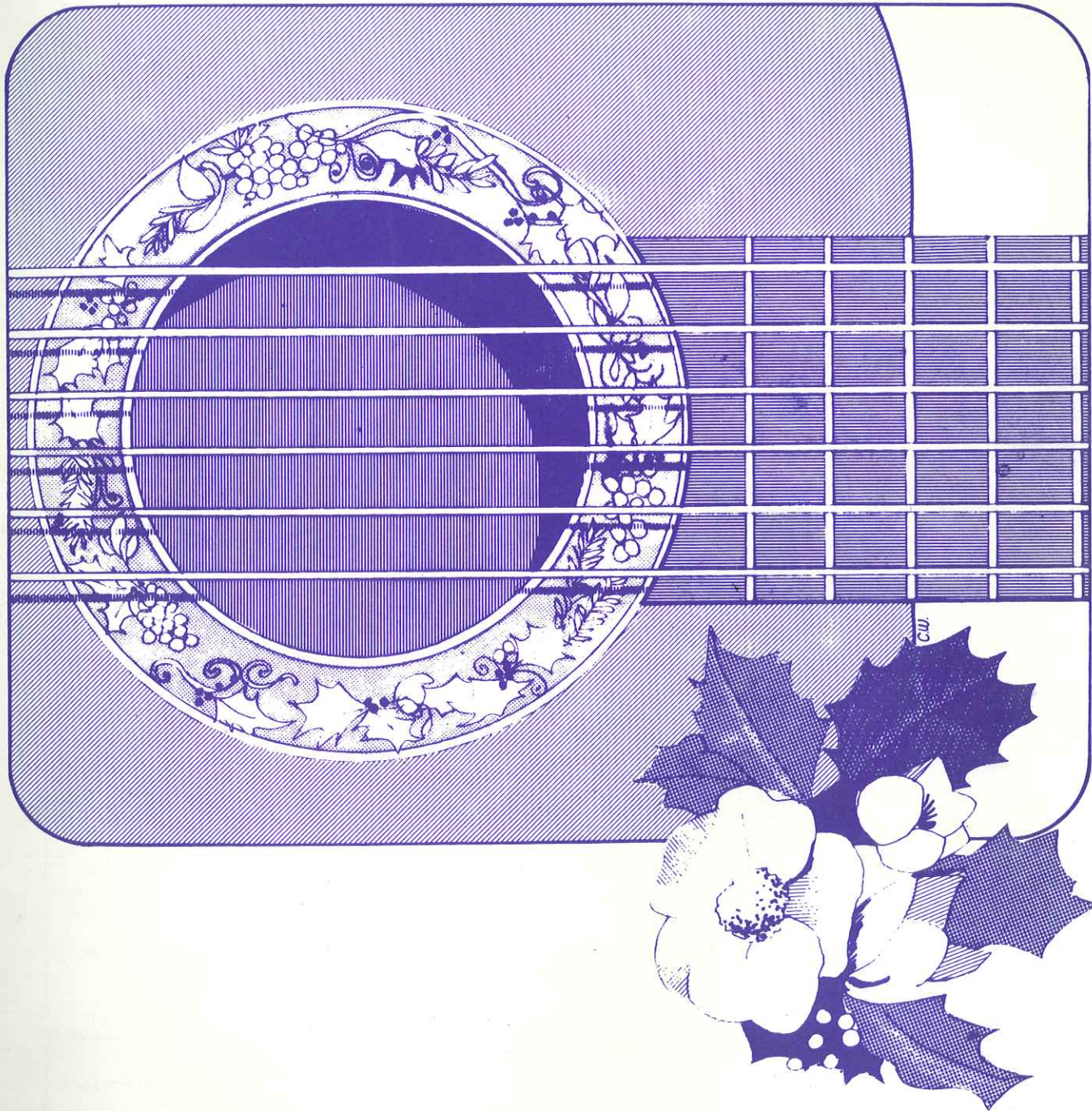


**THE NORTH WEST FEDERATION OF
FOLK CLUBS**



NEWSLETTER.

Dec 79 ~ Jan 80

10p

OFFICERS OF THE FEDERATION

Chairman	Derek Gifford	140 Slater Lane, Leyland	077 44 33541
Tours Organiser	John Beresford	8 Herbert Street, Radcliffe, Manchester, M26OPR	061 723 2751
Publicity Officer	Nigel Firth	3 Cromford Drive, Pemberton, Wigan, WN5 8JU	0942 215621
Minute Secretary	Joan Blackburn	4 Rosewood Close, Abram Nr. Wigan, WN2 5XT	0942 863389
Treasurer	Vince Ludden	14 Irene Avenue, St. Helens	0744 21414
Joint Activities Co-ordinator	Duncan Campbell	25 Clarendon Road, Lancaster, LA1 2DQ	0524 35214
Membership Secretary	Vacant		
Youth Organiser	Dave Tarpey	126, Ferryview Walk, Castlefields, Runcorn	09285 60080

The Aim of the Federation shall be the promotion of Folk Music in the North West by:-

1. The 'block booking' of artists for tours.
2. Joint Publicity of the Member Clubs.
3. The general support of the Member Clubs.
4. The joint organisation of concerts and ceilidhs within our area.
5. The support of Festival Organisers within our area.
6. The organisation of events to attract under 18s to Folk Music.

The Member Clubs

FOLK CLUB	ADDRESS	ORGANISER'S PHONE NO.
<u>SUNDAY</u>		
Rainford	Golden Lion Hotel, Rainford	0744 88 3424
Travellers	Traveller's Rest Hotel, Crab St., St. Helens.	0744 21414
Poynton	Poynton Folk Centre, Park Lane, Poynton	09967 2626
Raven	Raven Hotel, Farndon, Nr. Chester	097 883 2303
Prescot	Royal Oak, Warrington Rd., Prescot	051 480 0159
<u>MONDAY</u>		
Preston	Lamb Hotel, Church St., Preston	0772 58095
<u>TUESDAY</u>		
Garstang	Eagle and Child Hotel, Garstang	09952 2689
Ormskirk	Buck i'th Vine, Burscough St., Ormskirk	0695 77611
Blackpool	Raikes Hall Hotel, Leamington Rd., Blackpool.	03917 2317
Southport Swords	Blundell Arms Hotel, Birkdale.	070 48 71015
<u>WEDNESDAY</u>		
Brewery	Brewery Arts Centre, 122A Highgate, Kendal	0539 25133
The Met	Catholic Metropolitan Club, 61A, Bold St. L'Pool.	051 449 1115
<u>THURSDAY</u>		
Liverpool Trad.	Cross Keys, (corner of Earl St., and St. Paul's Square), Nr. Liverpool Stadium	051 733 5143
Fleetwood	Queen's Hotel, Beach Road, Fleetwood.	03917 3738
Poynton	See Sunday for details	
Wellgreen	Wellgreen Hotel, Grove Lane, Hale, Cheshire.	056 587 3145
<u>FRIDAY</u>		
Dicconson	Dicconson Arms, Wrightington	07744 33541
Coronation	Coronation Hotel, King St., Southport	0704 30154
Roebuck	Roebuck Hotel, Leyland	0772 313876
St. Phillips	St. Phillips Community Centre, Dean St.	061 723 3350
Lancaster Folk Stir	Yorkshire House Hotel, Lancaster (Nr. Bus Station)	0524 66395
<u>SATURDAY</u>		
Bury	Old Blue Bell, Bury	061 761 1544
Leyland Area Folk Society	Various venues in and around Leyland	0772 313876

EDITORIAL

First of all, many apologies for the poor quality of printing in the last issue, due mainly to the fact that I was on holiday at the time, and thus unable to control the quality of reproduction. The combination of this, and the attempt to rush an already-delayed issue out resulted in a magazine which was not up to the standards we have set ourselves.

If there is any article you would like to have read in the last issue, and were unable to, please send a 2p stamp for each article together with an SAE to the Editorial Address to receive a photocopy of the original.

Enough of that, and on to the current issue which I hope will make up for the last one with a bumper 16-page edition which you should receive in good time. Our main feature is a seasonal article on the custom of Apple Wassailing (see page 5).

Also inside we review the Warrington one-day Folk Festival, the national Folk magazine Acoustic Music, and a new release from Zero Records. The chairman's column, Agenda is featured again this month, and the Club of the Month is the Buck i' th' Vine at Ormskirk.

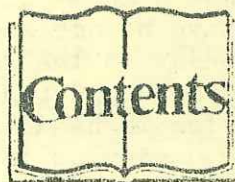
On pages 8, 9 & 10 you'll find an extra-long Song Exchange, which features Eric Bogle's superb "And the Band played Waltzing Matilda", together with all the usual requests and queries. Instead of Song of the Month, Alan Bell looks at the last year's entries and picks a "Song of the Year", whilst Gossip John has his ear to the ground as ever for snippets about the local folk scene.

If you add that to our regular features of Out & About, Letters to the Editor, and of course two month's club dates, I think you'll agree it's a very good read for only 10p.

As you will see our new artists have been hard at work providing pictorial headings for a number of our features, and I'm hoping to provide even more of these in the next issue. Our cover artist is Chris Woolley, who has provided an unusual and festive illustration to brighten our image at Christmas.

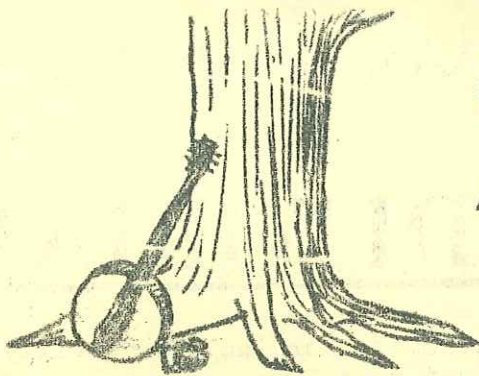
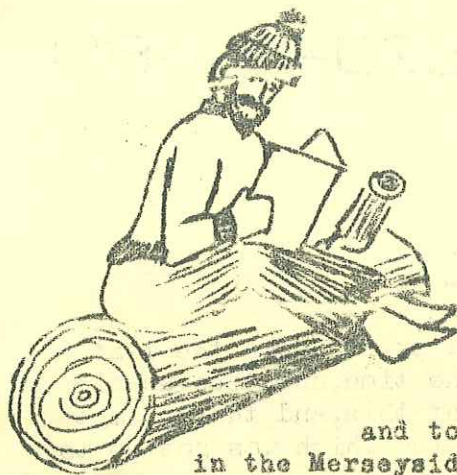
The next issue is published mid to late January for February and March, so the final copy date is January 6th (specially extended for Christmas). Remind your club organiser NOW about this date, so we don't have to put "Dates not sent" under your club heading.

Finally as always many thanks to all those who have contributed in any way to this issue, particularly Joan Blackburn, Peggy McArdle, Alan Bell, Derek Gifford Spectator, Gossip John and all our Advertisers. Special thanks must go to our typist Elaine Derbyshire, our artists Derek Blackburn, Chris Woolley and our cartoonist, "Pietri-David".



Nigel Firth

FEDERATION DETAILS	2	SONG EXCHANGE	8/9/10
EDITORIAL & COMMENTS	3	GOSSIP JOHN/LETTERS	10
OUT & ABOUT	4	WARRINGTON REVIEW	11
APPLE WASSAILING/RECORD REVIEW	5	MAGAZINE REVIEW/ACENDA	13
SONG OF THE YEAR	6	CLUB DATES FOR DECEMBER	15
CLUB OF THE MONTH	7	CLUB DATES FOR JANUARY	16



OUT & ABOUT ...

Regionally.....

Youth Festival 1980

One of the aims of the

Federation is to attract youngsters into folk music,

and to this end we are organising our next Concert to take place

in the Merseyside area (exact venue to be decided)

We will be pleased to hear from interested artistes or groups (under 18) who to take part in the Concert. Further details from our new Youth Officer,

Dave Tarpey, 126 Ferryview Walk, Castlefields, Runcorn, Cheshire. (Tel: Runcorn 60080)

...ooOoo...

With Christmas approaching rapidly as I write this, inevitably there's a number of special events at the clubs and among these are:-

Preston Folk Club's Christmas Party will see a rare performance of two fine singers and musicians in the form of Bobby Eaglesham (ex Fivehand Reel) and Sam Bracken (well-known to N.W. audiences) who have teamed up. Should be a cracking night out - why not go along?

Leyland & Area Folk Society have a Christmas Ceilidh at Leyland Civic Hall with the John Bull Band and Leyland Morris Team on Saturday 15th December from 8pm

Liverpool Traditional Folk Club have a Christmas Knees-Up with Jack Ketch Band on December 20th at their usual venue, the Cross Keys.

The Coronation Folk Club in Southport are having a night of Christmas Fun & Frolics with a late Bar & Surprise Guests on December 21st and follow this up on the 29th with a Ceilidh at the Queens Hotel on the promenade.

Also on December 29th St. Philips Folk Club, Radcliffe have a Christmas Special featuring "The Taverners"

The Met's Christmas Special is on December 19th and a hot pot supper together with Apple Pie & Cream will be available.

LAFS newly-formed Ceilidh Band the 'Old Pequiliar' (yes it really is spelt like that!) are making a good impression upon their audiences. They have their own P.A. & Caller, and for bookings you should contact Pete Mickleborough on Leyland 24926.

...ooOoo...

Since we last reported about the clubs that are members of the Federation, there have been a considerable number of changes. The clubs at FORMBY and at CROSBY have both closed during the summer, whilst the BROADFIELD, SHIP at Haskayne, ST. GEORGES and TOP LOCKS have all dropped out, and since then I hear at least two have actually closed. On the positive side, the LEYLAND & AREA FOLK SOCIETY have joined, and more recently PRESCOT and the KNOWL BROW have become members.

Prescot Folk Club meet every Sunday at the Royal Oak, Warrington Rd., Prescot at 8.30 pm and their resident is Graham Edwards; they will be booking guests every three or four weeks, but we have no dates to hand at present.

Knowl Brow Folk Club meet every Monday at the Knowl Brow Inn, Liverpool Rd., Skelmersdale at 8.15pm. I've no dates to hand, and this information came too late to include in the list of clubs, but the organiser is Niell Hurst, and his work telephone

(is St. Helens 25038

...ooOoo...

.....And Nationally

The South Wales Folk Federation, a non-EFDSS organisation similar to the NWFFC have just published their own Directory listing Folk Clubs, Singers, Bands & Dance Teams throughout the South Wales Area. The Directory is available from Owen Jones, "New Ways", 19 The Gardens, Monmouth, Gwent NP5 3HF. for 40p. including postage.

APPLE WASSAILING

Apple wassailing appears to be a survival in a specialized form of a rather more general custom. On farms throughout the country, certain rites were celebrated on Twelfth Night Eve, on which depended the success or failure of the coming year's crops.

At dusk, the farmer would lead his men out into the fields. In each field in turn, they would light a bonfire, round which they would gather in a circle. They would drink a health to the farm in ale or cider, and shout, cheer, sing, and generally make as much noise as possible in order to frighten away the evil spirits. When each field had been thus treated and purified, they would return to the farmhouse and partake of a huge feast, with more singing and drinking. After this, they would again venture out, this time to the barns, stables and styes, to drink good health to every animal and everything that the farm possessed. This would ensure prosperity for the coming year.

In Apple Country, Devon and Somerset, a variation on this theme has survived. Instead of lighting bonfires, the men circle certain trees of the orchard. They dance round the tree, singing, then a gun is fired through the branches of the tree (presumably to frighten away the evil spirits). After this, a mug of cider is thrown through the branches, or pieces of toast soaked in cider are hung therefrom, to urge the tree to bring forth good fruit; a good example of sympathetic magic.

As with many other customs, the night of celebration may have local variations. In one place it may be on Twelfth Night itself (January 6th); in another, it may be on Old Twelfth Night (January 17th), where people have rigidly stuck to the date even since the calendar was changed in 1752. But even now, in some districts, these traditions are still carried on by people who hold the belief, whether consciously or not, that without these ceremonies, all would not be well. And who knows? - they may well be right.

THE APPLE TREE WASSAIL. (Version from Bratton, Near Minehead).

old ap-ple tree well has-said thee, And bap-ping thee with beer. The lord does know when we shall be to be
merry on a - this year. To blow-wind and to bear well and so may-by let us be; let ev-ry man drink
up his Cup and health to the old ap-ple tree.

Record Review:-

ANDREW ALLEN SINGLE-STREET SINGER/WAS IT ALL WORTH IT IN THE END

ZERO RECORDS ZER 9003

A first record for Andrew Allen on a label not familiar to me for folk records, namely Zero Records. It is unusual to find a single in the folk record market, but it seems an excellent way for a newcomer to get himself known to a wider audience. 'Street Singer' is one of Andrew's own songs, and is concerned with a one-man band busking in the subways of London. Its a jolly little singalong song with an unusual if rather obtrusive backing that seems to just catch the mood of the song. The song on the other side was written by Des Cooney & Julian Ellis and won the ISA Song Contest for 1978/9, and is a very different song. The only flaw is that it is done as a lively song, and since it seems to owe more to Jacques Brel's 'The Dove' than to 'The Wild Rover', this appears to be an inappropriate arrangement. It is however well done, and I look forward to hearing more of Andrew Allen, and indeed to further folk releases by Zero Records.

SONG OF THE YEAR

This month I have forgone the selection of a Song of the Month, and instead have devoted the space to the Song of the Year selection. As you will recall from our last issue, Alan Bell has kindly agreed to judge this.

He has considered all the six songs & poems submitted for selection, and says they all "deserve merit for effort - and no doubt all will be performed well and so received by a club audience"

The selection he has made however is that of "Misty Mornings" by Ruth McLellan of which he says "I understand the sentimentality so choose it as being of great promise". She will receive, in addition to the subscription already awarded, a copy of a book on Folk Songs and a certificate.

The song first appeared in Vol. 1 no. 5, and is reproduced again below.

MISTY MORNINGS

Ruth McLellan

When I was twelve I started work,
No more time to play.
Sweeping up between the looms
For eighteen pence a day.
Up at five, six days a week,
A day of rest in my Sunday Best,
And one Wakes week of fun.

CHORUS: Misty Mornings, cobbles gleaming,
In the day's first Light.
People, places that we knew
Are fading from our sight.

Though times were hard and money short
Not like it is today,
People still had time to care
And pass the time of day.
Now there's concrete slabs and traffic signs
Where children used to play.
And though the town is clean and bright,
The heart is cold as clay.

They talk about the bad old days,
Of poverty and war,
But what have we got instead?
The telly and the car!
Mindless rubbish and motorway crashes,
Oh, what have we become?
We've got a shorter working week,
But now we've got no homes.

We meant to build a Brave New World,
To set all people free.
Pull down the mills, build model flats,
To re-house you & me.
Oh give me back those bad old days
Before it is too late.
For life still still had some meaning then.
God, save us from our fate!



CLUB OF THE MONTH:

We are very honoured to be featured as Club of the Month being a mere baby on the folk scene - only just over 12 months old.

The Ormskirk club was started merely on impulse as a result of the landlord of the Queen's Hotel asking, via the Federation Newsletter, if anyone was interested in starting a folk club there. Ian McArdle who, though completely inexperienced in running a Club, was fairly competent as a floor singer on the local folk scene, decided to tackle the job. He then had to rapidly enlist other residents. His first recruit was his brother Paul. Judith was spotted doing a floor spot at the Dicconson Arms and was snapped up on the basis of this excellent performance. Thus Springheel Jack was born. Frantic rehearsals then took place prior to the opening.

The Queens Head Folk Club went from a quiet start to a resounding failure despite having guests of the calibre of Peter Bellamy, Vera Johnson, Ushers Well and Buckthorn. It lasted from September 78 to the end of December 78, but due to ailing finances and a totally unsuitable, costly room, we were forced to find an alternative venue.

The Buck 1' th' Vine was chosen for its cosy atmosphere, convenient size room, convivial landlord and last, but certainly not least, the fact that they sell "real ale". Opening night at the Buck was on the 9th January 79 and, from the start, the whole atmosphere of the Club was different. Audiences fluctuated, but gradually, we built up a hard core of regulars, the most faithful of whom are Steve Bannister, who can always be relied on for a good floor spot and "Mossy" who, if he's had sufficient ale, can sometimes be persuaded to perform. The pub strike was a bit of a set back but we soon got back into our stride again and audiences increased. We were really sorry that we had to close for the summer break.

The line up of Springheel Jack had to change in the Spring as Paul was taking his 'A' levels and is now at Surrey University. His place in the group was taken by Aiden Pollitt who had performed with Ian on and off for five years. The range of instruments also increased about that time. Chime bars, whistles, recorders and even an electric key board were added to the basic guitars, melodian etc.

After the summer break, the Club re-opened in September with a very successful evening and, since then, we have not had a bad night. Guests booked at the Buck have included Brian Dewhurst, Steve Turner, Bill Price, Titanic, Howard Bond, Ted Edwards, Joe Beard and Bram Taylor.

The Club is now running on a sound financial basis and our policy for the future is to try and book even bigger and more expensive guests. On guest nights (every third week) we make a charge at the door, but on Singers Nights, we pass the jug round. We welcome floor singers every week and the Club meets on Tuesdays at 8.15 p.m.

Peggy McArdle.

**Buck 1' th' Vine
FOLK CLUB**

ANCHOR JAZZ & FOLK PROMOTION

Folk
Jazz
Blues } Records

MAIL ORDER WELCOME

Send for catalogue to:-

115, Whinney Hill Park,

BRIGHOUSE,

W. Yorks.

Tel: Brighouse 714419

SONG EXCHANGE

Conducted by JOAN BLACKBURN

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

First of all, I must apologise on behalf of the Editorial Staff for the very rough copy of "Song Exchange" which appeared in the last issue. I understand that this was due to technical printing difficulties, and I have been assured that it will not occur again. To try to make amends, if any reader would like a clear copy of either of the songs which appeared ("Portsmouth" and "Braes o' Balquidder") I will forward a copy on receipt of an s.s.e.

I must thank Frank Lewis, the Press Officer of Leyland and Area Folk Society, and also Liz Birchall of Orrell, Wigan, for their help with finding the words to "Stewball" for me.

Thanks also to Steve Bannister of Ormakirk for sending me a copy of "The Band Played Waltzing Matilda", which was requested by Elaine Derbyshire, and which is reproduced below. Steve informed me that the song appeared in vol.13 of "New City Songster", a periodical compiled by Ewan MacColl and Peggy Seeger. It appears to be very good value for money, and by the time this Newsletter is on sale, vol.15 should be available for the princely sum of 60p (inc.p&p) from: New City Songster, 35 Stanley Avenue, Beckenham, Kent.BR3 2PU. Each issue contains about 20 songs, which are contemporary, written in the folk idiom, and the Editorials give good hints to aspiring song-writers.


Elaine Derbyshire tells me that she saw Jack Owen at the recent Fylde Festival, and he kindly gave her the words and chords to "Mist Over the Mersey". Glad we were able to help, if indirectly.

Jim Bradshaw of Wigan asks for the words of a song for which he doesn't know the title, but the chorus goes:

Hey, Sandy, hey Sandy, why were you the one?
All those years of growing up are wasted now and gone;
Did you see them turn? Did you feel the burn
Of the bullets as they flew?
Hey, Sandy, hey, Sandy, just what did you do?
Hey, Sandy, hey, Sandy, just what did you do?

And John M. Kilduff, of Co.Mayo, requests the following songs: "The Green Grassy Slopes of the Moy"; "The Quiet Land of Erin"; "Where the Mulcair River Flows"; "The Dark Eyed Gypsy"; "The Hills of Knocknashaa"; "Lough Erin's Shore"; "Mary of Maroe"; and any Michael Davitt songs, also songs of County Mayo. John tells me that he does some songwriting himself, and is interested in having his songs published commercially, but needs a collaborator capable of setting his words to music. If anyone is willing to help in this way, they should get in touch with John at Sallyhernane, Knock, Claremorris, County Mayo, Eire.

THE BAND PLAYED WALTZING MATILDA. Words and Music by Eric Bogle.



The musical score is written on four staves. Above the first staff are chords: D, G, D, Bm, D, A7, D, A7. Above the second staff are chords: D, A7, D, G, D, Bm. Above the third staff are chords: D, A7, D, G, D, A7. Above the fourth staff are chords: G, D, G, D, A7, D. The word "CHORUS" is written above the third staff. The score includes a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature.

contd...

SONG EXCHANGE (contd.)

When I was a young man, I carried a pack,
And I lived the free life of a rover;
From the Murray's green basin to the dusty Outback,
I waltzed my Matilda all over.
Then in 1915, the country said, "Son,
It's time you stopped rambling, there's work to be done,"
So they gave me a tin hat and they gave me a gun
And sent me away to the war.

CHORUS: And the band played "Waltzing Matilda"
As the ship pulled away from the quay,
So midst all the cheers, the flag-waving and tears,
We sailed off to Gallipoli.

How well I remember that terrible day,
How our blood stained the sand and the water,
And how in that hell that they called Suvla Bay
We were butchered like lambs at the slaughter.
Johnny Turk he was waitin', he'd primed himself well,
He showered us with bullets and rained us with shell,
And in five minutes flat he'd blown us all to hell,
Nearly blew us right back to Australia.

CHORUS: And the band played "Waltzing Matilda"
When we stopped to bury the slain;
We buried ours, the Turks buried theirs,
Then we started all over again.

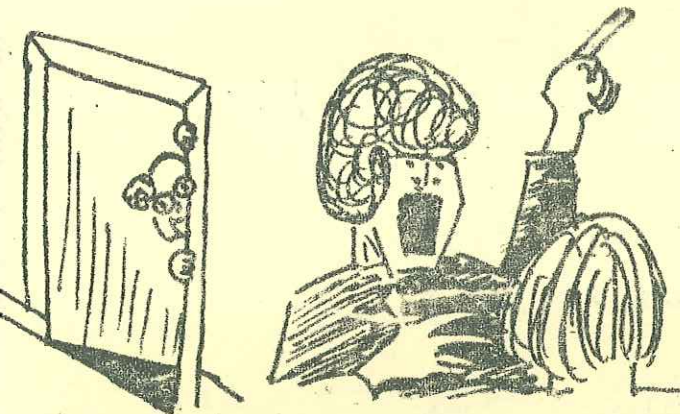
Those that were left, well, we tried to survive
In a mad world of blood, death and fire;
And for ten weary weeks I kept myself alive
Though around me the corpses piled higher.
Then a big Turkish shell knocked me arse over head
And when I woke up in me hospital bed
I saw what it had done, and wished I was dead -
Never knew there was worse things than dyin'.

CHORUS: For I'll go no more Waltzing Matilda
Around the green bush far and free -
To hump tent and pegs a man needs both legs,
No more Waltzing Matilda for me.

Then they gathered the crippled, the wounded and maimed,
And they shipped us back home to Australia;
The legless, the armless, the blind and insane,
The brave wounded heroes of Suvla.
And when our ship pulled into Circular Quay
I looked at the place where my legs used to be,
And thanked Christ there was nobody waiting for me,
To grieve and to mourn - and to pity.

CHORUS: And the band played "Waltzing Matilda"
As they carried us down the gangway;
But nobody cheered, they just stood and stared,
Then they turned all their faces away.

And now every April I sit on my porch,
And watch the parade pass before me;
I see my old comrades, how proudly they march,
Reviving old dreams and past glory.
The old men march slowly, old bones stiff and sore,
Tired old men from a forgotten war;
Then young people ask, "What are they marching for?"
- And I ask myself the same question.



GOSSIP JOHN...

That well-known Liverpool group the Spanners (some sort of tools, anyway) recently caused a furore by announcing that their own club was to close just after their own 21st birthday celebrations (the

group, not the singers, that is). A committee of regulars was set up at once to keep going, and announced that all singers would have to pay in future. The group surprised everyone by agreeing to turn up once a month & to pay for the privilege of appearing at what was their own club.

Rumour has it that Bernie Farris & Tom McConville have been playing together recently and will probably be working together on a more permanent basis in the New Year. They should produce a pleasant combination of sounds with Bernie's panache for writing good songs & Tom's excellent voice & musicianship - good luck to them!

I gather Warrington Folk Festival has surpassed the Federation's Day of Folk in making a loss, and must be now in line for the Trophy for the folk event making the biggest loss in a single day. A spokesman for the festival has said however that their biggest worry was that the Treasurer would run away with the losses.

The Newsletter produced by the Liverpool Traditional Folk Club has 'gone foreign' and is now being sold in another Liverpool Club which is mentioned on this page. The editors of the magazine offer a free page to any club willing to sell them at their club.

Gossip John will always be pleased to receive humorous snippets concerning clubs and singers in the area; Send to Gossip John c/6 Editorial address please.



Letters to the Editor

Phone 051 924 3004

POTTERS WHEEL
WARD ROAD
LIVERPOOL 23

Dear Sir,

I collect magazines and newspapers, but only First Issues - Volume 1, No.1.

Can you put me in touch with other readers who collect magazines?

Recently I was offered the first issue of 'Spin' - I believe this was the first magazine ever produced by The Spinners. Can anyone tell me anything about this production, and has it any real value?

Yours faithfully,

SONG EXCHANGE (Cont'd)

CHORUS: But the band plays "Waltzing Matilda",
And the old men answer the call.
But year by year, more old men disappear,
Someday no-one will march there at all.

(sung to traditional tune)

Waltzing Matilda, Waltzing Matilda,
Who'll come a-waltzing Matilda with me?
And their ghosts may be heard as you pass by that billabong,
Who'll come a-waltzing Matilda with me?.

REVIEW:-

Warrington, 22nd Sep

Warrington is one Festival the Editor doesn't have to persuade me to go to, as I would go anyway, review or not. It's a small intimate festival and one you feel you can become a part of; it's never pretentious or overawing - just a good festival.

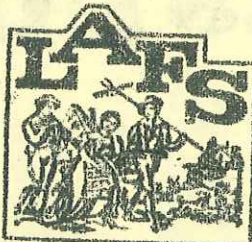
The morning's proceedings (always a problem with a one-day festival) were slow to get off the ground, but despite the effects of a bus strike and another clash with Bromyard the afternoon and evening went well. The concert was unfortunately marred by taxi broadcasts breaking through on the P.A. system, but despite this several of the artists gave very good performances. I was especially impressed with Bob Pegg who gave a superb rendering of some of his best-known (and some not so well-known) songs, whilst John O'Hagan was one of the local artists who gave an impressive performance.

The food that was available was excellent, although it was not possible to obtain a full meal, only snacks, so I unfortunately had to miss one or two of the events in this period.

The evening Ceilidh was a rather disjointed affair, and I have to confess to being rather unhappy with the band's attitude to the whole event. This led at point to the stage being empty for several minutes after the band had finished one set of dances before the singer was introduced. The parallel club night was however excellent and managed despite fluctuating numbers to provide the atmosphere of a club setting.

Since writing this review, I have heard that the festival has not been a financial success, and gather that there may well not be one in 1980. I hope however that it will not finish altogether, as its a festival I do enjoy and I'm sure many people would be sorry to see it finish.

"SPECTATOR"

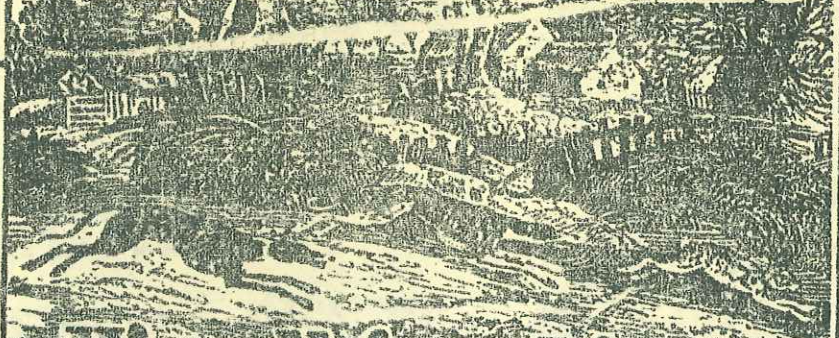


Leyland & Area
Folk Society

GRAND CONCERT
Leyland Civic Hall
SATURDAY 1st December
at 8.00pm.

licensed bar - food
tickets £1.25, available at
the door, or contact
Preston 313876

The Watersons



Woodbine Lizzie
Preston Guildsmen

New from



Andrew Allan sings

"Street Singer" &

"Was it all worth it in the end"

This double 'A' Side single from 22 year-old contemporary folk singer Andrew Allan (A popular singer/guitarist/songwriter from Merseyside) is now available. Price £1 including postage & printed sleeve.

Other Zero Records include:-

Telford Youth Jazz Orchestra (L.P. in full colour sleeve £3)

Terry Dean's Apache Band (country L.P. ,£3)

Mother's Worry (Pop/Disco L.P.,£2.50)

Treble Chance (Harmony Group L.P. £2.25)

Peter Chandell (Showgroup L.P. £2)

Jean Lesley (Cabaret Singer E.P. £1)

Tony Bottrill (Cabaret Singer E.P. £1)

Record & Sleeve manufacture for artists etc., available

ZERO RECORDS

36, PEMBERTON ROAD, TELFORD, SALOP. TF5 0BL.



DICCONSON ARMS FOLK

PRESENTS

5th Birthday Night

with

TITANIC

&

FRIENDS

on 25th January 1980



DECEMBER 21st : Xmas Party with YORKSHIRE RELISH

EVERY FRIDAY AT 8.30. PM

DICCONSON ARMS FOLK CLUB, DICCONSON ARMS, DANGEROUS CORNER, WRIGHTINGTON.

REVIEW: Acoustic Music

WITH FOLK SONG & DANCE NEWS (FORMERLY "FOLK NEWS")

A new format & title for folk music's answer to Melody Maker. Now in magazine, rather than Newspaper form it sports an omnibus title indicating a broader editorial policy. It currently enjoys a virtual monopoly as regards national folk magazines - the only serious competitor, Folk Review, hasn't published for nearly five months. This is certainly a much better magazine than it was at one time, although it still contains a number of articles that have no place in a real folk magazine, though these may be justified in the context of the new image.

The most recent issue I've seen (October) certainly has a number of redeeming features, the most notable of which is an article on North-Eastern Grassroots. This gives an overview of the folk club scene in Northumberland & Durham, and follows this up with a good set of articles on other facets of folk in the area including smallpipes, Morris Dancing & real ale. There are also some searching & critical reviews of a number of festivals, although a number of events are included that seem to me to have very little to do with Folk Music.

The record reviews, which are otherwise reasonable, however, include a section entitled "Songwriters" which seems to concentrate almost exclusively on American Singer/Songwriters who I would classify as rock rather than folk. An interview with that well-known folk singer Ry Cooder, and one with Paddy Moloney who recently managed the Chieftains, completes the line-up of features. There's very little actual News, and almost no Club Dates now that these are no longer put in free.

Taken all round, whilst it has some redeeming features I for one don't buy a folk magazine to read about rock artists, and at 40p. (with a price increase in the pipeline), I would need a bit of persuasion to buy another copy.

N.F.

AGENDA by the Chairman

The atmosphere at the last Federation Executive meeting was rather mixed to say the least. On the one hand it looks as though the majority of the debts to clubs who assisted us with the loss on the 'Day of Folk' will be repaid by the A.G.M., and that the Youth Concert will go ahead next year thanks to the 'ground work' being put in by our new Youth Officer Dave Tarpey.

On the other hand we received the worrying news that our Treasurer, Vince Ludden, had been admitted to hospital and is on a kidney machine, and that our Tours Organiser's wife was also in hospital. May we wish them both a speedy recovery and quick return to good health. The already depleted Executive committee was then further reduced when our Membership Secretary Ron Strickland, announced his resignation!

As a result the latter post on the Executive is now open, so if you know of anyone in your club who has a few hours to spare each month and is interested in getting more involved in the Federation's affairs then just put him or her in contact with me - please!

By the time you read this we hope to have our very own N.W.F.F.C. diary on sale - very useful for jotting down your folk club dates, etc, - which provides another useful service for clubs and their members and helps us with our financial situation; so, go on, buy a couple they make useful Christmas gifts too!

Finally may I wish on behalf of the Executive and myself a Very Merry Christmas and Prosperous New Year to all our readers, clubs and organisers.

Derek Gifford.

Chairman.

Leyland and Area Folk Society



Events in Leyland Civic Hall

FOLK CONCERT

in conjunction with
SOUTH RIBBLE ARTS
and featuring Local Singers
on

SATURDAY 19th JANUARY

ADMISSION £1.00

Bar Food Available

XMAS CEILIDH

with

JOHN BULL BAND ROEBUCK SINGERS

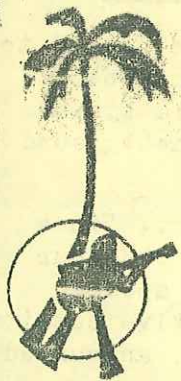
on

SATURDAY 15th DECEMBER

8 to 12pm

ADMISSION £1.00

Late Bar Food Available



BERMUDA FOLK CLUB
1st. & 3rd. Sundays each month.

Enquiries welcome from professionals touring U.S.A. and Canada. Complimentary copies of club's newsletter available on request to clubs, folk publications, and professional artists.

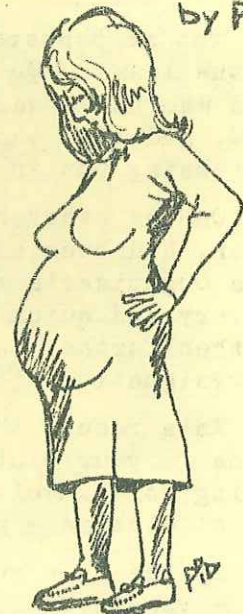
Howard Evans
Rose Cottage
Tee Street
Devonshire 4-21
Bermuda

FOLKSONGS ILLUSTRATED.
by P.D.

No. 1

CARELESS

LOVE



Cobble Lane

Traditional & Contemporary Folk Music

Joan Blackburn
Tel. Wigan 863389

Chris Risley
Tel. Wigan 46974

DISPLAY ADVERT

ONLY £1.50 per 1/8 page, and pro rata for 1/4, 1/2 and full page. Send Artwork or other copy to Editorial Address. (pre-paid Adverts only accepted)

THE FOLK CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER

<u>SUNDAY</u> Res.	<u>RAINFORD</u> <u>Cyder Pie</u>	<u>TRAVELLERS</u> <u>Moonshine</u>	<u>POYNTON</u> <u>See (a) below</u>	<u>RAVEN</u> <u>Dave & Marek</u>	<u>PRESCOT *</u> <u>Graham Edwards</u>
2nd	Vin Garbutt	Heather Whittaker	Alex Campbell	Singers	Alternate
9th	Auld Triangle	Singer's night	Brenda Wooton	Kinfolk	Singers' Nights
16th	Rosemary Hardman	Musica Inebriata	Roaring Jelly	Plexus	and
23rd	Roaring Jelly	Surprise night	Bullock Smithy Xmas Party	Singers	Guest Nights
30th	Bernard Wrigley		Alan Bell Music Hall	Singers	
<u>MONDAY</u> Res.	<u>PRESTON</u> <u>Kalied Band</u>				
3rd	Singers				
10th	Dave Walters				
17th	Bobby Eaglesham & Sam Bracken *				
24th	Closed				
31st	Closed.				
<u>TUESDAY</u> Res.	<u>GARSTANG</u>	<u>BLACKPOOL</u> <u>Taverners</u>	<u>BUCK i' th' VINE</u> <u>Spring Heel Jack</u>		
4th	Strawhead	Pat Tate	Steve Chilcott		
11th	Singaround	Bobby Eaglesham	Singers		
18th	Rodger Westbrook	Xmas party	Singers.		
25th	Closed	Closed	Closed		
<u>WEDNESDAY</u> Res		<u>BREWERY</u>	<u>THE MET</u> <u>See @ below</u>		
5th		Bob Fox/Stu Luckley	Comeallye every week.		
12th		Club Closed			
19th		Plexus	Xmas special *		
26th		Club Closed	with Hot pot Supper		
<u>THURSDAY</u> Res.	<u>LIVERPOOL TRAD.</u> <u>See (b) below</u>	<u>FLEETWOOD</u> <u>Scold's Bridle</u>	<u>POYNTON</u> <u>See (c) below</u>	<u>WELLGREEN</u> <u>Pete Wilmot</u>	
6th	Singers/Res.	John 'Dutch' Holland	Bracken	Rebec	
13th	Steve Turner	Singers	Brandywine Bridge	Saffron Summerfield	
20th	Jack Ketch Band *	Xmas Party/Dave Walters	Jack Hudson	Xmas Party/Pete Young	
27th	Closed	Closed	Major Mustard's Xmas Show	Closed.	
<u>FRIDAY</u> Res.	<u>DICCONSON</u> <u>Titanic</u>	<u>CORONATION</u> <u>Buckthorn +</u>	<u>ST. PHILIPS</u> <u>Ushers Well</u>	<u>LANCASTER</u> <u>Folkstir</u>	<u>ROEBUCK</u> <u>No set residents.</u>
7th	Singers	Roy Harris		Scold's Bridle	Comeallye every week
14th	Singers	Allan Taylor		Singers	
21st	Yorkshire Relish & Chris Parkinson	Xmas Fun & Frolics *	Sat Dec. 29th Xmas Special The Taverners	Xmas party	
28th	Closed	Closed		Closed	
<u>SATURDAY</u> Res.	<u>BURY</u> <u>Various</u>	<u>POYNTON</u>	<u>LEYLAND AREA</u> <u>FOLK SOCIETY</u>	<u>CORONATION</u>	
1st	Gordon Tyrrell		Grand Concert		
8th	Bolton Handbell Ringers	Ceilidh			
15th	Roy Harris		Xmas Ceilidh *		
22nd	Xmas Party		Carol singing in various pubs		
29th	Closed.			Ceilidh, Queens Hotel *	

KEY TO SYMBOLS ABOVE

* See Out & About (page 4)
 ∅ plus Linda Bailey, Martin Banks, Mike Hughes, Mark Dowding
 + plus Bernie Blaney, Neville Grundy
 @ Residents include Pete McGovern, Brian Jacques, Jack Owen

(a) Residents include Falcon, Crannog, John Coy
 (b) Residents include Barbara Bennion, Shay Black, Mary Edwards, Tony Gibbons etc, etc.
 (c) Residents include Dave Hughes, Pete Hughes Gentleman Soldier

THE FOLK CALENDAR FOR JANUARY

<u>SUNDAY</u> Res. 6th 13th 20th 27th	<u>RAINFORD</u> <u>Cyder Pie</u> Closed Galadriel Stoneground Tele.Bill & Smooth Operators.	<u>TRAVELLERS</u> <u>Moonshine</u> To be confirmed To be confirmed Jim Mageean Singers' Night	<u>POYNTON</u> <u>See (d) below</u> Bernard Wrigley Telephone Bill & Smooth Operators Tannahill Weavers To be arranged	<u>RAVEN</u> <u>Dave & Marek</u> To be confirmed To be confirmed To be confirmed To be confirmed	<u>PRESCOT</u> <u>Graham Edwards</u> Alternate Singers' Nights and Guest Nights
<u>MONDAY</u> Res. 7th 14th 21st 28th	<u>PRESTON</u> <u>Kalied Band</u> Brian Dewhurst Titanic Singers The Wassailers				
<u>TUESDAY</u> Res. 1st 8th 15th 22nd 29th	<u>GARSTANG</u> Closed To be arranged To be arranged To be arranged To be arranged	<u>BLACKPOOL</u> <u>Taverners</u> Closed Singers Crannog To be arranged Cheshire Folk	<u>BUCK i' th' VINE</u> <u>Spring Heel Jack</u> Closed Bob Chiswick Singers Singers Usher's Well		
<u>WEDNESDAY</u> Res. 2nd 9th 16th 23rd. 30th		<u>BREWERY</u> Club Closed Club Closed Strawhead Club Closed The one-eyed Fiddler.	<u>THE MET</u> <u>See @ overleaf</u> Comeallye every week		
<u>THURSDAY</u> Res. 3rd 10th 17th 24th 31st	<u>LIVERPOOL TRAD.</u> <u>See (b) overleaf</u> Guest(to be conf.) Singers & Res. Dick Gaughan Singers & Res. To be confirmed	<u>FLEETWOOD</u> <u>Scold's Bridle</u> Strawhead Singer's night To be confirmed To be confirmed To be confirmed	<u>POYNTON</u> <u>See (e) below</u> Plexus Squire Crannog Little Fish Gentleman Soldier	<u>WELLGREEN</u> <u>Pete Wilmot</u> To be confirmed To be confirmed To be confirmed To be confirmed	
<u>FRIDAY</u> Res. 4th 11th 18th 25th	<u>DICCONSON</u> <u>Titanic (ø overleaf)</u> Blue Water Folk Singers Singers 5th Birthday night with Titanic	<u>CORONATION</u> <u>Buckthorn(+ over)</u> Singers' Night Gary & Vera Aspey Dick Gaughan Strawhead	<u>ST. PHILIPS</u> <u>Ushers Well</u> Last Friday of month only Dates not sent	<u>LANCASTER</u> <u>Folkstir</u> To be confirmed To be confirmed To be confirmed To be confirmed	<u>ROEBUCK</u> <u>No set residents</u> Comeallye every week
<u>SATURDAY</u> Res. 5th 12th 19th 26th	<u>BURY</u> <u>Various</u> Steve Turner Brillig To be confirmed Ceilidh /	<u>POYNTON</u> Ceilidh	<u>LEYLAND AREA</u> <u>FOLK SOCIETY</u> Folk evening Leyland Civic Hall		

KEY TO SYMBOLS ABOVE

ø See advert on page 14

/ At Elton Conservative Club with Bury Ceilidh Band

(d) Residents for month include Stoneground

(e) Residents for month include Rebec

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

EDITORIAL ADDRESS:-
All correspondence to
3, Cromford Dr.,
Pemberton,
WIGAN WN5 8JU

16

THE EDITOR ACCEPTS NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR CONTRIBUTIONS CLAIMED TO BE ORIGINAL.

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