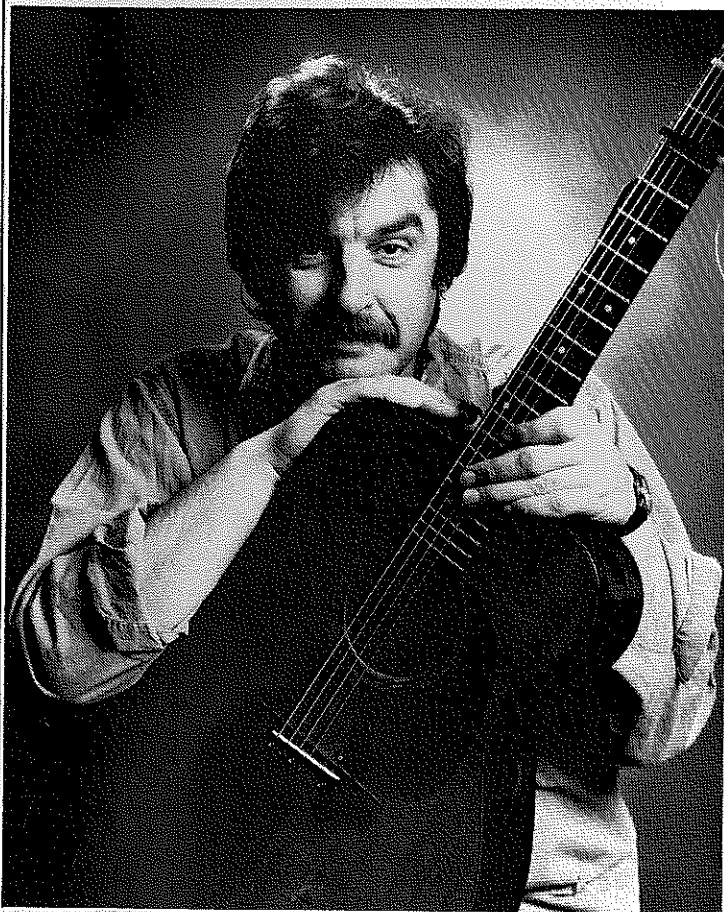


# FOLK *North West*

Summer 1994

75p



**RICHARD GRAINGER**

Appearing at local clubs & festivals

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

**WELL-DRESSING**

**NewsReel**

**Out & About returns!**

**Youthful Perspective**

**Record & Book Reviews**

LIVE REVIEWS:

**Carrying it on 5!**

plus:

**FULL CLUB  
CALENDAR**

**AND MUCH, MUCH MORE**

**THE MOST DATES - THE BEST REVIEWS**

# Warwick Folk Festival

5<sup>TH</sup>-7<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 1994

AFTERHOURS ☆ MARA (Australia)  
 THE WILSON FAMILY ☆ THE CAST  
 THE OLD ROPE STRING BAND  
 LIGHTNING & RAINBOWS  
 THE GECKOES ☆ LOOSE CHIPPINGS  
 SHAVE THE MONKEY  
 TOM McCONVILLE ☆ SHOW OF HANDS  
 STEVE TILSTON & MAGGIE BOYLE  
 THE LAKEMAN BROTHERS

WALTERS & WARNER (Australia)  
 BRIAN PETERS & GORDON TYRRALL  
 HEATHER HEYWOOD ☆ FIELDWORK  
 FOS BROTHERS ☆ SUZANNE CHAWNER  
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 ALAN BOLT ☆ ZVONECEK (Czech)  
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# werneth folk

w e e k e n d

## saturday 25th june

north west workout day -  
 including: fiddle, dulcimer, song,  
 clog stepping  
 and asian music workshops.  
 evening ceilidh with  
 THE LATE NIGHT BAND  
 plus club marquee hosted by NW Clubs.

## sunday 26th june

werneth park, oldham 1pm  
 free open air concert

Compere Bernard Wrigley  
 featuring: LATE NIGHT BAND  
 RED CIEL  
 BRIAN PETERS & GORDON TYRALL  
 MARTIN HALL  
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 BAND OF THE RISING SUN



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## CONTENTS

Volume 17 Number 1  
 Summer 1994

Chairman's Ramblings	...4
NewsReel - Latest News from around the region and further afield	...5
Diary Chat	... 7
List of Club Residents	... 8
Club Reporters: Hebden Bridge, Tilston	... 9
A Youthful Perspective: with Jenny Shottliffe & others	.. 10
Hiring Fair	.. 11
Letters to the Editor	...12
Out & About with Nat Clare	... 13
Mini Market	...14
Club Calendar (June to August 1994)	... 16
List of Clubs	... 19
Live Reviews: Carrying It on 5	... 20
Bookshelf: Latest Folk books	...21
Crafts & Customs: Well-Dressing	... 22
Record Reviews	.. 24

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

## EDITORIAL

WELCOME to another issue of FOLK NORTH WEST!

We've had to increase our cover price this issue, but as you will notice we've been able to keep the increase small. Our circulation has increased quite a bit, and if it continues to do so, I hope that Folk North-West will start to make money which can be put back into the clubs and to develop our youth activities so successfully pioneered by Jenny Shottliffe.

You will find Jenny's youth column on page 10, where there are also contributions from Anna Davies and Chris & Hannah Coutts. Also this issue we review the annual youth event run by Maghull folk club on behalf of the Federation, namely "Carrying-it-on". You'll find the review on page 20.

Nat Clare's back! Yes, Out & About conducted in Nat's own inimitable style, will be found on page 13. Unlucky for some!

**WANTED:** has anyone any good quality black & white photos of local artists we could use for the cover or inside the magazine? Send to Editorial Address.

I haven't exactly been inundated with requests for our Song for the Month feature which began last issue, so if you have a request and send it in quickly, I can guarantee you'll go to the top of the pile for next issue. Speaking of next issue, are we including the features you would like to see in FOLK NORTH-WEST? - after all it is YOUR magazine.

That's all for now, and we'll see you all before Fylde!

*Nigel Fyfe*  
EDITOR

OUR NEXT ISSUE COVERS  
SEPTEMBER TO DECEMBER 1994  
THE CLOSING DATE FOR ALL  
SUBMISSIONS IS JULY 25th,  
NOTHING WILL BE ACCEPTED  
AFTER THIS DATE

### Editorial Address:

118, Bolton Road,  
Aspull,  
Wigan  
WN2 1XF

FAX / Telephone : 0942 833293

## Chairman's Ramblings

So the Daffodils have been and gone. Now we're getting ready to plant out the annuals and filling the hanging baskets. After that there's the caravan to clean inside and out and its underside to examine for any damage or rot. As it's a 1974 model we're thinking of offering back to the manufacturer's for their in-house museum!!! Then there's the tent and equipment to check (sometimes (if I've been a very good boy) "Her Indoors" lets me go off on my own to far flung festivals). You know just thinking about it all makes me tired out!!

We're also right in the midst of planning for our "Day (and a bit) of Music" in November - now you wouldn't think we'd be doing that this early would you - But!! there's to be a barn dance on the 11 November, with a few "extras" as well as a band; then there's the 12 hour marathon on the 12th, and a concert with "Fosbrooks" (who have now been seen twice on "Barrymore") on the 19th. We also have a couple of special club nights on the 8th and 15th November. Why??? Well this year Maghull celebrates its 100 years of local government, so the town council is having a "Maghull Centenary Festival of Music" from 7th-19th November. Guess who they have as co-ordinator? Yup - you got it in one!! More of that next issue.

Now here a REAL special. On 1st July at Melling Tithebarn there's a charity night for "One Of Our Own" who has had an absolutely horrendous year. Here is not the place to go into the details but give me a ring if you want the details. What's being organised should be well worth your £3. This really is one you'll be glad to support!

See you in the Autumn - God willing!!

Dave Day

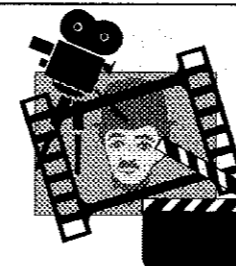
### FOLK MUSIC PROGRAMMES ON LOCAL RADIO

**BBC Radio Lancashire FM 95.5/103.9/104.5**  
LANCASHIRE DRIFT presented by NIC DOW  
Thursday 9.00 -10.00pm

**BBC Radio Merseyside FM 95.8/ MW 1485kHz**  
FOLKSCENE presented by Stan Ambrose and Geoff Speed Tuesdays 6.00-7.00pm

**MANX RADIO FM 89/97.2/103.7 - MW 1368kHz**  
MANX FOLK presented by John Kaneen, Sunday 6.00-7.30pm.

Apart from Folk on the Night Network which is still on Radio Cumbria on Sundays 8.30-10.00pm, there are no other Folk programmes that we know of. Write & let us know if we are wrong!



## NewsReel

Latest News from around the region and further afield

Welcome once again to **NewsReel**, lots of odds 'n' sods to get through this time, but before we kick off a reminder that if you know of anything that you think should be included in this section of Folk NorthWest then send in the details. I can only include the items I know about and I would love to cover some of the little known folk events as well as the biggies. All information sent c/o the editor is sure to find its way to my in tray, so go to it folkies, inundate me.

The festival season is upon us, so it seems a good idea to give you a taste of what you can expect this summer. Obviously I can't mention them all, but here are a few of the more interesting festivals. Hope you can find one to tempt you.

### June 3rd - 5th Edale Blue-grass Festival

The Johnson Mountain Boys plus over 20 British and European bands.

Contact: Tom Travis - 04578 61789

### June 3rd - 5th Wigan Folk Festival

Roy Bailey, Upstairs in a Tent, Garva, Les Barker. No real need to mention this one, except to say that after you've seen all the big names, watch out for Hilary Hornby.

More Info: 0744 53058

### June 17th - 19th Beverley Folk Festival

Robin Williamson & John Renbourne, Doonan Family Band, The House Band, John Tams. A lovely festival set in a lovely location.

More Info: 0377 217662

### July 1st - 3rd Bracknell Festival 94

Robin Williamson & John Renbourne, Young Tradition Band, Show of Hands, Rob Johnson & Pip Collins, Jay Turner. Free cinema, free parking, free camping, but weekend tickets are thirty quid.

More Info: 0344 484123

### July 1st - 3rd Cleckheaton Folk Festival

Vin Garbutt, Jez Lowe, Peeping Tom, Oldham Tinkers, Martin Wyndham-Reed. Advance tickets are priced at £10.00 Camping is £1.00 per tent per night. 5

More Info: 0924 404346

### July 8th - 10th Redcar Folk Festival

The Wilsons, The Deighton Family, Maxi & Mitch plus lots more excellent artists should make this one of the years better festivals. See Jenny Shottliffe's page in this issue for details of youth events at Redcar.

More Info: 0947 840928

### July 15th - 17th Stonehaven Folk Festival

Carthy/Swarbrick, The McCalmans, Small Talk, Makvirag. I know nowt about this one whatsoever, but I thought I'd mention it anyway!

Contact: Pat Tavendale - 0569 763519

### July 29th - 30th Berwick Summer Folk Festival

Battlefield Band, Jez Lowe, June Tabor, Old Rope String Band, Alistair Anderson.

More Info: 0289 330999

### August 13th - 20th Morland Folk Dance Week

A wide variety of workshops and dances catering for all abilities and tastes in folk dance. Season tickets are £54.50 plus extra for camping.

Contact: David Jones - 0931 714338

### August 19th - 26th South Bank Folk Week

June Tabor, Aly Bain, Bert Jansch. All concerts are priced at £7.50 and there are also a number of free events.

More Info: Royal Festival Hall - 071 928 8800

### August 26th - 29th Towersey Village Festival

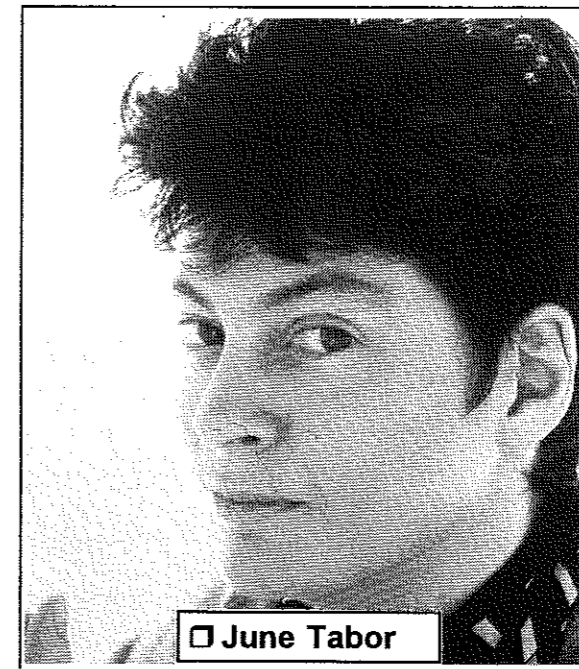
Roy Bailey, Chris Wood & Andy Cutting, Mara!, Token Women, High Level Ranters, Feet First. Promises to be a superb festival, although weekend tickets are a little pricey at £29.00 before 1st July (£32.00 after).

More Info: 0296 304411

### September 9th - 11th Crewe & Nantwich Folk Festival

Pentangle, Clan McPeake, Caravanserai, Jay Turner, Pauline Cato.

Contact: John Dunning - 0270 669181



June Tabor

That's all you'll get from me with regard to festivals. There's so much on offer this year I've only scratched the surface, but if you can't find summatt that appeals then you're hard to please. On to other things.....

Some very nice ceilidhs are being held on the first Friday of each month at Ramsbottom Liberal Club. Resident musicians are the Riot Band, advance tickets are a very modest £2.50 and the evenings have a exceptionally friendly club type atmosphere. Speak to Jean Seymour on 061 761 1544.

**Band of Hope** are playing a couple of dates in the North-West. On Friday 8th June they're at Southport Arts Centre & Tuesday 5th July at Bury Met. In case you've been in hibernation, Band of Hope are Roy Bailey, Martin Carthy, Steafan Hannigan, John Kirkpatrick and Dave Swarbrick, five of the finest artists on today's folk scene. Tickets for both gigs are £8.00.

Southport Arts Centre - 0704 540011 Bury Met - 061 761 2216

**Folkworks** are running an 'Absolute Beginners Workout' on Saturday, 25th June at Longbenton, Newcastle upon Tyne. The day is open to adults and children aged 10+ and workshops include fiddle, melodeon, whistle, dance calling, Irish step dance and song. The day is followed by a ceilidh which will run from 8.00pm until midnight. If you want to know more speak to Paul Hobson on 091 222 1717.

Also on June 25th, and this time a little more local, is the **4th annual 'North West Workout Day'**. A day of workshops (Melodeon, Guitar, Percussion, Clog Stepping, Mumming, Song, Dulcimer, Fiddle, Beginners Band, Asian Music) will be followed by an evening ceilidh with The Late Night Band and Gordon Potts. All this will take place at The Music Rooms, Werneth Park, Oldham and if you want to know more speak to Jenny Coxon on 0457 876731.

There will be a special concert at the **Royal Albert Hall** on Thursday, 30th June as a tribute to **Ken Woollard** who died last October. Ken was organiser and the heart and soul of the Cambridge Folk Festival for 29 years, from its inception in 1964 to last summer. 'A Tribute to Ken Woollard' will feature artists that Ken supported over the years. The artists are appearing free and all profits will go to his widow, Joan Woollard. Amongst the guests are Christy Moore and Loudon Wainwright III and tickets are £17.50, £18.50 and £19.50. More information 081 542 8101.

**The Durham Folk Party** takes place on 29th to 31st July. It's not a festival, it's more of a celebration, in fact a party. It's subtitled "a right old song and dance" and is for people whose idea of fun is singing or playing in a pub, for dancers or for those who like watching dancing and for those who like a pint and a chat with the other people who come to such an event. If you need more information you can speak to Ian McCulloch on 091 384 4160 or Colin Ryder on 091 386 1344.

Liverpool blues duo **Raphael Callaghan and Christine Purnell**, whose debut cassette Blue C was reviewed so favourably in Folk North West are playing the following local bookings - July 9th, Trade Union Centre, Hardman Street, Liverpool; June 26th, New Brighton Rhythm and Blues Festival; June 24th and August 5th, Yorkshire House, Lancaster; September 3rd, Fylde Folk Festival. All enquiries to Raphael on 051 709 5484.

A group of people especially close to my heart are **Horwich Prize Medal Morris Men**, purveyors of traditional North West Morris and boozers of high renown. They will be hosting a weekend of dance on 16th - 18th September when their guests will be Grimsby Morris Men and Barley Break. There will be dance displays around Horwich and Bolton and no doubt the odd pub session as well. Advance tickets for this one are non-existent, just turn up, watch and enjoy. See you there!!!

**Roy Harris** has moved back to South Wales where he started his career some thirty years ago. He can now be found at 31, Carling Court, Haig Place, Ely Cardiff CF5 4PH, South Wales. Tel No. 0222 599613. He is now available full time as a singer, storyteller, workshop director or compere. Tell your club organiser to book him now!

That's it. Have a good summer. - Steve Morris

### INTERNATIONAL CORNER

THERE IS A YOUNG MAN IN JAPAN  
WHO PERCUSSES WHENEVER HE CAN  
NOW HE'S STARTED TO YEARN,  
OUR FOLK CULTURE TO LEARN  
SO DROP HIM A LINE IF YOU CAN

Well OK the limerick isn't so hot but the message I'm trying to convey is that Mr Yoshihito Shimitsu, having commissioned me to make a bodhran, has expressed a wish to correspond with someone interested in Japan and/or would like to discuss folk music. He's done some rock band drumming and likes Irish traditional music.

Write to him at:

Tobikoshi 50-4 Terazu-Cho  
Nishio-Shi Aichi  
444-03 Japan

Frank Lewis, Carnforth

## DIARY CHAT

**Please Note: All future correspondence concerning Diary Chat, Club Residents and Diary Dates should be addressed to Chris McIlveen on 0204 852627.**

### WELCOME TO NEW CLUBS:

We bid a warm welcome to two new clubs this edition:

**Blackpool Folk Club** meet at the George Social Club, 75 George Street, Blackpool every Tuesday evening at 8:30 pm. For further information contact the organisers Ken Adams and Beryl Pilling on 0253 397622 (evening only).

**Dalton Folk Club** meet at the Cavendish Arms, Dalton-in-Furness, Cumbria every fortnight on Tuesday evening at 8:30 pm. Contact the organiser Alan Towse on 0229 580532 for further details.

### GENERAL NEWS:

**The Railway Folk Club** has a new organiser, Ann Clancy. Ann forms half of the duo 'Gemini', the other half being Therea Tooley, and they recently won the traditional singing competition at the National Folk Festival held at Sutton Bonnington, which was featured on BBC Radio. She can be contacted on 0925 267667.

**Hesketh Bank Folk Club**, who used to meet on the first Wednesday of the month, will change to meet on the first Sunday of every month as from June 5. The time is still 8:00 pm and the venue is still Hesketh Bank Bowling Club.

**Bothy Folk Club** has a new resident, Bill Hackney, who replaces Keith Mandle. Keith is now living and working in the Leeds/Otley area. Bill is a tasty picker of Blues and Jansch-style guitar, with harmonica skills and a fair old vocal prowess. The Blundell Arms, the club's home for all but a few months of its 29 years, has a new management team, Colin & Liz, and will be featuring new guest beers in addition to the Walker range. First up is Marstons Pedigree and watch the bar for further details!

Great news from **Westhoughton Folk Club** - they will be hosts to the **VIN GARBUTT BAND** on September 23 and tickets are still available. It is worth noting that this is the only venue that the band will be playing in the North West this season.

July 9 sees the **3rd Liverpool Folk & Arts Festival**. Entry to this great day out is completely free and things get going around 11:00 am, right through to midnight. There are a whole host of local names taking part, covering most varieties of music, so there should be something for everyone. There are events for children including Punch & Judy, Clowns and Juggling. Contact Dave Cox on 051 489 7895 for further details.

**Hebden Bridge Folk Club** has a new venue and a new organiser. However many thanks are due to Derek Edwards for doing such a great job at the Stubbing Wharf. The club now meets every alternate Thursday evening at 8:30 pm at The Trades Club, Holme Street, Hebden Bridge. The new organiser is Erik (yes Erik!) Williams and he can be contacted on 0422 845265.

**Tilston Folk Club** have asked me to point out that they meet at the **CARDEN ARMS**, Tilston, and not at the Garden Arms as we previously listed them

### ACCESS FOR DISABLED:

Bacup  
Hesketh Bank  
Levellers  
Mechanics  
Open Door



### NON SMOKING CLUBS:

Bacup  
Cockermouth  
Darwen  
Formby  
Leigh ("Refrain from smoking" Policy)  
Llandudno



7 Maghull (First Tuesday - Non smoking night)

## EXTRA DATES:

SN = Singers Night, (T) = Ticket only

**Bothy** - Sept 4 Jeff Davis & Jeff Warner

**Bury** - Sept 10 Reopen, Sep 17 Acoustic Repts, Oct 8 Johnny Handle, Oct 15 Keith Hendrick

**Cockermouth** - Sept 1 SN, Sept 8 Gordon Tyrall, Sept 15 Allan Taylor, Sept 22 Terry Docherty & Robin Dunn, Oct 4 Tom McConville & Sean Lakeman, Oct 13 Dick Miles, Oct 20 Heather Innes, Oct 27 SN, Nov 3 John Kirkpatrick, Nov 10 Ian Bruce, Nov 17 SN, Nov 24 Geoff Higginbottom

**Fleetwood** - Sept 1 Pre-Fylde Concert with Robb Johnson & Pip Collings

**Formby** - Sept 17 Harvey Andrews (T), Oct 1 Jez Lowe, Dec 3 Dave Summers

**Hebden Bridge** - Sept 8 Elaine Samuels

**Hesketh Bank** - Sept 4 Pete Coe, Oct 2 Phil Hare, Nov 6 Bram Taylor, Dec 4 The McCalmans (tbc)

**Llandudno** - Sept 2 Dean Johnson

**Maghull** - Nov 11 Barn Dance (Maghull Town Hall), Nov 12 Maghull Day of Folk, Nov 19 Concert (Melling Tythe Barn)

**Mechanics** - Sept 10 Cajun Night at Padiham Town Hall, Sept 17 Kathryn Tickell Band, Sept 25 Davey Arthur & Co., Oct 12 Rock Salt & Nails, Oct 15 Cajun Night at Padiham Town Hall, Oct 21 Beer Street

**Northwich** - Sept 2 Dave Burland, Sept 16 Aileen Vance (tbc), Sep 23 Second String

**Potteries** - Sept 9 Clann McTeake, Sept 23 Marilyn Middleton-Pollock

**Poynton** - Oct 15 John Renbourn, Nov 27 The McCalmans, Dec 18 Houghton Weavers

**Railway** - Sept 22 Allan Taylor

**Travellers Rest** - Nov 21 Carol Hogsden & Jane Threlfall

**Westhoughton** - Sept 16 John Leonard & John Squire, Sept 23 Vin Garbutt Band (T), Sept 30 Pete Coe

**White Swan** - Sept 8 Clann McTeake, Sept 15 Jeff Warner & Jeff Davis

## CLUB RESIDENTS:

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

**ASPULL** - Paul Wordsworth, John Dawson, Frank Wilson

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

**BACUP** - Linda Wright, Len Quinn, Judith & Sue

**BLACKBURN** - Flatbroke

**BOTHY** - Clive Pownceby, Pete Rimmer, Ray Rooney, Bev Sanders, Neville Grundy, Bill Hackney

**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

**HASKYANE** - LocTup Together, Lynn Thompson

**HESKETH BANK** - Chris Hornby

**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** - George Strattan, John Murphy, Ken Roberts, Mark Butterworth

**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 Trelfall & Carl Hogsden, Rob Malaney, John

MacAlister, Simon Booth, Ian Brownwood

**TILSTON** - Geoff Edwin-Scott, Penny Hughes, Graham Bellinger

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

**WESTHOUGHTON** - Auld Triangle

**WHITE SWAN** - Maggie Billington, Patrick Gallagher, Phil Dunne, Carl & Jane, Maureen Hothan, Dave & Helen Howard, Anna Beame

## CLUB REPORTERS

### HEBDEN BRIDGE FOLK CLUB

"Thank You" to everyone who has supported the club over the past 18 months - We have had some super nights musically, but too many disastrous nights financially.

The club had it's final fling on April 14 with a "Pipers Galore", featuring Mark Dixon, 2 sets by Adrian D Schofield with a brilliant exhibition on Northumbrian Pipes, and topped by what must be THE new band of the moment - "Reed Riot" with Becky Taylor and David Lim paring up on Irish Pipes, backed by Hugh Bradley and Mark Mawbey, a combination so tight and talented it sent that shiver of excitement down the spine!

**Club organisers look out - If you are interested ring Becky (0422 320712).**

So, what a night to finish with! Finish? Not exactly, because Hebden Bridge Trades Club have offered to try to breathe new life into the Folk Club by taking over the two outstanding gigs on May 5 (Stephan Hannigan and his band), and June 9 (Spike Island).

After that they will continue to run Hebden Bridge Folk Club on Thursday nights but the frequency is yet to be determined. Good luck to the Trades Club, and do try to give your support. (Trades Club, Holme Street, Hebden Bridge. Tel: 0422 845265)

Having organised the club since the first gig nights wondering whether we would have enough to pay the artist, I can only congratulate those organisers who keep their heads above water and wish you luck for the future.

To those of you who go to listen - keep doing just that, and encourage one or two friends along - it makes all the difference having a regular attending membership.

Derek Edwards

Hebden Bridge Folk Club

### TILSTON FOLK CLUB

Tilston Folk Club has had a good year so far with some excellent singer's nights and a host of wonderful guests including John James, Wizz Jones (who braved a snow blizzard in February!) and Fiona Simpson.

Many thanks to Gordon Tydd for the fund-raising quiz evening, Cath and Tony at the Carden Arms, Turkey Rhubarb, and all the loyal supporters! Special thanks to the amazing (and much appreciated) Graham Bellinger (who can be seen and heard at this years Chester Folk Festival.

Over summer we are looking forward to evenings with Steve Tilston and Maggie Boyle, Steve Jinski and a summer party with "Turkey Rhubarb" on the 23 August.

Please join us at the Carden Arms every Tuesday from 8.30pm. Singers nights are free with a small charge for guest performances. ALL WELCOME!

### NOTE TO ALL CLUBS:

If you have some club news, why not send a report in? There is no charge for the inclusion.

Send your report to:

Chris McIlveen,  
51, Moorfield,  
Turton,  
BOLTON,  
BL7 0DH

# A Youthful Perspective

## with Jenny Shotliffe

Elsewhere in this magazine there should be a review of the Melling Tithebarn Youth Concert. **(There isn't -ED)** I thought it would be nice for this issue's Youthful Perspective to complement that by giving the reactions of 3 of the young people who took part in the workshops, and later the concert. From my point of view it was very satisfying to see something on the lines first envisaged when we developed Youthquake. I was also delighted that 3 previously non-singers were encouraged enough to perform in the concert.

**Anna Davies** - "At the youth concert on Saturday 26 March there was a variety of performers. From singing to clogging to playing instruments. I heard lots of new tunes and songs. I enjoyed listening to the singing and watching the clog dancing. The singing workshop was good as it was nice to see people having a go at singing by themselves and in small groups. I enjoyed listening to all the music and as with the November concert I came away from the concert wanting to learn more fiddle tunes."

**Hannah & Chris Coutts** - "In the afternoon there were workshops. We went to Youthquake which was run by Jenny Shotliffe and Joe Broughton. During Youthquake we learned two more tunes to add to our repertoire as we usually do. We noticed that there were some who had been going for a long time, some (like us) who had been going for a reasonable time and some whom we'd not seen before. It was interesting to see and play with a variety of instruments, violins, flutes, guitars, tin whistles and even wood blocks. We hope everyone enjoyed it as much as we did."

The other workshop we went to was a song workshop run by Hester Woods. Neither of us sing a lot and don't get to lots of singarounds, but after the workshop we both feel a lot more confident about singing in public. We also didn't expect to be doing another spot as a result! Not many people went to the song workshop but it was only held in a small room so that is just as well. We all learned a new song which we sang at the concert. We were surprised at doing something else as well as the Youthquake bit but nevertheless we weren't worried because we had done it before.

The concert was great, if a bit hot! We did five spots. Two Youthquake bits, two song workshop bits and one spot of our own. Altogether the concert was a load of fun but still serious in some parts. We found that we got more confidence to do more things like it and will hopefully go again next year.

We didn't get to see many of the other acts as we were either recovering or getting ready to go on, but what we did see was superb. I (Chris) had the job of

assistant MC for the night and had the pleasure of introducing many of the acts most of which, as I said, I was sorry to miss. If you want a review of the evening then we're sure you'll find one elsewhere in this issue.

So once more we owe Jenny a big thank you for a fabulous evening of folk singing and playing".

**My contribution this issue is a round up of the youth events in the North over the summer (or at least those I know about).**

**Chester** (27-30th May) have booked piper Pauline Cato and Lee Collinson who is working with Keith Hancock, both have taken part in past Young Tradition Competitions. On the Sunday myself and Joe are running a youth workshop followed by a session. Details from 0244 320424.

**Wigan** (4-6th June) have brought in Rusty & Stu from Fylde's Festival to run a youth concert on the Sunday afternoon, I understand there will be youth workshops and a session on the Saturday involving amongst others Kerensa Wragg (Hammer Dulcimer) & Tim Van Eyken (Whistles & Box). Details from 0744 53058.

**Werneth** (25th June) run by the INWAC, team have brought together various tutors to put forward a whole series of workshops, a youth concert and evening Ceilidh. Tutors include Stefan Hannigan (Bodhran), Geoff Bowen (Fiddle), Gordan Tyrell (Flute & Guitar), Liza Austin (Absolute beginners NW band) and Youthquake. Details from 0457 876 731.

**Redcar** (8-10th July) looks fantastic (and I'm not just saying that because they let me loose on the programming!), the organiser has put time, thought and money into creating a very promising day. The Saturday will feature a whole series of youth events including workshops (circus skills, playing by ear, putting together a performance, dance and dance music and song and accompaniment), sessions, singarounds and concerts. The organiser is keen to promote and encourage young folkies and has booked numerous young artistes including Oige, Nancy Kerr & Eliza Carthy, Joe & Ben Broughton, Cythara, Jane & Carl and the Fosbrooks - even if no other young people turn up with everyone John has booked there will still be a full young audience! Details from 0947 840928.

**Summer Music** (8-12th August) is a free summer school in Liverpool for all ages including tutors from many styles of music. Folk tutors are George Faux, Dave Shaw, Bernard O'Neil and myself. Details from 051 2073870.

### A Youthful Perspective (from Page 10)....

**Folkworks Youth Summer School** (15-18th August) in Durham is always very popular. Tutors this year include Chris Woods, Andy Cutting, Pauline Cato, Alistair Anderson, Mat Cranitch and Brian Finnegan (the flute player from Upstairs In A Tent). The closing date for enrolment is 29 July and the cost is between £70 - £120. The age range is 12 - 25. Details from 091 222 1717.

**Whitby** (20-26th August) ran U25 sessions last year which unearthed lots of young musicians, this year in addition Youthquake are running a series of workshops (on similar themes to Redcar). There is also an annual hiring fair (very good for new artists) and a number of young artistes have been booked (Damien Barber, the Chipolatas, Jane Pollit & Carys Reckless, Chris & Jane Sherbourne and Jennifer & Hazel Wrigley). Details from 0482 634742.

Finally Fylde (2 -4th September) is increasing its youth events even further. The organisers have made a special decision to feature new and relatively unknown talent this year, good news from a youth point of view. Those booked so far include Kate Rusby & Kathryn Roberts, Joe & Ben Broughton, the Lakeman Brothers and Rebecca Green. Youthquake - which could prove interesting! There will be the Young Talent Contest and Tallyman & the New Generation Concert. Also planned is a youth page in the daily newsletter - good ideas catch on! Details on the youth events from Rusty & Stu on 0253 885203, details about the festival from 0253 872317.

It is wonderful to see so many festivals making an effort to encourage young people, feel free to give me a ring if you want more details. Lets hope even more festivals realise they're missing out next year!

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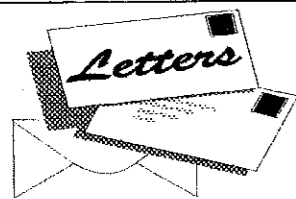
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## to the EDITOR

### Who's Who.....?

I've just seen your coverage of the Guinness Book of Who's Who in Folk Music and am surprised that the reviewer should have seen fit to adopt such a mildly critical tone. I haven't bought the book - I wouldn't waste my money on such rubbish - but I made a number of visits to a bookshop, noting various errors and omissions on each occasion, and then comparing these against documentary evidence from my own library. This revealed such a catalogue of errors, inaccuracies, omissions and arbitrary inclusions, that it must surely qualify for the Guinness Book of Records.

For example, under Ewan MacColl, I thought it was common knowledge by now (see the excellent BBC documentary of a couple of years ago) that he was born in Coburg Street, Salford, Lancashire, not Auchterader, Perthshire as he'd always claimed; that he met Jean Newlove through Theatre Workshop, not the Critics Group (he'd been entwined artistically and conjugally with Peggy Seeger for about eight years by the time that group was founded); and that MacColl and Newlove married in 1948, not 1964. For one entry that would not be bad going.

However, in discussing MacColl's contribution to the radio ballads, the writer gets himself into such a tangled web that I cannot unravel it here. But even the most dim-witted proof reader should have pointed out that "later in 1958" is a strange phrase to use in conjunction with something that happened in 1965.

Perhaps it was too much to hope for that long dead, but nonetheless bedrock personalities of the English tradition, such as Harry Cox, Phil Tanner and George Maynard would be included. But, on looking for still living representatives of that tradition, I was also able to trace the Copper Family. No separate mention of Bob Copper, whose work in preserving the Sussex tradition surely merited one, or of Walter Pardon, Gordon Hall, Frank Hinchliffe, or Will Noble. Incredibly, not even Fred Jordan, veteran of a thousand folk festivals, is in there. Ruled out on some spurious criteria of obscurity perhaps. But Frank Proffitt, a wonderful but even more obscure banjo player and singer from Beech Mountain, North Carolina, rates a mention. As do long forgotten American folk groups like Travellers Three, the Limelighters.

Equally baffling is the fact that, while Jeannie Robertson, the justly famous Scots traveller singer, who died twenty years ago, gets an entry, her equally famous daughter, Lizzie Higgins, who died just last year, does not.

The book is peppered with references to blues singers. An idiom highly agreeable to me but, as the publishers have already brought out a companion

Who's Who of Blues, their presence here seems just a little superfluous.

On attempting to track down present day luminaries of the Irish Tradition I began to feel that the delirious tremors of drinking too much Guinness were getting to me; for such seminal names as Paddy Tunney, Joe Burke, Julia Clifford, Kevin Mitchell and Len Graham plainly exist nowhere outside my imagination. I did find a reference to Seamus Ennis though. It contained the following grotesque statement (quoted from memory); "He made some records for the Irish Gael Linn Label in the late forties, under the Gaelic derivative (?) of his name, Seosamh O'Heanai.

Let's get this straight. Seamus Ennis (surely born nearer 1922 than 1912?) does not translate into Gaelic as Seosamh O'Heanai. They were two completely different people. Ennis was a renowned piper, collector and whistle player from North County Dublin. Seosamh O'Heanai, better known under the English derivative of his name Joe Heaney, was an equally renowned singer from Connemara, County Galway, where they hold an annual festival for him in his home village of Carna. By the way, Gael Linn didn't start issuing records until 1957.

Such sloppy writing is an insult to the memory of two of the most important figures ever to grace the Irish tradition. It is also an insult to anyone expected to fork out the asking price for the book. Yes there is a crying need for an encyclopedia of folk music; one that is comprehensive, well researched, accurate and reliable. This effort deserves entry into the Guinness Book of Records alright - as the fastest piece of junk ever to hit the dustbin.

Yours sincerely

Fred McCormick, or to use the Gaelic derivative of my name, Feardocha MacCarmaig.

P.S. While checking the facts for this letter, I had another look at that Ewan MacColl documentary. It shows a family Ceilidh in the home of the Stewarts of Blairgowrie, Perthshire; another glaring omission. The daughter, Sheila MacGregor, unquestionably the finest living representative of the Scots lowland tradition, is singing Andrew Lammie. Her mother, the redoubtable Belle Stewart, must have heard the song hundreds of times, yet she is mesmerised. She sits riveted, spellbound, her eyes closed, her lips mouthing the words, her face contorted in an effort to hold back the tears.

This is what folk singing is all about; and that's why I get so very, very angry at efforts like this, which serve only to trivialise and misrepresent a great and noble heritage.

## OUT & ABOUT with Nat Clare

### MAY DAY!

Just when you thought it was safe to go back into the Folk Clubs...!! After the strange disappearance of the "Out & About" column from last issue's Folk North West - some have suggested that salivating editors from Folk Roots intercepted and purloined it to analyse the erudite content and vainly copy its sophisticated and witty style, others, less kind, that Andrex are in the market for a new folk-toilet paper - it is surely most gratifying and reassuring that there is about as much chance of getting rid of this column as there is as one of the Dubliners advertising shaving gel or getting June Tabor to smile on an album sleeve!

After dabbling in the dew this May Day morn, there was a surprisingly large puddle still on the lawn when I finally managed to crawl out of bed at half past eleven and it was only when I'd splashed it all over my face that I noticed next door's incontinent dog making a hasty exit - I decided to continue the celebrations in true folk style. Not having a maypole to deck with ribbons and dance around - I think it's something to do with my age - I headed off for the Medlock Tavern's Day of Folk and a fine time was had by all.

The Open Door Folk Club had persuaded numerous resident singers and local folk club organisers to get together and collectively show what they could do in an outdoor event with a festival atmosphere. The bill was too extensive - and the beer too good - to list all the performers, and the day was rounded off with an evening concert given by the one and only Bernard Wrigley. And all this was completely free!! Unfortunately, I couldn't stay to see ex-school chum, fellow Boltonian and fond acquaintance, Bernard, as people kept giving me strange glances as an overpowering aroma of stale poodle pee drifted through the balmy afternoon.

### I DID IT MY WAY

The landlord of a local hostelry in Oldham has seen the light and decided to allow his rambling Victorian pub to host a Thursday evening folk club. The scenario is a familiar one to club organisers - big pub, little money for punters to spend, what about a folk club? Some landpersons(?) happily not this one seem to think that by hosting a folk club, their normal clientele of inebriated psychopaths, make shift deviants, vulgar layabouts and born again beatniks, will be miraculously replaced by polite, attentive, wealthy, middle class music lovers.

As your own Nat Clare was the guest in this instance, one look around the assembled multitudes would have confirmed the folly of this assumption as my audience is comprised entirely of inebriated psychopaths, make shift deviants etc, etc. What's more - I love it! Sadly the tickets were not being touted with Barbara Striesand fervour even though its just as long since I've played live for money in this country - There's no justice is there?

### "IT TAKES A LOT TO LAUGH, IT TAKES A TRAIN TO MEET DAVE WEATHERALL"

On my way back to Manchester library to return a few folk items - like my now traditionally overdue library books - I squashed into the train's two carriages along with two or three thousand other "customers" and found myself in intimate body contact with Bury Folk Club organiser and ex-Jolly Jack member, Dave Weatherall.

As we chatted and invaded each other's personal space for 11 or 12 miles, I informed Dave that one of my overdue cassettes was, in fact, Fellside's Sampler, spookily incorporating two numbers from Jolly Jack. Though Dave seemed suitably under-awed by this amazing cosmic coincidence, I excitedly scoured the carriage - and it needed some scouring - to see if either Bob Dylan or the Red Army Ensemble were on board as these were the other two cassettes I had loaned, and mind blowingly enough .....the buggers were nowhere in sight!

Somewhat disappointed, I proceeded to pick Dave's brains about where I might be able to purchase a second hand Anglo concertina and whilst he seemed reluctant to pick mine - probably preferring to pick the cuddly toy - he did promise to give me a gig at Bury Folk Club where I've spent many's the happy Saturday night. So Dave if your'e reading this - and that will be two of us - I await your call. You'll find my number in the "Situations Vacant" column of this splendid organ.

### WERNETH FOLK WEEKEND

If reading Shelly's (that's Percy Bysshe and not Pete Buzzcock) "Ozymandias" doesn't make you actively aware of the passage of time and your own mortality then the coming around again of annual events when you thought that they had only just finished surely must. I remember as if it were only yesterday - better, in fact, as yesterday I consumed several pints of wonderful scrumpy in Bolton's seventeenth century "Ye Olde Man and Scythe" - attending last year's

Werneth Folk Weekend and having a marvellous time in brilliant sunshine at the free Sunday afternoon concert. Saturday's programme gives everyone a chance to try out the folk arts with experienced tutors culminating in a giant ceilidh, or, if you prefer, you can listen to the best of the North West club scene in the marquee. I'll be doing the latter as my preferred mode of dance is the Limbo and this consists of me lying prostrate on the floor while two people carry a pole over my body.

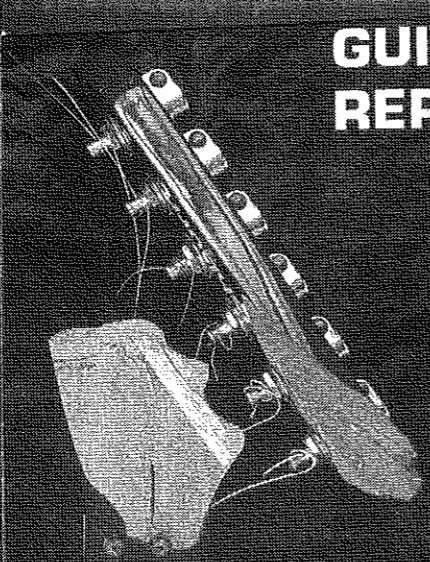
### FROTHING AT THE MOUTH

In the light of the news from the Old Mill Brewery that the independent brewers have just snapped up a folk band named the "Old Mill Band" and offered them a contract they couldn't refuse, I may shortly be changing my name to "Nat Vimto".

See Ya Soon

Nat Clare

P.S.If anyone is interested in buying a guitar (and can't afford Nic Dow's beautiful Fylde) you can buy my pristine 12-string "Jasmine" by Takamine imported from the states with hard case for a mere £150 ono.



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## June Dates

SUNDAY		5-Jun	12-Jun	19-Jun	26-Jun
ARNSIDE		Closed	Closed	Singers Night	Closed
BOTHY		Singers Night	Jeff Gillett & Ron Taylor	Singers Night	Johnny Handle
HESKETH BANK		Pint & Dale	Closed	Closed	Closed
LEIGH		Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
LLANDUDNO		Singers Night	Bram Taylor	Singers Night	Singers Night
*MECHANICS				John Renbourn & Robin Williamson	
OPEN DOOR		Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Jim & Bonz
PAVILION		Closed	Singers Night	Maxi & Mitch (tbc)	Singers Night
MONDAY		6-Jun	13-Jun	20-Jun	27-Jun
HORWICH		Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
PRESTON		Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
SWINTON		Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
TRITON		Singers Night	Eddie Morris	Singers Night	Singers Night
TRAVELLERS' REST		Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Fiddlestone
TUESDAY		7-Jun	14-Jun	21-Jun	28-Jun
BACUP		Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
BLACKPOOL		Alan Bell Band	Singers Night	Phil Capper	Singers Night
DALTON		Bernard Wrigley	Closed	Singers Night	Closed
LIVERPOOL		Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
MAGHULL	s=singers g=guest	Beryl Gilliebrand (s)	Maria Forsythe (s)	Terry Murphy & Harry Hayo (s)	Jay Turner (g)
TILSTON		Singers Night	Singers Night	Steve Tilson & Maggie Boyle	Singers Night
WEDNESDAY		8-Jun	15-Jun	22-Jun	29-Jun
ASPULL	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
8:45 at LANE ENDS	Marie Little	Parcel of Rogues	Bernard Wrigley	Pat Shaw & Julie Mathews	Singers Night
BLACKBURN	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
BURNLEY	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
CASTLE	Guest tba	Singers Night	Guest tba	Singers Night	Guest tba
HESKETH BANK	Strawhead	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
NEW SEVEN STARS	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
THURSDAY		9-Jun	16-Jun	23-Jun	30-Jun
COCKERMOUTH	Singers Night	Jo Freya & Kathryn Locke	Old Rope String Band	Bram Taylor	Fiona Simpson
FLEETWOOD	Geoff Higginbottom	Singers Night	Anne Gregson	Singers Night	Jon Harvison
FOLK at the GATE	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
GREGSON'S LANE	Singers Night	Closed	Singers Night	Closed	Singers Night
HASKAYNE	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
HEBDEN BRIDGE	Closed	Davis Hardy	Closed	Spike Island	Closed
LEVELLERS	Norman & Betty Macdonald		Frankie Armstrong		Singers Night
*MECHANICS			Aly Bain & Savourna Stevenson Trio		
RAILWAY	Spike Island	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Bram Taylor
WHITE SWAN	Upstairs in a Tent	Singers Night	Harvey Andrews	Jon Harvison	Singers Night
FRIDAY		10-Jun	17-Jun	24-Jun	
*BOTHY				* Ceilidh with Blackthorne	
*MECHANICS			Juan Martin		
NORTHWICH	Singers Night	John Moncur, Swan & Sherwood	Brian McNeill	Singers Night	
POTTERIES	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	
RHYL	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Steve Tilson & Maggie Boyle	
WESTHOUGHTON	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	
SATURDAY		11-Jun	18-Jun	25-Jun	
BURY	Norman & Betty Macdonald	Donal Maguire	George Faux	Closed	
FORMBY	Graham Dunne	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
*MECHANICS		Tasso (Padliham Town Hall)	16		
POYNTON	Close to the Bone & The Backscratchers	Ceilidh with Five Bar Gate	Big Road Blues Band & Geoff Higginbottom	Ceilidh with Shake The Dice	

## July Dates

SUNDAY		31-Jul	3-Jul	10-Jul	17-Jul	24-Jul
ARNSIDE	Closed		Closed	Closed	Singers Night	Closed
BOTHY	Closed		Martin Hall	Singers Night	Strawhead	Closed
HESKETH BANK			Hughie Jones	Closed	Closed	Closed
LEIGH	Closed		Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
LLANDUDNO	Anna Ryder		Singers Night	First Principles	Singers Night	Singers Night
OPEN DOOR	Singers Night		Singers Night	Geoff Higginbottom	Singers Night	Singers Night
PAVILION	Robb Johnson & Pip Collings		Singers Night	Hands & Feet Roadshow	Singers Night	Singers Night
MONDAY			4-Jul	11-Jul	18-Jul	25-Jul
MONDAY MUSIC			Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
HORWICH			Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
PRESTON			Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
SWINTON			Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
TRITON			Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
TRAVELLERS' REST			Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
TUESDAY			5-Jul	12-Jul	19-Jul	26-Jul
BACUP			Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
BLACKPOOL			Singers Night	Dave Goulder	Singers Night	Singers Night
DALTON			Singers Night	Closed	Janet Russell	Closed
LIVERPOOL			Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
MAGHULL			Peter Edgerton (s)	Pat Walker & Brian Gilner (g)	Paul Robinson (s)	Bill & Shiela Hunt (s)
TILSTON			Steve Jinski	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
WEDNESDAY			6-Jul	13-Jul	20-Jul	27-Jul
ASPULL			Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
8:45 at LANE ENDS			Stanley Accrington	Garva	Risky Business	Eliza Carthy & Nancy Kerr
BLACKBURN			Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
BURNLEY			Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
CASTLE			Singers Night	Guest tba	Singers Night	Guest tba
NEW SEVEN STARS			Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
THURSDAY			7-Jul	14-Jul	21-Jul	28-Jul
COCKERMOUTH			Singers Night	Artisan	Pete Castle	Derek Gifford
FLEETWOOD			John Fitzgerald	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
FOLK at the GATE			Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
GREGSON'S LANE			Closed	Singers Night	Closed	Singers Night
HASKAYNE			Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
HEBDEN BRIDGE			Folk Evening	Closed	Steve Tilson & Maggie Boyle	Closed
LEVELLERS			Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
RAILWAY			Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
WHITE SWAN			Chris While	Singers Night	Geoff Higginbottom	Marilyn Middleton Pollock
FRIDAY			8-Jul	15-Jul	22-Jul	29-Jul
NORTHWICH	Tony Cuffe & Billy Jackson		Singers Night	Richard Grainger	Barnstormer	Singers Night
POTTERIES	Closed		Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
RHYL	Singers Night		Singers Night	Jon Harvison	Singers Night	Eliza Carthy & Nancy Kerr
WESTHOUGHTON	Closed		Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
SATURDAY			9-Jul	16-Jul	23-Jul	30-Jul
BURY	Closed		Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
FORMBY	Dave Goulder		Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
*LEVELLERS			3rd Liverpool Folk & Arts Festival			
POYNTON	Closed		Ceilidh with Olio	Folk Night (tbc)	Ceilidh with Shake A Leg	Closed

# August Dates

SUNDAY	7-Aug	14-Aug	21-Aug	28-Aug	
ARNSIDE	Closed	Closed	Singers Night	Closed	
BOTHY	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	
HESKETH BANK	Cracked Flag	Closed	Closed	Closed	
LEIGH	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	
LLANDUDNO	Singers Night	Mal Brown	Grant Baynham	Singers Night	
OPEN DOOR	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
PAVILION	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
MONDAY	1-Aug	8-Aug	15-Aug	22-Aug	29-Aug
MONDAY MUSIC	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
HORWICH	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
PRESTON	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
SWINTON	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
TRITON	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
TRAVELLERS' REST	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Closed
TUESDAY	2-Aug	9-Aug	16-Aug	23-Aug	30-Aug
BACUP	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
BLACKPOOL	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
DALTON	Singers Night	Closed	Singers Night	Closed	Kerensa Wragg
LIVERPOOL	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Parcel of Rogues
MAGHULL	Dave Day (s)	Clover (s)	Steve Higham (s)	Bob Davies & Sue Howard (s)	Old Bones (s)
TILSTON	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Summer Party - Turkey Rhubarb	Singers Night
WEDNESDAY	3-Aug	10-Aug	17-Aug	24-Aug	31-Aug
ASPULL	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
8:45 at LANE ENDS	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
BLACKBURN	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
BURNLEY	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
CASTLE	Singers Night	Guest tba	Singers Night	Guest tba	Singers Night
NEW SEVEN STARS	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
THURSDAY	4-Aug	11-Aug	18-Aug	25-Aug	1-Sep
COCKERMOUTH	Singers Night	Janet Wood	Dave Burland	Guest tba	Singers Night
FLEETWOOD	Risky Business	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Robb Johnson & Pip Collings
FOLK at the GATE	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
GREGSON'S LANE	Closed	Singers Night	Closed	Singers Night	Closed
HASKAYNE	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
HEBDEN BRIDGE	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
LEVELLERS	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
RAILWAY	Singers Night	Singers Night	Marilyn Middleton Pollock	Singers Night	Closed
WHITE SWAN	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
FRIDAY	5-Aug	12-Aug	19-Aug	26-Aug	2-Sep
MECHANICS	Grand Ceilidh with Beryl Marriott				
NORTHWICH	Cythara	Singers Night	Elaine Hill	Singers Night	Dave Burland
POTTERIES	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
RHYL	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
WESTHOUGHTON	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
SATURDAY	6-Aug	13-Aug	20-Aug	27-Aug	3-Sep
BURY	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
FORMBY	Sue Howard & Bob Davies	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
MECHANICS	Cajun Experience				
POYNTON	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed

Notes:  
 \* If Club name has "" in front, it's not the usual club night.  
 \* If entry has "" in front, it's being held at a different venue (unless venue is named)

OFFICER	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
Chairman	Dave Day	170; Liverpool Road South, Maghull, Liverpool	051 526 6661
Treasurer	Kath Holden	7, Sunleigh Road, Hindley, Wigan	0942 58459
Editor	Nigel Firth	118, Bolton Road, Aspull, Wigan	0942 833293
Proof Reader	Steve Morris	85, Sydney Ave., Leigh	0942 675848
Publicity	Phillip Page	47, Beryl Road, Noctorum, Wirral	051 678 7589
Advertising	Paul Holden	7, Sunleigh Road, Hindley, Wigan	0942 58459
Club reviewer	Tony Gibbons	2a, Moss Lane, Maghull, Liverpool	051 526 6522
Membership Secretary	Contact	Treasurer (see Above)	
Federation Secretary	Linda Wright	266, Todmorden Rd., Sharneyford, Bacup	0706 877090
Youth Activities	Jenny Shottliffe	1, Bardsey Close, Upholland, Lancs	0695 623641
Development Officer	Frank Wilson	21a, Jackson Street, Chorley	0257 230047

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



DAY/CLUB	TIME	CLUB ADDRESS	ORGANISER	PHONE NO.
<b>SUNDAY</b>				
BOTHY	8.00 pm	Blundell Arms, Upper Aughton St., Birkdale	Clive Pownceby	051 924 5078
PAVILION	8.30 pm	Pavilion, Main Street, Billinge	Jim Coan	0772 452782
LEIGH	8.00 pm	St. Joseph's Sodality Club, Chapel St., Leigh	Theresa Tooley	0942 892226
LLANDUDNO	8.30 pm	The London Hotel, Upper Mostyn Street, Llandudno	John Les	0492 580454
ARNSIDE	8.30 pm	Fighting Cocks Hotel, Promenade, Arnside	Steve Black	0524 761823
HESKETH BANK	8.30 pm	Hesketh Bowling Club, Station Road, Hesketh Bank	Chris Hornby	0772 813746
OPEN DOOR	8.30 pm	Medlock Tavern, Cutlers Hill Road, Failsworth	Andy Broadbent	061 652 4227
<b>MONDAY</b>				
HORWICH	8.30 pm	The Toll Bar, Horwich,	Joyce Riding	0257 792304
PRESTON	8.15 pm	The Unicorn, North Road, Preston	Hugh O'Donnell	0772 745498
TRITON	8.30 pm	The Liverpool, James Street, Liverpool	Doreen Rickart	051 256 6180
TRAVELLERS' REST	8.30 pm	Travellers Rest, Crab St., St. Helens	Graham Dunne	0744 25211
SWINTON	8.30 pm	White Lion, 242 Manchester Road, Swinton	Ged Todd	0942 811527
<b>TUESDAY</b>				
BLACKPOOL	8.30 pm	George Social Club, 75 George Street, Blackpool	Ken Adams	0253 397622
DALTON	8.30 pm	Cavendish Arms, Dalton-in-Furness, Cumbria	Alan Towse	0229 580532
DARWEN	8.30 pm	The George Inn, 9 Bolton Road, Darwen	Christine Young	???? ?????
MAGHULL	8.30 pm	Hare & Hounds, Maghull	Dave Day	051 526 6661
TILSTON	8.30 pm	The Carden Arms, Tilston, Cheshire	Penny Hughes	0829 270588
BACUP	8.30 pm	Market Hotel, Station Road, Bacup	Linda Wright	0706 877090
LIVERPOOL	8.30 pm	Pig & Whistle, Chapel Street, Liverpool	Helen Hebden	051 727 0088
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>				
BLACKBURN	8.30 pm	Veteran Hotel, Eanam, Blackburn	Brian Kirkhams	0254 201930
BURNLEY	8.15 pm	Waggon & Horses Inn, Colne Road, Brierfield	Rod Finlayson	0282 39784
CASTLE	8.30 pm	Castle Hotel, Halton Village, Runcorn	Bob O' Callaghan	051 424 5367
8:45 at LANE ENDS	8.45 pm	Lane Ends Hotel, Wootton Road, Wesham	Ann Green	0772 684537
ASPULL	8.30 pm	Moorgate Inn, Scot Lane, Aspull, Wigan	Paul Wordsworth	061 790 7153
NEW SEVEN STARS	8.30 pm	New Seven Stars, Preston Road, Standish	Hilda Foy	0257 792246
<b>THURSDAY</b>				
COCKERMOUTH	8.30 pm	Tithe Barn Hotel, Station Street, Cocker mouth	Terry Haworth	0900 604765
FLEETWOOD	8.30 pm	Steamer Hotel, Queens Terrace, Fleetwood	Dave Ryan	0253 876351
GREGSON'S LANE	8.30 pm	St. Joseph's Social Centre, Gregson Lane, Hoghton	Graham Dixon	0254 853929
RAILWAY	8.30 pm	Railway Hotel, Heatley, Lymm	Jeff Clough	0925 639866
WHITE SWAN	8.00 pm	White Swan, Green Street, Fallowfield	Anne Morris	061 881 8294
FOLK at the GATE	8.30 pm	The Douglas Gate, Orchard Street, Wigan	Joan Blackburn	0942 321223
HASKAYNE	8.30 pm	The Ship Inn, Haskayne, Nr. Ormskirk	Ian Tupling	0695 579545
LEVELLERS	8.00 pm	The Flying Picket, 24, Hardman Street, Liverpool	Dave Cox	051 489 7895
HEBDEN BRIDGE	8.30 pm	Trades Club, Holme Street, Hebdens Bridge	Erik Williams	0422 845265
<b>FRIDAY</b>				
RHYL	8.30 pm	Bee & Station Hotel, Bodfor Street, Rhyl	Jeff Blythin	0745 336052
NORTHWICH	8.30 pm	Harlequin Theatre, Queen Street, Northwich	Sue Swan	061 775 4612
POTTERIES	8.00 pm	The Albion Hotel, Old Hall St., Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent	Jason Hill	0782 813401
WESTHOUGHTON	8.15 pm	Westhoughton Golf Club, Long Island, Westhoughton	Pat Batty	0942 812301
<b>SATURDAY</b>				
BREWERY ARTS	8.30 pm	Brewery Arts Centre, 122a, Highgate, Kendal	John Smyth	0539 25133
BURY	8.00 pm	The Napier, Bolton Street, Bury	Dave Wetherall	061 761 7708
POYNTON	8.30 pm	Poynton Folk Centre, Park Lane, Poynton	David Brock	061 483 6521
SOUTHPORT ARTS	8.30 pm	Southport Arts Centre, Lord Street, Southport	John Taylor	0704 40004
MECHANICS	8.30 pm	Burnley Mechanics, Manchester Road, Burnley	Ian Wells	0282 30005
FORMBY	8.30 pm	The Royal, Liverpool Road, Formby	Janet Kemp	0704 876745

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The Federation Clubs

## LIVE REVIEWS

### CARRYING IT ON 5, MELLING TITHEBARN, 26TH MARCH 1994

Another year, a few more grey hairs on uncle Dave's head, a lot more hairs totally missing from mine and time again for Maghull Folk Club's annual showcase of folk from the chronologically unimpaired. (Can I get through this whole review without using the Y word?)

The Tithebarn was packed as usual by an audience who had come to expect high quality entertainment from these events and they were not about to be disappointed.

The programming this year was more fluid and less formally structured (do I really mean chaotic? No I don't think so) with some artists performing in several spots across the evening. The outcome was finely woven tapestry of music rather than usual patchwork on set pieces. I thought this was a good move and it provided an atmospheric buzz to the proceedings that had nothing to do with maestro Dave Bresnan's accomplished knob-twiddling on the sound desk.

After some coughs and splutters from the sound system The Workshop eventually managed to kick start the evening with a confident and assured set that featured Christie Moore's anthemic "Ride On" and a soleful delivery of Dylan's "Knockin On Heaven's Door".

The group of 7 males and 1 female takes its name and origin from the Tuesday night guitar sessions run by Steve Higham at Maghull Folk Club. Her songs are polished and punchy, providing a spirited opening to the concert.

Youthquake - the regular gathering of teens-and-under to play and learn together, marshalled by the magnificent Jenny Shotliffe - had met up in the afternoon with an open invitation to all-comers with Hester Woods bravely stepping in at the last minute to run the song side.

Some of the tunes and songs we heard from them on the concert had just been learned or worked on only a few hours earlier and their freshness was electrifying. The Norwegian Hornpipe was particularly enjoyable (with the added extra of Jane and Carys' dancing) and some of the regular repertoire of the group is getting to be impressively tight. John Kirkpatrick's Folk Orchestra watch out - Jenny's Juniors are on your tail!

Hester presented a set with her vocal students including a strong song from Damon. Chris somebody-or-other (Oh alright, Coultts) gave an adventurous rendition of "Otter In The Water", the Harrison Birtwhistle arrangement, making full use of all known musical keys, sometimes in a single line. The intense concentration on the faces of Hester and the others as they tried to decide what key the chorus would be in provided some of the most dramatic moments of the whole show. **20**

Later on Chris with sister Hannah played their own arrangement of "The Wild Rose" as a duet and made a lovely job of it and were rewarded with rapturous applause not just for the quality of musicianship but also for their courage and commitment.

Hester's own song spots were delightful. She chose her material very professionally, balancing a bit of fun with some serious balladry and rafter-raising choruses, intelligently tailored for audience appeal and interest. Now that's the sort of consideration you don't get from many a supposedly seasoned artist.

Her inclusion of dad Ian's song "The Smuggler" supplied a further dimension to the Carrying-it-on theme. For all round effort and achievement, Hester gets my "Girl of the Gig" award.

Fellow former Pota Portac members Jenny and bodhran wizard Christian Hollerhead joined up with Richard Woods for a cracking set of tunes. Don't let anyone tell you that the bodhran only provides a rhythmic backing for real music - in the hands of a virtuoso like Christian the skin fairly sings. His solo during "Tommy People's Jig" was superbly expressive while Jenny and Richard's fiddle and guitar were typically smooth and swinging.

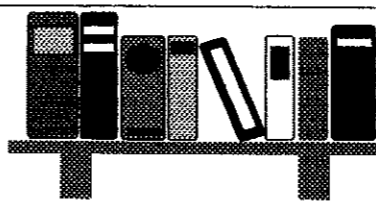
Champion North West style cloggers Carys Reckless and Jane Pollitt with fiddler Tamsin Austin showed why the Fosbrooks they belong to are so widely respected. Their performance was nothing short of spectacular leaving no gob in the hall unsmacked. The spectrum of pace and styles range from jig, reel and hornpipe to strathspey, waltz, even some incredible ragtime stepping.

If Mozart had ever got round to composing for machine-gun I reckon that's the music he'd have wanted to make. Olympic standard clog dancing.

Richard excelled himself in his own spot, his version of "Heard It Through The Grape Vine" going down particularly well. He's been a highly skilled and stylish guitarist for ages but now his arrangements and presentation are more mature, artful and controlled. His singing is developing a individual warmth and conviction, writing some of his own stuff too, and I'd be surprised if he didn't start turning up on club and festival programmes far and wide before very long.

The evenings headliners Kate Rusby and Kathryn Roberts have been singing together since they were kids, making their performing debut at Whitby at the age of 5 and it showed - they complemented and supported each other perfectly.

Kate joked about her guitar playing but it had all the sensitivity and attack you could ask for. Kathryn's keyboard touch was simply beautiful, providing backdrop and ornamentation for the songs without ever threatening to overshadow them. ⇨ **P.21**



## BOOKSHELF

### The 1994/95 EFDSS Folk Directory

If it's connected with folk music, dance, song or traditions and you want a contact or information this is where to look. There are 176 pages. The contents are well set out, superbly organised, colour coded and easy to read.

The first section covers a wide range of areas:- EFDSS District secretaries and Hobby Horse Clubs, Folk in education and in the community, summer schools and workshops, international, national and regional publications and organisations. There's folk on radio - national and local, conferences and lectures, archives, libraries and museums and miscellaneous useful addresses.

The second section - bright pink - covers folk festivals and major events of 1994.

The third section - pale pink - contains Dance and Song Clubs listed alphabetically within their "County" headings. There's even a "Folk-o-Fax" for the efficient club organiser/artiste.

Last, but by no means least, there is a directory of performers -those who take the time to prepare their entry and pay the very reasonable ad. price. There are Folk Dance/Ceilidh bands and callers, music teachers, speakers, lecturers, poets and songwriters.

I know the many hours of work that Editor Hilary Warburton puts into producing this high quality fully comprehensive reference book. The Folk Directory costs £5.95 + £1.00 p&p and is worth every penny whether used as a reference manual or just a good read. It is available from The Folk Shop, Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Rd, London NW1 7AY. TEL 071 284 0534. Access and Visa welcome.

KATH HOLDEN

### Music Dispatch

I suppose reviewing a mail order catalogue might at first thought appear a little strange. Dave Mallinson Music has two bases, one in Cleckheaton, Yorks and one in Diss, Norfolk and a mail order service for those who can't get there or who don't manage to catch him at one of this year's festivals.

However this is not just a catalogue and price list in the accepted sense. I must admit I enjoyed reading through it. It's quite entertaining, informative and helpful. Each section has an easy to understand explanation of "what it looks like, how it works and special features". This approach applies equally to musical instruments, recorded music and books. The Tutor books for example are listed by title with a short synopsis of the contents and the level of ability is also given.

A selection of items covered - Melodeons, accord-eons, concertinas, banjos, mandolins, bouzoukis, fiddles, flutes, harmonicas, panpipes, pitch pipes, recorders, tabors, bodhrans, tin whistles. There are tapes, CDs, videos and books - hundreds of 'em. There is even a prize crossword in the centrefold.

The catalogue is free and the prices in the current edition are guaranteed to be held until 30th June 1994. Get your copy from Music Dispatch, 4 King St, Cleckheaton, W Yorks BD19 3JX. TEL 0274 852020.

KATH HOLDEN

### Carrying-It-On 5, Melling Tithebarn (from P.20)

Their finely textured singing (Kate silk, Kathryn velvet) shimmered across a range of quality songs gleaned from Emmylou Harris, Eric Bogle, Mary Chapin Carpenter and elsewhere.

Kate and Kathryn's contribution to the last years Intuition album was well received; I'm looking forward to their own first recording, expected Septemberish.

The culmination of the night was a blistering set from the demon duo, Joe and Ben Broughton.

There's not a lot new to say about Joe's fiddle playing ? I first saw him a few years back when he was only 14 and then I thought he couldn't get any better. But he does, all the time. Definitely in the Ric Sanders mould of bowmanship rather than, say, Ali Bain, Joe takes no prisoners whatsoever, playing like a demented genius through tune after tune then switching pace (and briefly to guitar) for a bluesy number or two.

Big bruvver Ben plays energetic front man, guitars (acoustic and bass) and the fool just enough to get the audience in the right frame of mind to enjoy themselves. He's also a belting singer, a no?non-sense rocker, forget this folk stuff ? let's boogie, baby. Watch out for the Broughton boys in the new super band Daring Adventures.

So was this an enjoyable night out, excellent music and entertainment, yet another pointer to the wealth of talent carrying on folk music and its traditions to the next generation? Oh I think so, I definitely think so. Take a bow Ms Shotliffe and Co.

Jack Coultts

# CRAFTS & CUSTOMS *from the North-West*

## No. 3: Well-Dressing

*In the third of our occasional series, here is a description of Well Dressing in Derbyshire*

*(Article Courtesy Lancashire Wakes)*

### WELL DRESSING

This beautiful old custom is all but unique to Derbyshire. Known at one time as "well flowering", it is thought to have originated in pagan times when flowers and garlands would be

cast upon the waters, or hung above them, to propitiate the water gods. Springs and wells have always been valued because water is a basic necessity.

The early Christian Church forbade water worship, but like a number of other pagan customs it was adapted and became absorbed, with many wells and springs being re-dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary or one of the Saints.

As with many customs and traditions, little has actually been written down about well dressing until the past half century or so. Natural objects are used to form pictures and designs set in a layer of damp clay, which is held in place on a boarded framework by hundreds of small nails. When the work is completed this framework will stand upright.

Most, though not all, pictures will have a religious theme. The pictures and designs are first drawn on large sheets of paper, the framework will be laid flat, and the sheets of paper placed on top of the clay. Some sharp instrument such as an awl will be used to prick through the paper, which is then removed. Outlining the pictures and designs will be done in tiny black alder cones or berries, and then follows the painstaking work of filling in the pictures and designs with flower petals (laid to overlap, like roof slates), seeds, bark, mosses and lichens. In some villages this work is done in secret; in others you're invited to watch. The work takes hours to complete, and often the villagers will work through the night to be finished in time for the Blessing Service next day.

This marvellous work of art will last about a week and it isn't always a well or spring which is dressed! It may be a street tap, or where a well used to stand, or simply some prominent spot in the village. A village may only have one well to dress, or there may be several. Usually you'll find a collecting box nearby, and money collected goes to both local and national charities. You're welcome to take your own photos,

although you may also find good quality copies on sale, and perhaps leaflets on the well dressing too.

If you wish to find out exactly when the well dressings are, then the Tourist Information Centres at such places as Ashbourne, Buxton and Matlock should be contacted for a copy of the Well Dressing leaflet, or try phoning 0246 207777. One thing: if you see a local coach firm advertising an outing to "Derbyshire Well Dressing" ? and you can't go on that date ? don't get the idea that you've missed it for that year! Well Dressings go on from early May to mid-September; get hold of that leaflet and you can decide where and when to go. With a bit of planning you can possibly fit in two or three villages in the day.

Last year we managed to visit Wormhill, Foolow and Eyam in the one day. Wormhill's dressing was a delight; the village was very small and rural, there was an interesting little church nearby, and the Women's Institute were serving some delicious afternoon teas in the village hall. Foolow was picturesque too ? but mind the traffic! Especially when you're wanting to get a wider camera angle. Eyam was somewhat akin to the Golden Mile at Blackpool at the height of summer, with a jam of traffic stretching from one side of the village to the other. No matter, do go! It's certainly worth the effort.

Roy & Dorothy Smith

*Can YOU tell us about a visit to see a local traditional custom, such as that described above?*

*Have you been to any traditional craft shops, fairs or museums?*

*If so, why not write in and tell us about it?*

**Write to: The Editor,**  
Folk North-West  
118, Bolton Road,  
Aspull,  
Wigan WN2 1XF

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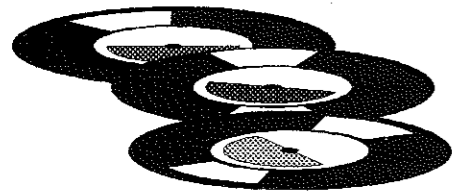
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Friday 25th February, 1994  
**"ALL BLACKED UP"**

Friday 29th April 1994  
**"THE BLUE MOON BAND"**

Friday 24th June 1994  
**"BLACK THORNE"**

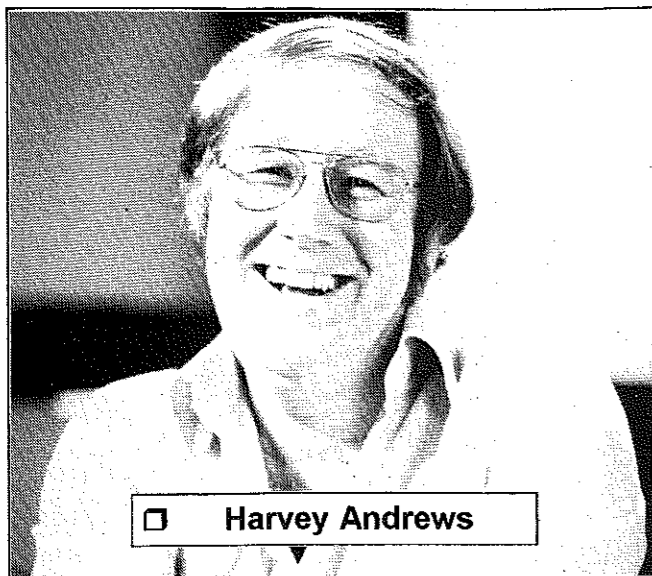
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## RECORD REVIEWS

### HARVEY ANDREWS "Spring Again"

Ariloa 876 632/HYCD 200 140



Harvey Andrews

Another album from Harvey Andrews, who never ceases to amaze with both the quantity and quality of his writing. When I last saw him live, he had written a new song that same day and another only the week before; neither of those are on this latest album.

I have often thought that the mark of a really good song is the ability to send a tingle down the spine. A good album might therefore have a couple of such songs; when there are more than that, then we have an exceptional album, and this is no exception.

The centrepiece of the album is **Trilogy**, which consists of the title track, together with **Liberation and Song for Anne Frank**. Who could fail to be moved by **Spring Again**, an account of the Berlin Wall coming down and the rejoicing in the immediate aftermath. **Liberation** follows nicely showing the results of the free market in the former East Germany, first giving then access to goods, but then eroding the value of their money and then finally taking away their jobs. **The Song for Anne Frank**, perhaps written after a visit to the rooms where the family were hidden until betrayed, is both simple & moving.

No one is safe here from Harvey's vitriolic pen, whether the yuppies in **The Way we Lived Then**, or the National Health Service in **One Machine**. As usual, Harvey has a host of backing musicians on the album; these are less intrusive than on some previous albums.

There is a harder edge here to some of the songs (try **Wheels** for example), although all are written in his own inimitable style and there is very little I could say that I don't like. **Living in an Ugly World** however is

given a rock arrangement by Mike Silver (who also arranged most of the songs on the album) and seems out of place with the other songs which are mostly in a more folk style which is characteristic of Harvey.

All in all a highly recommended album with several songs which I'm sure will become classics in their own right just as much as songs like **Soldier** and **Margarita** have become. Go out and get it at once!

(If you prefer him on his own with just a guitar, then I can also recommend "25... years on the Road" (Hypertension HYMC 200105), which has a selection of his most popular songs over the years.)

Nigel Firth

### THE ALAN BELL BAND - "With Bread And Fishes"

Dragon Records DRGN MC 942

I must admit to a certain apprehension on hearing the first two tracks of the thirtieth anniversary offering from Alan Bell and the band. "The Ballad Of A Working Man" is performed in a "techno" style with harsh keyboards distorting what I have considered previously a strong tune. The keyboards also affect "Spring Song" also by their harshness.

Luckily by track number three, "Skipper On The Shore" things have started to calm down and pleasant arrangements follow for the remainder of the first sides seven songs, with "Windmills" in particular benefiting from a re?arrangement.

Side two starts on a promising note with "The Lakeland Fiddler" and "The Boy And The Dream", but the keyboards come back to haunt "Fair Stood The Wind" and "Alice White", pausing for a brief reprieve for "Trade Winds" and the unaccompanied "Song For Mardale", which to this reviewer at least, seemed to be lacking in strength. Finally on to "So Here's To You" the dreaded keyboards return to, in my opinion at least, ruin what is a beautiful song.

Don't get me wrong, I'm not anti keyboards, sequencers, etc in folk music, it's just that in this case they just don't sound right on the tracks I've mentioned, without any criticism of Stuart Robinson, who was playing the said instrument as well as melodeon and guitar. Or could it be just a case of me liking the original versions of the songs? I'm open to other's points of view, but I don't think so.

The rest of the band apart from Stuart and Alan - on guitar and concertina - consists of Kevin Whelan (fiddle and guitar) and Bernie Brewin (bass and guitar). Dragon Records can be contacted at 5 Church Street, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP20 2QP.

Chris Hornby

### VIN GARBUTT - "Bandalised"

Home Roots Music HRCO 009

This recording is a major change in style from Vin; it is a sort of 'back to basics' move. (Will Vin forgive me for two Toryisms in the first sentence?) His previous 2 CD's have both had a 'rock' feel to them, with plenty of synths and drums but "Bandalism" has a very 'village-hall' feel about it.

From the accompanying literature and after talking to Vin, it seems that this is very much a band project and the band will be touring later this year. Appearing at Westhoughton Folk Club, the only North West date, Friday September 23rd.

The CD has four of Vin's own songs. "England My England" tells of the loss of jobs and homes, leading to homelessness in big cities. "Be As Children" explains how difficult it is for anyone who deals with children not to show any affection for fear it could be misconstrued as something sinister. "The Philippino Maid" explains that she is no more than a slave and has to send most of what she earns back home to support her family. "The Songbird" is an intriguing song. It tells the story of someone deciding to turn professional as a Folk Singer, and not really making it. I wondered if it was about a particular person, sadly there were quite a few names I could think of. There is actually one verse of another song "The Wilderness Road", based on a tune of the same name, that appears earlier on the CD. Why only one verse of such a good song? All of Vin's songs are hard?hitting, well crafted

pieces, that I'm sure only Vin can do justice to.

Vin sings two traditional songs: "Jessie The Flower Of Dunbane" and a superb arrangement of "Lough Sheelin Side". He also sings, what must become the definitive version of "The Rose Of Tralee".

If that's not enough, the band perform 6 stunning sets of tunes. So, there you've got it, 15 tracks, 54 minutes of Vin's individual style and excellence. It might be 'unplugged' but the electricity is all there.

Ken Howard

### THE LONG STRAND - Irish Fiddle Music From Liverpool

Sean McNamara Eamon Coyne Peggy Peakin Available from Veteran Tapes, 44 Old St, Haughley, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP143NX

I was surprised to be asked to review this tape; given that it represents the music of 3 people I love very dearly I'm hardly going to be objective - that said there are an incredible number of people they have taught, encouraged, influenced, inspired and entertained over the years, who like me will cherish the tape both for its music and because it is their music.

Eamon died shortly before the planned recording session so the resulting tape is a mixture of studio recordings featuring Sean, Peggy (who also puts piano on some tracks) and some of Eamon's pupils (Steve Keane, Keith Price and Brian Stanhope!) and

the live recordings a handful of people had managed to collect with accompanying audience participation. The live tracks may not have sound quality of a studio set but they communicate the infectious enthusiasm of their music far more effectively - Eamon playing Tom Billy's and Miss Mcleod's to accompanying cheers and cries of 'lovely' 'haha' & 'showoff' is a joy to listen to and the energy and life that come over in the final track of the tape, The Liverpool Ceilidh Band, is quite uplifting. Of the studio tracks McKeown's is a lovely polka, a tune peggy remembers from the playing of a flute player in the 1930's and Sean's version of The Stack of Wheat is a lesson in hornpipe playing to would be fiddlers. I could go through the whole tape like this but four tracks is probably enough!

From a fiddlers standpoint the tape captures an old style not so common now which any budding player wanting to increase their understanding would be well advised to listen to. You also have the benefit of being able to hear exactly what the fiddle(s) is doing rather than it being absorbed into the overall sound of a band/group and the tunes range from the common (played their way) to the (now?) unusual providing a fascinating range of material. That said the greatest joy of all is in listening to players who have such an intimate relationship with their instrument and their music that their very personality is captured when they play, something I suspect takes a lifetime to fully develop itself.

This is definitely a tape for lovers of Irish fiddle music, as long as you think you can handle that then I'd recommend every single track.

Jenny Shottliffe

### MIKE RAVEN AND JOAN MILLS - "Songs And Solos"

CD MR68

Mike Raven has been researching and writing books about "folk" music, writing tunes for guitar and generally immersing himself in "the music" for many many years. He is, as a result, a well-respected authority on a wide range of musical styles. For a long time this work has inhibited his opportunities to perform on the folk club circuit, so it was with some delight that I recently received this CD featuring Mike and his partner Joan.

The performances here are quite idiosyncratic but nevertheless classic in every respect. Mike's guitar work is quite stunning in its intricacy combining classical and "folk" styles in a fusion of complex tunes, many of which are self-penned. Joan's superb voice is clear and crystal like reflecting her Irish connections and is matched superbly by Mike's meticulous arrangements.

Like his books and previous recordings, the sleeve notes are equally detailed in terms of the songs, tunes, instruments played, arrangements and even the recording techniques used. There is no hype or fancy recording trickery here and the result is as near a perfect reproduction of a live performance as it is

possible to achieve. This latter fact alone gives an idea of the high quality of the performances.

Some time ago I remember a flurry of correspondence in FNW about the relative value of CD's compared with more "ancient" recording formats - well rest assured the 37 titles in the 26 tracks provides 80 minutes of fine music giving excellent value on this CD. This is music that demands your attention and rightly deserves it.

Derek Gifford

### THE CAROLAN ALBUMS-MAIRE NI CHATHASAIGH & CHRIS NEWMAN

Born in 1670, Turlough Carolan caught smallpox at the age of 18 and as a result became totally blind. His father's employers in Co. Roscommon had always taken an interest in the lad and they paid for him to study harp with a local teacher for 3 years.

At 21 he was given a horse, a guide and some money to start him off on a career as a harper. Carolan died in 1738 by which time he had become the most famous harper/composer of his day and one of Ireland's best known characters, a genuine celebrity.

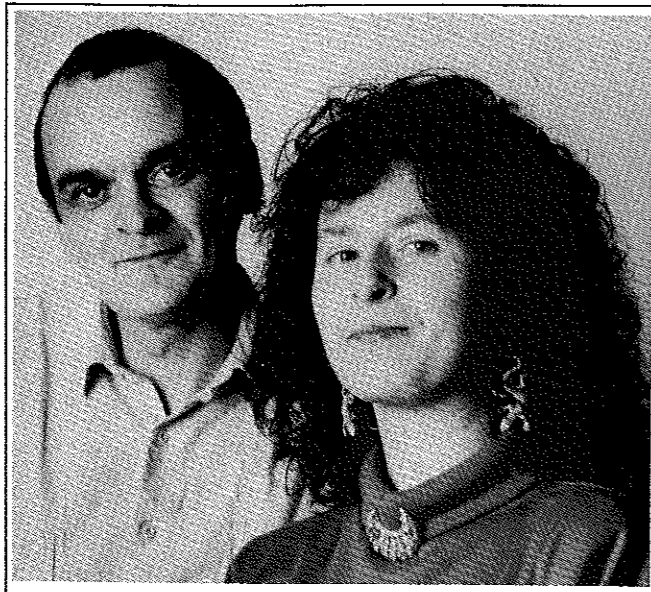
Over 200 of his beautiful melodies, many of them written for friends and patrons, have survived and they are now a real treasure chest for folk musicians of all kinds. Some of his greatest hits, like Planxty Irwin, The Princes Royal, Si Beg Si Mhor and Carolan's Draught, have seeped permanently into the consciousness of traditional music lovers.

These days you regularly hear them played on concertinas, flutes, guitars, fiddles, often with intricate arrangements taking full advantage of the baroque-influenced structure that Carolan favoured in his composing. But we don't really know how the tunes were originally accompanied since only the basic melodies were written down.

In 1991 Maire and Chris released a cassette-only album of 12 Carolan classics which they've now followed with a Volume 2 cassette plus a compilation CD of all 24 tracks. Probably no-one else could have done justice to such a project.

Maire's unparalleled musicianship and sensitivity on harp is delicately counterpointed throughout by Chris's deft guitar artistry. Between them they weave a delicate latticework of shimmering sound that's sheer perfection.

This is a valuable tune-source for musicians (experienced or novice) looking to learn some of the 26 master's finest pieces in their pure and simple form.



As listening material it is unsensational and unassuming, a subtle sprinkling of magic dust and a soothing balm for jangled nerves.

The cassettes cost £7.00 each or £11.00 if bought together which is also the price of the CD, from Old Bridge Music, PO Box 7, Ilkley, West Yorkshire LS29 9RY.

Jack Coutts.

### MICHELLE SOINNE AND ANDY CHEYNE "FISH ROYAL"

*Cassette Cerberus Sounds CS013-MC*

This is the duo's first cassette album. It consists of all traditional material except one Steve Earle song. The music and packaging are all very well produced. The inlay quoting all the sources and information about the songs and there was also an information sheet

with the cassette that had a quote saying that I could expect some wonderfully innovative arrangements of traditional material, but what I got was Michelle singing with a high, slightly husky, breathy voice just a little bit better than your average floor singer and Andy providing excellently played accompaniment straight out of the Martin Carthy School of Guitar Playing. This all adds up to a very light weight sound with only the guitar and very occasional double tracking of Michelle's voice. All the songs are

sung at a very similar pace and even the instrumental track doesn't break the monotony. There is nothing very innovative to my ears on this cassette, it's all been done before.

This is definitely one for the traditionalists and for my not to be played for a long while pile. If anyone else wishes to try it they are welcome.

Andy Spragg

### DEAN JOHNSON - "Direct from Oblivion"

*Private Production.*

On receiving this album for review I was immediately presented with a mystery, in so far as the only information available on the cassette cover are the details above, and titles of the nine tracks it contains, which is a pity as I would like to know more about Mr Dean Johnson.

Although not indicated in any way, I presume the songs are all self-penned and the more I listen to this album the more I like it, it really grows on you.

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Dean has a distinctive voice ideally suited to his songs and an appealing bluesy guitar style. The recording quality for a private production is of a high standard. The only thing which slightly spoiled the album for me was the fact that Dean drops a couple of H's on a couple of tracks, but that goes to show I was so absorbed by his songs and listening so intently, that I noticed!

I would describe his songs as well crafted sardonic, slightly "tongue in cheek" protest song like commentaries on some of the cynical things which surround us in life as it is and to me they are quite compelling.

Typical of the songs are "Service With A Smile" a comment on just what we don't get in certain places we might very well want it and "A True Story" a clever little song decrying gutter journalism.

Among other track titles are "Know What I Mean", "Dangerous Love", "Day And Age", "Help Is On The Way" and "What's The Difference".

If you come across this album it's well worth a listen and I recommend it. If anyone out there could tell me more about Dean Johnson I'd be glad to know. I have been told he is from Merseyside so if you happen to bump into the said gentleman, ask him to write to me!

Frank Wilson

### THE RANKIN FAMILY - "Fare Thee Well Love"

CD EMI 7243 8 81099 25 CD single

The full page advert in the January/February Folk Roots this year implies that The Rankin Family from Canada are the best thing since sliced bread (wholemeal of course!) but this 3 track CD single is the first time I've had the opportunity to hear them perform. The songs are taken from their current album North Country.

Unfortunately the title track was somewhat disappointing. Elaborately hyped-up backing blotting out the words of the song and reducing the singers almost to the level of mushy 'pop' music. "Haunting" said the ad. Haunting it was not - give me airy fairy Enya any day. The second track wasn't much of an improvement either; Lisa Brown it's called, and sounds like Dolly Parton meets Pinky and Perky! Both of the songs, and presumably the arrangements, were written by Jimmy Rankin.

Neither matched up to the hype of the advert.

The last track Mo Run Geal Dileas (My Faithful Fair One) was much better with clearer diction and a creative arrangement of their five voices, and subtle backing. Unfortunately though I, like many folk, don't understand much gaelic although part is sung in (Canadian) English.

To be fair, it is difficult to comment overall from only three songs, but if the last track is anything to go by maybe the Rankins are worth a second thought. However, what their "array of music awards" they are supposed to have "carried" with them I can't imagine on this showing.

Derek Gifford

### BROOK WILLIAMS "How the Night-time Sings"

Red Guitar Blue Music CD RGBM9102

Recipe:

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8oz Rick Cunha

1/2 tablespoon Joseph Spence

2 pinches John Sebastian

Sprinkle to taste Dan Fogelberg

This in fact makes for a very tasty treat - ask Steve Tilston and Maggie Boyle who are handling dates for this Eastern US coffee house picker, which may have been firmed up by the time you read this. Worth investigating.

Clive Pownceby

### THE RAGTIME MILLIONAIRES - "Making a Million"

Fellside FECD95

The Ragtime Millionaires are Keith Hills and Dave Jenkin, who have been playing together as a duo since 1991.

This CD features a mixture of traditional and "written" blues and many self-penned songs, some in the blues idiom; don't be deceived by the title of this CD, although ragtime is represented, it's in the minority.

Keith and Dave are very proficient musicians, and the instrumental tracks allow them to show off their considerable skills - there are also some good examples of bottleneck guitar playing backing vocal tracks. They take an even share of songwriting and singing and although neither is a brilliant singer (but since when did you need to have a good voice to sing the blues?).

Keith Hill's tracks have a definite sense of Dire Straits meet Tom Waits. Their own material varies from the very good (including some stunning instrumentals) to the more mediocre, although even mundane lyrics are supported by fine musical backing.

The outstanding tracks for my money are the trad Dark Road Blues, Hill's own composition Stone Cold Sober, and the track which made me come to life, their treatment of Diddy Wa Diddy (which you might want to compare with Ry Cooder's version). The whole CD has a rather gentle feel to it, and some of the tracks suffers a little from restraint - I would have enjoyed more oomph on Diddy Wa Diddy and the eponymous Ragtime Millionaire.

The CD is 49 minutes of good musicianship and songs which grow on you - even the journey along the A580 seems more interesting.

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**MAC-TALLA - "Mairidh Gaol is Ceol"**

Temple Records COMD2054/CTP054

The members of Mac-Talla are already well known recording artists and are leaders in the field of Gaelic song and music. Christine Primrose, Eilidh MacKenzie and Arthur Cormack have all led the way in breaking the mould into which Gaelic song had been forced. Through their extensive repertoire, fine voices and critically acclaimed records the audience for this proud tradition has vastly widened.

They are accompanied on harp and cello by Allison Kinnaird and on keyboards and accordion by Blair Douglas from Skye, a founder member of "Runrig". Originally these musicians came together just to record an album, but they have now played many prestigious concerts including the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, Edinburgh International Festival and trips to Germany and Portugal. These concerts have surpassed even the high expectations laid upon them. Sue Wilson of "Scotland On Sunday" said "This has to be THE Gaelic showcase outfit of the 90's"!

I strongly recommend the album if you're into this type of music. Summer's coming, imagine lying on a sun lounger in the back garden slowly being tanned by the golden rays and sipping a double whisky listening to this album. Almost Heaven!!

Frank Wilson

**JEFF HILTON (McKENZIE) - "Old Flame's"**

Private Production - £4.99

Now here we have the ultimate Irish flavour guaranteed to make Mr Murphy gulp on his Bushmills and the Mrs Herself weep in her porter, and likewise all you other lovers of the ould Erin Brogue.

Jeff Hilton, now what can I say about him. He's not Irish, but can he sing and play the guitar, and what a broth of a boy he is. It's been such a long time since I've seen or heard a ballad singer of this guy's category. Now some of these warblers sound great on a studio recorded tape, but Jeff sounds just as good live, and I mean it! I'm not so easily pleased but who am I to say, listen and decide for yourselves.

The tape titled "Old Flames" contains old favourites such as "Rare Old Times", "Green Fields Of France", "Lovely Rose Of Clare", etc recorded at Wayward Studio's, Billinge, Wigan.

Incidentally Jeff is no newcomer to the world of music. By profession he is a qualified music teacher of voice, folk guitar, piano and theory of music. He is also a singer songwriter with an L.P. of his own gospel songs titled "Come Follow Me" released in 1988, as well as a 14 year career performing in cabaret up and around the country.

If you would like to see and hear Jeff perform he can be found supporting his local club, The Rafter's Roar Folk Club at the Moorgate Inn, Aspull. Jeff informs me he is open to solo bookings with a wide range of traditional, contemporary, and humorous numbers guaranteed not to bore the pants off anyone. He can be reached on (0942) 201426 in the evening.

Paul Wordsworth

**CHRIS HARVEY - "Feeling the Squeeze"**

CRM CD 6229

So here I am, an unreconstructed rocker, whose preferred listening tends towards The Velvet Underground, Talking Heads or at the very least, if I have to have folk music, Moving Hearts, and I'm listening to an album of accordion music and I'm loving it.

It is absolutely great. 66 minutes of genuine magic with not a standard in sight. No "Lady of Spain" or "Planxty Irwin" but 18 tracks as varied and imaginative as you could ever hope to hear in a day's march. From Benny Goodman's "Slipped Disc" to Handel's "Fantasia in C" and Chris' own "Feeling the Squeeze" with many a contribution from "Trad" in between.

There is a beautiful rendition of "The Snowy Breasted Pearl" here nestling alongside a wild attack on the Rimsky-Korsakov's "Flight of the Bumblebee" and an excellent version of "Music For a Found Harmonium". Varied as I think I've mentioned.

The arrangements are everything you would expect of Chris; drums and other instruments are credited to Hans Ofenon Band, which I think is Chris' modesty manifesting itself, as I'm pretty sure that this is a nom-de-sample for the skilful Mr Harvey and his trusty bank of sounds as supplied by the estimable Mr Yamaha.

The other three Hoppies think I'm going soft but they haven't heard it yet and I think they'll be in for a surprise when they do give it a listen. I wholeheartedly recommend this album to students of what now appears to me to be a much-maligned instrument and to anyone with an open pair of ears.

Bernie Forkin

**AND THE REST..**

**JODY STECHER & KATE BRESLIN - OUR TOWN**

Rounder Import

A gem! Spare, simple, heart warming. Jody and Kate are a married couple - he plays guitar, mandolin and fiddle and she plays guitar and banjo. They harmonise like two Appalachian angels! Their music straddles folk, blues, old timey country and mountain strains. Their voices interweave in and about each other like swooping birds. Iris Dement's title track never sounded so pretty, neither does Hazel Dickens' "Won't You Come And Sing For Me".

Here, less is certainly more!

**BATTLEFIELD BAND - "STAND EASY" & Preview Temple CD-COMD2052 CASS-CTP 052**

This is a re-release of the bands classic TOPIC album first released in 1979. The line up was Alan Reid, Brian McNeil, Duncan McGillivray and Jenny Clark. TEMPLE Records have also added 4 tracks from an EP produced in 1980 by a relatively short incarnation of the band. It is great to have them available again and the package is well worth a listen and represents a bargain buy.

Frank Wilson



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Adrian Spendlow \* Genevieve Tudor \* Hall Bros \* Glen Folk  
Charles Fyson \* Tanglefoot \* Geoff Bowen \* Belfagen \* Tokaji  
Flagrakers of Craven \* Cosmos \* Buttercross Belles  
Cumbrian Men \* Armitage Mummies (tbc) \* Knobs & Knockers

Concerts...Ceilidh...Singarounds...Dancing...Street Theatre  
Workshops...Children's Events...Craft Fair

Campsite...Crèche...Disabled Access at Main Venue  
Hot Food...Real Ale...Late Bars

Weekend Tickets: £18.00 - £16.00 before 1st Sept  
Friday night: £6.00 - Saturday: £10.00 - Sunday £10.00  
(usual concessions)

Cheques: (to Otley Folk Festival)  
and info: Derek Haller,  
11 Cambridge Terrace,  
Otley, West Yorkshire, LS21 1JS  
Tel: 0943 462801



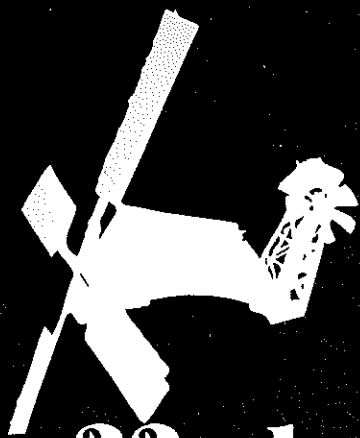
**WIGGINCEILIDHS  
THE**

MONTHLY BARN  
DANCES  
8.00-11.30 p.m.  
1000 PUBLIC HALL,  
1000 GREEN LANE,  
1000 WIGAN,  
1000 WIGAN

		Advance ticket prices
Friday June 10th	Headlining Festival Band <b>TOKEN WOMEN</b> Early booking advised	£4.50
Friday July 8th	Going down for the third time! <b>CINQ WITHOUT TRACE</b> Caller: Norman Bearon	£3.50
Week beginning Aug 13th	Ceilidh licensed to <b>Pinewoods Camp, USA</b> with the <b>Pinewoods All Stars</b> caller: Geoff Hughes Note the change of venue	
Friday Sept 9th	Our first band from the North East of England <b>BLUE MOON BAND</b> caller: Elaine Carter	£4.50
Friday Oct 14th	Back again by very popular request <b>COCK AND BULL BAND</b> Caller: Bob Adams	£4.50
Friday Nov 11th	Final of the Wigin Ceilidhs <b>Dance Writing Competition</b> Your chance to try out eight completely new dances.  Your chance to win £75! Compose a new dance and send in your entry by 30th September Telephone Peter and Alison for entry forms and further information	£3.50

N.B. Book in advance and save money. Concessions available. Tickets/details from  
BOOK FOR ANY THREE CONSECUTIVE CEILIDHS AND SAVE £1.00 Peter or Alison on 0942 816569





22nd

# FYLDE FOLK FESTIVAL

Marine Hall  
Fleetwood Lancs

2nd, 3rd and 4th  
SEPTEMBER 1994

Over 100 Events  
Music Song and Dance  
Ceilidhs, Workshops  
Singarounds, Pub Sessions  
Palace of Varieties,  
New Events and Venues for 1994

**Simply the Most**

Book Early with  
Festival Director Alan Bell  
55 The Strand, Rossall,  
Fleetwood FY7 8NP  
Tel: (0253) 872317  
Fax: (0253) 878382 32

## Artists booked so far include:

Afterhours, Isla St. Clair, Show of Hands, Roy Bailey, Old Rope String Band, Alianza, Huw & Tony Williams, High Level Ranters, Stanley Accrington, Iron Horse, Sumaj Rumi (Bolivia), Lakeman Brothers, Black Eyed Bidda, Florida, Strawhead, Cockersdale, Jez Lowe & Bad Pennies, Keith Hancock & Lee Collinson, Warner & Davis (USA), Marilyn Middleton Pollock (USA), Derek Brimstone, Bayou Gumbo, Johnny Handle, Rob Johnson & Pip Collings, Fat Medicine, Tom McConville, Kate Rusby & Catherine Roberts, Pauline Cato, John Conolly & Jane Ludlam, Notts Alliance, Alan Bell Band, Derek Gifford, Bob Fox & Benny Graham, Fred Jordan, Kings Ransom, Brian Peters, Ben & Joe Broughton, Brian Preston, Raphael Callaghan & Christine Purnell, Dave Summers, Daring Adventures, Jay Turner, Quartz, Geoff Higginbottom, Lennon & Higham, Rebecca Green, An Cuige, Tom Walsh & Neil Brook, Dave Cooper Band, Jenny Shotliff, Tallyman & New Generation Concert, Christine Hendry, Camellia, Paul Greenwood, Rough Mix, Howard Bond, Pigtowne Fling, The Cats, Brian Osborne, Three in a Row, Hugh O' Donnell, Thistle, Phil Capper, Cruise, Easy Going, Roy Paisey (Highland Piper), Fleetwood Mashers, Mike Rust, Ross Campbell & Richard Hone, Martin Whittell, Mike Allen, Off The Rails, Spitting on a Roast, Nick Unlimited, Travelling Charles Fyson, Highly Strung, Wyre Levee Stompers Jazz Band.

Callers: Martyn Harvey, Benny Graham.

Comperes: Ian Gartside, Pat Ryan & Ken Howard, Clive Pownceby, Pete Rodger, Ken Hughes, Derek Elliott, Dave Cooper, Jim Smith.

Plus: Preston Royal Morris Dancers, Kickin' Alice, Chipolatas, Fylde Coast Cloggers, Flipjack Jugglers, Bispham Barnstormers.

LANCASHIRE & CHESHIRE CLOG DANCING CONTESTS  
LANCASHIRE DIALECT COMPETITION  
YOUNG PERFORMERS COMPETITION  
WORST SINGER IN THE WORLD CONTEST

SPECIAL EVENT: "HOW ARE YOU OFF FOR COALS?"

**WEEKEND TICKETS FROM ONLY £25.00**  
(BEFORE 4th JULY 1994) £28.00 AFTER  
**ALL-IN DAY & EVENING TICKET AT ONLY**  
**£16.00**

Session Tickets from only £3.50  
Children 12 - 14 years half price  
FREE - children up to 12 years  
Special programme for Children  
Camping and Caravan Sites available  
FREE Showers and Swimming at Leisure Centre.  
FREE entry to Craft Fair (for Weekend Ticket Holders)  
FREE Festival Bus Service

**BOOK EARLY - ALL TICKETS SOLD OUT IN 1993**