TOTAL Aborth West

Summer 1995

75p



Kate Rusby & Kathryn Roberts New CD reviewed inside! **INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

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Lincoln

plus:
FULL CLUB
CALENDAR
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PAN is an association of performers currently working on the folk club and festival circuit. The members of PAN are relatively few. The criteria for acceptance are rigorously enforced, and include actual live performances, the ability to entertain



and, not least, reputation on the circuit. You have probably heard or heard of, many of the PAN associates. But whether or not the name is familiar, you can be sure that if you're booking a PAN member, they will come up with a great gig.



Anna Ryder

Over the past few years, Anna's stature as a singer, all round musician and songwriter has been acknowledged by audiences throughout the country. Her music ranges from the hauntingly beautiful to rhythmic, humourous and bluesy.

...The originality of her songs and her musicianship place Anna in the forefront of young British songwriters' (Dave Swarbrick), Book Anna lirect on 01926 400927.



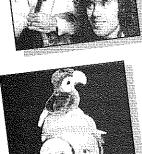
Tony Winn

With many years experience on the circuit, both in bands and as a solo singer/songwriter, Tony's self effacing performance will move audiences from gales of laughter to tears in as long as it takes for two songs. From the determinedly cynical to the polgnantly romantic, his idiosyncratic view of life will hold you spellbound. Book Tony direct on 01376 571296.



John Ward & Mario Price

An immensely experienced duo, having toured extensively in the UK and abroad, they blend guitar, violin, bodhran and harmonica in a set which ranges from Trad. Folk to jazz as well as John's own acciaimed songs. They have been described as energetic, passionate and full of variety, combining humour along side serious topics. John is also an accomplished solo performer. Book John Ward & Mario Price direct on 01502 588137.



Peter Buckley Hill

Peter writes and performs humourous songs and has been compared to Jake Thakeray, Ivor Cutler and Tom Lehrer. None of these comparisons is accurate. The songs are, among other things, about stoats, urban love, plastic flowers, the police, Milton Keynes and all sorts of birds from vultures to fried chickens. His performance is extrovert, unique and very funny. Book Peter direct on 0171 267 8459.



Rick Christian

Rick is a singer/songwriter playing 6 and 12 string guitars and Appalachian Dulcimer. He has been fully professional since 1987 and has a wide and varied musical background. His set includes songs by other writers as well as his own. Rick is a consummate professional, and his wide repertoire enables him to react to the mood of any audience. Book Rick direct on 01621 859561.



Mike Deavin

Over recent years, Mike has emerged as one of the most powerful singer/songwriters on the circuit. His lyrics are "intelligent and thought provoking" and are delivered with a laid back vocal and superb guitar accompaniment. Mike's performance is atmospheric and compelling, often laced with easy irresistible Choruses. Book Mike direct on 01727 846644(days) or 0181 446 0718(eves).



Elaine Samuels

Elaine is a powerful new force on the folk scene. Her voice, both hauntingly beautiful and deeply emotional, is coupled with a powerful stage presence, but it is her rich repertoire of perceptive and intriguing self penned songscombined with her guitar, banjo, dulcimer and bodhran playing which sets her apart. Book Elaine direct on 0181 940 7333.



Dan Evans

Dan accompanies his fine baritone voice with superb acoustic guitar on a wide ranging repertoire of traditional, contemporary and selfpenned songs. He also writes tunes which work around a theme, evoking images and stirring the imagination. His music holds strong medieval influences blended with jazz chords and unusual rhythms. Dan is also one of the finest exponents of the Appalachian dulcimer. Book Dan direct on 01234 241976.



Cythara

Cythara are Maclaine Colston and Jenny Crook. Maclaine began playing the Hammered Dulciner when he was 13. Jenny is a multiinstrumentalist but now concentrates on the Cellic Harp. Together as Cythara they were finalists in BBC Radio 2's Young Tradition Awards 1993. Cythara are gaining major recognition for their innovative arrangements of traditional - and not so traditional folk music. Book Cythara direct on 01761 470925.



Johnny Crescendo

Johnny is a musician, poet and songwriter. His performance gives you blues with stunning harmonica, biting poetry, self penned songs, humour and especially commitment. Johnny is also an activist within the world wide movement of disabled people and his song "Choices and Rights" has become an anthem for disabled people around the world. Book Johnny direct on 0181 889 1361.



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

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

EDITORIAL

WELCOME to the latest issue of FOLK NORTH WEST!

Harvey Andrews turns his attention to some new CD releases from page 24, whilst our cover artists' Kate Rusby & Kathryn Roberts new CD is reviewed in the same section.

Jenny Shotliff has contributed an extended Youthful Perspective on pages 10 and 11, whilst some suggested festivals at which younger people might find special events for them is on page 12. Our new format and much extended Diary Chat can be found on page 7, which I hope you find more interesting and informative.

Jenny Coxon, the Editor of Buzz magazine, has written an editorial recently suggesting that there should be an aim to have a single magazine covering folk music in the North-West, combining the best features of this magazine and Buzz. That's a view I entirely subscribe to as well, so watch this space for some exciting developments

Don't forget to write and tell us what you think of the magazine - do you want more interviews, fewer record reviews, other different features? We don't know if you don't tell us!

All for now and we'll see again either before or at the Fylde Festival in September!

E) TOR

OUR NEXT ISSUE COVERS
SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER 1995.
THE CLOSING DATE FOR ALL
SUBMISSIONS IS JULY 20th,
NOTHING WILL BE ACCEPTED
AFTER THIS DATE

Editorial Address:

118, Bolton Road, Aspull,

Wigan

WN2 1XF

Telephone: 0942 833293

Chairman's Ramblings

"Summertime - when the living is easy". What idiot wrote that line? "Easy" - Huh!

Last issue I told you I was off to the Annual Conference of the Association of Festival Organisers in Warwick. A very interesting experience.

Did you know there are about seventy organisations in it - or that about 250,000 people visit folk/roots festivals in the UK each year?

Surprised me too! I'm a great believer in "unity is Strength" (Now where did I hear that?), If we all stick together, it's easier to be a force. The conference was well attended, with Steve Heap (once of Rossendale's "valley folk", when I was nobbut a lad). There were seminars, chats and group work - well recommended! Not only that, I bumped into the delightful Anna Ryder, who lives in Warwick, during a lunch break. So, when you see the "A.F.O." logo on festival publicity, you'll know what it means.

Going back to "Living is easy" - Why does it always happen to me. Our November "Day of Music" has somehow spread from the town hall to include the cricket club, and from Saturday to Friday, and now to Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday as well!! Seems the older I get the dafter I get!! More details next issue, though there is a nice big advert in this issue.

Our next federation "Open" meeting (That means you are welcome) should be interesting! Jenny Coxon has been invited to come and present her ideas on a merger of "Buzz" and "Folk North West". If you have any opinion you'll find the date and venue advertised in this issue. Why not come along, listen and participate. "Unity is Strength" was mentioned above - heres another example. We're looking at having a N.W. Folk Club Festival next year - June 13,14,15. All organisers have been written to with an outline proposal - including the fact that we've been offered a free venue.

One last point! In this issue you'll find an advert for a major "GARVA" concert with the wonderful "Albion Band". For the first time in years our area has produced a group with the ability to become one of the UK's major "folk" attractions. This is your chance to help them up into the Premier League. Why not make a special effort to come along and be part of what promises to be an emotional night of superb music.

Dave Day



NewsReel

Latest News from around the region and further afield

Yet again it's NewsReel time. Lots to get through and our editor being our editor, very little time in which to get through it. In no particular order, here goes...........

A new folk club has opened it's doors in **Chorley**. It takes place at The Prince of Wales pub on Cowling Brow, Tuesday evenings at 8.30 prompt. Their guest list looks impressive and the best news of all is that there is no admission charge. Frank Wilson is the man with the details, but unfortunately I have no contact number for him, perhaps you will find it elsewhere in the magazine.

Starting from the end of September, there will be a new series of monthly dances held on Friday evenings in **St Helens** Town Hall. The St Helens Ceilidhs aim to feature the best national and regional bands and callers, and are launching the new venture with several leading names, starting with The Ashley Hutchings Dance Band (29th September), Token Women (3rd November) and Gas Mark 5 (1st December). It looks as though you will need to book early, so speak to Tim or Jane Brewster on (01744) 451790.

As usual, Folkworks is involved in a series of summer festivals and other events. June 10th sees a repeat of last year's Absolute Beginners Workout - a day when all the workshops are suitable for the complete novice. On June 25th it's the Rising Sun Festival at the Rising Sun Country Park, Wallsend. Artists include Maxi and Mitch and the Deighton Family. The following weekend sees the annual International Kite Festival at Washington (July 1st - 2nd) with a whole range of events including street theatre. art and crafts and LOTS of music - not forgetting the spectacular kites from around the world. This year's Youth Summer School takes place at Durham University (July 25th - 28th). Lots of workshops and some superb tutors. Info for all the above from Folkworks on (0191) 222 1717.

Selections from the back catalogue of Plant Life Records, the folk based label which was active from 1976-86, will soon be available on a new label to be known as Osmosys Records. Plant Life, as some will remember, was responsible for breaking such acts as Blowzabella, The Tannahill Weavers and Rosie Hardman and as well as these re-issues Osmosys plan to include new acts and material. More information: (01480) 411441.

The second release from Mrs Casey Records, the exciting new compilation of young musicians, 'Evolving Tradition' is now out and another CD from the same camp will be following very shortly on its heels..... Plans are already afoot to release a second CD volume of the Evolving Tradition project in the near future. Mrs Casey Music would welcome any further proposals for participants in such a project. The stipulations are that the muisicians must be under 25, resident in the British Isles and play music which has stemmed from traditional roots. If you are interested speak to Sarah Coxon on (01296) 394411.

Arrival Press, a poetry publishing company in Peterborough, are currently gathering work for a new anthology. You are invited to submit up to two poems, each no longer than 30 lines. Entries must reach Arrival Press no later than 31st July 1995 and royalties will be paid to all those who have work included in the anthology. Just how they will react to a spot of Lancashire dialect verse I'm not sure, but no doubt Trudi Ramm will give you full details if you speak to her on (01733) 230759.

The Harry Boardman Memorial Trust is organising a major concert in Manchester on Friday, 23rd June, the venue is the Underground Theatre, UMIST. The concert line-up in headed by Martin Carthy and supporting him will be the North West's own Brian Peters, Spike Island with their Celtic-flavoured tunes and songs, outstanding young singer Chris Kenworthy, and the fine traditional singer from Ireland, Joe Kerins. Admission is £5 (£3 for Trust members), phone enquiries to 0161 761 1544 or 01457 862560.

A few goodies at the Brewery Arts Centre, Kendal deserve a quick mention. On Saturday, 17th June there is what is being billed as a 'Folk/Rock Dance Night' with Gaelforce. On Saturday, 24th June a concert with Keith Hancock and Lee Collinson and on the weekend of 25th to 27th August it's the 19th Kendal Folk Festival with Show of Hands, Tickled Pink, Coope, Boyes and Simpson, The House Band and many more. Details of all the above on (01539) 725133.

Jez Lowe has just published volume 2 of his songs. Imaginatively titled 'Songs of Jez Lowe, Volume 2', it can be obtained from Lowe Life Music, PO Box 25, Horden, Peterlee, County Durham, SR8 3YZ at a cost of £7.65 including postage. Make your cheques payable to Jez.

Bracknell Arts Festival takes place June 30th and July 1st and 2nd. Lots going on here but the only folkie items worthy of a mention are an Irish Night with Four Men and a Dog, Afterhours and Sean Tyrrell and an appearance by the truly wonderful John Martyn. Ring (01344) 484123 if you want more information.

The Billingham International Folklore Festival will be taking place from 12th to 19th August. Artists inlcude visiting groups from France, Germany, India, Moldova, Puerto Rico and of course lots United Kingdom representatives. Far too much going on to list here so all enquiries to (01642) 558212.

Werneth Folk Weekend will be taking place in Oldham on 24th to 25th June and coincides with National Music Day. Lots of workshops, sessions, club tent, a ceilidh with the Ashley Hutchings Dance Band and a free open air concert with the Whiskey Priests, Kate Rusby and Kathryn Roberts, Jon Strong Band and Band of the Rising Sun. Camping is available. For more information ring (01457) 876731/871600.

If anyone is going to France between 17th and 23rd July, Le Grand Bal de l'Europe will be taking place near Moulins, Central France. Billed as '7 days of festival, 7 days of dance' it could well be worth a visit. If you are interested speak to Jessica Abrahams on (0181) 838 1996.

Once again the **Fylde Folk Festival** promises to be a real cracker. Guests include Wolfstone, Robin Williamson, Garva and Show of Hands as well as all the usual excellent artists you would expect to see at a festival of this calibre. If you are interested in the Morris (and if not, why not?) be sure to keep an eye out for The Iron Men & Severn Guilders, a superb Border Morris side from the Ironbridge area. I shouldn't really need to mention this, but the festival takes place over the weekend of 1st - 3rd September in Fleetwood. (01258) 872317 for more details.

Have a great summer.

Steve Morris

FOLK MUSIC PROGRAMMES ON LOCAL RADIO

BBC Radio Lancashire FM 95.5/103.9/104.5

LANCASHIRE DRIFT presented by NIC DOW Thursday 8.00 -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.

BBC Radio Stoke FM 94.6/MW 1503kHz

Richard Walker's Folk Show, Thursdays 7.00-8.00pm

Radio Telifis Eirann Radio 1 MW 567kHz

Both Sides Now, Thursdays 9.15-10.45pm (Irish music & song)

BBC Radio 2 FM 88.0-90.2

Folk on Two presented by Jim Lloyd, Wednesdays 7.00-8.00pm

(Usually followed by an hour of programmes with a strong folk music flavour)

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. Let us know if we are wrong!

DIARY CHAT

Please Note: All future correspondence concerning Diary Chat, Club Residents & Club Diary Dates should be sent to Chris McIlveen at:

51 Moorfield Turton Bolton BL7 0DH

Phone: 01204 852627

Clubs On The Move

The White Swan Folk Club has now moved to The Lloyds Hotel, Wilbraham Road, Chorlton, Manchester. Since the Club's name was based on the previous location, it will now be known as 'The Swan Folk Club'. Contact Annie Morris on 0161 881 8294 for further details.

Arnside Folk Club has also moved from the Fighting Cock at Arnside, to The Bulls Head at Milnethorpe. This constitutes both a move and an increase in frequency to the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, after discovering the new location on the A6 at Milnethorpe to be more popular.

The Ex-Pavilion is 'Ex' no Longer

As reported in the last edition the Pavilion Folk Club has now moved to a new location, and had initiated a competition to decide on a new name for the Club. The winning entry turned out to be 'The Wooden Horse Folk Club'.

New Clubs

We bid a warm welcome to two new clubs in this edition.

Osbaldeston Folk Club is organised by Bernadette Dixon (01254 853929) and meets weekly on Tuesdays at 8:30 pm, at The Bay Horse Inn, Longsight Road, Osbaldeston, Nr Blackburn. They will be having mainly Singers sessions at the moment.

Chorley Folk Club is organised by Frank Wilson (01257 230047) and also meets weekly on Tuesdays at 8:30 pm, at The Prince of Wales, Cowling Brow, Chorley. Frank has reported that the first night at the new club on April 11th went extremely well, with a packed house enjoying a wonderful night with the support of various singers and musicians, who turned up from all parts of Lancashire and beyond.

General Club News

That very popular and respected singer Brian Preston, together with flautist Dave Grimshaw, collectively known these days as Hair of the Dog, have agreed to become a regular feature at **Preston Folk Club.** They will be joining a selection of resident musicians in providing support on evenings when guest artists are appearing. The duo have been attracting growing support at The Bay Horse at Osbaldeston, and at other local venues. Preston welcomes them to The Unicorn.

New faces at The Levellers - Ken and Christina Roberts have been running the club since Christmas, and have even been known to sing a song or two themselves! Artists who have appeared so far this year include Joe Stead, Jack Owen and Hughie Jones. The club also hosted an evening with the legendary Dick Gaughan, which was a sell-out and a great success. Future bookings include Dean Johnson and a couple of new faces, Mark Atherton and Simon Cohen, and a great evening is anticipated with 'Corrib', featuring two of the members of Cream of The Barley.

The Levellers are also working with Dave Cox on the 4th Liverpool Folk and Arts Festival, which is a FREE Festival packed with artists old and new, and featuring a Folk & Verse Room. Volunteers are gratefully welcomed for this festival, which takes place on July 8th from 11:00 am until 12:00 pm. Phone Dave Cox on 0151 709 3995 (days) or 0151 489 7895 (evenings) for further details. Although Ken and Christina are enjoying running the club so far, they say that they did not realise the work involved, and their sympathy goes out to all struggling fellow organisers!

The Wooden Horse Folk Club (see paragraph above about the change of name for the Ex-Pavilion) is organising a Day of Folk on Saturday 17th June from 12 Noon to 12 midnight. The day will feature Garva, Cuckoo Oak, Quartz, Bram Taylor, Ben & Joe Broughton, Hands in Pockets, John Cartain, The Whole Hog, Andy Anderson And Mucky Mountains Morris. There will also be singarounds, sessions & youth events. Tickets are £8 for the day, and children under 12 are free. More information from Pauline & Jim Coan, 01772 452782 or Eric & Sue Grossmith, 0151 426 3701.

The 7th North Wales Bluegrass Festival will take place at Conwy this year on July 7th, 8th and 9th. This gives the advantage of a much bigger festival site which will enable all campers to be accommodated on the same site, unlike previous years. Artists booked to appear include the hosts Highly Strung (Gill Williams and John Les), The Down County Boys, The Acme Bluegrass Band, White Lightning, Missing Strings, Don't Fret, Out to Grass, Backwater Band and Monroe's Revenge, to name but a few.

There are four main Bluegrass concerts which will take place in Conwy's well-appointed, 250-seater Civic hall in the town centre, just 3/4 minutes walk from the campsite. There are also various Cajun and Dance workshops taking place, together with workshops for a wide range of instruments, as well as the usual side attractions and trade stalls.

Weekend camping tickets are available at £22 (£20 for BBMA members), non-camping tickets are £18. Cheques must be made payable to 'The North Wales Bluegrass Festival' Contact Gill or John on 01492 580454/515921 for tickets and further information.

The New Seven Stars Folk Club in Standish have asked us to point out that there is access for disabled people at their location, since it takes place on the ground floor, with no steps and quite wide doors.

Westhoughton Folk Club and Bolton Festival present Dougie MacLean at The Octagon Theatre, Bolton on Sunday August 27th at 7:30 pm. Tickets are £7 and can be obtained from Pat Batty on 01942 812301. Dougie is bringing along two members of his band, Davie Duncan on vocals, guitar, percussion, bodhran and harmonica, and Ali Napier on keyboards. They will be performing two sets supported by Westhoughton residents Auld Triangle.

PLEASE NOTE:

All dates, club news etc to:

Chris McIlveen 51, Moorfield Turton BOLTON BL7 0DH

Tel: 01204 852627

CLUB RESIDENTS:

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

ASPULL - Paul Wordsworth, John Dawson, Geoff Hilton

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

BLACKBURN - Flatbroke

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

BURNLEY - Brillig, Steve Cook, Roy Kelly, Liz Brown

BURY - Dave Wetherall, Shelia Hardy, Alan & Jean Seymour, Chris Nash, Ian Fell, Colin Clayton

CASTLE - Wild Rover

CHORLEY - Frank Wilson, Wolfman Jack, George Harvey, Steve Nelson

COCKERMOUTH - Terry Haworth, Linda Lockney

FLEETWOOD - Spitting on a Roast

GREGSON LANE - Lammergeier

LEVELLERS - George Strattan, Ken & Christina Roberts, Graham Casey, Mike Cunningham

LLANDUDNO - Highly Strung (Gill Williams & John Les)

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

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

PORKIES - Dave & Helen Howard, Dave Walmisley

POYNTON - The Timekeepers, The Real Time Bandits, Pete Shirley, Pete Hood, Phil & Clare Allen, Steve Finn, Geoff Higginbottom

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

SWAN - Maggie Billington, Patrick Gallagher, Carl & Jane, Maureen Hothan, Dave & Helen Howard, Anna Bearne

TILSTON - Geoff Edwin-Scott

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

WESTHOUGHTON - Auld Triangle

WOODEN HORSE - Quartz, Whole Hog, Andy Anderson, Bernie Forkin, Hilary Hornby

More Diary Chat!

Andy Irvine will be appearing at Cockermouth Folk Club on Thursday June 15th. Tickets are £3 and available from Terry Haworth on 01900 604765. Cockermouth is also playing host to a band called Tabach on Thursday July 13th. They are a new young band from the North East and Scotland, comprising Aidan O'Rourke, Scottish National Fiddle Champion, Claire Mann, All Ireland Flute Champion and Simon Haworth, guitar and cittern player.

On Sunday June 18th at The Bothy Folk Club. Helen Watson and Martin McGroarty will be playing a rare 'unplugged' date. They are normally seen in a loud, jazz-bluesy, mainstaging role as part of the UK's foremost R&B outfit, The Helen Watson Band. Club organiser Clive Pownceby has long been an avid fan, and following an 'apres-gig' drinks spree with the band recently, during which he enthusiastically knocked a full pint of lager over Helen (!), still managed to persuade her and guitarist Martin to do an acoustic Bothy gig. Definitely one not to miss. As its a folk gig, Clive is trying for a full tankard over Ms. Watson this time! Details and all Bothy information as ever available from Clive on 0151 924 5078.

ACCESS FOR DISABLED:

8.45 at the Lane Ends

Levellers

Mechanics

Open Door

Swinton

Wigan

New Seven Stars

EDITOR'S NOTE: I'm especially pleased to see the disabled access list growing each issue. Have we missed you off? - please let Chris Mcliveen know in time for next issue

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A Youthful Perspective

with Jenny Shotliff

We went away for a few days recently, choosing London to catch the launch of the evolving tradition compilation. The Barbican hosted a four day series of

concerts featuring many of the young artists on the CD (which features 21 tracks from some of the best young acts around) and some of the performers who didn't make quite make the under 25 mark to aet on the CD!

It says a lot for the wide appeal of what was on offer that my whole family fancied it. We planned to leave at 6am to beat the Easter traffic. My brother Steve, 19 (You've probably never met him, he's spent 10 years cringing at the mere mention of the word folk) had been clubbing it the night before so at 6am was still drunk. An hour

later than planned we finally made it onto the road. Steve came round just after Birmingham by which time we'd got him a copy of Cosmopolitan to give us

some peace. I'm telling you this to give you an idea of just how good the event had to be to attract us all!

The reaction to evolving tradition from the popular media has been quite astounding. Andy Kershaw has endorsed it; The Independent, The Telegraph, Local & National Radio and others have all taken up the idea of this young folk brat pack, as it has been termed, taking on their traditions with vigour, enthusiasm and trendy clothes. A bit behind the times compared to the Scottish or Irish media but better

late than never. I recently did a live interview on local radio for an item inspired by a piece in the Independent on Sunday (26/02/95) which began "Folk Music is back. Young people, disenchanted with the blatant commercialism of the pop scene, are tuning in to it in a way unknown since the sixties". Sandwiched in between a conker match and "are you wearing the correct bra size?" we talked about the work myself and Joe Broughton have done with Youthquake (if we have a Youthquake conkers match next year we could double our air time!). The interviewer understood what I was saying but played devil's advocate 1

effectively - "so....what do folkies like?", "What posters would a young folkie have on their bedroom wall-"...This is what is amazing the media, young, seem-

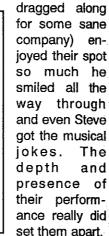
> ingly "normal" people are getting stuck into Traditional Song, Music and Dance, suddenly they think maybe they missed some-

> 3-4 years ago when we set up Youthquake I would not have risked using the term "Young Folkie" but it is the young people themselves who have introduced this term as their identity, you may have noticed it in some of our past Youthful perspectives.

> The publicity machine for the launch of evolving tradition has triggered much of this reaction, surprising even the organisers by the level of interest generated. Its wide appeal brings me back to my original point, even my brother, a fairly good yardstick for an "average" young persons reaction, was comprehensively entertained.

> To go through every act would fill the whole magazine, so these are some of the highlights.

FRIDAY: Jennifer & Hazel Wrigley's sheer class was, musically, one of the most impressive points of the weekend, my mate Richard (an old college friend)



I was curious to see Bohinta having read it featured Martin and Aine Furey (Dad being Finbar). Aine Furey has a lovely voice, singing with her brother with an instinct I envy more than any technical measure. backed with arrangements of guitar, fiddle (Carlene

The photos on this page show: Oige and some of their audience (upper) and part of the audience (lower) at the **Evolving Tradition launch**

Anglim) and Egyptian drum (Greig Stewart). I suspect you will be seeing quite a bit of them in various guises over the next few years.

John Kirkpatrick and his band finished off the concert (joking they'd [s had to lie about their age to get in) introducing the only drum kit. electric guitar or bass of the day. He seemed to be returning to his morris roots, re-exploring the idea of morris-on. He didn't just go down well, his presence summed up the feeling of the event - evolving continuity, given that his son, Benji Kirkpatrick, opened the concert as one of the "Hedgerows".

SATURDAY: Allan & Ingrid Henderson sparkled but Natalie MacMaster (Cape Breton) truly stunned. I

have never seen anyone play the fiddle with quite so much energy, the fat would never have the chance to reach her hips, she didn't stop tapping or chugging and Tracey Dares' piano lifted the music into another

dimension. I wondered where the step dancing came in..... in her final set, while she carried on playing, without it throwing a single note! Absolutely incredible.

SUNDAY: Oige utterly enthraled the audience which was by now packed. The reaction they got was quite something, their energy, drive and Cara Dillon's voice presented traditional Irish Music in a way that everyone could relate to, even the passers-by who'd wandered in out of curiosity and weren't all that sure what was going on, were going wild.

Jim Lloyd then officially launched the CD (with a little help from The Chipolatas) before bringing on Kathryn Roberts, the current holder of the young tradition award, and her partner Kate Rusby, who have a talent for presenting traditional material with a contemporary edge which makes it accessible to a wide audience.

The planning and organisation by Mrs Casey Music was thorough and professional. The

Chipolatas did a pretty impressive job of entertaining the crowd during the change overs with their own brand of humour. They worked hard, making sure there was always something going on to keep peoples attention.

Chris Sherburn and Denny Bartley's (Irish Concertina/Guitar/Vocals) instrumental skill and Denny's voice had the audience enthraled. Having met Chris before I know the problem isn't getting him to start a playing, it's getting him to stop! He and Denny

launched the only session of the weekend, which seems a little strange when you think of how many vound musicians were hanging round with instruments, but it made up in quality for the rest of the

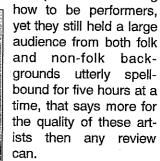
weekend. I have to confess I played hooky from Rock Sait & Nails but Richard explained to my mum that it was like a Rock concert and our Steve, along with the entire audience really

MONDAY: By Monday the foyer of the Barbican was about as full as it could be. Karen Tweed stepped in to cover Luke Daniels who was suffering from an injury. Working with lan Carr the two were absolutely superb, both technically and as entertainers. They clearly love playing together and this carried to the audience.

Catriona MacDonald & Ian Lowthian generated an amazing reaction, cries for and encore were only settled by the fact that they were both coming back on with The Young Tradition Band, joined by Simon Thoumire and Sean Lakeman, a very individual sound which surprised and intrigued.

Monday finished with an evening concert featuring Altan and the Kathryn Tickell Trio though by this stage our stamina had gone!

This series of concerts featured an incredibly strong core of musicians and singers, all stunningly talented. Many of these acts are still in the process of learning



While we were in London, seeing Dervish at the Swan at Stockwell was one evening we all enjoyed. The pub was packed with a fairly young audience (=happy brother) and the atmosphere of a rock concert. The band were brilliant and the whole thing was lifted by impromptu set-

dancing. "This is incredible, this is how it should be" said our Steve "Don't quote me....but that was amazing".

Jenny Shotliffe

The photos on this page show: Chris Sherbourne & Denny Bartley (upper) and The Chipolatas (lower), both at the **Evolving Tradition launch**





SUMMER EVENTS FOR TEENS (and The Young At Heart)

THE WOODEN HORSE FOLK CLUB FOLK DAY 17TH JUNE. Still being planned but is likely to include some youth events and young performers. The club is at the Stanley Arms and takes its name from the number of pubs it's escaped! Details from Jim Coan 01772 452782.

WERNETH 24TH JUNE will host a series of workshops for all ages, those confirmed so far include Janet Russell - voice, George Faux - fiddle, Jenny Shotliff & Kelly While -Youthquake and The Band of the Rising Sun - Dance music of NW England. There will also be a repeat of last years Youth Concert and a Saturday night Ceilidh with the Ashley Hutchings Dance Band. Details 0457 871600.

REDCAR 14-16TH JULY will feature a 12 hour series of events for the under 21s(ish) for the second year running on the Saturday. Tutors include Jenny Shotliff & Joe Broughton - Youthquake, Pete Coe-Dance/song/band, Harvey Andrews - stage performance/song & stories, Sarah Howard & Kelly While contemporary song, Ken Tong - guitar accompaniment to session music, Robin Dunn-fiddle styles/ ceilidh. We found our feet last year so this year should be superb. Details from 01947 840928 (if you plan to come to this event only it is very cheap).

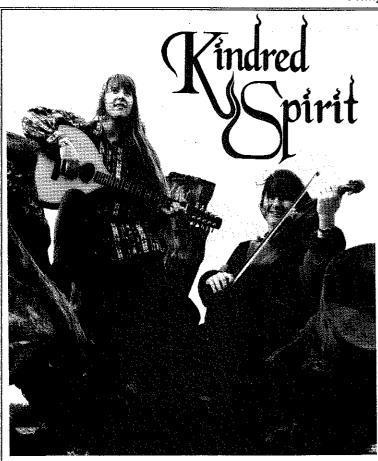
FOLKWORKS YOUTH SUMMER SCHOOL 25-28TH JULY open to those aged 12-25 has an excellent reputation among young folkies. Tutors include Andy Cutting - Button Accordion, Alistair Anderson -Northumbrian pipes, Robert Harbron - English Concertina. Chris Wood - fiddle. Sammy Hurden - song. Eithne Ni Uallachain - Flute. Details 0191 2221717.

SIDMOUTH 4-11TH AUGUST | am including for anyone planning their holidays! Acoustic Youth are running a series of workshops and there will be master classes for young folkies from Catriona McDonald, Kate Rusby & Katherine Roberts and Karen Tweed & Ian Carr. Details from 01296 393293.

FYLDE 1-3RD SEPTEMBER has numerous young performers booked, Youthquake workshops, a New Generation Concert and Young Ones Concert and a Young Performers Competition with the chance to win a spot in the main Sunday evening concert. Details from 01253 885203.

This is by no means comprehensive but I hope it is of help. Many more festivals are showing the promise of moving into actively encouraging the next generation which can only be good, please support their efforts so that they continue this positive work.

Jenny Shotliff



Elaine Samuels (Vocals, cittern, banjo,)

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Jane Eldridge

(Vocals violin, viola)

FESTIVAL REVIEW

LINCOLN FESTIVAL 28TH/30TH APRIL 1995

It is the evening of Sunday April 30th and I'm just back from Lincoln. I went over there with lan Tupling and as this was our first time at this festival we were looking forward to breaking new ground and meeting new people. The line-up looked very good and the weather was being kind.

Sadly, Friday evening was something of a disappointment. Only two events had been organised - ceilidh and a concert. Now by all accounts the ceilidh was very good, The Cock & Bull Band were playing and those that dance were well catered for. However as we are not really ceilidh goers, we opted for a walk up the road to the Stags Head to the concert. This, however, proved to be just two artists, a blues singer/quitarist and a country and western singer and as we are not fans of either we decided to give it a miss. This necessitated a slow pub-crawl back to "the digs". (The good news is that every other building in Lincoln seems to be a pub).

Saturday, for us, started with a singaround with The Wilsons. It was the only singaround of the entire festival, but a good one it was, lasting well over three hours. A little shopping followed (though there seemed to be a distinct lack of charity shops in town -(an "in" joke!!)), and after a meal we headed back to the Stag for the evening concert. (Dancers once again gravitated to the Lawn Centre for a Cajun evening). The concert was full to overflowing, but a brilliant atmosphere sustained for the whole evening. in the role of MC, Tom Napper opened up and did a good set himself and introduced Frank McLaughlin & Gillian McDonald (formerly known as Vital Spark, and much easier to spell). Marie Little and Roy Bailey. Frank and Gillian we had not seen before and they were a pleasure to listen to; look out for this young duo, they are very talented. Marie and Roy are both seasoned performers, and they both sparkled; and the audience sparkled back. What more can you say, everyone at that concert, performers and audience alike, enjoyed themselves.

Sunday lunchtime, we chose to go to the Festival Folk Club. A wide variety of floor singers were invited to do a couple of songs, and this was punctuated by sets from The Wilsons, Brian Peters & Gordon Tyrell and Les Barker. All-in-all, a good afternoon. (We even managed to get a superb roast beef dinner in the pub for an amazing £3.50.) By this time it was around 4.00pm and time for us to hit the smoky road back to Mersevside. We didn't get to the afternoon or evening concerts, which included Les Barker, Spot the Dog, After Hours & Vin Garbutt but with names like that, they were sure to be good.

So there we have it. Lincoln put on two great dances and some good concerts. What was missing, in our opinion, was periphery events such as workshops, singarounds and musicians sessions. The Lawn Centre is the sort of venue that most festival organisers can only dream of and we can't help wondering if it could not, in the future, be better utilised to accommodate the usual fringe activities.

Would we go back? Oh yes, without a doubt. We enjoyed the bits we did see and made some new friends along the way. We also got to see what has to be one of the most beautiful Cathedrals in Britain. Lincoln is definitely worth a visit, particularly during the festival weekend.

Chris Lock



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JUNE DATES

| SUNDAY | | 4-Jun | 11-Jun | 18-Jun | 25-Jun |
|----------------------|---|---------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| ARNSIDE | | ZAN- | | Singers Night | |
| вотну | | Kate Rusby & Kathryn Roberts | Singers Night | Helen Watson & Martin McGroarty | Singers Night |
| LLANDUDNO | | Singers Night | Sara Grey & Joan Sprung (USA) | Singers Night | Singers Night |
| OPEN DOOR | | Ron Taylor & Jeff Gillett | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night |
| *POYNTON | | | | The Iron Horse with Pete Shirley | |
| WOODEN HORSE | | Les Barker | | Survivors & Singers | Singers & Session |
| MONDAY | | 5-Jun | 12-Jun | 19-Jun | 26-Jun |
| POTTERIES (Old Swan) | | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night |
| PRESTON | | Session | Pete Coe | Session | Session |
| SWINTON | | Derek Gifford | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night |
| TUESDAY | Supplied the Committee of the | 6-Jun | 13-Jun | 20-Jun | 27-Jun |
| BLACKPOOL | Control of the Allendan | Singaround | Singaround | Guest tbc | Singaround |
| CHORLEY | | Singers & Musicians | Ken Pearson | Pete Ryder | Singers & Musicians |
| DALTON | | | PAGE FOR GOE | Brian Peters | |
| | 1.00 | Singers Night Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night |
| LIVERPOOL | | onders Midig | ON BALD MIRING | Onigota Migrit | Singolo (tigit |
| MAGHULL | | | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night |
| OSBALDESTON | | Singers Night | ļ <u> </u> | | |
| TILSTON | 三、生物、电解、开始的。 | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night |
| WEDNESDAY | | 7-Jun | 14-Jun | 21-Jun | 28-Jun |
| ASPULL | Later Control of the | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night |
| 8:45 at LANE ENDS | | Singers Night | Fiona Simpson | Phil Campbell & Tom McFarland | Black Water |
| BLACKBURN | | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night |
| BURNLEY | 100000000000000000000000000000000000000 | Singaround | Singaround | Singaround | Singaround |
| CASTLE | | Geoff Higginbottom | Singers Night | Gypsy Rover | Singers Night |
| NEW SEVEN STARS | | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night |
| THURSDAY | 1-Jun | 8-Jun | 15-Jun | 22-Jun | 29-Jun |
| COCKERMOUTH | Singers & Musicians Night | Martin Long | Andy Irvine | Eddie Walker | Residents Night |
| FLEETWOOD | Geoff Higginbottom | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Jon Fitzgerald |
| GREGSON LANE | Singers Night | Olingois Hight | Singers Night | | Singers Night |
| LEVELLERS | Singers Night | | Mark Atherton & Simon | | Singers Night |
| | | | Cohen | | |
| RAILWAY | | | | O: NI 11 | O' N' |
| SWAN | Singers Night | Chris & Lucy Coe | John Harper | Singers Night | Singers Night |
| FRIDAY | 2-Jun | 9-Jun | 16-Jun | 23-Jun | 30-Jun |
| *BOTHY | | | | | Ceilidh - The Occasional Ceilidh Band |
| NORTHWICH | Singers Night | lan MacKintosh | Singers Night | Sara Grey | Singers Night |
| *OPEN DOOR | | | | | Singaround - part of Droylsden Festival |
| PORKIES | | | 1 | | 1 |
| POTTERIES (Biddulph) | | - | | | - |
| RHYL | | Geoff Higginbottom | | - | lan Bruce |
| <u> </u> | Closed | Closed | Closed | Closed | Closed |
| WESTHOUGHTON | Closed | | 17-Jun | | 1-Jul |
| SATURDAY | 3-Jun | 10-Jun | | 24-Jun | ı roul |
| BREWERY ARTS BURY | Graham & Elleen Pratt | Winchesters Sara Grey | Gaelforce Jerry Epstein | Summer Cellidh with | Singers Night |
| FORMBY | John Wright Trio | Singers Night | Singers Night - Hosted by Sue Howard Bob | The Old School Band Singers Night | Singers Night |
| MECHANICS (Padiham | | | Davies | | |
| Town Hall) | | 16 | · | | |
| | | | | | |

JULY DATES

| SUNDAY | 2-Jul | 9-Jul | 16-Jul | 23-Jul | 30-Jul |
|----------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ARNSIDE | Singers Night | | Singers Night | | |
| ВОТНУ | Tim Laycock | Singers Night | Skellig | Closed | Closed |
| LLANDUDNO | | Fox Firkin & Friends | Singers Night | Mai Brown | Anna Ryder |
| OPEN DOOR | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Marie Little |
| WOODEN HORSE | Jez Lowe | Singers Night | Derek Gifford | Singers Night | Singers & Session |
| MONDAY | 3-Jul | 10-Jul | 17-Jul | 24-Jul | 31-Jul |
| POTTERIES (Old Swan) | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night |
| PRESTON | Closed | Closed | Closed | Closed | Closed Closed |
| SWINTON | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | | |
| TUESDAY | | 11-Jul | 18-Jul | Singers Night | Singers Night |
| BLACKPOOL | | | | 25-Jul | |
| DLACKPOOL | Jon Fitzgerald | Singaround | David Ryan | Singaround | |
| CHORLEY | Singers & Musicians | Tony Martin | Singers & Musicians | Dave Jackson & Angela Court | |
| DALTON | Singers Night | | Jon Fitzgerald | 170 | |
| LIVERPOOL | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | |
| MAGHULL | | | | | |
| OSBALDESTON | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | |
| TILSTON | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | |
| WEDNESDAY | 5-Jul | 12-Jul | 19-Jul | 26-Jul | es area deservir e color |
| ASPULL | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | |
| 8:45 at LANE ENDS | Full House | Roy Bailey | Closed | Closed | |
| BLACKBURN | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | |
| BURNLEY | Singaround | Singaround | Singaround | Singaround | — |
| CASTLE | Guest tba | Singers Night | Guest tba | Singers Night | |
| NEW SEVEN STARS | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | |
| THURSDAY | | 13-Jul | | Singers Night | |
| MONSDAT | U-Q4) | เราชย | 20-Jul | 27-Jul | Section 2010 Control Control |
| COCKERMOUTH | Elaine Samuels | Tabache | Singers & Musicians Night | | |
| FLEETWOOD | Singers Night | Jane Ludlam | Singers Night | Singers Night | |
| GREGSON LANE | <u>.</u> : | Singers Night | | Singers Night | |
| LEVELLERS | | Lyn & Barry Hardman | | Singers Night | |
| RAILWAY | | | | | |
| SWAN | Roy Bailey | Big Jig | Simon Nicol | Closed | |
| FRIDAY | 7-Jul | 14-Jul | 21-Jul | 28-Jul | |
| *LLANDUDNO | North Wales Bluegrass & Old Time Festival | | | | |
| NORTHWICH | | | | | Control (Figure 1) |
| PORKIES | | , | | | |
| POTTERIES (Biddulph) | | | | | |
| RHYL | | | Steve Tilston & Maggie Boyle | | |
| *SWAN | | Fundraising Ceilidh - Choriton Irish Centre Shake The Dice | Annual Barge Trip | | |
| WESTHOUGHTON | Closed | Closed | Closed | Closed | |
| SATURDAY | 8-Jul | 15-Jul | 22-Jul | 29-Jul | |
| BURY | V 7411 | 10-041 | | zə-out | |
| FORMBY | Steve Tliston & Maggie Boyle (tbc) | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | |
| *LLANDUDNO | North Wales Bluegrass & Old Time Festival | - | | | |
| MECHANICS (Padiham Town Hall) | | | | | |
| POYNTON | Ceilidh - Blibo Baggins | The Real Time Bandits | Cellidh - Plain Brown Wrapper Band | Marie Little | The state of the |

17

AUGUST DATES

| | | 6-Aug | 13-Aug | 20-Aug | 27-Aug |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|
| ARNSIDE | | Singers Night | | Singers Night | |
| ВОТНҮ | | Closed | Closed | Closed | Closed |
| LLANDUDNO | | Singers Night | First Principles | Joe Stead | Newkirk & Bell |
| OPEN DOOR | | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night |
| WESTHOUGHTON | | | | | Concert at Octagon Theatre Bolton |
| WOODEN HORSE | | Singers Night | Singers & Session | Singers Night | Closed |
| MONDAY | | 7-Aug | 14-Aug | 21-Aug | 28-Aug |
| POTTERIES (Old Swan) | | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night |
| PRESTON | [李] 李宝宝是 | Closed | Closed | Closed | Closed |
| SWINTON | | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night |
| TUESDAY | 1-Aug | 8-Aug | 15-Aug | 22-Aug | 29-Aug |
| BLACKPOOL | Singaround | Guest tbc | Singaround | Singaround | Guest tbc |
| CHORLEY | Singers & Musicians | _ | Singers & Musicians | Guest tba | Singers & Musicians |
| DALTON | Singers Night | GUOST (DE | Singers Night | Guest tod | Guest - tbc |
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| OSBALDESTON | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night |
| FILSTON | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night |
| WEDNESDAY | | 9-Aug | 16-Aug | 23-Aug | 30-Aug |
| ASPULL | <u> </u> | | | | |
| 3:45 at LANE ENDS | Singers Night Closed | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night |
| BLACKBURN | | Closed | Closed | Closed | Closed |
| BURNLEY | Singers Night Singaround | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night |
| CASTLE | Guest tba | Singaround | Singaround Guest tba | Singaround | Singaround |
| NEW SEVEN STARS | | Singers Night | | Singers Night | Guest tba |
| | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night | Singers Night |
| THURSDAY | | 10-Aug | 17-Aug | 24-Aug | 31-Aug |
| COCKERMOUTH | Roy Wilcock & Bridget Guest | Singers & Musicians Night | Tim Lyons & Fintan Vallelly | Bram Taylor | Steve Tilston & Maggle Boyle |
| LEETWOOD | Dean Johnson | Singers Night | Guest tbc | Singers Night | Dys Essethus Commun |
| | | go,og., | | Olligolo Hight | Pre-restival Concer |
| GREGSON LANE | | Singers Night | | Singers Night | |
| GREGSON LANE LEVELLERS | Closed | | Closed | | Pre-Festival Concer |
| BREGSON LANE EVELLERS RAILWAY | Closed | Singers Night | | Singers Night | Closed |
| GREGSON LANE EVELLERS RAILWAY GWAN | Closed Closed | Singers Night Closed | Closed | Singers Night Closed | |
| Gregson Lane Levellers Railway Gwan Friday | Closed Closed | Singers Night | | Singers Night | Closed |
| GREGSON LANE LEVELLERS RAILWAY SWAN FRIDAY | Closed Closed | Singers Night Closed | Closed | Singers Night Closed | Closed |
| GREGSON LANE LEVELLERS RAILWAY SWAN FRIDAY NORTHWICH | Closed Closed | Singers Night Closed | Closed | Singers Night Closed | Closed |
| GREGSON LANE LEVELLERS RAILWAY SWAN FRIDAY NORTHWICH PORKIES POTTERIES (Biddulph) | Closed Closed | Singers Night Closed | Closed | Singers Night Closed | Closed |
| GREGSON LANE LEVELLERS RAILWAY SWAN FRIDAY NORTHWICH PORKIES POTTERIES (Biddulph) RHYL | Closed Closed 4-Aug | Singers Night Closed | Closed | Singers Night Closed | Closed |
| GREGSON LANE LEVELLERS RAILWAY GWAN FRIDAY NORTHWICH PORKIES POTTERIES (Biddulph) RHYL WESTHOUGHTON | Closed Closed 4-Aug Closed | Singers Night Closed 11-Aug | Closed | Singers Night Closed | Closed |
| GREGSON LANE LEVELLERS RAILWAY SWAN FRIDAY NORTHWICH PORKIES POTTERIES (Biddulph) RHYL | Closed Closed 4-Aug Closed | Singers Night Closed 11-Aug Dave Burland | Closed 18-Aug | Singers Night Closed 25-Aug | Closed |
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| GREGSON LANE LEVELLERS RAILWAY SWAN FRIDAY NORTHWICH PORKIES POTTERIES (Biddulph) RHYL WESTHOUGHTON SATURDAY BURY FORMBY | Closed Closed 4-Aug Closed | Closed 11-Aug Dave Burland Closed | Closed 18-Aug Closed | Singers Night Closed 25-Aug Closed | Closed |
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| Treasurer | Kath Holden | 7, Sunleigh Road, Hindley, Wigan | 01942 58459 |
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| Club Dates | Chris McIlveen | 51, Moorfield, Turton, Bolton | 01204 852627 |

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

| Day/Club | Time | Club Address | Organiser | Phone |
|--------------------|-----------|--|-------------------|---------------|
| | 2 | | | 110110 |
| SUNDAY |] | | | |
| ARNSIDE | 8:30 pm | | Steve Black | 01524 761823 |
| BOTHY | 8:00 pm | Blundell Arms, Upper Aughton Rd, Birkdale | Clive Pownceby | 0151 924 5078 |
| LLANDUDNO | 8:30 pm | The Clarence Hotel, Gladdaeth Ave, Llandudno | John Les | 01492 580454 |
| OPEN DOOR | 8:30 pm | Star Inn, Church Street, Failsworth | Mike Riley | 0161 366 7326 |
| WOODEN HORSE | 8:30 pm | Stanley Arms, Catchdale Moss Lane, Eccleston | Jim Coan | 01772 452782 |
| MONDAY | | | : | |
| HORWICH | 8:30 pm | The Toll Bar, Horwich | Joyce Riding | 01257 792304 |
| | | The Old Swan Inn, Hartshill Rd, Stoke | Jason Hill | 01782 813401 |
| PRESTON | | The Unicorn, North Rd, Preston | Hugh O'Donnell | 01772 745498 |
| SWINTON | 8:30 pm | | Ged Todd | 01942 811527 |
| | 0.00 piii | Winter Lion, 242 Manonester 1ta, Ownton | aca roda | 010-12 011027 |
| TUESDAY | | | 1 147 | |
| BLACKPOOL | 8:30 pm | | Ken Adams | 01253 397622 |
| CHORLEY | 8:30 pm | The Prince of Wales, Cowling Brow, Chorley | Frank Wilson | 01257 230047 |
| DALTON | 8:30 pm | Cavendish Arms, Dalton-in-Furness, Cumbria | Graham Atkinson | 01229 832354 |
| LIVERPOOL | 8:30 pm | Pig & Whistle, Chapel St, Liverpool | Helen Hebden | 0151 727 0088 |
| MAGHULL | 8:30 pm | | Dave Day | 0151 526 666 |
| OSBALDESTON | 8:30 pm | | Bernadette Dixon | 01254 853929 |
| TILSTON | 8:30 pm | The Carden Arms, Tilston, Cheshire | Penny Hughes | 01829 271436 |
| | | Age 1845 | | e e ven da e |
| WEDNESDAY | 0.45 | I Fude Hetel Moster Dd Moster | | |
| 3:45 AT LANE ENDS | 8:45 pm | | Ann Green | 01772 683027 |
| ASPULL | 8:30 pm | Moorgate Inn, Scot Lane, Aspull, Wigan | Paul Wordsworth | 011 790 7153 |
| BLACKBURN | 8:30 pm | | Brian Kirkham | 01254 826661 |
| BURNLEY | 8:30 pm | Waggon & Horses Inn, Colne Rd, Brierfield | Phyl Watson | 01282 774077 |
| CASTLE | 8:30 pm | Castle Hotel, Halton Village, Runcorn | Bob O'Callaghan | 0151 424 5367 |
| NEW SEVEN STARS | 8:30 pm | New Seven Stars, Preston Rd, Standish | Hilda Foy | 01257 792246 |
| THURSDAY | | | 1 | ٠. |
| COCKERMOUTH | 8:45 pm | Tithe Barn Hotel, Station St. Cockermouth | Terry Haworth | 01900 604765 |
| | | · · · | | 1 |
| FLEETWOOD | 8:30 pm | Steamer Hotel, Queens Terrace, Fleetwood | Dave Ryan | 01253 876351 |
| GREGSON LANE | 8:30 pm | St. Joseph's Social Centre, Gregson Lane, Hoghton | Graham Dixon | 01254 853929 |
| LEVELLERS | 8:00 pm | | Christine Roberts | 0151 284 5458 |
| RAILWAY | 8:30 pm | Railway Hotel, Heatley, Lymm | Ann Clancy | 01925 267667 |
| SWAN | 8:00 pm | The Lloyds Hotel, Wilbraham Rd, Chorlton, Manchester | Annie Morris | 0161 881 8294 |
| FRIDAY | | | 1 + 3 + 1 | |
| NORTHWICH | 8:30 pm | Harlequin Theatre, Queen St, Northwich | Sarah Sherwood | 0161 775 4612 |
| PORKIES | 8:30 pm | | Helen Howard | 0161 789 139 |
| POTTERIES (BIDDULP | | | Jason Hill | 01782 813401 |
| RHYL | | Bee & Station Hotel, Bodfor St, Rhyl | Jeff Blythin | 01745 336052 |
| | 8:30 pm | | | 1 |
| WESTHOUGHTON | 0:10 bm | Westhoughton Golf Club, Long Island, Westhoughton | Pat Batty | 01942 812301 |
| SATURDAY | | | | · . |
| BREWERY ARTS | 8:30 pm | | John Smyth | 01539 725133 |
| BURY | 8:00 pm | The Napier, Bolton St, Bury | Dave Wetherall | 0161 761 770 |
| FORMBY | 8:30 pm | The Royal, Liverpool Rd, Formby | Janet Kemp | 01704 876745 |
| MECHANICS | 8:30 pm | Burnley Mechanics, Manchester Rd, Burnley | ian Wells | 01282 30005 |
| POYNTON | 8:30 pm | Poynton Folk Centre, Park Lane, Poynton | Lynda Boyle | 01663 743310 |
| SOUTHPORT ARTS | | | John Taylor | 01704 40004 |
| | 1 . | | 2 | |
| Please n | ote the n | ew dialling codes quoted here 19 | | |
| | | | | |

LIVE REVIEWS:

Carrying It On 6 - Melling Tithebarn

18th February 1995

Just as the tradition develops over time, so this annual fixture marking the folk's progression down the generations is itself evolving. The shape and form has fairly matured over its 6 years but the spirit stays fresh and cheerfully anarchic.

The success of the production owes much to the promotional and organising muscle of Maghull Folk Club and the Fed in the inexhaustible person of the enterprising Mr Day. But once more the main honours belong to the inspirational leadership and creative vision of the ever-excellent Jenny Shotliffe.

The concert had been preceded by an afternoon gathering of Youthquake, the by-and-for young performers workshop run by Jenny. The opening set of the evening gave them (and us) a chance to enjoy the fruits of some of their earlier work including an ambitious arrangement of a Norwegian Hornpipe with phased entry and exit of the 6 fiddles, guitar, flute, concertina and piano line-up. Clever stuff and well-executed.

We were treated to song and tune feature spots from Ben Errington, Damon Holland, Chris and Hannah Coutts - solo and in combination - giving a further taste of the multiple skills of this motley crew who just get better and tighter with every outing.

From the Irish Centre in Ashton came a collection of stunningly proficient musicians, brimming with potential as a group and with some flashes of individual brilliance. You could have heard a pin drop during the mesmerising, luscious slow air on whistle from All-Britain and All-Ireland champion Siobhan Brennan (apologies for the inevitable mis-spelling), contrasting with the burst of excitement generated by the entrance of their step-dancer during one of the energetic tune sets.

Button accordionist Tim Van Eyken was one of the guests at a previous Carrying It On soon after he'd won the Fylde Young Tradition award. This time he was back with recent winner Kerenza Wragg on hammer dulcimer and guitarist Mark. All three are members of Acoustic Youth, a Somerset-based sister of Youthquake - nice to hear that the idea is taking root in other parts of the country.

Their playing was immaculately crisp and neatly interlaced, their strong rapport particularly evident on Tim and Kerenza's whistle duet. With his easy fluency while playing impossible combinations of notes it was easy to see why ace box-squeezer Andy Cutting rates Tim as 'frighteningly good'.

Contemporary folk song was powerfully represented by Kelly While, a singer/ guitarist of great passion and 20 assurance. She stormed through a selection of fine

songs including Suzanne Vega's 'Marlene On The Wall' and a real belter written especially for her by Julie Matthews, currently a member of the Albion Band alongside her, ahem, 'big sister' Chris.

There's no doubt this lady's got talent and personality beaming out of her and an attention- demanding professional performing career it must surely be waiting for her just a few years down the road if she wants it

The headline act had originally been planned to be Mike Goldrick, fantastic flute player from Manchester stormers Toss The Feathers. Then the better still news was that he would be joined by a friend. But the duo eventually turned into a full band of Mike with band-mate Des Donnelly on fiddle plus guitarist Ed Boyd and percussionist John Price, both from hot folk-rockists Red Ciel.

They played an absolutely blinding set, a perfectly balanced mix of mellow and fiery material characterised by consummate musicianship and - incredibly for what was almost a scratch team - impressive togetherness. Both bands have albums due out about now, Toss The Feathers' with an accompanying book - watch out for them.

In all, a cracking night of fine music and songs from a collection of performers who just happen to be less chronologically challenged than most folk audiences. They're not only the future of folk, they're the essence of today.

Jack Coutts

The North-West Federation of Folk Clubs Invite YOU to an

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Wednesday, June 14th from 8.00pm

at The Owl, Upholland

(on the main A577 from M6 junction 26 and end of M58)

More Information from
Kath Holden 01942 258459
Nigel Firth 01942 833293

More LIVE REVIEWS:

Coope, Boyes and Simpson - and more at the Bothy Folk Club, Southport

These are interesting times at the Bothy! At the end of March BBC Radio Two were present to record Janet Russell and Christine Kidd, to be broadcast shortly as one of their folk club nights.

The next week offered Coope, Boyes and Simpsonthe highlight of the season for me! To describe their act as unaccompanied singing conveys nothing of their presence on stage or the stature of their work. As soon as they broke into Unison in Harmony it was clear that the evening was going to be special.

Jim Boyes and Lester Simpson have blossomed into song-writers of substance, illuminating current affairs and attitudes with a distinctive new light. In addition, the group are fortunate to have access to the John Tams songbook, giving them a strong and original repertoire which is still growing.

Their singing is the most striking that I have heard. As each takes his turn to sing the melody, so the tone changes, yet the sound remains unmistakeably their own. Sweet Evalina and One Hand on the Radio, two uncomplicated songs, are sung with a charming honesty, avoiding the dangers of both parody and pathos. Quaker hymns are sung with zeal. Welcome to the West presents a humorous view of the new-found freedom of Eastern Europe, whilst a bleaker scene is portrayed in Acres of Gladness. There is enthusiasm for singing, and for living, in everything they do.

Their final number, Jerusalem Revisited, is just monumental. It demands an award, though I doubt that it will come in the New Year's Honours list.

The Bothy has always been a centre of great activity. Its dances are regularly sold out, and the club is the birth place of the Southport Swords and the Argameles dance teams as well as the ceilidh band Mr Blundell's Alms. Clive Pownceby fosters local musicians, paying them the same respect that he does to guests, and considers that the club is only as good as its last singers' night. With so many friends and members, the club's 30th Birthday Party on April 23rd was jam-packed, with opportunities for only a small selection of them to perform. Three of the original four Bothy Singers were there, Geoff Ambrose, Chris Jones and Tony Wilson, plus many residents both past and present.

The party gave members the chance to look back over the years. The next event will address the future - Clive is handing the evening over to Jenny Shotliffe and Youthquake. Folk music is in good hands!

Henry Peacock

garva

CAN BE SEEN AT:

Maguires, Bradford - 10th June

Wooden Horse Folk Club Day of Music - 17th June

O'Shea's, Manchester - 19th June

Redcar Folk Festival - 15 July

Saltaire, Bradford (with Kevin Burke's Open House) -4th August

Fylde Folk Festival - 1/3 September

Bromyard Folk Festival 15/17 September

Crosby Civic Hall
(with the Albion Band)
- 13 October

Maghull Town Hall (ceilidh)
-10 November

Maghull Day of Music - 11 November

Derby Assembly Rooms - 2 December

For info & bookings

Tony Gibbons: 051-526-6522

For CD & tapes

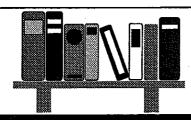
Terry Coyne: 051-228-4172

"Sweet Liberty" still available on CD and tape second album due out in time for Fylde

21

BOOKSHELF

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The tunes in this collection come from Cheshire, Yorkshire, Lancashire and The Lake District and include both researched pieces dating back as much as 4 centuries and a few modern ones written by the likes of Brian Peters. The notation is good, clear, easy to follow and includes suggested chords making the book accessible the a wide range of instruments.

Some of the tunes would be straight forward enough for the relative beginner whilst still being enjoyable tunes; The range of timings and keys the tunes span however provide plenty to stretch the most experienced player.

The range of tunes is impressive, the majority were completely new to me. To anyone who has not yet discovered that the NW has a wonderful tradition well worth breathing life into I can only say get your nose out of that pint, the hard part has been done for you!

I've already found a number of pieces I want to learn, some of which I suspect would be more straightforward for someone with a technical background. Double hornpipes in 3/2 particularly intrigued me...almost as much as some of their names, or how about "Kit Kat Club" in 6/4 and just to make you think, its got Bb's and Eb's (I'm afraid that's as technical as my understanding of key's gets!)

In more familiar timings were "Miss McLeod's" (unrelated to the Scot's Reel), "The Piping Pie Man" and "Trip to Galloway no. 1". All this and I've only started to dip into the wealth of tunes Jamie has presented us with.

The curiosity these tunes aroused left me wanting to know far more than the photo's and snippets of information squashed in amongst all the tunes could tell me. How were they played. who by, what for, on what, do I have anything like the right timing for double hornpipes? Most of all, the tunes themselves contain tantalising hints of influences either from or upon (and who can say which) traditions which have survived with greater continuity. This is either a cue for another book or for me to get off my backside and find out for myself!

These are great tunes and thanks to Jamie you don't have to go rooting through old manuscripts to find them. Jamie (and anyone who had to live with him while he compiled the collection...) has every right to be chuffed to bits with the end result.

June 3

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RECORD REVIEWS

KATE RUSBY AND KATHRYN ROBERTS

PRCD01

This is Kathryn and Kate's debut album and as they admit twenty years in the making - two fine musicians and vocalists carrying on the music tradition of the British folk scene - and carrying it with class.

We have seen them around the clubs and festivals for a few years, making quite a name for themselves with their performances. Appearing together on the "Intuition" album and Kath-

ryn on the Lakeman Brothers "3 piece Suite" we knew we would be in for a treat with their first full album. You will not be disappointed.

From the first track where Kate takes the vocal lead on "Recruited Collier" to Kathryn's dusky voice on "Ned on the Hill" the songs are presented with a maturity and musical excellence which has set them well ahead of many of their contemporaries. The ten tracks include classics such as Suzanne Vega's "The Queen and the Soldier", on which they are joined by John McCusker

on violin and Alison Kinnaird on cello, a precise version of "The Dark Eyed Sailor" where Kathryn shows her versatility on clarinet, some fine unaccompanied singing on "Hunting the Hare" and finishing with Steve Knightley's "Exile".

My favourite is their version of "The Constant Lovers" - a song not often heard but often talked about, demonstrating their clear ability to bring fresh life to traditional songs. Kathryn's fine piano playing is always sensitive and with her abilities on flute, clarinet and saxophone together with Kate's fine guitar style the whole album is one you musn't miss.

To conclude, 10 of the best tracks we've heard in a long time, an album which will be difficult for them to follow, but we are sure they will.

Ann and Eddie Green

MICHAEL RAVEN AND JOAN MILLS "Recital"

CD MR70

This album is a collection of songs and guitar solos arranged by Mike many of which are also written by him. As on their previous album there is a no frills approach to the recording and what you hear is what you'd get at one of their live performances.

With 26 tracks and a playing time of over 78 minutes there is much to commend it with a mixture of styles included in both songs and tunes. The songs range

> from the traditional "Green Bushes" through to one of Mike's own contemporary compositions "Biker's Song" all of which are delivered in Joan's distinctive, almost classical, style. She sings unaccompanied on "Hednesford Town" which gives the listener a chance to delight in her clear tremolo voice.

Almost inevitably there is an A.E. Houseman poem set to music amongst the songs, a task with which Mike is familiar, having set many of the writers poems to music previously. The particular poem featured on this disc is "Illic Jacet" and there is an interesting note

by Mike to the effect that "Houseman only allowed his poems to be broadcast if they were performed as

The tunes are also as varied, many of which are Welsh and/or lute tunes, but one of my favourites is a self-penned one called "Chattering Magpie"! Mike's arrangement of "Black is the Colour" is exceptional in its originality and I also especially enjoyed "Blackbird Wilt Thou Go?"

The real test of a performance though is when you can render a well known song with a freshness and an individuality of its own. Without doubt both performers' expertise fuse concordantly on the last track which is as fine a rendition of "Raglan Road" as I've heard by anyone.

Mike and Joan are appearing at a number of festivals throughout the country this year, try to catch an appearance if you can, you'll not be disappointed.

dare!). Throughout it is a collection of fairly gentle, melodic songs but as always if you listen to the descriptive writing of Australian life in the outback, the harsh reality is always there. As always, there are strongly descriptive songs, tempered by gentle love songs as with "Never Never Land"and "The Declaration", and the tales of human downfall in "Oh For Me Grog-

Sullivan" and "Shepherds on the Hill", which although well written, do not transfer well to slow ballads, which is sad as I am a great admirer of his work. Though some may find these as their two favourites, that is what choice is all about. The one real surprise is a track called "Susquehanna"; a song credited solely to

The high spot id the inclusion of Eric Bogle's evocative and truly emotional song "The Gift Of

The whole CD has been well produced by Feliside and includes some really creative musicians all working with one of the most competent voices in the folk world, which was once described to me by a friend as like melted chocolate.

also worth adding to anybody's collection.

lan Tupling

MARTYN WYNDHAM-READ

CD FECD 102

"Sunlit Plains"

Being asked to review this CD came as quite a surprise but also brought a great deal of pleasure. I have been an unashamed fan of Martyn since the 1970's and whilst doing this review, started to ask the question why? or more appropriately to answer it.

I feel that the overriding factor that is always present is the unwavering richness and control in his voice and "Sunlit Plains" does not disappoint. From the opening track "Where Silence Reigns" through 13 out of the 14 tracks, the last one being a wonderful spoken piece called "Shearers Nightmare" (try this on the missus, fellas, if you

"(Australian Version).

On the downside for me, there are two Graham Miles songs, "Donald

Martyn and a little gem it is too.

Years", a time for reflective thoughts.

Certainly a must for the Wyndham-Read admirers but

PHIL HARE "Common Ground"

101 Records CD1

This album is beautifully recorded, sung and played. Phil Hare is an exceptionally fine guitarist with a rice voice, and th backing vocals of Fiona Simpson are, as usual, excellent. Joe Broughton's fiddle and Alun Jones' accordion add much, so why is it I am left feeling depressed after listening to this album? I think Phil Hare needs to ask who the album is for. No doubt it helps his own feelings to write these songs, but what hope does he give the listener?

The cover, in black and white, shows a dour faced man in front of a bleak landscape. There is no colour, and the booklet contains more grey decay photos.

The songs too are black and white. They tell of the

failure of our present society...."Welcome to the Museum"...."A Modern Working Man"...."Song of Delusion"...."Count the Cost"..... SAMPLE LYRICS:

There's a bed piled high with dirty washing on the weary wing.

Someone is coshing a man who claims to visit every year promising the better times are here. And now there's a clause on a piece of paper from a girl who claimed an orderly raped her cos his wife left

I cannot disagree with any of the opinions presented in these lyrics. Phil Hare's heart and head are in the right place, but do such tracts make for good songs? Again I ask...Who are they for? Is the purpose just to say "Look! isn't this terrible?" Phil Hare strikes me as an honest, enraged man who burns with a sense of injustice heightened

him after repossession.....

Don't they know what's going on? Aren't they mad? Aren't they angry?

by the sounds of everday life as people go about their

Yes they are, but not all the time...which this album is. Like the cover it lacks colour and a sense of the joy of living. There is little to lift the spirits. In its own way it is a peculiarly english response to the times we live in; A salvation. However, I feel that is Phil Hare could tackle a wider range of human experience he could become a formidable writer. I would offer him a phrase used by Danny Abse to describe his poetry;

"I hope this seriously entertains."

It is possible to do both.

Harvey Andrews



24 Derek Gifford.

SANDRA KERR - "The Song Sampler"

Folkworks FWK 002

Sandra Kerr became involved in the folk scene in the 1960's and moved onto broadcasting having written the music for the children's TV series Bagpuss. Since then she has been a regular contributor to B.B.C. Schools Radio. I have used her books and tapes in school and found them very useful.

This package consisting of cassette and songbook is aimed at children between 9-13 years. The songs are mainly traditional and most work well without any accompaniment. They can be sung as rounds, in harmony or in unison. The tape includes a teaching session which would be useful for a non-musician. I particularly liked the songs which were performed by children including "Baby One", "All Hid" and

"Azikatale". There are also versions of "Dirty Old Town", "Fourpence a Day" and "Herrings Heid" sung by Benny Graham.

It is a well thought out package with noted on the teaching and the singing of the songs and I look forward to using it in school.

Pat Ryan

BLYTH POWER "Paradise Razed"

DR003CD

Blyth Power are Joseph Porter. vocal and drums, Martin Neish, bass, Darren Tansley, piano and keyboard and backing vocals. They have been joined on this album by Yvette Stalens

and Rachael Swindlehurst backing vocals and Glen Miller on one track playing accordion.

When we were asked to review this album, it was primarily because the music night we run, 8.45 at the Lane Ends. Wesham, caters for the whole gamut of music from traditional through to folk rock - so how about Blyth Power's latest CD then!

We must admit we hadn't heard of them, but then again the music scene is vast. We played the CD, impressed - yes. This is no rock album in the ordinary sense, but a superbly presented set of lyrics written and sung by drummer Joseph Porter, in what can only be described as a classic, Imagine vintage Steele Eye Span, Queen, and the sheer musical impact of productions like the original Jesus Christ Superstar of two decades ago and you have Blyth Power.

The CD entitled "Paradise Razed" consists of twelve tracks touching on subjects such as drink (Bacchus 26

on the Wagon), the exploits of Medieval Knights, "Burning Joan" - Joan of Arc, the ordination of women "Milton's Schemes" and on the death of Eros "Cry Carrion" a subtle love's gonna get you anyhow theme. I particularly liked "Rowan's Riding", with alternative lines of the lyrics used in the chorus, its a tale of how a man gets his comeuppance when he tried it on with the maid at the Rose and Crown!

Overall very impressive - but don't try to understand the lyrics to deeply at first, just listen to Blyth Power. Ann & Eddie Green

ROY WILCOCK AND BRIDGET GUEST "Home Tonight"

Soundmaster 010

Roy has been around the folk club scene since 1978. so has definitely "served his time". He and Bridget

> first got together in 1990 and released their first album "Call and Answer". This their second recording was released in Janu-

> I took this on holiday with me and gave it a severe bashing on the old walkman; it goes very nicely with sunbathing. The cassette has eleven tracks, three of which are self-penned and the remainder came from a wide variety of sources. I didn't think I would see a recording with songs from Johnny Cash and Eric Bogle on it. Despite this variety, the general feel of the album seems to be influenced by New Country Music; an excellent source for mate-

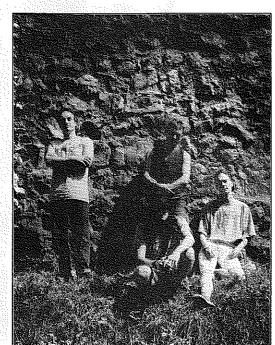
Roy and Bridget both sing well and their voices have a nice blend. I can't

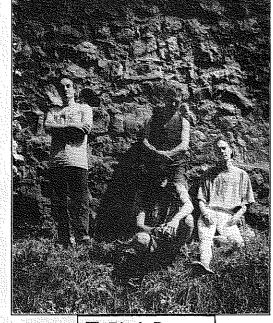
help feeling that sometimes it's a bit too nice, a bit too slick. For me they seem to be at their best on the unaccompanied tracks, particularly Chris While's "100 Miles", when the voices seem to have a lot more feeling in them. The arrangements are good and they are joined by Steve Hopton on Keyboards and guitars, Nigel Drayson on vocals and Irvine Wilcock on Harmonica.

The quality of the recording is clear with no noise and was produced and engineered by the aforementioned Mr Hopton.

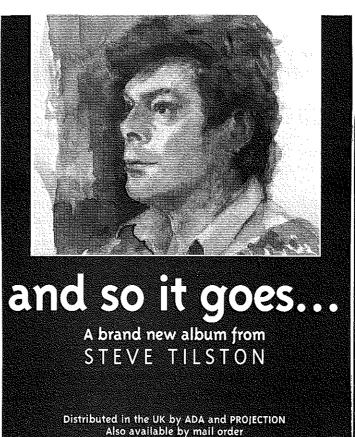
Roy and Bridget have produced this to sell at bookings as, I would think, a representation of their performance. Go and see them, I'm sure the feeling in the singing will be much more in evidence in a live

Ken Howard





☐ Blyth Power



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CARAVANSERAI "Shock Horo!"

SAMIZDAT CD003/CA003

Editor's Note: No the title is not a misprint!

This is the third release from Caravanserai. If the band's previous CD, PIG, set your feet tapping then you are in for another real treat. Unlike PIG, which included some Irish tunes, all the music is either of traditional Eastern European origin, or composed in that vein.

"A Big, wild Balkan sound", they claim. I certainly can't argue with that. From the opening notes of the first track - an 11/8 Balkan Dance tune - you know that you are about to hear something special.

Throughout the CD there is superb interplay between the instruments. Whilst one member of the band holds the tune, others go off into flights of delightful fantasy. No one instrument dominates; all play as a well oiled unit.

The four permanent members of the group are joined by an impressive list of guest musicians who fit in well with the Caravanserai sound - not surprising as several of them were in the line-up on PIG. Caravanserai are most at home when playing on the streets, but the music maintains its lively, powerful drive when transferred to the CD player. The predominately up tempo dance music is interspersed with some gentler tracks to produce a CD which all Europhiles should have in their collection.

The CD is distributed by ADA Distribution so there should be no problems in finding it in your local music shop. Alternatively it can be purchased by mail order directly from Caravanserai on 0113 2405318.

If you want to catch them live, the band will be performing during the Bolton Festival at the end of August.

Peter Bearon

THE WHISKEY PRIESTS "Timeless Street"

WPTCD 12

For those of us who have become addicted to the "Priests" own particular brand of entertainment, and have followed the bands story, this album is a real treat. This was the bands first studio recorded offering and it has now been re-released for all to enjoy. There is a story behind the re-release, and after reading it you will see that it has been put out as a sort of raspberry to "Celtic Music" who must surely now regret their past treatment of the band.

"Timeless Street" is pure Whiskey Priests with lead vocalist Gary Miller bringing his own style to the lyrics and combine this brother Glen & Co backing him with such wonderfully strong accompaniment the result is powerful exhilaration.

The unmistakable blend is there for all to see and hear, with the coal mining theme running strongly through each track convincing you that despite all the hardships and difficulty they will still shine through.

The tracks on the album are a collection of loud rip-roarers, soft ballads and bouncing instrumentals which help display the wide repertoire of the band.

If you can listen to this and not end up tapping your feet at the very least then you must have had an enjoyment bypass!!

Check it out you will not be disappointed!

Martin Holden

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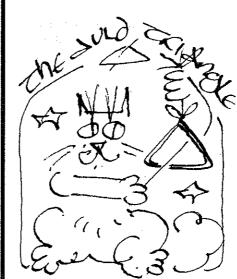
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WILLIAM JACKSON "Inchcolm"

Linn Records AKD 037

Although born in Scotland, he spent a lot of his early life in Donegal, Ireland and so has influences from both sides of the water. After an early training in classical music he turned to his traditional roots and formed the band Ossian with whom he performed for 14 years. I knew him then as Billy Jackson. I remember well, about ten years ago, being at Girvan festival and being one of the fortunate people who sat through a live performance of Billy's composition called "The Wellpark Suite". It was one of those occasions when all the hairs on the back of your neck stand up.

William is a multi-instrumentalist but his main instrument is the Clarsach (Scottish Harp). He is joined on this album by a number of top musicians, too numerous to mention included in which are the Scottish Chamber Orchestra Strings. As soon as the CD starts it oozes class. Nine of the ten tracks are Jackson arranged and written and all of them lift up the old hairs on the back of the neck. Although each of the first nine tracks is a piece in itself, they all seem to fit together to provide a whole picture. I listened to this a great deal while on holiday. Apart from the fact I was soaking up the sun, this wonderful music transports you to the highlands and islands, a bit like a film score complete with pictures.

The only item I have not mentioned is the tenth track. What can I say. I doesn't seem to fit in at all with the rest of the CD. Personally I feel it's 12 minutes of a large mistake. At least it's the last track, you can press stop and go back to the beginning. Despite this it's worth every penny. Let all these brilliant musicians take you by Mr Jacksons excellent writing on a trip to musical paradise.

Ken Howard.

PETE OAKLEY "GHOST IN THE CITY"

Fellside Records FECD 103

Stone Me! A country blues artist....from Derby! Writing all his own songs...from Derby! A ask you...Dear me...Good though. Pete Oakley picks like a demon..he even gives us blues banjo, a first as far as I'm concerned. He has energy and enthusiasm, and, praise be, a sense of humour in his lyrics;

You tell me in the morning, when we're in between the sheets, you want to go to France, you got a bad case of the Gites...

His one weakness is that his voice is sometimes not quite strong enough to carry the higher pitched passages, but his panache carries him through.

Blues melodies are mostly the same and a copyright case would drive any jury berserk. Pete reworks many of them with a tongue in cheek insight that brings them back fresh.

He is driven along by a Barrelhouse pianist called Big Bill Roberts, and adds occasional bass, flute and drums, but mostly it's all his own work.

I would suspect he gives a fine live show and also value for money...and from Derby too...Stone Me!

P.S. Phil Hare offers thanks "To Paul and Linda" (could it be...no...surely not) and Pete Oakley thanks "Linda for just about everything." Who is this Linda? I think we should be told. On American CD's this thank you business is getting completely out of hand with whole pages of the booklet being taken up with names that mean nothing to the buyer. On my next offering I mean to thank only Adam and Eve, so no one feels left out...but who is Linda...who is she?...

Harvey Andrews

BANKLANDS The Story of Fellside Records FECB100

It is nearly 20 years since Fellside records was started by Paul Adams & his wife Linda. To have simply survived so long would be an achievement in itself - whatever happened to Leader, Tradition and Free Reed? To have also recorded some of the best names in the revival over that period is quite remarkable!

I always find it very difficult to review these compilations, since any selection is inevitably one person's choice, and especially here when you consider that this chooses 23 tracks from 77 records.

Whilst I might quibble with some of the selections (I would probably have chosen a track from a later Jez Lowe album, but from an earlier Steve Turner one), I cannot disagree with the selection of artists, and there is no significant omission here. The album represents a good cross-section of the artists that have recorded for Fellside and as such it serves both as a retrospective to those familiar with Fellside as well as a sampler for those unfamiliar with the label.

Particular highlights for me are (In no particular order) Roy Harris' "Muddley Barracks, Bram Taylor's "Sally Wheatley", Cockersdale's "Normandy Orchards" and Jolly Jack's "White" (A long time travelling).

All the tracks are accompanied by an excellent set of notes by Paul Adams and with 23 tracks for £7.99 it has to be superb value for money. All royalties will be donated to the National Deaf Children's Society - so what are you waiting for - go out and buy it NOW!

Nige! Firth

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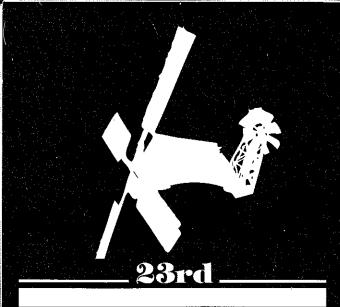
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