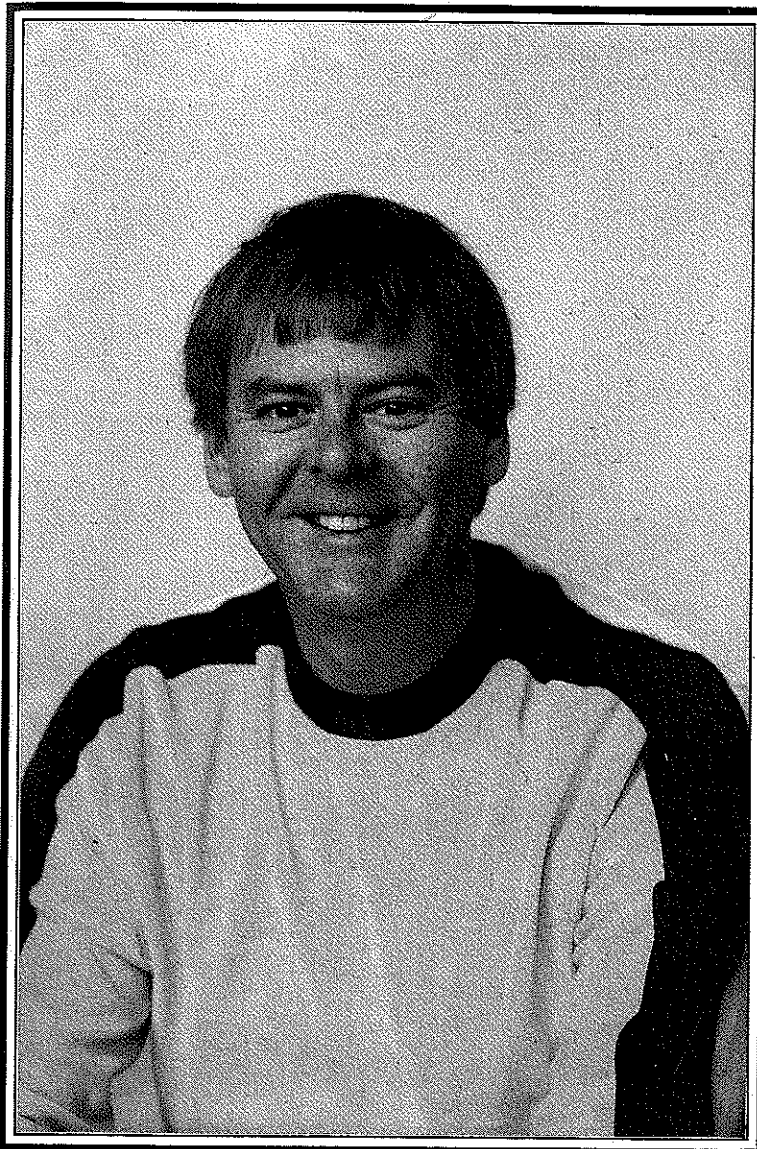


FOLK *North West*

Winter 1995/6

80p



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Christmas Quiz

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Editorial Address:

**118, Bolton Road,
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WIGAN
WN2 1XF**

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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

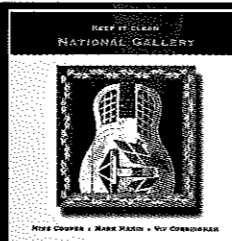
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EDITORIAL

WELCOME to the latest issue of FOLK NORTH WEST!

This issue we have another in our occasional series about Customs in the North-West. Peter Bearon rather topically turns his attention to the Roby Mill New Year Carol Singers on page 12. Our reviewers, including Harvey Andrews, turn their attention to some new CD and cassette releases from page 24.

Also this issue there is a Christmas Quiz (sorry no prizes, but if you get completely stuck we have answers as well!

Jenny Shotliff supplies the regular Youthful Perspective on pages 10 and 11, where there is the latest news of a the new magazine aimed at young people. Our new format and much extended Diary Chat can be found on page 7, which I hope you find even more interesting and informative than usual.

I've had some discussions with the Editors of Buzz and SCANSFOLK about a possible merger to provide a better magazine for all of the North-West. So far these discussions have been quite constructive, so to move forward further, there is a questionnaire for you to fill in on page 29.

I'll close by wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and we'll see again at the end of February!

Nigel Firth

OUR NEXT ISSUE COVERS
MARCH 1996 TO MAY 1996
THE CLOSING DATE FOR ALL
SUBMISSIONS IS JANUARY 20th,
NOTHING WILL BE ACCEPTED
AFTER THIS DATE

Editorial Address:

118, Bolton Road,
Aspull,
Wigan
WN2 1XF

Telephone : 01942 833293

Chairman's Ramblings

MERGER LATEST!

There is no Chairman's Ramblings this issue, so I'm using the space for a statement that all three editors agreed should be included in their next issue:

Following from recent meetings, the decision has been made in principle to try to merge Folk North-West, Buzz & SCANS Folk. The present aim is that the first issue will be published in Autumn '96.

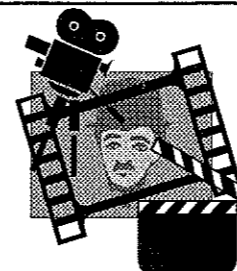
The exact details are still some way off being finalised, but the intention is to combine the best features of all three magazines in a glossy A4 format magazine to be published quarterly.

At this stage, we need your help to finalise the details, after all it will be YOUR magazine! We would like you to send in your views on the proposed merger. You might like to consider for example what format should it be, what articles should be included, what cover price? etc.

There is a questionnaire at the end of the magazine (on Page 29). Please fill it in and give us your views.

In addition, we will be running a competition for a new title and logo for the magazine front cover. The best entry will be the basis for the new magazine cover, and there will be a prize of some CD's for the winner and possibly for the runner-up as well. *More details of the competition in our next issue.*

An identical article to the one above appears in all three magazines.



NewsReel

Latest News from around the region and further afield

Yet again, welcome to NewsReel. The bad news is that items seem to be a little thin on the ground this time, but the good news is that a couple of people have sent in pieces for inclusion. It's always a pleasure to receive them.

First mention goes to **8.45 At Lane Ends Folk Club** who are organising a charabanc trip early next year. They are going to see Show of Hands at the Royal Albert Hall on the 24th of March 1996. Departing on Saturday the 23rd of March, they will be spending one night at the Crofton Hotel, Kensington and then will be returning after the show on Sunday evening. Cost will be in the region of £70.00 depending upon numbers and if you want to book or obtain more information you should ring (01772) 683027.

Hester Meadows has asked me to mention the following: "**Euro Folkdance**" takes place on the first Thursday of every month at the Gregson Institute, Moorgate. For more information telephone (01253) 892593. The Singleton Cloggers meet every Monday in the Singleton Village Hall at 8.00pm. The Cloggers are run by Sue and Keith Walker who can be contacted on (01253) 882051. A music/song session takes place every Wednesday evening at the Falcon pub on Hardhorn Way, Poulton-le-Fylde. All are welcome and if you want to know more the contact number is (01253) 892001.

In the last NewsReel I asked if anyone had information about **Cajun Dance** in the area and someone has been good enough to let me have a few flyers advertising Cajun events in Lancashire. Cajun Dance Workshops are being held at Padiham Town Hall up until mid-December on Tuesday evenings at 8.00pm. Run by Barbara Coppock and Phil Hodson the workshops cater for absolute beginners as well as more experienced dancers. Tickets are priced at £4.00 per session.

Padiham Town Hall is also the venue for some Winter Cajun Dances....

Saturday 9th December --- Christmas Party Time with Joli Blon. 4.50 before 30th November, 6.00 after.

Saturday 30th December --- New Year Spectacular with Le Rue. 7.50 before 30th November, 9.00 after.

Padiham Town Hall ticket office - (01282) 30055

It would seem that another hotbed of Cajun foot-stomping is **Accrington Town Hall**. Winter dances, which are all priced at 5.00 (with a 4.00 concession) are scheduled as follows.....

Friday 15th December --- The Bearcat Cajun Play-

Saturday 27th January --- The Flatville Aces

Saturday 24th February --- The Bontemp Playboys

Tickets are available from various outlets, but for more information telephone (01254) 380293.

My informant tells me that both venues have decent dance floors and are well attended. You are advised to book in advance, not only to save money, but to guarantee admission. Bookings by phone are only accepted with Visa. On the down side, I'm told the beer is a bit suspect! Is a good venue, a good band, reasonable ticket price and real ale too much to ask? Three out of four isn't bad! Thanks for the information, whoever you are.

Some excellent dance workshops are taking place in the **Telford, Shropshire** area at the moment. The venues are Phoenix School, Dawley and the Village Hall, Wenlock. Both of which are situated only five minutes drive from junctions 5 & 7 on the M54. Subjects covered include Playford, Cajun and Border Morris, prices are around 6.50 (there are concessions) and more information can be obtained by phoning (01952) 596521.

There has been a change of date for the **Warwick Folk Festival 1996**. For the first time ever the festival will be venturing into July, to the weekend of the 26th - 28th. The reason for this departure from the norm? The 1996 World Bowls Championships are being held in Leamington Spa for two weeks in August, including the usual weekend of the festival. Already many of the hotels and guest houses in Leamington and Warwick are fully booked for that period, and the area is expecting an influx of several thousand competitors and spectators for the World Tournament. Several of the venues used by the festival are not available - it would seem that the bowling fraternity prefer to eat in restaurants rather than sing in them! For more details you can speak to Frances Dixon on (01203) 678738.

Preliminary judging for the Wiggin Ceilidhs Dance Writing Competition took place on Sunday 15th October, where eighteen entries were whittled down to a final eight to be danced and judged at the Ince Ceilidh on 10th November. Third prize on the night went to Fred Lloyd (last year's winner) from Salford Folk Dance Club with a dance called Hannah's Hop. Second prize went to Geoff Barraclough for a lovely six couple dance called Honeycombe Jig (this one was my favourite, well done Geoff!). But first prize of a trophy and 75.00 went to Martyn Harvey for a dance called Beat the Retreat, an excellent composition and a worthy winner. It's interesting to note that each of the Ince competitions so far has had a square dance taking first prize.

On Monday 4th December, In Tandem a.k.a. Peter & Alison, organisers of 'Wiggin Ceilidhs', are promoting a concert with a difference in Rivington, near Horwich. The bands for the evening are: **Ensemble del Doppio Bordone and Jabadaw** and the venue is Rivington Chapel. The event is being held in conjunction with the Chapel Committee.

'Ensemble del Doppio Bordone' are from the Alessandria region of Northwest Italy, and have already toured in this country twice before with their wonderful programme of Christmas music from the region. On their last visit they were recorded playing in Beverley Minster for a Radio 2 broadcast. There are six members of the band playing instruments as diverse as hurdy gurdy, bagpipe, psaltery, melodeon and cello. They come from a mixed folk and classical background. Unlike many of their concerts on this tour, the one at Rivington will be an acoustic set.

'Jabadaw' are a new and young band from South Manchester. Some of their members previously played in 'Melandra'. They play folk dance music from the English and French traditions in a contemporary style. They are usually a four piece band for both ceilidhs and French/Breton dances, but on this occasion will be playing as an acoustic trio. Their line up includes hurdy gurdy and saxophone.

Rivington chapel is small, so tickets will be limited and early booking for this unique event is advised. Tickets cost £5.00 with concessions available. Doors will be open at 7.15 p.m. with music starting at 7.45 p.m. For further details ring 'In Tandem' on 01942 816569.

The 8th **Four Fools Folk Festival** will take place at Lowton Civic Centre over the August Bank Holiday weekend (From Friday 23 - Sunday 25 August 1996).

Guests Booked include:- Cyril Tawney; Martyn Wyndham-Read; Jez Lowe & the Bad Pennies; Cockersdale; Sid Kipper; Barry Dransfield; First Principles; Quartz; Alastair Anderson; Kevin & Ellen Mitchell; Garva; Mike O'Connor; Portsmouth Shantymen; Ray Fisher; Colin Pitts; Loctup Together; Derek Gifford.

Season Tickets £23.00 (Before 1 July 1996) £26.00 afterwards. Free Camping. Further details, please contact Angie and Ken (01527 545247) or write to 27 Bascote Close, Headless Cross, Redditch, Worcs. B97 5XF. (Please enclose large SAE).

Last, but by no means least, a mention for the Luvvies Section of Horwich Prize Medal Morris Men who will be taking their annual Mummers Play around the pubs of Horwich and Bolton in the weeks coming up to Christmas. Last year's tour was a magnificent success with many spectators being deeply touched by the experience. If you're out and about on the same night as these artistes and are lucky enough to catch one of their emotional performances, be prepared to weep!!! That's all for this issue, perhaps I could take this opportunity to wish everyone involved in the North West folk scene a Merry Christmas and a very happy and peaceful New Year

Stephen 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

Raidio Telefis Eireann Radio 1 MW 567kHz

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

Mora Dhibh, Saturdays 6.37am - 7.25am (Alternating Songs and dance tunes)

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 that all correspondence concerning Diary Chat, Club Diary dates and Club Residents should be sent to Chris McIlveen at:

51 Moorfield
Turton
Bolton
BL7 0DH
Phone/Fax: 01204 852627

General Club News

ρ To Merge or Not To Merge

As most of you will be aware by now, the Federation is currently in discussions with Buzz and SCANS Magazines concerning a possible merger. We thought it was important that Club organisers were given the opportunity to give their views on this, hence the Questionnaire that was sent out recently. Our thanks to those Club organisers who have taken the time to complete and return their questionnaires, please could we remind those who have not yet done so that this is an important matter, and we would really like to know your views as soon as possible.

ρ Welcome to New Clubs

We bid a very warm welcome to two new clubs this month. The **New Beginnings Folk Club**, which will be meeting in the Acorn Suite of Aughton Village Hall from Saturday 25th November. Kick off is at 8:00 pm, and the club will be meeting every second Saturday. There is a separate bar, a No Smoking policy and no stairs means easy access for the disabled. So, get on down there and help to give this new venture a flying start. Further details are available from the club organiser Phil Knight on 01704 568277.

Also, the **Urmston Acoustics Folk Club** will be meeting every Tuesday night at The Nag's Head, Davyhulme Circle, Urmston, kicking off at 8:30 pm. Phone Martin Kavanagh on 0161 748 5497 for further details.

ρ Bury Folk Club

Time to make some changes.....From January 1996 **Bury Folk Club** will be booking national guests on the second Saturday of every month. There will be free entry for all on the other Saturday nights. These will alternate between Singers Nights and more informal session nights of music and song. The club would like a range of different hosts for these free nights, so if you fancy running your own folk evening at a ready made venue with a group of traditional folk enthusiasts, give Chris and Ann Nash a call on 01204 593224.

ρ Chorley Folk Club News

Frank Wilson reports that there are many people to thank for helping to provide some wonderful nights at **Chorley Folk Club** over the past few months. Singers from the floor, local and national guests - and everyone who came to listen and support them. They are all thanked for helping to create and take part in some tremendously enjoyable evenings. The undoubted highlight in recent weeks was the appearance of Ian Bruce from Scotland. His performance was absolutely outstanding, indeed such was the impression he made that at the end of the night he sold about £200 worth of albums.

The Moorland Folk, who it is hoped to bring back soon, also stood out as highly entertaining and likeable lads.

Very special thanks go out to Brian Preston, Rob Malaney and Nic Caffrey, who on October 17th turned up as surprise guests on Frank's birthday.

There have been highs and lows like all clubs and attendances have varied between 16 and 50+, but in an atmospheric room things have generally been great, most important being the singers and musicians who want to come along and enjoy themselves. The special guest nights are admission free and the club has booked some of the best acts on the folk circuit for 1996.

Finally the club would like to extend special thanks to the folks from Swinton and Standish Folk Clubs who have lent their support.

ρ Cockerthorpe Folk Club

Terry Haworth, the organiser of the club for the last 8 years, is hanging up his organisational hat at Xmas. There is no one person taking over the running of the club but a few regulars are going to try and keep it going on a Singers and Musicians Night basis.

ρ Blackpool Folk Club

Sadly, **Blackpool Folk Club** has been forced to close due to lack of support and what seems to be an excess of 'Irish' pubs in the area. Our thanks go to Ken and Beryl Adams for all their past hard work in running the club.

ρ Arnside Folk Club

Yorkshire's Loss is Lancashire's Gain - When the well known performers Roy Wilcock and Bridget Guest moved from Wakefield to Kendal they soon found a welcome at **Arnside Folk Club** in Milnethorpe. The club which already boasts a number of recognised talents is further strengthened by the addition of Roy and Bridget to the residency.

ρ 8:45 At Lane Ends Folk Club

The Folk Club is presenting 'Till All The People Of The World Are Free', a charity concert with all proceeds donated to Amnesty International. The concert will take place at 7:30 pm on Saturday 27th January 1996, at Kirkham Community Centre, Kirkham. Artists confirmed to date include Chris While & Julie Matthews, Hobson & Lees, Garva, Bernard Wrigley and Helen Watson, and the evening will be compered by Clive Pownceby. Tickets are £5:00 and available from Ann Green (01772 683027). Please do your utmost to support this worthy cause.

The club is also arranging a trip to see Show of Hands and Friends at The Royal Albert Hall on Sunday 24th March. The all-in price of £70 includes a return coach trip, your ticket and Bed & Breakfast for one night at the Crofton Hotel in Kensington. Early booking with Ann Green is advisable.

ρ Preston Folk Club moves to Fridays

After nearly thirty years of **Preston Folk Club** being held on Monday nights it has been decided to change the club in more ways than one. Monday 18th December will see the 'Final Fling' at the Unicorn for the old regime. The club will be taking a Christmas break from then until it reopens under the 'new management'.

That reopening will be on the first FRIDAY in FEBRUARY 1996, that is Friday 2nd February. From then on the club will be meeting every Friday upstairs at the Unicorn, but with the caveat that every third Friday the club cedes place to the already well established Comhaltas Coeltoiri Eireann, when, needless to say, everyone is welcome to join them for an Irish knees-up once a month.

The new-style club will be run and hosted by three old hands - Brian Dewhurst (aka Brian Preston), Nick Caffrey and Rob Malaney, still ably assisted by current residents and officers.

It is hoped that the move (in time, not space!) will meet with general approval; reaction so far has been very encouraging. A list of future artists will be drawn up and circulated as soon as possible.

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, Roy Wilcock and Bridget Guest

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 Harty, Alan & Jean Seymour, Chris Nash, Ian Fell, Colin Clayton

CASTLE - Wild Rover

CHORLEY - Frank Wilson, Wolfman Jack, George Harvey

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

OSBALDESTON - Trouble At Mill

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, Brian Preston

RAILWAY - Sylvia and Graham Sowerby, Heather and Don Davies, Trevor Morton and Geoff Smith

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

TILSTON - Geoff Edwin-Scott

URMSTON ACOUSTICS - Keith Northover

WESTHOUGHTON - Auld Triangle

WOODEN HORSE - Quartz, Whole Hog, Andy Anderson, LocTup Together

More Diary Chat!

ρ Aspull Folk Club - The Rafters Roar

The Rafters Roar into a second glorious year! As the old saying goes 'As Time Goes By' and the last year has certainly flown by, and for the better I might add. Friends old and new have really supported their favourite singers club. Even the toll of the long hot summer hardly scorched the enthusiasm of our entertaining troubadours and their eager, well-attended audience.

It just goes to show you can't beat the good old Singers Night, when jobs are scarce and money's tight, and every singer or musician is a star in his or her own right, and to top all that, it costs you nowt to come in!

I feel at this time I must mention with praise a charming down-to-earth lady from the great land of down under, one of Australia's most talented folk singers; Margaret Bradford, who graced us with her presence and wonderfully entertained us for the modest price of a couple of pints of Guinness for herself and her old man Alan. They were over here on a bicycling trip and heard on the grapevine that we had a reputation of being a singers club not to be missed, so they decided to drop in the Rafters Roar.

Margaret was born in Sydney and was singing before she could walk. She has sung in choirs most of her life, and as a teacher has for many years produced musical dramas for children, as well as writing songs and encouraging song writing amongst her pupils. A harmony fanatic, Margaret is a regular patriot of folk clubs and festivals Australia - wide. She has studied Musicology at the University of New England, Armidale, and is equally comfortable on a concert stage or in the intimate surroundings of a small club or restaurant. She enjoys busking alone with her bowed psaltery or guitar, but sometimes plays with groups. She has that special ability to hold an audience with her warm, moving renditions of traditional as well as contemporary songs.

Margaret has featured on radio and television and has appeared live in venues all over Australia. She has also revived, with increasing success, the Sutherland Folk Club. A gentle irony with a nice satirical punch flavour many of Margaret's musical creations. Over her singing career she has performed with such talents as Sharlene and Heather Robinson, Sue Chalmers and more recently the brilliant group Settlers March, who also did the fantastic backing on her new album 'Freddie's Daughter', which is available via Margaret's sister in law over here on 01305 774753.

Finally I must report on the Rafters Roar 2nd Anniversary Night, it must have been the Sing Song and Food binge of the year. Well I do declare, everyone was there! Well, almost everyone! So keep up the good work all you Folk Addicts!

ρ The Railway Folk Club

The warm and friendly **Railway Folk Club** was re-launched on Thursday 28th September by the appearance of Jez Lowe who was supported by new residents Sylvia and Graham Sowerby, Trevor Morton, the award winning Lancashire poet, Heather and Don Davies for the best in chorus songs and solo singer Geoff Smith, following the departure of Ann Clancy to the North East.

Although audiences dwindled throughout the summer, a list of nationally known artists like Tom McConville and improved communication with our supporters is bringing the people back to what Tony Gibbons has always said is a great little club, and he should know, having brought his band to the Christmas Party for the last five or six years. There is also plenty of opportunity for floor singers, so go there ready to perform.

The ultimate aim of the new residents is to organise the first 'Day of Folk in Lymm' based on the Railway Hotel in Heatley, so anyone wanting to get in at the start of a venture into the unknown will be most welcome. Contact Don Davies on 0161 432 4317 for further information.

ACCESS FOR DISABLED:

8.45 at the Lane Ends

Levellers

Llandudno

Mechanics

Open Door

Swinton

New Seven Stars

New Beginnings

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

NON SMOKING CLUBS:

Cockermouth

Formby

Llandudno

Maghull (First Tuesday - Non smoking night)

New Beginnings



A Youthful Perspective

with Jenny Shotliff

Things have been pretty hectic lately so I suppose the best thing to do is to give you an update of everything that's been going on.

Our main concern has been negotiating through producing the first issue of the Youthquake newsletter. We have had a great deal of help from the Folk Arts Network and it's various members, the Living Tradition magazine, Folk on 2, Maghull Day of Music and many many others.



On the other side the response we've had from the young people we are targeting is inspiring; articles, reviews, drawings, requests..... organising the mailing list alone has been an education. We intend the newsletter to be a national focal point for young people (and the young at heart!) interested in traditional and related fields of music, song, dance and story telling. We have a fairly comprehensive UK mailing list compiled over the last year, though the more representative it is the better. We are also mailing out to Australia, Scandinavia, Canada and the States.

The first issue contains an article written by a young person on the folk scene, a review of Cambridge Festival, CD reviews, an interview with Keith Donnelly, advice on sound equipment (which will be a running series), jokes/cartoons/puzzles, diary dates, a miscellaneous page which will include pleas from young people who want to meet other young folkies in their area and the transcription of tunes written by young people (also a running series). Articles already lined up for future issues include interviews with Kate Rusby, Kellie While, John McCusker and a review of River Dance. We are also hoping to have a flick cartoon in the bottom right hand corner of the magazine which will build up over several issues.

The first issue is called Youthquake, but the title will change with each issue - Fruit Cake, Suitcase..... You can subscribe by sending your name & address and a cheque payable to Youthquake to, Youthquake, PO Box 23, Chester, CH1 4WW. £3.00 will get you 6 monthly magazines, £6.00 a years monthly magazines. You can of course send us more! We are actively seeking subscriptions, sponsorship, advertising, articles written by or about young people, items for review and more. Again you can write to the address above or ring us on 01695 623641 or 01244 318750.

Our next event will be at Maghull Day of Music, which will already have happened by the time this is published. We will be launching the newsletter at this event with an audience of local folk figures, five local schools and young folkies from the area in a five hour program of events featuring a workshop, concerts and a session.



During 1996 we also have the annual youth concert at Melling Tithebarn (near Liverpool) half planned for either January 27th or February 24th. There will be

workshops in the day followed by an evening concert which will promote the best young performers around but which will also provide opportunities for local people to gain performance experience.

The photos on this page show:
 Youth Session at Whitby Folk Festival (top)
 Joe (on fiddle) with his brother Ben Broughton (bottom)

I am sure you'll join me in congratulating Michael McGoldrick, a multi-instrumentalist from Manchester who has just won the 1995 Young Tradition Award. More than being a superb musician I've seen him in sessions go out of his way to play with youngsters who are barely more than beginners and when headlining the youth concert last year he was lovely with the young people from Youthquake. No-one deserves the media coverage this will give him access to more and we all wish him well.



This is the second year running we've booked the winner of the award six months before they've won! I can't tell you yet who will be performing at the youth concert but with this track record I hope some of you who haven't been before will give it a try - you will be comprehensively entertained.

We are also going to run the Saturday of the Werneth weekend in late June. Werneth will feature a series of workshops during the day and finish with what we hope will be a family evening starting and finishing earlier and including song, music, dance and storytelling. We are intending to provide entertainment for all ages with timing that is more friendly to families. Anyone who wants to can then enjoy a session as the bar will still be open.

Anyone who thinks they can help with either the newsletter or the events should write to the above address. We are also interested to hear from

young performers.
 Jenny Shotliff

The photo on this page shows:
 Various Fossbrooks putting Waltz steps to Steve Knightly's Tall Ships at Redcar

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The Roby Mill Carol Singers: A New Year Custom

There are many accounts of carol singers going out on Christmas Eve around the country, sometimes singing throughout the night. Many of these groups would have their own local carols. In Roby Mill, however, the carol singers went out on New Year's Eve. There was of course carol singing at Christmas, but this was the usual fare sung by mixed groups. What made the New Year's Eve singing different was that only men took part and instead of the usual Christmas carols only three hymns were normally sung. These were one each in common metre, long metre and short metre. This gave the singers the opportunity to sing all their favourite tunes but they only had to learn three sets of words! The three hymns in question were "Come, let us join our cheerful songs", "A charge to keep I have" and "Praise ye the Lord! 'Tis good to raise" - not hymns normally associated with this time of year at all. From talking with past participants it would seem that the tunes and the desire for a good sing were far more important than the words. The only other hymn that was occasionally used was "Lead kindly light" when the singers visited a catholic house. In addition the singers had a New Year carol which started "Come welcome the New Year with Anthems of Joy".

No one I have met knows when the custom started, but it would seem likely that it was in the 1860's when the Methodist Chapel at Roby Mill was built. It was certainly going strong 2at the end of the last century. The singers were mainly chapel members but were joined for the evening by friends and relations. At one time a singer travelled from South Manchester to join them and this was before the second world war. The custom eventually died out in about 1974 when numbers had dwindled to such an extent that they felt they could no longer go out. This was caused by people moving away, and the village life changing through the area becoming part of commuter belt Wigan. Although this was a very

important custom, it should be seen in the light of other activities that took place throughout the year; men's socials, women's socials, theatrical productions and the "Turkey Club" - but that's another story!

In the period from 1935 to the outbreak of the war, Ken Smith joined the singers. He was 15 on his first outing and his father had been singing with them since the 1920's. There were usually about 18 singers although the number had dropped to 10 by 1939. They started at the Rathbone's house in Lafford Lane, Upholland once all the Mill's blowers had sounded to welcome the New Year. From there they went to College Road, which would be the first place the New Year's carol was sung. The route went down to Roby Mill, Ayrefield and back to Roby Mill for a 'breakfast'. Then the singers went up to Elmers Green (now part of Skelmersdale) going over the flanks of Ashurst Beacon, down to Hall Green, to a farm at the top of Tower Hill, back to Hall Green, on to Holland Moor finishing at Beech House (Aunt Polly's) for a second breakfast about 6.30/7 a.m. During the evening's singing they would raise about £26 for the chapel funds. The first time Ken Smith went out

they caught the first Campbell's bus in the morning which cost 1d from Upholland to Roby Mill. Other than that the whole route was walked, a distance of about 9 miles. In the evening of New Year's day they would all go along to a concert at the chapel.

After the war the custom was revived although with a slightly shorter route. They no longer went to Elmers Green and Hall Green. Even so about 50 houses were visited and they would be out until 7 or 8 o'clock in the morning. Sometimes they would start after the watchnight service at Digmoor Chapel. Again a big breakfast of cold meats and trifle etc. was laid on at about 3 o'clock in the morning. There were about 20 singers in the post war revival. To start with they used to walk, but in later years they used cars



and then a coach to get them round. After the war there was a congregational tea in the afternoon on New Year's Day, and the singers always used to finish the tea with "Come let us join" to the tune of Standish (a locally written tune by Arthur Alker) and the New Year Carol.

The singers have some wonderful stories to tell, like the time they turned up at a house to find the two daughters of the household shivering on the doorstep. They had been night clubbing and their parents would not let them into the house until the carol singers had been to let the New Year in! The singers always performed inside houses. If the people had gone to bed they were left keys to let themselves in, sing up the staircase and go out again, popping the keys back through the letterbox. In the early sixties a recording was made at one house in the early hours of the morning without the singers knowing. As far as I am aware this is the only recording ever made. It is of them singing "Come let us join" to the tune "Brocco Bank", a particular favourite.

The tunes used before and after the war were very similar, mainly being popular tunes from the Primitive Methodist hymnbook, although many of these found their way into the appendix of the 1933 Methodist Hymnbook. However, there were a few local tunes. In addition to Standish, there was Silver Hills, a popular Brass Band piece. Before the war they used a tune called Harvey House. This was written by a Mr Gaskell who lived in Gathurst Road. He was the gardener at Harvey House and the school next door. The tune was recorded by Besses o' th' Barn Band along with one called Edwinstowe which was also used.

I have been told that after the war the singers visited a pub called the Fox on New Year's Eve before going out but have not been able to confirm this.

There was also a group went out on New Year's Eve from the Digmoor Methodist Church, but this was a mixed group which finished early, at about 2 a.m. Occasionally the two groups would meet. It seems unlikely that there would be two such visiting customs so close together and not others in the area. If anyone knows of any similar customs why not write in to Folk North West? I for one would be very interested to hear about them.

Peter Bearon

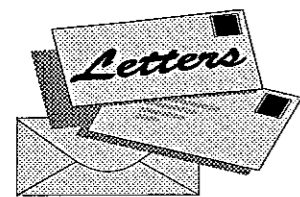
Jacinta - Home At Last

Many people around the North-West and beyond remember the acclaimed multi-media production 'The Final Trawl' (*So when is the Computer CD of The Final Trawl being published? - ED*) which used songs, stories, sketches and slides to portray the life and times of Fleetwood fishermen and their families, from the early days, the post-war boom years, through the Cod Wars to the decline of the large, distant-water trawlers. The show, put together in 1982 by Ron Baxter, Dick Gillingham and Dave Pearce and performed by them and other members of Fleetwood Folk Club for the Wyre Maritime Festival, celebrated the spirit of the people who gained both their livelihoods and a strong sense of community from the fishing industry. The show was subsequently taken to appreciative audiences at Folk Festivals and Clubs, Art Centres and schools throughout the North-West, and to Sidmouth International Festival.

Since that time, the team has been involved in many other projects, including 'Onward' - a pageant to celebrate Fleetwood's 150th Anniversary. Dave Pearce and Dick Gillingham had a formative influence on the Friends of Fleetwood Museum, they were instrumental in fund-raising and organising the production and placement of the Fishermens' Memorial which overlooks Morcambe Bay, and they have also been closely involved in the search for a trawler to act as a floating museum and memorial to Fleetwood's fishing heritage.

Earlier this year that search bore fruit with the arrival in Fleetwood of the former Marr's trawler 'Jacinta'. Originally built for Fleetwood, 'Jacinta' had been marr's top-earning ship, sailing out of Hull until a major engine breakdown ended her career. Although the charitable trust set up to look after 'Jacinta' was able to acquire the vessel for a token £1, making her ready to receive members of the public was obviously going to need considerable infusions of both money and effort.

Dave and Dick, now members of the Jacinta Trust, were approached to see if a presentation of the 'Final Trawl' could be arranged to help raise funds. After discussion with Ron Baxter and Ross Campbell, they decided instead to produce a new show especially for 'Jacinta', incorporating material from the 'Final Trawl' and from other projects which the team has been involved in during the intervening years. This



to the EDITOR

AUSSIE SPEAKS OUT? (too Much Smoke)

Do I get the feeling I'm not the only person who doesn't like gulping smoky (other people's that is) air when I sing in folk clubs..? That's good to know. I was beginning to think when I got dirty looks from people who I complained to that they were resenting me, as an Australian criticising their habits.

At the risk of offending people - I don't really want to be a kill joy - I find it truly offensive having to breathe in other people's stale smoky exhalations in order to sing in some UK folk clubs/pubs. To sing correctly and comfortably deep breathing is essential. I am horrified generally at the number of people who smoke here in the UK and I'm trying to work out why?

Compared to Australia its very considerable! Is it cold weather, boredom, frustration? Anyhour I've already made a few enemies I think because of my criticisms and to be fair I'm sure smokers could be just as critical of my bad habits.

But as a professional singer, (retired from full time teaching recently), I DO want to be able to sing for a few years yet - NOT DIE OF LUNG CANCER!!

I was beginning to despair that I'd ever be able to sing in a smoke-free venue till some kind soul aware of my frustration sent me an autumn 95 copy of Tyke's News in which a debate is continuing apparently [Love the phrase NO SMOKE FOKE - no croak] and discovered there ARE a number of smoke-free folk venues. A great magazine Tyke's News by the way Carol. A good read! Like the set up. Will take a few of these ideas back to Aus.

Some great singing and folk clubs here in the UK too but I do get a bit tired of standing in the doorway or outside to listen! I've collected some wonderful songs and met so many lovely friendly people.

Regards

Margaret Bradford.

Editors' Note:

Folk North-West has been listing Non-Smoking clubs for several years now, so obviously good ideas do get over the Pennines!

The Editor Writes:

Do you agree or disagree strongly with an opinion offered in this magazine? Would you like to see more of a particular kind of article or fewer record reviews, for example?

Then write in and tell us what you think, after all, it is YOUR magazine. If you don't tell us, we don't know if we are producing the kind of magazine you want.

Write to:

The Editor
Folk North-West
118, Bolton Road
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Wigan WN2 1XF

Jacinta - Home at last (from P.14)

allowed the inclusion of much new (and excellent!) material from earlier shows, and also let the team bring the story of Trawlertown up to the present day.

'Jacinta - Home At Last' blends some 30 songs in traditional style from the pens of Ron Baxter, Dick Gillingham and Dave Pearce, music from Ross Campbell, with poems, stories and projected slides to convey in a 2-hour programme both the comedy and tragedy of life in the trawling trade.

At its first performance in May, 'Jacinta - Home At Last' played to a full house in the North Euston ballroom, Fleetwood, when over £500 was raised for the Jacinta Trust. The 'Jacinta' is now open to the public (access via Fleetwood Harbour Village) but money is still urgently required for current and future developments. 'Jacinta - Home At Last' will be presented again at Fleetwood Working men's Club on Thursday 30th November and at The Lane Ends, Wesham on Saturday 2nd December.

Fleetwood contact - Ross Campbell (01253 770045)

14 Wesham contact - Ann Green (01772 683027)

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DECEMBER DATES

SUNDAY	3-Dec	10-Dec	17-Dec	24-Dec	
ARNSIDE	Singers Night		Singers Night		
BOTHY	Huw & Tony Williams	Roy Harris	Office Party	Closed	
BURNLEY MECHANICS		Rumillajtia			
LLANDUDNO	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
OPEN DOOR	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
POTTERIES	Chris Algar & Friends		Xmas Party	Closed	
*POYNTON	Julie Felix				
WOODEN HORSE	Singers Night	Singers Night	Xmas Party	Closed	
MONDAY	4-Dec	11-Dec	18-Dec	25-Dec	
POYNTON	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
PRESTON	Singers Night	Singers Night	Final Fling	Closed	
SWINTON					
TUESDAY	5-Dec	12-Dec	19-Dec	26-Dec	
CHORLEY	Jon Fitzgerald	Singers Night	Chris Caldwell	Closed	
DALTON	Singaround		Firkin		
LIVERPOOL	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
MAGHULL	Singers Night	Singers Night	Blarneystone	Closed	
OSBALDESTON	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
TILSTON	Singers Night	Singers Night	Xmas Party with Graham Bellinger & The Deakons	Singers Night	
WEDNESDAY	6-Dec	13-Dec	20-Dec	27-Dec	
ASPULL	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Xmas Party & Buffet Night	
8:45 at LANE ENDS	Mrs Ackroyd Band	Bushbury Mountain Daredevils	Ken Nichol & Chris While	GARVA with Scolds Bridle	
BLACKBURN	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
BURNLEY	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround	
CASTLE	Singers Night	Singers Night	Xmas Party	Closed	
NEW SEVEN STARS	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
THURSDAY	7-Dec	14-Dec	21-Dec	28-Dec	
COCKERMOUTH	Singers & Musicians	Jez Lowe	Xmas Party	Closed	
FLEETWOOD	Dave Summers	Singers Night	Spitting on a Roast	Closed	
GREGSON LANE		Singers Night		Singers Night	
LEVELLERS	Singers Night	Xmas Party with Hughie Jones	Closed	Closed	
RAILWAY	Singers Night	GARVA and The Common Touch	Singers Night	Singers Night	
SOUTHPORT ARTS			The Gathering		
SWAN					
FRIDAY	1-Dec	8-Dec	15-Dec	22-Dec	29-Dec
NORTHWICH					
PORKIES		Oldham Tinkers			
*POYNTON					New Year Ceilidh
RHYL					
WESTHOUGHTON	Tom Topping Band	Jez Lowe & The Bad Pennies	Closed	Closed	Closed
SATURDAY	2-Dec	9-Dec	16-Dec	23-Dec	30-Dec
*8:45 at LANE ENDS	Jacinta - Home at Last (Ticket only)				
BREWERY ARTS					
BURY	Pete Castle	Keith Kendrick	Th'Antiques Roadshow	Closed	Closed
FORMBY	Trick or Treat	Singers Night	Party Night	Closed	Closed
PADIHAM TOWN HALL		Joll Blon			Le Rue
POYNTON	Closed	Ceilidh with Olio	16 Special Xmas Ceilidh with The Ashley Hutchings Dance Band	Closed	Closed

JANUARY DATES

SUNDAY	31-Dec	7-Jan	14-Jan	21-Jan	28-Jan
ARNSIDE		Singers Night		Singers Night	
BOTHY	Closed	Living on an Island	Singers Night	John Kirkpatrick	Singers Night
BURNLEY MECHANICS				Fairport Convention	
LLANDUDNO	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
OPEN DOOR	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
POTTERIES	Closed				
WOODEN HORSE	Closed	Singers Night	Singers Night	Joe Stead	Singers Night
MONDAY	1-Jan	8-Jan	15-Jan	22-Jan	29-Jan
POYNTON	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
PRESTON	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
SOUTHPORT ARTS				Fairport Convention	
SWINTON					
TUESDAY	2-Jan	9-Jan	16-Jan	23-Jan	30-Jan
CHORLEY	Closed	Singers Night	Joe Stead	Singers Night	Anthony John Clark
DALTON	Singaround		Singaround		Singaround
LIVERPOOL	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
MAGHULL	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
OSBALDESTON	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
TILSTON	Singers Night	The Clydewells	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
WEDNESDAY	3-Jan	10-Jan	17-Jan	24-Jan	31-Jan
ASPULL	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
8:45 at LANE ENDS	Steve Tilston & Maggie Boyle	Helen Watson	Scolds Bridle	White Elephant	
BLACKBURN	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
BURNLEY	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround	
BURNLEY MECHANICS			I Cortigiani (St Peters Church)		
CASTLE	Closed	Singers Night	Singers Night	Guest tba	Singers Night
NEW SEVEN STARS	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
PADIHAM TOWN HALL			Steve Riley & The Mamou Playboys		
THURSDAY	4-Jan	11-Jan	18-Jan	25-Jan	
COCKERMOUTH	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	
FLEETWOOD	Singers Night	Geoff Higginbottom	Singers Night	Singers Night	
GREGSON LANE		Singers Night		Singers Night	
LEVELLERS	Closed	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
RAILWAY	Singers Night	Bram Taylor	Singers Night	Bev Sanders & Bob Sturgeon	
SWAN					
FRIDAY	5-Jan	12-Jan	19-Jan	26-Jan	
NORTHWICH					
PADIHAM TOWN HALL		Dick Lee, Rick Bamford & Martyn Bennett			
PORKIES					
RHYL					
WESTHOUGHTON	Closed	Chris While	Garva	Harvey Andrews (Ticket only)	
SATURDAY	6-Jan	13-Jan	20-Jan	27-Jan	
*8:45 at LANE ENDS				*Amnesty Concert	
BREWERY ARTS					
BURY	AGM & Singers Night	Dave Webber & Anni Fentiman	Session - Music & Song	Singers Night	
FORMBY	Guest tbc	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
*POTTERIES			*Ceilidh with Alf Alfa & The Wild Oats		
POYNTON	Closed	Ceilidh with Bilbo Baggins	Cajun Night (tbc)	Ceilidh with The Plain Brown Wrapper Band	

FEBRUARY DATES

SUNDAY	4-Feb	11-Feb	18-Feb	25-Feb	
ARNSIDE	Singers Night		Singers Night		
BOTHY	Ron Taylor & Jeff Gillett	Singers Night	Quartz	Singers Night	
LLANDUDNO	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
OPEN DOOR	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
POTTERIES					
WOODEN HORSE	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Hands in Pockets	
MONDAY	5-Feb	12-Feb	19-Feb	26-Feb	
POYNTON	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
SWINTON					
TUESDAY	6-Feb	13-Feb	20-Feb	27-Feb	
CHORLEY	Singers Night	Guest tba	Singers Night	Guest tba	
DALTON		Singaround		Singaround	
LIVERPOOL	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
MAGHULL		Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
OSBALDESTON	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
TILSTON	Mal Brown	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
WEDNESDAY	7-Feb	14-Feb	21-Feb	28-Feb	
ASPULL	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
8:45 at LANE ENDS	Anna Ryder	Martin Carthy	Antiques Roadshow	Leon Rosselson	
BLACKBURN	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
BURNLEY	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround	
CASTLE	Mal Brown	Singers Night	Singers Night	Guest tba	
NEW SEVEN STARS	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
THURSDAY	1-Feb	8-Feb	15-Feb	22-Feb	29 Feb
COCKERMOUTH	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians
FLEETWOOD	Megiddo	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Travelling Charles Fyson
GREGSON LANE		Singers Night		Singers Night	
LEVELLERS	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
RAILWAY	Steve Tilston & Maggie Boyle	Singers Night	Mick Bramich	Singers Night	Singers Night
SWAN					
FRIDAY	2-Feb	9-Feb	16-Feb	23-Feb	
*BOTHY				Cellidh with The Old Triumph Band - St John's Hall	
NORTHWICH					
PORKIES					
PRESTON	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
RHYL					
WESTHOUGHTON	Keith Hancock	Doonan Family Band	Pete Coe	Robb Johnson	
SATURDAY	3-Feb	10-Feb	17-Feb	24-Feb	
*8:45 at LANE ENDS		Harvey Andrews (Ticket only)			
BURY	Session - Music & Song	Johnny Collins	Singers Night	Session - Music & Song	
FORMBY	Guest tbc	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	
PADIHAM TOWN HALL			Baton Rouge		
POYNTON	Folk Night (tbc)	Cellidh with Merlin	Folk Night with Jon Harvison	Special 10th Birthday Cellidh with Jack at a Pinch & Friends	
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	0151 526 6661
Treasurer	Kath Holden	7, Sunleigh Road, Hindley, Wigan	01942 58459
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Advertising	Paul Holden	7, Sunleigh Road, Hindley, Wigan	01942 58459
Club reviewer	Tony Gibbons	2a, Moss Lane, Maghull, Liverpool	0151 526 6522
Membership Secretary	Contact	Treasurer (see Above)	
Federation Secretary	Linda Wright	266, Todmorden Rd., Sharneyford, Bacup	01706 877090
Youth Activities	Jenny Shottliff	1, Bardsey Close, Upholland, Lancs	01695 623641
Club Dates	Chris McIveen	51, Moorfield, Turton, Bolton	01204 852627

o THE AIMS OF THE FEDERATION SHALL BE

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



Day/Club	Time	Club Address	Organiser	Phone
SUNDAY				
ARNSIDE	08:30 PM	The Bulls Head, Milnthorpe	Steve Black	01524 761823
BOTHY	08:00 PM	Blundell Arms, Upper Aughton Rd, Birkdale	Clive Pownceby	0151 924 5078
LLANDUDNO	08:30 PM	The Old Victoria Pub, Church Walks, Llandudno	John Les	01492 580454
OPEN DOOR	08:30 PM	Star Inn, Church Street, Failsworth	Mike Riley	0161 366 7326
POTTERIES	08:00 PM	The Old Swan Inn, Hartshill Rd, Stoke	Jason Hill	01782 813401
WOODEN HORSE	08:30 PM	Stanley Arms, Catchdale Moss Lane, Eccleston	Jim Coan	01772 452782
MONDAY				
HORWICH	08:30 PM	The Toll Bar, Horwich	Joyce Riding	01257 792304
PRESTON	08:30 PM	The Unicorn, North Rd, Preston	Hugh O'Donnell	01772 745498
SWINTON	08:30 PM	White Lion, 242 Manchester Rd, Swinton	Ged Todd	01942 811527
TUESDAY				
CHORLEY	08:30 PM	The Prince of Wales, Cowling Brow, Chorley	Frank Wilson	01257 230047
DALTON	08:30 PM	Cavendish Arms, Dalton-in-Furness, Cumbria	Graham Atkinson	01229 832354
LIVERPOOL	08:30 PM	Pig & Whistle, Chapel St, Liverpool	Helen Hebden	0151 727 0088
MAGHULL	08:30 PM	Hare & Hounds, Maghull	Dave Day	0151 526 6661
OSBALDESTON	08:30 PM	Bay Horse Inn, Longsight Rd, Osbaldeston, Blackburn	Bernadette Dixon	01254 853929
TILSTON	08:30 PM	The Carden Arms, Tilston, Cheshire	Steve Barr	01829 250532
URMSTON ACOUSTICS	08:30 PM	The Nag's Head, Davyhulme Circle, Urmston	Martin Kavanagh	0161 748 5497
WEDNESDAY				
8:45 AT LANE ENDS	08:45 PM	Lane Ends Hotel, Weeton Rd, Wesham	Ann Green	01772 683027
ASPULL	08:30 PM	Moorgate Inn, Scot Lane, Aspull, Wigan	Paul Wordsworth	011 790 7153
BLACKBURN	08:30 PM	Veteran Hotel, Eanam, Blackburn	Brian Kirkham	01254 826661
BURNLEY	08:30 PM	Waggon & Horses Inn, Colne Rd, Brierfield	Phyl Watson	01282 774077
CASTLE	08:30 PM	Castle Hotel, Halton Village, Runcorn	Bob O'Callaghan	0151 424 5367
NEW SEVEN STARS	08:30 PM	New Seven Stars, Preston Rd, Standish	Hilda Foy	01257 792246
THURSDAY				
COCKERMOUTH	08:45 PM	Tithe Barn Hotel, Station St, Cockermouth	Terry Haworth	01900 604765
FLEETWOOD	08:30 PM	Steamer Hotel, Queens Terrace, Fleetwood	Dave Ryan	01253 876351
GREGSON LANE	08:30 PM	St. Joseph's Social Centre, Gregson Lane, Hoghton	Graham Dixon	01254 853929
LEVELLERS	08:00 PM	The Flying Picket, 24 Hardman St, Liverpool	Christina Roberts	0151 284 5458
RAILWAY	08:30 PM	Railway Hotel, Heatley, Lymm	Graham Sowerby	01925 755645
SWAN	08:00 PM	The Lloyds Hotel, Wilbraham Rd, Chorlton, Manchester	Annie Morris	0161 881 8294
FRIDAY				
NORTHWICH	08:30 PM	Harlequin Theatre, Queen St, Northwich	Sarah Sherwood	01606 48577
PORKIES	08:30 PM	Ladybrook Hotel, Fir Road, Bramhall, Cheshire	Helen Howard	0161 789 1395
RHYL	08:30 PM	Bee & Station Hotel, Bodfor St, Rhyl	Jeff Blythin	01745 336052
WESTHOUGHTON	08:15 PM	Westhoughton Golf Club, Long Island, Westhoughton	Pat Batty	01942 812301
SATURDAY				
BREWERY ARTS	08:30 PM	Brewery Arts Centre, 122a Highgate, Kendal	John Smyth	01539 725133
BURY	08:00 PM	The Napier, Bolton St, Bury	Dave Wetherall	0161 761 7708
FORMBY	08:30 PM	The Royal, Liverpool Rd, Formby	Janet Kemp	01704 876745
MECHANICS	08:30 PM	Burnley Mechanics, Manchester Rd, Burnley	Ian Wells	01282 30005
NEW BEGINNINGS	08:00 PM	The Village Hall, Aughton	Phil Knight	01704 568277
POYNTON	08:30 PM	Poynton Folk Centre, Park Lane, Poynton	Lynda Boyle	01663 743310
SOUTHPORT ARTS	08:30 PM	Southport Arts Centre, Lord St, Southport	Lesley Wilson	01704 540004

LIVE REVIEWS:

Fylde Festival/ Farewell to the Clan Line, Fleetwood

FYLDE FESTIVAL, FLEETWOOD September 1995

As reviewers we heard lots of whinges from punters this year... venues too full, and no festival no matter how well organised can get everything right. What a lot of people forget is that Fleetwood is only a small place with a limited number of venues. Generally speaking Alan Bell and his team do a great job.

Secondly the reason that all the venues are packed is that it is a huge success, and success means lots of people. Most people have programmes, so the message is get there early. Most of the popular acts were also booked on the main stage - so if you plan your visit to the festival you can enjoy it!

Having said that we did enjoy ourselves. Garva gave a brilliant account of themselves on Friday night on the main stage; others doing the same throughout the weekend were Ben and Joe Broughton, Sid Kipper, Wolfstone and Katherine Roberts and Kate Rusby (wonderful). An award needs to be given to the team on the campsite who cleared six bags of dog muck before the campers arrived and bent over backwards to be helpful and hospitable. The biggest grouch about the entire festival was the available food, I have never eaten so much poor food in

my life, whether at the campsite, the main site or other venues. This is where I think Fylde can take lessons from other festivals; food for thought Fylde??

We also took time out to watch the Tallyman Trophy competition for young folkies. We were treated to traditional music through to flamenco guitar and to classical clarinet, generally speaking some excellent performances. It is good to see young people being encouraged and I hope the organisers of this event carry on. Congratulations to everyone who participated, this competition really does help to foster the Young Tradition with previous winners being of the stature of Kate Rusby and Karensa Wragg. Also congratulations to Jenny Shottliff and Youthquake for all their work at the festival. Well done this year's winners, Spindrift.

Jamie Knowles

This review first appeared in Buzz, Autumn 1995.

FYLDE FESTIVAL:- FAREWELL TO THE CLAN LINE

It takes something special to get me into the Mount Hotel half an hour before opening time - and you can tell just how special an event this was by the fact that ninety minutes later I didn't want it to end! Ron Baxter's narrative and song specials have been a feature of Fylde ever since "The Final Trawl" - but



Ben & Joe Broughton

"Farewell to the Clan Line" is probably Ron's best ever project, certainly his best since "Trawl" and as memorable.

"Farewell" is in the typical Baxter style, with spoken narrative giving history, background and tall tales - and what tall tales! - with a cast of three, no visuals but many songs. It gripped from start to finish. As Ron said, just because the Merchant Navy in the 40's and 50's had no need of work songs, that didn't mean that the sailors had no need of a song. Most of what they sang was exactly what the rest of us were singing on shore

- but the ballad making tradition wasn't quite dead, and the "gripe song" was alive and well, if usually a parody to a known tune - and most often sung on a run ashore while tanked up. These complaining songs are probably closest to the rugby club song in spirit - and in language!

Ron is speaking from experience here - he sailed with the Clan Line, rising to Second Mate, and collected these songs and parodies at the time. The show presents a mixture of the Merchant Navy originals, some of Ron's own writing, superbly set to tunes by Ross Campbell, and some appropriate modern songs by Phil Colclough, Gordon Lightfoot and Stan Rodgers. The narrative isn't broken by attribution, and it says a lot about the quality of Ron and Ross' work that I had pencilled in one of theirs as a previously unheard Colclough! The songs were led excellently by Richard Hone.

LIVE REVIEWS:

Cyril Tawney at the Church Inn, Millbrook

The "gripe song" parodies worked beautifully - "Bye Bye Clan Line" (the universal one!) "Shaw Saville's Buccaneers" (c.f. McAlpines Fusiliers), "King Line Captain" (with the authentic origin of "balls-up") but Ron also collected what is possible the last whaling song written by and on the British whaling fleet. "Blood on the Ice" had survived from the Hector Hawk line for around 20 years when Ron found it. This powerful and effective song refers to the HH house colours of red and white and includes the line "We're just a slaughter house afloat on the swell" and - the authentic touch - a reference to the need to earn. This song alone could justify Ron's collecting but it is one among many - savour the wit of the instant ballad of the "Phyllis Bowater", a brilliant example of the folk process in action, or the deep feelings in "The Royston Grange Disaster".

"Farewell to the Clan Line" is a must for folk clubs, festivals and maritime museums. As a recollection of, and tribute to, a lost element of British work and British song, it belongs in the folk archives. Let's hope they get it down on tape soon - I want to hear it again and again.

Ian Wells

Cyril Tawney at the Church Inn, Millbrook

(Archie Tawney's 75th Birthday Party)

The night was special for a number of reasons. More than just a rare Cyril Tawney club appearance, it was a coming together of four men who have given their services to Folk Music since the earliest days of the revival. Ostensibly the night was a special 75th birthday celebration for Archie Tawney, Cyril's elder brother, whose long involvement in the Manchester and Tameside scene has benefited all who have ever come into contact with him. It was also Dennis Hayward's birthday. Dennis has run clubs in the Stalybridge area for thirty years. If an artist has made a mark on the world of Folk, then he's likely to have been through Dennis' hands. The occasion also brought in Eric Winter, long time folk page journalist for The Melody Maker and presently still writing for the excellent Living Tradition and Buzz.

Cyril was ably supported in the first half by Jim & Bonz. A Frank Proffitt Civil War song and a truncated version of **Two Sisters** were especially well sung. Fred Loader was the other support artist, providing an excellent set to start the second half. Fred seems to get better with every appearance. His set included

songs by James Taylor, Bob Dylan and Richard Thompson. The Thompson songs were especially well performed, no mushy singalong performance here. Fred's laid back but still underlying aggressive style complimented Thompson's songs perfectly. **Beeswing**, which I always thought would be almost impossible for lesser mortals to perform adequately was beautifully done. It is one of the best songs you've ever heard, although it always sounds slightly derivative of Bob Pegg's **The Gypsy** o me.

The first set from Cyril started with the Grey Funnel Line, sounding just like he did the last time I saw him 20 years ago at The Heaton Moor Rugby Club. Often labelled as a singer/songwriter, in truth, Cyril sings more songs not of his own making. The newest song of the night was some 10 years old, bringing the set to a close after songs such as **Rambling Sailor** and **Lily of the West** had shown Cyril's voice at its best. **Man of Honour** may not get taken up like some of his better known songs, but coming straight from the heart as it obviously did, it ranks among his finest.

Overheard comments at the break compared the P.A. sound to a 78 RPM recording. However in the second half the sound was much improved although **Sally Free and Easy** suffered problems initially. One area where the folk scene often lets itself down is in the area of P.A. on the big occasion. Some judicious knob-twiddling by the soundman kept things in check this time. If it is a big night then full sound checks beforehand should be a prerequisite. The onus falls on organisers, performers and soundman equally. If an audience pays an entrance fee they should not expect to hear adjustment "on the fly". **(Editor's note: if you feel strongly about this either as audience, performer, organiser or soundman, or if you have a real-life incident to tell us about, why not write in and tell us about it)**

The rest of the second half saw Cyril at his Best with Music Hall, traditional and his won songs interspersed with the tales and conversation Cyril is renowned for. **Sammy's Bar** was particularly atmospheric in performance. The previous week had seen the death of Burl Ives, and whilst Cyril must have been influenced by him, he is very much his own man while sharing common ground. The song comes first, carried by the fine voice while guitar underpins the melody, simply and effectively. As easy as that! Easier to write on paper than to put into practice. The final encore of **The Oggy Man** came well after midnight. Hopefully it won't be the last time we'll all gather together. Archie's 80th birthday is only 5 years away!

Stuart Cook

This first appeared in Buzz magazine, Autumn 1995

Christmas Quiz

Find the Musical Instruments

In each case we supply a clue to a (mostly) folk-related musical instrument. The clues are similar to crossword clues, except there's no crossword!

As an example "A Lady At the Gig" is Concertina (CONCERT-TINA); hope this makes sense.

Answers at the back of the magazine (on page 29) if you get completely stuck.

1. A Lady At the Gig
2. This Ear Instrument
3. Swag With A Bad Cold
4. Most Important Planks
5. Tinker About?
6. Barbie's Boyfriend At Home
7. A Jumbled Citrus-Fruit-Poem
8. Sounds Like a Ferry Company
9. Forbid the Man in Multi-Coloured Jacket
10. Instrument At The Bottom
11. The Channel Tunnels
12. It's Part of an English Engine
13. Made by Bert Moon
14. Mr Leach Knew a Man Who Played One
15. Carry A Card to Donate One
16. Quite an Angelic Instrument
17. Found Off The Bermudan Coast
18. A Gold One If You Win
19. One From A Strange Brood
20. Sounds Like Hughie's Assistant

(Supplied by Roy Kelly)

A POEM

Ode to the Federation?

THE FOLK FEDERATION

I wrote to you at Folk North West
Enclosing only a fiver
Never expecting to hear from you
Until the next deliver.

I phoned my better half tonight
And was most impressed at hearing
That you had called to say
That the next mag is was nearing

We're a pair of Folkies from Carlisle
Split up by fortunes fame
I see her at the weekends
And enjoy the time at home

But back tae work I have tae go
Tae Chester toon an' A
Tae work for my particular firm
Who don't understand at A'

And so you see
That during the week
I'm doon here on my own
Looking for the real music
That really turns me on

Ian Bruce, Jez Lowe and Alan Bell
Well they are all my heros
I'm constantly looking for better folk
To wrap around by earholes

But there's one particular folkie sound
That I definitely won't erase
His name is Eric Bogle
And his songs they sure amaze

He wrote "Now I'm Easy", "Mirrors" and "No Man's Land"
And continues to write the songs
That seem to relate to all things right
And cover humanities wrongs

From this I'm sure you'll plainly see
That I demand only the best
And this is the obvious reason
That I've subscribed to "Folk North West"

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

on
Wednesday, January 10th
from 8.00pm

at The Owl, Upholland

Main Topic is proposed merger
with Buzz & SCANS - come &
have your say

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

More information from
Kath Holden 01942 258459
Nigel Firth 01942 833293

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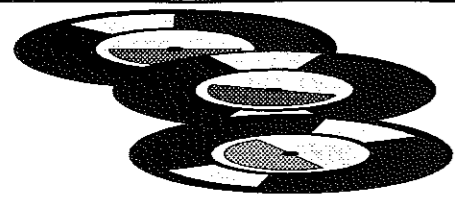
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Dec	2	Pete Castle
	9	Keith Kendrick
	16	Th'Antiques Roadshow
	23 & 30	CLOSED
Jan	6	AGM & Singers' Night
	13	Dave Webber & Anni Fentiman
	20	Session - Music & Song
	27	Singers' Night
Feb	3	Session - Music & Song
	10	Johnny Collins
	17	Singers' Night
	24	Session - Music & Song

Ring 01204 593224 for details



RECORD REVIEWS

A SELECTION FROM THE PENGUIN BOOK OF ENGLISH FOLK SONGS

FELLSIDE FE CD 47

Featuring:-Jez Lowe, Linda Adams, Martin Carthy, John Bowden, Roy Harris. 15 Tracks. Running Time 52.49

On every bookshelf of every house I ever stayed in when on the road in the 60's and 70's could be found a copy of "The Penguin Book of English Folk Songs". To it went every budding singer and from it came "The Golden Vanity", "Banks of Green Willow", "The Grey Cock", "Banks of Newfoundland", "The Blacksmith", etc which, all told, I must have heard a thousand times from hundreds of floor singers who sprinkled them with "Woolfe Dust" or buried them, according to ability. If buried, or course, the songs always rose again.

Here are the great songs or our country.

Any lyricist should study these superbly constructed works, for all folk songs were originally written by the singer/song-writers of their day, and the above listed artists are well

known and so only personal preference applies when I say that Jez Lowe's version of "The Golden Vanity" gives me great pleasure and is a track I will play again and again.

There is little new here for those of you already steeped in the tradition, but for interested youngsters or budding performers these are the definitive texts of our folk bible.

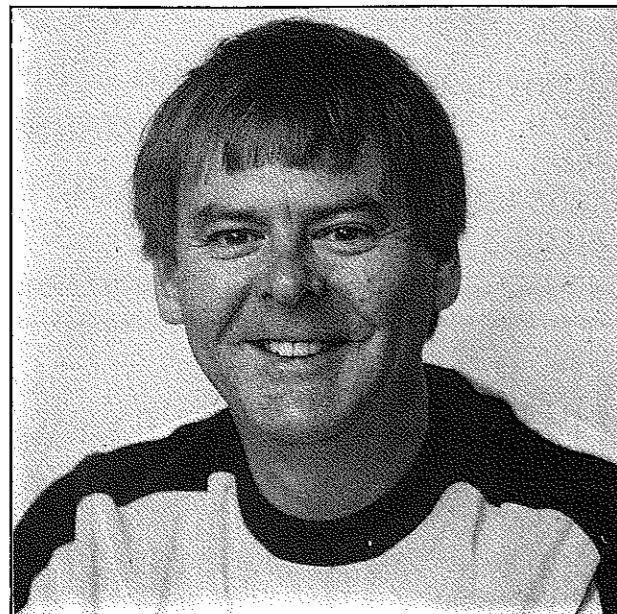
We owe much to Vaughan Williams and A L Lloyd, (who I was fortunate to see perform in the 60's) and, responsible for this collection, these two men began the revival of song that has enriched the lives of us all. This is a fitting tribute and a highly recommended CD.

Harvey Andrews

HUGHIE JONES "Luv Stuff"

Wee Huge Publications WHPCD001

Hughie's well known for his "ditty-bagful" of songs about ships and sailors, regularly seen at maritime festivals and events. But from his vast lifetime store of material he could just as easily come up with a themed set for pretty well any topic imaginable. So turning out an album of love songs is no great challenge and in this selection of his personal favourites he's gone for a wide range of styles and treatments.



ρ Hughie Jones

The mood switches regularly from brooding high drama, as in the Spanish-set *The South Coast*, to lighter and livelier tales like *Devlish Mary*; delicate courtships, loves won and lost and, surprisingly, only the vaguest hint of genuine trad-folk raunchiness - the rudest bit of the whole production is the sleeve pic which might be Hughie's bid for page 3 stardom.

The insert notes affectionately give credit to his sources and reference points - Robin Hall, Phil Tanner, Fred Jordan, Packie Byrne, three from Burl Ives and two from his Mum. Throughout

Hughie's on typically strong vocal and guitar form, ably aided here and there by master-bassist John McCormick (who also produced), Rob Shepley on fiddle/viola/mandolin and his lad Danny Jones on keyboards.

Cynics might ask whether we really need another rendition of well-worn classics like *Barbara Allen* - I'd say only if they're sung with this much heart and soul. Hughie's personal fans and Spinners completists won't be disappointed and neither will anyone who enjoys fine songs well sung. My own essential tracks are the power ballads *Banks of the Sweet Primroses*, *Outlandish Knight* and - never fails to knock me out - *The Bleacher Lassie of Kelvinhaugh*.

Jack Coutts

PETE CASTLE "False Waters"

Steel Carpet MATS 012CD

If you are a follower of the tradition in song, like me, then it's quite probable that Pete Castle will be high on your list of the more competent performers. Like many singers of traditional material his empathy with the songs shows throughout this, his latest CD. His arrangements and singing style reflect many of the styles of the revival singers including Bert Lloyd, Nic Jones, Martin Carthy and, at times, there are even snatches of our own Nick Dow, without actually copying any of them.

As well as his rich singing voice Pete plays guitar, mandolin and doba. He is joined on several tracks by family members Lucy and Sue who play and sing in equal measures of skill. He also has an occasional band called "Popeluc" who feature on the track "Cruel Mother" and a transylvanian tune called "Lupuli".

There is only one track that is not traditional material - "The Traveller Homeward Bound" which is Pete's re-written version of an American song heard from Messrs Warner & Davies.

If I were to pick a favourite track then it would probably be "Noble Lord Hawkins", a very English-sounding song, and if I were to criticise anything then it wouldn't be a particular song or tune but perhaps on a more general note in that all the material tends to be rather maudlin and therefore the variety of programming tends to suffer.

That said I would still highly recommend this latest offering from one of our most reliable custodians of folk song.

Derek Gifford

THE WHISKY PRIESTS: "Bleeding Sketches"

Whippet Records WPTCD13

This is an unusual CD from the Whisky Priests in that all the lyrics have been written by North East poet Keith Armstrong, with tunes set by the Miller brothers Gary and Glenn. However, Keith's writing is in the same tradition of hard-edged realism that we have

come to expect from the Priests. There is nothing comfortable about the England of the 1990's inhabited by these writers, nor is there comfort to be found by the listener.

This is a CD of songs and poems which challenge us, tracks such as "Success Road" where "You can look for a job / In an empty factory" and "There is no choice / But shout "Revolution!" / And you'll lose your voice". Not songs for the fainthearted or the politically conservative.

One of my favourite tracks has to be "Spring: Pit Pony" sung by Marie Little (one of many guests on this CD who came in to contribute following the departure of Paul Careless the harmonica and mandolin player from the Priests). Other, grittier tracks include "Widows of Hartley" in the tradition of

Joseph Skipsey (cited by Keith Armstrong as an influence) and Tommy Armstrong (lauded by the Priests in "Pitman Tom" on "The Power and The Glory") and "Mother, Waiting" from which the CD derives its title: "She is a scrapbook of ancient cuttings: / The pregnant wishes, the bleeding sketches, / The stretch-marks that etch her path."



□ The Whisky Priests

ρ The Whisky Priests

Apart from Marie Little who acquits herself nobly, vocals are mostly provided by Gary Miller, with a couple of less raucous renditions by Mick Tyas.

8

A Whisky Priests CD with a difference, but similar in so many ways to the Priests we know and love - raucous, committed, with a strong sense of history but also a determined vision of the way forward. As they say in "Turn it Upside Down":

Turn it upside down,
Exchange the Stock for wine,
Put the miner on Cloud Nine,
Drown Britannia down the mine,
Turn it upside down.

Janet Hale

MARGARET BRADFORD "Freddie's Daughter"

Dedicated to her late father, Freddie Howard, and featuring his photograph on the front cover, Margaret Bradford's first CD (however, her second recording) reflects many of her dad's values: "a strong sense of justice in a world full of corruption,... and at the same time ... a great sense of fun and nonsense".

The album comprises a mixture of her own songs: some whimsical, some acerbic and some sombre; and a selection of contemplative pieces by other writers, all of which reflect Margaret's heightened sensitivity to suffering, injustice, corruption, oppression and humankind's thoughtless destruction of the natural environment.

In her first song: "Freddie, My Dad", Margaret portrays her father's colourful, charismatic and somewhat eccentric character. A portrait artist and landscape painter, he is remembered for his "paper-pencilled faces", "the stories he's told", and his theatrical antics: "Freddie loved an audience, vaudeville was in his blood / Us kid's laugh as he dressed up as Mum." The musical arrangement, featuring the saxophone playing of Rod McDonald aptly captures the relaxed feel of a by-gone era when people had more time to enjoy drawing pictures, telling stories and creating their own entertainment.

Like his daughter, Fred was also concerned about peoples' suffering: "His heart was with the battler, the privileged he ignored / He fought corruption and injustice to the end." It is easy to see how in many ways Margaret is "A chip off the old block" in her songs which protest about injustice: "Who'd be a Secretary", "The Last Man Hanged"; "Song of the Shirt" (words by Thomas Hood set to music by Margaret).

Most of the songs by other compassion for people who are suffering and the poignancy of their isolation from their loved ones: "When the Children Come Home"; "Kilkelly"; "Mannum and the Drum".

It is evident that Margaret has also inherited her father's sense of the whimsical in her "Self-propelled or the Bicycle Song", a bouncy number which propels us abruptly into the battle between the "petrol heads" and the "pedal pushers" for equal space on the roads, and even more so in her witty "World at your Fingertips", an acidic dig at all of us couch potatoes who "vegetate" in our "boxes" and the burgeoning home delivery industry which has suddenly sprung up to meet our lazy lifestyle needs. I think Margaret's songwriting is at her best in this gentle sarcastic vein: "Why not try a toasted turkey gonad: what a taste sensation!" An unforgettable line!

Margaret's vocal arrangements undergo many changes of texture and movement; from the indignant, strident tones of "Who'd be a Secretary?", the chuckling ironic intonation of her tongue in cheek songs, to her gentle, husky rendition of the haunting "Kilkelly" and "The Last of the Great Whales".

The impact of the songs is greatly enhanced by the variety and colour of the arrangements by the multi-talented backing musicians, including some moving whistle solos by Johnny Spillane, some lively fiddle and mandolin backing by Lindsay Martin, and the crisp hammered dulcimer of Gill Rees, and Joel Moir's intense, brooding cello on Judy Small's "Song for Jacqueline".

Margaret Bradford's latest recording evokes a variety of feelings and makes for both meditative and thought provoking listening.

For copies contact Margaret Bradford, 12 Naranga Ave, Engadine, 2233. (see also Club News)

Sue Chalmers

Editor's Note: This review first appeared in *Cornstalk Gazette, N.S.W., Australia*

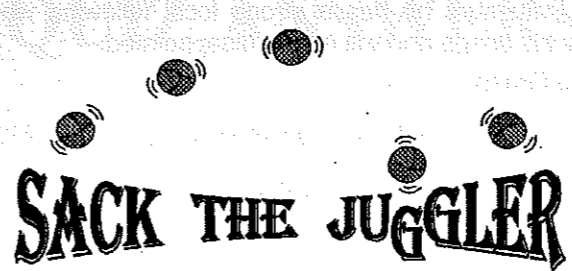
IAIN ARCHER "Playing Dead"

Sticky Music GUMCD26

Iain Archer is a young singer/songwriter. Here on his first full CD his acoustic guitar is accompanied by electric guitar, bass and drums, with occasional piano. His words and melodies are drawn from contemporary sources rather than traditional roots. If you want compartments then the music would, I suppose, lie just over the border between folk and rock.

After an attractive opening the following songs disappointed. Monotonous tunes and an unchanging tempo failed to maintain interest. Brief and simple sentiments were over extended and repeated over and over. Attention began to drift. Although never unpleasant, the music swung from tolerable to tedious. I felt a growing urge to press the advance button and at the end I heaved a sigh of relief.

Henry Peacock



SACK THE JUGGLER

Riotous Rhythms for Rollicking Dances

**Eclectic dances to driving
Anglo / Celtic / French tunes
with Melodeon, Drums,
Hurdy-Gurdy, Accordion,
Bass, Keyboards, Trombone
and Harmonicas.**

**To book STJ for your Festival or
Ceilidh, or to obtain a demo tape
and publicity pack, contact:**

Tim Brewster - 01744 451790

WIGGINCELDHS

A Christmas Concert with
ENSEMBLE DEL DOPPIO BORDONE
in Rivington Chapel
Ring for details

Advance
ticket
prices

Friday Jan 12th	Specialising in the music of the North West THE BAND OF THE RISING SUN	£4.50
Friday Feb 9th	First time at Ince for this local band OLIO Caller: <i>Nike Duggleby</i>	£4.00
Friday Mar 8th	Early booking recommended for GAS MARK V Caller: <i>Gordon Potts</i>	£4.50
Friday April 12th	With a cast of thousands from Brighton BANJAX Callers: <i>Dave Roberts and Keith Leech</i>	£4.50
Friday May 10th	The band with the best demo tape we've ever heard JABADAW Caller: <i>Bob Adams</i>	£4.00
Friday June 14th	Early booking recommended for THE CHRIS WOOD AND ANDY CUTTING BAND Caller: <i>Dave Hunt</i>	£5.00

MONTHLY BARN DANCES
8.00-11.30 p.m.
INCE PUBLIC HALL
HIGH GREEN LANE
INCE IN MARKETFIELD
WIGAN

Book in advance and save money
Concessions available
Tickets/details from In Tandem on
01942 816569

In Tandem

Incorporating
WIGGINCELDHS

Watch out for European Specials organised by In Tandem during 1996



**Monthly Friday Dances,
St. Helens Town Hall, 8:00 - 11:30pm**

Friday 29th. September 1995	The Ashley Hutchings Dance Band Caller - Ashley Hutchings	£6.00
Friday 3rd. November 1995	Token Women Caller - Jo Freya	£5.50
Friday 1st. December 1995	Gas Mark 5 Caller - Mairyn Harvey	£4.50
Friday 5th. January 1996	All Blacked Up Caller - Dave Hunt	£4.00
Friday 2nd. February 1996	Sack the Juggler Caller - Chris Whiting	£4.00
Friday 1st. March 1996	Cock and Bull Caller - Bob Adams	£4.50

Prices given are for ADVANCE ticket sales - tickets will be 50p extra on the door, if available. Under 16s, UB40s and OAPs - 50p off prices listed.
For tickets and information, contact:
Tim and Jane Brewster - 01744 451780
Mike Moore - 01744 733068 (working hours)



**BOTHY
FOLK SONG
CLUB
CEILIDHS**

(Established 1965)

**ST. JOHN'S AMBULANCE HALL
Wright St. Southport.**

Friday 27th. October 1995. EAST KENT HOPPERS Caller Ian Smith.	
Friday 8th. December 1995. BEDLAM Caller Nikki Hampson.	
FRIDAY 23rd. February 1996. PEEPING TOM Caller Mairyn Harvey.	
Friday 26th. April 1996. OLD TRIUMPH BAND Caller Sue Spencer.	
Friday 28th. June 1996. SHAKE THE DICE Caller Roger Newton	

For Ticket details Ring Roger on 01704 29118.

JON HARVISON
"Lonely As The Moon"

(Drive on Records DOCD01)

Jon Harivson - a singer/songwriter from Keighly is joined on this his first CD by a host of artists. On the instrumental side there is Phil Hare electric guitar, Chris Newman bass, keyboard and mandolin, Tom McConville violin, Stephan Hanningan percussion and whistle, Alan Roberts Bodhran, Peter Roberts violin an Ray Hardacre on mandolin. Jon's vocals are augmented by Sharon Fountain, Gill Driver and Glyn Evans.

There are thirteen of Jon's songs on this CD, with lyrics ranging from love songs, lamenting our lost industries, the era of the Cowboys and the coming of winter. On the whole, though, most of the songs I found very introverted, with very little appeal unless you had been in that situation yourself. "Turning of the Year" really started with a punch, a good strong chorus, but was let down by a weak melody line and some lyrics out of real context with the overall song. Again "Lost in the Night", a song about all lost souls, including songwriters and comedians, I found frustrating by the lack of energy. "Lonely as the Moon", the title track has a very nice guitar intro but then proved to be distinctively boring with lyrics at times lost in the backing.

Overall the songs I felt only succeed by their unusual arrangements, good use of the backing musicians and vocal harmonies, with a good variety of styles, however I found at times the recording lacked attention to detail. Jon's guitar has a predominant 4th/5th string (even with the headphones on) and distorts in "Ghosts at the Feast", a song about our ancestors looking on whilst we celebrate the year 2000, and "Matter of Time". Occasionally the backing instruments overshadow the song as do some of the harmony phrases, and I found the interjection of the whistle on the first verse of "One Horse Cowboy" and the glockenspiel on "And so to Bed" quite jarring.

On the whole I found the album had little to offer. Jon's songs and lyrics do not stand up against such singer/songwriters as Steve Knightly, Mike Silver, Ian Bruce, Dave Walmisley (of Risky Business), Chris While, Julie Matthews etc etc sorry but it is hard not to make comparisons.

To be fair, however, I have not heard Jon performing and I am sure he has a strong local following who enjoy his songs and will not be disappointed.

Eddie Green

CHRIS SHERBURN & DENNY BARTLEY
"Last Night's Fun!"

Sound out music SOM 002

This is a superb debut recording from an extremely talented duo who if there is any justice will be going a long way. Chris, from Yorkshire, plays Irish style

anglo-concertina, superbly. Denny, from the West of Ireland, plays guitar providing first class accompaniment for their material and has an incredible voice which I can't put into words.

Return to Milltown and Castle Kelly are just two examples of the well chosen tunes played with great energy which seem to typify their work. What really comes through on this album though is the skill they have in combining Denny's songs and Chris's instrumentals.

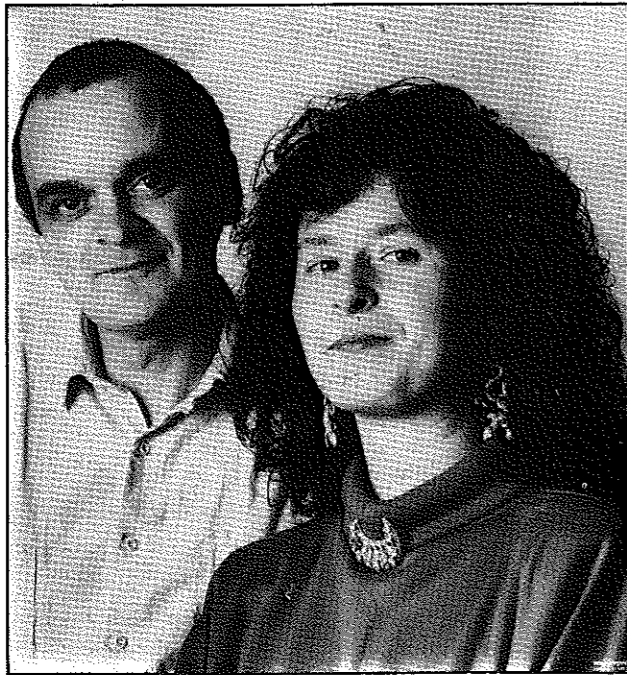
Ewan McColl's "Moving On" song blended with Lafferty's Favourite is inspired. Fitting a second tune to a song is difficult to do well but here is the perfect pairing with Lafferty's Favourite coming in

over the chorus.

Their version of the Roseville Fair is probably one of my favourites with Kate Rusby singing backing vocals and the Battlefield Band's John McCusker adding fiddle, the song lifts beautifully into the Concert Reel. Other favourites include Kilkelly, Cleveland Park, The Laing Shift and The Banks of Allan. I should add my Dad's particularly taken with their version of Starry Night.

Producers Alistair Russell and Jon Strong have done a great job, if you have a taste for good music and song with an Irish flavour then this is not an act you want to miss.

Jenny Shottliff



ρ **Chris Newman, seen here with Maire Ni Chatsaigh who plays bass on John Harvison's record**

QUIZ ANSWERS

The quiz is on page 22

1. A Lady At the Gig (CONCERT-TINA) Concertina
2. This Ear Instrument Drum
3. Swag With A Bad Cold (LOOT) Flute (FLU)
4. Most Important Planks (KEY-BOARDS) Keyboards
5. Tinker About? Fiddle
6. Barbie's Boyfriend At Home (MAN-DOLL-IN) Mandolin
7. A Jumbled Citrus-Fruit-Poem (LEMON-ODE) (ANAG) Melodeon
8. Sounds Like a Ferry Company (P & O) Piano (P)
9. Forbid the Man in Multi-Coloured Jacket (BAN - JOE) Banjo
10. Instrument At The Bottom (BASE) Bass
11. The Channel Tunnels (LE SHUTTLE PIPES) Shuttlepipes
12. It's Part of an English Engine (ISH-ENG) Sheng
13. Made by Bert Moon (ANAG) Trombone
14. Mr Leach Knew a Man Who Played One Hurdy Gurdy (HURDY-GURDY MAN BY DONOVAN LEACH)
15. Carry A Card to Donate One (ORGAN DONOR CARD) Organ
16. Quite an Angelic Instrument Harp
17. Found Off The Bermudan Coast (BERMUDA TRIANGLE) Triangle
18. A Gold One If You Win (MEDAL) (SLANG) Gong
19. One From A Strange Brood (BROOD) (ANAG) Dobro
20. Sounds Like Hughie's Assistant (OUR MONICA (ROSE)) Roy Kelly

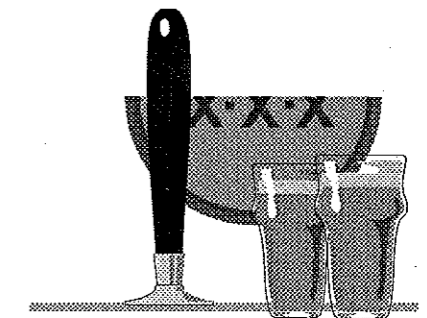
STOP PRESS
Late Folk News

Guitar String shortage in Malawi (No this not a wind-up!)

It is reported that our friends in Malawi, unable to obtain guitar strings, are so desperate that they are resorting to using brake cables!!

You can help by responding to an appeal made by Jim Lloyd on the Folk on 2 broadcast (18 Oct) for you discarded strings to be sent to him at.....

Folk on 2, BBC, Pebble Mill Road, Birmingham. B5 7QQ



Harvey Andrews - new CD out

Harvey Andrews has a new CD out, Entitled SNAPS it is all about his family and his home town of Birmingham. it is on Hypertension HYCD 295 159.

Full review next issue.

Extra Club Dates for March and beyond:

8:45 at Lane Ends

March 6 Dave Summers, March 9 Vin Garbutt (Saturday night gig - ticket only)

Bury

March 2 SN, March 9 Guest tba, March 16 Session - Music and Song

Formby

March 2 Dave Burland, April 6 Phil Hare

Wooden Horse

March 3 SN, March 10 SN, March 15 Garva and Risky Business

MERGER QUESTIONNAIRE

As you will know, a merger has been proposed between FOLK NORTH-WEST, BUZZ magazine and SCANSFOLK (Cheshire & Staffordshire). Currently their areas overlap and editors feel that a combined magazine could benefit folk fans in the whole of the region by disseminating more information. There would be less duplication by the editorial teams.

The Editors would welcome the views of readers and advertisers and would be grateful if you could spare the time to complete this questionnaire & return it to:

Nigel Firth, Folk North-West, 118, Bolton Road, Aspull, Wigan WN2 1XF

1. Should the merger go ahead? Yes • No •
2. If the merger goes ahead I think the new magazine should be:
 - (a) A4 • A5 • No Strong opinion •
 - (b) Cheap & cheerful • Glossy & Quality • Somewhere between •
 - (c) Back & White Colour cover • Some internal colour •
3. I would be prepared to pay:
 - Price as now (75/80p) • £1 • £1.50 • more for right quality •
4. It should be published every:
 - 2 months • 3 months • 4 months • other (please specify).....
5. My opinions about the contents are:

(tick those you would include; question mark those you don't care about/never read; cross those you hate!)

 - (a) venues - song • dance • Morris • sessions • Cajun • member clubs only •
other (please state)
 - (b) diary dates - member clubs only • all clubs/sessions who submit details
 - (c) reviews - recordings • books • concerts • club nights • festivals •
other (please state)
 - (d) advertisements -local events • national events •
local commercial • national commercial •
other (please state)
 - (e) articles/features - editorials • club news • interviews •
letters • competitions •
other (please state)
6. My suggestion for a title for the new publication would be:.....

Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. If you have any further comments which you would like the editors to consider, please add them below

You may wish to add your name & a telephone number or address so we can contact you

If you don't want to cut your copy of Folk North-West, please photocopy this page or put your comments on a plain sheet, but in a similar format to the questionnaire.



FOLK **THE LEVELLERS CLUB**

LIVERPOOL

AT THE PICKET 24 HARDMAN STREET

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

We Now Meet Every Thursday!

8 pm

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

CONTACT : KEN OR CHRIS ON 0151 284 5458

8:45 AT THE LANE ENDS

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**Till All The People Of The
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Chris While & Julie Matthews

Hobson & Lees

Garva

Bernard Wrigley, Helen Watson

Compere - Clive Powncenby

on

Saturday 27th January 1996, 7.30

at

Kirkham Community Centre, Kirkham

Admission £5.00

To obtain tickets please return
completed form with S.A.E. to
Ann Green
33 Dowbridge
Kirkham, Preston. PR4 2YJ.

Name:-
Address:-
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Please send me tickets @ £5.00 each for "Till All The People In The World Are Free"
on Saturday 27th January 1996 I enclose a cheque/P.O. for £.....(payable to Ann Green)