

THE NORTH WEST FEDERATION OF  
FOLK CLUBS

September 1979

**FOLK!**

**YOU NEED**

**US**



10p

NEWSLETTER

OFFICERS OF THE FEDERATION

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The Aim 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. The joint organisation of concerts and ceilidhs within our area.
5. The support of Festival Organisers within our area.
6. The organisation of events to attract under 18s to Folk Music.

## The Member Clubs

FOLK CLUB	ADDRESS	ORGANISER'S PHONE NO.
<u>SUNDAY</u>		
Rainford Travellers Poynton Raven	Golden Lion Hotel, Rainford Traveller's Rest Hotel, Crab St., St. Helens. Poynton Folk Centre, Park Lane, Poynton Raven Hotel, Farndon, Nr. Chester	07 4488 3424 0744 21414 09967 2626 097 883 2303
<u>MONDAY</u>		
Preston St. George's	Lamb Hotel, Church Street, Preston St. George's Social Club, Maghull, L'Pool	0772 58095 051 263 9449
<u>TUESDAY</u>		
Garstang Ormskirk Blackpool Southport Swords	Eagle and Child Hotel, Garstang Buck i'th Vine, Burscough St., Ormskirk Raikes Hall Hotel, Leamington Rd., Blackpool. Blundell Arms Hotel, Birkdale.	09952 2689 0695 77611 03917 2317 070 48 71015
<u>WEDNESDAY</u>		
Brewery The Met	Brewery Arts Centre, 122A Highgate, Kendal Catholic Metropolitan Club, 61A, Bold St. L'Pool.	0539 25133 051 449 1115
<u>THURSDAY</u>		
Liverpool Trad.  Fleetwood Poynton Wellgreen	Cross Keys, (corner of Earl St., and St. Paul's Square), Nr. Liverpool Stadium  Queen's Hotel, Beach Road, Fleetwood. See Sunday for details Wellgreen Hotel, Grove Lane, Hale, Cheshire.	051 733 5143  03917 3738 056 587 3145
<u>FRIDAY</u>		
Dicconson Coronation Crosby Roebuck St. Phillips Lancaster Folk Stir	Dicconson Arms, Wroughtington Coronation Hotel, King St., Southport Sts. Peter & Paul Hall, Liverpool Rd., Crosby Roebuck Hotel, Leyland St. Phillips Community Centre, Dean St. Yorkshire House Hotel, Lancaster (Nr. Bus Station)	07744 33541 0704 30154 051 526 6661 0772 313876 061 723 3350 0524 66395
<u>SATURDAY</u>		
Bury Leyland Area Folk Society Top Locks	Old Blue Bell, Bury Various venues in and around Leyland Waterloo Hotel, Waterloo Rd., Runcorn	061 761 1544 0772 313816 09285 72551

# EDITORIAL

Finally, I'm afraid, the economic facts of life have caught up with us and we've been forced to raise our cover price to 10p. We are confident however that this level can be held for the foreseeable future, and that the number of pages will be as many as are economically viable in order to provide as many articles as possible. Inevitably the subscription rates have also had to be raised, but all existing subscriptions will run as if the rate had not changed; and there's also a special low rate if you apply between now & September 20th, see page 5 for details of the new rates.

This month's issue falling as it does in the middle of the Festival season, concentrates for its features on several local & national festivals. We've reviews of the Poynton Easter Festival by "Spectator" and of Loughborough by our illustrious Chairman, Derek Gifford. We also preview two of our local festivals, the 7th Fylde and the 3rd Warrington which we hope to be able to review in a future issue.

Also this month we continue our regular features, Joan Blackburn's Song Exchange, and the Song/Poem of the month which this month features a Song by Pete Rimmer of the Coronation Folk Club at Southport. Gossip John has been keeping his ear to the ground with more scandal for you, whilst our Club of the Month is Bury on this occasion. It has not unfortunately been possible due to pressure of space to include some quotes from famous artists, but I hope to put these in a future issue.

There are of course all our usual Club Dates, Out & About and letters to the Editor plus Small Ads.

I regret I'm unable to tell you anything at all about our cover, as I've not seen it myself yet, and it is currently lost somewhere between Liverpool and Wigan.

This issue covers just one month, but for the next issue & future issues we shall revert back to a regular every two months format, and with at least 14 pages in each and every issue. Closing Date for the next issue, published mid-September is SEPTEMBER 6th, so please remind your club organiser NOW.

Finally, many thanks to all those who have contributed: Joan Blackburn, Derek Gifford, Spectator, Gossip John, Jean Seymour and Mike Billington, and a special thanks to our typist, Daisy for some excellent work and as ever to our artist, Brian Owens for some of the headings and the cover. Nigel Firth



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# OUT & ABOUT...

## Regionally....

At the beginning of September, Poynton Folk Centre reach their Tenth anniversary and have arranged a full week of events in celebration of this fact. On page 5 there's a detailed preview of the events that have been planned.

...ooOoo...

On the 29th September Bury Folk Club have a guest who is a rare visitor to these shores, namely Lois Killen. Lois, one of the founders of the revival emigrated to North America several years ago and only comes to England for about a fortnight most years. Certainly a date to note in your diary; Tickets are £1 - ring Jean Seymour on 061-761-1544 for more details.

...ooOoo...

A night not to be missed at Kendal is the 19th September when they have a visit from Tish Stubbs and Sam Richards, formerly two-thirds of Staverton Bridge who come from near Torquay in Devon. They also appear at Preston on the 17th if you can't make Kendal.

...ooOoo...

I hear that St. Philips Folk Club, Radcliffe, have Gary and Vera Aspey on at the end of September, and this will inevitably be an all ticket event. Tickets will, however, be available in advance from John Beresford, Tel: 061-723-2751, who has further details.

...ooOoo...

A double bill with a difference occurs at the Wellgreen on September 20th when they introduce Les Barker and Brickbat. Les Barker is of course the mad poet who specialises in altering pop songs and folk songs into somewhat amusing monologues; he accompanies himself on banana, and Mrs. Ackroyd will be present to lend a hand (or should I say a paw). As for Brickbat - well just go and see them and you'll find out soon enough!

...ooOoo...

On the Thursday preceeding the Fylde, Fleetwood Folk Club (who shortly celebrate their tenth anniversary - more details next month) have a special singers night, at which singers will all be welcome. Season Ticket Holders will be admitted free to this event on August 30th, and this will start about 8pm.

...ooOoo...

The Leyland Area Folk Society are supporting the Preston Octocentary Celebrations with a Morris, Sword and Country Dancing Display on Preston Flag Market on Saturday September 15th, from 11am.

...ooOoo...

## Nationally...

If you're going up into Scotland, and want to find out what is on, especially in the Edinburgh area, then SANDY BELL'S BROADSHEET is the magazine to refer to. It's published fortnightly from Forrest Hill Bar, Forrest Road, Edinburgh, and consists of 6 to 8 sides of lithoed folk information. There are reviews, previews, club dates, letters & reports all for 5p.

...ooOoo...

I've also been receiving copies of the Bermuda Folk Club Newsletter which not surprisingly is concerned with Folk Music in Bermuda, so if you're planning a holiday over there, I'll be glad to loan the most recent copy I have at the time.

...ooOoo...

# MISCELLANY

## POYNTON 10th Anniversary

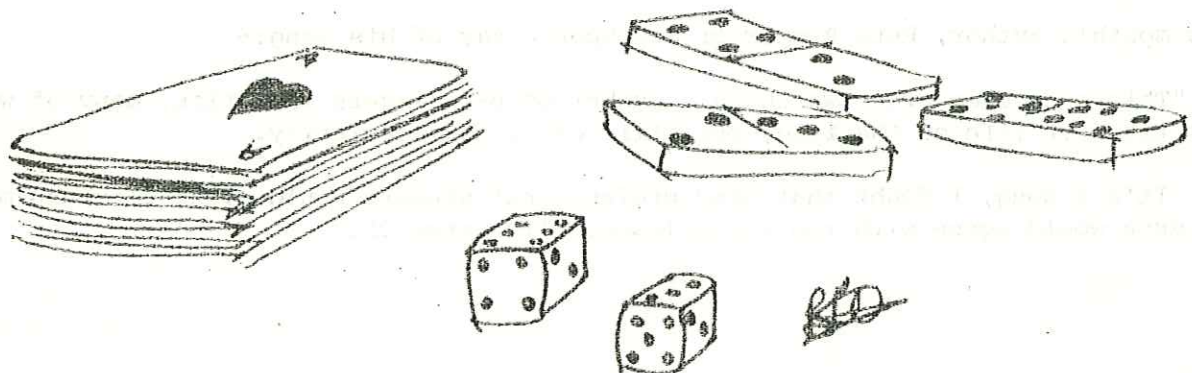
Poynton Folk Club will be ten years old in September, and to celebrate there is to be a continuous week of Folk-based events held at the Centre. The week starts in grand style with the WATERSONS plus GENTLEMAN SOLDIER in a Sunday night concert. This is followed on Monday night by a concert by local artists including PETE ROYLE, TERRY WALSH, TONY MANNION, FLASH COMPANY, PAT RYAN, JOE BEARD and many others. On the Tuesday and Friday of the week there is a disco and folk evening for the under-18's whilst on Wednesday DR. SUNSHINE'S PAVEMENT SHOW and the POYNTON JEMMERS present an evening of fun and folk for the under 16's.

The Thursday concert hosted by the HUGHES BROTHERS features ROSIE HARDMAN and is followed on the Saturday by a ceillidh with a top local ceillidh band. To round the week off, the first ever Folk guests at Poynton, the TAVERNERS pay a return visit and the concert is again hosted by the HUGHES BROS.

All the events are pay at the door and are all guaranteed to be £1 or less at all the adult events. For further details telephone the Centre on Poynton 5555 during the morning or any evening.

SMALL ADS.	SUBSCRIPTIONS
<p><u>GRAHAM EDWARDS</u> HUMOROUS/CONTEMPORARY FOLKSINGER TENOR BANJO - GUITAR 051-480-0159</p>	<p>DUE TO the increased cost of the magazine, and to increased postal cost, it has been necessary to raise the subscription to £1. However as a special offer, it will be available for 85p until September 20th. Apply to: 3, Cromford Dr., Wigan.</p>
<p><u>THESE SMALL ADS.</u> Cost only 50p per insertion if you've anything to sell, hire or buy, or if you're a group looking for bookings. Send to Editorial Address</p>	<p><u>WANTED URGENTLY;</u> A typist to produce future issues of the Newsletter. No payment, but out-of-pocket expenses refunded. Tel: Nigel Firth, 0942-215621</p> <p><u>NOW AVAILABLE;</u> Display Advertising for major events such as Festivals Apply to Editorial Address for rates</p>

## CARTOON



Essential Instruments for a session!

# SONG OF THE MONTH

JUST A SINGER

PETE RIMMER

- (1) I'll sing you a song with a chorus and a line with an easy rhythm,  
And you can join in if you know the words, stamp your feet on the floor in time,  
And I know that you won't like it if I sing you a new repertoire,  
But I'm tired of singing the same old songs, I think I'll go back to the bar.

Chorus: I'm just a singer,  
I'm just a song,  
I'm just a singer,  
Maybe I've been on this road for too long.

- (2) Do you know what it's like for me to stand here singing for you tonight,  
A travelling singer playing my songs, to you it might seem right,  
But I got a new bunch of songs to sing you, swimming around my brain,  
But if you don't like the songs I sing, I'll never be here again.

Chorus: I'm just a singer,  
I'm just a song,  
I'm just a singer,  
Maybe I've been on this road for too long.

- (3) It's years since I had a regular job, did the same things every day,  
Now it's trains and cars and public bars all the way.  
It's not that I'm complaining, it's what I've been working for,  
But sometimes I wish they would pay me the money and not ask me through the door.

Chorus: I'm just a singer,  
I'm just a song,  
I'm just a singer,  
Maybe I've been on this road for too long.

You are invited to submit original songs or poems for consideration for publication. The best in each two-month period, in the opinion of the Editor, will be published in the Newsletter, and each author will receive a free subscription. Every twelve months the best of the year will be selected, and this person will receive a small prize in addition.

This month's author, Pete Rimmer of Southport, says of his song:-

"This song came after watching a number of pro singers in action, many of whom seem tired of life on the road, but still crave for popularity.

It's a song, I doubt that many professional singers would sing, although many I'm sure would agree with the words (especially verse 3)."

# SONG EXCHANGE

Conducted by JOAN BLACKBURN

If there is a song you would like the words, music and/or chords of, write in to "Song Exchange", c/o Joan Blackburn 4 Rosewood Close, Abram, Nr. Wigan, Lancs., WN2 5XT. Readers' replies to song requests should be sent to the same address.

In the last issue, Elaine Derbyshire of Bury asked for "Banks of the Lea", and I am pleased to hear she now has a copy of the song. She now wishes to have words and chords to "And the Band Played Waltzing Matilda" as sung by June Tabor, and "Mist Over the Mersey" written by Jack Owen and sung by Jacqui and Bridie.

Also from Bury comes a request from Mr. C. Ruleman for the words and chords of two songs: "I Wish I was Back in England" and "Down Where the Drunkards Roll", both sung by John Leonard and John Squire.

Len Nolan, a resident at Crosby Folk Club, requests the words and chords to "Punch and Judy Man".

Mrs. Mary C. Davis of London sends what she describes as a very difficult request. Sometime ago her 81-year-old mother was told of a song which she sang at a wedding about seventy years ago. Mrs. Davis's mother has no recollection of the song and would be greatly pleased if any reader knows the words. The name of the song appears to be "Shabby Genteel the Shoneen".

## SONG REQUEST:

SWEET THAMES FLOW SOFTLY (words and music by Ewan MacColl)

I met me girl at Woolwich pier, beneath a big crane standing,  
And O, the love I felt for her, it passed all understanding;

    Took her sailing on the river,

    Flow, sweet river, flow.

    London Town was mine to give her,

    Sweet Thames, flow softly.

    Made the Thames into a crown,

    Flow, sweet river, flow,

    Made a brooch of Silver Town.

    Sweet Thames, flow softly.

At London Yard I held her hand, at Blackwall Point I faced her,  
At the Isle of Dogs I kissed her mouth and tenderly embraced her.

    Heard the bells of Greenwich ringing,

    Flow, sweet river, flow,

    All the time my heart was singing,

    Sweet Thames, flow softly.

    Limehouse Reach I gave her there,

    Flow, sweet river, flow,

    As a ribbon for her hair,

    Sweet Thames, flow softly.

cont'd...



# GOSSIP JOHN .....



I hear the Tours Organiser of the NWFFC recently fell foul of a tour himself whilst on a touring holiday in Cornwall. In Camelford he saw a gentleman (I use the word loosely) by the name of Johnny C\*pp\*n who he didn't like. The following night he went to Truro, some eighty miles away to find the same performer as guest.

Legend has it that Nic Dow had shares in 3M tapes, judging by the number of tapes of himself he sends out. Incidentally the tours organiser has a number of blank tapes for sale, used once only .....

Following their loss on the recent Day of Folk at Leyland, the North-West Federation of Folk Clubs are applying to the Government to be declared a Nationalised Industry. Failing this, I hear their Treasurer is to be raffled - watch this space for more details.

Chester Folk Festival have just announced that next year all weekend ticket holders are to be issued with snorkels and flippers to try to reduce the number of drownings.

(cont'd from R.T)

From Shadwell dock to Nine Elms Reach we cheek-to-cheek were dancing,  
Her necklace made of London Bridge, her beauty was enhancing;

Kissed her once again at Wapping,  
Flow, sweet river, flow,  
After that there was no stopping,  
Sweet Thames, flow softly.  
Richmond Park it was her ring,  
Flow, sweet river, flow,  
I'd have given her anything,  
Sweet Thames, flow softly.

From Rotherhite to Putney Bridge me love I was declaring,  
And she from Kew to Isleworth her love for me was swearing,

Love is set me heart a-burning,  
Flow, sweet river, flow,  
Never saw the tide was turning,  
Sweet Thames, flow softly.  
Gave her Hampton Court to twist,  
Flow, sweet river flow,  
Into a bracelet for her wrist,  
Sweet Thames, flow softly.

But now, alas, the tide is changed, me love she has gone from me,  
And winter's frost has touched me heart and put a blight upon me.

Creeping fog is on the river,  
Flow, sweet river, flow,  
Sun and Moon, and stars gone with her,  
Sweet Thames, flow softly.  
Swift the Thames runs to the sea,  
Flow, sweet river, flow,  
Bearing ships and part of me,  
Sweet Thames, flow softly.



# CLUB OF THE MONTH:

## BURY FOLK CLUB

Bury Folk Club began one Saturday night in the early sixties in the Albion, a pub in the town centre. No-one now seems to know exactly when. Perhaps as we approach 21 someone might be stirred to find out.

In the early years the club moved several times from the Albion to the Black Bull and thence to the British Oak, where I caught up with it in 1966. The final move to the present venue, the Old Blue Bell, was made in 1968 and I have had the often thankless task of organiser since late 1969.

The club's policy has always been to present traditional songs and music, with only very rare forays into the other forms. This may seem narrow and unbending but from past experience we find it works. Our audience prefers it, finding that traditional music gives a greater variety within itself than can be found in the other forms.

Over the years we have been fortunate in having a plentiful supply of excellent resident singers. In the early days John Dickinson, Steve Heap, Lea' Nicholson (Nick) and Dave Smith, Bernard Wrigley and Dave Brooks, and the inimitable Bob Duckworth could all be heard every week. Late came the Valley Folk, when John and Steve were joined by my two sisters and myself. Nick went to university and Davie joined the Britannia Coconutters - but we gained Dave Weatherall, (now of Jolly Jack). In those days Singers' Nights were often more popular than the guests and with a line-up of that calibre it was hardly surprising. Perhaps we never attain the dizzy heights as regards famous residents, but we've still got a large number of LP covers on our walls witnessing our home-grown talents.

In the late sixties Lol Lynch did a stalwart job as the regular M.C. and mainstay of the residents, particularly after the demise of the Valley Folk. By now Dave and Bernard and Dave Weatherall had gone their different ways but new talent began to emerge. For the first time the club was short of residents and people who had rarely sung began to show themselves in their true light. Some, like Alan Seymour and Ken Bolton, are with us yet, both as singers and part of the Bury Pace Eggers which revived the local Easter custom in 1970.

The early seventies saw the upsurge of interest in dancing and I started a group as an offshoot. When the dance group was at its best we had a demonstration team which proved popular and dance and song were often combined to present "Lancashire Nights" for various local organisations. Soon some of our musicians decided they would rather play than exercise their three left feet, so the Fiery Clockface was born, later to become Chatterton Riot and now simply the Riot Band. The line-up changed with each new name but all the bands have enjoyed great popularity. We now also have the Bury Ceilidh Band which in turn is achieving recognition outside the club.

The dance group ceased to exist some four years ago but we still hold regular ceilidhs in local halls and mini-ceilidhs in the club room which are always very popular, and, with one of our own bands working for only a few pints, are a useful source of income without which we might have ceased to exist. Like many clubs we have been suffering from falling attendance figures. However, most of the remaining staunch supporters would readily agree that the standard has usually been maintained. However good the guests and the residents the atmosphere is bound to suffer when there is only a handful in the audience. We have had something of an improvement in recent weeks, and we are hopeful that it will continue, for it would indeed be a pity that a club which has had so much to offer should be forced to close for lack of a supportive audience.

Jean Seymour

# REVIEWS:-

## POYNTON '79

Poynton - just another festival you say - well not quite, there's a certain indefinable quality about it that somehow sets it up as something different. I unfortunately was only able to see the Sunday, so I obviously can't comment on the other two days.

I arrived just in time for the Shanty Session up in the club room hosted by Johnny Collins and Jim Mageean and must rate it as one of the best I've ever been in. Unfortunately it suffered from the perennial Poynton problem of overcrowding and I do hope next year the organisers will make every effort to solve this problem.

As always a good selection of stands with records and instruments featured as well as the true craft stalls. A well-planned afternoon concert offered a good mixture of performers and provided a contrast to the Session in the club room. I must single out for special mention Box Fox and Stu Luckley, who in giving an excellent and varied set of well-known and new material, succeeded in getting the audience involved. (If only some other artists would do likewise)!

During a break for tea the excellent Tom Shepley's Band hosted a singaround in the club room as also later did Sam Stevens and Anne Lennox-Martin to name but a few of those present.

The evening saw yet another concert with a wide-ranging set of artists. From Harry Boardman to Earl Okin and from Muggins Fancy to Doctor Sunshine's Pavement show - all performed well and were indeed well received. I regret I could not say the same for the club night in the games room hosted by the Hughes Brothers, and indeed it would be difficult to imagine a more uninspired performance than the one they gave.

Taken all round then, a festival not without its faults but still basically a good one and one to look for next year.

"SPECTATOR"

## LOUGHBOROUGH '79

"Do a review of Loughboro", he says, "about 250-300 words". After reaching the 4th side of the first attempt, here is the amended version.

"The 1979 'Celebration of Folk Music' in the Edward Herbert Building of Loughborough University consisted of 32 events led by the 37 guests and groups listed in the programme. The events included Ceilidhs, Concerts, Sessions, Singarounds, Workshops and Lectures and was directed by Mr. Roy Harris."

Not bad - 46 words - but anyone who has been to a Loughboro' festival since Roy Harris took over a few years ago well knows that there is more to Loughboro' than is written in the programme. It is probably the largest gathering of people from the folk world that takes place annually in England. It is certain moments that stand out in the memory; Saturday morning and Alan Bell's interesting lecture entitled 'Music of the Fell Country' where he used a cassette tape to illustrate many of the unusual songs; Saturday afternoon and the Singaround in the Sun Lounge led by Jim Mageean where those 'unofficial guests', in the form of the 'audience', proved that our folk clubs have some fine singers attending them; Saturday evening and a moment of light relief when Peter Reed, Bill Caddick and Tim Laycock 'took over' a session to perform their 'Circus' act; Sunday morning and an unofficial singing session in the bar (which is really the centrepiece of the festival!) led by Johnny Collins where Alan Bell and Derek Elliott blew away hangovers with their fine singing and even 'Herr Director' was collared for a song! Finally, the closing moments as Willie Scott rendered the 'Keilder Valley Hunt' with everyone singing their hearts out. Its hard to believe that the E.F.D.S.S. could be responsible for such a superb festival!

D.G.

# FESTIVAL PREVIEWS;

## Fylde, 31st Aug - 2nd Sep

The 7th Fylde Folk Festival takes place as usual mainly in the Marine Hall and this year also at the North Euston and Mount Hotels from the 31st August to 2nd September. As you will see from the advert on page 13, there's a very large number of guests, both national and local, and the combination looks likely to produce another excellent festival.

There's too many events to cover them all in a brief preview, so I'll just pick out a few to whet your appetite. Friday kicks off with a "Lancashire at Home" with a selection of local Artists including the Taverners and Bernard Wrigley and this is followed by a "Late Night Extra" Ceilidh with the John Bull Band for season ticket holders only. Saturday rambles along with the Singarounds, Sessions and Workshops until Scolds Bridle introduce The Saturday Concert featuring Old Swan and New Victory Bands and Ossian. Following the Lancashire and Cheshire Clog Dancing Championship, there's a difficult choice between a Giant Ceilidh with the Old Swan Band and guests and the Jack Easy Music Hall with many performers introduced by Jeff Lynn. Sunday's events are well under way when the North-West Federation of Folk Clubs run a singaround from 1 p.m. which includes the 7th "Worst Singer in the World" contest (watch out Ron Baxter! - ED) Following the afternoon concert, the final concert is introduced by Alan Bell and features Bob Fox and Stu Luckley, Harvey Andrews and the High Level Ranters.

For more details please write to the Festival Director, Alan Bell,  
55 The Strand, Fleetwood, FY7 8NP (enclose SAE) or telephone 03917-2317.

NF

## Warrington, 22nd Sep

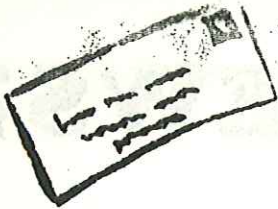
Warrington Folk Festival has this year avoided a clash with Bromyard, a fact that last year undoubtedly cost them some audience. This year is the third such event and this year has been entitled Warrington Revelry in an original and inspired attempt to attract people who would not actually go to a Folk event, but if there would enjoy it.

Although there a number of national artists at the Revelry, the emphasis as in previous years is on the local artists which are often every bit as good as the national ones. Full details of all the artists are to be found in the loose handout enclosed with this Newsletter.

In the morning of the festival, which is held in the Parr Hall as in previous years, there are special children's events and these continue on a reduced scale all day. There will also be workshops, sessions and craft stalls throughout the morning and afternoon running parallel to the main concert in the afternoon at which all the guests will appear. In the evening, there's a Ceilidh with Odds Bodikins plus guest spots together with a club night and of course singarounds all day both in the hall and in local pubs.

The bar is to be open most of the day and meals and snacks will be available by courtesy of Cordon Bleu who are providing microwave ovens. Tickets are available from the Information Centre, Warrington or by post from Festival Tickets, 25 Shoreham Drive, Penketh, Warrington, (enclose SAE). Ticket Prices: Full Day £2.50 (£3.00 on day), Half Day £1.60 (£2 on day), Ceilidh £1.25 (£1.50 on day) and all tickets are cheaper in advance - there are special prices for family tickets, children and block bookings - enquire to ticket address.

NF



# LETTERS



Dear Sir,

As I am involved in the "North West Folk Guide" I think it is about time I wrote to the Newsletter to let you know about our magazine. Previously the magazine was the "Manchester Folk Guide" but due to suggestions from a few Merseysiders we expanded to take in the N.W. and have done so since April 1978. Certain clubs outside the Manchester area take a batch of magazines at discount to sell in their clubs and if any organisers wish to follow suit please contact Chris Hicks, the editor at 131 Market Street, Chorley Lancs., who will give further details. The survival of the magazine depends on the support of the clubs so how about giving us a hand. We have a "What's On" column and inclusion is free to clubs, so let me have your dates well in advance. The magazine is bi-monthly and press date is the 10th of the month preceding the issue. Current issue is June/July. Other items include record/concert/festival reviews, club news (we have a Preston and Liverpool contribution from time to time), articles, cartoons, around the clubs, and, as they say, 'lot's more'. Price is 25p. but if anyone would like a free sample back issue drop me a line.

I would take this opportunity of congratulating the compilers of the NWFFC Newsletter and would hope that both this and the NWFG can complement each other and work together for the furtherance of giving a good service to those interested in folk music and dance throughout the N.W. Your magazine has come a long way since it began and I think the last issue was a breakthrough in content and presentation and I look forward to the editors building on this and keep up the standard and of course, with time, improving. Well done so far Nigel and the rest, and I look forward to hearing from organisers with their dates and hopefully to you taking magazines for sale in your clubs. Let me hear from you soon.

Best wishes,

Mike Billington (Features Editor NWFG)  
8 Brundretts Road,  
Chorlton-cum-Hardy,  
Manchester M21 1DB

Dear Editor,

The N.W. FEDERATION OF 'FAILING CLUBS'

The 'Day of Folk' in June was a financial disaster, despite the valiant efforts of a few clubs, notably The Travellers Rest, St. Helens and The Roebuck, ~~and~~, why?

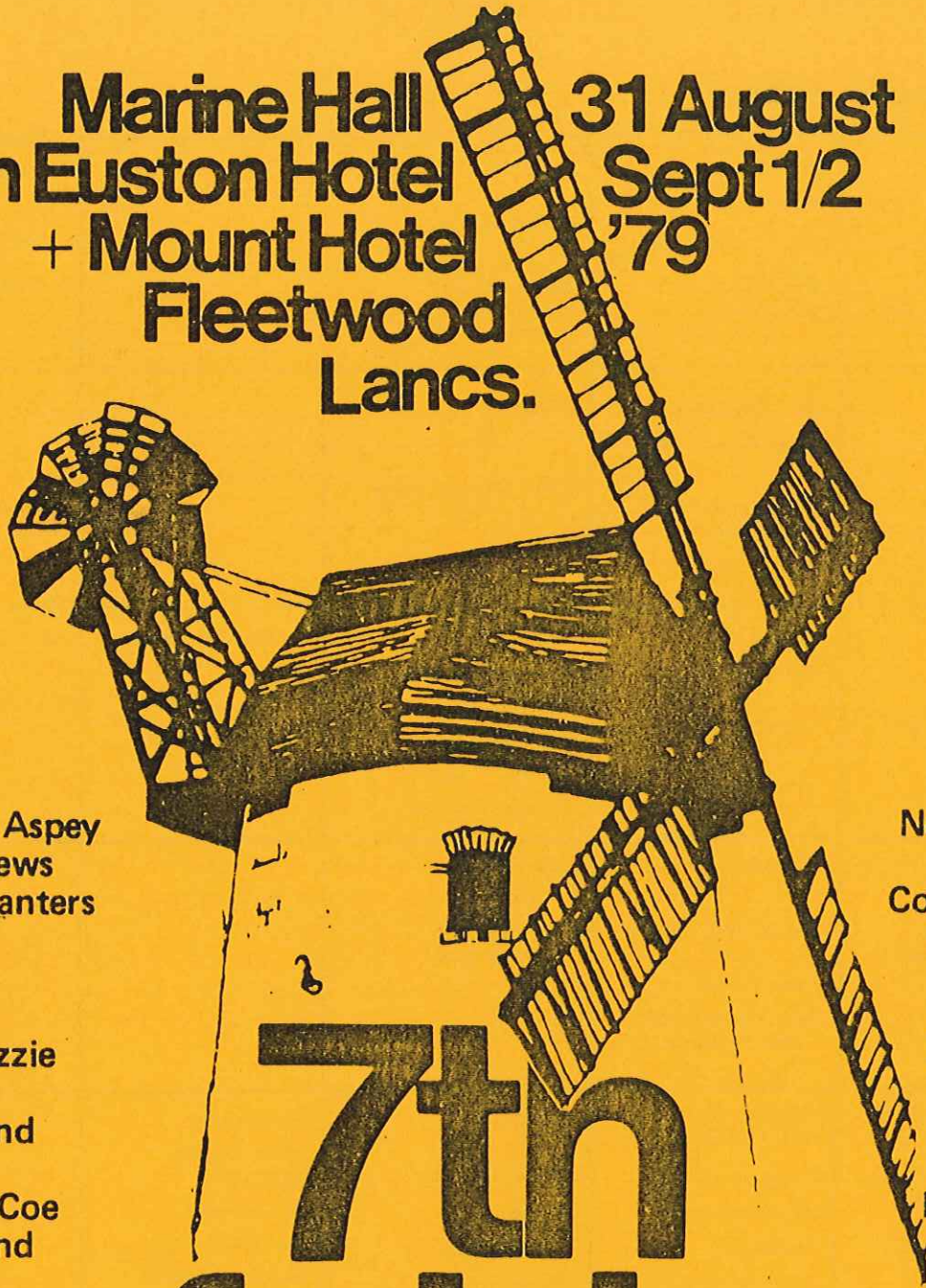
I am satisfied that the Executive carried out their respective jobs and the day went ahead relatively smoothly. Where were the clubs who had voted for the day, guests, venue, etc., in meetings last year, but were nowhere to be seen on the day? At the subsequent meeting of the Committee it was pointed out by a club representative (who, incidentally did support the event) that the Federation is supposed to support the clubs and not vice versa. Fair comment, but these events are in the Federation calendar for three main reasons: The profits pay towards the ever increasing cost of administration; if the profits are large enough every member club gets a share; and it is the only time when clubs can get together at a social event rather than at a more formal meeting. This latter reason being perhaps the most important one.

Anyway, we are now in debt to seven member clubs who kindly provided loans with which to pay the bills. As a direct result we have had to double the price of The Newsletter (still excellent value), and next years' subscription will have to be reviewed

Due to a resolution passed at the last Committee Meeting, there will be no more Federation events, except for the Youth Festival. No Christmas Ceilidh, no Day of Folk, no chance for the clubs to get together socially. That resolution has my full backing because I see no reason why myself and the Executive should spend our valuable time organising events only to have them ignored by nearly 50% of the Member Clubs. Do you see any reason why we should?

Derek Gifford, Chairman N.W.F.F.C.

Marine Hall 31 August  
North Euston Hotel Sept 1/2  
+ Mount Hotel '79  
Fleetwood  
Lancs.



Gary & Vera Aspey  
Harvey Andrews  
High Level Ranters  
Bob Fox and  
Stu Luckley  
Bill Caddick  
Woodbine Lizzie  
Sam Sherry  
Old Swan Band  
Jack Easy  
Pete & Chris Coe  
John Bull Band  
Cosmetheka  
Ian Woods  
Roy Harris  
Bispham Barnstormers  
Poynton Jemmers  
Lancashire Clog  
Dancing Championship  
Lancashire Dialect  
Competition  
'7th' Worst Singer  
in the World Contest  
Workshops  
Free Camping

7th  
fylde  
folk  
festival

New Victory Band  
Ossian  
Cod End Mummers  
Bernard Wrigley  
Brian Dewhurst  
Strawhead  
Muckram Wakes  
Pat Ryan  
Hoghton Band  
Phil Brown  
Paul Downes and  
Phil Beer  
Jeff Lynam  
Scolds Bridle  
The Taverners  
Garstang Morrismen  
Poulton Silver Prize  
Band  
Surprise Guests  
Season Tickets:  
£5.50  
Session Tickets from:  
£1.20  
Children half price  
Toddlers free

For details contact Alan Bell, 55 The Strand, Fleetwood, Lancs. FY7 8NP. Tel: (03917) 2317.  
Cheques payable to Fylde Folk Festival

THE FOLK CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY Res. 2nd 9th 16th 23rd 30th	RAINFORD Cyder Pie  Gentleman Soldier Steve Womack Allan Taylor Robin Garside and Paul Gough	TRAVELLERS Moonshine  Flat County String Band Tintagel Singers Tickawinda	POYNTON  The Watersons The Taverners Shirley & Dolly Collins plus Stan English Louis Killen Peter Bond, Bill Caddick Tim Laycock	RAVEN  DATES NOT AVAILABLE	
MONDAY Res.  3rd 10th 17th 24th	PRESTON Kaliad Band  Al Anderson Singers night Trish Stubbs & Sam Richards Pat Ryan	ST. GEORGES Ted, Bella & Paul  Singaround Nick Dow  Singaround	POYNTON  Local Folk artists		
TUESDAY Res. 4th 11th 18th 25th	GARSTANG  DATES NOT  AVAILABLE	BLACKPOOL Taverners  DATES NOT  AVAILABLE	ORMSKIRK Spring Heel Jack Opening Night Ted Edwards Singers' Night Singers' Night	SOUTHPORT SWORDS  Practice Night every Tuesday	POYNTON  Disco and Rock Folk
WEDS.  5th 12th 19th 26th	POYNTON  Dr. Sunshines Pavement Show	BREWERY Carter and Jones  NO CLUB Tish Stubbs and Sam Richards  NO CLUB	THE MET.  Singaround every week		
THURS. Res. 6th 13th 20th 27th	LIVERPOOL TRAD. Seoda Ceoil  DATES NOT AVAILABLE	FLEETWOOD Scold's Bridle  Singers' Night To be arranged Wednesday To be arranged	POYNTON  Rosie Hardman Steve Adams Graham Shaw Flash Company	WELLGREEN Pete Wilmot Alan White Mel Harrold Les Barker and Bickbat Jennie Beeching	
FRIDAY Res. 7th 14th 21st 28th	DICCONSON Titanic Moonshine Singers Singers Squire (from Yorkshire)	CORONATION Buckthorn Martin Carter & Graham Jones Mr. Blundell's Alms Yrkshire Relish Roy Bailey	CROSBY Dry Ice  DATES NOT AVAILABLE	LANCASTER  DATES NOT AVAILABLE	ROEBUCK Comeallye every week  RADCLIFFE Res. Usher's Well Gary & Vera Aspey
SATS. Res. 1st 8th 15th 22nd 29th	BURY Various  Ceilidh Sara Grey Graham & Eileen Pratt Lois Kilen	POYNTON  Folk Dance	LEYLAND  Morris, Sword and Country Dancing  Gary & Vera Aspey		

THE VIEWS EXPRESSED IN THIS  
NEWSLETTER ARE NOT NECESSARILY  
THOSE OF THE EDITOR OR FEDERATION

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THE EDITOR CANNOT BE HELD  
RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY  
INACCURACIES IN THIS NEWSLETTER