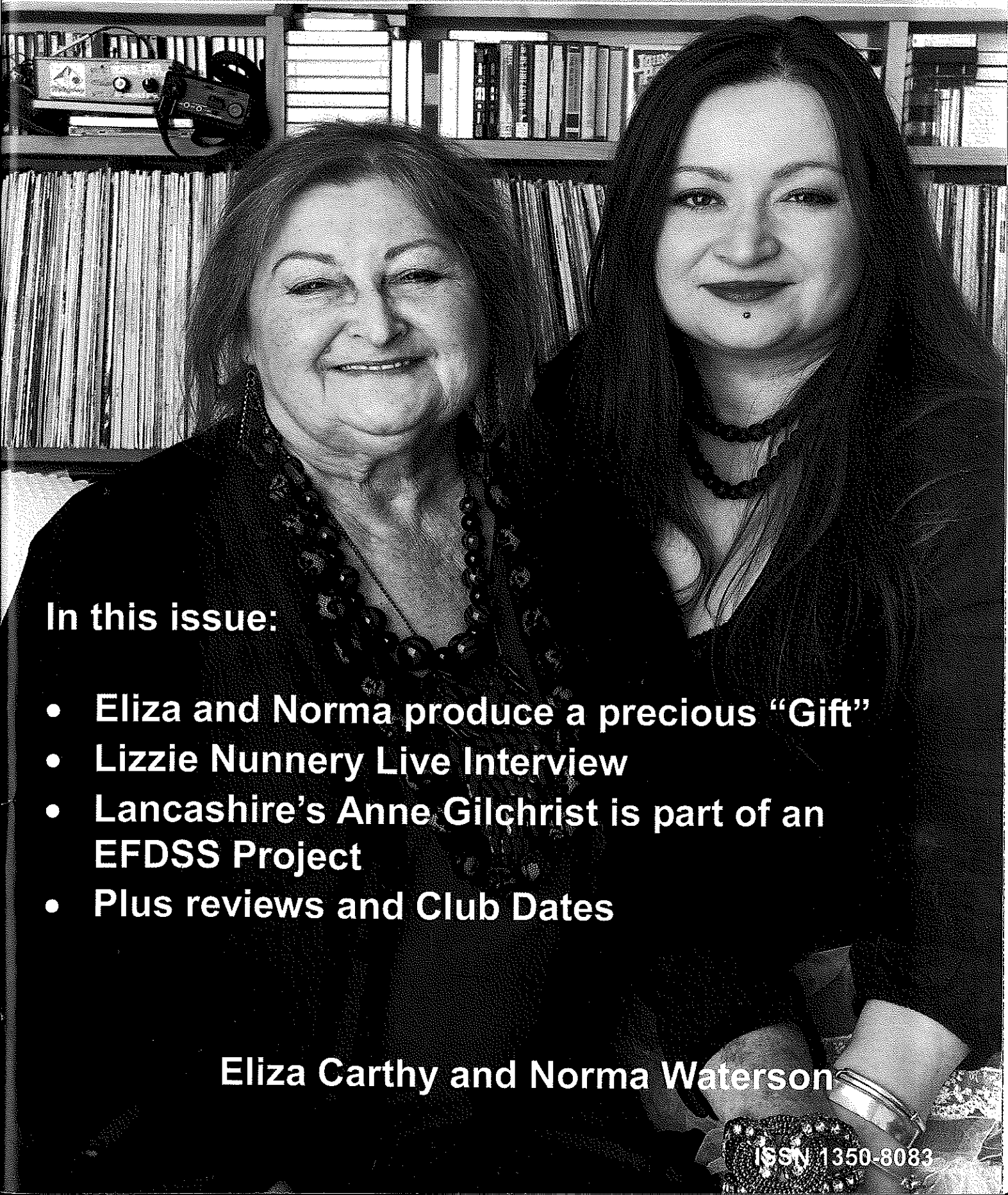


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Folk North West

Autumn Edition 2010 (September, October, November)



In this issue:

- Eliza and Norma produce a precious "Gift"
- Lizzie Nunnery Live Interview
- Lancashire's Anne Gilchrist is part of an EFDSS Project
- Plus reviews and Club Dates

Eliza Carthy and Norma Waterson

ISSN 1350-8083

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ISSN 1350-8083

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Folk North West Contact Information

Who do I send information to?

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

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

Articles for possible inclusion, letters, complaints, improvement suggestions, ideas for inclusion, compliments or if in doubt to:

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

Advertising to:

Jo Singleton
12 Levine Ave, Blackpool FY4 4PD
Tel: 01253 694972
Email: jo.fnwads@ymail.com

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5 May Ave, Wallasey, Wirral CH44 9EP
Tel: 0151 639 4285
Email: anneanddavejones@hotmail.co.uk

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

David Jones
517 Pensby Road, Thingwall, Wirral CH61 7UQ
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THE NORTH WEST FEDERATION OF FOLK CLUBS FEDERATION OFFICERS

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Membership Sec:	contact Treasurer (see above)
Federation Secretary & Club Dates:	John Owen (address as above)
Webmaster:	Currently Vacant

Editorial

Hello and welcome to the Autumn 2010 edition of the magazine. It has been really heart-warming to receive so much great feedback on the work we have been doing to improve the format of the magazine, and I feel we are making real progress with this.

We are constantly seeking new and innovative submissions, and this has paid dividends with the introduction in this edition of a new feature entitled "The Story Behind The Song". This explores the background to a variety of folk songs, and I am indebted to Jim Malkin, John Sylvester and Brian Bull for their contributions. If anyone else out there has any interesting articles on this then please let us have them.

We have the usual comprehensive list of Club Diary Dates and a wealth of Live and CD Reviews, as well as an interview with up and coming singer/songwriter Lizzie Nunnery. All in all plenty to get your teeth into!

As always I am very keen to hear about what you think about the magazine, and further suggestions for improvements, so please keep these coming.

All the Best for Now

Chris McIlveen

Chairman's Jottings

The alarming thing for me this summer has been watching how our many established festivals have struggled to sell tickets.

I hear you say, well the recession has hit every business hard and leisure is no different, but I know for many that attending their favourite festival(s) is their holiday and something they just would not miss.

The acts booked on the festivals are still of the highest quality and that costs money, with a number of festivals getting out the prayer mats hoping for a late surge in business.

"Brampton Live", wasn't so lucky as the festival had to be cancelled due to poor pre-festival sales.

Hopefully it will come back bigger and stronger than ever, now the step back has been taken.

A word about the 38th Fylde festival. Two things taking place are worthy of note. The Tannahill Weavers are celebrating 40 years together and incredibly are playing Fylde for the first time and after forty six action packed years we bid farewell to the McCalmans on this their final tour.

Whatever your circumstances, try to support your local club or festival and help keep music live.

Cheers for now

David Jones

What Folk Programmes are on the radio TODAY?

Compiled by Rob Dunsford

Day	Station	Programme	Presenter	Radio Frequencies
SUNDAY				
1.00 – 3.00 pm (Rpt)	BBC Radio Scotland	TAKE THE FLOOR	ROBBIE SHEPHERD	FM 92.4 – 94.7/MW 810
6.00 – 7.00 pm	Downtown Radio	COUNTRY CEILIDH	TOMMY SANDS	MW 1026
7.00 – 8.00 pm (Rpt)	BBC Radio Scotland	PIPELINE	GARY WEST	FM 92.4 – 94.7/MW 810
8.00 pm (Rpt)		OFF THE BEATEN TRACKS	COLIN BERTRAM	FM 103.5 (See notes re: coverage area)
8.00 – 9.00 pm	BBC Radio Leeds	THE DURBERVILLES	DAVE CRICKMORE & LEE WALSH	FM 92.4 & 95.3 & 102.7 & 103.9
8.00 – 10.00 pm	BBC Radio Shropshire & BBC Radio Stoke	SUNDAY FOLK	GENEVIEVE TUDOR	FM 96.0 & 94.6
9.00 – 10.00 pm	RTE	THE SOUTH WIND BLOWS	PHILIP KING	MW 567/LW 252
10.00 – 10.50 pm	RTE	THE ROLLING WAVE	PETER BROWNE	MW 567/LW 252
10.00 – 12.00 pm (Rpt)	BBC Radio Scotland	GLOBAL GATHERING	MARY ANN KENNEDY	FM 92.4 – 94.7/MW 810
MONDAY				
7.00 – 8.00 pm	Oldham Community Radio	SOUNDS OF FOLK	ALI O'BRIEN	FM 99.7
7.00 – 9.00 pm	BBC Radio Derby	FOLKWAVES	MICK PEAT & LESTER SIMPSON	FM 95.3 104.5 96.0 (Buxton) MW 1116
TUESDAY				
8.00 – 10.00 pm	Chorley FM	CHORLEY FOLK	JAMES BLATCHLEY	FM 102.8
8.00 – 10.00 pm	BBC Radio Scotland	GLOBAL GATHERING	MARY ANN KENNEDY	FM 92.4 – 94.7/MW 810
9.00 – 10.00 pm (Rpt)	BBC Radio Merseyside	FOLKSCENE	STAN AMBROSE & GEOFF SPEED	FM 95.8/MW 1485
9.00 – 10.00 pm	Manx Radio	THE FOLK SHOW	JOHN KANEEN	MW 1368
WEDNESDAY				
7.00 – 8.00 pm	BBC Radio 2	FOLK ROOTS & ACOUSTIC MUSIC	MIKE HARDING	FM 88.0 – 90.2
THURSDAY				
6.00 – 7.00 pm	Salford City Radio	SALFORD FOLK	ELEANOR WALK & DAVE MATHER	FM 94.4
8.00 – 10.00 pm	BBC Radio Scotland	TRAVELLING FOLK	ARCHIE FISHER	FM 92.4 – 94.7/MW 810
9.00 – 10.00 pm	BBC Radio Merseyside	FOLKSCENE	STAN AMBROSE & GEOFF SPEED	FM 95.8/MW 1485
FRIDAY				
1.00 pm		OFF THE BEATEN TRACKS	COLIN BERTRAM	FM 103.5
7.00 – 8.00 pm (Rpt)	Oldham Community Radio	SOUNDS OF FOLK	ALI O'BRIEN	FM 99.7
8.00 – 9.00 pm	BBC Radio Lancashire	THE DRIFT	PHIL BROWN	FM 95.5
8.00 pm (Rpt)		OFF THE BEATEN TRACKS	COLIN BERTRAM	FM 103.5
SATURDAY				
7.00 – 9.00 pm	BBC Radio Scotland	TAKE THE FLOOR	ROBBIE SHEPHERD	FM 92.4 – 94.7/MW 810
8.00 – 10.00 pm	BBC Radio Wales	CELTIC HEARTBEAT	FRANK HENNESSY	MW 882
8.00 – 10.00 pm	BBC Radio Ulster	FOLK CLUB	COLUM SANDS/SIOBHAN SKATES	MW 1341
9.00 – 10.00 pm	BBC Radio Scotland	PIPELINE	GARY WEST	FM 92.4 – 94.7/MW 810
9.00 – 10.00 pm	RTE	CEILIDH HOUSE	KIERAN HANRAHAN	MW 567/LW 252
10.00 – 12.00 pm (Rpt)	BBC Radio Scotland	TRAVELLING FOLK	ARCHIE FISHER	FM 92.4 – 94.7/MW 810

The frequencies shown above 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	01332 361111
BBC Radio Lancashire	FM 95.5 103.9 104.5	MW 885 1557	01254 262411
BBC Radio Leeds	FM 92.4 95.3 102.7 103.9		0113 244 2131
BBC Radio Merseyside	FM 95.8	MW 1485	0151 708 5500
BBC Radio Scotland	FM 92.4 – 94.7	MW 810	0141 422 6000
BBC Radio Shropshire	FM 96.0		01743 248484
BBC Radio Stoke	FM 94.6 104.1	MW 1503	01782 208080
BBC Radio Ulster	FM 92.4 – 95.4	MW 873 1341	02890 338000
BBC Radio 2	FM 88.0 – 90.2		08700 100222
BBC Radio Wales	FM 93.9 – 95.9 103.7 – 103.9	MW 882	02920 322000
Salford City Radio	FM 94.4		0161 793 2939
Chorley FM	FM 102.8		01257 262661
Diversity FM	FM 103.5 (Lancaster & Morecombe area)	Listen online at diversityfm.co.uk	
Downtown Radio		MW 1026	02891 815555
Manx Radio	FM 89.0 97.2 103.7	MW 1386	01624 682600
Oldham Community Radio	FM 99.7		0161 624 4004
RTE	via ASTRA Satellite LW 252	MW 567	003531 2083111

Updated August 2010

Radio Xtra

The range of programmes has broadened to include several which, whilst not wholly devoted to folk, frequently include it and have 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 : 03700 100 222.

Of variable folk content is BBC Radio Scotland, Monday to Thursday 10.30pm -12.30pm 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 Tovar an Cheoil, 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. Email, 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. Telephone numbers for radio stations, plus directions to other forms of contact, have been provided so that event organisers and artistes can fulfil 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 Dunsford

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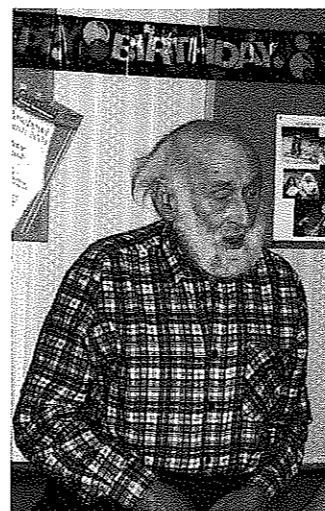
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Obituaries

We are very sorry to have to report the following sad losses in the folk world.

**Reg Holmes (John Reginald Holmes)
1913 - 2010**



Reg was born on November 30th 1913. He believes that he was born out of wedlock in the house of a warder of Knutsford Jail. John Reginald Holmes is not his birth name. He was adopted by a dentist named Holmes who was a Quaker, a pacifist and a vegetarian.

When he left school at 14, Reg was apprenticed to a dental mechanic, but aged 15 he went on a holiday to Wales where he formed what would become a lifelong affection for the Welsh people, their culture and their mountains. He gave up being a dental mechanic and went to work on farms in Wales. He became immersed in Welsh culture, teaching himself Welsh and absorbing their music and song.

He then travelled extensively in Ireland where he learned to speak Irish Gaelic. At this time he was a card-carrying member of the Communist Party and believed, in the words of one Irish rebel song, that small nations should be free. In 1934 he went for a walk through Europe and on

his return was interviewed by British Intelligence. He informed them that the Nazi's had hi-jacked all German folk music and that fascism was bloody dangerous. He suggested they take a good look at Spain.

At the start of World War 2, Reg went "camping" in Delamere Forest to avoid the draft, living for sometime in the wilds with a hammock slung between two trees. In 1941, he married Mabs (Mabel Rawlins) and they set off to ride round Britain on a tandem. These seemed to him to be reasonable ways to deal with World War 2.

Having failed to answer his call-up papers, he was called before a tribunal in Knutsford who told him that owing to circumstances he was unaware of (and would remain so) he would not be suitable for service in any of Britain's military organisations. However, he spent an interesting war looking after German and Italian prisoners, and learning German and Italian as a by-product. He also collected their music and their songs.

In 1947 he went to live at Ivy Cottage in Flaxmere and this would be his home for the rest of his life. He was well known and respected in the district and earned his living as a signaller on the railway. Latterly one of his proud boasts was that he had collected his British Rail pension for more years than he had worked for them!

He had a wide circle of friends: John Betjeman visited him in his signal box at Delamere; he carried on a correspondence with T E Lawrence (aircraftman Shaw); and a friend he made in Germany in 1934 finished up working on the Manhattan Project in America.

Always a thorn in the side of authority, there are many

tales of Reg's encounters with bureaucracy. He enjoyed hot tea, good Irish whiskey, folk song and dance, and conversation. He was well-known in the clubs in central Cheshire and would call for many ceilidhs, and was still singing when he celebrated his 96th birthday at Northwich Folk Club – and he insisted on (and got) 96 candles on his cake!

Author of "The Norley Gate" and a number of other fine songs, Reg was a one-off, and all those that knew him will miss him greatly.

These words are adapted from Jamie Anderson's tribute in the Northwich Folk Club 'Columbine' newsletter. There are further tributes on the Northwich Folk Club website: www.northwichfolk.co.uk.

**Tom Francis (Robert Thomas Francis)
1936 – 2010**



Though born in Trimdon, Co. Durham, Tom moved to Cornwall when only a few weeks old where he lived till he was 18. He worked for ICI Plastics in Welwyn Garden City and studied part time for his B.Sc. at London University. In 1961, he married Lesley and they have

two daughters, Carey and Bryony. When his company moved north to Cheshire, Tom was reluctant, but settled well into his new county.

Over the years, Tom was a committee member and treasurer of his church, sang in the choir (with his daughters), was a member of the Round Table and the Freemasons (the principles and companionship of Masonic life were important to him and he frequently contributed his musical skills, playing the Lodge organ at some ceremonies).

For many years, Tom was a member of Northwich Folk Club, serving on the committee for many years where he was regarded as a wise counsellor (though he would laugh at that description!), always thinking before he spoke and then speaking with calm authority. When Tom spoke, it was worth listening. He would also contribute songs which were always chosen to 'include' his audience. He was also a member of the Madcap Ceilidh band, but Tom's musical interests went far beyond folk and he arranged several 'standards' nights where we could all enjoy pretending to be Sinatra or Billie Holliday to Tom's accompaniment.

As well as an able pianist, Tom was also a keen walker (completing the Pennine Way in 1978), and was also interested in genealogy, reading, maps, and exploring byways; he would describe himself as a dilettante! He enjoyed family life and was very proud of his daughters and grandchildren. Tom was a good friend to all who knew him and will be missed by all.

There are further tributes on the Northwich Folk Club website: www.northwichfolk.co.uk.

Martin Baker

It is with deep regret and condolences to his family and friends that we share the news of the sudden death of Martin Baker on the morning of Thursday 3 June 2010.



The previous evening Martin had been a part of Coppull Folk's regular singaround and as usual played a lively an active part in the event.

Martin's funeral took place on Friday 11th June at 2pm at St Annes church, Shevington, followed at 3pm by the crematorium on the A49 at Euxton, followed by a reception at the Bowling Green pub on the A49 near Charnock Richard, from about 4pm.

Martin was a vital part of the folk scene in Wigan as well as at Coppull and Crooke. The truly amazing thing was this was true, yet he never sung a folk song. He would regale us with old country songs from George Jones, Hank Williams and many others with a smattering of Johnny Cash, Kris Kristofferson and John Prine all sung in his "authentic" Nashville accent.

Martin simply wanted the best in everything, when he sang he performed, when he performed he entertained to the best of his ability. When he joined in and accompanied he knew exactly how the song would go best, sometime he was wrong, but he always contributed to the maximum.

Martin contributed behind the scenes, helping to organise festivals and events. He was particularly active in getting the festival in 2010 off the ground and much of what took place during this year's festival was to his credit. In the short time that we've had to reflect on his memory here are a few of the comments of his musical friends:

"Martin just loved to shock... but he's gone too far this time! I wish I could tell him to his face..."

"Martin borrowed my capo the other week to do a folk song, he put it on the end of his guitar and started laughing. Thursdays at Crooke won't be the same."

"Martin loved to sing "Gotta to Get Rid of this Band" and always made sure he named us all in the song, it was a privilege to be included; well now he has got rid of us all!"

"The man who put the Eck into Heckle and country into trad folk"

"Inside Martin was a very warm and kind gentleman (he would deny this with embarrassment if I ever mentioned it!)"

"What can I say about Martin. A one off, irreplaceable, noisy, funny, kind hearted, I have lots of good memories of times spent with him."

"Martin, the very definition of local colour."

"Martin was the star of the party."

Wonderful memories of a man who made these singing occasions special.

Most of all Martin would wish us to celebrate his life in song, so sing a song or two for Martin over the next weeks and months.

(Abridged extract from Coppull Folk Club web site)

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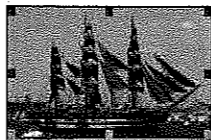
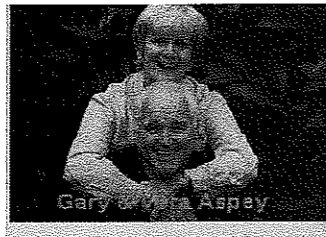
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Colum Sands

October 17th
Folk Club Residents Night
In aid of North West Air Ambulance

November 21st
Martyn Wyndham-Read

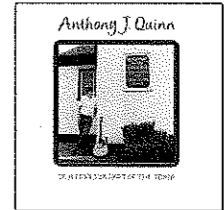
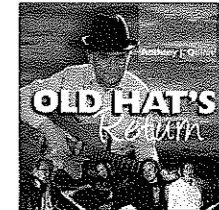
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Feature—"Get Thee To A Nunnery"

"What was growing up in Maghull like then?" I ask singer/writer Lizzie Nunnery, one of Fellside's latest signings (debut album 'Company Of Ghosts' just released) over early evening cordials in Liverpool's Everyman Bistro. "Erm, safe, quiet, a nice place to be as a child, but as a teenager I couldn't wait to get into town all the time" she replies with a knowing smile, "I was stifled in the suburbs."

Maghull is just eight miles north of where we're currently sitting and Lizzie is a young woman totally focused on her writing, whether the mercurial songs that 'Ghosts' showcases so well or the stage work (she's an award winning playwright) that caused the Guardian to pin a 5 star review on her play 'Intemperance.'

One of four children, "I was the quiet one in a noisy household," she listened to her parents' Fairport and Fureys records but "I didn't necessarily think of them as my music. It was really the '90s and Britpop that I first felt belonged to me."

Acoustic music was breaking big concurrently and open mic nights advertised in the Maghull Star and held at the Bar Du Fay were the formative musical pivot to seesaw the "absolutely terrified" teenage Lizzie, who'd learned the finger-picking guitar style at school, whilst rejecting the classical repertory that went with it, into playing live. These events termed the Acoustic Engine by promoter Steve Roberts (who) "mentored me - it really built from up from that" ran for 5 years all over the Liverpool area and encouraged new writing, frowning on covers.

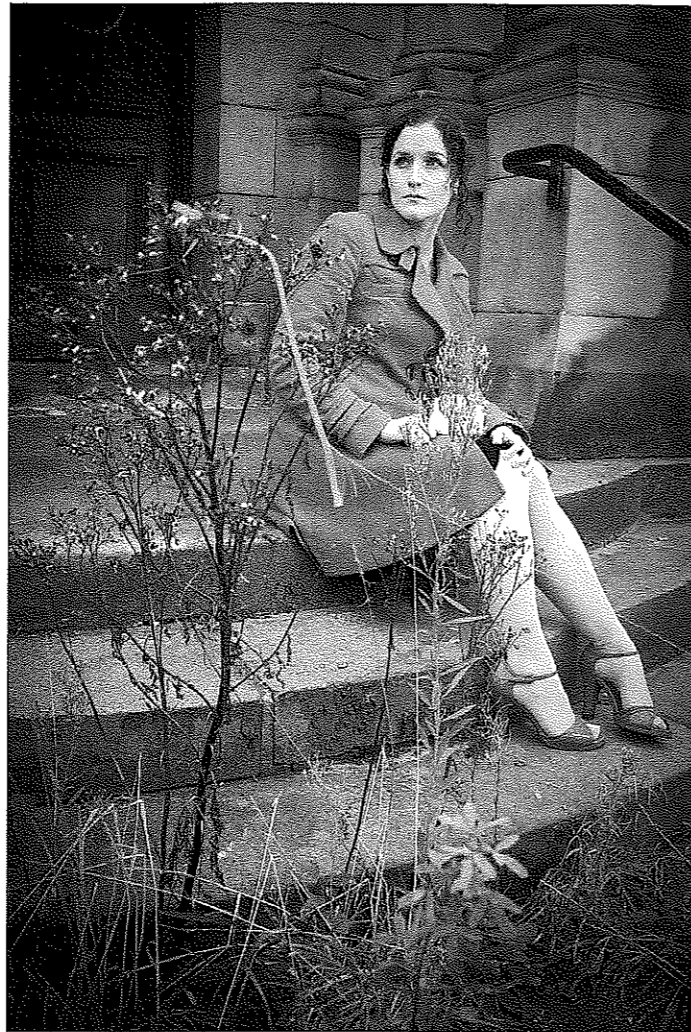
Following her 2:1 English degree from Oxford, a few 'normal' temping jobs ("I worked in an Alcopops factory") it became clear that Ms Nunnery wanted, nay needed to write. She'd learned her stagecraft whilst at college as part of a cellist, harpist, guitarist trio, and a trip to the Edinburgh Fringe in 2003 with a competition-winning Oxford-written Play had given her a whole heap of self-confidence.

Now it was time to ratchet things up a few gears, so in 2006 armed with the first fruits of her mature songwriting she played a host of venues across the UK, supporting headliners as diverse as Little Feat and Jim Moray whilst at the same time essaying scripts for BBC Radio and being writer-in-residence at Liverpool's Everyman Theatre.

She's found our Folk Club circuit encouraging and supportive (which as a Club Organiser myself, pleases me no end) "The singers and audiences I've met are open-minded and they've helped me in turn to broaden my outlook. I feel I fit in, even though I don't identify myself as Folk - yet!"

Upcoming Festivals include Lymm and Purbeck, there's a North-East tour in the datesheet and she has an imminent radio adaptation of a TV script to be aired about the immediate impact on Liverpool of John Lennon's death. In addition she might just turn up unannounced at a Club near you soon - she still believes, thank goodness in the power of the floor-spot, otherwise I might never have found her!

Hers are sleek, intelligent and very impressive songs - they're like the woman herself - passionate, focused and creative. She writes about what she knows and observes, whether it's the old gas-lit



yellow 'Company Of Ghosts' on Huskisson Street, the migrant's experience in 'England Loves A Poor Boy' the splendidly-titled 'Pubs That Never Close' or the powerfully intense and hypnotic 'Sleepers' where the characteristic lightness of touch in that unique quiver of a voice really comes into its own.

'Company Of Ghosts' (Fellside FECD232) is out now www.fellside.com www.lizzienunnery.co.uk



I tell her that if she's not careful, her day in the sun might be just around the corner, but all that matters "is the music, not distracted by money or celebrity" she counters and turning down the offer of more refreshment, Lizzie Nunnery is away to a writers workshop evening, leaving me not only with an empty glass but with the sense that here is an artist that's only just coming into her own.

Clive Pownceby

swarbrick *raison d'être*

'It has taken all of 8 years for me to complete this CD and I don't think it can be repeated.'

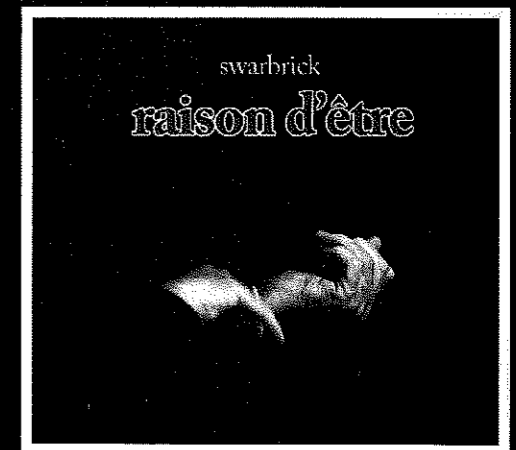
Swarb received the highest award from the English Folk Dance and Song Society, the Gold Badge of Merit from the British Academy of Composers and Songwriters, again their highest accolade, in 2003. In 2004, he also received a Lifetime Achievement Award in the annual BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards and in 2006, Fairport Convention received an award for *Liege and Lief*, the most influential Folk album of all time, as voted for by the listeners. In 2007, Swarb received another award at the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards, this time for Best Duo with Martin Carthy as well as being nominated in the best instrumentalist category. In 2008, he won the Hancock Award for Musician of the Year in which over 3000 people took part, claiming over 40% of the vote.

'There are 4 EFDSS Gold Badge holders involved in this album, the highest accolade of the English Folk Dance and Song Society: Beryl Marriott, Martin Carthy, John Kirkpatrick and myself have all had the honour of being awarded it.'

'The opening track of my very first album Rags, Reels and Airs: Spanish Ladies Medley, has been revisited with the Jason Wilson Band, a group of highly talented Canadian musicians.'

'I have researched and arranged English Music previously unrecorded from 1680-1745. And then to ice the cake, along with a couple of my own compositions, there are two tracks featuring the glorious playing of the great Beryl Marriott.'

'With 14 of the best players I know, I offer you ...'



Musicians with Swarb on *raison d'être* are: Michael Burnham, Martin Carthy, John Kirkpatrick, Beryl Marriott, Kevin Dempsey, Maartin Allcock, Simon Mayor, Jude Rees, and the Jason Wilson Band: Jason Wilson, Marcus Ali, Iain Green, Andrew Stewart, Bobby Hsu, and R.J. Satchithanathan.

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Live Reviews

LIVERPOOL ACOUSTIC LIVE

THE VIEW TWO GALLERY
23rd APRIL 2010

Maybe We'll Fly is the title of a Rosie Jones song, and pretty much sums up the feel of an evening of fresh feminine folk.

Featuring the work of new LIPA graduates, an extra special surprise for all was this four act line-up starred young women. The city bars, clubs and backstreets are dominated by male musicians, it's great to see female musicians are being taken seriously.

Tina Refsnes is a welcome addition to our plethora of adopted Scousewegian singer-songwriters was first up and timely rhythmic.

Tina gives a straight style vocal and has a clean, fresh demeanour in performance. Her sleepy, sad, contemplative songs are poetic, simple folk, and well received by an attentive crowd.

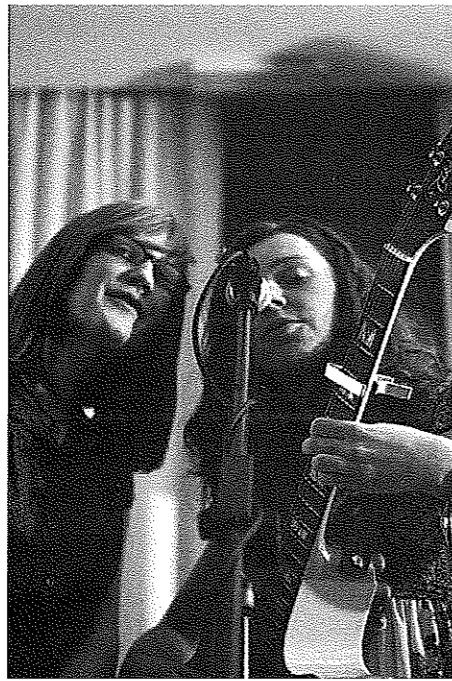
Rachael Wright is a City of Liverpool, urban beauty (yes, we have plenty). Dressed casually in jeans with a T-shirt, she has cropped brown hair and cool, sophisticated, talent.

Rachael asks questions in her songs and answers herself intelligently. Her vocal is clean with occasional, well-placed vibrato. Rachael has well above average guitar skill, her lyrics could speak louder if she brought a range of topics to the mic. This was a hugely-expressive performance from Rachael Wright, and the crowd leaned in.

Female writers are less eager to be mildly contentious and express political opinions or talk about taboo social injustice for fear of personal judgment. Times have changed. I believe in Rachael Wright, and I noticed I'm not the only one.

After a break, **Rosie Jones and the Mystery Machine** played an acoustic set of some of the songs usually performed by her band.

Master of guitar, mandolin, harmonica and vocals; it is clear this young woman from Devon has been wrapped tight around her enthusiasm for music. Rosie's voice was as fresh as linen on a line waving through a summer breeze. "Maybe we'll Fly" was well-received with foot taps from the audience for its beautiful chorus. Rosie is unafraid to be expressive and works well in bringing



folk acoustic into the present day.

Zoe Nicol and the Worry Dolls

Charmed everybody on Zoe's CD launch night. A young, innovative line-up of six "worry dolls" nicely explained with merchandising and a cute ethos. Headed by a flame-haired Rossetti-in-cotton, Zoe, along with some fabulous, fresh-sounding song-writing, morphed into lyrically quirky and endearing at once. Her band this night is a row of mini-keyboard, banjo, mandolin, guitar and violin, with choral harmony. "I am a Boy" and "Amy Long Socks" deserve to be heard.



This LIPA Special proved the ladies of LIPA have got it going on already, and we should listen out for more. It was a total pleasure to see and to hear all acts presented. Well done to Liverpool Acoustic Live organisers Graham Holland and Stuart Todd who started the gig at the advertised time of 8.30pm. Doors at 8pm as stated on the ticket meant there wasn't a spare chair in the house. Quite right too!

Review: Amanda DeAngeles

WIRRAL FOLK ON THE COAST FESTIVAL BROMBOROUGH 4th - 6th JUNE 2010

June " Now is the time of the year, when the winter of our discontent, is made glorious by the advent of 'The Folk Festivals"- Or to put it another way, the time of the year when we do things 'folkie' in cold marquees, drink copious amounts real ale, and lie down to sleep on damp ground in our discount tents, - after tramping through the wet grass or the mud! Mmmm yippee... you're probably thinking.

But seriously, maybe that's the way it used to be 20 years ago. Today, things have changed a lot in as much as the campsite of most festivals is now taken up with caravans and motor-homes



(that's R.V.'s to our American cousins) - offering a lot more comfort.

This year was only the 6th year for the Wirral Folk on the Coast festival, but already it has made it mark on the festival calendar as a firm favourite. I said last year it would grow in popularity, - and it has. This is due I must say to the most excellent site and facilities it has to offer, and the dedication and hard work put in by the organisers led by John and Angie Owen. The festival site is at the O.C Club in the village of Bromborough on the Wirral and is only 8 miles from Chester. Centred in and round the O.C Club's bar and restaurant. With its own concert theatre, its not surprising that any guest artist feels comfortable and enjoys performing there.

This year due to its growth and popularity, a second stage was also available. A marquee erected in the tennis courts. With its open sides, this was used for mini concerts and Ceilidhs. A welcome relief for those that enjoy the open air. Added to this there was also



The New Rope String Band

many FREE events, including 'Marie Marquee', where what seemed like a continual sing-a-round, hosted by many of the local folk clubs and performers, proved very popular. Indeed, the level of singers made the atmosphere quite electric as people enjoyed the summer weather. The weather this year, apart from a little shower on Sunday afternoon, proved very fair.

All the main guest artists performed very well in the concert hall, I couldn't fault any, but personal favourites had to be 'The New Rope String Band', - very clever and hilariously funny. Bernard Wrigley as entertaining as ever, Dave Burland as smooth as ever. The Houghton Weavers, I was surprised when big Dave said "This is the first time



The Houghton Weavers

they have ever been booked at a folk festival" - unbelievable, but its true! The one act that surprised and impressed me the most was 'Tri' at only 14 and 15 years old, these kids were amazing musicians. The band is Niamh Boadle, Neal Pointon and Ciaran Algar. They lacked a little with stagecraft, - but more than made up for it in pure talent. They have been well taught. It will be interesting to see which way they go in a few years time.

I felt a little sorry for Bram Taylor when he had to start his Saturday midday concert in the marquee with only 3 people in the audience! But being a true professional, he pushed on and after about 20 minutes the audience filtered in. To be fair he did have to follow Anthony John Clarke, who has quite a following on Merseyside and his fans turned up just to see him. The final act

that afternoon was 'Tri' (Irish for three) and needless to say the marquee filled up again for another brilliant performance of the band, performing mainly Irish material.

Robin Laing was in fine form giving his talk and songs about Scottish single malt whiskey. Everyone in the audience is treated to a dram or two of several malts to taste, - needless to say it goes down very well!

I managed to catch the novel item in the program, that in which Bernard Wrigley & Dave Burland teamed up to explore some old 'rock 'n' roll' tunes in an informal atmosphere, not to be missed if they ever do it again at a festival near you.

To sum up, this was again an excellent festival, the guest list catering for every taste in folk music or song. The usual craft fair, Morris dancers, story telling, good food, real ale, ample camping / caravan space all on one site. Plus the friendly people of Merseyside & Deeside - what else could you want?

Check out the website www.wirralfolkonthecoast.com for details of this and next year's festival. See you there in 2011.

PETER MASSEY

COPPULL FOLK WEEKEND

Alison Arms, Coppull
11th-13th JUNE 2010

The 2010 Coppull Folk Club Free weekend of Folk went pretty well, considering the shadow that was cast by Martin Baker's untimely death. The weather was even relatively kind on the Fri and Sat, but reverted to type on the Sunday. However, Dave Jones's big tent was up to the challenge! We had great sets from all that



performed, with Marie Little deserving special mention for a set that was as passionate and varied as you could ask for, and Mark Dowding wowing us with his amazing version of Jake Thackray's "On again". Special mention also to Joan Blackburn, String Shack and Ken Scally

for their great kindness in offering to perform for free, and Joan and the



Saggies for their generous free performances at the fund raiser concert.

Bill Sproson of Westminster Stage Engineering did a great job providing the PA system at affordable cost, and the open mike session that he suggested and ran, went really well, with some high quality acts turning up. Ken Scally's daughters and their friends also surprised us with their performance - folk it was not, but quality it was!

The two dance teams added a welcome alternative art form to the weekend, in very different ways. Stone the Crows (whose generosity has been recorded in detail on the Coppull Folk web site), gave a dramatic and compelling performance of traditional dance, whilst Karen and her friends gave us a vision of modern youth in motion.



Our old mate Stuart from over the road deserves thanks too for volunteering to take photos of the acts and audience.

The camping arrangements seemed to work smoothly, with Kevin and myself doing the traditional clean-up of the toilets and the camping areas, and the hot water boiler behaving itself. Kevin deserves a big thank-you as he put in a lot of work, but couldn't attend the weekend because of a long booked holiday. Big thanks also to Albert who did such a good job on the creation of the poster and the associated printing.

Lastly, a big thank you to landlord and landlady Dave and Carol, for all the work they did in putting on food and an outside bar, and erecting the tent and stage, and booking Stone the Crows. Hope we can do it all again next year.

PHIL REGAN

**22ND FOUR FOOLS
GATHERING**
The Crown, Worthington
25 – 27th JUNE 2010

Well, we did say that Four Fools 2009 would be the last Festival due to the spiralling expense and difficulties in obtaining funding, 2009 was our 21st Festival.

However our loyal supporters both artistes and festival goers alike said that it shouldn't end, we should at least do something to mark the last weekend in June which many felt was traditionally 'Four Fools weekend' and the event itself was unique.

So we thought about it and decided that we would indeed mark the occasion by running a day in aid of charity. We chose the British Heart Foundation for this year's event. All artistes generously gave of their time and so with the magical line up of Donal Maguire, Kevin and Ellen Mitchell, Peta Webb and Ken Hall, Quartz, Alison Younger, Sid Calderbank, Dave Fletcher and Bill Whalley, Pam Bishop, Trio Threlfall, Martin Ellison and Phil Harty, Will Noble and John Cocking and John Morris. We used the venue of the Crown at Worthington, home of Four Fools Folk Club. The Crown is a wonderful Real Ale pub that also does great food.

So the weekend took place (yes, it sort of grew a bit). And what a wonderful weekend it turned out to be. We had some of the events expected of Four Fools, like the legendary 'Squeezer Geezers', 'Wall of Sound' and 'Ballad Session'. There was plenty of time for singarounds throughout the weekend and Ken and I were really taken aback at the loyalty of our Four Fools supporters.

Sadly over the weekend Ken Hall was unable to get to us due to family commitments and John Morris did not make it due to a throat infection. However Barrie and Ingrid Temple were with us for the weekend and stood in for part of the weekend, also Annie Dearman and Steve Harrison, and I actually stood in as John Morris in the 'Lazy Sunday' session.

We even had a craft stall. Norman Wilson became "Woodpecker Woodcrafts" and had made some beautiful green men and other items. Mary Wilson provided some adorable

sock monkeys, Sue VanGaal auctioned some homemade Eccles cakes and Charity Crafters provided a selection of cards for sale. What rang out loud and clear over the weekend was the friendliness of everyone. The 'LITTLE' Festival with the 'BIG' heart lives on.

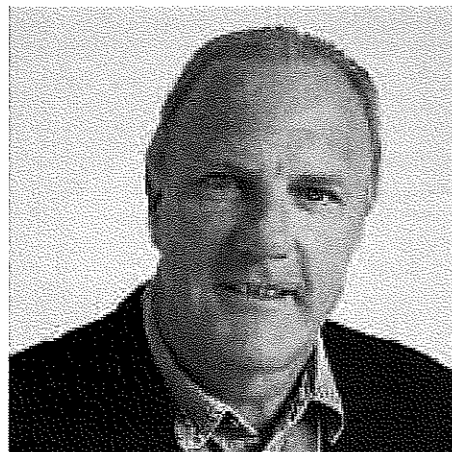
We raised an awesome £1,458.50 for the British Heart Foundation. So people, the last weekend in June remains the Four Fools weekend. The 23rd Four Fools gathering will be 24 – 26 June 2011.

Many thanks again for your wonderful support.

KEN & ANGIE BLADEN

RICHARD DIGANCE
Epsom Playhouse Theatre
8th JULY 2010

Any man who has the uncanny knack of overcoming every hurdle including nursing a painful left shoulder whilst still maintaining a sense of humour and never once putting a foot wrong the entire evening has my admiration. It says a lot that Richard Digance's consummate skill as an entertainer should be seen as a master-class in how to present a show gently chiding but never insulting to what I suppose many would consider the blue-rinse brigade.



By treating everyone as if they were all long-time acquaintances provided a sense of bonhomie that many lesser comedians would die for whilst gently sparring, much like a long running tennis match (John Isner & Nicolas Mahut anyone?) in an effervescent performance that lasted well over two hours with humorous poems, songs and anecdotes making the time just whistle by.

Regaling us with stories of his daughters

and particularly his father who came in for a marathon joke telling five-minute tour de force I'm surprised that many of the assembled throng weren't stretched out by the St John's ambulance brigade such were the belly laughs the jokes provided.

In a display of marketing brilliance that would have made Del Boy proud by subtly reading poems from his latest book on stage ensured a rush to join the queue for the merchandise stall and yes, I did purchase a copy!

The second set included a trip down memory lane and songs about "The Saga Louts", a potted history of Britain in "One Thousand Years" and "200 Remembers" which would have tested the memory of Stephen Fry. Like a final episode of Doctor Who the thoroughly rejuvenated crowd left with beaming smiles and a jocular disposition that I haven't witnessed since the first performance of Riverdance...no mean feat! In my humble opinion (and, by the sound of it everyone at the theatre tonight) Richard should be a National treasure that the 'folk' community should be proud of and perhaps he'll receive an OBE for services rendered?
www.richarddigance.com

PETE FYFE

REMINDER

Please ensure your input for the next issue of the magazine is submitted to the editor **NO LATER** then the copy deadline of 10th October 2010. This gives us time to ensure that everything gets included.

Many Thanks

Chris McIlveen

Editor's Note: We were delighted to receive the following review of Ireby Folk Festival from Ruth Walbank, who is only 12 years old! The text of her email is reproduced below:

Hello,
My name is Ruth Walbank. I am twelve. Attached is a short review of Ireby Folk Festival that I've written. I wonder if it would be of any interest to the Folk North West magazine? I bought my first copy at Ireby and thoroughly enjoyed reading it. I hope you can give your comments on my writing. I've been a fan of folk since I was six and I went to see Kate Rusby in concert. I now want to be part of it even more, as a musician and as a writer.

Please let me know what you think.

Best wishes,
Ruth Walbank

IREBY FOLK FESTIVAL
28th—29th MAY 2010

This year as a holiday me, mum, dad and Auntie Anna went to Ireby Folk Festival. Now previously I had only ever been to Cambridge Folk Festival before so I had rather high expectations! As we travelled up through the Cumbrian countryside I found that we were going further and further away from civilisation. Soon we were in the heart of nowhere and as we drove into the camp site (aka a farmer's field) we thought someone was going to jump out and say "You're my wife now..." luckily they didn't so we were safe for now until tea time!! The first night was excellent as there was a chilli stall that fulfilled our needs but by the next day it had started to run out leaving us with chips and cheese! (As my family are vegetarians.)



Dan Walsh

The music got better and better as the weekend went on and even as the weather got worse there was always some music in the hall or in the marquee. On one particular eve we had just come out of the pub and heard a great blare. We entered the village hall and found a very talented young man who played the banjo extremely well, his name was Dan Walsh.



Kate Rusby

As well as the always charming Kate Rusby there was Luka Bloom who was a new experience for me as well as my Aunt.



Luca Bloom

On the whole Ireby was a wet and sodden success with plenty of chips and folkly-ness

Ruth Walbank

Roy Palmer's new book 'Working Songs', is due out in October 2010. Rich in illustration, anecdote and song the book is the first major examination of industrial folk song for over forty years. Child labour, pit disasters, trade union struggles, strikes and lockouts from the Industrial Revolution to the Miner's Strike, are all told through examples of songs and verse. Roy Palmer is the country's foremost writer on folk song and broadside ballads and this book is a major new work by this important writer. See advert for details or visit www.herronpublishing.co.uk

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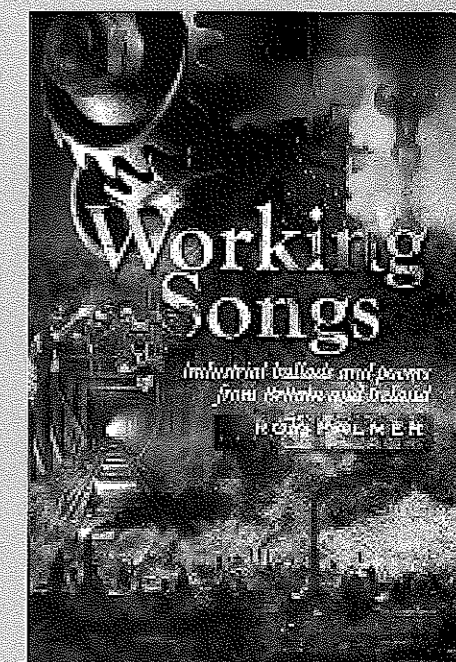
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Feature—English Folk Dance & Song Society - Take 6 Project

Back in 2007 EFDSS made a successful bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund for funding a project named "Take 6". The project's aim was to "give back" to communities their own traditions of music, song and dance, which are currently stored at Cecil Sharp House, London. The Society wished to provide easy access to six major manuscript collections via a website which would include 22,000 images of actual documents

The collections are:-
Anne Gilchrist – Lancashire,
Janet Heatley Blunt –West
Adderbury, Oxfordshire,
Francis Collinson – Kent,
Sussex and Essex,
George Butterworth – all over
the country,
Henry & Robert Hammond –
Somerset & Dorset,
George Gardiner –
Hampshire

You can view all these
collections on the internet –
[http://library.efdss.org/
archives](http://library.efdss.org/archives)

In addition to this website, it was decided to work with primary schools in Hampshire, London and Lancashire, where local traditional material could be used, developed and promoted. It was also decided to develop a separate website as an online songbook, which would be useful for children and schools to use; Fun With Folk. Stephen Rowley was appointed as "The Heritage Education Officer" and workshop leaders were appointed to work in interested schools with children and staff using the local material. The workshop leaders included, Sue Bousfield, Pete Coe, Edward Hicks, Deborah Newbold, Sarah Morgan, Carolyn Robson, Paul Sartin, Laurel Swift, Roger Watson and Doc Rowe..

Pete Coe, a very well established workshop leader worked with three schools in Lancashire introducing the

material collected in Lancashire 100 years ago by Anne Gilchrist. This material included mostly singing games collected in Lancashire. The schools he worked with were; Anchorsholme Primary School, Blackpool, Revoe Primary School, Blackpool and Wensleyfold Primary school in Blackburn.

C.L.C showing the actions they had developed for the singing games.

I, (Sue Bousfield) met Stephen Rowley at the Folk Club at the Clarence in Blackpool. As a newly semi-retired teacher I was very interested in the project as I had used Folk Song, Dance and Drama with my classes for over 30 years.



Anne Gilchrist

The material proved so popular that Steve Rowley arranged for the children to record their singing for the website. To make the website more appealing to children it was decided to use animation and film for some of the songs.

The children from Revoe and Anchorsholme Schools had several days working at the new City Learning Centre in Blackpool having enormous fun animating the songs. The results are amazing. The children were also filmed using the facilities at the

I was invited to join the project and asked to use the website to lead workshops with three more Primary Schools in Lancashire. This would hopefully further promote the material but would also indicate the success of the website. I worked with Boundary Primary School, Blackpool, Shadsworth Junior School, Blackburn and Stoneyholme Primary School in Burnley.

The workshops were a huge success. The children thoroughly enjoyed using the

website and material. The staff also realised what a huge asset Folk Material is to the enrichment of the curriculum and can be used in so many different ways. It is not only wonderful for music lessons but is also a great source of information for Social, Family and Local History; it is also an inspiration for Story Telling and Writing, Artwork, Dance and Drama. The children also enjoyed playing the games in their free time and staff were amazed at the interaction and socialization that went on in the playground because of the games. One child even collected a new verse from his Granddad to one of the songs which was recorded and stored at Cecil Sharp House!

A Gala Day was held on 2nd July to celebrate the project. Children from Hampshire and London Schools presented their work to an audience of teachers, parents, and staff and the work from the Lancashire Schools was viewed on film. Enthusiasm and enjoyment was shown by all participants and the audience were treated to a wonderful display of song and dance. Later that day a Folk Song and Singing Game workshop was held for teachers by the workshop leaders.

From my point of view this was a tremendously successful initiative and of great value to the communities involved and the Funwithfolk website is a success, although it does need to have more material added to it. I really hope that E.F.D.S.S. in the future, can provide more quality community work like this, to those areas of the country that do not have ready access to the facilities at Cecil Sharp House.

[http://library.efdss.org/
archives](http://library.efdss.org/archives)
<http://funwithfolk.com/>

Sue Bousfield

Articles

LEARN TO PLAY GUITAR

After very successful introduction during the 2009/2010 year, Lancashire Adult Learning – through Lancashire College will again be running their very popular 'Guitar for Beginners' course at venues in Chorley and Salesbury.

This course is aimed at aspiring guitarists who wish to strum or pick along as an accompaniment to either a song or a melody played on another guitar or another musical instrument.

It is not designed to produce another Eric Clapton, Ralph McTell, Mark Knopfler or John Williams. However – delivered in a slow-paced - user-friendly way - it will impart the fundamental understanding and the basic techniques required to accompany yourself, at an acceptable standard, whilst playing several songs in various styles.

With this new-found knowledge and ability you should be confident enough to play in front of friends or perform a short spot at your local Folk Club or 'Open Mic' night.

To get the best from this course you should :-

- Have a desire to play a guitar (and if you like to 'Sing along' too – that is even better)
- Be prepared to practice for 15 minutes a day for at least five days a week until the tips of your fingers harden-up
- And please note (this is particularly aimed at the ladies) the finger nails on your left hand (if you are right-handed) need to be kept short.
- A sense of humour, desire to have fun while you learn and an ability to 'Not take yourself too seriously' are essential

You DO NOT need to be able to read music to take this course (or indeed to play the guitar)

ESSENTIAL – an acoustic guitar (either a steel strung acoustic or a nylon strung classical)

NICE TO HAVE (But not essential) A Capo, A Tuner, Plectrums, Strap, Thumb and finger picks. If you don't already have these – wait until you start the course before buying.

Work sheets will be provided (You may like to bring along a file to keep them in)

Access to a computer is useful (But not essential) as there will be information on the internet.

A small sound recording device if you feel that it may be of use.

This year also sees the introduction of a second course 'Guitar for Improvers' – not so much for 'absolute beginners' this course will be aimed at those who are already familiar with the basics and are already capable of strumming a few chords. Again – very user friendly and designed to go at a pace slow enough to suit everyone in the group.

Both courses start during the last week in September – if you would like to know more ring the college on 01257 276719 or phone Graham on 01254 853929 or 0781 5522925

Graham Dixon
77 Hayfield Avenue
Hoghton
Lancashire
PR5 0AX
01254 853929

FOUR FOOLS - SPECIAL EVENT

The Four Fools are hosting a special event on Saturday 20th November at our normal club venue of The Crown at Worthington. We are holding a full day of workshops concluding with an evening concert.

The workshops start at 12 noon and we have two tutors. Janet Russell will be leading the voice/singing workshops and Sandra Kerr will be running music workshops on Northumbrian Tunes and song accompaniment. The workshops will run from 12 Noon to 5.30 p.m. there will then be a meal break and the concert will start at 7.30 p.m.

Janet Russell and Sandra Kerr will be performing in the concert and also floor singers are welcome as well. All in all a great day. The price for the event is £25 (which includes two course meal), £15 (without meal). Tickets will be available for the evening concert only at £5. Ticket numbers for the day are limited so if you are interested please book early.

There is even B&B available at the Crown for those travelling from further afield. The Crown is a great Real Ale pub that also does good food. If interested please contact Ken and Angie on 01257 263678 or four.fools@virgin.net

Check out the diary dates to see the wonderful guests we have this autumn at our Monday night club. Look forward to seeing you soon.

Angie and Ken Bladen

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

"HUNGRY HORSE FOLK CLUB"

www.hungryhorseacoustic.com

The Rake, Rake Lane, Little Stanney, nr Ellesmere Port/Chester, CH2 4HS
Start times: - Guest nights 8-15pm -- Singers & Musicians Nights 8pm



SEPTEMBER		
2nd	"JAMIE LANDSBOROUGH & BRENDAN FAHY"	£4
9th	Singers & Musicians Night	
16th	"MARIE LITTLE"	£6
23rd & 30th	Singers & Musicians Nights	
OCTOBER		
7th	Singers & Musicians Night	
14th	"CHRIS WHILE & JULIE MATTHEWS"	£10
21st & 28th	Singers & Musicians Nights	
NOVEMBER		
4th	"FULL HOUSE"	£6
11th	Singers & Musicians Night	
18th	"Open Mic -- 60's theme night"	
25th	Singers & Musicians Night	
DECEMBER		
2nd	Singers & Musicians Night	
9th	"ANTHONY JOHN CLARKE"	£7
16th	"VOCAL POINT" - Christmas Party with guests	
23rd & 30th	Closed	
2011 - JANUARY		
6th	Singers & Musicians Night	
13th	"FIDDLESTONE"	£6
20th & 27th	Singers & Musicians Nights	
FEBRUARY		
3rd & 10th	Singers & Musicians Nights	
17th	"STEVE KNIGHTLEY and Guest"	£15
24th	Singers & Musicians Night	
MARCH		
3rd & 10th	Singers & Musicians Nights	
17th	"HARVEY ANDREWS"	£8
24th & 31st	Singers & Musicians Nights	
APRIL		
7th	Singers & Musicians Night	
14th	"JEZ LOWE"	£8
21st & 28th	Singers & Musicians Nights	
ADVANCED DATE:-		
	12th May - "KIERAN GOSS"	
TICKET BOX OFFICE - 0151-678-9902		
Singers & Musicians Nights - FREE ADMISSION Resident support act - "VOCAL POINT"		

The Story Behind The Song

The Ballad of Robert Cadman

The tale of Robert Cadman is one to boggle the mind.

Cadman, a steeplejack who lived in Shrewsbury in the 18th Century, earned extra money by tightrope walking.

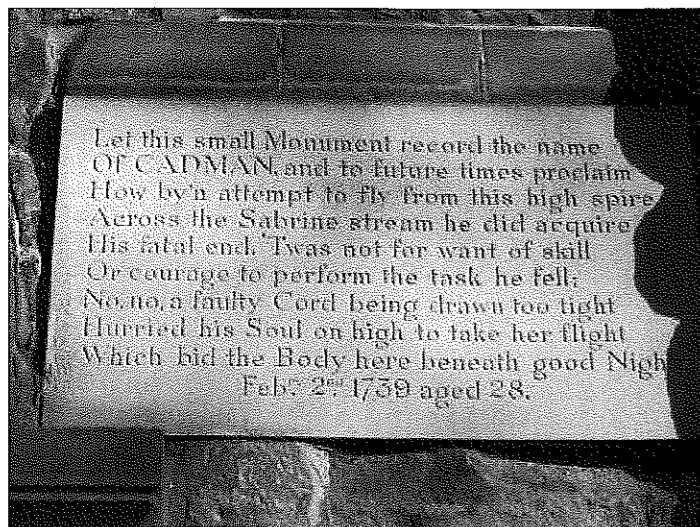
On 2nd February 1739 at the age of 28, he attempted his most daring feat and set about 'sliding' across the River Severn on a rope stretched from the tower of St Mary's Church to Gaye Meadow on the other bank of the river - a distance of around 800 feet and over 200 feet high at the tower.

After much initial merriment, and several drinks at the local tavern, Cadman (accompanied by a troupe of 'jesters, knaves and jugglers') set about his task.

He began by walking up the rope firing pistols and performing tricks. Then he fastened a wooden breastplate (which had a groove in it) to his leather doublet, lay on the rope and prepared to slide down to earth.

Unfortunately the rope broke and he fell to his death. His wife was waiting to collect the money that the ladies and gentlemen of Shrewsbury might kindly donate. When she was told that he 'had been dashed to pieces' she dropped the donations and ran to his body. It is not known how many donations were made on the day that Robert Cadman died or what indeed happened to his wife. He was buried in St Mary's Church, where a plaque in his memory may still be found. It reads:

*'Let this small monument record the name
Of Cadman, and to future times proclaim
Here, by an attempt to fly from this high spire
Across the Sabrine stream, he did acquire
His fatal end. 'Twas not for want of skill
Or courage to perform the task, he fell:
No, no a faulty cord, being drawn too tight
Hurried his soul on high to take her flight,
Which bid the body here beneath good night
Feb. 2nd 1739 aged 28.'*



The Song:

The Ballad of Robert Cadman

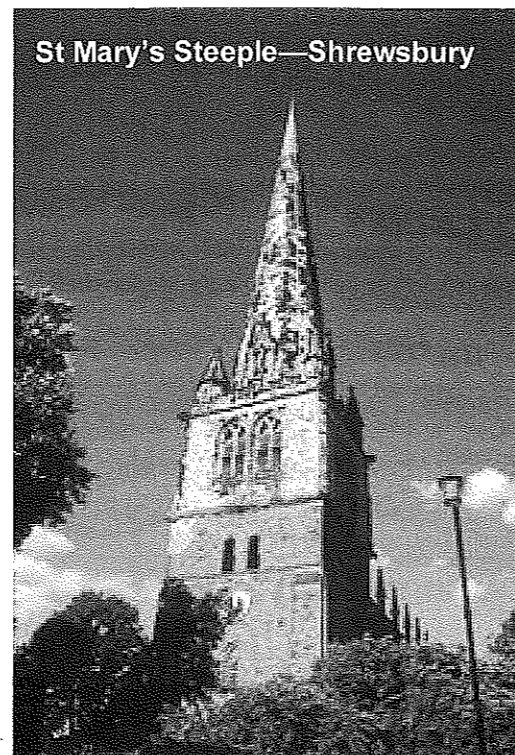
D C G D
Did you hear the tale of Cadman who lived in Shrewsbury town

C G D
Master of the high-wire, high above the ground
D C G D
Jesters naves and jugglers, dancing in the street
C G D
Plans and preparations finally complete

Crowds had all gathered to see if he could fly
Across the Severn River to the other side
Across the Severn River to the other bank
His doublet made of leather
breast-plate made of plank

Chorus
A G D
He was not short of courage, was not short of skill
A G D
From St. Mary's steeple Cadman would prevail
D C G D
Bells around his ankles, bells around his wrists
D C G D
In colours so appealing, performing clever tricks

Flagons filled with cider, flagons filled with ale
From St. Mary's steeple Cadman would prevail
He was not short of courage, was not short of skill
It was a faulty cord they said, the records clearly tell



Bill Malkin & John Sylvester

Jim Jones

Come listen for a moment lads and hear my sorry tale,
How overseas from England I was condemned to sail,
The jury found me guilty and the hanging judge cries he
'For life Jim Jones I'm sending you across the stormy sea'.

'And take my tip before you ship to join the iron gang,
Don't get too gay in Botany Bay or else you'll surely hang.
Or else you'll surely hang', cries he, 'and after that Jim Jones
Well, it's high upon the gallows tree the crows will pick your bones.'

'There'll be no time for mischief there, remember what I say,
They'll flog the poaching out of you when you come to Botany Bay.
You'll labour hard upon the land and none shall hear your tales,
No more you'll take the dog and gun when you come to New South Wales'.

Our ship was far upon the sea when the pirates came along,
But the soldiers on our convict ship were full five hundred strong,
And they opened fire and somehow drove that pirate ship away,
But I'd rather have joined the pirate ship than come to Botany Bay.

Where day and night the irons clang and like poor galley slaves
We work and toil and when we die we fill dishonoured graves.
Ah! But by and by I'll break these chains, into the bush I'll go
And I'll join the brave bushrangers there, Jack Donahue and Co.

And some dark night when everything is silent in the town
I'll kill the tyrants one by one, I'll shoot the floggers down
And I'll give the law a little shock, remember what I say.
They'll yet regret they sent Jim Jones in chains to Botany Bay

The Criminal Class

Wow! I do like a song with attitude and this song is just stunning. It's a bit of a shock for us today, I suppose, to hear such explicit threats of violence in a song but the words of 'Jim Jones' reflect the injustice and harshness of the law in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and the burning resentment felt by many who were on the receiving end.

Perhaps the root of the problem in those times was the belief held by those in power that the class system was somehow ordained by God and, therefore, unchangeable. The hymn 'All things bright and beautiful', written by Cecil Alexander in 1848, neatly encapsulates this long held view. In among the verses about flowers and birds and purple headed mountains there's a verse which has been quietly forgotten.

The rich man in his castle,
The poor man at his gate,
He made them, high or lowly,
And ordered their estate

Ugh! No wonder we don't sing that one any more. So, if you were born to be a king, then a king you must be and it would be nothing less than treason for anyone to try to deprive you of your kingship since God ordained this natural order. At the other end of the spectrum, if you were born into the 'criminal classes', you must inevitably become a criminal. No amount of education or counselling could possibly reform you. If you had committed even the smallest crime you had thus revealed your true nature and it would only be a matter of time before your criminal career escalated to the worst crimes imaginable.

With such a rigid belief system underpinning the law it was only logical to treat even minor crimes with extreme harshness. Why wait until someone commits murder before you hang them. They just stole a loaf of bread didn't they? Hang them now before they do something worse. It's just a question of

eradicating vermin, you see.

The number of crimes which merited hanging became ridiculous and spawned the well known saying 'you may as well be hung for a sheep as a lamb', that is to say, if you're going to hang anyway you might as well commit a more profitable crime and hope you get away with it.

An Expanding Problem

Viewed in this light the Draconian justice system had the opposite effect of the one intended; it actually encouraged the escalation of crime. If hanging was the punishment for stealing a loaf of bread you might as well steal a diamond necklace. If you could be strung up for picking someone's pocket you may as well murder them so that they couldn't identify you. If you could be hung for poaching you might as well kill the gamekeeper and avoid getting caught. That was the logic of the situation. In the late eighteenth century crime was becoming widespread due to extreme social deprivation and the only surprise is that it wasn't much, much worse.

As the crime rate soared the few gaols quickly overflowed. Something had to be done. For a time Britain solved the problem by sending a steady stream of convicts across the water to Virginia and other colonies as slave labour. Death sentences were often commuted to a life of slavery in the Americas, cheap labour for an expanding Empire. However, due to a little misunderstanding over taxation, in 1776 the colonials issued their Declaration of Independence and kicked us out so we could no longer use America as a dumping ground. We had to find somewhere else and fast. At first the problem was solved by the use of prison ships, old and unseaworthy hulks, moored in an estuary and filled with assorted thieves and vagabonds who were judged a threat to civilised society. Soon though, every available hulk was bursting at the seams just like the gaols. What next?

Botany Bay

Captain Cook's voyages to the Pacific had established the existence of a large continent peopled only by a handful of primitive natives who surely wouldn't object if we turned their homeland into a gaol. The land was then known as New South Wales as our song indicates, but would soon become Australia. On his first expedition Cook had landed in a secluded bay from which the scientists on board had collected a profusion of botanical specimens; hence the name Botany Bay. The leading scientist on the expedition, Joseph Banks had become a man of great influence in the 1780's and he it was who promoted Botany Bay as the solution to re-housing the criminal classes.

In 1788 the first convicts arrived in Botany Bay aboard a fleet of eleven ships commanded by Captain Arthur Philip. Many more would follow. Our song describes well the harsh system of discipline, especially the liberal use of the lash. The lash was administered frequently and excessively with punishments running sometimes into hundreds of lashes. A whipping like that could, and did, turn flesh to a bloody pulp and expose the bones.

The journey to the other side of the world was a nightmare in cramped and unsanitary conditions with poor food and foul water, clapped in irons below deck, flogged at the drop of a hat and always, always, the rolling, heaving sea. The journey dragged on for months. Many never made it to Australia. They died on board and were consigned to the deep. Small wonder that Jim Jones would 'rather have joined the pirate ship'.

It beggars belief that human beings could be treated in this way by other human beings. Who were these creatures who had so offended society that they had to be banished to the other side of the world and treated worse than dogs. Some were political prisoners, some were trade unionists, some were fraudsters, most were just petty thieves. The oldest convict on the First Fleet was a lady of eighty two years, Dorothy Handland, a dealer in second hand clothes. Her crime was perjury. She committed suicide soon after arriving in Australia. The youngest

was a boy of nine, John Hudson, a chimney sweep who had turned his hand to petty thieving. Did such persons really threaten the foundations of civilisation?

In Australia the convicts were set to work erecting buildings and laying down roads. Often they worked in chain gangs (known as 'iron gangs'), shackled together, kicked and beaten and driven to the point of exhaustion. Their tormentors were mostly soldiers who didn't want to be there either and took out their frustration on the convicts.

Enter the Bushrangers

A few convicts escaped but where could they go? England was 10,000 miles away across the ocean. The only option was the bush. There you were likely to die of thirst or starvation or be murdered by the abo's, the aboriginals whose land this was. But some hardy souls escaped and survived. They became bushrangers, bandits who preyed on the farms and settlements which were springing up all over. Some, like Jack Donahue and Ned Kelly, became legendary figures just like Jesse James and Billy the Kid in America. This is the only option Jim Jones can see left open to him. It's either join the bushrangers or die a miserable death in slavery, thousands of miles from home.

Interestingly, the mention of Jack Donahue in the Jim Jones song puts an approximate date on it. Donahue, a young Irishman, was one of those convicts who did manage to escape and from 1828 to 1830 he robbed the rich and was lionised by the poor who saw him as their champion against the police and the authorities. The outcome was inevitable though. On September 1st 1830 Jack Donahue and his companions were ambushed by troopers near Bringelly, New South Wales and Donahue died in a hail of bullets. He was just 23 years of age. If Jim Jones was planning to join the Donahue gang it must have been in that period before the fatal ambush.

The last convict ship unloaded its unhappy cargo in Fremantle, Australia in 1868. For a long time there had been pressure to end the dreadful system, both from reformers and from Australian settlers who resented the image that the world had of their country as one big gaol. The misery which transportation inflicted touched thousands of families and scarred the early years of a new nation. It is a part of our history which we have quietly swept under the carpet along with slave trading in Africa and opium dealing in China. I don't remember such topics even getting a mention in my schoolboy history lessons.

The song 'Jim Jones' was collected only once so it's a gem we almost lost. Like a number of other songs it may have had more widespread popularity than this implies but perhaps country singers were reluctant to share such an outspoken song with middle class collectors like Cecil Sharp. Who knows? But thankfully, we have it. Jim Jones we salute you, an indomitable human spirit.

Brian Bull

REMINDER

Please ensure your input for the next issue of the magazine is submitted to the editor NO LATER than the copy deadline of 10th October 2010.

Many Thanks—Chris McIlveen

Letters

Improving the image of Folk North West Magazine

Chris,

You said you were keen to hear about suggested improvements, so here is one: abolish the aberrant apostrophes!

In the latest edition (which I got at our club on Friday) the 'infection' seems to have spread from the all-too-familiar "it's" for the possessive (Chairman's Jottings, and several instances in the last edition) and has now attacked an innocent plural ("Lot's" in the first of the Live Reviews).

I haven't yet read the rest of the magazine, so I don't know if there are others there or not.

☺

Ken Punshon

Editor's Note: Thanks for bringing this to our attention Ken. With the best will in the world, this sometimes slips through the proof reading net. It would be great if someone would volunteer to do a spot of independent proof reading for us—any offers?

Folk North West Latest Issue

Dear Chris,
Having been associated with his magazine since its inception in 1978 (when it cost all of 5p!) I have seen many changes to it. Nigel Firth spent many years developing it into a well respected journal. Later, using more up to date technology, Ken Bladen improved it further especially in presentation. That is not to decry the 'interim' editors like, most recently, John Webb who continued to uphold standards. As I perform around the folk scene in the UK fellow performers and friends often remark upon how good the general presentation and content is for a regional folk magazine. I have even heard it compared favourably with national folk periodicals which is an accolade indeed for a smallish outfit like Folk North West. However, after all this time I have to say that the current Summer edition of the magazine supercedes even these former high standards. You have really pulled out the stops in improving further the presentation and layout of our local folk 'rag'! Well done! All we need now is to improve on the content; perhaps by sacking that CD reviewer.. what's his name?.. Dirk Gilford or something. Keep up the good work.

All the best,
Derek 'Giff' Gifford
(AKA for those who missed the point...Dirk Gilford... or something like that)

Ingleton Folk Weekend

Friday 1st - Sunday 3rd October 2010

Mike Harding

Saturday 2nd October 8.00 pm Tickets £15

This concert has
Sold Out

Festival Ceilidh

Hosted by the Front Parlour Ceilidh Band with special guests

Mark Boden Carla Soto & Phil Philo *for a touch of Flamenco!*

Friday 1st 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

Comic Song Competition

A Big Sing

Street Entertainment

Morris Dancers

plus live music from

Keith Donnelly

Jeff Wright

Brother Crow

Peter Taylor

London Philharmonic Skiffle Orchestra

Dial

Owd Chyvers

Michelle Holding

Marie Little

The Duncan McFarlane Band

Malkin

The Troubadors

Jiva

Chris Milner

Fyrish

Bernulf

Wendy Arrowsmith Band

Strid

Out on a Limb

Trim Rig and a Doxy

Limestone Cowboys

Dogwood Rose

Check out our website 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

Sedbergh Folk Festival

Hanson Aggregates

Bobby's Coaches

Black Sheep Brewery

Ive Design

Club Residents (as on 22nd July 2010)

- 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
- BIG LOCK** -- Liz Rosenfield, Ian Murfitt, Stephen Dent, Iain Bowley, Jeff Mather
- BOTHY** -- Clive Pownceby, Pete Rimmer, Bill Hackney, Alison Younger, Chris & Siobhan Nelson, Ray Rooney, Nev Grundy, Bev Sanders, Kevin Littlewood, Keith Price
- 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, Bernie Thomas, Vinny Spencer
- FOLK AT THE PROSPECT** -- Chris Hanslip, Carol & John Coxon, Eric Rafferty & Tony Toy
- FOLK ON FRIDAY** -- Pauline Dowsett, Des Cooney, Julie Houlton, Steve Eckersley, Jim & Bernadette Heaton
- FOUR FOOLS** -- Malcolm Gibbons, Tom & Ann Perry, Geoff & Lindsay Smith, Angie Bladen
- FRODSHAM** -- Alton & Carol Alexander, Eric Rafferty, Harry Leather, Syd Hayden, Jill Smith, Willie Gilmour, Pete Massey, Gordon Morris, Roger Bond, Norman Smith
- 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** -- John Owen, Angela Owen, Sue Farley, Marie Nicholls, Andy Eades, Alison Parker & the Third Man
- LONGRIDGE** -- Ron Flanagan
- 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, Two of a Kind
- MIDWAY** -- Peter Hood, Lynda Edwardes, Anne Yates, Peter Fox, Ged Darby, John Keithley, Grant Baynham, John Ashurst, Chris Baker
- 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, Jemma Hughes
- 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, Yardarm

Please notify changes or additions via email to - folksingerjohn@aol.com

NORTH WEST FEDERATION OF FOLK CLUBS				
SUNDAY	Time	ARTS CENTRES and THEATRES	Organiser	Tel. no.
Big Lock	8:30 PM	Big Lock Inn, Webbs Lane, Middlewich, CW10 9DN,	Liz Rosenfield	01606-834969
Bothy	8:00 PM	Park Golf Club, Park Road West, Southport, PR9 0JS	Clive Pownceby	0151-924-5078
Folk at the Manor	8:30 PM	Old Manor Club, Withens Lane, Wallasey, CH45 7NF	Roger Parker	0151-678-1962
Wooden Horse	8:30 PM	Squires Bar, 23 Main Street, Billinge, WN5 7HR (new venue)	Jim Coan	01772-452782
MONDAY				
Clwb Gwerin Conwy	8:30 PM	Royal British Legion, Rosehill Street, Conwy, LL32 8AF	Nick Gausden	01745-334087
Folk at the Prospect	8:30 PM	Prospect Inn, Weston Road, Weston Village, Runcorn, WA7 4LD	Roger Hanslip	01928-731567
Four Fools	8:15 PM	Crown Hotel, Platt Lane, Worthington, nr Standish, WN1 2XF	Ken & Angie Bladen	01257-263678
Midway	8:30 PM	The Midway, 263 Newbridge Lane, Stockport, SK1 2NX	Peter Hood	0161-432-4142
Room at the Top	8:30 PM	Red Lion Hotel, Ashbrow, Newburgh, WN8 7NF	Mark Dowding	01257-464215
Skipton Folk Unplugged	8:30 PM	The Narrow Boat, 38 Victoria Street, Skipton, BD23 1JE	Sheila A. Kelsall	01535-665889
Swinton	8:30 PM	The White Lion, 242 Manchester Road, Swinton, M27 4TS	Ged Todd	01942-811527
TUESDAY				
Acoustic Collective	9:00 PM	Wharf Tavern, 77/79 Caroline Street, Stalybridge, SK15 1PD	Paul Roberts	07930-340260
Bush Acoustic	9:00 PM	Bush Inn, 120 Moorside Street, Droylsden, Manchester, M43 7HL	Dave Jones	0161-355-1295
Everyman	8:30 PM	Everyman Bistro, 5-9 Hope Street, Liverpool, L1 9BH	Christine Jones	0151-709-3336
Longridge	8:30 PM	British Legion, Townley Road, Longridge, Nr. Preston PR3 3EA	Ron Flanagan	01772-785179
Maghull	8:30 PM	Maghull Community Ass'n, 604 Green Lane, Maghull, L31 2JH	Tony Gibbons	01744-607566
Sale	8:00 PM	United Services Club, Southern Road, Sale, Manchester M33 6HQ	Don Davies	0161-432-4317
Urmston Acoustics	8:30 PM	Nags Head Hotel, 1 Lostock Road, Urmston, M41 0SU	Martin Kavanagh	0161-748-5497
Wigan	9:00 PM	Fox & Goose, 37-39 Wigan Lane, Wigan, WN1 1XR	Geoff Newman	01942-517605
WEDNESDAY				
Biddulph up in Arms	8:00 PM	Biddulph Arms, 171 Congleton Road, Biddulph, ST8 6QJ	Eric Cox	01782-514896
Clarence	8:30 PM	The Clarence, 88 Preston New Road, Blackpool, FY4 4HG	Ann Green	01772-673744
Coppull Folk	9:00 PM	The Alison Arms, 279 Preston Road, Coppull, PR7 5DU	Phil Regan	01772-432691
For Folk's Sake	7:00 PM	The Bay Horse, 35-37 Thomas Street, Northern Quarter, M4 1NA	Sophie Parkes	07854-160624
Garstang Unplugged	8:00 PM	Kenlis Arms, Ray Lane, Barnacre, Garstang, PR3 1GD	Don Moore	01995-602795
Ye Olde Vic	8:30 PM	Ye Olde Vic, 1 Chatham Street, Stockport, Cheshire, SK3 9ED	Peter Hood	0161-432-4142
THURSDAY				
Acoustic Folk at the Nursery	9:00 PM	Nursery Inn, 258 Green Lane, Heaton Norris, Stockport SK4 2NA	Brenda Judge	0161-432-4830
Chorlton	9:00 PM	SW Manchester Cricket Club, Ellesmere Road, Chorlton M21 0SG	Jozeph Roberts	07833-735729
Dabbers	8:30 PM	Rifleman Inn, 68 James Hall Street, Nantwich, Cheshire, CW5 5QE	Lynne Barnes	01270-628041
Earby	7:30 PM	Station Hotel, 123 Colne Road, Earby, Barnoldswick, BB18 6XL	Sharon Hobson	01282-841727
Gregson Lane	8:30 PM	Sports & Social Club, Gregson Lane, Hoghton, PR5 0FD	Graham Dixon	01254-853929
Heaton Mersey	8:30 PM	Heaton Mersey Sports & Social Club, Halewood Road, SK4 3AW	Kieron Hartley	07957-492917
Hungry Horse Acoustic	8:15 PM	The Rake, Rake Lane, Little Stanney, Ellesmere Port, CH2 4HS	John Owen	0151-678-9902
Lymm	8:30 PM	Spread Eagle Hotel, 47 Eagle Brow, Lymm, Cheshire, WA13 0AG	Stewart Lever	07919-270916
Parkgate	8:15 PM	Boathouse Pub/Restaurant, 1 The Parade, Parkgate, CH64 6RN	Eddie Morris	0151-677-1840
South Lakes Music Promotion	8:30 PM	Sports & Social Club, Priory Road, Ulverston, LA12 9HD	Nick McDermott	07743-555227
Wigan	9:00 PM	The Keepers, 279 Woodhouse Lane, Wigan, WN6 7TD	Joan Blackburn	07833-301336
Woody Guthrie	8:00 PM	The Ship & Mitre, 133 Dale Street, Liverpool, L2 2JH	Alun Parry	08721-077077
Wrexham	8:30 PM	Nags Head Inn, Mount Street, Wrexham, LL13 8DW	Ian Chesterman	01978-357307
FRIDAY				
Bollington	8:30 PM	Dog & Partridge, 97 Palmerston Street, Bollington, SK10 5JX	Arthur Wakefield	01625-573596
Bromley Cross	8:00 PM	Bradshaw Cricket Club, The Rigby's, Bolton, BL2 3EL (new venue)	Chris Nash	01204-593224
Burnley	8:30 PM	Kettle drum Inn, 302 Red Lees Road, Cliviger, Burnley, BB10 4RG	Alex Nearney	01282-436467
Carlisle Folk & Blues	8:00 PM	Sunset Suite, Carlisle Football Ground, Warwick Road, CA1 1LL	Gill Andrew	01228-515061
Folk on Friday - Leigh	8:00 PM	Conservative Club, Railway Road, Leigh, WN7 4AX	Pauline Dowsett	01942-604603
Folk on Friday - Thingwall	8:00 PM	Thingwall Recreation Centre, Sparks Lane, Thingwall, CH61 7XE	Dave Jones	0151-639-4285
Frodsham	8:30 PM	Conservative Club, 74 Main Street, Frodsham, WA6 7AU	Grace Woods	01925-740422
Liverpool Acoustic Live	8:30 PM	View Two Gallery, 23 Matthew Street, Liverpool L2 6RE	Graham Holland	0151-280-5453
Northwich	8:30 PM	Harlequin Theatre, Queen St, Northwich, CW9 5JN	John Booth	01606-79356
Porkies	8:30 PM	Royal British Legion, Georges Road West, Poynton, SK12 1JY	Dave Hughes	01625-430149
SATURDAY				
Shamrock Promotions	8:00 PM	Mellor Brook Comm. Centre, 7 Whalley Road, Blackburn, BB2 7PR	Janet Aspin	01254-812131
ARTS CENTRES & THEATRES				
Brindley Arts Centre	8:00 PM	High Street, Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 1BG	Box Office	0151-907-8360
Burnley Mechanics	8:00 PM	Manchester Road, Burnley, Lancashire, BB11 1JA	Box Office	01282-664400
Bury Met	8:00 PM	Market Street, Bury, Lancashire, BL9 0BW	Box Office	0161-761-2216
Friends of Folk	8:00 PM	Various locations	Jim Minall	01772-422416
Mr Kite Benefits	8:00 PM	Various locations	Steve Henderson	01772-621411
Pacific Arts Centre	8:00 PM	Pacific Road, Birkenhead, Wirral, CH41 1LJ	Box Office	0151-647-0752
Philharmonic Hall	7:30 PM	Hope Street, Liverpool, L1 9BP	Box Office	0151-709-3789
Playhouse 2	8:30 PM	Newtown Street, Shaw, Oldham OL2 8NX	Barrie Cottam	01706-663117
Rose Theatre	8:00 PM	Edge Hill University, St Helens Road, Ormskirk, L39 4QP	Box Office	01695-584480
Sefton Park Palm House	7:30 PM	Sefton Park Palm House, Sefton Park, Liverpool, L17 1AP	Elizabeth-Anne W'ms	0151-726-9304
Southport Arts Centre	8:00 PM	Lord Street, Southport, PR8 1DB	Emma Burrows	01704-540011
The Citadel	8:00 PM	Waterloo Street, St Helens, WA10 1PX	Box Office	01744-735436
The Platform	7:30 PM	Station Buildings, Central Promenade, Morecambe, LA4 4DB	Glynis Johnson	01524-582803

29th August to 2nd October				
(NB: Always check with organisers before travelling)				
SUNDAY	29TH AUGUST	5TH SEPTEMBER	12TH SEPTEMBER	19TH SEPTEMBER
Big Lock		Singers Night		
Bothy	Singaround		KEN NICOL	TOM McCONVILLE
Folk at the Manor	Residents Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	ARTHUR MARSHALL
Friends of Folk @ Worden Arts Centre, Leyland	KEN NICOL & CHRIS & SIOBHAN NELSON			
Sefton Park Palm House		EDUARDO NIEBELA TRIO		
Wooden Horse	closed	Singers Night	Singers Night	& DAVID NEWEY
MONDAY	30TH AUGUST	6TH SEPTEMBER	13TH SEPTEMBER	20TH SEPTEMBER
Clwb Gwerin Conwy	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
Folk at the Prospect	Singers Night	STANLEY ACCRINGTON	BROTHER MULE	Singers Night
Four Fools	Singers Night	Singers Night		Singers Night
Midway	Singers Night		KEITH KENDRICK	Singers Night
Room at the Top	closed	Singers Night	ANTHONY JOHN CLARKE	Singers Night
Skipton Folk Unplugged	Singers Night	JINSKI	Singers Night	HARVEST HOME Theme Night
TUESDAY	31ST AUGUST	7TH SEPTEMBER	14TH SEPTEMBER	21ST SEPTEMBER
Acoustic Collective	Singers Night	STU MORTIMER	Singaround	THE CHERRY HINTONS
Bush Acoustic	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround
Crown	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround
Everyman		Club re-opens - Singers Night	Singers Night	HARD TIMES
Longridge	Singers Night	ANTHONY JOHN CLARKE	Singers Night	Singers Night
Maghull	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
Sale	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
Urmston Acoustics	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
Wigan	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
WEDNESDAY	1ST SEPTEMBER	8TH SEPTEMBER	15TH SEPTEMBER	22ND SEPTEMBER
Biddulph up in Arms			ELIZA CATHY & SAUL ROSE	
Clarence				DAVE WALMISLEY
Coppull Folk	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
Garstang Unplugged				
Sefton Park Palm House			CORINNE WEST & KELLY-JO PHELPS	
Ye Olde Vic		Music session - English		Music Session - English

THURSDAY	2ND SEPTEMBER	9TH SEPTEMBER	16TH SEPTEMBER	23RD SEPTEMBER	30TH SEPTEMBER
Acoustic Folk at the Nursery	Big Spot - CHRIS TURNER				
Chorlton	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
* & ** Biddulph up in Arms @ Masonic Hall, Kidsgrove		THE QUEENSBERRY RULES with PHILLIP LEESE			
Dabbers	Singaround				
Earby	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians
Garstang Unplugged		RACHEL HARRINGTON & ROD CLEMENTS	tba		
Gregson Lane			MUTED JAZZ	KEN NICOL	
Heaton Mersey			MARIE LITTLE	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians
Hungry Horse Acoustic	JAMIE LANDBOROUGH & BRENDAN FAHY				
Lymn	** Singers Night	** ARTHUR MARSHALL	** Singers Night	** VIN GARBUTT	Singers Night
Parkgate				KATE RUSBY	ANTHONY JOHN CLARKE International Guitar Night
Philharmonic Hall	BLUEGRASS NIGHT				
Playhouse 2	JACKIE OATES				
The Brindley		KIT HOLMES			
The Met, Bury			CHLOE HALL TRIO		
Wigan		Singaround	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround
Woody Guthrie					
FRIDAY	3RD SEPTEMBER	10TH SEPTEMBER	17TH SEPTEMBER	24TH SEPTEMBER	1ST OCTOBER
Acoustic Collective		The Waggon - Uppermill			
Bromley Cross	Singers & Musicians		ARTISAN		
Burnley	Singers & Musicians	STANLEY ACCRINGTON	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians
Carlisle Folk & Blues	KRISTINA OLSEN & PETER GRAYLING		CHRIS WHILE & JULIE MATTHEWS		RACHEL HARRINGTON with ROD CLEMENTS
Folk on Friday (Leigh)		Singers Night	MARIE LITTLE		
Frodsham		Singers Night	MARY HUMPHRIES & ANAHATA		Singers Night
Liverpool Acoustic Live				PETER PRICE, BLUE C & THE ORCHESTRA (Sweden)	
Philharmonic Hall		MARTIN CATHY & DAVE SWARBRICK			
Northwich	** PETE MORTON	Singers Night	Singers Night	ANTHONY JOHN CLARKE	Singers Night
Porkies	STEVE TILSTON				CHRIS WHILE & JULIE MATTHEWS
SATURDAY	4TH SEPTEMBER	11TH SEPTEMBER	18TH SEPTEMBER	25TH SEPTEMBER	2ND OCTOBER
Acoustic Collective		The Waggon - Uppermill			
* & ** Four Fools	Traditional Music Workshop	Concertina Workshop	SAM BAKER		Traditional Music Workshop
Mr Kite Benefits @ St Bede's Club, Clayton Le-Woods					
Southport Arts Centre @ Crosby Civic Hall			THE HAMSTERS Jimi Hendrix - 40th Anniversary Commemoration Tour		
The Citadel				LITTLE JOHNNY ENGLAND	
The Met, Bury				HEIDI TALBOT	

3rd October to 6th November

(NB: Always check with organisers before travelling)

	3RD OCTOBER	10TH OCTOBER	17TH OCTOBER	24TH OCTOBER	31ST OCTOBER
SUNDAY					
* & ** Biddulph up in Arms @ The Leopard, Burslem				JOHN SPIERS & JON BODEN	
Big Lock	Singers Night			Singers Night	BRIAN PETERS
Bothy	CLOUDSTREET	Singers Night	STEVE TILSTON	Singers Night	Residents Night
Folk at the Manor	Singers Night		BANDERSNATCH		LAU
Philharmonic Hall	BETH NEILSEN CHAPMAN		ANDY IRVINE		
Shamrock Promotions	MALINKY				
Wooden Horse	COLUM SANDS	Singers Night	RESIDENTS NIGHT	Singers Night	Singers Night
MONDAY					
Clwb Gwerin Conwy	Singers Night	11TH OCTOBER	18TH OCTOBER	25TH OCTOBER	1ST NOVEMBER
Folk at the Prospect	CLOUDSTREET	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
Four Fools	Singers Night	Singers Night	ANDY IRVINE	Singers Night	Singers Night
Midway	COLUM SANDS	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
Room at the Top	Singers Night	Singers Night	MARTYN WYNDHAM-READ	Singers Night	Singers Night
Skipton Folk Unplugged	QUARTZ	Singers Night	19TH OCTOBER	26TH OCTOBER	DEREK GIFFORD
TUESDAY					
Acoustic Collective	THE MIGHTY NELSON	Singaround	KEVIN TARPEY	Singers Night	2ND NOVEMBER
Bush Acoustic	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround	SAL
Crown	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround
Everyman	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
Longridge	Singers Night	Singers Night	SCOLD'S BRIDLE	Singers Night	Singers Night
Maghull	Singers Night	Singers Night	KIERON GOSS	Singers Night	Singers Night
Philharmonic Hall	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
Sale	Singers Night	Singers Night	JOHN SPIERS & JON BODEN	Singers Night	Singers Night
** Southport Arts Centre	The Met, Bury		TIFT MERRITT		
Urmston Acoustics	Singers Night	Singers Night		Singers Night	Singers Night
Wigan	Singers Night	Singers Night		Singers Night	Singers Night
WEDNESDAY					
Biddulph up in Arms	6TH OCTOBER	13TH OCTOBER	20TH OCTOBER	27TH OCTOBER	3RD NOVEMBER
	MEGSON	Singers Night	ROY BAILEY & JOHN KIRKPATRICK		
* & ** Bromley Cross			JOHN SPIERS & JON BODEN		
Clarence	CLOUDSTREET	Singers Night	KERR, FAGAN & HARBRON		tba
Coppull Folk	Singers Night	Singers Night	DAVE SWARBRICK		Singers Night
Garstang Unplugged					
The Brindley					
Ye Olde Vic					
THURSDAY					
Acoustic Folk at the Nursery	7TH OCTOBER	14TH OCTOBER	21ST OCTOBER	28TH OCTOBER	4TH NOVEMBER
* Bothy	CLAIRE HAMILL	Singers Night		Big Spot - MICHELLE HOLDING	
Chorlton	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
Dabbers	Singaround	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	Singaround
Earby	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians

	7TH OCTOBER	14TH OCTOBER	21ST OCTOBER	28TH OCTOBER	4TH NOVEMBER
THURSDAY(cont'd)					
Garstang Unplugged		HEADWATER			
Gregon Lane	Singers Night		PETE MORTON		Singers Night
Heaton Mersey			GEOFF HIGGINBOTTOM		
Hungry Horse Acoustic	Singers & Musicians	CHRIS WHILE & JULIE MATTHEWS	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	FULL HOUSE
Lymm	** NELSON PEACH	** PHIL HARE	** MARTIN SIMPSON	Singers Night	** BOO HEWERDINE
Parkgate	KIERAN GOSS	MICHAEL MCGOLDRICK and Friends	* JAMES KEELAGHAN TRIO		* THE MCGALMANS
The Met, Bury	Singaround	Singaround		Singaround	Singaround
Wigan	Singaround	Singaround		Singaround	Singaround
Woody Guthrie					
Wrexham	BRAM TAYLOR				BANDERSNATCH
FRIDAY					
* & ** Biddulph up in Arms @ The Leopard, Burslem	8TH OCTOBER	15TH OCTOBER	22ND OCTOBER	29TH OCTOBER	5TH NOVEMBER
Bromley Cross	Singers & Musicians Night			THE QUEENSBERRY RULES	
Burnley	BEN NEEDHAM & ROBIN PETTY	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers & Musicians Night
Burnley Mechanics					Singers Night
Carlisle Folk & Blues		CHRIS SHERBURN & DENNY BARTLEY	BERNARD WRIGLEY & the OLDHAM TINKERS	BOB FOX	
Folk on Friday (Leigh)	Singers Night	TOM KITCHEN & GREN BARTLEY			
Frodsham	Singers Night	MARTYN WYNDHAM-READ			
Liverpool Acoustic Live					
Northwich	SARAH McQUAID	Singers Night	** Singers Night	Singers Night	BOB FOX
Philharmonic Hall	MARTIN SIMPSON	BRIAN KENNEDY	IRISH SEA SESSIONS	CHRISTY MOORE	ALY BAIN, ALE MOLLER & BRUCE MOLSKY
Porkies					ELBOW JANE
Rose Theatre		MADDY PRIOR BENJI KIRKPATRICK & GILES LEWIN			
The Met, Bury					RAUL MALO
The Platform	GENTICORUM				RALPH McTELL
SATURDAY					
* & ** Folk at the Prospect	9TH OCTOBER	16TH OCTOBER	23RD OCTOBER	30TH OCTOBER	6TH NOVEMBER
* & ** Four Fools			MALINKY		
* Gregson Lane	Concertina Workshop				Traditional Music Workshop
	Charity Night with ANTHONY JOHN CLARKE & MARY McCOMBS				
Philharmonic Hall		ANDY IRVINE	JOHN O'CONNELL	CHRISTY MOORE	
Playhouse 2			LEGPLAITERS CEILIDH BAND		

SATURDAY(cont'd)	9TH OCTOBER	16TH OCTOBER	23RD OCTOBER	30TH OCTOBER	6TH NOVEMBER
Sale		CHRIS SHERBURN & DENNY BARTLEY			
Sefton Park Palm House		PETE QUINN & the LONDON LASSES IRISH FESTIVAL CONCERT			
Shamrock Promotions		THE OYSTER BAND	OPERA XPOSED		
* Southport Arts Centre				CHAS & HIS BAND	
The Citadel					RALPH MCTELL
The Met, Bury		CHRIS WOOD & ANDY CUTTING			
NB: * = Not the usual night					

7th November to 11th December

(NB: Always check with organisers before travelling)

SUNDAY	7TH NOVEMBER	14TH NOVEMBER	21ST NOVEMBER	28TH NOVEMBER	5TH DECEMBER
Big Lock	Singers Night				Singers Night
Bothy	Singers Night	STEVE ASHLEY Singers Night	Singers Night	ROY BAILEY Singers Night	TATTIE JAM Singers Night
Folk at the Manor	Singers Night		ZOE MULLFORD		
Mr Kite Benefits @ St Bede's Club, Clayton-Le-Woods	SARA WATKINS with Katriona Gilmore & Jamie Roberts				
Philharmonic Hall		CHARLIE LANDSBOROUGH		COOPE, BOYES & SIMPSON THE DYLAN PROJECT	
Shamrock Promotions					
The Citadel					
Wooden Horse	Singers Night		MARTYN WYNDHAM-READ		Singers Night
MONDAY	8TH NOVEMBER	15TH NOVEMBER	22ND NOVEMBER	29TH NOVEMBER	6TH DECEMBER
Clwb Gwerin Conwy	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
Folk at the Prospect	TRIO THRELFALL	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	GRAHAM DUNN Singers Night
Four Fools	Singers Night	Singers Night	SARA GREY & KIERON MEANS	Singers Night	Singers Night
Midway	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
Room at the Top	Singers Night	SARAH GREY & KIERON MEANS	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
Skipton Folk Unplugged	Singers Night	ANNA SHANNON	Singers Night	FYRISH	TOM McCONVILLE & DAVID NEWBY 7TH DECEMBER
TUESDAY	9TH NOVEMBER	16TH NOVEMBER	23RD NOVEMBER	30TH NOVEMBER	7TH DECEMBER
Acoustic Collective	Singaround	TOM DOUGHTY	Singers Night	ACOUSTIC COLLECTIVE	OTHER ROADS
Bush Acoustic	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround
Crown	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround
Everyman	RICHARD GRAINGER	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
Longridge		ANTHONY JOHN CLARKE			CELTIC FRINGE
Maghull	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
Sale	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
Urmston Acoustics					
Wigan	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
WEDNESDAY	10TH NOVEMBER	17TH NOVEMBER	24TH NOVEMBER	1ST DECEMBER	8TH DECEMBER
Biddulph up in Arms		JEZ LOWE & the BAD PENNIES	JIM CAUSLEY		
Clarence		THISTLE		ALLAN TAYLOR	
Coppull Folk	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
Garstang Unplugged					
Ye Olde Vic					
Music session - English					

THURSDAY	11TH NOVEMBER	18TH NOVEMBER	25TH NOVEMBER	2ND DECEMBER	9TH DECEMBER
Acoustic Folk at the Nursery	Singers Night		Singers Night		Singers Night
Chorlton	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night	Singers Night
Dabbers					
Earby	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians
Garstang Unplugged	tba				
Gregson Lane		PETER & BARBARA SNAPE			
Heaton Mersey		tba			
Hungry Horse Acoustic	Singers & Musicians	60's THEME NIGHT	Singers & Musicians	Singers & Musicians	ANTHONY JOHN CLARKE
Lynn	Singers Night	** LORRAINE JORDAN	Singers Night	ST AGNES FOUNTAIN	
Mr Kite Benefits @ Worden Arts Centre, Leyland					
Parkgate			VIN GARBUIT		
Wigan	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround	Singaround
Woody Guthrie			ROBB JOHNSON		
Wrexham					
FRIDAY	12TH NOVEMBER	19TH NOVEMBER	26TH NOVEMBER	3RD DECEMBER	10TH DECEMBER
Bromley Cross		THE HOMETOWNERS & TONY DOWNES	Singers & Musicians Night	Singers & Musicians Night	
Burnley	PHIL COCKERHAM			PAT SHERRY & STUART DOUGLAS	Singers Night
Carlisle Folk & Blues	THE DOONANS				KEITH DONNELLY & LES BARKER
Folk on Friday		BOO HEWERDINE			
Friends of Folk @ The Rose	Singers Night	CHLOE HALL TRIO	Singers Night	Singers Night Xmas Special	
Frodsham	Singers Night	JANET RUSSELL	Singers Night	Singers Night	HIS WORSHIP & the PIG
Liverpool Acoustic Live			JON GOMM, MARK WILSON & MEGHAN THOMAS		
Northwich	Singers Night	MARTIN SIMPSON	Singers Night	Singers Night	** Singers Night
Philharmonic Hall	BARB JUNGR		PEGGY SEEGER	THE SAW DOCTORS	
Playhouse 2	HELEN WATSON BAND				
Porkies			DENIS JONES	BERNARD WRIGLEY	
The Met, Bury					
The Platform	BRIAN KENNEDY			ZULU	
SATURDAY	13TH NOVEMBER	20TH NOVEMBER	27TH NOVEMBER	4TH DECEMBER	11TH DECEMBER
* & ** Leigh Folk Club	HOUGHTON WEAVERS				
* & ** Four Fools	Concertina Workshop	Day of Voice and Music Workshops & evening concert with JANET RUSSELL & SANDRA KERR		Traditional Music Workshop	Concertina Workshop
Friends of Folk @ The Rose					
Philharmonic Hall				GIGSPANNER	
Sale	BERNARD WRIGLEY			SAM CARTER	MAGGIE BOYLE PETE MORTON & CHRIS PARKINSON
Shamrock Promotions					
The Citadel	METHERA			FAMILY MAHONE	
The Platform				MARTYN JOSEPH	
NB: * = Not the usual night					

Advance Dates From Dec 2010

ACOUSTIC COLLECTIVE

Dec 7 Other Roads
Dec 14 Singaround
Dec 21 Christmas Party
Dec 28 closed

ACOUSTIC FOLK AT THE NURSERY

Dec 9 Singers Night
Dec 23 Christmas Party & Big Spot – Dave South
Jan 6 – 2011 Singers Night
Jan 20 Singers Night
Feb 3 David South's 60th Bash
Feb 17 Singers Night
March 3 Big Spot – Ann English & Shelley Williams
March 17 & 31 Singers Nights
April 14 Singers Night
April 28 Big Spot – Dave Jones
May 12 & 26 Singers Nights
June 9 & 23 Singers Nights
June 24th – 26th Droylsden Folk Weekend

BIDDULPH UP IN ARMS

Dec 15 Flossie Malavialle
Keith Donnelly & Les Barker

BOTHY

Dec 5 Tattie Jam
Ruairidh Pringle & Seylan Baxter
Dec 11 Gallimaufry & Friends
Christmas Knees-Up
Proceeds to Queenscourt Hospice
Dec 12 'An Appalachian Christmas' with Lynda Hardcastle
Helen & Mike Hockenull,
Alan Rose and Nigel Schofield
Dec 19 The Office Party
Dec 26 Closed until 9th January 2011
Closed until January 16th 2011
Jan 9 Singers Night
Jan 16 Trio Threlfall
Jan 23 Singers Night
Jan 30 Bandersnatch
Feb 6 Singers Night
Feb 13 Hazel & Emily Askew
Feb 20 Singers Night
Feb 27 Bob Fox
March 6 Singers Night
March 13 Linde Nijland & Bert Ridderbos
(Netherlands)
March 20 Tom & Barbara Brown
March 27 Singers Night
April 3 Singers Night

April 10 Debra Cowan & John Roberts (USA)
April 17 Mick Ryan & Paul Downes
April 24 Easter Something or Other
May 1 Singers Night
May 8 Quicksilver
May 15 Singers Night
May 22 Sue Burgess & Paul Wrigley
May 29 Bank Holiday Singers Night
June 5 The Wilsons
June 12 Singers Night
June 19 John Kelly
June 26 Themed Singers Night – 'Three Score and Ten' – Ian Wells birthday
July 3 Tim Laycock
July 10 Singers Night
July 17 Pete Morton
July 24 tbc
Sept 11 Beverley Smith & Carl Jones
Sept 18 Singers Night
Sept 25 Grace Notes
Oct 2 Singers Night
Oct 9 Simon Barron & Rosalind Brady
Oct 16 Singers Night
Oct 23 tbc
Oct 30 Singers Night
Nov 6 Chris Foster & Bara Grimsdottir
Nov 13 Singers Night
Nov 20 Paul O'Brien(Canada)
Nov 27 Singers Night
Dec 4 Sarah McQuaid
Dec 11 Singers Night
Dec 18 Office Party
Dec 25 & Jan 1 - 2012 closed
Jan 8 Tom Kitching & Gren Barley
Jan 15 David Ferrard
Jan 22 & 29 Singers Nights
Feb 19 Allan Taylor
Mar 4 Fraser Nimmo
April 1 Paul & Liz Davenport

BRINDLEY ARTS

Feb 10 – 2011 Megson

BROMLEY CROSS

Dec 3 Singers & Musicians Night
Dec 17 Doc Harvey & the Philistans
Jan 7 Singers & Musicians Night
Jan 21 Jez Lowe & Kate Bramley

BURNLEY

Dec 3 Pat Sherry & Stuart Douglas

CARLISLE FOLK & BLUES

Dec 10 'Idiot and Friend'
(aka Keith Donnelly & Les Barker)

CLARENCE

Dec 1 Allan Taylor
Dec 15 Christmas Party Night

EVERYMAN

Dec 7 Singers Night
Dec 14 Singers Night
Dec 21 Christmas Party
Dec 28 Closed
Feb 8 - 2011 Derek Gifford
(other dates – Singers Nights)

FOLK AT THE MANOR

Dec 19 Reckless Elbow
Dec 26 closed
(other dates – Singers Nights)

FOLK AT THE PROSPECT

Dec 6 Graham Dunn
Jan 10 – 2011 The Jaywalkers
Feb 21 Mick Ryan & Paul Downes
March 14 Anthony John Clarke
April 11 Time Bandits
May 9 Marie Little
June 6 Judy Dinning & Kenny Spiers
(other dates – Singers Nights)

FOLK ON FRIDAY (Leigh)

Dec 3 Singers Night
Christmas Special

FOUR FOOLS

* at Eaves Green Community Centre
Lower Burgh Way/Cottage Fields
Eaves Green, Chorley, PR7 3QG
* Dec 4 Traditional Music Workshop
* Dec 11 Concertina Workshop
(other dates – Singers Nights)

FRIENDS OF FOLK

@ Rose Theatre, Ormskirk
Dec 4 Peter Knight's Gigspanner

FRODSHAM

Dec 10 His Worship & the Pig
Dec 24 & 31 closed
(other dates – Singers Nights)

GREGSON LANE

Dec 16 Singers Night
Christmas Special
Dec 30 Brian Preston

HEATON MERSEY

Dec 16 Zingari Swing

HUNGRY HORSE ACOUSTIC

Dec 2 Singers & Musicians Night
Dec 9 Anthony John Clarke
Dec 16 Vocal Point Christmas Party Night
Dec 23 & 30 closed
Jan 6 – 2011 Singers & Musicians Night
Jan 13 Fiddlestone
Jan 20 & 27 Singers & Musicians Nights
Feb 3 & 10 Singers & Musicians Nights
Feb 17 Steve Knightley and guest
Feb 24 Singers & Musicians Night
March 3 & 10 Singers & Musicians Nights
March 17 Harvey Andrews
March 24 & 31 Singers & Musicians Nights
April 7 Singers & Musicians Night
April 14 Jez Lowe
April 21 & 28 Singers & Musicians Nights
May 5 Singers & Musicians Night
May 12 Kieron Goss

LIVERPOOL ACOUSTIC LIVE

View Two Gallery, 23 Matthew Street
Dec 16 Jollyboat
Jan 28 - 2011 Zoe Mulford
Feb 25 Stephen Langstaff

LONGRIDGE

Dec 7 Celtic Fringe
Dec 21 Christmas Bash

LYMM

** @ Lymm Rugby Club
Dec 2 Other Roads **
Dec 9 Singers Night **
Dec 16 4 Square
Dec 23 Christmas Singers Night
Dec 30 Singers Night
2011
Jan 6 & 13 Singers Nights
Jan 20 Scolds Bridle
Jan 27 Singers Night – Big Spot tbc
Feb 3 Dai Thomas
Feb 10 Stewart Lever return from FV
Charity Night
Feb 17 Singers Night
Feb 24 Tom Kitching & Gren Bartley
Singers Night
March 3 Roy Clinging
March 10 St Patrick's Night with Tony Gibbons & Friends
Singers Night
March 24 Singers Night – Big Spot tbc
April 7 Nick & Lyn Tysoe
April 14 Singers Night
April 21 Wendy Arrowsmith
April 28 Singers Night
May 5 Guest tbc

May 12 Singers Night
 May 19 George Papavgeris
 May 26 Singers Night

MR KITE BENEFITS

Dec 2 St Agnes Fountain
 @ Worden Arts Centre, Leyland

NORTHWICH

Dec 3 & 10 Singers Nights
 Dec 17 Singers Night
 Dec 24 & 31 closed
 Jan 7 Singers Night
 Jan 14 - 2011 Tom Brown &
 Ian Goodier
 Jan 28 Time Bandits
 (other dates - Singers Nights)

PARKGATE

* not usual night
 * Dec 16 tbc
 Jan 27 - 2011 Tom Topping Band
 Feb 24 Allan Taylor
 March 31 Other Roads
 * April 14 The Tannahill Weavers
 May 26 Mad Agnes

PORKIES

Dec 3 Bernard Wrigley

ROOM AT THE TOP

Dec 27 closed
 Jan 3 - 2011 closed
 (other dates - Singers Nights)

SALE

Dec 7 Singers Night
 Dec 11 Magical Christmas Tree tour
 Pete Morton, Maggie Boyle
 & Chris Parkinson with
 special guest -
 Geoff Chaucer jnr.
 Dec 14, 21, 28 Singers Nights
 Jan 4 - 2011 Singers Night
 Jan 22 Isambarde
 Feb 19 Steve Knightley & Guest
 March 19 The Bogtrotters

SHAMROCK PROMOTIONS

Dec 27 Swing Commanders

SKIPTON UNPLUGGED

Dec 6 Tom McConville &
 David Newey
 Dec 13 Christmas Party night
 with Stuart Douglas & Pat Sherry

SOUTHPORT ARTS CENTRE

NB: - @ Crosby Civic Hall
 Dec 20 Albion Band's
 Christmas Show

THE CITADEL

Feb 19 Silver Dogs
 March 5 Lancashire Hotpots
 March 12 Martin Carthy

THE PLATFORM

Dec 4 Martyn Joseph
 Dec 16 Maddy Prior & the
 Carnival Band
 Carols & Capers

WOODEN HORSE

Dec 5 Singers Night
 Dec 12 Christmas Special with
 Belshazzar's Feast
 Dec 19 Christmas Party
 Dec 26 closed
 NB: New venue: - Squires Bar
 27 Main Street, Billing, WN5 7HR
 (other dates - Singers Nights)

WREXHAM

Dec 2 tbc
 Dec 16 Yardarm Christmas Party
 Night for Charity in aid of
 Nightingale House &
 Wrexham Breath Easy

STOP PRESS

Just to let you know that Gary and Vera Aspey have agreed to do a fund raiser concert for us at the Standish Unity Club on Friday Oct 22nd, supported by local singers.

Start time 8pm. Tickets £7

Available via 01772 432691 or door.

Phil Regan

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

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NB: All subscribers to the magazine automatically become Associate Members of the North West Federation of Folk Clubs. This does not however confer voting rights at Federation Meetings

Guitar Workshop

With
 Jim Ronayne

Tennessee Waltz

(a simple study in DADGAD tuning)

The obvious disadvantages of playing down in London is the travelling. The advantage is the opportunity to stick a load of old CD's in the car and catch up on some things that you've not listened to in a while, especially on the "graveyard shift" back home 2.00 am on Monday morning. It was on one such trip that I came across this tune on an Eva Cassidy CD called Imagine. I think it's a beautiful rendition and it inspired this arrangement.

Where I think it's helpful I've indicated the LH fingering in the notation and added chord diagrams. As notated here, this arrangement should only be considered as the "basic" arrangement. Give yourselves three weeks to learn this version then in performance, you could add a lot of ornamentation / go off on innumerable improvisations and variations of your own as you become more and more familiar with the tuning.

Playing notes -:

I've indicated the LH fingering in the notation where I feel it might be helpful

Bar 4 -: The slide from the C to the B can also be played as a bend.

Bars 18 & 19 -: Use the fingering as marked in the notation

With just a slight variation it can be used as an accompaniment to a vocal or would go particularly well with a fiddle. If you go to the web site you can slow down / speed up the arrangement change the key as you wish.

Good Luck
 Jim (www.jimronayne.co.uk)

Tennessee Waltz

(study in DADGAD)

Part A

Musical notation for Part A, measures 1-4. The guitar tablature shows fret numbers on the strings. A 4-fret chord diagram is shown above the staff.

Musical notation for Part A, measures 5-8. The guitar tablature shows fret numbers on the strings. A 6-fret chord diagram is shown above the staff.

Musical notation for Part A, measures 9-12. The guitar tablature shows fret numbers on the strings. A 4-fret chord diagram is shown above the staff.

Musical notation for Part A, measures 13-16. The guitar tablature shows fret numbers on the strings. A 6-fret chord diagram is shown above the staff.

Part B

Musical notation for Part B, measures 17-21. The guitar tablature shows fret numbers on the strings. Chord diagrams for 6fret and 5fret are shown above the staff.

Musical notation for Part B, measures 22-25. The guitar tablature shows fret numbers on the strings. A 6-fret chord diagram is shown above the staff.

Musical notation for Part B, measures 26-29. The guitar tablature shows fret numbers on the strings. A 4-fret chord diagram is shown above the staff.

Musical notation for Part B, measures 30-33. The guitar tablature shows fret numbers on the strings. A 4-fret chord diagram is shown above the staff.

John's Diary Chat

Well hello again. As this season of festivals draws near to a close I do hope you have found some super entertainment and perhaps enjoyed acts that you have never seen before.

At Whit weekend Angela and myself paid our annual 'pilgrimage' to the Chester Festival at Kelsall where the feel and atmosphere was as good as ever. This festival always opens up quietly with an excellent folk club evening in the Social Club on the Friday evening. Throughout this four day festival, being able to see old friends both performers and audience is a treat for us. We really enjoyed the Geordie based shanty trio The Young 'Uns, Leicester singer/songwriter Pete Morton, the west country's Mick Ryan and Paul Downes, Vicki Swan and Jonny Dyer plus locals - Full House, The Waite Collective, Yardarm and Welcomme, Finnan & Chrimes. Flossie too excelled and I must confess I have never seen her in better form. Dan McKinnon paid another visit to the festival from his home in Canada. His rendition of Stan Rogers songs are just right and of course the fantastic Churchfitters provided us with an exhilarating show of immaculate rhythm and pace.

As soon as this festival was over it was immediately on to our own festival site at Bromborough where our 6th Wirral Folk on the Coast Festival got off to a great start on the Thursday night with a cracking 'Sing in the Festival evening' featuring Dave's son Greg Russell and Brendan Fahy who both entertained delightfully. It would be remiss of me to praise our own festival too much here but I must say that of those acts I was able to see I thoroughly enjoyed, Martyn Joseph, Chris While with Joe Broughton, (What a superb guitarist Joe is - not just fiddler), Bernard Wrigley, The Houghton Weavers, Jamie Landsborough, (yes he is Charlie's son), David Ferrard, Robin Laing and his Whiskey set (so knowledgeable), the New Rope String Band, Paul Reaney, Dave Burland and the very talented young trio Tri. Individual thanks must be given to Pete Abbott of Other Roads (formerly the John Wright's Band) who attended the weekend as a punter but ended up performing a set in place of Clive Gregson who cried off at the last minute due to illness. Well done Pete and we look forward greatly to Dave, Gregor and yourself being a part of the line up next year. The festival was a great success once again and my thanks must go to our very energetic and dedicated committee for putting it all together. We have thanked all our helpers by mail since the festival but just in case I have missed anyone - a very big thank you to anyone who helped in the preparation of the event and of course a very very big thank you to all who attended. If there is anyone out there who has marketing skills we would like to hear from you if you are interested in developing the publicity aspect for next year. Ring or email me on - 0151-6787-9902 or folksingerjohn@aol.com Because of the close proximity of other Cheshire festivals, next year Wirral Folk on the Coast Festival will take place over the period Thursday 23rd to Sunday 26th June 2011.

Chris While and Julie Matthews are the driving force behind their Party on the Lawn Festival and we decided to pay our first visit to deepest Wiltshire to join them. A full day of music with five hundred or so sun-drenched punters basking in the very hot weather enjoyed the line up. The highlights for me were, the Helen Watson Band, Steve Tilston, Kerr and Fagan and the While and Matthews Big Band. Richard Harrison provided the PA sound system and I must say it was absolutely superb.

It was then on to Cornwall to a full-blown street event entitled the Golowan Festival along with our great friends John and Carole Warburton who have been visiting Penzance for the last thirty years. This was our first ever visit to the county and we stayed at the Calloose Caravan Park in Leedstown, (recommend it) about 10 miles from Penzance. A massive firework display and three street processions provided a

wonderful spectacle and seeing John entering the Mock Mayor Election ceremony was most enjoyable. A trip to St Mary's on the Scilly Isles was a must and we now understand why Mr Harold Wilson (former Prime Minister) found it so attractive. We even saw Mary's bungalow in the town. Back on the main land, a visit to a local folk club could not be missed so we ventured into the most unusual Admiral Benbow pub/restaurant in the centre of Penzance. On entry you feel as though you are joining a film set from the Pirates of the Caribbean. A very enjoyable evening saw a BBC TV camera crew filming in the club for a series that will be aired in December on BBC Channel 4. It is all about Folk Music and Dance - The Tradition. Keep a look out for it, as you will see the Unthank Sisters singing a song or two and dancing the Snake Dance around the room and into the streets. Many thanks to John and Carole for inviting us to join you on this holiday. It was wonderful.

Some of the best musical activities one can get up to are brought to your attention unexpectedly. So it was in July when I received a request from that great Shanty stalwart, Bernie Davis to try and generate interest among local folk musicians to provide the musical fayre at the Dee Sailing Club Fun Weekend at Thurstaston, Wirral. For those who do not know the area the club is located on the cliff side right on the River Dee. It is truly 'Folk on the Coast'. Free food a pint of ale and camping spaces meant we did not need to think twice about getting involved. There was nothing better than sitting outside the clubhouse on the lawn singing our hearts out in between feeding our faces with Dave's wonderful BBQ food. It was great to see Ian Dawson, John McGivern and their bass player Tomaz making a contribution with their own particular brand of Americana music. It had been a long time since we had seen them in action. Alan and Dawn, regulars at the Hungry Horse FC provided the excellent PA. Other HHFC performers present were Andy Eades and Brian Lupton. Brendan Fahy and Mary McCombs travelled from Liverpool with their friends as well. A brilliant weekend that will be repeated again I am sure.

Finally, on 10th July, Angela and I were privileged to be present at Christchurch Church Hall in Birkenhead to celebrate Brian Lupton's 70th birthday along with his family and friends. The whole night was run in a folk club format with the Jaie Lupton Band opening the night. Gary and Vera Aspey were there also but they sang only a couple of songs, the same as all the other floor singers. We were delighted that Vocal Point was able to sing a song or two as well. Everyone brought along a plate of food and their own drink and they were encouraged to make a donation to a Cancer Charity instead of buying Brian any birthday presents. At the last count I understand that the night raised over £500. Very well done Brian and many thanks for the invite you old f..t

If you live anywhere near Chester one for your diaries is a regular monthly gig at The Letters Inn, at Tattenhall and we paid our first visit there on Monday 5th July to see Graham Bellinger's Deportees. It's free admission and the ale is good and floor singers are encouraged. At the time of writing the next one is on the 2nd August. In the same week, two days later in fact, we saw Graham performing this time with The Deacons at Bromborough FC. Both nights were absolutely brilliant.

On 19th July we were back at the Letters this time to see Geordie folk singer and raconteur George Wilson. Excellent guitar, lovely voice, great patter makes George an act to be sought out if you ever see him in your area in the future. Thanks to Jim and Charlotte Bell for organising this event.

Club news

Jim and Pauline Coan at **th'Wooden Horse FC** tell me that things at their new venue, Squires Bar, 27 Main Street, Billinge, Lancashire, WN5 7HR are flourishing nicely. Jim puts it this way: -

"The moles of the Wooden Horse Folk Club have been at it again. They have escaped from Stalag Rainford Junction by tunnelling their way to Squire's Bar in Billinge where the legend above the door claims that it is "probably the best pub in Billinge". Well I can't vouch for that, not having visited every other pub in the village, but it is a very pleasant hostelry with ample parking.

Each week there is a different well-kept guest beer. The club has exclusive use for the evening of the upstairs function room, which is nicely fitted out and well suited to singarounds. There are plenty of wooden surfaces in the room, which adds to the quality of the acoustics. We meet there every Sunday evening at 8-30pm except on Bank Holiday weekends. Our next guest is to be Colum Sands on 3rd October. All other nights are Singers Nights and anyone who wishes to sample our new venue will be made most welcome. So hope to see you soon".

Chris Nash at **Bromley Cross FC** informs that they have had to move from The Railway as it is now promoting rock music on Friday evenings. Oh dear how sad! However the good news is that the club is now located at the clubhouse of Bradshaw Cricket Club, The Rigby's, Bolton, BL2 3EL. It can hold over 100 people, has disabled access and a good-sized car park. It is clean, comfortable and welcoming where the speciality is Bank Top real ale and pasties at reasonable prices. From September to April the start time is 8pm. During the cricket season (May to August) it is 9pm. Full directions and more information can be found at www.bromleycrossfolkclub.org.uk Let's hope that you have - wait for it - 'a long and happy innings' at this venue Chris and Co.

The Residents list at **The Bothy** has changed a little. It now looks like this: -
Nev Grundy, Bill Hackney, Kevin Littlewood, Chris & Siobhan Nelson, Clive Pownceby, Keith Price, Pete Rimmer, Ray Rooney, Bev Sanders and Alison Younger.

Chris and Hughie Jones at **The Everyman FC** remind me that their venue reopens after the summer break with a Singers Night on Tuesday 7th September. The venue closes down in its present form 'forever' some time next spring when the whole Everyman building complex is to be rebuilt. It will take about two years to complete so watch this space for news of where the folk club moves to.

Pauline Dowsett the organiser of **Folk on Friday (Leigh)** fears that if the attendances for the Singers Nights do not improve then they may have to be abandoned. So come on you muso's get out there and support Pauline and Co. The club is also seeking assistance in running 'things'. Anyone interested should ring Pauline, see below for number. The club's guest night programme is looking good with Marie Little, Tom Kitchen and Gren Bartley, Boo Hewardine, Houghton Weavers appearing in the listings this quarter. Pauline advises that tickets are going very quickly for the Weavers night which is a special fund raising event to be held on Saturday 13th November at St Joseph's Hall, Chapel Street, Leigh. Tickets can be booked in advance via Pauline at 01942-604-603.

Graham Dixon at **Gregson Lane FC** emailed me to tell me about some opportunities to learn guitar: -
"Lancashire Adult Learning/Lancashire College - will again be offering a series of guitar lessons, commencing in September. Lessons will take place at Cunliffe Hall, Chorley and The Memorial Hall Salesbury, hosted by Graham Dixon. **Saturday 11th September - Two Chord Song Workshop for Guitar** - a one day course aimed at complete beginners (with an assumption that learners cannot play at all) - I will show you how to strum along to eight or so songs that only use two

chords. By the end of the day you will be accompanying yourself.

Guitar For Beginners starting with a 'Two week Taster' (Free) and followed by a 9 week course (for absolute beginners): -
Salesbury - starts 27th September and Chorley - starts 29th September
Guitar For Beginners Stage 2 (Improvers) - Course hosted by Mr Keith Snape: -
Chorley - starts 27th September and Salesbury - starts 29th September. All courses will proceed at a relaxed user-friendly pace - with the accent on fun. If you are interested give me a ring (01254-853-929) for more details or contact Lancashire College www.lancashirecollege.com or 0845-600-1331".

Burnley FC has recently seen Kath Reade give an excellent preview of her new CD on her first visit to the club. She was very well received. As was an old favourite Geoff Higginbottom who delighted regulars (and probably the rest of Burnley) with his powerful vocals.

Looking ahead, Angie and Ken Bladen at **Four Fools FC** tell me of the following special event: -
"The Four Fools are hosting a special event on Saturday 20th November at our normal club venue - The Crown at Worthington.

We are holding a full day of workshops concluding with an evening concert. The workshops start at 12 noon and we have two tutors. Janet Russell will be leading the voice/singing workshops and Sandra Kerr will be running music workshops on Northumbrian tunes and song accompaniment. The workshops will run from 12 noon to 5.30 p.m. There will then be a meal break and the concert will start at 7.30 p.m. Janet Russell and Sandra Kerr will be performing in the concert and also floor singers are welcome as well. All in all a great day in prospect. The cost of the event is £25 (which includes a two course meal), £15 (without a meal). Tickets will be available for the evening concert only at £5. Ticket numbers for the day are limited so if you are interested please book early. There is even B&B available at the Crown for those travelling from further afield. The Crown is a great real ale pub that also does good food. If interested please contact Ken and Angie on 01257 263678 or four.fools@virgin.net Check out the diary dates to see the wonderful guests we have this autumn at our Monday night club. Look forward to seeing you soon".

Thursday 25th November will be a notable date in the calendar for **Lymm FC** as, on that evening the long-term organiser, that very nice man Stewart Lever, will be handing over the reigns to Bernard Cromarty. Best wishes in advance to Stewart and Bernard with their future endeavours.

Artistes/Performers

Nancy Kerr and James Fagan were unable to fulfil their booking at the Hungry Horse FC on 1st July due to Nancy suffering from exhaustion. I understand that she is much better now - good news. Less good news - Our club lost the opportunity of hosting James Keelaghan on 16th September (the first gig of his forthcoming tour) when he decided to change the start date for his tour to 26th September. I will leave it to your imagination as to what I think of this news!! I am delighted to report that the wonderful (and reliable) Marie Little will be our guest in his stead on the 16th.

I was delighted when I received the news that Chris Wood and Andy Cutting are back performing together again, ten years on from when they first came to prominence. They can be seen at The Met, Bury on 16th October.

I am impressed by some of the acts that Eric Cox at Biddulph up in Arms books and this quarter is no exception. On 15th September Eliza Carthy and Saul Rose get together and on the 20th October Roy Bailey will be partnered by John Kirkpatrick and how is this for an unlikely trio - Flossie Malavialle, Keith Donnelly, and Les Barker. They can be seen together on 15th December - God help Flossie!!!

d about solo again and on 23rd
son Lane FC. Ken is described
guitars to folk, blues, jazz ragtime
ease and excel at all of these
quarter can be found at The
d at Worden Arts Centre on 29th

king performer Anthony John
ns this quarter being September
y FC, 24th - Northwich FC, 30th -
son Lane FC, November 16th -
, at our own club - the Hungry

er, good old mate Arthur Marshall
hire by performing first at Roger
and on the second date at Lymm

Cloudstreet have a trio of gigs in
3rd, Folk at the Prospect on 4th

me to some of you but he is one of
o we first saw fronting Mary Black
ears ago. I am delighted to
et, Bury on 7th October and at the
also appears at our club the
year. His rendition of I'll be there
worth the admission money alone.

all, as part of the Liverpool Irish
at stand out - Andy Irvine who is
r and Christy Moore who appears
Andy also appears at the Four
at a coup for Angie and Ken

Paddy Nagle and Sean Gilligan
ising that they have just finished
ped will be available early autumn.
ings well into the future, even
and very reasonable with fees.

lection of music with their policy
vider audience with the accent on
veral different programmes that
also many songs of England and
ring of contemporary material. I
act is brilliant and would suit all
self-contained unit and have their
organisers who want a rest from
systems.

n, Paddy 'the comic storyteller,
ete sings some great stuff (some
nt. He played the Cavern you
can be obtained by contacting
t or by ringing Paddy on - 01352-
mailing list by emailing Pete as

th the success of his festival at
stars'. As you may be aware this
d of the year, which is a great pity.

which is about the game of 'tig??? - Shouldn't that be 'tick'??
There were seventeen entrants and the runner up was aged
eleven - just superb. We really do appreciate the young talent
that is coming through the folk scene present day. Winner of
the senior competition was Pete Shirley with a song 'I'll be there'
The song is about spending time with his son on the 'waving
bridge'. Where is that Stew?

Arts Centres/Theatres

Sefton Park Palm House (not too far from Liverpool city centre)
has an interesting act scheduled for the evening of Sunday 5th
September. It is the Eduardo Niebla Experience. Time Out
magazine describes Eduardo as - 'one of the most brilliant and
emotive performers on the world circuit today, fusing flamenco
gypsy jazz with Arabic, Indian, Latin and classical influences to
create a truly stunning and exhilarating musical experience full
of hot, dark Mediterranean passion'. Apparently Eduardo has
23 albums to his name but no recording can do justice to what
The Scotsman called, "The thunderstorm of this incredible
musician in full flow".

On 22nd October the Legplaiter Ceilidh Band will appear at
Playhouse 2 along with John Howarth and Friends. At the
same venue the wonderful Helen Watson is the special guest
with her brilliant guitarist Mark Cresswell and double bassist
Dave Bowie. I saw them in action at the aforementioned Party
on the Lawn - they were superb.

Maddy Prior is booked to appear at the Rose Theatre, Ormskirk
on 15th October along with Benji Kirkpatrick and Giles Lewin.
The evening sounds like something special and is entitled 'Back
to the Tradition'.

On many dates in November the International Guitar Festival of
Great Britain takes place on Wirral. The organiser Rob Smith
is delighted to report that this year will be the festival's 21st and
the lengthy line-up is as good as ever. By visiting the event
website I could see that there is too much to include in the
centre pages. The names that I recognised first in the gig list
are Woody Man, Joe Brown, Tom Paxton, Tom Doughty, Gary
Murphy, Bellowhead, Phil Chisnall Band and TJ and Murphy.
Some of the events are free and will take place in the Plaza
Lounge at the new Floral Pavilion Theatre on the promenade at
New Brighton. Start times are 12-30pm generally but check the
website out at www.bestguitarfest.com

Items for sale

And finally, I don't know whether it's been sold but a few months
ago I received an email from Alex Nearney (Burnley Folk Club)
asking me to publicise a Bouzouki for sale. There may even be
and advertisement in this edition. However the details are: -
Octave strung, Celtic sound hole. In good condition. Extras:
Under-saddle pickup, gig bag, one set of strings. List price
£590. For sale to mates or acquaintances £300. Contact
Alex at - anearney@hotmail.com

I have an 8-berth tent for sale that has only been used twice in
18 months. It is as new. I will accept any reasonable
donation and will pass it to the Radio Merseyside Clatterbridge
Cancer Fund Raising team. Give me a ring or drop me an
email if you are interested - 0151-678-9902 or
folksingerjohn@aol.com

We are off to Warwick Festival tomorrow and thereafter
Tegeingle (near Mold), Towersey, Fylde, and Bromyard festivals
in the coming weeks so I should have some new and interesting
news to tell you about in the next edition. Speak to you again

Liverpool Irish Festival

Celebrating the links
between Liverpool and Ireland

15th-31st October 2010

The London Lasses and Pete Quinn

The Palm House, Sefton Park
16 October 2010 - 19:30

Described by Irish Music Magazine as 'one of the best
bands on the scene today', 'The Lasses' promise an
evening of superb traditional music in the glorious
surroundings of Sefton Park's Palm House as they
launch their 4th Album, 'By Night and By Day'.

Irish Sea Sessions

Liverpool Philharmonic Hall, Hope Street
22 October 2010 - 19:30

**Bernard O'Neill, Terry Coyne, Ian Prowse, Becky Taylor,
Carlene Anglim, Colette O'Leary, Eimear McGeown,
Niamh Parsons, Graham Dunne, Gino Lupari, Dave**

The inaugural Irish Sea Sessions is part super group,
part colossal session and part festival, all in a single gig.
A mass rank of exceptional musicians from Liverpool
and Ireland will unite on one stage to enjoy the musical
connections between Liverpool and Ireland.
Tickets £15, £20.

Damien Dempsey + Amsterdam

Stanley Theatre
Liverpool University
23 October 2010 - 19:30

Damien Dempsey has come to be regarded as the
pre-eminent Irish singer songwriter, they are a riveting
live act and we are thrilled to have him back at the
Festival. Co-headliners, **Amsterdam**, have risen to
become one of the top bands on the Liverpool scene.
Tickets £12.50.

Terry Coyne and Friends

St Michael's Irish Centre
Boundary Lane/West Derby Road
24 October 2010 - 20:00

It is hard to believe that **Terry Coyne** (flute, vocals),
one of Merseyside's most respected and influential
traditional musicians, has never played at St Michael's,
well, tonight he puts that right in the stellar company
of **Dave Munnely** (accordion), **Phillip Massure** (guitar)
and **Sam Proctor** (fiddle).

Music and Dance Sessions

15 October 2010 - 31 October 2010

A regular highlight of the Liverpool Irish Festival are
the free music sessions. Local and guest musicians
play in the relaxed setting of the city's pubs; the sessions
are not 'performances', although a core group of
musicians will take the lead, there is plenty of 'space'
for you to join in with your instrument or songs.

The Edinburgh 4 Sandown Lane, L15 8HY

Monday October 18, 9pm

Regular session - regularly packed out!

Pogue Mahones 77 Seel Street, L1 9DF

Thursday October 21, 9pm

Comhaltas musicians lead this session

The Casa Hope Street, L1 9BQ

Friday October 22, 10pm • Stroll down to The Casa

after the 'Irish Sea Sessions' at The Phil.

Pogue Mahones 77 Seel Street, L1 9DF

Saturday October 23, 2pm

Traditional Irish Dance is on the menu this afternoon!

The Casa Hope Street, L1 9BQ

Sunday October 24, 1pm

Comhaltas musicians lead this session

The Edinburgh 4 Sandown Lane, L15 8HY

Monday October 25, 9pm

Regular session - regularly packed out!

St Michael's Irish Centre 6 Boundary Lane, L6 5JG

Friday October 29, 8.30pm

The ever popular monthly session

Peter Kavanagh's 2-6 Egerton Street, L8 7LY

Saturday October 30, 10pm

All times are variable!

Congress

O'Neills, 68 Hanover Street
20 & 27 October 2010 - 22:00

Skirm - vocals, guitar, mandola

(Toss the Feathers, as a duo with Dezi Donnelly)

Pol Dalaigh - flutes, whistles, vocals (Toss The Feathers)

Danny Cameron - button accordion (River Dance)

Cormac Byrne - bodhran, percussion

(Seth Lakeman band, Uiscidwr)

Anthony Haller - double bass, a stalwart of

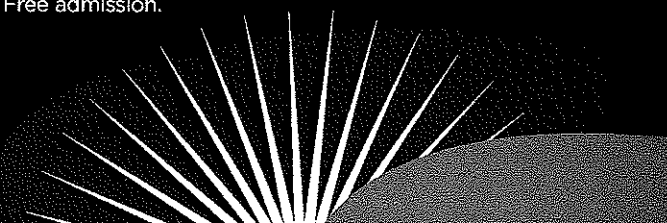
the UK music scene.

Free admission.

For further information and tickets please visit

www.liverpoolirishfestival.com

or phone **07804 286145**



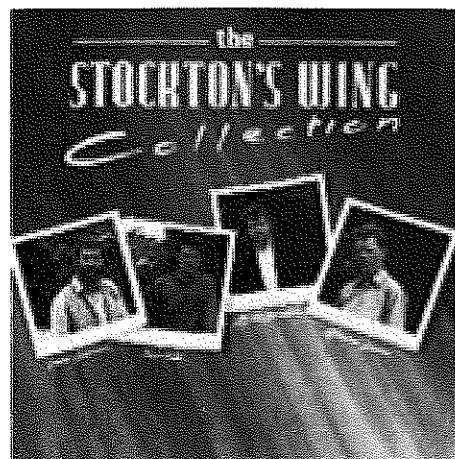
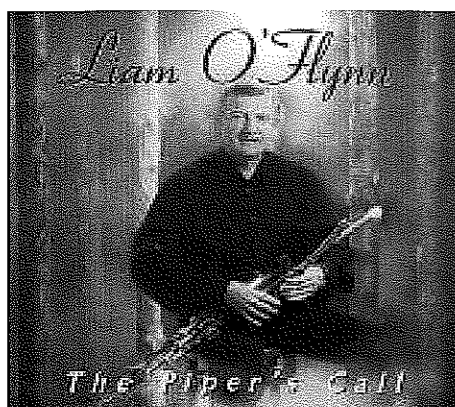
CD Reviews

STOCKTON'S WING COLLECTION

(Tara Records TARA CD 4)

LIAM O'FLYNN THE PIPER'S CALL

(Tara Records TARA CD 3037)



Nothing in life is certain particularly when it comes to your record and CD collection. As I've found to my cost many of the albums I used to cherish have now gone to that great vinyl and glass heaven in the sky. Therefore in a case of 'grab them while they're there' I'd suggest obtaining Stockton's Wing who released their debut album in 1978. For me personally it was their third album "Light In The Western Sky" that ranks as one of my favourite albums of all time and I'm pleased to see that a majority of it is rediscovered here on "The Stockton's Wing Collection".

The second album kindly sent by John Cook (founder of Tara Records) is a recording that I missed first time round. Liam O'Flynn's "The Piper's Call" proves a master class

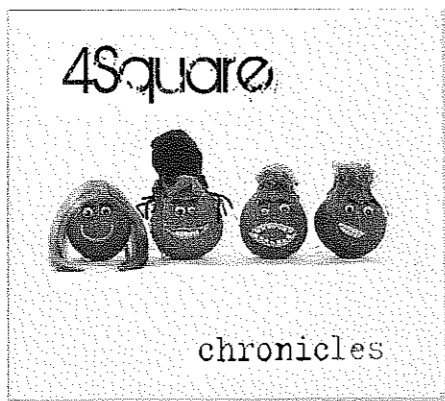
in the art of Uilleann pipe playing with an accompanying guest list of Celtic musicians to die for. With the likes of Matt Molloy (flute), Arty McGlynn and Mark Knopfler on guitars the recording is superbly understated but of course, beautifully executed. I can only applaud the fact that many of the Tara label back catalogue still remains in circulation and, although I still hanker for Jolyon Jackson & Paddy Glackin's brilliant "Hidden Ground"

I would suggest that if, like me you are looking to re-capture some of your ill spent youth or, indeed are just starting out on a Celtic voyage of discovery then you could do worse than check the Tara Records catalogue...you'll be pleased you did! www.taramusic.com

PETE FYFE

4 SQUARE Chronicles

(Square Roots Music SQR 1002)



Blimey, I thought I'd stumbled upon a long lost recording by Jim Moray or Seth Lakeman when I heard the first track by 4 Square. The traditional song "Trooper Lad" which opens the CD is sung with a delivery that could best be described as 'lazily-cocky', not that it's unpleasant in anyway, it's just that it's a case of you either like this approach or you don't.

Personally I do and when it's backed up by an arrangement not dissimilar to that of the much missed Easy Club this is a cross-over that works well if you're willing to step outside the 'folk music' box. The members of the band; Nicola Lyons (fiddle & clogs!), Jim Malyneux (keyboards,

accordion & guitar), James Meadows (banjo, mandola & tenor guitar), and Dan Day (percussion, piano & guitar) deliver the goods driving things along at a cracking pace when they need to throwing you around musically with gay abandon (and I didn't think I'd ever use that line as a journalist!).

OK, so some might see this as a brash, if not abrasive attempt at trying something different...although if you've read this review properly you'll discover it's all been done before. Having said that I'm really enjoying the youthful spirit that has been injected into to the 'scene' recently.

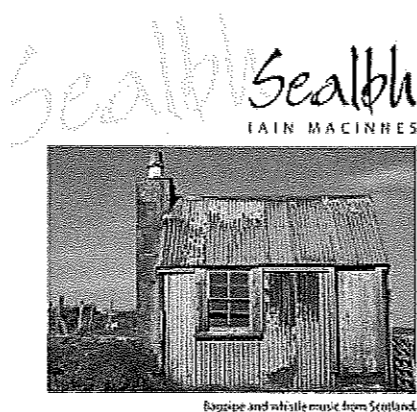
Proving no slouches when it comes to penning a good tune I'm hoping the band's mix of traditional and contemporary will endear them to an audience ready to embrace a bit of creativity.

Finally, a slight niggle is that I'm not sure about the Mr. Coconut Head sleeve (bringing to mind the photo of a row of boots by Rock Salt & Nails) and stark white background creating a very stylised marketing exercise presumably aimed at a younger audience although a little off-putting for those of us of a certain age. Perhaps it's trendy but a little misplaced if you want to try and widen your demographic. www.4squaremusic.co.uk

PETE FYFE

IAIN MACINNES

Sealbh
(Macmeanmna Records SKYECD51)



Bagpipe and whistle music from Scotland

Many years ago I had the pleasure of working with Iain MacInnes in the short-lived band Malinhead. Of course, things dramatically changed for Iain when he subsequently joined The Tannahill Weavers and Ossian.

Bringing us up to date he is now the highly respected radio producer of Radio Scotland's "Pipeline" whilst still maintaining occasional live performances. This gem of an album features MacInnes joined by guest musicians Mairi Campbell (fiddle), Ross Kennedy (bouzouki/guitar), David McGuinness (harmonium/piano), John Martin (fiddle), Iain MacLeod (mandolin) and Simon Thoumire on concertina.

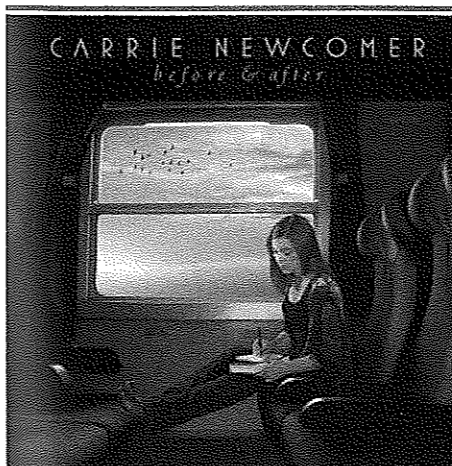
Unlike a majority of albums that utilise the 'pipes' as a dramatic statement of intent much like heavy artillery or the lead guitar of the 'folk' scene this recording maintains integrity by showcasing the beauty inherent in this most unwieldy of instruments. Tune contributions including Mairi Campbell's energetic "The Treadmill" and the evocative "Karuna" sit well along with MacInnes's own tribute to his brother "Angus MacInnes Of Glenside" and are totally in keeping with some of the more established traditional compositions such as "Go To Berwick Johnny" and the sumptuous "Eagle's Whistle".

The informative (though never dull) sleeve-notes provide the background of where Iain sourced his choice of material and although scholarly to some degree they provide a knowledgeable insight to a master musician. www.gaelicmusic.com

PETE FYFE

CARRIE NEWCOMER

Before & After
(Rounder Records 11661-3276-2)



Carrie Newcomer was a name I'd heard about but never picked up on until now. From the opening title track where she is joined by guest Mary Chapin Carpenter her latest release beckons the listener to draw a line under the uncertainties of life as she has obviously done with her own and perhaps, if we heed her words we might in fact embrace the final outcome - whatever that might be.

Without wishing to sound too philosophical or indeed make you feel this album is a bridge too far lyrically there's a certain intensity to Newcomer's writing that proves 'required' listening and there's nothing wrong with that in an age where most things even remotely pertaining to a more commercial, 'folk/country' edge can sometimes prove an unwanted distraction. Phew, this lady plays a blinder and being only the first track of an album encrusted with jewels she is certainly a passionate representative in the craft of song writing.

There are many exquisite moments playing to its strengths with great integrity and a blanket of silk provided by her multi-talented backing musicians/vocalists particularly in the beautifully understated string arrangements. In a way this is the kind of recording that could wash over the listener with the 'nice-ness' of it all but casting an eye over the lyrics (available on-line at her website) these are thought provoking moments (steered effortlessly by Newcomer and David Weber in the production chairs) that leave you in no doubt this lady is in total control of her destiny.

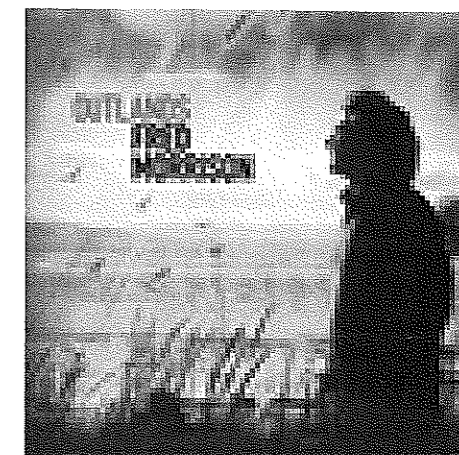
From a personal point of view if this album were a work of art I would class it a Rembrandt such are the colourful pictures she paints. A formidable performer, Newcomer deserves a far wider audience than the stigmatised label of 'folk' will allow but having said that and coming from one who wholeheartedly embraces the circuit then I can't recommend this recording more highly. If nothing else this CD will really make you think...and isn't that what all 'good' songwriters should do? Now, if you'll excuse me I've got some serious listening to catch up on...

www.carrienewcomer.com

PETE FYFE

FRED MORRISON

Outlands
(Ridge Records RR057)



A legend in his own lunchtime, I first encountered Fred Morrison at the Edinburgh Folk Festival many years ago. With all guns blazing he attacked the session with the subtlety of a bull in a china shop laced with the humour of Laurel & Hardy particularly his rendition of the Banana Splits theme tune. Of course, Fred later joined the Celtic/Jazz influenced Capercaillie and onto the present day where he embraces all things Bluegrass.

With reminiscences of Davy Spillane's 1986 "Atlantic Bridge" Fred extends the range of instruments to include the mighty Highland Pipes and his very own Reelpipes and with the revitalised co-joining of two seemingly clashing cultures in 2010 he sounds totally at ease in the company of Tim O'Brien's snappy mandolin and the frailing banjo of Ron Block.

At times driving along at a cracking pace including the opening highly syncopated "Train Journey North" and his own composition "Hard Drive" which closes the album he throws caution to the wind really swinging with a fuel injected hornpipe/reel that would leave many lesser musicians gasping for breath.

There are, of course subtler moments when his impressive low whistle playing is put to good use but it's generally the buoyant mood of the album that will remain most firmly in the mind.

www.fredmorrison.com

PETE FYFE

SOLAS

The Turning Tide
(Compass Records 7 4530 2)



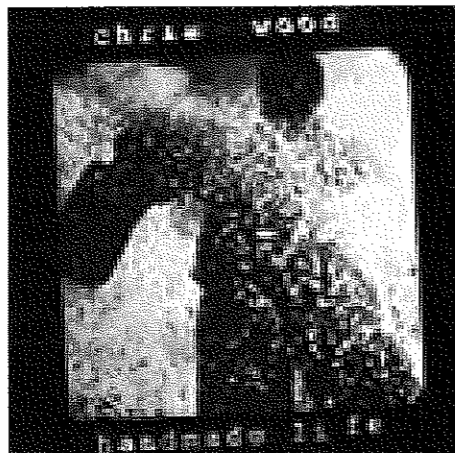
Musically speaking I'd say that folk super-group Solas never have an off day and as if proof were needed I've been reviewing the band since the release of their first album some fourteen years ago with each recording receiving the obligatory ten out of ten!

As ever scintillating performances and compositions radiate from band members Winifred Horan (fiddle), Eamon McElholm (guitar) and Mick McAuley (button accordion) and I must admit that when I hear the seriously gifted multi-instrumentalist Seamus Egan the words *we are not worthy* readily spring to mind. The icing on the cake and now having comfortably settled into her position as the band's lead vocalist, the breathy tones of mezzo soprano Mairead Phelan are totally at ease with the choice of material and whether it be the gentle country-rock of Springsteen's "Ghost Of Tom Joad" or Josh Ritter's melancholic "A Girl In The War" she never fails with a delivery that is pretty near flawless.

As you'd imagine, the group's choice of tunes prove a good mix of traditional and self-penned and it's nice to hear Stockton's Wing's old warhorse The Golden Stud appearing here under the title "Box Reel #2". With superb production from Egan and mastering by John Anthony this is an album that will sit comfortably on any true 'folk' enthusiasts list of must have purchases. Do I need to spell it out for you...another resounding ten out of ten! www.solasmusic.com

PETE FYFE

CHRIS WOOD Handmade Life (Ruf Records RUFCD012)



For many years I was quite dismissive about Chris Wood who, rightly or wrongly possessed an air of arrogance that I felt was at odds with the general humility of the British 'folk' scene.

Only recently, from a personal point of view that presumption has turned to haunt me as I listened to him in conversation (with Simon Evans of 'Kent Folk') and found that perhaps his self-assuredness was a barrier of my own imagination. I hope so because during that radio conversation the track "Spitfires" was played and I had a feeling that perhaps here we had a young Ralph McTell circa 1971...to me Ralph's most fruitful period.

On reading Wood's lyrics I feel he comes across as no silver tongued soothsayer just a bloke who wants to get a few things off his chest via the media of song and which he conveys through his music extremely well.

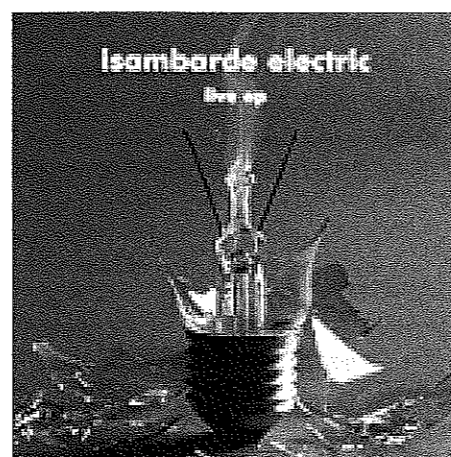
There are so many good tracks it would be churlish to single out particular favourites but it's also worth noting that this is the kind of album that preferably should be listened to with no-one else in the room and a nice glass of red to hand...a real 'listening' recording. Added to his own accomplishments as a guitarist of note Chris has surrounded himself with a brace of fine musicians including Barney Morse-Brown (Cello), Robert Jarvis (Trombone), Danny Wood (guitar) and Andy Gangadean on drums to fulfil an album that is characteristically English.

Perhaps it's the resonant tone of the cello in particular that cements the foundation on which the lyric is based bringing the songs vividly to life and for some reason brings to mind memories of Jack Hargreaves 'Out Of Town' series. If like me you have recently been 'Gleed-out' do yourselves a favour and listen to some 'real' music.

www.chriswoodmusic.co.uk

PETE FYFE

ISAMBARDE ELECTRIC Live EP (Whirly Whorl Records whirwhor 004)



Obviously having been weaned on a diet of Steeleye Span and the Albion (Country?) Band it may come as no surprise that this electric version of Isambarde (more commonly to be seen performing as a trio) sounds uncannily like early versions of both bands.

I'd also like to conjecture they've added a splash of early Edward II to the melting pot particularly on Sean McCarthy's classic "Step It Out Mary" where Chris Green's reggae guitar chops and the engine room of Rupert de Jonghe (bass) and Duncan Arrow (drums) work well alongside Emily Sanders (vocals/fiddle) and Jude Rees on vocals and oboe.

On the opening track "I Wish" the drum set up sounds uncannily as if it were taken from the opening stanza of The Blackleg Miner by Steeleye from their Hark The Village Wait days and more power to the band for re-inventing the glorious period of the origins of 'folk-rock' as opposed to those of 'nu-folk'.

Being only an EP featuring five



The Folk Arts Network of the North West

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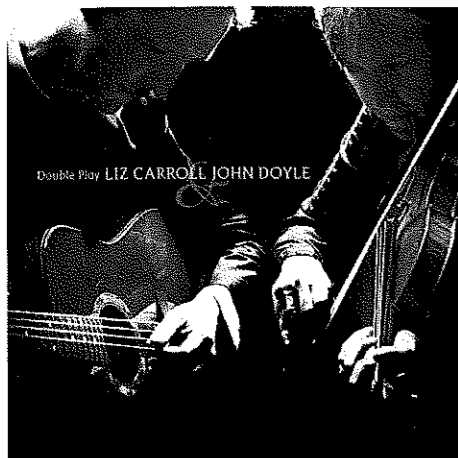


tracks I can't wait for a fully loaded album. www.isambarde.co.uk

PETE FYFE

LIZ CARROLL & JOHN DOYLE

Double Play
(Compass Records 7 4502 2)



Don't you just love it when, from the opening track of a recording you know you are going to experience something really special? Of course it helps if your names are Liz Carroll and John Doyle both of whom (to my knowledge) have neither released a duff album in either their solo or collective careers.

Not only prolific tune writers in the traditional style including amongst others "Before The Storm" and "Ricky's White Face" both Carroll and Doyle have an empathy musically that will stop you dead in your tracks as you wonder at the beauty of it all. Whether your preference is for the driving melodies "The Chandelier/Anne Lacey's" or the subtler moments of "Lament For Tommy Makem" and "Nearby, Long Ago" the consummate skills of both performers will lift your spirits to a new level of appreciation for all things acoustic.

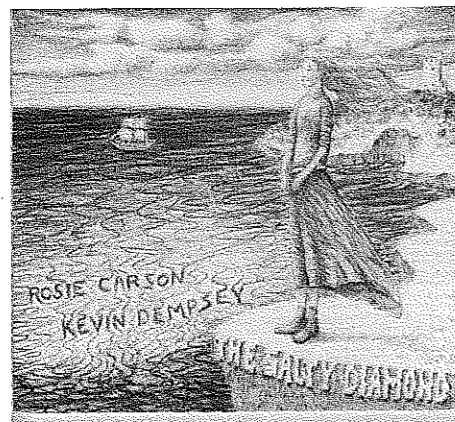
As if that weren't enough, the listener is treated to John's honey-toned vocals on a selection of great songs including Ed Pickford's seemingly timeless anthem "A Pound A Week Rise" and the gentle, funky guitar set-up employed on "The Hare's Lament". What else can I say...buy, chill out and enjoy! By the way, I'd like to say congratulations to all at Compass Records on waving the banner for Celtic music. Check out their

phenomenal website at www.compassrecords.com

PETE FYFE

ROSIE CARSON & KEVIN DEMPSEY

The Salty Diamond
(Own Label)



I was first introduced to Kevin Dempsey many years ago at the Hedgehog Pie festival in Newcastle (possibly 1976!) and I particularly remember his impressive guitar technique crossing jazz with folk.

Of course, this was innovative at the time and I'm pleased to say he's lost none of that technique which works as the perfect foil for his twinning with the teenage Stateside based fiddler/vocalist Rosie Carson.

Now this is my kind of album, one that utilises songs I remember from my own 'folk music' upbringing. The duo's repertoire includes classic songs such as the trials and tribulations Gospel tinged "I Am A Poor Wayfaring Stranger", "Silver Dagger" and Richard Thompson's "Waltzing's For Dreamers" respectfully treated with a laid back country feel featuring Kevin on lead vocals.

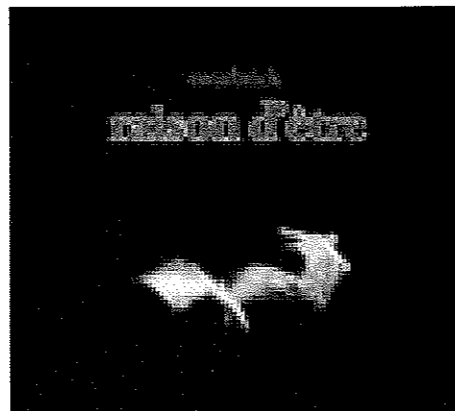
The instrumental sets likewise are from a vintage that I still cherish with enjoyable interpretations of "The Rolling Waves/Morrison's Jig", "Paddy Fahey's/The Butterfly" and "Julia Delaney's/Larry Redican's" amongst them. Carson and Dempsey blend well together tonally and although this recording may not be seen by many as wildly innovative there are certainly many high points to raise it above albums of a similar disposition.

Here's looking forward to the next one! www.myspace.com/rosiecarsonkevindempsey also www.kevindempsey.co.uk

PETE FYFE

DAVE SWARBRICK

Raison d'être
(Own label - Shirty1)



"It has taken all of 8 years for me to complete this CD and I don't think it can be repeated" says Folk music's foremost fiddle player, alluding to the slower pace of life that has necessarily arrived with the double lung transplant of 6 years ago.

From the opening 'Spanish Ladies' medley, accompanied by the excellent Jason Wilson Band, a sprightly feel sets the mood for a melodically compelling and varied album. This set of tunes opened 1967's 1st album with Martin Carthy and Diz Disley and even now retains the perky swagger of 40+ years back.

Swarb doesn't do vocal pieces in his live sets these days, but he still keeps his audience on its toes and you'll get some very detailed and absorbing introductions embracing composers and collections of possibly unfamiliar dance tunes.

That approach is mirrored here. Quite apart from the more well-known John Playford, whose 'Granny's Delight/The Man Tiger' played here with a fiery dart and deftness, are hardly everyday in any case, the collections of Edward Bunting and Daniel Wright are drawn upon. Dave has researched English music from 1680-1745 to produce a cohesive album that isn't just an exercise in academia, (though I'd love to see his library!) it's full of heart and soul and not a little dignity.

He's chosen his associates well – among whom are ("glorious") Beryl Marriott on piano from his earliest Ceilidh band days, Carthy of course, and plenty of Fairport alumni. It must be said that 'Raison d'être' is a wonderfully affecting record – scaling the emotional heights of 'Smiddyburn' in this writer's opinion.

www.folkicons.co.uk/swarb.htm

CLIVE POWNCEBY

THE OLD DANCE SCHOOL

Forecast
(Transition Records TRANSCD04)



If you could sell the word 'enigma' as a product then this would be the band to display their wares accordingly. The Old Dance School don't take any prisoners in their pursuit of enjoying themselves whilst liberating that music we tenuously label 'folk'.

As a journalist you get a gut feeling that this is one of those albums that will constantly be on whilst you're slaving over a hot computer extolling the band's virtues to anyone who'll care to listen. Throwing the listener every which way in order to bring a comfortably settled audience out of its complacent slumber Helen Lancaster (violin), Samantha Norman (violin), Robin Beatty (guitar & vocals), Tom Chapman (cajon & vocals), Laura Carter (woodwind & vocals), Aaron Diaz (trumpet) and Adam Jarvis (double bass) succeed spectacularly in their endeavours. From the beautifully crafted opening instrumental track "The Enlli Light" the joy that emits from the speakers is enough to rejuvenate the soul of any tarnished 'hack' who's become jaded with the tried and tested. It's

like the first time I heard a young Capercaillie, you know there's something special and that, apart from anything else this is a band that deserves to break free from the confines of music pigeon-holing.

The music is magic in their hands and the classy way in which the members combine their arrangements under the watchful eye of producer Calum Malcolm shows they have plenty left to offer. Beatty's way with words and Norman/Lancaster's nimble compositions are a mighty combination and coupled with the arty photography by John Beatty (Robin's dad!) this album proves an irresistible package that any self-respecting 'folk' enthusiast should be proud to feature in their CD collection.

www.theolddanceschool.com

PETE FYFE

CELTECH

Celtech
(Osmosys Records OSMO CD 052)



What do you get if you layer hypnotic percussive rhythms with what can best be described as yodelling (at least to these sensitive English ears...come to think of it it's probably Gaelic mouth music) plus ambient mandolin, pipes, fiddle, accordion and hurdy gurdy to the mix? You basically have a great end of festival band. Celtech being the band in question bring back memories of the French based one-man project Enigma who had hits throughout the early 90's with his gently invasive trance type nurdlings.

There's no problem with this particularly if you allow the infectious grooves to wash over you and not think too much about why you enjoy it so much. Each of the members; Ed

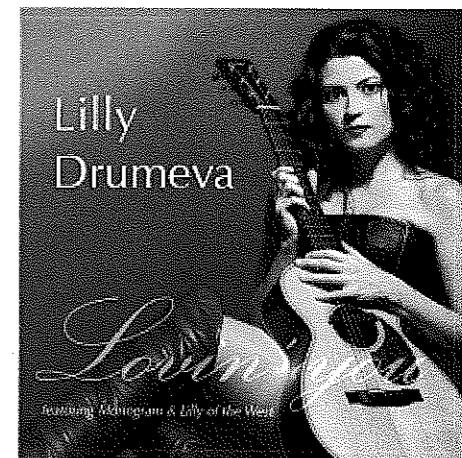
Davidson, Sonny Davidson, Daygan Robinson, Jonathan Shorland, Sille Ilves and Torbz combine to create a heady mix of all things Celtic including Breton style dans plins, Irish and Scottish reels and possibly even a little Manx for good measure driving things along at a nice, measured pace.

For those budding musicians out there the band employ many standard tunes all of which are performed at a reasonable speed including a quirky take on the much used "Faery Dance" and would be great if you want to play along. This is the kind of band that will probably upset many of the traditional old guard of the 'folk' music scene because it will be seen as too nu-folk (whatever that is) but at least it should create a bit of controversy... and there's nothing wrong with that. www.celtechmusic.com

PETE FYFE

LILLY DRUMEVA

Lovin' You
(Music Author Records MK 54604)



I've been something of a closet fan of Country/Bluegrass music for quite a few years but it's only recently that I've made an effort to find out more about it. Lilly Drumeva is something of an anomaly in that she is Bulgarian and (for the first 9 tracks) she utilises the services of one of the Czech Republic's finest bluegrass band's Monogram.

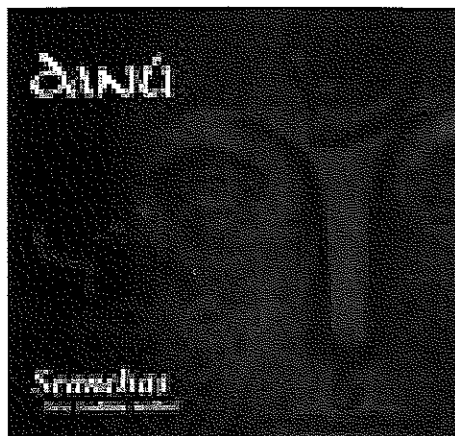
For the last six tracks she is joined by her own not inconsiderable bunch of talented musicians aptly titled Lilly Of The West. As a newcomer I wasn't quite sure what to expect but on the strength of the fifteen tracks here I know that I would like to see a

live performance. Drumeva's vocals are satin smooth and ideally suited to the music she obviously has an empathy with and when joined in the duets by Monogram's Jakub Racek the performance brings back memories of Dolly Parton & Kenny Rogers without the American burr. Spirited arrangements featuring banjo, mandolin and guitar drive everything along at a cracking pace and the title track along with the beautifully seductive "Tennessee Waltz" are particularly well judged.

The eclectic nature of the recording utilising country, bluegrass, swing and even a touch of Bulgarian folk song is like a breath of fresh air to these somewhat jaded 'folk' ears of mine and when it's as superbly crafted as this it has certainly become one of my favourite albums this year. www.lillydrumeva.net

PETE FYFE

DANU
Seanchas
(Own Label)



Since 1995, the band Danu have carved their name with pride along with the likes of De Dannan, Altan and Clannad for their attractive arrangements of Gaelic/Celtic songs and music.

They may not be the kind of band that will hit you between the eyes with a gael force intensity but rather, like a fine port or brandy allow their music to seep into your soul with a mellowness that is rare to find in these ultra clever days of 'folk fusion'.

Without the need to 'prove' themselves with flash performances of finger flailing that leaves the

listener flabbergasted and breathless at the end of each track...although I'm sure they can...each of the members; Muireann Nic Amhlaibh (vocals, flute), Benny McCarthy (accordion), Oisín McAuley (fiddle), Eamon Doorley (bouzouki) and Donal Clancy (guitar) rely on the art of subtlety to convey their message.

Now, I'd be the first to admit that I still can't get my head around the intricacies of the Gaelic language even though English translations are available in the accompanying book but I think I can safely say that for those of us too lazy or should that be ignorant (?) would be seductively attracted to the soothing tones of Nic Amhlaibh.

I don't know about you, but in this fast paced, frenetic way of life we've all become accustomed too the chance to chill out and luxuriate in a soft, comforting blanket doesn't feel such a bad idea. www.danu.net

PETE FYFE

DALLA
Cribbar
(Dalla Records DACD05)



Sounding not dissimilar to a Klezmer party in full swing courtesy of Hilary Coleman's clarinet the set of tunes "Fly Cellar/Unity/Heva Cornishe" in fact provide the setting for a Schottische dance.

Both of the two opening tunes are penned by master multi-instrumentalist Neil Davey who along with Bec Applebee (darabuka/crowdy cawn) and Steve Hunt (guitar) make up the rest of this resolutely Cornish band. The second track, "Ann Tremellan" a variant of the more established Barbara Allan is a sumptuous banquet of layered vocals courtesy of Coleman and

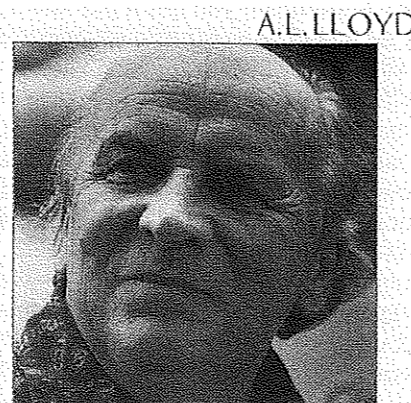
Applebee interlaced with a gently rolling, hypnotic mandolin/bouzouki riff topped-off by guest Will Coleman's gaita bagpipes.

So, here we have the opening gambit for what proves a real box of delights in both musicality and technique and one that I hope any self-respecting 'folk' musician should aspire to. Meanwhile, in another moment of quite reflection the Padstow via America song "Maggie May" (not the rousing Liverpool chant) performed with the subtlety it deserves by Steve Hunt will I'm sure be soaked sponge-like into the folk tradition (much like Roger Bryant's "Cornish Lads") and work its way into many sessions throughout the UK.

On the other hand if it's dazzling displays of digital dexterity you're looking for check out Davey's tour de force on the triplet frenzied "Bishop's Jig/No Song No Supper"... astonishing or what? There's no need for a corny pastiche (sorry, I had to get that in somewhere!) when you can get the 'real' thing right here and I just hope that I've persuaded you, the great record buying public into dipping into your hard earned savings to purchase a more than worthy recording. www.dalla.co.uk

PETE FYFE

A L LLOYD
An Evening with A L Lloyd
(Fellside Recordings FECD220)



An Evening with A.L. Lloyd

In the early Seventies I spent a day of my ill-spent youth in the company of A L Lloyd at a college in the Elephant & Castle, London. I distinctly remember this because I went especially to see 'Bert' having been steered in his direction via the

music of Steeleye Span and Fairport Convention. Being (at that time) more adventurous and with an inquisitive mind I was intrigued to find the source behind much of the material utilised by bands of the folk-rock genre.

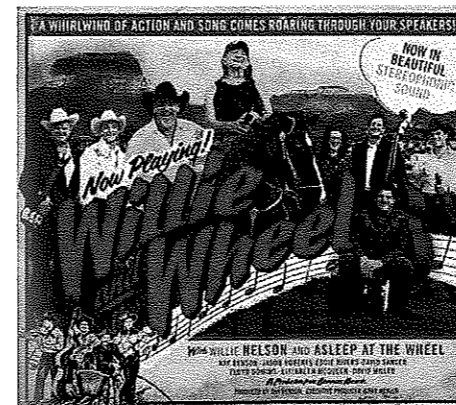
He was a jovial raconteur whose often humorous takes on the roots of the British tradition have rarely been captured 'live' but on repeated listening to this recording from 1972 you can certainly see why Steeleye and Fairport were similarly inspired with ribald tales such as "The Widow Of Westmorland's Daughter" or the wishful thinking of Henry Lawson's "The Shearer's Dream".

The enjoyment of being in Lloyd's company is endorsed by an audience that lustily swells the chorus of the shanty "Doodle Let Me Go" but just as easily respects the big ballads including a five minute "Prince Heathen". Bert was a colourful character that brought to life the songs he sang (often with a wry smile on his face) and much of this is evident on a recording that has been lovingly restored by producer Paul Adams.

An inspiration to all of those that have come to enjoy our 'folk tradition' this album should be required listening. www.fellside.com

PETE FYFE

WILLIE NELSON AND ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL
Willie and The Wheel
(Proper Records PRPCD 066)



For a man well into his 70's, you'd think that Willie Nelson was ready to take the foot of the gas. But no, he's still recording his own albums, has

participated in almost an equal number of collaborations and still keeps adding to his catalogue.

There's hardly a major country star who has not worked with him and a fair number of others that you wouldn't expect such as Julio Iglesias.

However, few are as well matched as this combination. Suggested a long time ago by Jerry Wexler (the Mr R & B of Atlantic Records), finally, Willie and Asleep At The Wheel found themselves in the same studio with a bunch of songs that remain classics from the days of western swing.

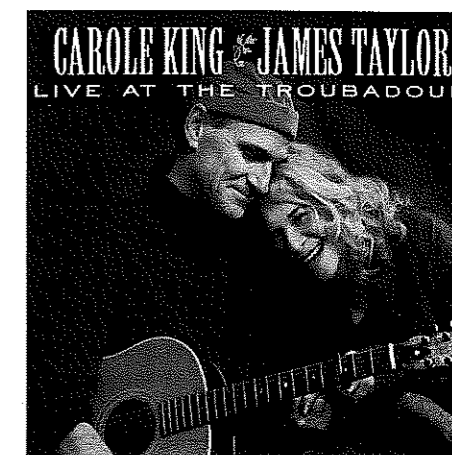
A musical style with the vigour that you'd expect from a blend of jazz and bluegrass. This might sound a bit odd but that would be to forget how long Willie has been around and the music that he's absorbed. The songs recorded here go back to the days when sexual imagery in song was less explicit and more insinuated. So, yes, you can read all sorts of sauciness into 'Fan It' and 'Bring It On Down To My House'. It's material reminiscent of the lyrics to be heard on the UK jazz scene with the likes of George Melly.

Those of you who, more recently, have enjoyed The Hot Club of Cowtown will know exactly the charms that this record offers with its swing and more laid back ballad styles. Songs like 'Sweet Jennie Lee' and 'Corrine Corrina' offer the classic feel from that period and are delivered with style from Willie and those swingers, Asleep At The Wheel.

A pairing that purrs and drives along like a dream machine.

STEVE HENDERSON

CAROLE KING AND JAMES TAYLOR
Live at The Troubadour
(Hear Music/Concord)



Going back to the New York venue where they started out, Carole King and James Taylor have packaged up some of their finest songs on one live recording. 'So Far Away', 'Carolina In My Mind', 'It's Too Late', 'Smackwater Jack', 'Will You Love Me Tomorrow', 'Country Road', 'Fire And Rain', 'Sweet Baby James', 'I Feel The Earth Move', 'You've Got A Friend' and 'You Can Close Your Eyes'. Is that enough?

Given the 'here today, gone tomorrow' nature of so many young songwriters, this is a timely reminder of why some songwriters manage to have long lasting careers. It's not quite as simple as to just keep on writing great songs. As the observant ones amongst you will note, many of these songs here come from the early days of their respective careers.

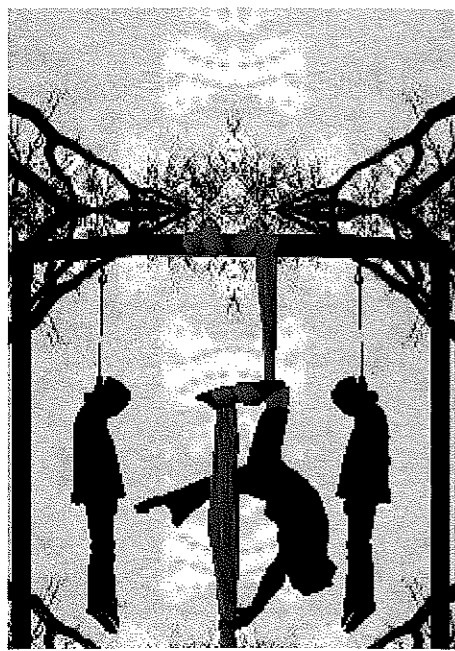
Indeed, perhaps, the more interesting point is just how productive a number of artists were during this period - think Bob Dylan, Van Morrison, etc. Other than the obvious interest surrounding this pairing, they've wisely pulled together the backing musicians who were pretty much the house band for many of the troubadours of the period. Guitarist Danny Kortchmar, bassist Leland Sklar, drummer Russell Kunkel; strange surnames, impeccable musicians. Put them together with the quality of song found here and you have a winner. If you're sat there thinking that you've already got the

excellent studio versions of many of these songs, let me tell you that the early version of this CD comes with a DVD of the live show making it pretty much an indispensable package for all of you who came to music in the heady days of the late 60's an early 70's.

STEVE HENDERSON

THE TRUE AND TERRIBLE HISTORY OF JOHN 'BABBACOMBE' LEE

by Kevin Burke



I can't remember where I first heard of this staging of Fairport Convention's celebrated folk-rock opera but it proved irresistible enough for me to obtain a copy of this trimmed down 'sampler' DVD from a 2 hour show to 30 minutes.

For those of us that were lucky (and old) enough to have witnessed the National Theatre's excellent Lark Rise To Candleford in the late 1970's will much appreciate that folk tales such as 'Babbacombe' Lee should adapt well to the stage and by utilising the strengths of predominantly Dave Swarbrick's original songs and tunes employing a diverse array of talent from the 'house band' Little Johnny England and the 'cast' writer/director Kevin Burke should be proud of his efforts in conveying this tragic tale.

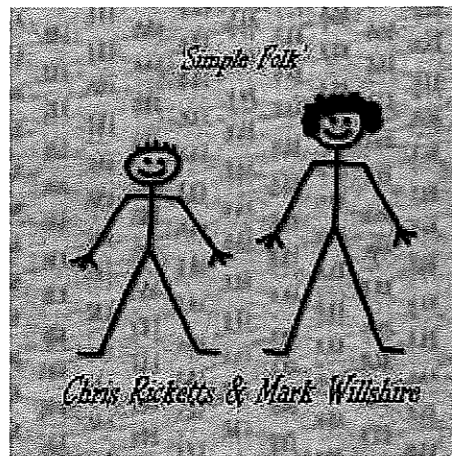
With inventive use of aerial acrobatics (think Cirque Du Soleil) particularly on the effective "Dream Song" sequence, dance, magic lantern style puppetry and screen projected images the production would appear to move at a reasonably brisk pace.

With only (to my knowledge) one production of the show it would be a great injustice to the 'folk scene' to be deprived of more outings and if there are any festival organisers reading this review could I suggest that you check out the following links <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0bfQiOnunxw> and <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=74gFjelPjAM&feature=related> or Kevin's website at www.kevinburke.co.uk

PETE FYFE

CHRIS RICKETTS & MARK WILLSHIRE

Simple Folk
(Hobgoblin HOB CD1012)



The combination of guitar, bass guitar and vocal should be recognisable to anyone old enough to remember the glory days of Bob Fox and Stu Luckley, a void now filled by Portsmouth based duo Chris Ricketts and Mark Willshire.

Well, on paper it should work but unfortunately without the addition of extra instrumentation that was afforded Fox & Luckley and their trademark harmonies I must admit this CD left me wanting something more substantial.

That's not to say the vocal performance by Ricketts isn't good, (particularly on the soulful Florence

Reece anthem "Which Side Are You On" and Jack Forbes shanty style "Rolling Down The River") it is, it's just that everything tends to sound the same after a few tracks and, as is the fashion these days if you have a tendency to let your oral performance drift into territory employed by the likes of Jim Moray, personally I feel it's been done before.

Having said that, another thing I can't fault is Chris's guitar accompaniment that works extremely well on a sparkling rendition of the old chestnut "Haul Away Joe".

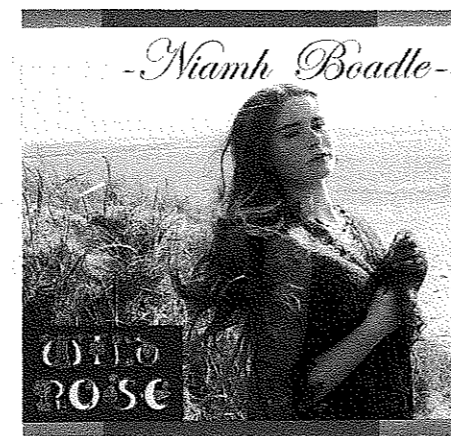
I'm sorry I couldn't have been more positive about this review but perhaps with a little tweak here and there and with extra musicians added to the pot their next album (and I hope there is one) should prove a corker.

www.rickettsandwillshire.com

PETE FYFE

NIAMH BOADLE

Wild Rose
(NEB1)



I first met Niamh Boadle as a seven year old, when along with her parents they were dropping off her older sister Roisin at a Folkus workshop. She was only there for a ¼ of an hour, but never stopped dancing on the spot during that time.

Now MUCH older as a 15 year old, she has made great strides in the traditional music genre as a singer and guitarist who is being noticed countrywide. Niamh has just released her new CD, "Wild Rose", and it showcases perfectly just what a talent she is. The CD starts with the uptempo, "The

Knight on the Road", brought to prominence by Steeleye Span, not long after their inception, the choice of whistle alongside guitar, gives the number a certain quality. In complete contrast, "My Lagan Love", is a traditional Irish air, collected in 1904.

The poet W B Yeats inspired, "Come Away", about the land of the faeries, Tir Na Nog.

Two tunes follow, "The Green Rose Waltz/The Humped Pelicans of Porthcawl". The first is a slow, deliberate tune opening out to the much more uptempo second, collected following a trip to the Celtic Festival of Wales.

Niamh lives in St Annes and "Kilgrimol Bells", is a song about a local legend.

Beautiful harmonics on the guitar get us under way and bodhran is then added for accompaniment.

The English tradition is represented by, "Lovely Joan", the tale of a knight on his charger trying to take a young girl's maidenhead. It features a good solid guitar solo at the start. Popular Irish traditional song, "P Stands for Paddy" is again given Niamh's unique treatment.

An overheard conversation from a courting couple is the subject of the Scottish traditional ballad, "The Banks of the Clyde".

"Blackbird and Thrushes", is a song often performed, but in this version Niamh uses just a bodhran to support her soaring voice. "Oceana's Lullaby", is seemingly a song of personal ancestry. A song with many tunes and versions, "The Banks of the Roses", here stands comparison with the best of them.

Niamh really excels when singing unaccompanied and her voice lends itself to the Irish traditional ballad, "The Month of January".

Niamh and her sister Roisin team up on two tunes, "January Snows/Lafferty's", the first is a slow air played by Roisin on a rosewood flute, followed by a jaunty reel. The CD comes to its conclusion with the Scottish traditional ballad, "The Lass of Glenshee". It's set in Scotland's Glen of the fairies but is also well known in Ireland and for good measure has a happy ending. Niamh, despite her tender years continues to gather momentum and already this year she has been a finalist in the BBC's Young Musician of the Year competition. At this moment the future looks

bright but Niamh mustn't become complacent, for there is still much work to do if she is to achieve her aim of standing beside the very best in the tradition.

David Jones

ELIZA CARTHY & NORMA WATERSON

Gift
(Topic Records)



Some things really are worth waiting for, the more so when it comes from two of the most iconic women on the folk scene in the past fifty years. When they are also mother and daughter the bond that that brings to the occasion is palpable. Norma Waterson and Eliza Carthy have released their first ever duo recording, "Gift" and what a present it turns out to be.

Eleven tracks selected and crafted by both singers that brings out the very best we've come to expect. A folk classic, "Poor Wayfaring Stranger", provides the perfect start with Norma leading along with Aidan Curran on guitar and Danny Thompson on bass.

Eliza's version of, "Little Grey Hawk", is spot on with fiddle and banjo giving it an understated feel. It also includes the tune, "Furze Field", in the middle.

One of Dominic Behan's favourite songs, "Boston Burglar", is a story well told by Norma, who's voice continues in the vanguard of the great traditional performers. Stories and memories are stirred by Eliza with the rendition of, "The Nightingale/For Kate". Hal Wilmer suggested the song as part of the Rogues Gallery series of concerts. Mother and daughter duet on,

"Bonaparte's Lament", a song covered by many but never bettered. Sibling rivalry is the story behind, "The Rose and the Lily", which comes from the Traditional Tunes of the Child Ballads.

One of the most popular of all traditional songs, "Bunch of Thyme", followed, I for one never tire of hearing it and it is given superb treatment here.

"Ukelele Lady/(If Paradise is) Half as Nice", this offers a real bit of fun and is greatly enhanced by Danny Thompson's double bass.

The type of song I really enjoy from Norma and Eliza is, "Psalm of Life", Eliza provides the music for the words of Longfellow. This poem is the better for this amalgamation. I found Eliza's version of, "Prairie Lullaby", quite moving. Norma used to sing it to her when she was a baby, so I guess things have come full circle as Eliza's little girl, Florence was asleep and her mum was only halfway through the song! The final track is one of the truly great songs, the whole family is involved on, "Shallow Brown", when you hear it you just have to sing along.

Each of the eleven tracks are pure quality both in singing and musicianship.

For all their awards and nominations I'm sure Norma and Eliza derived much satisfaction from this, their first recording venture as a duo. I just hope it's the first of many.

David Jones

KATH READE Passionate Nature (Splid CD008)



From the outset can I just say this CD is not purely folk but also takes the best from across the pond in the

way of the increasingly popular Americana with a helping of country music thrown in.

Kath Reade writes her own songs and plays guitar in many different styles, this all adds up to a well rounded and highly listenable CD. The opening track, "Jenny", leave him Jenny that's the advice offered as a solution to a relationship gone wrong, jaunty guitar enhances the song.

The dream of all cold blooded people is to search for, "A Warmer Place", in contrast to the first song, Kath attacks the lyrics with aggressive guitar.

Elvis remains the inspiration for so many musicians, with the inevitable pilgrimage to follow, "Katrina", tells the tale.

"Song of Irish Exile", so many songs have been written about those who fled the Emerald Isle for America after the potato crops failed. Was the USA really the land of milk and honey?

Travelling is a theme that runs through the CD, "Coyote", tells how it's the promise of better things ahead if you are prepared to move. "Travelling Man", highlights the haves and have-nots, those who are prepared to march for better pay and conditions and those who don't need to because they were born with privileges at hand.

"You Know Me", but do we really know as much as we think we do about those closest to us, or indeed about ourselves?

Sensitive guitar gives way to a dream of yesteryear, "On a Viking Sailing Ship", the Vikings were a strong race who did what they had to do to survive.

A real gentle feel is spun around spotting, "Gold Finches", pure thoughts of nature and what life is all about.

Everything is attainable depending on how desperately we want it, even the, "Far Off Distant Mountains".

"Inventory", our own personal health check, something we all need to do, even if we don't like what we find.

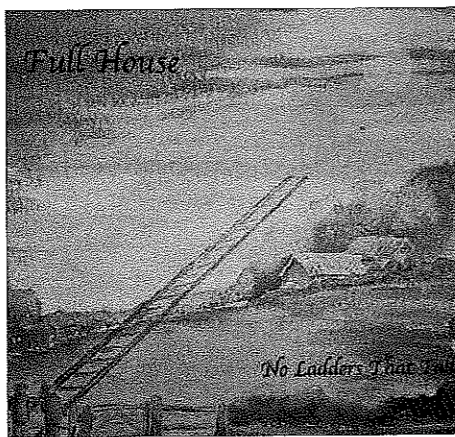
My favourite track is the final one, "Miner of the Coal", we are all fashioned by the sum of our parts. We all need that one spark to help make us as complete as we can be. Overall I enjoyed listening to this CD, Kath has a concise, clear voice and allied to her guitar playing creates many different scenarios that are believable.

She obviously has a passion for her

music which she manages to convey to the listener.

David Jones

FULL HOUSE No Ladders That Tall (101 Records)



A new Full House recording is always something to look forward to and this, their latest CD, lives up to every expectation and maintains their reputation as one of the finest bands in the North West. Excellent musicianship allied to a fine choice of material inventively arranged and impeccably produced would put many a larger record label to shame. It is a real treat for the ears rewarding the listener on every hearing as the subtle instrumental and vocal arrangements reveal a different texture each time. Their last CD in 2004, "Brand New Start" was good, being the first in ten years, but this, to my mind surpasses all their previous recordings on many levels, not least of all the bands own songs and tunes that make up half of the album.

The opening track, "The Prospect" sets the standard with vocals by Nick Mitchell on his own song and a driving percussion that builds through the addition of other instrumentation. This is followed by one of my favourite songs of all time, "The Dutchman" by Michael Peter Smith. However, I still have a tinge of sadness when I listen to it as it was sung regularly by the late and much missed John Evans of Wrexham band Yardarm at the Wrexham Folk Club. I am sure John would be proud to know that he is still fondly remembered and always will be when we hear the great job

Dave Russell has done on this track both vocally and instrumentally. The story too is a poignant one of a couple growing old together but with the common bond of love still shining through.

A Nick Mitchell song, "Spiral Dance", cleverly set to an almost Eastern feeling percussive backing, is next up then a Steve Knightley special, "Exile", sung by Dave.

The first instrumental track follows. It is a dual piece written by Dave Whetstone being "One For Dan/The Chester Hornpipe" and shows off the bands fine instrumental talents. Another original song, "Let it Rain", is next but this time it is written by the South African who has become an adopted Cestrian, Bill Malkin. Bill wrote this about the changes taking place in his homeland prior to leaving for the UK in 1994. It is sung with feeling by the band and they have done Bill proud with this cover version. The next track is definitely one of my favourites on the album. It is a great Alan Hull (remember Lindisfarne?) song called "Marshall Riley's Army" and has a great chorus and is really well performed by the lads.

I rarely hear new songs that impress me more than the next contribution from the joint pens of Mark Woolley and Nick Mitchell. The song is "No Ladders" and is a fitting title track being possibly the pick of all the songs on the album. I first heard Full House play this at Wrexham Folk Club and was equally taken with the live performance so I knew that a studio version would be something special and it certainly is. The story, about Mark's grandfather, is a fascinating one put across through the medium of good lyrics and a memorable melody. I can see this one being covered by other bands so let's hope it gets out there.

A rich seam appears to have been mined at this point on the album because another great song follows from yet another Chester writer. "When I was Hard Up" was written by folklorist Roy Clinging for a folk documentary about the Victorian workhouse entitled, "A Poor Man's Heritage", that Roy toured the club's with including our own at Wrexham. A really wonderfully evocative song with a belting chorus that again deserves to reach a much wider

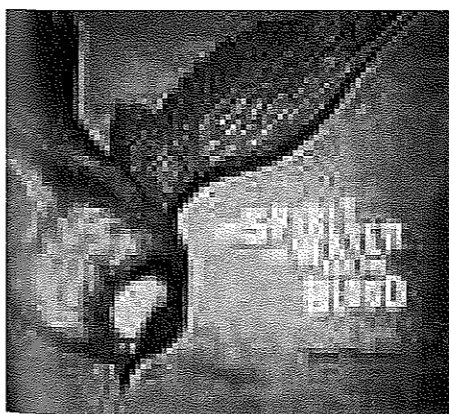
audience. Sung with gusto here by Dave Russell with some great mandolin/ mandola playing to accompany it. The next two tracks, "Scoperil" and "Ossians Circle", are Nick's next contribution before the run in starts with a lovely Mark Woolley waltz tune, "The Hazelwood", arranged by Ian Jones. Nick's final song "Time to Stray" follows and then Ian Jones remarkable duo of self penned tunes, "Chasing Chinchillas". The slow air starts the piece followed by a fast reel and again really shows off the bands musicianship to the full.

Finally this work of dedication with, I suspect, a few sweat, blood and tears along the way, comes to a close with a John Tams song discovered and brought to the band by Dave Russell, "Hearts of Coal (Harry Stone)". As with many of John Tams songs it has a powerful theme and message and is a fitting end to a very listenable and enjoyable CD.

If you can manage to see Full House in live performance all the better but this very well crafted album should be in your folk CD library anyway. It is a credit to all involved, from the band themselves through to the production crew and not forgetting their long suffering wives who let them out to do it!!! Catch them on a gig or visit their website at www.fullhousefolk.co.uk for a copy.

Ian Chesterman

RYAN DELMORE The Spirit, The Water, and the Blood (Varietal Records, 2008)



Streams of country, rock, gospel, and folk blend together to create a musical backdrop upon which Delmore writes his songs. All of which have a religious worship

themes. Delmore sing in an affected style. His voice sounds a bit like a cross between Rod Stuart and Tom Petty.

Ryan Delmore lives with his wife and four children on the coast of California, and he is a worship leader at the Five Cities Vinyard Church in Arroyo Grande. Hence the songs and theme for the album. Ryan sings very well and the tunes are quite good and, dare I say it, a cut above the average that you often find on some 'religious' themed albums. I think you might like the music.

The album comes in a good quality cardboard fold over cover, but with little in the way of song notes. However, this is an enhanced CD and if you pop it into your computer it opens up in Adobe reader with all the song lyrics, plus chord charts for guitar should you want to play / sing along.

Ryan is accompanied on this album by Marc Ford: acoustic and electric guitars and bass. Mark Folkrod: drums, percussion and harmony vocals. Larry Shubert: pedal steel guitar. Rick Kamrath: B3. Janiece Hudgins: accordion. With Chris Lizotte and Kirsten Ford on harmony vocals.

There are 11 tracks on the album all songs are written by Delmore except 'Mercy' (C. Cabot & R. Delmore), 'Falling Down' (D. Lorensen & R. Delmore) and 'Jesus Name' (J. Folkrod & R. Delmore) You can file this album under folk rock, - American style.

A website for Ryan Delmore can be found here: <http://www.vineyardmusic.com/vm/content/ryan-delmore>

Peter Massey

MATTHEW REID Courtyards and Fairgrounds (own release, 2009)

MATTHEW REID
COURTYARDS
AND
FAIRGROUNDS



Now for something completely different!

I sometimes wonder whom it is that buys a CD of Medieval music. However, it is very good and interesting if you listen to it carefully. For his sins, Matthew Reid is the musical director for The Second City comedy theatre, Toronto, Canada. Courtyards and Fairgrounds is a collection of Mr. Reid's compositions that evoke the sound of the Medieval and Renaissance eras. The pieces were created using a mix of traditional and modern compositional methods. I am not sure how, but it is my guess they are played on a synthesizer / keyboard.

There are 19 tracks on the CD I received with little or no information or song notes. I have put the CD on several times as background music at party or when friends come round for dinner and several commented, "It sounds like music from the film Robin Hood Prince of Thieves. I thought, that's a good description if you like. However, after a bit of research, I found out, and I quote, "Many of the pieces were originally composed for plays of the Renaissance and Medieval eras, including Shakespeare's Othello and All's Well That Ends Well, Kyd's Spanish Tragedy and the anonymous Coventry Play. Others were created as academic exercises in Medieval and Renaissance composition".

To sum up, not the sort of CD I would want to hear every day, but it

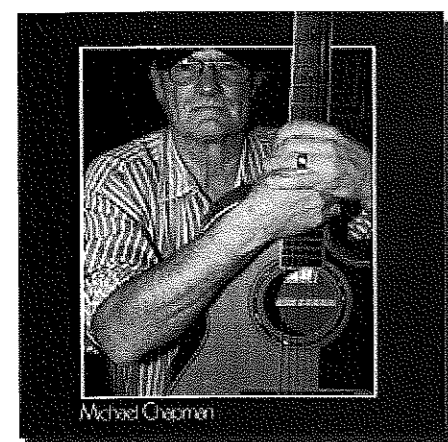
is very peaceful to listen to, if you're having a quite moment. Or maybe you are film producer and / or you are looking for some background music for one of Shakespeare's plays or something similar, well look no further.

You can learn more about Matthew Reid and download tracks from the CD here: <http://www.cdbaby.com/cd/matthewreid>

Peter Massey

MICHAEL CHAPMAN

Time Past & Time Passing
(Electric Ragtime, 2009)



Veteran singer-songwriter and guitarist Michael Chapman has been around for quite a few years, indeed he has made many recordings in the past stretching back to the 1970's. In the 80's he toured with Rick Kemp (Steeleye Span) as a duo and released a live album * Original Owners * which received good reviews.

Unfortunately, for me I never got to actually hear any of his albums, but I heard on the grapevine they were good. With that in mind, I was interested to hear **Time Past & Time Passing** his latest album. Perhaps, I expected more but this album didn't come up to my expectations for a top artist with 40 years experience.

True, there is some nice acoustic guitar picking from Michael Chapman on a couple of tracks, but spoilt only by an over enthusiastic use of the reverb. Unfortunately, none of the tunes stand out and by track 5 got a bit boring and found me hitting the skip button to get to the next track in hope of finding something more entertaining.

The vocal tracks I found the same. Michael has a very heavy laid back delivery as he mumbles his way through the songs. The song lyrics don't seem to go anywhere. Overall I felt this album was a little self-indulgent.

However, music is very subjective and this might be someone's taste in music, - I'll have to leave it up to you!

I get the feeling Michael must have put out some better albums in the past, but I can only report on this one. It didn't work for me.

Sorry Michael.

Michael Chapman has a website here: www.michaelchapman.co.uk you can buy the album online.

Peter Massey

CEDAR HILL REFUGEES

Pale Imperfect Diamond
(Effigy Records, 2008)



Jack Clift and John Carter Cash produce this album. It is a collective work with no less than 35 artists playing a part.

With well-known artists such as Jack Clift, John Carter Cash, Ralf Stanley, The Peasall Sisters (Oh Brother where art thou, Down from the Mountain), Lara Cash, Tom Adler, Randy Scruggs, to name just a few you might be expecting a Bluegrass or Country album. Although the artists sing in the 'style' we have come to expect from them, the album is uniquely different.

In a sense this is a concept album. The Cedar Hill Refugees headed by

Jack Clift and John Carter Cash, has taken western mountain songs and fused them with Eastern European Byzantine Uzbek instruments and rhythms.

Does it work? - Well strangely yes, but it might be a desired taste. In this mixed up world we live in, anything that helps the East understand and live with the West can't be a bad thing. I had to listen to the album a few times to truly understand where it was coming from, even now I am not quite sure!

Does it entertain? - Well yes, - but I am not quite sure who will want to buy it as it doesn't fit into any pigeon hole we are accustomed to.

Each of the tracks is different. Here you will find Blues, Gospel, English traditional songs, Appalachian, and more.

Overall, I liked the album, if only for its ingenuity and individuality, I think it is well worth listening to. You can learn more about the album by visiting Effigy Records website here: www.affigyrecords.net.

Peter Massey

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