BY GEOFF BOWEN

published by Yorkshire Dales Workshops in Folk Arts

Book £7.50, Cassette £2.50, postage and packing

This is a lovely book, as captivating a read to the fiddle enthusiast as it is tutor. The first section of the book covers various subjects very clearly - bowing systems, tone, control of the bow, keys/modes, hold, drones, playing by ear... the explanations put so much into words, not just the technical side but musicianship too. There is also a nice description of how the instruments use influences its music to either be dance music or imitate singing styles, this is best 14

illustrated by a quote from the book, "the violin sings but the fiddle dances" reminding me of something that the lady who taught me to play told me - this is the nearest instrument to the human voice.

A diversity of music is taken from English, Irish. Gaelic, Scottish Border, Shetland and Baroque influenced sources arranged in a progressive sequence which explains a variety of fiddle music. You really need to be able to read music, that aside the tunes are very accurately transcribed including ornamentation, sometimes from individual players and every tune has an accompanying text making the tutor very

A list of recommended books, a very clear explanation of bowing patterns referred to throughout the book, practice hints and the fingering in different keys are also included.

This is and excellent tutor, there is something for players of all abilities to learn from and the information included is thorough and knowledgeable. It has been written by someone who is obviously a good teacher and who understands the fiddle and its music. Given the quality of the book it gives value for money to anyone who wants to play or learn more about the fiddle.

Jenny Shotliffe

CONCERNING CLOGS by Bob Dobson

This book first appeared in print in 1979, after Bob researched the subject for 5 years. It was the first book devoted to clogs, and remains THE book to read when wishing to learn about the origins and use of clogs throughout the centuries, the making of them and how they feature in dancing, folk-lore and local history. Reading it, one can smell the cloggers shop, hear the rattle-attle-attle of clogged feet on flagstones and hear the rhythmic patter of clogdancer's feet.

Bob has covered every conceivable aspect of the clog. Every page and illustration concerns clogs. He has added to the original text three lists giving up-to-date information on clog makers, clog dancers and those groups who dance in clogs.

There is a strong Lancashire feel about the book. Bob explains that this is undoubtedly due to his grandma. He calls the book a tribute to her - and to all grandmas. Read this book and you'll come to the same conclusion as Bob - that "clogs have souls as well as soles".

The book sells at £5.00. Copies may be obtained from Landy Publishing at:

"Acorns", 3 Staining Rise, Staining, Blackpool, FY3

Add 50p per order for postage. Make cheques payable to Landy Publishing. Please do not send

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September Dates

Sunday		5-Sep	12-Sep	19-Sep	26-Sep
ARNSIDE		(Closed)	(Closed)	Singers' Night	(Closed)
BOTHY		Singers' Night	Carthy & Swarbrick	Singers' Night	Huw & Tony Williams
LEIGH		Geoff Higginbottom	Singaround	Residents & Members	Full House
LLANDUDNO		Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night
Monday		6-Sep	13-Sep	20-Sep	27-Sep
HORWICH	†	Singers' Night	Singers Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night
MONDAY MUSIC		7th year party	Singers' Night	Afraid of Frogs/SN	Electric Magic/SN
PRESTON		Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Jez Lowe & The Bad Pennies
TRAVELLERS REST		Buskers Session	Quartz	Buskers Session	Buskers Session
		Paul Sirman	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Dave Goulder
TRITON		7-Sep	14-Sep	21-Sep	28-Sep
Tuesday	<u> </u>		Demure	Singers' Night	Jim Couza (tbc)
BACUP		Singers' Night	Derek Brimstone	Lorraine Jordan	Chris While
BLACK HORSE		Reopens	Derek Dimisione	LUITAINE JUIUAN	Cittis Affilia
MECHANICS *		Martin Carthy & Dave Swarbrick			
MAGHULL		Seldom Heard/SN	Tony Gibbons/SN	County Vaudeville	Harry Forsythe/SN
TILSTON		Singers' Night	The Deacons	Singers' Night	Singers' Night
TWO SHIPS		Singers' Night	Hankey Park	Singers' Night	Pete Ryder
YARROW VALLEY		Singers' Night	(Closed)	(Closed)	(Closed)
Wednesday	1-Sep	8-Sep	15-Sep	22-Sep	29-Sep
BLACKBURN	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night
BLACKROD	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night
CASTLE	Guest tba	Singers' Night	Guest tba	Singers' Night	Guest tba
8.45 AT LANE ENDS		Zephyrus	Carolina Shout	Pete Edgerton	An Cuige
Thursday	2-Sep	9-Sep	16-Sep	23-Sep	30-Sep
BODDIE SHOP		Allan Taylor			
OURSUICY		Citch reamone	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night
BURNLEY		Club reopens			
COCKERMOUTH	Singers' Night	Geoff Higginbottom	Allan Taylor	Wizz Jones	Jim Couza
COCKERMOUTH FOLK at the GATE	Singers' Night	Geoff Higginbottom Singers' Night	Allan Taylor Singers' Night	Wizz Jones Singers' Night	Jim Couza Singers' Night
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COCKERMOUTH FOLK at the GATE FLEETWOOD	Singers' Night	Geoff Higginbottom Singers' Night Singers' Night	Allan Taylor Singers' Night	Wizz Jones Singers' Night Singers' Night	Jim Couza Singers' Night
COCKERMOUTH FOLK at the GATE FLEETWOOD GREGSON LANE	Singers' Night *Pre-Festival Concert	Geoff Higginbottom Singers' Night Singers' Night Gary Wall	Allan Taylor Singers' Night tba	Wizz Jones Singers' Night Singers' Night Singers' Night	Jim Couza Singers' Night Sara Grey
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COCKERMOUTH FOLK at the GATE FLEETWOOD GREGSON LANE HASKAYNE LEVELLERS WHITE SWAN	Singers' Night *Pre-Festival Concert Singers' Night Martin Carthy, Norma & Eliza Waterson	Geoff Higginbottom Singers' Night Singers' Night Gary Wall Singers' Night Singers' Night Singers' Night	Allan Taylor Singers' Night tba Singers' Night Sean Cannon	Wizz Jones Singers' Night Singers' Night Singers' Night Singers' Night Dean Johnson Graham & Eileen Pratt	Jim Couza Singers' Night Sara Grey Singers' Night
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COCKERMOUTH FOLK at the GATE FLEETWOOD GREGSON LANE HASKAYNE LEVELLERS WHITE SWAN Friday NORTHWICH RHYL POTTERIES RED LION GREGSON LANE Saturday BREWERY ARTS BURY FORMBY	Singers' Night *Pre-Festival Concert Singers' Night Martin Carthy, Norma & Eliza Waterson 3-Sep His Worship & The Pig Singers' Night Garva Closed 4-Sep No information Closed Singers' Night Helen Watson Band	Geoff Higginbottom Singers' Night Singers' Night Gary Wall Singers' Night Singers' Night Singers' Night 10-Sep lan Bruce Singers' Night Singers' Night Closed 11-Sep The Riot Band Scolds Bridle	Allan Taylor Singers' Night tba Singers' Night Sean Cannon 17-Sep Huw & Tony Williams Singers' Night Guest tba John Leonard & John Squire Downham & Nudger 18-Sep **Ceilidh Singers' Night	Wizz Jones Singers' Night Singers' Night Singers' Night Singers' Night Dean Johnson Graham & Eileen Pratt 24-Sep Singers night Singers' Night Singers' Night Pat Shaw & Julie Matthews 25-Sep Dave Goulder tba	Jim Couza Singers' Night Sara Grey Singers' Night

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Notes:

October Dates

Sunday	31-Oct	3-Oct	10-Oct	17-Oct	24-Oct
RNSIDE	Control Contro	(Closed)	(Closed)	Singers Night	(Closed)
BOTHY	Dean Johnson	Singers' Night	Marilyn Middleton- Pollock	Gordon Tyrrall	Bob Fox & Benny Graham
LANDUDNO	Singere' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night
.EIGH	Sara Grey	Singers' Night	lan Walker	Jay Turner	Singers' Night
MECHANICS *	The Control of the Co		Tom Paxton	ganna ay beyanananan	Albert Markett, and the Control of the
Monday		4-Oct	11-Oct	18-Oct	25-Oct
HORWICH	1	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night
MONDAY MUSIC		Celtic Music	Rick Christian	Andy Caven	Crap Singers Night
PRESTON		Singers' Night	First Principles	Singers' Night	Roger Wilson & Chri
TRAVELLERS REST		Derek Gifford	Buskers Session	Buskers Session	Buskers Session
TRITON		Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Hughie Jones
Tuesday	1	5-Oct	12-Oct	19-Oct	26-Oct
BACUP		Singers Night	Seldom Heard	Singers Night	Guest tba
BLACK HORSE		Tom Topping Band	Phil Campbell	Houghton Weavers	Andy Caven
MAGHULL		Old Bones/SN	Sue Howard/SN	Colin Wilson/SN	Demure/AFTER
			<u></u>		HOURS tbc
TILSTON	ļ	Singers' Night Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Phil Hare Singers' Night	Singers Night
TWO SHIPS YARROW VALLEY	-	Singers' Night	John Howarth (Closed)	(Closed)	Fiona Simpson (Closed)
	<u> </u>		(Ciosed)		27-Oct
Wednesday	<u> </u>	6-Oct		20-Oct	
BLACKBURN		Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night
BLACKROD		Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night
CASTLE		Singers' Night	Guest tba	Singers' Night	Guest tba
HESKETH BANK		Maxi & Mitch		/2000	
B.45 AT LANE ENDS		Old Rope String Band	Show Of Hands	Keith Hinchcliffe	Singers' Night
*SOUTHPORT ARTS			La Cuccina		
Thursday		7-Oct	14-Oct	21-Oct	28-Oct
BODDIE SHOP			Jim Eldon		Lorraine Jordan
BURNLEY		Guest tba	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night
COCKERMOUTH		Brian Peters	Singers' Night	Phil Hare	Bedlam
FLEETWOOD		Singers' Night	tba	Singers' Night	tba
GREGSON LANE		Singers' Night		Brian Preston & Jez Marsh	
HASKAYNE		The Old Rope String Band	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night
LEVELLERS		Caught On The Hop		Hughie Jones	
WHITE SWAN		Pete Morton	Garva	Singers Night	Singers Night
Friday	1-Oct	8-Oct	15-Oct	22-Oct	29-Oct
NORTHWICH	Eliza Carthy & Nancy Kerr		Singers Night	Bob Fox & Benny Graham	Johnny Handle
POTTERIES	Guest tba	Singers' Night	Les Barker	Singers' Night	Guest tba
RED LION	Marie Little	Shep Woolley	Upstairs In A Tent	Rob Johnson & Pip Collings	Harvey Andrews (tkt only)
RHYL	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night
SOUTHPORT ARTS	<u> </u>	Eddie le Jeune			4.35
Saturday	2-Oct	9-Oct	16-Oct	23-Oct	30-Oct
BURY	*Cajun Festival (1-3)	Traditional Edge	*Roy Bailey & John Kirkpatrick	Singers' Night	*Ceilidh
FORMBY	Derek Gifford	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night
POYNTON	Cajun Night (tbc)	Ceilidh	Tom Paxton	Ceilidh	Barely Works (tbc)
SOUTHPORT ARTS	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	Guitar Spectacular			1
MECHANICS			The Bourbon Boys **	Accordance de	
	l	<u> </u>			
'MAGHULL	*Tithebarn Concert				

Votes:

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

^{&#}x27; If entry has an '' in front, it's being held at a different venue (unless venue is named)

^{*} 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)

^{**} Mechanics event at Padiham Town Hall

November Dates

Barra III					
Sunday		7-Nov	14-Nov	21-Nov	28-Nov
ARNSIDE		(Closed)	(Closed)	Singers Night	(Closed)
BOTHY		Singers Night	Raphael Callaghan & Christine Purnell	Singers Night	Pete Coe
LLANDUDNO		Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night
LEIGH		Singers Night	Guest tba	Singers Night	Fiona Simpson
MECHANICS					The Albion Band
Monday	1-Nov	8-Nov	15-Nov	22-Nov	29-Nov
HORWICH	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
MONDAY MUSIC	Singers Night	Damp Squib/SN	Hilary Palmer/SN	*Singers Night	Mr X /SN
PRESTON	Singers Night	Martin Hall	Singers Night	Cythara	Singers Night
TRAVELLERS REST	Buskers Session	Buskers Session	Buskers Session	Buskers Session	Buskers Session
TRITON	Singers Night	Singers Night	Eddie Morris	Singers Night	Singers Night
Tuesday	2-Nov	9-Nov	16-Nov	23-Nov	30-Nov
BACUP	Singers Night	LocTup Together	Singers Night	Strath Clague	Charity Night for
					Greenpeace
BLACK HORSE	Cosmotheka	Club Night	Bernard Wrigley	Stravaig	Gary & Vera Aspey
MAGHULL	Dave Bresnan/SN	Phil Boardman/SN	Clover/SN	Steve Higham + CYTHARA	Peter Edgerton/SN
TILSTON	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Rick Christian	Singers Night
TWO SHIPS	Singers Night	Tom McConville	Singers Night	Stanley Accrington	Singers night
YARROW VALLEY	Pete Coe	(Closed)	(Closed)	(Closed)	(Closed)
Wednesday	3-Nov	10-Nov	17-Nov	24-Nov	1-Dec
BLACKBURN	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night
BLACKROD	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night
CASTLE	Singers' Night	Guest tba	Singers Night	Guest tba	Singers Night
HESKETH BANK		Vin Garbutt			
8.45 AT LANE ENDS	Shep Woolley	Huw & Tony Williams	Rebecca Green	Sid Kipper	Jez Lowe & The Bar Pennies
Thursday	4-Nov	11-Nov	18-Nov	25-Nov	2-Dec
BODDIE SHOP		Tilston & Boyle	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
BURNLEY	Guest tba	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	
COCKERMOUTH	Singers' Night	lan Walker	Jennifer & Hazel Wrigley	Singers' Night	
FLEETWOOD	Singers' Night	Derek Gifford	Singers' Night	tba	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
GREGSON LANE	Th'Antiques Roadshow		Singers' Night		
HASKAYNE	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Singers' Night
LEVELLERS	John Kirkpartick		Back Porch String Band		Neil Senior
WHITE SWAN	Martin Wyndham	Singers' Night	Fiona Simpson	Singers' Night	
Friday	5-Nov	12-Nov	19-Nov	26-Nov	3-Dec
NORTHWICH	John Kirkpatrick	Singers' Night	Singers' Night	Tom McConville & Sean Lakeman	
POTTERIES	Singers' Night	Guest tba	Singers' Night	Chris Newman & Maire Ni Chathasaigh	Singers' Night
RED LION	Burland, Shaw & Matthews	Guest tba	Full House	lan Bruce	Show of Hands
BACUP			*Garva & Parcel O'Rogues		
MECHANICS	- T	Mikron Theatre			
SOUTHPORT ARTS			Raiph McTell		
Saturday	6-Nov	13-Nov	20-Nov	27-Nov	4-Dec
	Martin Carthy	Carl & Jane	Singers Night	Scolds Bridle	
BURY		1	 	1	
	Closed	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	l .
ORMBY		Singers Night Ceilidh	Singers Night Roy Bailey	Singers Night Ceilidh	
BURY FORMBY POYNTON MECHANICS	Closed				
POYNTON	Closed Closed		Roy Bailey		

Notes:

AMPS. in association with GREGSON LANE FOLK

PRESENT:-

THE AUTUMN CONCERTS at the UNIVERSITY ARTS CENTRE, PRESTON

Saturday 18th September 7.45 p.m.

KEN NICOL & FRIENDS

Saturday 30th October 7.45 p.m.

ROBB JOHNSON & PIP COLLINGS + DAVE GARDNER

Saturday 20th November 7.45 p.m.

GARY HALL

Saturday 18th December 7.45 p.m.

CHRIS PARKINSON & RICHARD GRAINGER
(XMAS CONCERT)

M.C. --- BRIAN PRESTON

Residents - Preston & Marsh

Tickets & further details - Graham Dixon 0254 853929

For details about **A.M.P.S.** (Agency, Management & Promotional Services)

Phone Brian Dewhurst on 0254 677184 or 0831 580985

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

^{**} Mechanics event at Padiham Town Hall

LIVE REVIEWS

SALVATION JANE AT MAGHULL FOLK CLUB -

29 JUNE 1993

On a very hot Tuesday night (You remember that night?) at the end of June, Maghull Folk Club welcomed the all-female five piece group Salvation Jane from Melbourne, Australia. The club was fairly full from early on and people continued to pour in until the place was packed to the rafters.

I was a little apprehensive at first - all the women were dressed in their "uniform" with brightly coloured tops (Yellow and Green of course) and I thought "Oh no - not a female version of the Houghton Weavers!!" I needn't have worried - from the very first number they had the audience enthraled with their find choice of material and lovely close harmony singing. Starting a little nervously, they soon developed a fine rapport with the audience, dealing with hecklers (Yes, there are one or two at Maghull!) with humour. They sang everything from traditional aboriginal songs - "Downtown"

As the evening wore on, the audience increasingly warmed to them. I should point out here that they accompanied themselves sporadically on Keyboards, guitar and the occasional percussion instrument. The real beauty, though, was in their singing and their choice of songs. They did three encores and didn't seem to want to finish. I got the impression they would have carried on all night, though this could have had something to do with the fact that I announced that Steve Higham was very big down under! A cracking night - lets hope we see them touring over here again soon.

Tony Gibbons.

MARTIN PLEASS AT THE UNICORN HOTEL, PRESTON

- SUNDAY 18 APRIL 93

The Unicorn Hotel, home of Preston Folk Club, was the venue for the second visit of Martin Pleass. His first appearance at the Unicom six weeks earlier had caused such a stir that the Landlord David Neale had invited him back at the earliest opportunity. Playing to a packed house, he was no less impressive.

In a series of concerts held in the main body of the pub, The Unicorn has hosted many fine musicians over the years. People of outstanding talent like Ken Nicol and Isaac Guillory - all prolific songwriters - have provided a feast of music on their regular visits. Martin, from the Wirral, is of a similar pedigree.

Still only 24, He has been a full time musician for four years. He played with the National Youth Music 20 for their courage in entering!

sively. His music travels this year have taken him to Switzerland, Ireland and the USA, where he appeared on cable TV.

On the night he played a sweet-sounding Ovation guitar, Dobro steel guitar and 5-string banjo - a truly virtuoso performance in a completely new and unique style whether in instrumental or accompanying self penned songs such as the incredible Pagan Song, a tribute to Australian aborigines which left the audience gasping. His repertoire also ranged from Muddy Waters to a rousing rendition of Pinball Wizard, and culminating in a breathtaking guitar solo performance of Mozart's Rondo Alla Turka.

It has to be said that, although this was not strictly a folk club performance, but a live "pub" gig, the overwhelming impression was of a remarkable talent. Martin would grace the stage of any club and should start to make an impact on the folk scene any time now. Book him while you still can!

EAST LANCS CLOG DANCING COMPETITION

This was the "Ossie Cloggers" first venture into organising such an event - and accordingly it was mainly supported by their own members, although there was one entry from the Wheelton Class, and half a dozen from the North East. All classes involved either hompipe or waltz. The winners unless otherwise stated were Ossie dancers:

Alexandra McVeigh (Newcastle), Caroline Riley; Louise Hutter; Wendy Heyes; Jennifer Westwood; Lorna Wilkinson (Blyth), and Shona Harper (Gosforth). The championship was won by Wendy Heyes. Ryan Squire was Best Boy.

There was a medal and small trophy for each winner to keep, and a large trophy to be returned in a years time. Seconds and thirds received a medal, and there were mementoes for other competitors.

Sam Sherry (with Daphne) was there to make the presentations. Bill Tarton, the clog maker from Skelmersdale, had made and donated the splendid Championship Belt and winners trophy.

It was a successful day and the organisers are hoping to see the event become better known for next year! It was an exhausting day for competitors, organisers and judges alike. The marked difference in styles between the Lancashire dancers and those from the North East didn't make the judging easy!

My own view? Anyone who enters must know that they may not win - and consequently will have to accept the decision with good grace. I would present every one of them with a medal as big as a frying pan for their courage in entering!

Roy Smith

DANCEABOUT

News on Social, Morris, Sword & Clog Dance

Quote:-

"Dancing is guaranteed to bring a smile to your face and greatness to your life. It will make weak men strong and average ladies beautiful. It will aid digestion and improve your financial position immeasurably. It will invigorate your entire system, improve your posture and make your children behave.

IT IS SAFE, NON-TOXIC AND HAS HARDLY ANY EFFECT ON THE CURRENT POLITICAL SITUATION.

We hope you enjoy dancing and come often".

---- From the back of a telephone directory (Advert) for the Old Farmers Ball, Swannanca, North Carolina and spotted by the CDSS of America.

At fairly short notice this years National Music Day (27th June) was re-labelled as "Sunday Starting on Saturday" (26-27 June), and is now scheduled for the last weekend in June each year.

Ever tried delivering the folk dance part of the National Curriculum to primary school children? I did!

Asking what the group had previously done in the way of dance, or movement to music, one young lad said "We did something about the Amazon Rain Forest" "Oh yes," said I, "And what were you?" "A Tree!!!".

Imagine trying to pick things up from there! Getting the (large) group to (Vaguely) do the same thing at the same time was somewhat akin to asking them to fly (unaided) to the dark side of the moon!!.

Roy Smith

In 1992, Hobgoblin Music took over the management of the EFDSS's "Folk Shop", and recently the number of sales points has been dramatically reduced. The only one North of Birmingham is that operated by Joyce and Alan Barber (Tel: 0772 742690) from Penwortham, Preston. They also carry other peoples stock, besides Hobgoblin, and in fact the endeavour to obtain any other folk material including musical instruments.

The 1993-4 Folk Shop Catalogue is now available, and there's a 5% discount to EFDSS members. Give them a call!

NEW(BURGH) BEGINNINGS

It all began two years ago. A knock at the door and some questions: "You know something about Morris Dancing, don't you? Will you teach us a dance for Newburgh Fair? We've been challenged by the men on the Committee and thy don't think we can do it."

And so - ten of us, all women from the village, met between Easter and June and became more or less competent in dancing the Churchtown processional. We danced the roads of Newburgh and on the field, our oldest member in their late fifties and the youngest in their twenties.

Most memorable were the looks of amazed recognition on the faces of those watching the procession. "It's Margaret, isn't it?" "Is it really Sandy under that hat?" We were cheered all the way round. The men on the Committee had been proved wrong - and it really felt as if we had achieved something.

The following Easter came the same questions and the same response. Newburgh Fair 1992 was a smaller event but Newburgh Morris danced throughout the procession and on the field. Again the kit was based on the village school colours of blue and yellow and used the badge to decorate the sash. The team was from the village or had connections there.

After the Fair some who had danced said they would like to carry on with the team. We lost one or two members but gained a few others. We now have at least 9 meetings every Tuesday between 7.30pm and 9.00pm in the School Hall - in the playground when the evenings are light enough.

We have also gained three much appreciated musicians, a great improvement on the ghetto blaster that accompanied us on past processions! Our repertoire is four Lancashire dances, and we are at present working to rescue and develop the remnants of a dance remembered by some of the older residents.

Thanks to the Parish Council and the Lions group for grants towards kit, we are able to dance free for local charity events and charge only for commercial bookings. Thanks also to Rivington Morris, my "mother" team, for encouragement and support - and some of the dances!

Most team members are still locals (or nearly so) and it's an interesting thought that we came into existence in a similar way to that in which some earlier village teams were formed.

Rebecca Richardson

Newburgh Morris

FESTIVAL REVIEWS

WIGAN FOLK FESTIVAL

18/19/20 May 1993

The first surprise about Wigan Festival is its location it is not in the town of Wigan, It is held at Lowton Civic Hall, just five minutes from M6 Junction 23. Second, the hall is in an oasis of green. Playing fields stretch as far as the eye can see, with ample space for the many tents and caravans. Just as well, really, because accommodation is at a premium in Lowton. The hall lends itself ideally to the festival, and with vegetarian catering from the Blue Moon kitchen, the

event is completely contained within the hall and grounds.

There is a fresh and original approach to presenting the music. Friday offered a choice of concert or ceilidh headed by local favourites Caught on the Hop. Saturday was a day of extraordinary variety. First the many members of the mighty Maghull Folk Club presented an hour of songs. Then came the Big Fiddle - five fiddlers led by Brian McNeill and including Dara De Cogan of the Halle Orchestra. who all stretched the boundaries of folk music

in a fascinating manner. Later came a shanty session with Johnny Collins amongst others and a chance to meet Jez Lowe.

For young musicians there was another in the Youthquake series of workshops. Jenny Shotliff and Joe Broughton led their enthusiastic protegees through a series of tunes and the children were painlessly initiated into the tradition! A long day came to a climax with the appearance of the Barely Works, who had the majority of the audience out of their seats and capering round the hall.

A surprising number of early risers were ready for Songs for Sunday, introduced by Quartz. Another busy day of song, dance and music followed. By tea-time I had absorbed all the music, sun and lentils that my body would allow. Forsaking the chance to see the Battlefield Band, I slipped away for a warm bath and a bacon butty. As George Orwell might have said, Wigan is a festival without a peer!

Henry Peacock

CHESTER FOLK WEEKEND.

May 28th - 31st 1993 (Whit weekend).

It is back, it is in the same place as before, and it renews it is position as one of the best festivals around. A lot of people went to Chester this year in some trepidation. New organisers, new name, originally intended to be in a new location, it could not be as good as the old festival used to be. Oh, yes it could! Good music, good atmosphere, good selection of guests, a little too much emphasis on Morris dancing for my taste, spoiling outdoor music ses-

sions, but some great. never-to-be-repeated moments. A memorable late-night singaround in the barn with Davy Steele, Cilla and Ray Fisher was a definite highlight. A trio of Sonawriting fora (the plural of forum?) with Stanley Accrington heading a team of writers varying each day but including Pete Morton and Allan Taylor. provided valuable insights into the complexities and difficulties of songwriting - from gleaning ideas to getting the money for the finished product. Stanley's anagram workshop also

opened up a new, time-consuming interest for me do not know whether or not to be grateful, though!

A gentle festival which looked to me as if it was run by the old team - I certainly recognised quite a few. If you kept away this year "just in case", then change your mind and go back in 1994. I for one will certainly be there.

Linda Wright

GIRVAN TRADITIONAL FOLK FESTIVAL

30th APRIL - 2nd MAY 1993

Girvan is a pleasant sea-side resort and fishing port on the Ayrshire coast, midway between Glasgow and Stranraer. There is easy access from both England and Ireland, so Girvan Festival always seems to offer an intriguing blend of artists from the British Isles, plus some trans-Atlantic ones too.

This year audiences were able to compare two Irish 22 groups, the established Altan and the up-and-coming Dervish. Altan were wonderfully assured in everything

are proud to announce the launch of their DEBUT RECORDING -"SWEET LIBERTY"

THE TITHEBARN

Tithebarn Lane Melling, Near Maghull Liverpool On Friday 22nd October 1993 at 8pm "Live Concert" with Special Guest

Fully Licensed Bar - Food Available Admission £2.50 * (* Includes £1 off the price of the album if purchased on the night) Further details, directions etc.: **Tony Gibbons 051 526 6522**

The Second Otley Folk Festival 17th - 18th - 19th September 1993

CYRIL TAWNEY · BRENDAN CROKER · JOHN KIRKPATRICK BAYOU GUMBO · JIM COUZA · TONY WILSON · LES BARKER

Dave Vermond . Sharon . FOS Bros . Henwen Dave Summers . Whitney Gin . Jay Turner Carl Hogsden & Jane Threlfall . John Carey Surprise Jug Band . Sham Rock Band . Prism Karl Robins . Pointed Out Looby . Tony Martin Baz Cooper, Adrian Spendlow & Jane Edwards Amanda Bailey & Malcolm Devereux . Tanglefoot Charles Fyson . Nigel Swan & Jan Porter . Spinning Jelly The Flag Crackers of Craven . Leeds Morris The Buttercross Belles . Oakworth Morris . Persephone Rainbow Morris . Wakefield Morris . Lizzie Dripping Betty Lupton's Ladle Laikers . Morris Minors

Concerts - Ceilidh - Singarounds - Dancing - Street Theatre Vorkshops - Children's Events - Craft Fair - Campsite - Creck Disabled Access at Main Venue - Hot Food Real Ale - Late Bars

Peter Hawkins . Cosmos . Bobbo the Clown

Weekend Tickets: £18.00 Friday night: £ 5.90 Saturday: £10.00, Sunday £8,00,

concessions: child £8.00

and info: Derek Haller 11 Cambridge Terrace Otley LS21 LJS Tel: 0943 462801

(to Otley Folk Festival)

"GARVA" Silver Jubilee Za, Cassette

To celebrate our Silver Jubilee Year, Redcar Folk Festival BBC Radio Cleveland and Teesbeat Recording Studios are producing a cassette. On one side will be the artists from the Saturday Concert in the Redcar Bowl, Tom Paxton, Steve Tilston and Maggie Boyle, Huw and Tony Williams, Bob Greenwoods Rhythm Rascals and After Hours the artists from the Sunday Concert in the Redcar Bowl, The Barley Works, Jez Lowe and The Bad Pennies, Marske Fishermens Choir, The Doonan Family, The Wilsons, Vin Garbutt and The Dubliners. All proceeds from the sale of the Cassette will be put towards financing future festivals in the hope that we can continue to be one of the Main Festivals in the U.K.

The cost of the cassette will be £7.00, this includes postage and packing, which we feel is very good value for money. If you wish to purchase a cassette please fill in the

I wish to purchas	re cassettes of the Redcar Folk whilee Celebration Tapes.
I enclose a cheque	e payable to BBC Radio Cleveland for
-	nt £
Name	
Address	
Post Code	Tel:
	Please send to:-
John Taylor, Fern Cottag	e, Dalehouse, Stalthes, Saltburn, Cleveland TS13 5DT
	Tel: (0947) 840928

MELLING TITHEBARN Maghull Folk Club presents:

Saturday October 2nd at 7pm

Round Britain Folk with WHIPPERSNAPPER & Support - £3

Saturday November 27th at 7pm

KEITH HANCOCK & LEE COLLISTER

+ CUCKOO OAK + Support - £3

Tickets/info: 051 526 6661

they did, whilst Dervish were youthful and impatient, and full of enthusiasm. It will be interesting to see how they develop. BBC Radio were present to record them both, and Mirk too, for broadcast on Radio 2.

Mark Roberts and Sandol Astrausky from the States, together with Jon Scaife, played old-time music. They also gave a most enjoyable workshop where one of the banjo players bore a striking resemblance to Billy Connolly, From England, Chris Foster performed his traditional songs, and Martin Hall appeared in his new solo role, complete with an impressive and growing catalogue of his own songs, apparently much to his own surprise!

Scots included the young Orcadians Jennifer and Hazel Wrigley, the more mature Stramash marshalled by Adam MacNaughtan, and the alluring Gill Bowman. Ceilidhs and sessions lasted long into the night.

and children had their own afternoon show in the New Academy.

The weather can be blustery in May. Optimists could be found on the sea-front camp site: the cautious relied on the guest-houses and hotels. Fortunately, the weather was kind!

Girvan maintains the highest of standards. This was the 19th festival and ran perfectly. No doubt the smooth progress is like that of a swan, with all the hard

work taking place out of sight! I am certainly looking forward to returning next year to celebrate the 20th.

Henry Peacock

WERNETH FOLK'S FREE CONCERT

June 27th 1993

Saturday night - look at weather forecast for Sunday. If it is fine we'll go - if not, decorate a room. Pray for sunshine. Sunday dawns fine and clear. Harry Hayes rings up and offers us a lift - wonderful. Off we jolly well go!

Found Werneth Park after getting lost just once. Get the chairs and coolboxes out of the boot and find a nice spot on the grass with a good view of the stage. Make sure the beer is cool!! Here is Agraman the compere. Oh good - he is gone. Oh, dear - he keeps coming back! Where does he get those jokes - I thought the only known copy of the 1932 Beano Annual was in the British Museum.

The sun shines brightly and the artists begin to appear. What a good line-up, some of whom I had never seen before but really enjoyed.

Adrian Schofield - brilliant musician and what a good idea to combine Northumbrian pipes with a 'punk' image. Not quite as pretty as Kathryn T. but just as good a player.

Cythara - fine duo of hammered dulcimer and harp the arrangements were really good - now if they would just add a few songs.

Th' Antique Roadshow - favourites of mine who perform with gusto (unfortunately, he could not get to Werneth). Loved the story of them arriving at a festival to find they had been allocated a stall in the Craft Fair!

Eileen Parry - a simply wonderful singer - why is not she better known? Come on organisers - there is a real talent in our midst.

Band of the Rising Sun - here is a band of multi-talented musicians who should be great to

> dance to at a ceilidh, For concerts perhaps they could add just a little 'oomph' to their presentation?

Smile Like Fools - no problem with 'oomph'!! A folk/rock band cunningly included by the organisers to keep the youngest element happy. Went on at the end and wowed one and all. These could do really well in the future.

Clive Gregson - He is so good it would be imperti-

nent to comment - except to say his performance was hugely entertaining. Solo appearances give him an opportunity to show what he can do and how he seized that opportunity.

That was it - a tremendous FREE concert. Thanks to Oldham Leisure Services and to 'In With A Chance' for organising it.

Missed the Saturday workshops and competitions (which had record entries) but was delighted to find out Theresa Tooley had won the singer's contest (and the loot!). Well done Theresa.

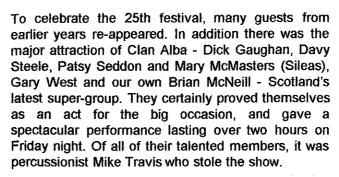
If the sun shines again next year on National Music Day - guess where I want to be?

Dave Day

STAINSBY FESTIVAL

23 - 25 JULY 1993

Stainsby Festival has an atmosphere all of its own. This is primarily because it is held under canvas, and secondly due to the varied and colourful audience is attracts. Why there are even young people present and obviously enjoying themselves! There is also a large craft tent, lending the even the air of an old 24 fashioned fair.



Stainsby is generous with the time given to guests; spots last either 45 minutes or an hour. Even this seemed to little in the case of Coope, Boyes and Simpson. But, for a sensitive soul like myself, it seemed an eternity whilst Gaelforce rocked away. At least there was something for everybody!

There were several more contributions of note. The award for best traditional song goes to Brian Peters with "The Unquiet Grave", and the best contemporary song was "Slip Jigs and Reels" by Steve Tilston and Maggie Boyle. A special commendation goes to Gordan Tyrall for his setting of the verse by John Clare, commemorating the bicentenary of the birth of the poet and musician.

Just one rather strange occurance - Vin Garbutt and The Wild Turkey Brothers were on late on Sunday night (9pm on-

wards!!) and at no other time, when many of those present had gone home.

The weather was bright with brief showers, we were all well fed by Simple Simon and the toilets still had soap and loo paper on Sunday afternoon. What more could one wish for?

Henry Peacock (& a bit of Linda Wright -ED)

PS Although you will need a very large map to find Stainsby, access is easy. It lies between Chesterfield and Mansfield two minutes from the M1 Junction 29.

EDALE BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

June 4th - 6th 1993

In latter years, Edale Bluegrass Festival, from being THE Bluegrass festival to go to with the family, had become less and less comfortable to attend. Fewer children due to the bad atmosphere, fewer players for the same reason, many afficianados stayed away.

To give Tom Travis credit, he seems finally to be dealing with the situation, the atmosphere was much improved, the spontaneous sessions were back and it 25.

was a pleasant weekend in the old style. The Del McCoury Band from USA were a disappointment. They were not doing too badly until Del's son on the mandolin started to sing. And when he started to 'harmonise'...!!

A site charge kept the riff-raff away and I felt safe walking back to my van at night - a luxury that I had half-expected never to enjoy again at Edale. Plenty of Old-Time music completed the package for me, and for the first time in years I can confidently say that I will be back at Edale next year.

Linda Wright

BACUP BLUEGRASS DAY May 2nd 1993.



You have to hand it to Linda Wright - single handed she brought Bluegrass to Bacup - but did they want it??

Well, we started with a session in the pub - it ran from midday to about 6pm. The locals were delighted - their pub normally shuts on a Sunday afternoon!! Good beer and acceptable grub - pickers picked and I plonked. Then Chris Wilson showed how a guitar can be a good Bluegrass lead instrument.

Six o'clock, down to the Leisure Centre bar

where we had a workshop from the members of Generation Gap. Very instructive it was, too.

Then into the concert room for an evening's entertain-

First up were the organisers of the North Wales Bluegrass Festival, Highly Strung (John Les and Gill). A nice spot but a fraction laid back for my own tastes. Then the main act from Leeds, Generation Gap.

By now the hall was somewhat fuller, the band did a good set and half the audience admired the bass player's....virtuosity!! (If Felicity Kendal could win the 'Rear of the Year' award, I could suggest a worthy successor!!)

Then Linda got up to thank all, but could have done with scripting her oration a little more carefully - "Next year we hope to have someone really good!!".

Well done Linda - the Folk World needs 'Do-ers' who make things happen. See you there next year.

Dave Dav

NORTH WALES BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL

July 2nd-4th 1993

Back to Trefriw for the 5th NWBG festival, still in the most beautiful setting you could imagine, with camping closer to the village this year, in a much smaller field. There was a circus, plenty of bluegrass and old-time music and a discernible improvement on last year's disorganisation. Great fun, lots of music, some good scratch bands, a feeling of controlled chaos.

The Wild Turkey Brothers only arrived in part - 2 plus their road manager to be precise, while the other 4 did not get out of Brighton! A scratch band made up of 2 Wild Turkeys, their road manager and a bass player saved the day. That is one of the odd things about bluegrass festivals - you go to see one band and recognise half of them as being members of another one!

Linda Wright



CLEETHORPES FOLK FESTIVAL

27/28/29 MAY 1993

Cleethorpes Festival is based in the Winter Gardens, right on the promenade. It is sponsored by Bateman's brewery, but you can also enjoy a stroll along the prom to sample the singarounds and home-brew at Willy's Bar.

A long and strong bill was headed by Martin Carthy, but the great delight for me this year was the appearance of Andy Irvine. First he gave a workshop about his music and his bouzouki, and even explained the mysteries of East European music. Later in his concerts he sounded like a small group, with his harmonica, drone and more than his fair share of fingers. Quite wonderful! The Wilsons were out in force, impressing everywhere. The musical antics of the Old Rope String Band kept everyone amused and must win them wider recognition.

I was fortunate to catch Jeff Davis and Jeff Warner on their first visit from America. Not only were they knowledgable, they were also very entertaining, and I hope they will return soon. Jennifer and Hazel Wrigley gave an incredibly confident display, and even played the piano. The concerts finished in fine style with the Poozies, who were joined on stage by many guests, before their unaccompanied encore of Another Train, which will live long as a memory.

There were morris dancers and ceilidhs. A festival orchestra was led by Tom McConville, whilst younger musicians had their own Junior Jam-sessions.

Accommodation is plentiful; there are many hotels and guest-houses, and the festival camp-site has the benefit of a permanent toilet and shower block. There was even a concession on the miniature railway from the site to the Winter Gardens - a unique selling point I should think. With all its atmosphere and activities, Cleethorpes Festival proved an altogether splendid way to spend the Spring Bank Holiday week-end.

Henry Peacock

In the picture with music for DANCE: OIIO 061 485 3554

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RECORD REVIEWS

PATRICK STREET - "All in Good Time"

Special Delivery SPD CD 1049

A team of Irish musicians came along in the 1980's who were as near perfection as you could find - Patrick Street. They issued three terrific albums, toured Ireland, Britain and Abroad, and gained many admirers with their sensitive approach to both music and songs. Then came the split. I was devastated. Here was a group I really cherished, that had given me so many great memories both "live" and on record and now it was all over.

Then a couple of months ago, I heard a wonderful song being played on "Folk Scene" on B.B.C. Radio Merseyside. I was so surprised and delighted when it was announced that it was from the new "Patrick

Street" Album. Before you could say Maire Ni Chathasaigh, I went out and obtained a copy.

What a treat! 44 minutes 11 seconds of well-crafted tunes and songs - every track a gem, from the three terrific polkas that open the album right through to the Whimsical "Lynch's Barn Dances" at the end. In between there are five brilliant songs. Three sets of reels, a set of jigs, and a set of hompipes. There

are two absolute highlights for me -

Both songs. The first "A Prince Among Men (Only A Miner)" demonstrates Andy Irvine's songwriting and sensitive vocals at his best. It is a superb, well-crafted song full of integrity, with a gorgeous melody and infectious chorus. Its theme - coal mining - is particularly relevant in this day and age and I'd defy anyone listening to it not to be moved by its sentiments.

The second high spot is actually two songs linked together. The first "The Pride of Springfield Road" deals with the last cotton spinning mill in Ireland which closed in 1919. This leads into "Lawrence Common" an Andy Irvine tune dedicated to the struggle and victory of striking Cotton Mill workers in Massachussettes 1912. This in turn leads into a Si Kahn song - "Goodbye Monday Blues"; relating to the effects of cotton dust on workers lungs. Again, a chorus you just cannot help joining in with. The whole 27 of this piece is the work of a genius - I just cannot do

it justice simply by writing about it.

All the tune sets are played with the style you'd expect from musicians such as these. It is the original "Patrick Street" line-up ie Andy Irvine, Jack Daly, Kevin Burke and the mercurial Arty McGlynn. The band is augmented by Bill Whelan on Keyboards and backing vocals. I do not know if they intend touring again - I hope so. I'd certainly like to see this superb band on stage together. Definitely one I'd take on a desert island with me. Buy it and enjoy!!

Tony Gibbons

☐ Patrick Street

PHIL AND JUNE COLECLOUGH "Players From A Drama"

Celtic Music 060 (all formats)

Whatever he does in the future can Ralph McTell ever escape "Streets of London", Paul McCartney "Yesterday", or even I venture Black Lace "Agadoo"?!

Similarly Phil and June Colectough will be dogged forever by "Song For Ireland" - written in the mid-70's I think, popularised by Mary Black and erm, "devalued" by Phil Coulter and his ilk!

That song is featured here along with many others such as

"Diglake Fields" "The Lion Speaks" (Mandela) and "Catalonia" which are well known, mainly I must say through versions by De Dannan. That group seems to have made a point of including Colclough input on all its recent albums, but here, it must be said are surely the definitive versions by their authors.

I have not seen Phil and June play in many a year-they have always maintained a modestly low profile, and some of these songs go back over 20 years. On that basis this release is perhaps a "Best Of" or it could be the start of a push back into the mainstream of the scene? On either count this is a good album, a worthy tribute to their writing skills. In addition to their vocals (lead vox Phil) and June's guitar, Martin Simpson and Laurie Harper swell the instrumental work and make this a valuable piece of work in its own right - not just a showcase for some superb lyrics. They do more than just come up with other artists' demos you know.

There is an insidious quality to the Colclough's writing and allied to an understated, almost gentle method of delivery, their songs have their hooks into you before you are aware of it. This is the hallmark of great writing and it is no surprise to learn that in the sixties they worked closely with MacColl and Seeger.

There are songs here with which perhaps you, like me, will not be familiar - "lbo Girls" & "Goodbye America" for example, but they're as well constructed and meaningful as the hits. There is a very graphic feel to all of the material presented. The writers say they aim to capture the spirit of the place found in the songs and their success rate is high on this score.

Why not ring Phil and June on 0270 820632 if you have trouble securing a copy of this package and suggest too that they get themselves a thrusting young agent? - the world should, if there were any justice, know their name!

Clive Pownceby

ANTHONY J CLARKE - "I get lost" Splash JP001

This is a collection of 11 songs from the pen of singer/songwriter Anthony J Clarke, a Belfast-born Irishman who now lives in Liverpool. I understand that he has over 100 songs to his credit, and, if this selection is representative, he is a fine lyricist.

On this CD Anthony performs his own songs, with sensitive accompaniment by Tony Sharpe, and accomplished guitarist. Anthony's voice is light and clear, interesting if not compelling. His lyrics however, at times certainly are compelling. They are direct and honest, clearly driven by genuine experience - Anthony Clarke has something to say in each of these songs. The selection is such that the collection has something for everyone. And everyone will recognise themselves or their own experiences in many of these songs.

Simple and sensitive melodies are employed, and several of the songs have catchy and memorable tunes. Tony Sharpe's guitar work is excellent, with arrangements in a variety of folk styles, some with a country flavour.

My personal favourites are Yellows & Blues, with very strong lyrics and accompaniment in a typically folk style. Irish Visit '91, strong lyrics and excellent guitar work; Call it what you want, good lyric and excellent melody; With The Heart Torn Out, good lyric and fine guitar work; also Seven In Ireland, strong lyrics but the accompaniment a bit too light for the subject matter to my ears.

I feel that some of the songs would benefit from more complex arrangements, perhaps with the involvement of more musicians. Perhaps Anthony Clarke's next recording will oblige!

The CD is available from HMV, Our Price, Boots and Probe Records in Liverpool, Buy It.

Philip Page.

PETE MORTON "Mad World Blues"

Harbourtown HAR018 Tape & CD

A suitable thesis for persons currently doing a Masters on the state of the British Folk and related music scene might be the "influence of Billy Joel's "Stormfront" album on our more adventurous practitioners". Eh? well what with Bill Prince including "The Downeaster Alexa" in his sets and now the title track of this new Pete Morton release sounding very like "We didn't Start the Fire" with its machine gun delivery of, in this case modern ills, somethin's going on. Analyse and discuss.

This is Pete is 3rd solo recording for Harbourtown and is possibly his best to date. It is up-front, hard hitting and direct as you'd expect from him but what really lifts it into the stratosphere is a tight back-up band (bass, guitar and drums). For me though it does not really kick in until the 4th track "It is what it is" but after that it seizes your attention like a terrier with a rabbit and does not let go!

I'd heard "Kurdistan" on a songsmith tape and not been overkeen on this cut but that is just a personal non-preference. I just think the lyric is too passe to have any impact, although I hate myself for this line of thought. Nor while we're at it, do I go a bundle on "Malnutrition at Standing Rock" despite its magnificent prowling bass line - perhaps it is that overdosing on compassion syndrome when it comes to the BIG issues? Have I just become immune to concern? This is my problem readers, not Pete's. These two aside, I am mightily impressed with the product. There is just one traditional song here, all the rest are Pete is compositions, and what a stand-out is this version of "John Barleycorn" - it pulses, it is rhythmically crisp and it announces "Folk/Rock not dead. It is official!"

Overall there is an intensity to "Mad World Blues" that makes for edge-of-seat-listening at times. Wistful is an adjective that does not apply here.

Cop this adapted from "Patriotic Claptrap."

"Seemed a good thing 'til we all got slew, for the health and the wealth of the murderous few.

but the end of the day's all blood and gore, a hand grenade and a cannon's roar."

This is a release that benefits from repeated listening - I found myself liking it more and more on each auto-reverse. A word of praise too, for Gordon Jones' usual clean-as-a-whistle production. Pete's vocals are as assured as ever, more so than ever in fact, and the sound fleshed out with the rhythm section makes for a very punchy delivery.

This is some artist our scene has helped to nurture. Where does he go from here? Support to Billy Joel at the Hammersmith Odeon?!

Clive Pownceby

NEMO JAMES - "Touch The Moon" Rosie Records RR056 D

Apart from the lyrics and song listing the glossy booklet with the CD tells me nothing about Nemo James and if there are any other musicians on it. All the tracks are written and produced by Nemo and the CD lasts for 70 minutes.

I am not sure really what to say about this. I don't like it. It is hard to be objective when you really don't like something. It is, I think, the general feel of the music and the production, which is all too smooth, there is no light and shade and no punch or feeling in the delivery. I get the impression that he is really a songwriter rather than a performer.

The songs on the whole are not that bad, they just need some guts. He ought really to listen to the likes of Kieran Halpin, Harvey Andrews or Allan Taylor and get a new producer.

Ken Howard

ANNA RYDER - "Eye To Eye"

Rowdy Music RMC1

I don't know anything about Anna other than what is on the cassette sleeve. She writes all her own songs and plays guitar, piano, horns, Banjo and accordion. I am not sure whether this is her first recording, but I guess it is.

With a couple of exceptions I am afraid I found it all a bit samey. They are nearly all soul searching "heart on the sleeve" type songs, not easy subjects. With this type of song, it is all too easy to fall into the trap of writing cliche's into them and there are a few.

On the good side, Anna plays all the instruments well. There is some particularly nice guitar work on "The Session Song" and the banjo on "A Child Like Me" has a South African Feel to it. Most of the tracks feature Anna's solo voice but the ones that stand out for me are those that have been multitracked. The extra vocals give a lot more light and shade to the songs, particularly on "You Can Tease Me".

Ken Howard

LOUDON WAINWRIGHT III

"Career Moves"

Loudon Wainwright is above all a performer. His studio albums have been enjoyable, containing good songs, well performed. They have never been able to capture the manic character that appears on stage. In many ways, therefore, a live album offers a better prospect of revealing the real Loudon Wainwright.

Career Moves is the record of an evening at the Bottom Line, New York in January 1993. Loudon appears before a sympathetic audience which includes his Mom. (I would love to know what she makes of all this!) Whilst there may have been a degree of editing, the album presents a faithful 29 reproduction of a typical Loudon concert.

The programme spans his whole career - there are old favourites plus a number of new songs. One song receives its first performance! There are touching songs about his family which receive sensitive treatment. There are the tales of the absurd which are stretched and contorted by his mannerisms on stage. There are the revelations of his personal life, not always appealing but always intriguing.

In the middle, Loudon is joined by Chaim Tannen-baum and David Mansfield, and they turn in a remarkably cheerful version of the Swimming Song. However, he starts and ends the concert on his own. It lasts for 75 minutes, but time passes quickly. All too soon the end arrives and the audience and are calling for more. I suddenly realise that although I have been listening intently, my cheeks are aching from laughter. Loudon has that effect on you.

Henry Peacock

HILARY JAMES - "Burning Sun"

Acoustics Records CDA CSO 16

(With Simon Mayor, Andy Baum, Zoltan Kata, Brendan Power, Alan Whetton)

Wonderful - every track superb. For me, the best album of the 90's so far. Oozes class, with arrangements tailored like Saville Row suits. Take a hammer to the piggy bank and rush to your nearest record store. Buy, buy, buy.

Dave Dav

MACLAINE COLSTER AND JENNY CROOK - "Cythara!"

Goldleaf Records.

Saw them live at Werneth and was so impressed! bought the album straight away. The recording is not a disappointment - the quality is high, the choice of content well balanced. Maclaine (you may have seen him with Jim Couza) plays hammered dulcimer and Jenny a harp. The instruments weave and intertwine beautifully. They are coming up to do some north West bookings in November - try and persuade your organiser to have them at your local club.

Dave Day

BAND OF THE RISING SUN - "Feeling Frisky"

All proceeds to "IN With A Chance".

The band specialises in preserving the music of the North West and very well they do it too. Seen them in concert twice and waited for them to "attack" their vocals the way they do their instrumentals. The same could be said of the album. Their sound would be great to dance to, but a touch of the "Barely Works" in the vocal numbers would not go amiss. Worth your hard-earned brass - could be even better on the second album.

Dave Day

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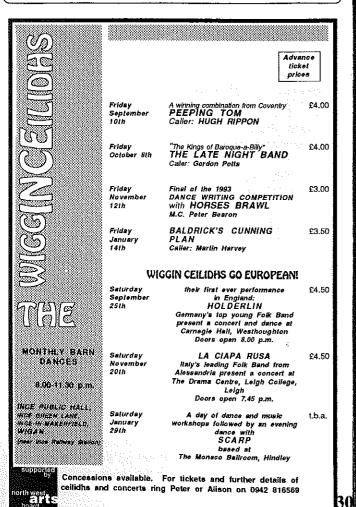
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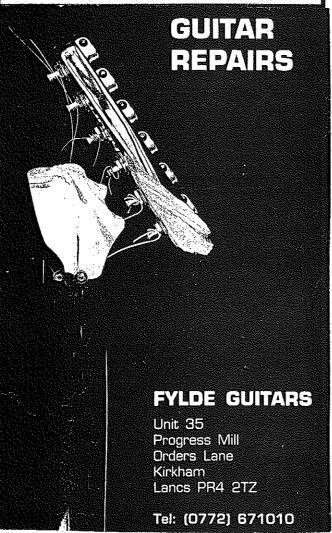
The Sixth Annual Lancaster Maritime Festival Easter 1994

 ${
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Good Friday to Easter Monday 1st ~ 4th April 1994

To receive a Festival Newsletter, (available later this year) contact: Maritime Festival, Lancaster Tourism. 29 Castle Hill, Lancaster, LA1 1YN or telephone David Wright, (0524) 582394/582902



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Treasurer	Kath Holden	7, Sunleigh Road, Hindley, Wigan	0942 58459
Editor	Nigel Firth	118, Bolton Road, Aspull, Wigan	0942 833293
Assistant Editor	Linda Wright	266, Todmorden Rd	0706 877090
Publicity	Philip Page	47, Beryl Road, Noctorum, Wirral	051 678 7589
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	Contact	Treasurer (see Above)	
Minutes Secretary	Linda Wright	266, Todmorden Rd., Sharneyford, Bacup	0706 877090
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THE

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'.



ľ	DAY/CLUB	TIME	CLUB ADDRESS	ORGANISER	PHONE NO.
Ī	SUNDAY				
1		8.30 pm	Fighting Cocks Hotel, Promenade, Arnside	Steve Black	0524 761823
- 1		8.00 pm	Blundell Arms, Upper Aughton St., Birkdale	Clive Pownceby	051 924 5078
0		8.00 pm	St. Joseph's Sodality Club, Chapel St., Leigh	Theresa Tooley	0942 892226
		8.30 pm	The London Hotel, Upper Mostyn Street, Llandudno	John Les	0492 580454
- 1		0.00 piit	The London Hotel, opportmostyn on on, Liandaunte		5.02.000.01
	MONDAY MUCIC	0.00	Dulla Hand Hatal Decumerie Appleant	John Harley	no phone
			Bull's Head Hotel, Beaumaris, Anglesey	Joyce Riding	0257 792304
			The Toll Bar, Horwich	Hugh O'Donnell	0772 745498
			The Unicorn, North Road, Preston The Liverpool, James Street, Liverpool	Doreen Rickart	051 256 6180
1			Travellers Rest, Crab St., St. Helens	Graham Dunn	0744 25211
	·	10.00 pm	Havellers Heat, Glab Gt., Gt. Holons	Granam Bann	0744 20211
10	TUESDAY	0.00	The Floring Tedescoles Deed Deep	Linda Muiaht	0700 077000
F0		8.30 pm	The Flowers, Todmorden Road, Bacup	Linda Wright Brian Jones	0706 877090 051 648 5117
		8.30 pm	Black Horse, Grange Rd. West, West Kirby, Wirral	Dave Day	051 526 6661
1		8.30 pm	Hare & Hounds, Maghull	Martin Green	0829 250516
10		8.30 pm	The Garden Arms, Tilston, Cheshire The Tap & Spile, Hope Street, Rochdale	Bill Tucker	0706 33038
F0		8.30 pm 8.30 pm	Grapes Hotel, Croston, Nr. Preston	Mark Dowding	0695 576215
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1	WEDNESDAY	2.00	Combined Mark Dates Dank Council Disables	C. Claudon	0254 201930
1	1	8.30 pm	Fernhurst Hotel, Bolton Road, Ewood, Blackburn	C. Clayton	
1		8.30 pm 8.30 pm	Green Barn, Manchester Road, Blackrod	Paul Wordsworth Bob O' Callaghan	061 790 7153 051 424 5367
	CASTLE 8.45 at LANE ENDS		Castle Hotel, Halton Village, Runcorn Lane Ends Hotel, Weeton Road, Wesham	Ann Green	0772 684537
		0.40 pm	Lane Ellus Hotel, Weeton Hoad, Westlam	Alti Green	077E 004307
	THURSDAY		77 0 1 1 1 0 01 /N 01 /N D	Outhorn Flotalism	0700 000700
		8.15 pm		Graham Fletcher	0706 220768
_		8.30 pm	Railway Hotel, Heatley, Lymm	Sandie Clough	0925 39866 0900 604765
(3)		8.30 pm	Tithe Barn Hotel, Station Street, Cockermouth	Terry Haworth Dave Ryan	0253 876351
	FLEETWOOD GREGSON'S LANE	8.30 pm	Steamer Hotel, Queens Terrace, Fleetwood	Graham Dixon	0254 853929
		8.30 pm	St. Joseph's Social Centre, Gregson Lane, Hoghton The Douglas Gate, Orchard Street, Wigan	Joan Blackburn	0942 321223
		8.30 pm	Sacred Heart Parish Club, Swan Lane, Hindley Green	Les Higson	0942 53240
		8.30 pm		Dave Cox	051 489 7895
1		8.30 pm	The Ship Inn, Haskayne, Nr. Ormskirk	lan Tupling	0695 579545
1		8.00 pm	White Swan, Green Street, Fallowfield	Anne Morris	061 881 8294
]		5.00 pm	Trans trices, descri descri, i distribut		
	FRIDAY NORTHWICH	8.30 pm	Hartequin Theatre, Queen Street, Northwich	Sarah Burdon	0606 48577
		8.00 pm	The Albion Hotel, Old Hall St., Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent	Jason Hill	0782 813401
		8.30 pm	Glanglasfor, Rhyl	Jeff Blythin	0745 336052
		8.30 pm	Red Lion Hotel, Wigan Road, Westhoughton	Pat Batty	0942 812301
		0.00 p	riou gon rious, rigan rious, riounougaea	Ì	
	SATURDAY BREWERY ARTS	0 20	Brewery Arts Centre, 122a, Highgate, Kendal	John Smyth	0539 25133
			,	Charles Fyson	0204 887970
8		8.00 pm 8.30 pm	White Lion, Bolton Street, Bury The Royal, Liverpool Road, Formby	Janet Kemp	0704 876745
کے		8.30 pm	Burnley Mechanics, Manchester Road, Burnley	lan Wells	0282 30005
0		8.30 pm	Poynton Folk Centre, Park Lane, Poynton	David Brock	061 483 6521
	SOUTHPORT ARTS	•	Southport Arts Centre, Lord Street, Southport	Neil Johnstone	0704 40004
			s meet on variuos nights - see Diary Dates for details		



No Smoking club



MAGHULL'S FIRST DAY OF MUSIC

Maghull Town Hall Complex Saturday, 6th November 1993 Noon – To – Midnight

Enquiries: 051-526 6661 - Admission: £6

Christine Collister

'The Voice Of The 90's'

Maxie & Mitch

UK's Funniest Duo

'Blarneystone'

The Music of Ireland

Carolina Shout

Ragtime Specialists

Caught on the Hop

Folk/Rock Band

Peter Edgerton

'Fellside' Recording Artist

Hobson & Lees

Hot Jazz Guitars

Lennon & Higham

Maghull's Own

Marie Little

Super Songstress

TH'
Antique Roadshow

Accapella Group

Tom Travis Band
Top Bluegrass Band

☆ CLOVER ☆ DEMURE ☆ GEORGE & JOAN GALLIMORE ☆
☆ LOCTUP TOGETHER ☆ SELDOM HEARD ☆ THE 'SISTERS' ☆
☆ THREE'S COMPANY ☆ THE 'WORKSHOP' ☆

YOUTH CONCERT

FOSSBROOKS. YOUTH QUAKE. DEYES HIGH JAZZ ENSEMBLE.
MAGHULL PARISH JUNIOR HANDBELL RINGERS.
MUSICIANS FROM MAGHULL HIGH AND MARICOURT SCHOOLS.

ALL DAY FOLK CLUB

THE 'BOTHY' (Southport). BROMBOROUGH FOLK. FORMBY FOLK. HASKAYNE FOLK. LEIGH FOLK. MAGHULL FOLK. NEW LEVELLERS (Liverpool). THE 'PAVILION' (Billinge). SEFTON BLUEGRASS CLUB. THE 'TRITON' (Liverpool).

☆ Food by 9th Sefton East Scouts ☆

CRAFT FAIR - LOCAL CRAFTSMEN







