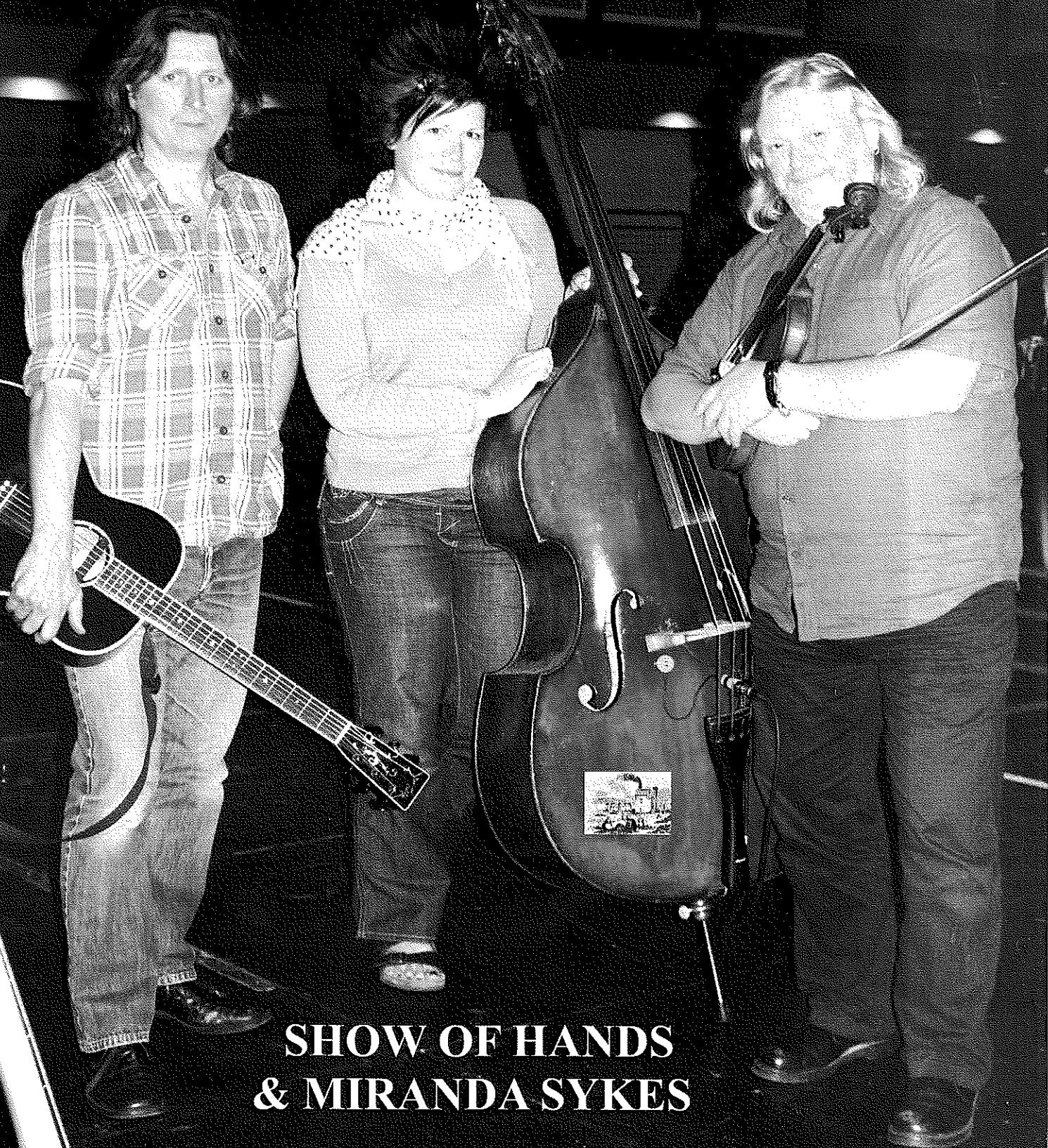


# FOLK NORTH WEST



## SHOW OF HANDS & MIRANDA SYKES

AUTUMN EDITION 2009  
(SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER) £2.00

# Folk and Roots highlights at Liverpool Philharmonic Hall

## THE WATERSON FAMILY

Friday 2 October 7.30pm £15.50, £19.50, £24.50

A rare chance to see the whole family performing together including Norma Waterson, Mike Waterson, Ann Waterson, Martin Carthy, Eliza Carthy, Eleanor Waterson and Rachel Straw (Mike and Anne's daughters), Maria Gilhooley (Lal Waterson's daughter), Oliver Knight (Lal Waterson's son) and Saul Rose.

## THE LEGENDARY GYPSY QUEENS & KINGS

Introduced by Fanfare Ciocarlia

Monday 12 October 7.30pm £14.50, £19.50, £24.50

Featuring the Romanian brass demons of Fanfare Ciocarlia and a host of stars for a Gypsy party.

The Guinness Liverpool Irish Festival 2009

## THE CELTIC TENORS

with the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra

Friday 16 October 7.30pm £15, £18, £25, £30, £35

## SHARON SHANNON WITH DAMIEN DEMPSEY

Tuesday 20 October 7.30pm £20, £23, £28

## ANDY WHITE

Saturday 24 October 8.30pm £10

## After Eight

A series of roots and unplugged gigs in the Rodewald Suite at Liverpool Philharmonic Hall

## MARTIN SIMPSON

Saturday 12 September 8.30pm £13

## LAU

Sunday 4 October 8.30pm £13

## JACKIE OATES

Saturday 17 October 8.30pm £12

## HEIDI TALBOT & BOO HEWERDINE

Friday 30 October 8.30pm £10

## MAWKIN CAUSLEY

Friday 27 November 8.30pm £13

## THE SHEE

Thursday 10 December 8.30pm £12

Liverpool Philharmonic Hall

www.liverpoolphil.com Box  
Office 0151 709 3789

## ADVERTISING

is accepted at the following rates. All adverts shall be accompanied with payment or space order no. payment (payable to N.W.F.F.C.). Adverts will not be accepted without payment.

### CAMERA READY OTHER

1/8 page	£15.00	£20.00
1/4 page	£25.00	£28.00
1/2 page	£45.00	£48.00
1 page	£75.00	£84.00

### COVER RATES:

External back cover (colour)	£110.00
Inside front or back cover (colour)	£90.00

### SIZE [Height x Width (mm)]

1/8 page	65 x 92 or 135 x 44
1/4 page	135 x 92 or 65 x 185
1/2 page	135 x 185 or 275 x 92
1 page	275 x 185

Discounts available for adverts booked in several issues.

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTS

Only £2.00 per 1/16 page (Size 65 x 44 mm.)  
Maximum of 2/16 per advert

For private sales and wants, club adverts, artists business cards and other items.

Send your copy by October 10th 2009 to:

Advertising Manager  
(position vacant)

Send to Editor at  
chameleon-art@o2.co.uk as temporary.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

For just £12.00 per year you will receive four issues of the magazine. To subscribe please send your cheque (payable to N.W.F.F.C.)

Send your subscriptions to:

Newsletter Subscriptions  
5 May Avenue, Wallasey, Wirral, CH44 9EP  
Telephone No. 0151 639 4285  
www.folknorthwest.co.uk

N.B. All subscribers automatically become Associate Members of the North West Federation of Folk Clubs. This does not, however, confer voting rights at Federation meetings.

ISSN 1350-8083

CONTENTS

Autumn 2009:- Volume 32 Number 2

	Page
Advertising / Copy Dates	3
Contact Information / Federation Officers	4
Editorial	4
Chairman's Jottings	4
What Folk Programmes are on the Radio TODAY?	5
Radio Xtra	6
<b>LIVE REVIEWS</b>	
Joe Topping - Parkgate Folk Club	7
Show of Hands featuring Miranda Sykes - Pacific Road Arts Centre	8
Crosby Stills and Nash - MEN Arena	9
Pamela Ward and Paul Cherrington - Fleetwood Folk Club	11
<b>JOHN'S DIARY CHAT</b>	12/17
<b>NORTH WEST FEDERATION OF FOLK CLUBS</b>	22
CLUB DATES - 23rd August to 26th September	23/24
CLUB DATES - 27th September to 31st October	25/26
CLUB DATES - 1st November to 5th December	27/28
<b>ADVANCE DATES FROM DECEMBER 2009</b>	29/31
<b>OBITUARIES - Johnny Collins 1938 - 2009</b>	32
<b>CD REVIEWS</b>	
The Askew Sisters & Craig Morgan Robson - Axford Five	34
Mary Humphreys and Anahata - Cold Fen	34
Vicki Swan & Jonny Dyer - Gleowein	35
Bill Malkin - Making Waves	35
Martin Simpson - True Stories	37
Nick Lowe - The Brentford Trilogy	37
Steve Earle - Townes	37
Simon Mayor - Music From A Small Island	38
Kimbers Men - In Port	38
Steeleye Span - Winter	40
Dave Swarbrick & Simon Nicol - Another Fine Mess	40
<b>BOOK REVIEW</b>	
Direct Roots 2	41
<b>DVD REVIEW</b>	
Eric Bogle - Live at Stonyfell Winery	41
Pete Seeger - Live in Australia 1963	42
<b>ARTICLES</b>	
Thoughts on Political Songs and Ewan MacColl	44
<b>CLUB NEWS (Gig lists)</b>	45
<b>STOP PRESS</b>	
Mike Seeger 1933 - 2009	46
40 years of Fleetwood Folk Club	46

Apologies owing to change in Editor and other changes this issue is rather shorter than usual.

The Winter issue will be a 'bumper one' to help make up for this issue it will include all the regular features +

Editor

## Folk North West Contact Information



### Who do I send information to ?

**Club Dates, information on forthcoming events, changes of venue or organiser to**

John Owen, 2 Redford Close, Greasby, Wirral, CH49 2QQ  
Tel 0151 678 9902  
e mail: folksingerjohn@aol.com

**Articles for possible inclusion, letters, complaints, suggestions for improvement to the magazines, ideas for inclusion, compliments (if any) and if in doubt to**

John Webb, 6 Chatsworth Avenue, FLEETWOOD, Lancashire, FY7 8EG. Tel: 01253 876313  
e.mail: chameleon-art@o2.co.uk

**Advertising (vacant) - contact Editor.**

**Subscriptions, club membership enquiries to**

Anne Jones, Anne Jones, 5 May Avenue, Wallasey, Wirral, CH44 9EP.  
E.mail: anneanddavejones@hotmail.co.uk  
Tel:- 0151 639 4285

**CD's or tapes for review (or reviews of) and live reviews to**

David Jones, 517 Pensby Road, Thingwall, Wirral, Merseyside, CH61 7UQ. anneanddavejones@hotmail.co.uk or Tel:- 0151 639 4285

**Please note that the copy date for the next issue is October 10th 2009.**

### THE NORTH WEST FEDERATION OF FOLK CLUBS

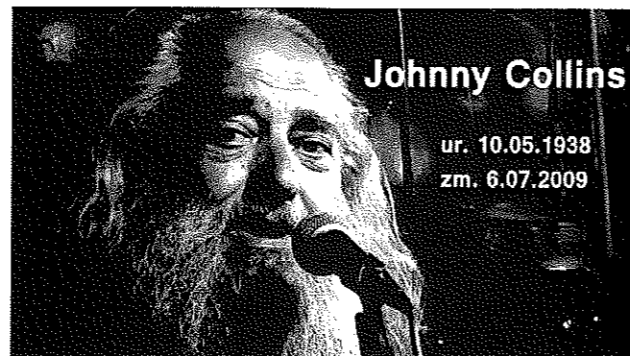
#### FEDERATION OFFICERS

Chairman & Review	David Jones, 517 Pensby Road, Thingwall, Wirral, CH61 7UQ
Co-ordinator	anneanddavejones@hotmail.co.uk Tel:- 0151 639 4285
Treasurer	Anne Jones, 5 May Avenue, Wallasey, Wirral, CH44 9EP anneanddavejones@hotmail.co.uk Tel:- 0151 639 4285
Editor	John Webb, 6 Chatsworth Avenue Fleetwood, Lancashire. FY7 8EG chameleon-art@o2.co.uk Tel: 01253 876313
Deputy Editor	Lewis Jones, 28 Haywood Crescent Waters Edge, Norton, Runcorn Cheshire, WA7 6NB Tel 01928 716 389
Advertising	VACANCY - contact Editor
Membership Sec -	contact Treasurer (see above)
Federation Sec	John Owen, 2 Redford Close, Greasby, Wirral, CH49 2QQ Tel 0151 678 9902 e mail: folksingerjohn@aol.com
Club Dates	John Owen, 2 Redford Close, Greasby, Wirral, CH49 2QQ Tel 0151 678 9902 e mail: folksingerjohn@aol.com
Webmaster	Mark Dowding e.mail: webmaster@folknorthwest.co.uk

## EDITORIAL

Hi my name is John and it is well it is with some trepidation that I write my first editorial for Folk North West Magazine. I think I will have a hard act to follow and thank Ken Bladen and all the others in the team who have helped me with this issue.

Thanks to Derek Gifford for the CD reviews and the obituary piece for Johnny Collins a fine Shantyman who will be sadly missed.



I know the Chairman has done a lot of work with the new printers and we hope to improve the appearance of the magazine .

Best wishes again and thanks to Ken for all the work on past issues.

Bye for now

*John Webb*

## CHAIRMAN'S JOTTINGS

It has certainly been a busy month or so here at Folk North West with one of the biggest reorganisations in the magazine's 33 year history.

We have at last found a new editor, his name is John Webb and he lives in Fleetwood. John works in I.T. so the magazine should not prove too onerous a task for him. He has worked hard to ensure a seamless takeover and I hope you approve of this, his first edition.

My wife Anne, has also started in her post as treasurer and membership secretary, Anne's background has always been in finance and like John, she hopes you will be patient. If any blips do appear please let the appropriate person know and we will rectify the problem.

My thanks goes to Derek Gifford for standing in as advertising manager. He has done a sterling job on this issue. To complete the reorganisation we also welcome on board new printers who will publish the magazine in the future.

Cheers for now

*David Jones*



## What Folk programmes are on the radio TODAY?

compiled by Rob Dunford

### SUNDAY

1.00 - 3.00pm  
7.00 - 8.00pm (Rpt)  
8.00 - 10.00pm

BBC Radio Scotland - THE REEL BLEND presented by ROBBIE SHEPHERD  
BBC Radio Scotland - PIPELINE presented by GARY WEST  
BBC Radio Shropshire - SUNDAY FOLK presented by GENIEVIEVE TUDOR also on BBC Radio Stoke  
RTE - THE LATE SESSION presented by AINE HENSEY  
Downtown Radio - COUNTRY CEILIDH presented by TOMMY SANDS

### MONDAY

7.00 - 8.00pm  
7.00 - 9.00pm (via)

Oldham Community Radio - SOUNDS OF FOLK presented by ALI O'BRIEN  
BBC Radio Derby - FOLKWAVES presented by MICK PEAT and LESTER SIMPSON

### TUESDAY

8.00 - 10.00pm  
8.00 - 10.00pm  
9.00 - 10.00pm (Rpt)  
9.00 - 10.00pm

Chorley FM - CHORLEY FOLK presented by JAMES BLATCHLEY  
BBC Radio Scotland - GLOBAL GATHERING presented by MARY ANN KENNEDY  
BBC Radio Merseyside - FOLKSCENE presented by STAN AMBROSE/GEOFF SPEED  
MANX RADIO - THE FOLK SHOW presented by JOHN KANEEN

### WEDNESDAY

7.00 - 8.00pm  
9.00 - 9.50pm

BBC Radio 2 - FOLK ROOTS & ACOUSTIC MUSIC presented by MIKE HARDING  
RTE - THE ROLLING WAVE presented by PETER BROWNE

### THURSDAY

6.00 - 7.00pm  
8.00 - 10.00pm  
9.00 - 10.00pm

Salford City Radio - SALFORD FOLK presented by ELEANOR WALK & DAVE MATHER  
BBC Radio Scotland - TRAVELLING FOLK presented by ARCHIE FISHER  
BBC Radio Merseyside - FOLKSCENE presented by STAN AMBROSE/GEOFF SPEED

### FRIDAY

7.00 - 8.00pm (Rpt)  
8.00 - 9.00pm

Oldham Community Radio - SOUNDS OF FOLK presented by Ali O'Brien  
BBC Radio Lancashire - THE DRIFT presented by PHIL BROWN

### SATURDAY

3.00 - 4.00am (Rpt)  
7.00 - 8.30pm  
7.00 - 10.00pm  
8.00 - 9.00pm  
8.00 - 10.00pm  
9.00 - 10.00pm  
9.00 - 10.00pm  
10.00 - 12.00pm (Rpt)

BBC Radio 2 - FOLK, ROOTS & ACOUSTIC MUSIC presented by MIKE HARDING  
BBC Radio Scotland - TAKE THE FLOOR presented by ROBBIE SHEPHERD  
BBC Radio Wales - CELTIC HEARTBEAT presented by FRANK HENNESSY  
RTE - THE SOUTH WIND BLOWS presented by PHILIP KING  
BBC Radio Ulster - FOLK CLUB presented by COLUM SANDS/SIOBHAN SKATES  
BBC Radio Scotland - PIPELINE presented by GARY WEST  
RTE - CEILIDH HOUSE presented by KIERAN HANRAHAN  
BBC Radio Scotland - TRAVELLING FOLK presented by ARCHIE FISHER

### RADIO FREQUENCIES

FM 92.4-94.7/MW 810  
FM 92.4-94.7/MW 810  
FM 96.0  
FM 94.6  
MW 567/LW 252  
MW 1026

FM 99.7  
see below

FM 102.8  
FM 92.4-94.7/MW 810  
FM 95.8/MW 1485  
MW 1368

FM 88 - 90.2  
MW 567/LW 252

FM 94.4  
FM 92.4-94.7/MW 810  
FM 95.8/MW 1485

FM 99.7  
FM 95.5

FM 88 - 90.2  
FM 92.4-94.7/MW 810  
MW 882  
MW 567/LW 252  
MW 1341  
FM 92.4-94.7/MW 810  
MW 567  
FM 92.4-94.7/MW 810

The frequencies quoted are those forming the basis for reception in the North West. Expanded station details are shown below:-

BBC Radio Derby	FM 95.3, 104.5, 96.0 (Buxton)	MW 1116	Tel:- 01332 361111
BBC Radio Lancashire	FM 95.5, 103.9, 104.5,	MW 855, 1557	Tel:- 01254 262411
BBC Radio Merseyside	FM 95.8	MW 1485	Tel:- 0151 7085500
BBC Radio Scotland	FM 92.4 - 94.7	MW 810	Tel:- 0141 4226000
BBC Radio Shropshire	FM 96.0		Tel:- 01743 248484
BBC Radio Stoke	FM 94.6, 104.1	MW 1503	Tel:- 01782 208080
BBC Radio Ulster	FM 92.4 - 95.4	MW 873, 1341	Tel:- 02890 338000
BBC Radio 2	FM 88.0 - 90.2		Tel - 08700 100222
BBC Radio Wales	FM 93.9 - 95.9, 103.7 - 103.9	MW 882	Tel - 029203 22000
Salford City Radio	FM 94.4		Tel - 0161 793 2939
Chorley FM	FM 102.8		Tel - 01257 262661
Downtown Radio		MW 1026	Tel:- 02891 815555
Manx Radio	FM 89.0, 97.2, 103.7	MW 1386	Tel:- 01624 682600
Oldham Community Radio	FM 99.7		Tel - 0161 6244004
RTE (Radio Teilifis Eirann) via ASTRA Satellite, LW 252		MW 567	Tel:- 003531 2083111

## Radio Xtra

The range of programmes has broadened to include several which, while not wholly devoted to folk, frequently include it and have the potential to reward the discerning listener. These include BBC Radio 3's **Late Junction**, Tuesday to Thursday, usually 11.15pm - 01.00am, presenters Fiona Talkington and Verity Sharp, and the World on 3 programme, also Radio 3, now on Friday 11.15pm - 01.00am. Both for details on the above and for information on occasional programmes/items/short series with a folk flavour on Radios 2, 3 and 4, the Radio Times is always worth close scrutiny. Frequencies: Radio 3 90.2-92.4 FM; Radio 4 92.4-94.6 FM, 198 LW; BBC information : 08700 100 222.

Of variable folk content is BBC Radio Scotland Sunday 10.00pm - 12.00pm and Monday to Friday 10.30pm - 12.30am with Iain Anderson. Radio Na Gaeltachta FM 93.5/94 (Tel: 00353 91 506677), broadcasts on Astra Satellite Channel 22 and carries a range of Gaelic Music/Language programmes including Lan A Mhale, 7.00-8.00pm Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

Note that local radio programmes may be subject to temporary alteration in day, time and delivery (AM, FM or DAB) when, for example sports coverage takes precedence.

Most regional/local programmes to a varying degree provide diary dates for clubs, concerts and festivals. The reliable standards set by for example, Radio Shropshire/Stoke and Radio Lancashire for comprehensive and regular listings can, it is hoped, apply across the board. E.mail, website and Internet details are routinely given during programmes or can be found via the main telephone numbers and on-line searches. The number of programmes available on the Internet is increasing - some are retained for short period access - and it is understood that the whole of BBC Radio output should by now be accessible. The main BBC website is at [www.bbc.co.uk](http://www.bbc.co.uk).

Telephone numbers for radio stations, plus directions to other forms of contact, have been provided so that event organisers and artistes can fulfill the important role of promoting their activities in the region. Given the propensity for radio programmes to devote much air time to new albums, the listing of programmes is also intended to complement the extensive CD review feature in Folk North West.

To demonstrate an interested and active profile of folk listeners, do liaise with any and all programmes, stations and producers. The North West is favoured with a wealth of programmes, which praise and constructive comment will help maintain. It is essential for listeners to provide feedback to the programme producers, for, as the song goes "You don't know what you've got till it's gone".

The North West remains a good region in which to hear folk music on the radio, even more so with Community Radio development. Hearing comments from folkies in other areas and looking at the situation elsewhere, we've certainly got what many other regions have not (and envy) - It is all well worth nurturing, not least for regional flavour.

Rob Dunford

## SHIMMROCK PROMOTIONS

Sun 27th Sept

**Billy Mitchell & Bob Fox**

*Geordie Mirth and harmony*

Sat 17th Oct

**Big National Ceilidh: Union Street**

*Knees-up to lost and forgotten Lancashire tunes*

Fri 30th Oct

**Mabon**

*Celtic grooves*

Fri 13th Nov

**Spiers & Boden \***

*English squeeze and scrape*

Sun 22nd Nov

**Asere**

*Cuban 6-piece : Latin grooves and Spanish 'son'*

Sat 5th Dec

**The Ailie Robertson Band**

*Scottish harpist*

Sun 13th Dec

**Jez Lowe's Winter Almanac**

*6-piece band in Christmas mood*

Sun 27th Dec

**Swing Commanders**

*Cowboy Pop, Latin Jazz, Western Swing*

All concerts at:

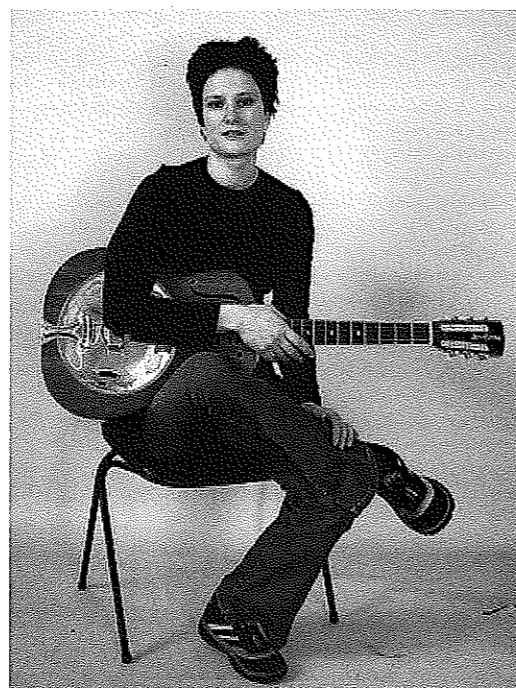
MELLOR BROOK COMMUNITY CENTRE

7, Whalley Road, Mellor Brook, Blackburn BB2 7PR

EXCEPT \* at DARWEN LIBRARY THEATRE, Knott Street, Darwen BB3 3BU

ticketline **07871 153 880**

Further details [www.mellorbrook.org](http://www.mellorbrook.org)



## LIVE REVIEWS



JOE TOPPING

– Live at Parkgate Folk Club –  
Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2009

Joe Topping agreed to stand in at a moments notice when Dave Mallet was unable to make it to the UK for his dates.

Due to the fact that Joe was filling in, he thought he would try doing as many of Dave's songs as he could learn in a couple of days. He started with, "Inch by Inch" and asked the audience to sing along as he didn't really know it. It was a great start and got everyone singing along, at the end of which Joe said that that was all he'd managed to learn and so it was on to his usual songs (ha! ha!). Joe sang a new anti-gun and anti-violence song he had written played on his National guitar and harmonica, next came a song off the Elbow Jane album, "One Beat Away", it's about a man spending too much time working to provide for his wife and family, when all they really want is more time with him.

The next song was enjoying it's first airing since Ashley Hutchings had sent Joe the lyrics and asked him to put them to music (it doesn't get much better than that). Ashley is writing about his relationship with his son and the advice he has given him on life. "Above the Angels", tells of being in love for the first time, hand in hand, side by side, lovers bound together. Ashley hadn't actually heard the song up to that point.

Then came an American gospel type song, "Eyes on the Prize", which Joe learned from Mavis Staples and also has been recorded by Bryan Adams. Joe then moved into a beautifully played and moving song that is actually a Tennyson poem that Joe put to music, "Come Not When I am Dead", was just magical, the music is perfect for the poem. To finish off the first set, Joe sang a new Elbow Jane song called, "Catch Me If You Can", about a fox hunt where the fox gets away and Joe tells a story about his Dad, a hunt saboteur who has a great idea to ruin the hunt, he goes out the night before the hunt and shoots the fox, (don't think so Joe).

The second set started with a song Joe wrote which introduced him to John Wright, "The Flame Danced Flamenco", is written about the perfect romantic evening which John fell in love with and recorded.

The next song was written after Joe and Kevin Byrne separately read a story and they both decided to write a song about it. "William Mackenzie and the Devil", is about a successful man who was a railway engineer who was a ladies man and loved to gamble, so much so that he lost his soul to the devil in a poker game but the devil can't have his soul until he's in the ground, so when he dies he wants to be propped up at the card table with a royal flush in his hand so the devil can't take his soul. Another new song followed, new that is to Joe but it's actually an Irish traditional one "She Moved Through the Fair". Next came a song about a young girl who feels she is a freak because she doesn't look like everyone else and thinks she should have cosmetic surgery so that she can be "normal". "Tired of Being a Circus Girl", has been played and sung by Ashley Hutchings Rainbow Chasers, of which Joe is a member.

A change of instrument came next, back to Joe's favourite National guitar, for a rhythm and blues number by Fats Domino, "Walking to New Orleans". Joe was harangued into learning this song during his Chicago to New Orleans walk in aid of the musicians who were victims of the New Orleans hurricane.

An extremely romantic song by Andy M Stewart followed, "A Lover's Heart" which Joe thanked Brian Jones for his guitar arrangement.

Then came Joe's attempt to write his own version of Bob Dylan's "Don't Think Twice It's Alright" which Joe named "I'm Not That Hard to Find".

To finish the evening another of his own songs, about making up with an old flame and reminiscing about the good times and thinking maybe it would be a good idea to rekindle the fire, but then thinking, "It's All Coming Back To Me Now".

There was no way Joe could escape without an encore, Dave Mallett he may not be but Joe has his own distinctive style and charisma and can steal a heart at a glance, with his expert style and guitar playing.

Joe finished the evening with, "Georgia on My Mind", which has a special place in my heart. All in all, Parkgate could not have picked a better replacement for Dave Mallett and we can all breathe a sigh of relief to know that there are young people writing such heartfelt, moving songs and to know that the folk world is in such safe hands.

Anne Jones



**SHOW OF HANDS –  
FEATURING MIRANDA  
SYKES –**

Live at Pacific Road Arts Centre –  
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2009

Since their inception, Show of Hands have continued apace, gathering an army of fans along the way.

An impromptu gathering of musical friends in 2004 led to one of them staying as, “the third member of the duo” and the depth Miranda Sykes’ bass playing has added, further enhances their undoubted musical pedigree.

The night opened with the up tempo, “Are We Alright”, even when two people are as one, doubts sometimes creep in and reassurances are needed. Peter Gabriel who created the Womad Festival is a real inspiration to Steve who performed his song, “Secret World”, admirably.

Steve then cajoled the audience to sing with some fake flattery on, “I’ve Got Faith in You”. It tells how you should trust no one, save those who are closest to you.

“The Man I Was”, is a song about change. Can we really turn over a new leaf?

Phil’s fiddle solo’s are the stuff of legend and in the, “Devil’s Right Hand”, he played in different styles and time signatures.

The inhabitants of Branscombe on the Devon coast turned ferrel overnight when the cargo ship “Napoli”, ran aground. Containers were washed ashore and everything from nappies to BMW motorbikes were plundered. Steve wrote, “The Napoli”, with the alternative title, “Lyme Bay to EBay”.

When Steve’s son Jack was seriously ill he spent many hours in a hospital environment, with no phones, Emails or distractions of any kind. He found his mind wandering, explained in, “Drift”. Jack thankfully is now recovering well.

A conversation between a lord and lady was the subject of the interval song, “Keys of Canterbury”, he ups the anti, her honour, the prize.

“Country Life”, is one of the finest songs in their repertoire, it tells of the way of life of past generations, sadly lost on today’s.

Learned from Street Legal in Chile, “Tales of Yankee Power”, or as we know it “Senor”, is a powerful but sadly all too true summation of how things are in that country.

We stay in Chile as the boys perform, “Santiago”, life at sea, oceans to be crossed, adventures to be had, all culminating with an up tempo fiddle tune, “Nancy”.

As well as being one of the finest upright bass players in the country, Miranda Sykes has a wonderful voice, as she demonstrated on the Peter Bradley Adams penned, “So Are You To Me”. We can be likened to almost anything in the mind’s eye.

One of the highlights of a Show of Hands concert is when they go down into the auditorium with their instruments unplugged. Ralph McTell’s, “The Setting” and “Mary of Dungloe”, proved real audience pleasers.

“A.I.E.” was written by Steve to celebrate all that is corrupt in the world of high finance. He dedicated it to Sir Fred Goodwin of RBS and all the rest with their snouts in the trough. I almost forgot AIG stands for Arrogance, Ignorance and Greed.

“Improvise Explosive Device”, the final act before meeting your maker!!!

Hands up those who remember Kim Howells MP and his take on the drinking laws and live music and explaining his idea of hell was three Somerset folksingers in a pub. Steve’s swift reply came in the form of “Roots”, something we all have to one degree or another. Added on just for good measure are “Adieu, Sweet Lovely Nancy”, “The Falmouth Packet” and “Haul Away Joe”. It brought a memorable concert to a fitting finale.

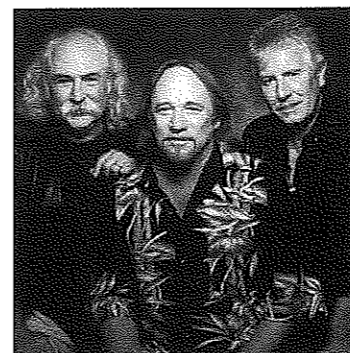
By way of an encore the song that has now become one of the band’s, must sing anthems at every concert “Cousin Jack”, a song that bemoans the passing of tin mining in Cornwall. I was lucky enough to see Show of Hands perform at Celtic Connections earlier this year as they brought the house down in the Strathclyde Suite at the Royal Concert Hall in Glasgow.

At Pacific Road they continued in the same vein, never letting the quality of their performance drop below a certain level while introducing new songs into their set.

The mark of true professionals.

**David Jones**

**Crosby Stills and Nash at MEN Arena  
on Friday July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009**



It was not a promising start as the classical music wafted over the audience, the sound of creaking bones and the lady who couldn’t read her ticket to find her seat number just acted to remind me that I was soon to be in the presence of some elder statesmen of music. Could they match the energy I’d seen in recent UK shows by Neil Young and Bruce Springsteen was the question.

It was a tentative start with the harmonies of ‘Helplessly Hoping’ testing David Crosby, Steve Stills and hometown boy Graham Nash. Worryingly, it seemed like the evening might be more laconic than harmonic. What followed was a wise approach to win over the audience and win they did. Picking up covers of the Rolling Stones’ ‘Ruby Tuesday’, Bob Dylan’s ‘Reason To Believe’ and a couple more meant that the complexities of their early recordings were avoided in what was a mainly acoustic first half. Having won over the audience, they returned to their own material with the exquisite delivery of ‘Guinevere’. Then, despite an inability to learn the rules of cricket from his friend, ‘Coming Home’ was specifically in the set at Crosby’s suggestion. This Graham Nash song reminiscing on a return trip to Manchester in 1977 won over Mancunian hearts for the rest of the evening. By the time they got to the seminal ‘Our House’, the rest of the audience was putty in their hands too.

In that first half, Crosby and Nash led the vocal work with Steve Stills looking a little peripheral. However, in the mainly electric second half, straight off, he showed us just why he’s a valuable member of the band with some excellent work on Buffalo Springfield’s ‘Rock and Roll Woman’. ‘Marrakesh Express’ followed with the still relevant ‘Military Madness’ before Graham Nash dedicated ‘Winchester Cathedral’ to his sister who has passed away. After that, the hits just flowed with ‘Bluebird’, ‘Almost Cut My Hair’, ‘For What It’s Worth’, ‘Wooden Ships’ and the evening closed

out with a triumphant finish as the crowd sang along to ‘Teach Your Children’. Any budding songwriters present would surely have been awed by not only the quality but also the quantity of songs amassed by these fine gentlemen.

**Steve Henderson**

**Maghull Folk Club Big Concert**

Saturday 7th November  
2009 - 8pm

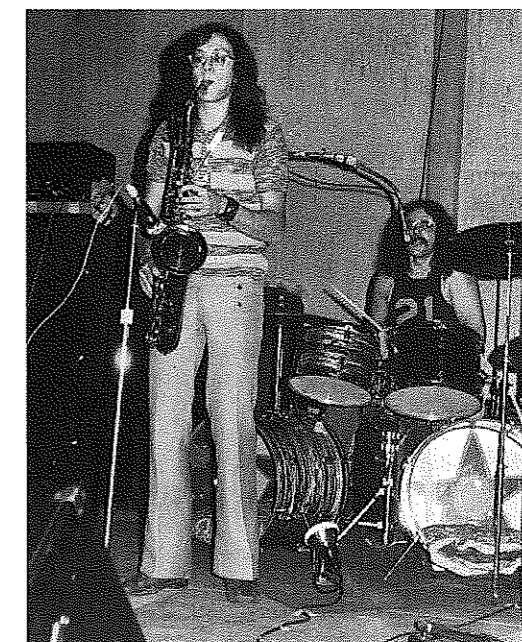
**Bob Fox & Billy Mitchell**



Plus  
**Bernard Wrigley**

Maghull Town Hall  
Hall Lane, Maghull  
Merseyside, L31 7BB

Tickets : £7.00 - Available from:  
Joe Ryan : 0151 531 9273  
Jane Day: 0151 526 6661  
[www.maghullfolkclub.co.uk](http://www.maghullfolkclub.co.uk)





## FOLKUS AUTUMN / WINTER PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

**SATURDAY 19<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2009**

### MUSIC MAKING DAY FOR ACOUSTIC GUITARISTS

Garstang High School, Bowgreave, Garstang, Lancs  
By popular demand. A day of workshops dedicated to guitarists.  
Tutors **Rusty & Stu Wright** - beginners/beyond beginners.  
**Phil Chisnall** - intermediate guitar & accompaniment.  
**Ben Broughton** - advanced guitar techniques.

**SATURDAY 26<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2009**

"Tall Stories" A night of songs and stories and a day of story telling, story walks and music. With **Bob Pegg**.  
Northern Centre for Story Telling, Grasmere, Cumbria.  
Folkus is supporting artists. Info: **Taffy Thomas** - 01539 35641  
email; [info@taffythomas.co.uk](mailto:info@taffythomas.co.uk) [www.taffythomas.co.uk](http://www.taffythomas.co.uk)

**SATURDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> - SUNDAY 4<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2009**

Ingleton Folk Weekend. Folkus workshop. - Fiddle with **Carolyn Francis**. 3pm Sunday.  
Methodist Chapel, Main Street, Ingleton.  
Box office 01254 241701. Infor:01524 241 931  
Email: [chrisbonsall@googlemail.com](mailto:chrisbonsall@googlemail.com) [www.ingletonfolk.co.uk](http://www.ingletonfolk.co.uk)

**SATURDAY 10<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2009**

Folkus is supporting the "Sense of Sound" acappella Vocal Workshop at the Nantwich Words & Music Festival.  
2.00 pm Malbank School Hall, Welsh Row, Nantwich, Cheshire.  
Info : **Claire Smith** 01270 - 583 426 email: [fluffkinder@o2.co.uk](mailto:fluffkinder@o2.co.uk)

**SATURDAY 31<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER 2009**

By request, another day of workshops in Chester.  
Hoole Community Centre, Hoole, Chester.  
Tutors Guitar - **Derek Gifford** Fiddle - **Claire Smith** Bodhran - **Fred Rose**.  
Mandolin - **Roger Purves**. Info : Folkus

**SATURDAY 14<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2009**

A welcome return to Kendal  
Castle Street Centre, Castle Street, Kendal.  
Workshops: Guitar - **Derek Gifford**. Fiddle - **Carolyn Francis**. Bodhran - **Fred Rose**  
Mandolin - **Roger Purves**. Info Folkus office.  
Folkus workshops are from 10. 30am - 4. 30pm

**SATURDAY 28<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2010**

**4<sup>th</sup> FOLKUS CASTLE STREET CEILIDH**  
Castle Street Centre, Castle Street, Kendal.  
**Festival Ceilidh Band**, plus guests. 8.00 - 11.00pm. Hot Pot Supper.  
Info: Office hours 01539 739154 or Joyce Eldred 01539 734625

**THE 7<sup>th</sup> FOLKUS RESIDENTIAL WEEKEND OF MUSIC MAKING**

**5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> February 2010. Waddow Hall, Clitheroe, Lancs.**  
A magnificent weekend of music making, songs and great entertainment.  
Prices available from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2009. An occasion not to be missed.

**BOOK EARLY**

Info & bookings : Folkus, 55 The Strand, Fleetwood, Lancs. FY7 8NP  
email: [alanbell@folkus.co.uk](mailto:alanbell@folkus.co.uk) Visit our website [www.folkus.co.uk](http://www.folkus.co.uk)

## Pamela Ward and Paul Cherrington

Live Review at Fleetwood Folk Club

11th June 2009



Fleetwood Folk Club were pleased to see after an absence of some 12 years the return of Pamela Ward and Paul Cherrington who serenaded us with songs from their new album *Sail on By* as well as other traditional numbers. Pamela told us the story behind the title track "*Sail On By*" which tells the story of the Curacoa disaster off Donegal in 1942. The Queen Mary sliced through her escort ship HMS Curacoa with the loss of 338 lives. Pam's father served on the Curacoa and was one of the survivors.

Pamela's versatile and melodic voice was accentuated by the accomplished and unbelievable guitar playing of Paul Cherrington. His unique style left the audience spellbound as the notes from his guitar swept and glided as a perfect accompaniment to her voice. It was a most memorable evening and a performance that we all will remember.



Pam and Paul then went on to explain that their long break away from the Folk scene was due to their involvement in Music in Hospitals, which is a registered charity whose mission is to improve the quality of life for adults and children with all kinds of illness and disability through the joy and therapeutic benefits of all kinds of professionally performed live music in hospitals, hospices, day care centres, special needs schools, nursing and residential homes. I am sure that the joy and excitement that they Pamela and Paul put into their performances would lift the spirits of those who are suffering or ill.

I know our spirits were moved by the wonderful mix of guitar and voice and by the wide variety and range of songs so I can understand how a

I know our spirits were moved by the wonderful mix of guitar and voice and by the wide variety and range of songs so I can understand how a patient spending a long time in a hospital ward or a hospice would welcome the respite and break of the music.

We hope to see Pam and Paul again soon.

by John Webb  
(Editor)

**Your Folk Magazine  
Needs You.**

**Write an article**  
**Review a CD**  
**Send in a Live Review**  
**Write a letter**  
**Do a spotlight feature**  
**on your club**  
**or favourite artist.**

e.mail: [chameleon-art@o2.co.uk](mailto:chameleon-art@o2.co.uk)

### Classified Ads

Only £2.00 per 1/16 page

Maximum of 1/16 per advert

For Private sales & wants, club adverts and artistes cards.

Send Copy by October 10th 2009

to:- John Webb

**6 Chatsworth Avenue  
FLEETWOOD**

**Lancashire FY7 8EG**

**Tel: 01253 876313**

**Email: [chameleon-art@o2.co.uk](mailto:chameleon-art@o2.co.uk)**



Hello again. It is the middle of July and the fantastic folk festival season and what a time we are having!

Since Easter, Angela and I have seen some wonderful performers at both our own folk club and at various other folk promotions in the region. Blackheart, Vin Garbutt, Clive Gregson, Andrew Jones and Colin Henderson, Graham Bellinger and the Deportees have all appeared at the "Hungry" and have produced wonderful evenings of folk music - second to none. This sequence was topped off last week with the superb Eric Bogle and his singing partner John Munro as our special guests. Eric is almost half way through his 78 gig "Waltzing Matilda No More" tour with a further ten bookings in Canada to follow before retiring back to his adopted home in Australia. The club was bursting at the seams on a hot and sticky night, but nevertheless they provided us with a most thrilling evening of everything that is supreme about folk singing and story telling. I felt proud to see the whole room give Eric and John a standing ovation at the end of the night.

Other artists we have enjoyed this quarter have been Nancy Kerr and James Fagan at Roger and Chris Hanslip's Folk at the Prospect in Runcorn. Cousin Pearl, a blue grass band at Roger Parker's Folk at the Manor in Wallasey. Liverpool's John O'Connell, an absolutely brilliant singer and guitarist at the OC Club in Bromborough and Jacque MacDonald, formerly of The Spinners and Jacque and Bridie, at a Brian Lupton promotion at Christchurch Church Hall in Oxton, Birkenhead.

John O'Connell had the OC packed out and, as usual he was jaw-droppingly superb with his guitar dexterity and singing. John's ability to switch from folk to pop, to classical guitar, to ballad or Irish dance songs is a feature of his style and I strongly recommend him to any organisers looking for a very talented and experienced performer. John doesn't yet know it but he now has me rehearsing Paul Brady's song "The Island" which I enjoy every time I hear him perform it.

Brian Lupton presented Jacque MacDonald to his faithful band of followers and indeed you could tell that Jacque has lost none of her comedic patter and she still has a lovely voice. A few words of thanks to Brian by the way for inviting Vocal Point, and our great mate Jim Gallacher to take part in a wonderful John Denver Tribute Night at Thingwall Recreation Hall along with Brian of course and the

star of the night, the excellent John Denver 'hear-a-like' Mark Robinson who hails from the Midlands. You can judge for yourself the quality of Mark's voice by visiting his website at [www.markrobinsonmusic.com](http://www.markrobinsonmusic.com) We all had to learn a selection of JD songs for the night, which was wonderfully supported by many punters. All the takings went to two charities including Claire House Children's Hospice.

#### **Club News**

The good news first. I do not have any changes to clubs to report which means to my knowledge no venues have had to close or 'move house'. Firstly, a retrospect of what has been happening at some clubs.

#### **Burnley Folk Club**

Good things seem to have been happening at Burnley FC. Alex Nearney informs me that Pat Sherry and Stuart Douglas gave another splendid evening's entertainment recently on their third appearance at the club and Geoff Higginbottom presented his usual accomplished programme with some old favourites and some new material. Alex sends his thanks to all the performers and the regular attendees who made both nights so enjoyable. Two of my favourites are scheduled to appear next quarter Ken Nicol on 2<sup>nd</sup> September and Bob Fox on 25<sup>th</sup> November.

#### **Shamrock Promotions**

Seamus Heffeman and Janet Aspin the promoters of Shamrock Promotions tell me that their venue the Mellor Brook Community Centre closed on the 18<sup>th</sup> July for the purposes of refurbishment of the main concert hall. The false ceiling has been removed and an energy-efficient central heating system installed. This is the third phase of development following the acquisition of a new modular stage and IT Media suite. The venue is also home to the Palatine Fiddlers that meets weekly to explore and arrange tunes, many locally sourced, under the guidance of Newcastle folk degree graduate, Julian Taylor. Sean and Janet are most grateful for the tremendous support they receive from their friends and volunteer staff and for the fund-raising efforts of the centre management committee. It is worthy of note that the Spiers and Boden concert on 13<sup>th</sup> November will take place at Darwen Library Theatre.

#### **Wigan Folk Clubs**

Joan Blackburn informs me that last Easter Monday, the club held its 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Day of Folk'n'Verse. A Big Singaround at the Boulevard in the town centre. The event started at 2-30pm and went on right through until midnight. The club hosted sixty-one visitors as well as numerous local singers, musicians, poets, monologuers and audience. Since 2004 this event has been the lead event for the 'Words Festival' which is Leigh and Wigan's fortnight-long literary festival. This club event has benefited greatly from being so associated, as it was included in the main festival brochure thereby reaching people who would not normally be aware of the club. With the 'Words Festival' being funded by the Arts Council formal evaluation of the event took place and Joan tells me that most of the feedback as far as the club was concerned was very positive.

In addition this active club, on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April (St. George's Day) concentrated its normal club night on the performance of English songs and music. Also a special Mummers Play by the Wigan Mummers took place with many a knight and dragon being slain by St George. The proceeds of a collection were donated to the Wigan Hospice. Joan also tells me that over the first weekend in July, Wigan Folk Club celebrated its 45<sup>th</sup> birthday. Wow! Very well done to you all. Entertainment on the Friday and Saturday was provided at the Royal Oak by three bands. They were Hard Times, Rare Ould Times and Malt Loaf. Sunday the fun continued in The Keepers with bouncy castles (It must be difficult to sing and play a guitar whilst jumping on one of those!) and the customary BBQ. Even though the PA turned up late that did not spoil the fun as many of the regulars excelled with their showcase spots. You may be able to get an idea of what you missed by having a look at the club website and the club's Myspace site. [www.wiganfolkclub.co.uk](http://www.wiganfolkclub.co.uk) and [www.myspace.com/wiganfolkclub](http://www.myspace.com/wiganfolkclub)

#### **The Palm House, Sefton Park, Liverpool**

News has reached me from The Palm House at Sefton Park in Liverpool that ad hoc evenings of folk music are taking place and hopefully by the time you have read this column the venue will be a registered member of this magazine. Elizabeth-Anne Williams the organiser tells me that on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September Chris Wood (described by the Irish Times as 'The Renaissance Man of English Folk') is the special guest with Lizzie Nunnery

providing support. Further information can be obtained by ringing - 0151-726-9304.

#### **For Folk's Sake Folk Club**

Sophie Parkes is the promoter of this new member club that will shortly be celebrating its first birthday. The venue is The Cup Café, 53 - 55 Thomas Street, Northern Quarter, Manchester M4 1NA and the contact telephone number is 0161-834-2004. Acts booked through to the end of the year are, 3<sup>rd</sup> September - Jack Neill & Charlie Heys, with support from Ottersgear and Ben Playford. October 1<sup>st</sup> - 1<sup>st</sup> birthday celebration night with Ember. 12<sup>th</sup> November - Samson and Delilah and on the 3<sup>rd</sup> December the act is still to be confirmed. Admission is only £4 and £2 for concessions. Have a look at [www.myspace.com/forfolkssake](http://www.myspace.com/forfolkssake) to find out more.

#### **Folk at Mojo's**

Another new folk music venue is, as I right, shortly to begin a regular sequence of folk and Irish music on a Wednesday night. The venue is Mojo's Wine Bar, Dee Lane, West Kirby and the proprietor Julian Lea has sought my guidance in respect of recruiting suitable acts to commence the season. By the time you will have read this column Phil Chisnall, a Wallasey-based singer-songwriter and Graham Bellinger and the Deportees from Chester will have performed at the first two nights in July. Julian is keen to give bookings to any act that feels it has something to offer. The fee will be a nominal amount with the emphasis being on local performers mainly. Julian can be contacted at [julianlea5@hotmail.com](mailto:julianlea5@hotmail.com) If you are performer and you fit the bill then drop Julian an email.

#### **Frodsham Folk Club**

On 25<sup>th</sup> September, Grace Jones at Frodsham FC has that merry band of minstrels from Chester, Roy and Mary Clinging, Dave Russell (also a member of Full House and Yardarm) and Neil Brookes booked to perform their show of music and dialogue entitled "A Poor Man's Heritage". I trust they will all be in authentic costumes on the night. We saw them perform this excellent show at Chester Festival last year. A second showing is available at Ian Chesterman's Wrexham club on 15<sup>th</sup> October.

#### **Wooden Horse Folk Club**

On Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October the gang at the Wooden Horse, Rainford will be holding a charity fund-raising night in aid of the North West Air

# THE QUEENSBERRY RULES

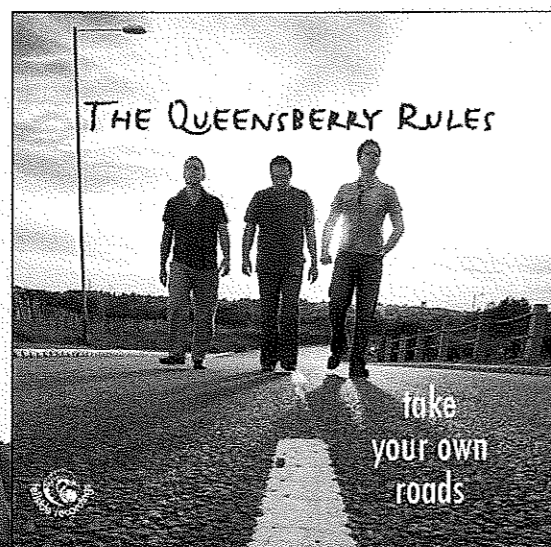
## take your own roads

### Tour dates

- October 10  
Red Lion Folk Club, Birmingham  
(Album Launch Show)
- October 13  
Vernon Arms Folk & Acoustic Club,  
Spondon, Derbyshire
- October 14  
Biddulph Up in Arms, Staffs  
(Entire Album Performance)
- October 29  
Topic Folk Club, Bradford
- October 30  
Upstairs at Arthurs, Dog & Partridge,  
Bollington, Cheshire
- November 8  
Twickenham Folk Club, London
- November 12  
The Black Swan Folk Club, York
- November 14  
Aston Ingham Village Hall  
Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire
- December 11  
Chasefolk, Burntwood, Staffs
- December 21  
Conwy Folk Club

New CD release  
October 12 2009

FELLSIDE FECD227



“ - the quality of  
their harmonies  
stands out -  
Living Tradition

“ - destined for  
bigger things -  
Mike Harding  
BBC Radio2

“ - shaping up into  
real contenders -  
fRoots

Bookings: 01782 720871  
acousticsqueeze@tiscali.co.uk

[www.thequeensberryrules.com](http://www.thequeensberryrules.com)  
[www.myspace.com/thequeensberryrules](http://www.myspace.com/thequeensberryrules)  
[www.fellside.com](http://www.fellside.com)



Ambulance Service. You will there be able to support a good cause and enjoy the best-loved songs of the residents. The likes of Quartz, Loctuptogether, Mark Dowding and others.

### Four Fools Folk Club

Angie and Ken Bladen at the Four Fools club have asked me to include in the centre pages regular dates for their 'Slow and Steady' sessions and Concertina workshops. They appear to be regularly falling on the first and second Saturday of each month and they take place at the Eaves Green Community Centre, Lower Burgh Lane, Eaves Green, Chorley, PR7 3QG. The club has also changed its policy in respect of disclosing in advance who the special guests will be. No longer do you need to guess. This quarter they will be Damien Barber & Mike Wilson - 7<sup>th</sup> September, Len Graham - 26<sup>th</sup> October, and Steve Turner on 16<sup>th</sup> November.

### Artists

Now that the summer season is almost over, this coming quarter sees clubs and arts centre programmes becoming much busier. Some of the performers who have taken my eye this time around are: -

On 14<sup>th</sup> September at Folk at the Prospect that super Wirral based quartet Fiddlestone will appear and you can also catch them at the Hungry Horse on 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

Harry Priestman (new to me) who was a member of The Christians has been booked by Eric Cox for 23<sup>rd</sup> September at Biddulph Town Hall.

On the same night the iconic duo Martin Carthy and Dave Swarbrick appear at Runcorn's Brindley Arts Centre.

Jim Minall at Friends of Folk has made two interesting similar bookings when Joe and Ben Broughton will perform first at Preston Guildhall Foyer Bar on 11<sup>th</sup> September and at Liverpool's recently refurbished Bluecoat Chambers on 17<sup>th</sup> September.

As ever Anthony John Clarke has a number of gigs including his new CD launch on the 17<sup>th</sup> September at the Hungry Horse. Similarly, The Queensberry Rules from Stoke will promote their new CD on 14<sup>th</sup> October at the Biddulph up in Arms club.

Canada's, James Keelaghan appears at The Clarence on the 16<sup>th</sup> September and at Carlisle Folk and Blues club on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

The Doonans have managed to secure a single visit to the region on 8<sup>th</sup> October. At Stewart Lever's Lymm FC. Be careful when attending this club by the way as Stewart uses four different venues dependant on the type of promotion he is putting on, i.e. Lymm Tennis Club, Lymm Rugby Club, The Spread Eagle pub or The Saracens Head at Warburton.

The McCalmans agent has finally persuaded them to venture into English territory for a couple of gigs - at Parkgate on 29<sup>th</sup> October and at Gregson Lane the following night. You very lucky punters you. The 8<sup>th</sup> October and 13<sup>th</sup> November sees a John Martyn Tribute Night at the Pacific Arts Centre and at Carlisle Folk and Blues club respectively.

If you would like to see the whole Waterson Family performing together again then get along to the Philharmonic Hall in Liverpool on 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

Martin Wyndham- Read is in Blackpool on 2<sup>nd</sup> December at The Clarence.

An American duo - the Santa Cruz River Band that contains the brother of Country singer Linda Rondstadt, (Michael by name), will appear at Maghull FC on 3<sup>rd</sup> November and at Conwy FC on 16<sup>th</sup>, at Wrexham on the 19<sup>th</sup> and the following day at Pacific Arts Centre, Birkenhead.

The Tom Topping Band will be out and about again. 'Hurray' say I. You can see them at Wrexham on 5<sup>th</sup> November, the Hungry Horse on 19<sup>th</sup> November and at Porkies, Poynton on 4<sup>th</sup> December.

Keith Donnelly has teamed up with Gilly Darby and they call themselves Nothing by Chance. They are the November guests at the last named club on 6<sup>th</sup> November.

You may like to enjoy 'A night off with Peggy and PJ' at The Citadel, St Helens, on 7<sup>th</sup> November. They are of course Dave Pegg and PJ Wright (Little Johnny England).

Along with concertina wiz and comic Chris Sherburn, Bella Hardy is due to appear at Frodsham on 6<sup>th</sup> November and no doubt she will have her new CD 'Shadow of Mountains' available for purchase. It is a mix of some of Bella's favourite traditional numbers and some new self-penned material.

'Streets of London' man himself, Ralph McTell returns to the Pacific Arts Centre on 13<sup>th</sup> November. Finally on this section, Raphael Callaghan (of the blues duo Blue C) informs me that they have for the last year been running a blues session every Sunday afternoon between 1 and 4pm at the old fort at New Brighton - Fort Perch Rock. The venture (Blues on the Rock) has proved to be very successful and I have encouraged Raphael to register the club with this magazine so that he can regularly send me publicity through as to the programme there.



Should you wish to speak with Raphael you can contact him on 0151-709-5484.

## **Festivals**

Over the Whit Bank Holiday we attended as usual the brilliant Chester Folk Festival. We never miss a year at this excellent four-day Kelsall event that is so enjoyable. Of those artists we were able to see, we particularly liked – Quicksilver, Brian Peters, Chris Sherburn and Denny Bartley, Tom Napper and Tom Bliss, Bill Whaley and Dave Fletcher, Full House, Dan McKinnon (Canada) and Bill Caddick. We were a little disappointed with the set of Lau who we expected great things of. Brilliant instrumentalists but perhaps their material and patter was not everything for us. Having said that, I love Kris Drever's solo CD 'Black Water'.

The 4<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> June saw our own event, the "5<sup>th</sup> Wirral Folk on the Coast Festival" take place. What a fantastic weekend it was as well? As expected the first concert on the Friday night was a complete sell-out. The main guests being Show of Hands with Miranda Sykes. A standing ovation at the end for SOH was the prelude to a grand weekend with the other four concerts being almost sold out also. The only dampener was the poor weather on the Saturday and Sunday afternoons that cramped the style of some of the dance teams and other outside events. Feedback has been very positive since, so much so that next year's festival is already well into the preparation stage with the following acts booked to date - the New Rope String Band, Celtish - a wonderful band from South Wales, Clive Gregson, Chris Moreton, Bernard Wrigley, the Houghton Weavers, Garva, Cathryn Craig and Brian Willoughby, Dave Burland, Muldoon's Picnic, Graham Bellinger and the Deportees and a brilliant young bluegrass band, Chill until Blue. With many more acts to follow the 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> June 2010 is the date for your diaries. The venue – the same. The beautiful OC Club, Bridle Road, Bromborough.

In June we paid our second visits to the Traditions Festival at Chorley and the North Wales Blue Grass Festival, followed by a couple of days at Llangollen's Eisteddfod. We enjoyed the Traditions Festival with the intimacy of the small classroom venues. A load of amplified sound is not a feature of this 'all-on-one site' event that has superb facilities both for campers and caravanners and I recommend it to all lovers of the tradition. It is a haven of acapella singing and concertina playing. I enjoyed seeing Damien Barber and Mike

Wilson (of the Wilson Family) performing together. I did not know that Damien was such a brilliant guitarist, as well as a concertina player. Muldoon's Picnic is a young five piece acapella group who excel at presenting European music with wonderful harmonies. Similarly, the three-piece band Bryony produced some lovely harmonious ballads. Ingrid and Barry Noble we had not seen before and we were struck by their presence, Geordie humour and singing. Definitely a duo to watch out for again.

The North Wales Bluegrass Festival takes place in the scenic town of Conwy and again the camp site their is perfect being situated at the Conwy Cricket Ground. That wonderfully jovial couple Gill Williams and John Les (better known as Highly Strung) are the organisers. We were amazed at the talent of many of the artists, some of whom had been invited back from last year's festival. Chill until Blue are a young five piece band who amazed us with their instrumental expertise and singing. Shake the Roots (with bass player Lorraine Baker from Baker's Fabulous Boys) were worked very hard over the weekend and in fact were based alongside our caravan on the campsite. It was very nice to spend some chill out time with Lorraine and her husband Pete and our great friends Pat and Tony and Carole. It was particularly enjoyable to be able to sing together outside our caravan late on, on the Sunday night when most had drifted home. The following week we attended the Eisteddfod for the first ever time and found an excellent caravan site at Overton on Dee (The Trotting Mare site). We were drawn to the Eisteddfod (ten miles away) principally to see Barbara Dixon and her band. Barbara was just absolutely superb. As was her five piece band made up of Pete Zorn from Arizona, (who has backed Chris While and Julie Matthews in the past), Troy Donockley, Nick Holland, Russell Field and Brad Lang.

In fact the only thing I have to report that disappointed me this quarter was when Frank Lampard's left boot dispatched the winning goal past the Everton goalkeeper at Wembley. Needless to say the off switch on my TV was immediately executed as soon as the final whistle was blown. Ah well, perhaps next year we may win something?

Liz Rosenfield has stood down as the director of MFAB (Middlewich Folk and Boat Festival) and is now pleased to announce that she is going to

reintroduce herself to her family and friends and perhaps devote more time to herself than has formerly been the case. I am sure Liz needs to be thanked by all and sundry for the lead she has taken over the years in helping to make MFAB one of the best festivals in the region. Well done Liz and enjoy the extra elbowroom you will now have. You can always catch Liz and the gang at the Big Lock Inn in Middlewich every first Sunday of the month. Performers of all standards are cordially invited.

This quarter sees some very interesting festivals due to be staged including -- Fylde Festival – [www.fylde-folk-festival.com](http://www.fylde-folk-festival.com) - 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> September with the top names being Dougie Maclean and Eric Bogle. Bromyard Festival -- [www.bromyardfolkfestival.org.uk](http://www.bromyardfolkfestival.org.uk) takes place the following weekend – 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> September with Seth Lakeman and the Battlefield Band top of the bill. Angela and I are really looking forward to them and I strongly recommend you give them a try if you have never been before.


The Dukinfield Festival which was lined up to take place over the weekend of 24<sup>th</sup> to the 26<sup>th</sup> October will not take place as it has been cancelled for this year. The organisers hope to hold one in 2010. The Liverpool Working Class Music Festival will take place from 12<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> September at The Picket, Jordan Street, Liverpool. If you enjoy your folk music with an exaggerated political and radical flavour then get along. Visit <http://www.workingclassmusic.org.uk/> for more information.

If you are into guitars then the 21<sup>st</sup> International Guitar Festival <http://www.bestguitarfest.com/html/index.asp> will take place at the Pacific Arts Centre, and other venues in Birkenhead, between the 4<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> November.

Ali O'Brien, (formerly Saddleworth Festival director and now heavily involved with Oldham Community Radio) has come up with an idea that out there are some folk festival organisers who may wish to share their experiences with readers. As an organiser myself, I think it is a good idea. What do you think? You may wish to talk with anyone who you know is an organiser and perhaps bring Ali's suggestion to their attention. I would be only too pleased to add their script to this column or perhaps it could be published as a separate section in the magazine itself?

Unfortunately, I have to end on a very sad note as I have just heard that an icon of the Shanty World – Johnny Collins passed away suddenly in Poland recently. His great singing partner Jimmy Mageean circulated an email with many photographs of himself and Johnny performing in Poland not very long before Johnny passed away. The folk and maritime music fraternity is all the worse for losing such a wonderful performer. Our thoughts are with Johnny's family and friends at this time..

**John Owen**



**Young Acoustic Roots Competition**  
May 2nd 2010 at Wath Folk Festival

The BPAS Group presents a free opportunity for all musicians aged 12 – 21 years old. We just need a demo recording and all acoustic styles are eligible. Prizes for all finalists are subject to sponsorship. All the selected finalists will perform in the afternoon with the winners playing on the main stage at the festival's final evening concert.

Forms from:  
Pete Thornton-Smith at The BPAS Group t:(01709) 739093 e:pete@thebpasgroup.co.uk

Sponsored by:  
Wath Folk Festival "South Yorkshire's finest", The Music Room, The BPAS Group

## **Classified Ads**

Only £2.00 per 1/16 page

**Maximum of 1/16 per advert**

**For Private sales & wants, club adverts and artistes cards.**

**Send Copy by October 10th 2009**

**to:- John Webb**

**6 Chatsworth Avenue**

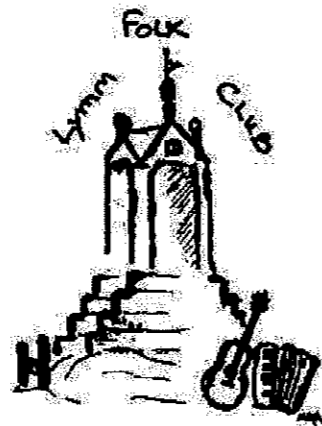
**FLEETWOOD**

**Lancashire FY7 8EG**

**Tel: 01253 876313**

**Email: chameleon-art@o2.co.uk**

# LYMM FOLK & ACOUSTIC MUSIC CLUB



Spread Eagle Hotel  
Lymm, WA13 0AG  
Lymm Rugby Club  
Crouchley Lane  
Lymm, WA13 0AT

[www.lymmfolkclub.org.uk](http://www.lymmfolkclub.org.uk)  
Thursdays 20.30 hrs - on the dot!

**(All performances at the Spread unless indicated otherwise)**

- 03 sep singers night £1 (lymm rugby club)  
10 sep celtish (£9/£8) (lymm rugby club)  
17 sep nancy kerr & james fagan (£10/£8) (lymm rugby club)  
24 sep steve ashley (£7/£6)  
01 oct isambarde £8/£7 (lymm rugby club)  
  
08 oct the doonans!!!!£10/£8 (lymm rugby club)  
  
15 oct singers night £1  
22 oct fil campbell (£7/£6)  
  
29 oct nelson peach (£6/£5)  
05 nov joseph topping (£6/£5)  
  
12 nov singers night (£1) (lymm rugby club)  
19 nov mick hare (£4/£3) (lymm rugby club)  
  
26 nov big spot: stuart warburton (£1)  
03 dec garva (£7/£6) (lymm tennis club)

**advance dates:**

10 dec xmas singers night £1 (saracens head, warburton); 17 dec anthony john clarke (£6/£5) (lymm rugby club)  
24 dec closed; 31 dec closed; 07 jan nick & lin tysoe (£5/£4) (lymm rugby club); 14 jan singers night (£1)  
21 jan kieran halpin (£8/£7) (lymm rugby club); 28 jan big spot: pat sherry & stuart douglas (£1)  
04 feb stewart lever (£5/£4) (lymm rugby club); 11 feb singers night (£1) (lymm rugby club); 18 feb jez lowe (£8/£7)  
25 feb singers night (£1); 04 mar roy bailey (£8/£7) (lymm rugby club); 11 mar big spot: rob white (£1);  
18 mar harvey andrews (£10/£8) (lymm rugby club); 25 mar singers night (£1)

**SAVE UP TO £2 WHEN YOU BUY YOUR TICKETS IN ADVANCE!**

contact/tickets: Stewart Lever 07919 270916  
stewart\_lever@yahoo.co.uk

[www.stewartlever.co.uk](http://www.stewartlever.co.uk)

# BROMLEY CROSS FOLK CLUB 2009/10

[www.bromleycrossfolkclub.org.uk](http://www.bromleycrossfolkclub.org.uk)

8.00pm Friday at **THE RAILWAY**, Bromley Cross, Bolton

37, CHAPELTOWN RD, BOLTON, BL7 9LY - OPPOSITE BROMLEY CROSS STATION

- Sept 4 Singers & Musicians Night – Free  
  
Sept 18 **Tom McConville & David Newey - £7**  
Great Geordie fiddler & singer with talented guitarist songwriter  
BBC Folk Musician of 2009 - [www.tommconville.co.uk](http://www.tommconville.co.uk)  
  
Oct 2 Singers & Musicians Night – Free  
  
Oct 16 **Craig, Morgan, Robson - £7**  
A new dimension to female acapella singing; beguiling harmonies  
[www.focsle.org.uk/SCoFF/CMR-harmony/home.htm](http://www.focsle.org.uk/SCoFF/CMR-harmony/home.htm)  
  
Nov 6 Singers & Musicians Night – Free  
  
Nov 20 **Bandersnatch - £7**  
Rich vocal harmonies with excellent musicianship  
[www.bandersnatch.org.uk](http://www.bandersnatch.org.uk)  
  
Dec 4 Singers & Musicians Night – Free  
  
Dec 18 **Pete Coe + Christmas Special - £8**  
Uniquely gifted as a terrific singer & accomplished multi-instrumentalist  
[www.backshift.demon.co.uk](http://www.backshift.demon.co.uk) to read about Pete and his music  
  
Jan 8 Singers / Musicians Night + 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday New Year Special- Charity Fundraiser  
  
Jan 22 **Steve Tilston - £8**  
Excellent singer songwriter & exquisite guitarist with flow and poignancy  
[www.steve-tilston.co.uk](http://www.steve-tilston.co.uk)



# GUINNESS Liverpool Irish Festival

16th October - 1st November 2009

## Sharon Shannon Big Band

With special guest **Damien Dempsey**  
and **Camille O'Sullivan**

Tuesday 20 October 7.30pm  
Philharmonic Hall, Hope Street  
£20, £23, £28

## Anthony John Clarke and Guests

Friday 23 October, 8pm

St Michaels Irish Centre,  
Boundry Lane off West Derby Rd  
Tickets £8 from St Michaels (0151 263 1808)  
or [www.liverpoolphil.com](http://www.liverpoolphil.com)

Belfast born and now based in Liverpool Anthony John Clarke is a singer/songwriter with an enviable reputation; "A National Treasure"... Fairport Convention  
For this show Anthony John will be supported by Bruce Scott and Brendan Fahey

## Martin Hayes and Dennis Cahill

Saturday 24 October 8pm

St Georges Hall Concert Room, William Brown Street  
£15

Irish fiddle player and Chicago born guitarist, Martin Hayes and Dennis Cahill, have reached almost cult status on the international music scene, with Hayes recognised as the finest player of his generation.

## Jinx Lennon + Captain Moonlight

Friday 30 October, 8pm

Static, Roscoe Lane

£8

Hailing from Dundalk Jinx Lennon is an 'in yer face' Punk Poet/Singer Songwriter who chronicles the underbelly of Irish contemporary society. For this show Jinx will be supported by Kilkenny rapper Captain Moonlight who manages to incorporate 'drinkin', ridin', hurlin', and politics' into most of his tunes! Strong language throughout. Not recommended for anyone under 14yrs.

## Liverpool Irish Festival's

### All Star Concert

Saturday 31 October, 8pm  
St Brides Church, Catherine St  
(entrance in Percy St)

£5

A Family Folk-up presentation

This year we welcome from Liverpool Chris Boland, John Murphy, Fiona McConnell, and Liam Murphy, and topping the bill superb duo Sam Proctor and Chris O'Malley supported by Des Hurley, Stevie Byrne and Tad Sargent - not to mention our hosts The Random Family. The atmospheric St Brides Church is a wonderful venue for this the last show of the festival. St Brides is not licenced but you are welcome to bring a bottle

## Traditional music and singing sessions

At the heart of our Festival is the music session where musicians, singers and story tellers get together to play and entertain, the sessions are open to all and will usually be free; you don't have to play anything just come down and enjoy the craic. This year we have invited Terry Coyne, Chris O'Malley, Sam Proctor, Des Hurley, Stevie Byrne, Tad Sargent, The Racker, Danny Cameron, Damien O'Kane, David Kosky and the cream of Liverpool's session musicians

Running throughout the Festival period starting with:

**Peter Kavanagh's, Egerton St**

Friday 16 October, 10pm, Free

**The Casa, Hope St**

Saturday 17 October, 10pm, £4 on the door

**The Rodewald Suite, Philharmonic Hall**

Friday October 23, 10pm, £2

**Peter Kavanagh's, Egerton St**

Saturday October 24, 10pm, Free

**The Casa, Hope St**

Sunday October 25, 2pm, Free

**Peter Kavanagh's, Egerton St**

Friday October 30, 10pm, Free

**The Rodewald Suite, Philharmonic Hall**

Saturday October 31, 10.30pm, £4 on the door

On stage spots and a final session and all round

knee's up as the Festival draws to a close.

All tickets available from [www.liverpoolphil.com](http://www.liverpoolphil.com)

For further information about the festival

visit [www.liverpoolirishfestival.com](http://www.liverpoolirishfestival.com)

## CLUB RESIDENTS (as on 18th July 2009)

**ACOUSTIC COLLECTIVE** -- Ann English, John Keighley, Geoff Monks, Paul Roberts, Pete Roberts, Jim Schofield, Jan & Pete Shevlin, Chris Turner, Linda Wild

**ACOUSTIC FOLK AT THE NURSERY** -- Lynn & Barrie Hardman, Dave Jones, Crumbly Fruit Cake, David South

**BACUP** -- Brian Eastwood, Helen Slater, Mark Almond, Pete Benbow, John Kearns, Barry Hardman, Rose, Ray

**BIG LOCK** -- Liz Rosenfield, Ian Murfitt, Stephen Dent, Iain Bowley, Jeff Mather

**BOTHY** -- Clive Pownceby, Steve Freedman, Pete Rimmer, Bill Hackney, Alison Younger, Chris & Siobhan Nelson, Ray Rooney, Nev Grundy, Bev Sanders

**BURNLEY** -- Korrigan (Dave Grimshaw, Alex Nearney, Keith Cocker & Paul Morris), Steve Cook

**BUSH ACOUSTIC** -- Dave Jones, Chris Morley, Christine Stephen, Steve Power, Marion Dennerley, Keith Northover, Frank Kenny, Tony Kirwin

**EARBY** -- Station Folk

**EVERYMAN** -- Chris & Hughie Jones, Shirley Peden

**FOLK AT THE MANOR** -- Gill & George Peckham, Roger Parker, Mike Hignett, Brian Lupton

**FOLK AT THE PROSPECT** -- Chris Hanslip, Carol & John Coxon, Eric Rafferty & Tony Toy

**FOLK ON FRIDAY (ex-Leigh)** -- Pauline Dowsett, Des Cooney, Julie Houlton, Steve Eckersley, Jim & Bernadette Heaton

**FOUR FOOLS** -- Pat Ryan & Ken Howard, Malc Gibbons, Geoff & Lindsay Smith, Gill Coyne, Tom & Ann, Angie Bladen

**FRODSHAM** -- Alton & Carol Alexander, Eric Rafferty, Stuart Baxter, Harry Leather, Syd Hayden, Jill Smith, Willie Gilmour, Pete Massey, Gordon Morris, Roger Bond

**GARSTANG UNPLUGGED** -- Pete Hardman, Caroline Lovett

**GREGSON LANE** -- Trouble at' Mill, Celtic Fringe, Smithereen, Caroline Lovett, Rob Kentel, Chris Lomax, John Poulton, Ken Kershaw, Jamie & Simon Blatchley, Mark Claydon

**HEATON MERSEY** -- Kieron Hartley, Mark Williams

**HUNGRY HORSE ACOUSTIC** -- Alison Parker & Jim Gallagher, Marie Nicholls, John Owen, Angela Owen, Sue Farley, Andy Eades.

**LONGRIDGE** -- Ron Flanagan, Brian Preston

**LYMM** -- Stewart Lever, Nick & Lin Tysoe, Bernard Cromarty, Nelson Peach,

**MAGHULL** -- Tony Gibbons, Loctuptogether, Joe Ryan, Jane Day, Bob Tyrer, Paul Robinson,

Kate Bradbury, Mark Miller, Graham Saggars, Tommy Dewhurst, Martin Blackmore, Robin Mason, FBI Blues

**NORTHWICH** -- Jamie Anderson, Brenda Yates, John & Ailsa Booth, Iain Bowley & Tom Francis, Bill Pook, Dave Ball

**PARKGATE** -- Eddie Morris, Bob Burrill, Buddy Woods, Mike Woods

**PORKIES** -- Dave Hughes

**PRESTON** -- Rob Malaney, Hugh O'Donnell, Tom Walsh, Dave Peters, Len Deevey, Nick Caffrey

**MIDWAY** -- Peter Hood & Linda Edwardes, Anne Yates, Peter Fox, John Ashurst, Ged Derby, John Keithly

**ROOM AT THE TOP** -- Mark Dowding and others

**SALE** -- Don and Heather Davies, Sue and Ed Bentham, Mick Hare, John Condy, Carl Corbett, Eric the Cockney

**URMSTON ACOUSTICS** -- Keith Northover, Joe & John, Martin & Mandy Kavanagh,

**WIGAN** -- Geoff Newman (Tuesday), Joan Blackburn (Thursday)

**WOODEN HORSE** -- Quartz, Loctuptogether, Back in Business, Mark Dowding

**WREXHAM** -- Offa

Please notify changes or additions via email to - [folksingerjohn@aol.com](mailto:folksingerjohn@aol.com)



	27TH AUGUST	3RD SEPTEMBER	10TH SEPTEMBER	17TH SEPTEMBER	24TH SEPTEMBER
Acoustic Folk at the Nursery		Singers Night		Singers Night	
Bury Met		Singers Night	ELIZA CATHY Singers Night		JOHN SMITH Singers Night
Chorlton	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians
Dabbers	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians			
Earby	JACK NEILL & CHARLIE HEYS			JOE & BEN BROUGHTON JEFF & VIDA	Singers Night
For Folk's Sake (new member)					
Friends of Folk @ The Bluecoat, Liverpool					
Garstang Unplugged					
Gregson Lane	Singers Night Special		HOWDEN/JONES		
Heaton Mersey	Singers & Musicians	HARVEY ANDREWS	Singers & Musicians	ANTHONY JOHN CLARKE (New CD Launch Night)	Singers & Musicians
Hungry Horse Acoustic		** Singers Night	** CELTISH	** NANCY KERR & JAMES FAGAN	STEVE ASHLEY
Lymm	BERNARD CROMARTY				MIKE SILVER
Parkgate	CHRIS WHILE JULIE MATTHEWS	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround
Wigan				ANDREW JONES & COLIN HENDERSON	
Wrexham					
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>28TH AUGUST</b>	<b>4TH SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>11TH SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>18TH SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>25TH SEPTEMBER</b>
Bollington	No programme supplied	Singers & Musicians		TOM McCONVILLE & DAVE NEWBY	
Bromley Cross					
Bury Met		Singers Night		JAMES KEELAGHAN TRIO GARVA	BERNARD WRIGLEY
Carlisle Folk & Blues					
Folk on Friday (ex-Leigh)					
Friends of Folk @ Preston Guildhall Foyer Bar			JOE & BEN BROUGHTON DEREK GIFFORD	Singers Night	"A POOR MAN'S HERITAGE" with ROY & MARY CLINGING DAVE RUSSELL & NEIL BROOKES
Frodsham	Singers Night				
Mr Kite Benefits @ Brudenell Social Club, Leeds				ELIZA CARTHY	CERI RHYS MATTHEWS & CHRISTINE COOPER
Northwich	Singers Night	TRIO THRELFALL	Singers Night	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians
Porkies		ALLAN TAYLOR Singers & Musicians			
Preston	Singers & Musicians	BERNARD WRIGLEY			
South Lake Music Promotion					
Southport Arts Centre				PRESTON REED	
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>29TH AUGUST</b>	<b>5TH SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>12TH SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>19TH SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>26TH SEPTEMBER</b>
* & ** Four Fools		Slow & Steady Music Session	Concertina Workshop		
Mr Kite Benefits @ St Bede's Club Clayton-Le-Woods			SAM BAKER with MADISON VIOLET MARTIN SIMPSON		
Philharmonic Hall					
Southport Arts Centre		DAVY ARTHUR BAND	MARITIME MUSIC CONCERT	NORLAND WIND	
The Platform					

NB: \* = Not the usual night \*\* = Not the usual venue

27th SEPTEMBER to 31st OCTOBER

(NB: Always check with organisers before travelling)

	27TH SEPTEMBER	4TH OCTOBER	11TH OCTOBER	18TH OCTOBER	25TH OCTOBER
Big Lock		Singers Night		QUICKSILVER	Singers Night
Bothy		SKYHOOK			
Bury Met			DEMON BARBER ROADSHOW		
Folk at the Manor		Singers Night	Singers Night	PHIL DRANE	Singers Night
Mr Kite Benefits @ St Bede's Club Clayton-Le-Woods			EILEEN JEWELL	SLAID CLEAVES	FRED EAGLESMITH plus THE GIN SISTERS
Philharmonic Hall					
Shamrock Promotions		LAU			
Wooden Horse		BOB FOX & BILLY MITCHELL BILL WHALEY & DAVE FLETCHER	Singers Night	Residents Night	Singers Night
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>28TH SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>5TH OCTOBER</b>	<b>12TH OCTOBER</b>	<b>19TH OCTOBER</b>	<b>26TH OCTOBER</b>
Backup	Singaround	closed	GEORGE BOROWSKI	No programme supplied	
Ciwb Gwerin Conwy	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	JOHNNY SILVO	Singers Night
Folk at the Prospect	Singers Night	Singers Night	KENNY SPIERS & JUDY DINNING	Singers Night	Singers Night
Four Fools	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night		LEN GRAHAM
Midway	No programme supplied				MARTIN SIMPSON
Room at the Top	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
Skipton Folk Unplugged	"Wake the Sleeping Dragon"	Singers Night	SARAH JONES	Singers Night	JON HARVISON
Swinton	No programme supplied				
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>29TH SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>6TH OCTOBER</b>	<b>13TH OCTOBER</b>	<b>20TH OCTOBER</b>	<b>27TH OCTOBER</b>
Acoustic Collective	SHAKE THE ROOTS	Singers Night	RUTH FUGA & KEN POWELL	Singaround	STEWART WARBURTON
Bush Acoustic	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround
Crown	Singaround	Singaround			
Everyman	No programme supplied				
Garstang Unplugged					
Longridge	Singers Night	COLUM SANDS	Singers Night	MARK DOWDING	Singers Night
Maghull					
Pacific Arts Centre	Singers Night	KARINE POLWART BAND	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
Philharmonic Hall			JOAN BAEZ	SHARON SHANNON BAND	1st Anniversary - Singers Night
Sale	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
Urmston Acoustics	Singaround	Singaround			
Wigan	Singaround	Singaround			
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>30TH SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>7TH OCTOBER</b>	<b>14TH OCTOBER</b>	<b>21ST OCTOBER</b>	<b>28TH OCTOBER</b>
Blidduph up in Arms		EMILY SMITH plus HARRIET BARTLETT	THE QUEENSBERRY RULES (New CD Launch Night)	CLIVE GREGSON plus STEPHEN FEARING	PETER & BARBARA SNAPE
Burnley	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	closed
Burnley Mechanics Clarence	DAVE WALMSLEY	NATASHA ATLAS & Mizekka Ensemble	BRIAN PETERS	Singers Night	
Coppull Folk	Singers Night	BRIAN WILLOUGHBY	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
Folk at the Norton (ex-ROBells)	MARIE LITTLE	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	DAVE DUCKETT
Garstang Unplugged	Singers Night				
Southport Arts Centre					
Ye Olde Vic					MICHAEL McGOLDRICK & friends

THURSDAY	1ST OCTOBER	8TH OCTOBER	15TH OCTOBER	22ND OCTOBER	29TH OCTOBER
Acoustic Folk at the Nursery	Singers Night		Big Spot - JIM SCHOFIELD		Singers Night
Bury Met				SHOW OF HANDS	MABON
* & ** Carlisle Folk & Blues	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
Choriton	Singaround	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians
Dabbers	Singers & Musicians	BRIAN PRESTON	ANGIE PALMER BAND	MUTED JAZZ	
Early	1st B'day with EMBER			FL CAMPBELL	NELSON PEACH
For Folk's Sake (new member)		Singers & Musicians			
Garstang Unplugged		JOHN MARTYN Tribute Night		UISCEDWR	THE McCALMANS
Gregson Lane	YARDARM	Singers & Musicians	Singaround		Singaround
Heaton Mersey	** ISAMBARDE	** THE DOONANS	"A POOR MAN'S HERITAGE" with ROY & MARY CLINGING DAVE RUSSELL & NEIL BROOKES	BARRON BRADY	SLAIDE CLEAVES
Hungry Horse Acoustic					HELEN WATSON
Lymm					Singers Night
Pacific Arts Centre					21st B'day - THE McCALMANS
Playhouse 2					Singers Night
Parkgate					** Singers Night
Wigan					Singers & Musicians
Wrexham	FYRISH	Singers Night			MABON
					NORMAN PRINCE & PAUL JOHNSTON
					31ST OCTOBER
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>2ND OCTOBER</b>	<b>9TH OCTOBER</b>	<b>16TH OCTOBER</b>	<b>23RD OCTOBER</b>	<b>30TH OCTOBER</b>
* & ** Biddulph up in Arms					SLAIDE CLEAVES (tbc)
Bollington	No programme supplied				CARA DILLON
Bromley Cross	Singers & Musicians	LANCASHIRE HOTPOTS			ANDY WHITE
Bury Met					NORMAN PRINCE
Carlisle Folk & Blues	JACK MCNEIL & CHARLIE HEYS	Singers Night	ROD CLEMENTS		HEIDI TALBOT & BOO HEWERDINE
Folk on Friday (ex-Leigh)			VIN GARBUTT		
Frodsham	COLLUM SANDS		Singers Night		
* Gregson Lane					
Mr Kite Benefits	EMBER	JAMES MCMURTRY BAND			
Northwich	THE WATERSON FAMILY	Singers Night	RORY McLEOD		
Philharmonic Hall	THE CHURCHFITTERS	Singers & Musicians	THE CELTIC TENORS		
Porkies	Singers & Musicians				
Preston					
Shamrock Promotions	ANGIE PALMER BAND				
South Lakes Music Promotion	JIM MORAY				
Southport Arts Centre					
The Platform					
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>3RD OCTOBER</b>	<b>10TH OCTOBER</b>	<b>17TH OCTOBER</b>	<b>24TH OCTOBER</b>	<b>31ST OCTOBER</b>
* Biddulph up in Arms					
Bury Met	Slow & Steady Music Session	Concertina Workshop			
* & ** Four Fools			ABBBIE LATHE & THE LOVELIES		
Friends of Folk @ Rose Theatre			JACKIE OATES		
Philharmonic Hall			"Water Aid" Cello - UNION STREET		
Playhouse 2			JOHNNY SILVO		
Shamrock Promotions					
Sale					
The Dome		MICHAEL MCGOLDRICK			BLAZIN FIDDLES
The Platform					

NB: \* = Not the usual night \*\* = Not the usual venue

1st NOVEMBER to 5th DECEMBER

(NB: Always check with organisers before travelling)

SUNDAY	1ST NOVEMBER	8TH NOVEMBER	15TH NOVEMBER	22ND NOVEMBER	29TH NOVEMBER
Big Lock	Singers Night	Singers Night	DAVE BURLAND	Singers Night	MARTIN CARTHY
Bothy	PEG LEG FERRETT			Singers Night	
Burnley Mechanics	HOUGHTON WEAVERS	Singers Night	JACQUE MACDONALD	Singers Night	Singers Night
Folk at the Manor			CHARLIE LANDSBOROUGH		
Philharmonic Hall					
Shamrock Promotions					
Wooden Horse					
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>2ND NOVEMBER</b>	<b>9TH NOVEMBER</b>	<b>16TH NOVEMBER</b>	<b>23RD NOVEMBER</b>	<b>30TH NOVEMBER</b>
Bacup	No programme supplied		ROBIN LAING	ASERE (Cuba)	Singers Night
Burnley Mechanics					30TH NOVEMBER
Clwb Gwerin Conwy	JEZ LOWE & the BAD PENNIES	Singers Night	SANTA CRUZ RIVER BAND	LAU	
Folk at the Prospect	Singers Night	Singers Night	ANTHONY JOHN CLARKE	Singers Night	Singers Night
Four Fools	Singers Night	Singers Night	STEVE TURNER	Singers Night	Singers Night
Midway	No programme supplied				
Room at the Top	Singers Night	Singers Night		Singers Night	Singers Night
Skipton Folk Unplugged	Singers Night	Theme Night - PEACE	SUE BURGESS & PAUL WRIGLEY	Singers Night	JANET RUSSELL
Swinton	No programme supplied				
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>3RD NOVEMBER</b>	<b>10TH NOVEMBER</b>	<b>17TH NOVEMBER</b>	<b>24TH NOVEMBER</b>	<b>1ST DECEMBER</b>
Acoustic Collective	Singers Night	PATCHWORK	JOLLY JACK	Singers Night	Singers Night
Bush Acoustic	Singaround	Singaround			
Crown	Singaround	Singaround			
Everman	No programme supplied				
Longridge	Singers Night		toa	Singers Night	Singers Night
Maghull	SANTA CRUZ RIVER BAND	Singers Night		THEA GILMORE	Singers Night
Pacific Arts Centre		Singers Night		Singers Night	Singers Night
Sale	Singers Night	Singers Night			
Urmston Acoustics	Singers Night	Singaround	Theme - LUKE KELLY night	Singers Night	Singers Night
Wigan	Singaround	11TH NOVEMBER	MARTHA TILSTON	Singers Night	Singers Night
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>4TH NOVEMBER</b>	<b>11TH NOVEMBER</b>	<b>18TH NOVEMBER</b>	<b>25TH NOVEMBER</b>	<b>2ND DECEMBER</b>
Biddulph up in Arms					
Burnley	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	KEVIN DEMPSEY	BOB FOX	Singers & Musicians
Clarence	CHRIS FOSTER	TIM LAYCOCK	Singers Night	OUTSIDE TRACK	MARTYN WYNDHAM-READ
Coppull Folk	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	DAVE PUGH	Singers Night
Folk at the Norton (ex-ROBells)	Singers Night	Singers Night		Singers Night	Singers Night
Garstang Unplugged			MARTYN JOSEPH	DUCK BAKER	
Pacific Arts Centre					
Ye Olde Vic					
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>5TH NOVEMBER</b>	<b>12TH NOVEMBER</b>	<b>19TH NOVEMBER</b>	<b>26TH NOVEMBER</b>	<b>3RD DECEMBER</b>
Acoustic Folk at the Nursery					
Bury Met					
Choriton	KARINE POLWART	Singers Night	GREICHEN PETERS	Singers Night	Singers Night
Dabbers	Singaround	Singaround	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
Early	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians
For Folk's Sake (new member)					
Garstang Unplugged			SAMSON & DELLIAH		
Gregson Lane	DES FRIEL		CARRIVICK SISTERS		
			Singers Night		DEREK GIFFORD

THURSDAY (cont'd)	5TH NOVEMBER	12TH NOVEMBER	19TH NOVEMBER	26TH NOVEMBER	3RD DECEMBER
Heaton Mersey	WELCOMME, FINNAN & CHRIMES	Singers & Musicians	WOODEN ROBOTS	Singers & Musicians	FIDDLESTONE
Hungry Horse Acoustic	JOSEPH TOPPING	** Singers Night	** MICK HARE	Big Spot - STUART WARBURTON	tbc
For Folk's Sake (new member)		GRETCHEN PETERS		THE DYLAN PROJECT	** GARVA
Lymm		BELLA HARDY TRIO		CATHRYN CRAIG & BRIAN WILLOUGHBY	
Mr Kite Benefits @ Bury Met		Singaround	SANTA CRUZ RIVER BAND	Singaround	Singaround
Pacific Arts Centre	TOM TOPPING BAND	"PRIVATE PEACEFUL" with COOPE, BOYSE & SIMPSON	20TH NOVEMBER	21TH NOVEMBER	4TH DECEMBER
Parkgate	6TH NOVEMBER	JOHN MARTYN Tribute Night	BANDERSNATCH	CHRIS JAMES	ALLAN TAYLOR
Rose Theatre		Singers Night		Singers Night	Singers & Musicians
Wigan		RALPH McTELL		MAWKIN:CAUSLEY	GRANT BAYNHAM
Wrexham		Singers Night		Singers Night	422
* & ** Biddulph up in Arms at Biddulph Town Hall		Singers & Musicians		Singers & Musicians	TOM TOPPING BAND
Bollington	No programme supplied	JOHN SPIERS & JON BODEN			Singers & Musicians
Bromley Cross	Singers & Musicians				tbc
Carlisle Folk & Blues	BELLA HARDY & CHRIS SHERBURN				
Frodsham	FLAXENBY				
Folk on Friday (ex-Leigh)	KEITH DONNELLY & GILLY DARBY				
Pacific Arts Centre	Singers & Musicians				
Philharmonic Hall	EMMA & the PROFESSOR				
Northwich	FAUSTUS				
Porkies	7TH NOVEMBER				
Preston	SATURDAY				
** Shamrock Promotions					
South Lake Music Promotion					
The Platform					
** Folk on Friday (ex-Leigh) @ St Joseph's Hall, Chapel St. Leigh					
* & ** Four Fools					
Pacific Arts Centre					
Playhouse 2					
Sale					
Shamrock Promotions					
The Citadel					
The Platform					

NB: \* = Not the usual night \*\* = Not the usual venue  
 Space in the next "Diary Dates Calendar" - Winter edition - of this magazine will cover the period - Sunday 22nd November 2009 to Saturday 6th March 2010.  
 Club Organisers/Venue Managers are asked to ensure information for this calendar is forwarded to folksingerjohn@aol.com by 18th October 2009.

## ADVANCED DATES FROM DECEMBER 2009

- ACOUSTIC COLLECTIVE**  
 Dec 1 Singers Night  
 Dec 8 The Hometowners  
 Dec 15 Singaround  
 Dec 22 Christmas Party  
 Dec 27 closed
- ACOUSTIC FOLK AT THE NURSERY**  
 Dec 10 Christmas Party  
 Dec 24 closed  
 2010 - Jan 7 Singers Night  
 Jan 21 Singers Night  
 Feb 4 Singers Night  
 Feb 18 Big Spot - Colin Todd  
 March 4 Singers Night  
 March 18 Singers Night  
 April 1 Singers Night  
 April 15 Big Spot - tba
- BIDDULPH UP IN ARMS**  
 Dec 11 Flossie Malavialle  
 Dec 13 Thea Gilmore @ Biddulph Town Hall (tbc)
- BIG LOCK**  
 2010 - Jan 30 Gina Le Faux & Dave Swarbrick
- BOTHY**  
 Dec 6<sup>th</sup> Singers Night  
 Dec 13 Sarah McQuaid  
 Dec 20 Christmas Party Night  
 2010 - Jan 3 Peter & Barbara Snape  
 Jan 10 Singers Night  
 Jan 17 Vicki Swan & Jonny Dyer  
 Jan 24 Singers Night  
 Jan 31 tbc  
 Feb 7 Dave Ellis & Boo Howard  
 Feb 14 Sara Grey & Kieron Means  
 Feb 17 (Thurs) Lizzie Nunnery - New CD launch
- BROMLEY CROSS**  
 Dec 4 Singers & Musicians Night  
 Dec 18 Pete Coe + Christmas Special  
 2010 - Jan 8 Singers & Musicians Night + 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday New Year Special Charity Fundraiser  
 Jan 22 Steve Tilston  
 Feb 26 3 Sheets to the Wind  
 March 19 Mary Humphries & Anahata  
 April 16 Emily Smith & Jamie McClennan  
 May 21 Belshazzar's Feast
- BURNLEY**  
 Dec 9 Ben Needham & Robin Petty
- CARLISLE FOLK & BLUES**  
 Dec 11 New Rope String Band
- CLARENCE**  
 Dec 2 Martyn Wyndham-Read  
 Dec 9 Singers Night  
 Dec 16 tba
- CONWY**  
 Dec 21 The Queensberry Rules (other dates - Singers Nights)
- FOLK AT THE MANOR**  
 Dec 20 Full House (other dates - Singers Nights)
- FOLK AT THE PROSPECT**  
 Dec 14 Sarah McQuaid

- March 28 Singers Night  
 April 4 Easter Special  
 April 11 Tich Frier  
 April 18 Irene Shettle with 'The life & work of Lucy Broadwood'  
 April 25 Singers Night  
 May 2 Dave Swarbrick  
 May 9 Singers Night  
 May 16 John McCormick (USA) tbc  
 May 23 Singers Night  
 May 30 tbc  
 June 6 Martin Wyndham - Read  
 June 13 Singers Night  
 June 20 Isambarde  
 June 27 Singers Night  
 July 4 Nancy Kerr & James Fagan  
 July 11 Singers Night  
 July 18 Anthony John Clarke

(other dates – Singers Nights)

**FOLK ON FRIDAY (ex-Leigh)**

Dec 5 Oldham Tinkers & the  
Ashton on Mersey  
Showband  
@ St Joseph's Hall  
Chapel Street, Leigh  
2010 – Jan 22 Harvey Andrews  
Feb 22 Anthony John Clarke

**FOUR FOOLS**

\*\* @ Eaves Green Community Centre,  
Chorley - NB: 2pm to 5pm  
Dec 5 Slow & Steady \*\*  
Music Session

**FRIENDS OF FOLK**

\*\* = @ Preston Guild Hall  
Dec 17 Steeleye Span \*\*

**FRODSHAM**

Dec 4 Grant Baynham  
(other dates – Singers Nights)

**GREGSON LANE**

Dec 3 Derek Gifford  
Dec 17 Christmas Singers Night  
2010 – Jan 1 tbc  
Jan 14 Singers Night  
Jan 28 Singers Night  
Feb 11 Don Helm  
Feb 25 Singers Night  
March 11 Tom Walsh  
March 25 Singers Night  
April 8 Alistair Hullet  
April 22 Singers Night  
May 6 Mooncoyn  
March 20 Singers Night  
June 3 Robb Johnson  
June 17 Singers Night  
July 1 His Worship & The Pig  
July 15 Singers Night  
July 29 Singers Night  
Aug 12 Singers Night  
Aug 26 Full House  
Sept 9 Singers Night  
Sept 23 Ken Nicol  
Oct 7 Singers Night  
Oct 21 Pete Morton  
Nov 4 Singers Night  
Nov 18 Peter & Barbara Snape  
Dec 2 Singers Night  
Dec 16 Singers Night  
Dec 30 Brian Preston

**HUNGRY HORSE ACOUSTIC**

Dec 3 Fiddlestone  
Dec 10 Singers & Musicians Night  
Dec 17 Christmas Party Night  
Dec 24 & 31 closed  
2010 –  
Jan 7 to Feb 11 Singers & Musicians Nights  
Feb 18 Allan Taylor  
Feb 25 Singers & Musicians Night  
March 4 Singers & Musicians Night  
March 11 Julie Felix  
March 18 Singers & Musicians Night  
March 25 Singers & Musicians Night  
April 1 Singers & Musicians Night  
April 8 Singers & Musicians Night  
April 15 Martin Carthy  
Sept 16 James Keelaghan  
Oct 14 Chris While & Julie Matthews

**LONGRIDGE**

Dec 1 Singers Night  
Dec 15 Christmas Bash

**LYMM**

\*\* = @ Lymm Rugby Club  
Dec 3 Garva @  
Lymm Tennis Club  
Dec 10 Christmas Singers Night  
@ The Saracens Head,  
Warburton  
Dec 17 Anthony John Clarke \*\*  
Dec 24 & 31 closed  
2010 – Jan 7 Nick & Lyn Tysoe \*\*  
Jan 14 Singers Night  
Jan 21 Kieran Halpin \*\*  
Jan 28 Big Spot –  
Pat Sherry &  
Stuart Douglas  
Feb 4 Stewart Lever \*\*  
Feb 11 Singers Night \*\*  
Feb 18 Jez Lowe  
Feb 25 Singers Night  
March 4 Roy Bailey \*\*  
March 11 Big Spot – Rob White  
March 18 Harvey Andrews \*\*  
March 25 Singers Night

**MAGHULL**

Dec 8 Gary & Vera Aspey  
Dec 15 Club Christmas Party  
2010 – March 2 Other Roads  
(ex-John Wright's Band)  
June 22 Shep Wooley  
Sept 7 Anthony John Clarke

(other nights – Singers Nights)

**MR KITE BENEFITS**

Dec 6 Kate Campbell @  
St Bede's Club,  
Clayton-Le-Woods  
Dec 20 St Agnes Fountain @  
Worden Arts Centre  
Leyland

**NORTHWICH**

Dec 4 422  
Dec 11 NB: Not at  
Harlequin theatre  
(other nights – Singers Nights)

**PARKGATE**

Dec 17 tbc  
2010 – Jan 28 Elbow Jane  
Feb 25 Pete Coe  
March 25 Mad Agnes

**PHILHARMONIC HALL**

Dec 10 The Shee

**PLAYHOUSE 2**

Dec 19 St Agnes Fountain  
2010 – Jan 29 The Hometowners with  
Tony Downes  
AGM with  
Special guest –  
Marie Little

**PORKIES**

Dec 4 Tom Topping Band

**SALE**

Dec 1 Singers Night  
Dec 8 Singers Night  
Dec 12 Christmas Concert with the  
Tom Topping Band  
Dec 15 Singers Night Christmas Party  
Dec 22 Singers Night  
Dec 29 Singers Night  
2010 – Jan 5 Singers Night  
Jan 12 Singers Night  
Jan 19 Singers Night  
Jan 23 Flossie Malavialle  
Jan 26 Singers Night  
Feb 2 Singers Night  
Feb 9 Singers Night  
Feb 16 Steve Knightley  
Feb 23 Singers Night  
March 2 Singers Night  
March 9 Singers Night  
March 13 Garva

March 16 Singers Night  
March 23 Singers Night  
March 30 Singers Night  
April 6 Singers Night  
April 13 Singers Night  
April 17 His Worship & The Pig  
April 20 Singers Night  
April 27 Singers Night  
May 4 Singers Night  
May 11 Singers Night  
May 15 Vin Garbutt

**SHAMROCK PROMOTIONS**

Dec 5 Ailie Robertson Band  
Dec 13 Jez Lowe Winter Almanac  
Dec 27 Swing Commanders

**SKIPTON UNPLUGGED**

Dec 7 Christmas Music  
& Traditions  
Dec 14 Stuart Douglas &  
Pat Sherry  
Dec 21 & 28 closed

**THE CITADEL**

Dec 5 Eliza Carthy  
2010 – Feb 6 Phil Beer Band  
March 20 Lancashire Hotpots  
April 17 Elbow Jane

**THE PLATFORM**

Dec 13 Tapestry of Music  
2010 – Feb 27 Donnie Munro  
March 13 Bernard Wrigley &  
The Oldham Tinkers

**WIGAN**

Dec 17 Christmas Party Night  
Dec 22 Christmas Party Night  
Dec 24/29/31 closed  
2010 – April 5 Easter Monday –  
Wigan Day of  
Folk 'n Verse  
2pm till late –  
Venue tba

**WOODEN HORSE**

Dec 13 Garva  
Dec 20 Christmas Party Night  
Dec 27 closed  
(other nights – Singers Nights)

**WREXHAM**

Dec 3 Allan Taylor  
Dec 17 Yardarm Christmas Party Night



# OBITUARIES

## Johnny Collins 1938 - 2009

Johnny died of heart failure on July 6th while on tour with Jim MacGeean and Pat Sheridan in Poland. I first heard Johnny sing at Christchurch folk club, Hampshire in 1972 while I was on a nearby archaeological dig. He impressed me with his big voice then and continued to impress me over the following years.

Johnny was Norfolk born and raised by adoptive parents. He joined the army not long after leaving school and while stationed in London he discovered the jazz and folk clubs in the West End. It was here he was to meet such influential performers as Diz Disley, Redd Sullivan and Alex Campbell.

It was Tony Foxworthy who introduced him to the English folk song tradition and in the early sixties, following a posting to Hong Kong, Johnny started and ran the folk club there.

Johnny left the army in 1968 and became a laboratory technician, a career he pursued until his retirement. By the mid-seventies he was developing a country-wide reputation and when I started the Dicconson Arms Folk Club in 1975 I booked him for one of his initial gigs in the North West. It didn't take long for word to spread of his stature as a fine singer, particularly as a chorus singer, and before long he was in demand as a guest at a number of North West clubs and festivals.

By then he had released two albums, 'Traveller's Rest' and 'Johnny's Private Army'. It was around this time he started singing with Jim Mageean and they developed their reputation for singing sea songs or, as Johnny called them, 'wet' songs to distinguish them from his wide 'dry' songs repertoire! Their big break came in 1983 when they won the 'Intervision Song Contest' in Rostock, (then in) East Germany. Following this during the 80's and 90s Johnny was in great demand at maritime events all over Europe sometimes solo or quite often with Jim. They released a joint album in 1996 called 'Coming of Age' marking 21 years of singing together.

He also toured the U.S. at this time and sang at the legendary Mystic Seaport in Connecticut as well as other prestigious maritime museums. He was the resident shantymen at Expo 88 in Brisbane, Australia and was the headline guest at the maritime festival in Wokum, the Netherlands for over 20 years.

He was a giant among the maritime fraternity both with performers and audience and will leave an enormous gap at shanty and maritime festivals throughout the UK and Europe.

Linking his passion for good food and drink, he also created and developed the 'Singing Chef' catering business which provided food at the Haddenham

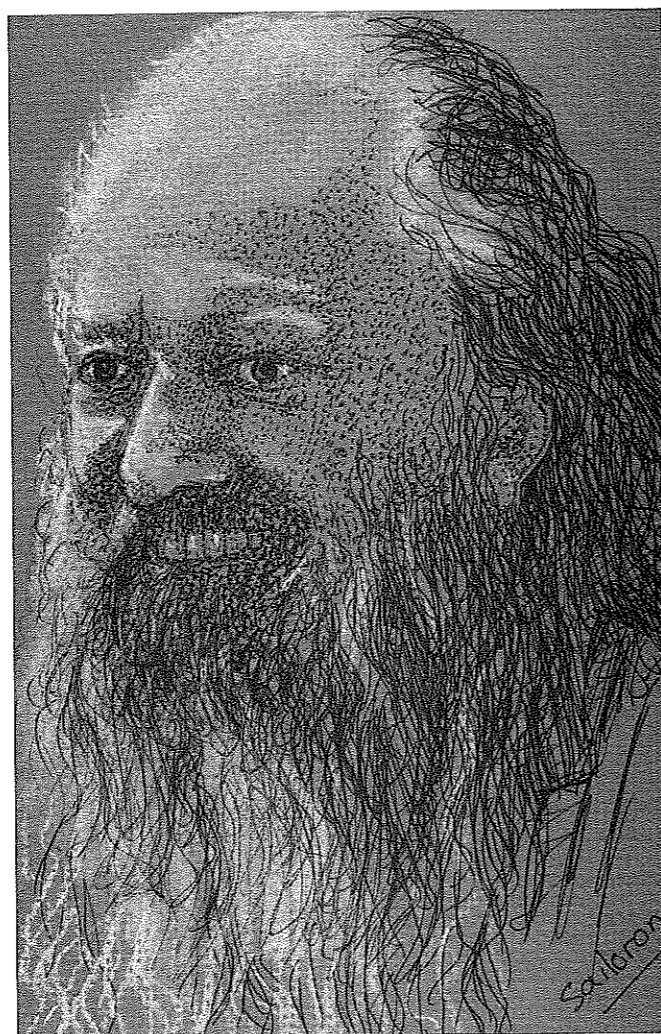
ceilidhs and other festivals and events for many years. A wide variety of wonderful meals and snacks were on offer, many items being Johnny's own creations. His sweet (and alcoholic!) pancakes were legendary.

Although Johnny will be remembered largely as a singer of shanties and sea songs he also had a very wide repertoire of other songs both contemporary and from the tradition. He could, when appropriate, reign in that big voice and sing something quiet and sensitive.

I have many fond memories of time spent in his company at home in Pinner with his partner Joyce and at various events around the U.K. but especially at the Whittlebury Song and Ale where we shared many stories and bottles of good wine in his caravan! He was always a warm and 'hail fellow well met' character with his 'Hallo old buddy' greeting and I will miss his friendship greatly.

Our sympathy goes to his partner Joyce Squires and his children from his earlier marriage, Carol and Michael.

'Giff'



Sketch of Johnny Collins  
by Ron Baxter ©

West by Northwest events present  
**Eric Taylor (USA)**

[www.bluerubymusic.com](http://www.bluerubymusic.com)

plus support

**Tuesday 29th September 2009**

The Parkside Hotel, 281 Bury Old Road  
Prestwich, Manchester. M25 1JA

Doors: 8.00pm Tickets: £10.00

Contact Stuart 07765 691429

[Stuartwarburton7@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Stuartwarburton7@yahoo.co.uk)

West by Northwest events present  
**Katy Moffatt (USA)**

[www.katymoffatt.com](http://www.katymoffatt.com)

plus support

**Tuesday 10th November 2009**

The Parkside Hotel, 281 Bury Old Road  
Prestwich, Manchester. M25 1JA

Doors: 8.00pm Tickets: £10.00

Contact Stuart 07765 691429

[Stuartwarburton7@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:Stuartwarburton7@yahoo.co.uk)

**WildGoose Records**  
www.wildgoose.co.uk

The Askew Sisters &  
Craig, Morgan, Robson

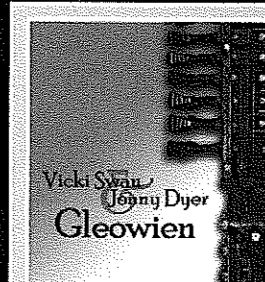


The Axford Five  
Songs collected by George Gardiner from  
the village of Axford, Hampshire in 1904

Roger Watson



Past and Present  
a long awaited solo album of songs  
and magnificent melodeon tunes



Vicki Swan & Jonny Dyer

**Gleowien**

Gleowien is a middle English word  
meaning to make music and merry.  
This album is dedicated to that,  
containing English traditional and  
Swedish pipe tunes and songs  
from Child Ballad to self penned,  
accompanied by a multiplicity of  
instruments both English and  
Swedish.

Folk for MS



Various Artists  
Celebrating 20 years of Folk for MS. All  
the tracks have been donated and  
profits go to Folk for MS.

a musical drama by Mick Ryan



The Navy's Wife

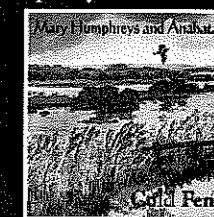
gives voice to those whose lives were  
shaped by the great drive to carve out  
Britain's canals, railways and roads.  
Mick Ryan, Paul Downes, Jackie  
Gates, Roger Watson, Judy Dunlop,  
Heather Bradford

Maggie Sand  
& Sandragon



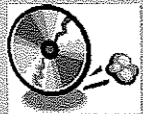
Susie Fair  
English traditional songs and  
hi-energy mediaeval tunes

Mary Humphreys & Anahata



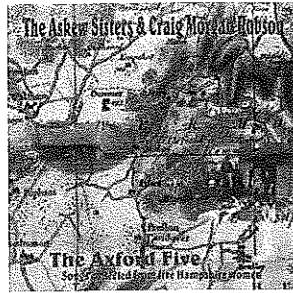
Cold Fen  
continues the mission to unearth local songs  
from the Fens and restore them to their  
performing repertoire

**WildGoose for English Music**



## The Askew Sisters & Craig Morgan Robson - The Axford Five

### Wild Goose WGS364CD



Now here's an interesting combination of performers, the superb instrumental talent of The Askew Sisters blending with the strong vocal harmonies of (Moira) Craig, (Sarah) Morgan and (Carolyn) Robson. They perform a collection of songs from Hampshire originally sung by Sarah Goodyear, Marty Munday, Elizabeth Randall, Charlotte Hall and Emma Hopkins who were known collectively as 'The Axford Five'. The songs were collected by George Gardiner.

There's a really rich mixture of love and loss songs, murder and mischief songs, and blatantly risqué material. There are versions of many well known songs here such as 'The Gypsy Laddie' (also known as the 'Raggle Taggle Gypsies'), 'Long Lankie' well sung by Moira with an effective simple fiddle accompaniment from Emily, 'Bold William Taylor' with an interesting tune, 'Lord Derwentwater', 'An Old man Came Courting Me' appropriately sung by young Hazel (!), 'The Lowlands of Holland' and 'Sweet Lovely Joan' which suits the fiddle combined with Gothic harp accompaniment from Emily and Hazel. Of these 'The Lowlands of Holland' is a memorable rendition with lovely harmonies from Craig, Morgan, Robson and Carolyn sings a classic version of 'Abroad As I was Walking' with an understated sensitive accompaniment by the Askews. 'Down the Lane' is a new song to me reminiscent of 'Abroad For Pleasure' and is well performed by Craig et. al. once again showing their penchant for great harmony singing.

The song 'He Was Under My Window' is new to me as it is, apparently, to the performers because as they say in the sleeve notes '...we have not been able to trace any other information about this song..' any ideas anyone out there?

They all join on the last track with a lively performance of the saucy 'The Trooper's Horse' rounding off an excellent album.

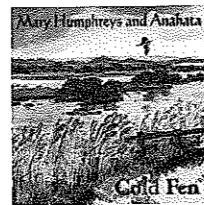
Doug Bailey has captured the voices and instruments perfectly as he always does and the accompanying

notes on the songs are as full and informative as you would expect from any Wild Goose production.

Derek Gifford

## Cold Fen - Mary Humphreys and Anahata

### Wild Goose WGS362CD



This is Mary and Anahata's fourth album and their second devoted to songs from East Anglia hence the title Cold Fen. There's nothing cold about this album though because it has a warm feel to it all the way through. Mary's singing is clear and melodic as always and their instrumental work is refined and very accomplished. Just as a reminder to the uninitiated, the instruments they play include English and Anglo concertinas, banjo, guitar (Doug Bailey's on this album!), melodeons, cello and smallpipes. All that talent and versatility is enough to make me envious!

They live in Cambridgeshire and are heavily involved in the club and sessions scene there when they're not out performing professionally. The songs and tunes have been researched from often from difficult to read original manuscripts from a variety of sources.

There are some interesting versions of songs that appear in other collections and, of these, I particularly liked the 'different' tunes to 'There is an Alehouse' and 'Valiant Sailor'. 'Young and Single Sailor' is a very different version of this interesting 'love token' song. Indeed, as Mary states in the sleeve notes, she believes that this version of the song has never been published. Mary sings it unaccompanied to great effect. Their version of 'Rosemary Lane' is particularly jolly with an added and very singable chorus and finishes things off nicely.

The tunes include 'Northern Lass' and 'Northern Frisk' which I particularly liked - after all they are from the north! It was also good to hear the Leicestershire smallpipes on 'Kempshot Hunt'.

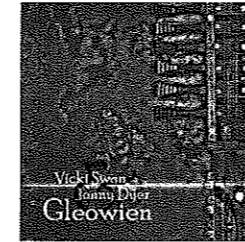
This is a valuable album for folk song and tune collectors in particular as well as being entertaining and pleasurable to listen to. Doug Bailey has the knack when it comes to recording these two and, as is usual with a Wild Goose album of this nature, the notes and background information on the material is erudite and comprehensive.

I wonder what they'll call the next one? They're running out of the 'fen' theme!

Derek Gifford

## Vicki Swan & Jonny Dyer - Gleowien

### Wild Goose WGS363CD



When I first read the title of this latest CD from Vicki and Jonny I thought it was a new way of spelling 'Gluwein' - oh good, I thought, this'll be a wino's album - just the job for me! It isn't of course, Gleowien is middle English for making music or to make merry. Ah well, at least I wasn't totally disappointed because this is an intoxicating album.

All the songs and most of the tunes are penned by Vicki and/or Jonny. Vicki plays Scottish smallpipes, Swedish nyckelharpa (a sort of keyed fiddle - don't ask!) and wooden flute while Jonny plays guitar, accordion and Swedish citra (a chorded zither) with both of them vocalising along the way. Mark Southgate adds bass guitar, Pete Flood percussion and Roy Jones bodhran effectively on some of the tracks.

Of the songs written by Jonny 'Follow Me Home' is very catchy and lilts along nicely and his riddle song 'William' is equally as good. The other songs are adapted from the Swedish and British traditions with one from a poem by Vicki's Great Great Grandfather called 'The 'Dood' Night Kiss'.

It is however, the tunes that feature most prominently on this album with the smallpipes and Vicki's Swedish influences very much to the fore. 'Fikavalsen' (Fika is the Swedish act of drinking coffee and eating cinnamon buns) written by Vicki is a lovely tune and 'Vintage Puget' which is the name given to a home-made red wine - I knew I'd find some booze in there eventually! - is another cracker. Jonny replies with 'Time Out' and 'Clattering About' on another track illustrating very well their joint talents as tunesmiths.

This album is so entertaining that I think it might just find its way into my car for a while as 'music to drive with'. Good stuff.

Derek Gifford

## BILL MALKIN- "Making Waves"



South African born Bill Malkin moved to Chester 15 years ago and has steadily been building a reputation for himself as a singer/songwriter of some quality. "Making Waves", is his fifth release on which he is joined by Chester based band, Full House and it covers many and varied aspects of life.

How do we really treat our fellow man? Especially when they are down on their luck, with compassion or do we simply carry on regardless.

If you stand out from the crowd are you penalised? If the answer is yes should you stand for it, individuality should not carry with it a stigma, the moral behind, "Tallest Tree".

The tragedy of, "Mary Ann", is followed by, "Expecting to Fly", as the past, present and future merge and the pace of life continues to quicken, how do we cope?

We are all familiar with waiting at a deserted railway station in the early hours of the morning for the train to arrive and it's at that point that the "Station Clock", becomes our best friend.

Why do people suddenly decide to leave a relationship? Maybe they are being manipulated by a third party or just feel they have lingered long enough, indeed, "Suzanne ( You Waited Too Long)".

We all long to be a free spirit and "Harmony" explains perfectly our individual longing.

"Riding for a Fall", tells how we all at some time in our lives set ourselves up, before our world comes crashing down and we start the process all over again. The flute on this track gives it a pleasant, mellow feel.

Something we are more than familiar with in this country is rain, "Let it Rain", in song, doesn't seem half as bad as in reality.

To many the outlaw, Jesse James was a cult hero and people in that era knew his worth dead or alive. In this case his autograph could be a passport to unforeseen riches.

"The Salford Sioux", paints quite a picture. Bill Cody's Wild West Show comes to Salford Quays, alongside the River Irwell. South Dakota decamps to the north west of England. It really is a song that conjures up a strange picture in the mind's eye, it demonstrates all too vividly the fine line between dreams and reality.

Magic mushrooms were a way of life for many during the 60's summer of love, when people chose to live in their own world to escape the reality.

"500 Horsemen", certainly has the mind harking back to those days.

This CD covers so many aspects of life both real and imagined. The twelve tracks benefit from a stellar cast of ten different musicians, all adding significantly to the final overall enjoyment.

Bill Malkin is a man with much to say and does it rather eloquently.

David Jones



[www.salefolkclub.co.uk](http://www.salefolkclub.co.uk)

**A New ACOUSTIC CLUB for SINGERS,  
MUSICIANS, POETS and LISTENERS**

**EVERY TUESDAY  
At 8.00pm  
and  
SPECIAL CONCERTS**

*August and September 2009 Summer Concerts Break - Singers' Nights as usual*

*Saturday 17 October 2009*

**JOHNNY SILVO**

*Saturday 14 November 2009 KENNY SPEIRS, JUDY DINNING and  
REAL TIME*

*Saturday 12 December 2009*

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT  
with THE TOM TOPPING BAND**

*Saturday 23 January 2010*

**FLOSSIE MALAVIALLE**

*Tuesday 16 February 2010 STEVE KNIGHTLEY from SHOW OF HANDS  
support RUTH FUGA & KEN POWELL*

*Saturday 13 March 2010*

**GARVA  
Celebrate Ireland's musical influences**

*Saturday 17 April 2010*

**HIS WORSHIP & THE PIG**

*Saturday 15 May 2010*

**VIN GARBUTT - The Teeside Legend**

**Contact - Don Davies 0161 432 4317 or [info@salefolkclub.co.uk](mailto:info@salefolkclub.co.uk)**

*Venue: United Services Club, Sale, Manchester M33 6HQ (Tel: 0161 2826668)*

**MARTIN SIMPSON - 'True Stories' (Topic Records TSCD578)**



When I think Martin Simpson, I think quality. 'True Stories' shows no reason for me to change my one track mind. For those familiar with his work, you'll be aware that recent albums have found him putting together English influences, his love of American music and a burgeoning skill for composing both instrumentals and songs. In that sense, 'True Stories' is the next stop on that track showing further development with a set of accompanists that reads like a who's who of the folk world.

The rolling 'Look Up, Look Down' opens up the record with support from, amongst others, Danny Thompson, Andy Cutting and BJ Cole. Most folk musicians would be chuffed to get just one of those fine players on board. Later, Jon Boden, Kellie While, Keith Angel and, of course, producer Andy Seward turn their hands to this work. Family is also an inspiration for Martin with daughter Molly behind the one of the instrumentals, 'Swooping Molly'. Martin also takes traditional songs like 'Sir Patrick Spens' and 'Lord Thomas and Fair Ellender' and delivers them with a lightness of touch that helps them shine. At the same time, he's happy to pick up an American traditional song like 'Stagolee' and deliver it with driving beat to close out the record and perfectly book end the aforementioned lively opener. Included between these are some of his own compositions like 'Home Again', 'Will Atkinson' and 'An Englishman Abroad'. These continue the song writing success of 'Never Any Good' which won best original song at the 2008 BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards. Just face it. Any self respecting folkie should be paying attention to this one, for sure

**Steve Henderson**

**NICK LOWE - 'The Brentford Trilogy' containing 'The Impossible Bird'; 'Dig My Mood'; 'The Convincer' (Proper Records PRPCD025)**



Hot on the heels of the double CD and DVD package, 'Quiet Please ... The New Best of Nick Lowe', there is a triple CD collection called 'The Brentford Trilogy'. Packaged into a slipcase are his albums 'The Impossible Bird', 'Dig My Mood' and 'The Convincer'. As the FNW review of the former package noted, Nick Lowe's career is characterised by two halves and this new package captures a period in the second half of his career. In particular, these albums are themed around Brentford where he has lived for some years and, in this period of 1994 to 2001, he was recovering from a marriage break up - giving an edge to the title of the first album of this trilogy, 'The Impossible Bird'.

These CDs chart his efforts to find a new sound after a time where he felt he'd lost the thread to his career. Looking to

some old friends, these albums track the transition from 'boozy and bloke-ish' music to one of soulful crooner. The music develops across the three albums as space is added for the songs to breathe. Early on, tracks like 'I Live On A Battlefield' hark back to earlier days with 'Shelley, My Love' hinting at the ballads to come. Of course, some tracks, like 'The Beast In Me', written for his then father-in-law, Johnny Cash, appears here and on the 'best of...' package. Later tracks like 'Let's Stay In And Make Love', 'Lately, I've Let Things Slide', etc show that a top songwriter can showcase the material in a variety of styles as it's the songs that count. For sure, there are a bunch of great songs here and the humour doesn't disappear despite the sad inspiration behind the trilogy. Fine examples of this are '12-Step Program (To Quit You Babe)', 'Has She Got A Friend?' and 'Time I Took A Holiday'. From the reader's point of view, this simply means that Lowe fans can get these three classic albums on the cheap. Those still to discover him can start with the 'best of...' set from earlier, or plunge directly into the gentler second half of his career with this set of CDs.

**Steve Henderson**

**STEVE EARLE - 'Townes' (New West Records NW6164)**



In 1995, Steve Earle said 'Townes Van Zandt is the best songwriter in the whole world and I'll stand on Bob Dylan's coffee table in my cowboy boots and say that'. They had met when Townes teased Steve Earle by heckling him to play 'Wabash Cannonball' at a concert and demanded that the folk singer sang this folk song. The response from Earle was to admit his ignorance of the song requested and to play a Van Zandt song note perfect. A firm friendship was established from then on. So, it's no surprise to find that Earle has turned out this tribute to the songs of his old friend.

Many of you will know 'Pancho and Lefty' which Willie Nelson made famous. To this, Earle has added other tracks that have regularly appeared in his own sets including 'Lungs' and 'White Freightliner Blues'. To preserve the spirit of these songs the basic vocals and guitar versions were recorded and come available as a second disc in the deluxe version of this CD. Alongside Earle's stage favourites he's added '(Quicksilver Dreams of) Marie', 'Rake' and others to make up a tidy fifteen tracks that capture some of the best Van Zandt songs. To that basic recording, some tracks add simple fiddle and banjo whilst others add strings to flesh out the sound. Elsewhere, on three tracks guest musicians including Darrel Scott and Tim O'Brien give a bluegrass touch to such as 'Delta Momma Blues'. The family get involved adding backing vocals with Alison Moorer on 'Loretta' and 'To Live Is To Fly'. Son, Justin Townes Earle, named after Van Zandt, is in there too on 'Mr Mudd and Mr Gold', the song that Earle played on his first meeting with its composer. Like Nick Drake, Townes Van Zandt's music has found a wider audience following his untimely death and this record goes to prove why that's the case.

**Steve Henderson**

## Music from a Small Island

Simon Mayor  
Folk & Roots CD Review - Acoustics  
Records



I'm reviewing this latest CD from Simon and Hilary wondering at the majesty of the mandolin and just how suitable it is in a 'mock' Tudor style. In the hands of a 'British' troubadour such as Mr Mayor particularly on the track "Rosebud In June" there is the refined beauty that you would expect and plenty more besides.

His arranging skills are without doubt some of the most thought provoking and intricately balanced pieces of musicianship you will experience and like other 'folk' artists of his ilk such as Alistair Anderson, Andy Irvine and Chris Newman his recordings should be required listening for any scholars of one of the most delicate instruments of the acoustic 'string' family.

The addition of Hilary's beautiful soaring vocals would give Maddy Prior something to think about and if I were to admit it I'd say it's probably the most scintillating track I'll hear this year!

Avoiding the stereotypes of a selection of Irish tunes, he opts for some Scottish melodies of which Scott Skinner's "The Laird Of Drumblair" shows his guitar playing is as gifted as his mandolin performance and the inclusion of "The Barren Rocks Of Aden" which I recognise as the street kids song "Ma, ma would you buy me a banana?" he doesn't slip up once.

This is the kind of recording that were it a piece of art it would happily hang alongside a Picasso. I can't think of a finer purveyor of the mandolin and with only a couple of our American cousins to nearly rival him, thank goodness he's British - Cushty!

Pete Fyfe

KIMBER'S MEN – In Port (A Private Label  
APL12)



Kimber's Men are something a little extra special... a shanty crew that everyone can enjoy! Consisting Joe Stead, Neil Kimber, Dave Buckley, Gareth Scott and John Bromley the 'Men' all have fine voices each as good as each other and then there's that resonant bass ringing masterfully at the end of "Fire Marengo". Captured live in concert by Tony Bottomley this handsomely packaged double album is a true testament highlighting how powerful good shanty singing can be... full of passion but with plenty of warmth. The sailor's life is not always a happy one and of course the tragedies and tribulations, conveyed in the lyrics of Bill Meek's "Harry Eddom" and Neil & Roz Kimber's "Don't Take The Heroes" show that this particular style of song will echo through the ages unlike the pap that purports to be popular music nowadays. Now, I don't quite know what it is but the performance of "God Moves On The Water" led brilliantly by Gareth Scott brings to mind how Martin Simpson might sound with a shanty crew and trust me... that's a compliment. On a more optimistic note, Joe Stead & Pete Seeger's poignant "Darkest Before The Dawn" is the kind of ballad that encapsulates the thoughts of sailors and better days to come whilst familiar rousing choruses including "Blow Boys Blow" and "Leave Her Johnny Leave Her" coupled with strong contemporary story-telling this is an album that more fully satisfies than most in a year that has seen the passing of Johnny Collins (another great shanty singer) and couldn't have come at a better time. If you do purchase the album (and I sincerely hope you will!) at the very reasonable cost of £15.00 that includes a donation to the RNLi don't be confused by the unconventional track listing on the back sleeve. It's just there so that you can skip the introductions if you want to. Glorious stuff!

WW.JOESTEAD.COM

PETE FYFE  
Sunday, August 09, 2009

# Ingleton Folk Weekend

Friday 2nd - Sunday 4th October 2009

## The McCalmans

Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 8.00 pm Tickets £12

## Festival Ceilidh

Hosted by Mooncoyn with special guests Curragh Sons  
Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 8.00pm Tickets £8.50 – includes pie & peas supper

Tickets available from the Ingleborough Community Centre. Postal applications should be sent to:  
Ingleborough Community Centre, Ingleton, via Carnforth, N.Yorkshire LA6 3HG  
Please mark envelope 'Folk Weekend' enclose a cheque payable to IDTA and a stamped self addressed stamped envelope.  
Box Office Telephone 015242 41701

### ALL OTHER EVENTS ARE FREE

in a host of venues in and around the village – no tickets required!

Sessions	Workshops	Kids Entertainment
Open Air Songs of Praise	Street Entertainment	Comic Song Competition
A Big Sing	Dancers	Morris
	<i>plus live music from</i>	
Keith Donnelly	Jeff Wright	Peter Taylor
Bill Lloyd	Blind Summat!	Panikatak Lava
Michelle Holding	PolskaPal Band	The Duncan McFarlane
Malkin	Peter & Barbara Snape	Jiva Chris Milner
Phil Graham	Aikens Drum	Hard Times Cartouche
Trim Rig and a Doxy	Delta Maid	Limestone
	Cowboys	

Check out our website [www.ingletonfolk.co.uk](http://www.ingletonfolk.co.uk) for up to date information or phone 015242 41049 to receive a full Programme of Events.

The Ingleton Folk Weekend is supported by:  
Folkus Ingleton Parish Council Craven District Council Dent Folk Festival  
Hanson Aggregates Bibby's Coaches Black Sheep Brewery



I, like many other Steeleye Span fans have been waiting with great anticipation for this seasonal offering from the band. Starting with a hugely enjoyable 'First Nowell' there is the swooping, riff laden violin of Peter Knight crossing swords with Ken Nicol's crashing guitar chords which coupled with Liam Genockey's drums, Rick Kemp's bass and Maddy Prior's glorious vocals you have the band at their rocking best. The second track 'Down In Yon Forest' will have the traditionalists coughing into their porridge, as the melody is a waltz re-working of an already established tune (I may be wrong but I think it's The King Of The Fairies). Now this is something that has become something of a trademark for the band - creating stunning settings utilising familiar traditional tunes to accompany lyrics that sound as if they shouldn't be there. Of course, this could alienate those of a delicate disposition but for the more adventurous it is classic Steeleye. The title track 'Winter' is a beautiful, almost solemn composition by Mr Knight and by clever use of multi-tracking shows that he has lost none of his edge when it comes to producing audio pleasurable delights that may seem quirkily at odds within the setting of the band. Talking of genuine oddities, the style police might have a thing or two to say about the Pogues/Status Quo style treatment given to that hoary old chestnut 'Good King Wenceslas'. It's bold and brash and (if you treat it in the jokey way it's intended) would give even Slade a run for their money! But don't worry it's only on the one track and if you really want to be stunned by an arrangement listen to 'In The Bleak Midwinter'. Peter excels himself with a performance that proves an emotive tour de force crowned by Maddy's wonderful voice. What a great start to Christmas!

Pete Fyfe



There's one thing you can rest assured of in this world - bacon and eggs in the morning (Johnny Jones where are you?) - and quality music from Dave Swarbrick and Simon Nicol. Talking of which Darren from folkong.com phoned the other day to say the duo were playing a re-union at their old stomping ground the Half Moon, Putney. Thanks for the message but it was a little late! So on the other hand I'll just have to sit here and wallow in self-pity as I listen once again to the strains of 'The Humours Of Cappa', 'The Widow Of Westmorland's Daughter' and 'The Poor Ditching Boy'. For those obsessive completists out there (and I can count myself amongst them) will be salivating at the mere mention of an acoustic outing for 'Matty Groves'. OK, I suppose there are so many times you can soak up sponge-like the amount of times you can listen to the same track with a critical ear but when it sounds as fresh as this, who cares? I remember the first time I heard Simon and Dave performing 'John Barleycorn' at a college in London along with the Tiplers Tale line-up of Fairport and thinking what a nice, uncomplicated arrangement it was full of the 'cheeky-chappie' bon homie that was so much the band's trademark at the time. The final mention must go to the Isle of Man set of tunes, which never once let's up the pace in 12 minutes. For those of us that have had the pleasure of seeing them live (maybe you could let me know sooner next time Darren?) the album is full of everything you could want. For those that haven't seen them live go and stand in the corner of the room and write 100 times - I will buy this CD! For copies of the CD contact: [www.alexlyons.co.uk](http://www.alexlyons.co.uk)

Pete Fyfe

## BOOK REVIEW

### DIRECT ROOTS 2

"Mrs Casey Publications"

Now, it'll come as no surprise to those that know me that I have always felt that a directory is a reference source and should be just what it says on the cover. I don't mean to be churlish but 'The White Book' has to be the UK music industry bible in as much that it provides what it says - a directory of contacts in the business - pure and simple. By that I mean that it is a record of just addresses of contacts and nothing else (apart from the advertising boxes).

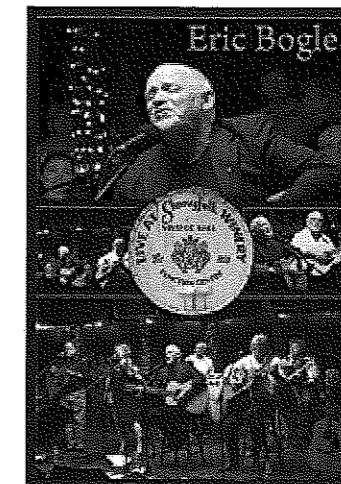
I will therefore try to approach this review with an open mind. Direct Roots 2 is a book of contacts that includes pages of useful hints in editorial format with a focus on educating the reader in the art of say. how to run a folk club/stage management and the role of the MC. etc. Now I'm not saying this isn't worthwhile but surely it would be better to produce a separate 'book' with this kind of information? I would like to point out at this stage that every article is relevant to anyone in the business and that I found them all interesting (particularly the Show Of Hands piece) but unfortunately I found it all a bit distracting. Distractions apart, the contents are well laid out and include categories ranging from Artists, Agents, Venues and Festivals through to Organisations and Services. OK, so whatever my reservations, Alan Bearman, has to be wildly applauded for at least getting the product out there and in my mind I don't think we could find a better ambassador for the music he so obviously loves. Another round of applause goes to designer Brian Ledgard, who never puts a foot wrong. Take my word for it (whatever reservations I may have) if you are in the business of 'folk' you cannot afford to be without a copy of this impressive tome.

Pete Fyfe

## DVD REVIEWS

### Eric Bogle Live At Stonyfell Winery (Greentrax Recordings DVTRAX2022)

review by Pete Fyfe



What better way than to celebrate his 'retirement' from performing in the UK than a DVD by singer - songwriter Eric Bogle. A visual record of Eric along with trusted sideman of many years John Munro (guitars, mandolins), Emma Luker (fiddle), Hastings own Pete Titchener (guitar), Damien Steele-Scott (electric bass)

and Jon Jones (percussion) this recording proves an ideal souvenir for everyone out there who has enjoyed this proud Australian/Scot's words and music over the years. The photography is first class with crystal clear close-ups of digital dexterity from the musicians and plenty of head and shoulder shots of the man himself. In amongst the 21 tracks are favourites including "Now I'm Easy", "No Man's Land" and the towering "The Band Played Waltzing Matilda". Bogle would appear to be a very contented individual according to his observations in the interview section and, whether he likes it or not, as Munro points out he will leave this planet with a legacy of some of the finest 'folk' music ever written. Recording engineer Mick Wordley and director Corey Piper are to be roundly applauded for capturing a concert that is full of warmth and humour and is a vital record for those of us that were unable to attend any of Eric's 'final' tour of the UK. Further information from Greentrax Records at [www.greentrax.com](http://www.greentrax.com)

PETE FYFE

Sunday, August 09, 2009

## Pete Seeger Live in Australia 1963

(Publisher Acorn Media)

review by David Bowling 9th August 2009



So how old is Pete Seeger? He's so old that Eleanor Roosevelt did not like his music while her husband, President Franklin Roosevelt, was sure no one would listen to it. He's so old that he was blacklisted during the McCarthy era. He's so old that he actually wrote the anti-war song "Where Have All The Flowers Gone."

Pete Seeger will turn 90 on May 3rd and is now the grand old man of folk music. He was a member of the legendary folk group The Weavers and the Almanac singers before that. He has played with everyone from Woody Guthrie to Bob Dylan to Leadbelly (or Lead Belly). The cream of American folk music will gather in Madison Square Garden next month to celebrate his birthday.

Pete Seeger has always been consistent in his anti-war positions, his support of environmental causes, and as a performer and advocate of traditional folk music.

*Live In Australia 1963* finds Seeger at a transition point in his career. He had just emerged from years of persecution by The American Government and his social and anti-Vietnam War activity was in the future. He had embarked on a world tour and the core of this DVD is his 1963 performance at the Melbourne Town Hall. It should be required viewing for anyone who has even the slightest interest in the history of American music.

The concert itself may seem simplistic today and granted it is from another era. While such songs as "A Hard Rain's A-Gonna Fall" and "If I Had A Hammer" are included; it is the simple folk songs of America and other countries that dominate his performance. "Skip To My Lou," "Pretty Polly," "Down By The Riverside," "Kum Ba Ya," "Michael, Row The Boat Ashore," and "I Will Never Marry" among others are brought to life by Seeger and give hints of their importance to American culture.

Seeger was a concert master. He would usually perform solo with only his guitar or banjo to support his voice. He would constantly lead sing-alongs with the audience. What would continually come through was his commitment and passion for his craft.

The bonus material was probably worthy of its own DVD. "Two Links In The Chain: The Story Of Leadbelly" was recorded in Sydney in September of 1963. He intersperses his performing the songs of Leadbelly with rare archival footage. Three songs, performed by Leadbelly, are presented. The liner notes state that these are the only known live performances by him that are known to exist. I have been a folk aficionado for a long time and I am sure I had never seen a performance. He performs "Pick A Bale Of Cotton," "The Grey Goose," and "Take This Hammer," with just his 12 string guitar. It is a rare look into the sound of the southern cotton fields that formed part of the foundation for American folk and blues music.

Equally interesting is the short film about Australian bush singer Duke Tritton which explores the musical roots of Australia.

The DVD has excellent sound and picture, especially for 1963 Australia. There is a very informative booklet that gives some nice background material about the concerts and bonus material.

*Live In Australia 1963* by Pete Seeger would make a fine addition to any music collection as it presents and explores a too often forgotten form of American music by one of its masters.



## "HUNGRY HORSE FOLK CLUB"

[www.hungryhorseacoustic.com](http://www.hungryhorseacoustic.com)

EVERY THURSDAY -- 8-15pm start at

The Rake, Rake Lane, Little Stanney, near Chester, CH2 4HS

Tickets ring:- 0151-678-9902 or 07981-639-336



SEPTEMBER		
3rd	HARVEY ANDREWS	£7-00
17th	ANTHONY JOHN CLARKE -- New CD Launch (+ Vocal Point)	£7-00
10th & 24th	Singers & Musicians Nights	free
OCTOBER		
1st	YARDARM	£6-00
15th	BRAM TAYLOR - (+ Vocal Point)	£6-00
8th/22nd/29th	Singers & Musicians Nights	free
NOVEMBER		
5th	WELCOMME, FINNAN & CHRIMES	£6-00
19th	TOM TOPPING BAND - (+ Vocal Point)	£8-00
12th & 26th	Singers & Musicians Nights	free
DECEMBER		
3rd	FIDDLESTONE	£6-00
10th	Singers & Musicians Night	free
17th	XMAS PARTY NIGHT	free
24th & 31st	closed	
2010 - JANUARY		
7th/14th	Singers & Musicians Nights	free
21st/28th	Singers & Musicians Nights	free
FEBRUARY		
4th & 11th	Singers & Musicians Nights	free
18th	ALLAN TAYLOR - (+ Vocal Point)	£7-00
25th	Singers & Musicians Night	free
MARCH		
4th	Singers & Musicians Night	free
11th	JULIE FELIX - (+ Vocal Point)	£9-00
18th & 25th	Singers & Musicians Nights	free
APRIL		
1st & 8th	Singers & Musicians Nights	free
15th	MARTIN CARTHY - (+ Vocal Point)	£8-00
22nd & 29th	Singers & Musicians Nights	free
Ticket Hotline -- 0151-678-9902		

## ARTICLES

### A Few More Thoughts on Political Songs – and Ewan MacColl

In my piece about political / protest songs a couple of issues ago, I more or less started with the Bob Dylan era in the 1960s, probably because that was when I first found out about folk clubs.

The history of “politics and folk” obviously goes back as long as people have been singing, but I’ve recently been looking at the first stirrings of the folk revival in the 1950s, and read an excellent new biography of Ewan MacColl (“Class Act”, published by Pluto Press ISBN-10 0 74532168 8) by Ben Harker, who is a lecturer in English and Cultural Studies at the University of Salford (and also a skilful and sensitive musician who has played at our club with his partner Emily Weygang).

MacColl’s reputation of one of our finest songwriters is unassailable, with the politics never far behind. From his first major composition “The Manchester Rambler” onwards, with overtly “protest” songs such as “Ballad of Accounting” and “The Father’s Song” to material more reflective of working class life such as “Shoals of Herring” his songs are still among the most performed on the folk scene.

One point highlighted in the book is that a number of the “later” songwriters such as Bob Dylan held Ewan MacColl in high regard – however the feeling wasn’t mutual; as Ben Harker says in the biography “... *MacColl harboured irrational animosity for Bob Dylan ...*”. In fact MacColl’s hatred of any “pop” music was legendary, dating back to when he (and A L Lloyd) were leading lights in the Communist Party, who saw folk song as part of the greater class struggle. They shared the view that the popular music at that time was a form of American imperialism that alienated the British working class from their true roots. Even today on the folk scene there are those who would have some sympathy with this view, but it is unlikely that many would go so far as the Party Line that “... *on one side was the decadent bourgeoisie of America with its corrosive imperialistic culture; on the other the progressive cultures of the international proletariat, with the Soviet Union in the vanguard ...*”.

Those of us in our late teens / early twenties just discovering the folk scene never even thought about issues like this. The first folk club I ever went to was in Oldham (Highfield and Park Inn on Waterloo Street – anyone remember it?), and we knew that the organisers were Communist party members.

It was brought home to us when one of them got his picture on the front page of the local paper, shaking his fist at the platform in an angry demonstration against an Oswald Mosley fascist rally in the town. We sixth formers found it different and rather exciting to meet people of our parents’ generation who were what would now be described as a bit “alternative”. The Party Line was mentioned, but never really pushed at a local level and most of us followed the Beatles and Stones etc., but also were getting into protest songs by Bob Dylan (acoustic – this was 1963) and Tom Paxton. They seemed to be just taking the idioms of American music and reworking it in their own style.

To most people, MacColl’s best-known composition is “The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face” which was “... *dashed off in a warm glow of lovesickness and whisky in 1957 ...*” and was a number one hit for soul singer Roberta Flack in 1972 / 73. Even Elvis covered it, but MacColl and Peggy Seeger continued to consign most pop covers of their songs to their “Chamber of Horrors” file. However it did give them the financial security to concentrate on what they really believed in.

The 1984/85 miners’ strike revitalised MacColl’s political songwriting. In March 1984 he hadn’t written a song for two years, but he produced six in the first four months of the strike, such as “Daddy what did you do in the Strike?” and attacks on the police with lines like “... *remember the chap in the comical hat is one of humanity’s crosses / whenever there’s trouble, whenever there’s struggle, he’ll be on the side of the bosses ...*”.

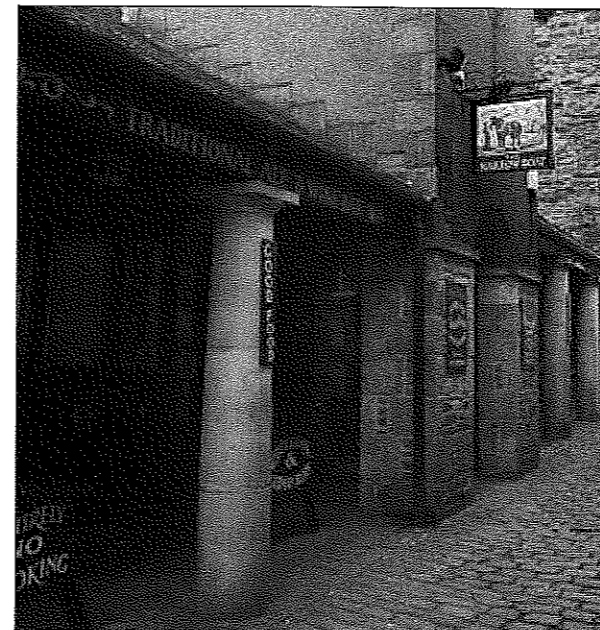
MacColl’s attitude towards pop music finally mellowed in the 1980s after contact with the next generation of political singers such as Billy Bragg, via his daughter Kirsty. Peggy Seeger remarked that Billy Bragg reached a far larger political audience than she and Ewan had ever done. As Ben Harker points out “... *his disapproval of pop music was now in terms of personal preference rather than political rectitude ...*”.

Ewan MacColl died in 1989. During his life he was often criticised for being authoritarian, irascible and narrow-minded, but twenty years later his reputation is of a master songwriter who left so many fine compositions for us on the folk scene to sing, listen to and enjoy.

**Paul Reade - July 2009**

## CLUB NEWS

### "Skipton Folk Unplugged"



#### Gig list:-

- Sep 7 Singers
- Sep 14 Allan Taylor
- Sep 21 Singers
- Sep 28 "Wake the sleeping dragon"
  
- Oct 5 Singers
- Oct 12 Sarah Jones
- Oct 19 Singers
- Oct 26 Jon Harvison
  
- Nov 2 Singers
- Nov 9 Theme night - Peace
- Nov 16 Sue Burgess & Paul Wrigley
- Nov 23 Singers
- Nov 30 Janet Russell
  
- Dec 7 Christmas Music & Traditions
- Dec 14 Stuart Douglas & Pat Sherry
- Dec 21, 28 Closed - season's greetings!

Contact details:

For information on the folk club, bookings requests etc, please ring Sheila on **01535 665889**

or

Paul on **01282 426859**.

### HEATON MERSEY SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

Thurs 16th July - Geoff Higginbotham  
Thurs 20th August - Lou (guitarist)  
Thurs 17th September - CrazySane  
Thurs 22nd October - Muted Jazz  
Thurs 19th November - Wooden Robots

**Harwood Road  
Heaton Mersey  
Stockport  
Cheshire, SK4 3AW  
Tel: 0161 432 0279**

### FLEETWOOD FOLK CLUB

#### 40th ANNIVERSARY PARTY

Over the month of October 2009 a special programme to celebrate the club's 40th Anniversary.

Meets every Thursday at 8.80 pm at

**STEAMER HOTEL  
1 QUEENS TERRACE  
FLEETWOOD LANCASHIRE**

Contact Mike France 01253 876313 for details.

Please contact the editor with any details for club lists, articles, live reviews, CD reviews etc. or any advertising matter by email at

[chameleon-art@o2.co.uk](mailto:chameleon-art@o2.co.uk)

## STOP PRESS

### Mike Seeger

August 15, 1933 – August 7, 2009

He was a distinctive singer and an accomplished musician who played auto-harp, banjo, fiddle, dulcimer, guitar, mouth harp, mandolin, and dobro. Seeger, a half-brother of Pete Seeger, produced more than 30 documentary recordings, and performed in more than 40 other recordings. He desired to make known the caretakers of culture that inspired and taught him.

#### Family and early life

Seeger was born in New York and grew up in Maryland and Washington D.C. His father, Charles Louis Seeger Jr., was a composer and pioneering ethnomusicologist, investigating both American folk and non-Western music. His mother, Ruth, was a composer His eldest half-brother, Charles Seeger, was a radio astronomer, and his next older half-brother, John Seeger, taught for years at the Dalton School in Manhattan. His next older half brother is Pete Seeger. His uncle, Alan Seeger, a poet, was killed during the First World War. His sister, Peggy Seeger, also a well-known folk performer, was married for many years to British folk singer Ewan MacColl. His sister, singer Penny Seeger, married John Cohen, a member of Mike's musical group, New Lost City Ramblers Seeger was a self-taught musician who began playing stringed instruments at the age of 18.

The family moved to Washington D.C. in 1936 after his father's appointment to the music division of the Resettlement Administration. While in Washington D.C., Ruth Seeger worked closely with John and Alan Lomax at the Archive of American Folk Song at the Library of Congress to preserve and teach American folk music. Ruth Seeger's arrangements and interpretations of American Traditional folk songs in the 1930s, 40s and 50s are well regarded.

#### Musical career

At about the age of 20, Seeger began collecting songs by traditional musicians on a tape recorder. Folk musicians such as Lead Belly, Woody Guthrie, John Jacob Niles, and others were frequent guests in the Seeger home.

In 1958 he co-founded the New Lost City Ramblers, an old-time string band in New York City, during the Folk Revival. The other founding members included John Cohen and Tom Paley. Paley later left the group and was replaced by Tracy Schwarz. The New Lost City Ramblers directly influenced countless musicians in subsequent years. The Ramblers distinguished themselves by focusing on the traditional playing styles they heard on old 78rpm records of musicians recorded during the 1920s and 1930s.

Seeger received six Grammy nominations and was the recipient of four grants from the National Endowment for the Arts His influence on the folk scene was described by Bob Dylan in his autobiography, Chronicles: Volume One. A week before his 76th birthday, Seeger died at his home in Lexington, Virginia on August 7th, 2009, after stopping cancer treatment.

• Source: Wikipedia

### 40 years of Fleetwood Folk Club

In October 1969 a group of Fleetwood Grammar School 6th formers and Scouts met in the upstairs room of the Queens Hotel, and Fleetwood Folk Club was founded.

Dave Walters and Howard Bond (Bonded Boots) were the first 'residents'. Under them numbers increased and with already established singers help and encouragement the standard of the embro floor singers improved rapidly. Early guests at the club were Marie Little, Rosie Hardman and the Taverners.

When Bonded Boots departed to find fame (if not fortune) in London Ian Gartside took over, under him the club went through a purple patch with audiences of 60+ every week. Highlights of this period were a "War of the Roses" night with Bernard Wrigley and Tony Capstick and the first folk club appearance of the 'Garstang Morris'. In a room now limited by Health & Safety rules to 25 there were 84 in the audience and 22 Morris Men!

After Ian gave up residency Dave Cooper and friends (yes he had some) took over, they ere followed by Scolds Bridle who held the reins for several years before Spitting on a Roast took over with several changed in personnel they still ran the club.

Over the years the club has spawned the Cod End Mummies, Fleetwood Rapper and the Onward Community theatre. The latter growing out of the cast of the plays the folk club produced - from Fleetwood to Frisco and "Onward!". Besides 'plays' numerous shows have been performed, starting with 'The Final trawl' to its most recent one "Beware the Fylde Coast Sands".

Though the days or large audiences are a thing of the past the club continues, albeit mainly a singers club.

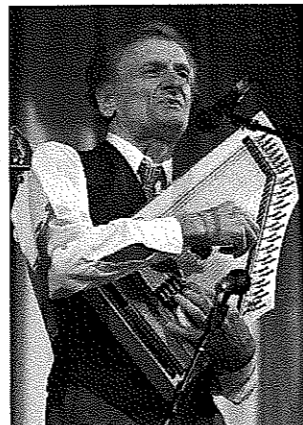
To celebrate its' 40th Birthday a month long series of events are planned.

1st October	- the return of (possibly) Marie Little
8th October	- Ex Residents Night
15th October	- A party night
22nd October	- Theme night
29th October	- Surprise guest (no its not a TBA night)

Why not come along and help us celebrate our 40th year.

*Ron Baxter*

### Mike Seeger



# Demon Barber Roadshow



'One of the best live bands I've ever seen'  
Mike Harding - BBC Radio 2



5th Sep	Moseley Folk Festival Full Roadshow	<a href="http://www.moseleyfolk.co.uk">www.moseleyfolk.co.uk</a>
12th Sep	Swanage Folk Festival Roadshow	<a href="http://www.swanagefolkfestival.co.uk">www.swanagefolkfestival.co.uk</a> Full
13th Sep	Bromyard Folk Festival Full Roadshow	<a href="http://www.bromyard-folk-festival.org.uk">www.bromyard-folk-festival.org.uk</a>
9th Oct	The Sage Gateshead Full Roadshow	<a href="http://www.thesagegateshead.org">www.thesagegateshead.org</a>
10th Oct	Derby Folk & Arts Festival Full Roadshow	<a href="http://www.prpromotions.org.uk">www.prpromotions.org.uk</a>
11th Oct	The Met, Bury Full Roadshow	<a href="http://www.themet.biz">www.themet.biz</a>
13th Oct	The Brindley, Runcorn Full Roadshow	<a href="http://www.halton.gov.uk/thebrindley">www.halton.gov.uk/thebrindley</a>
16th Oct	Exeter Corn Exchange Full Roadshow	<a href="http://www.exeter.gov.uk">www.exeter.gov.uk</a>
18th Oct	The Mick Jagger Centre, Dartford Roadshow	<a href="http://www.themickjaggercentre.com">www.themickjaggercentre.com</a> Full
31st Oct	Holmfirth Picturedrome Halloween Party	<a href="http://www.picturedrome.net">www.picturedrome.net</a> Roadshow
21st Nov	Settle Victoria Theatre Full Roadshow	<a href="http://www.settlevictoriaattheatre.co.uk">www.settlevictoriaattheatre.co.uk</a>

Join the mailing list at



# MUSIC IN ARGYLL



Set in 120 acres of outstanding Botanical Gardens, the Benmore Centre is the ideal setting for a weekend of music making sessions, a ceilidh and a concert.

The centre is a castellated former stately home built by a local philanthropist and its ambience lends itself superbly to a relaxed weekend amongst like minded folk.



Join celebrated singer/songwriter Steve Tilston as he tutors in advanced guitar. Alan Bell, director of the Fylde Folk Festival and the man who wrote, "Bread and Fishes", will mentor the songwriters. Emily Portman is a graduate of the world renowned Traditional Music course at Newcastle University and is an outstanding voice tutor. Joe Topping is an experienced solo performer as well as being a member of both Elbow Jane and Ashley Hutchings Rainbow Chasers. He will pass on his knowledge as a guitarist to both the intermediate players and beginners. Fred Rose is a multi-instrumentalist and will be on hand to guide those

who would like to play fiddle, bodhran or whistle.

On Saturday evening we move to the Kilmun Village Hall for a ceilidh with one of Scotland's finest bands, Canned Haggis, whilst at the same venue on Sunday evening there is a concert with special guest singer/songwriter Jez Lowe plus support.

So why not make the Easter weekend 2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> April 2010 a date in your diary and join us for what promises to be a memorable weekend of music making.

If you would like further information please ring Dave or Anne on 0151 639 4285 or email [anneanddavejones@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:anneanddavejones@hotmail.co.uk)