

# TAMLYN

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Jan & Julie Lewis

DON'T FORGET TO ORDER  
THE XMAS ISSUE

# scene

## The Oldham Tinkers

The brothers Gerry and Larry Kearns come from a family in which songs are rendered at the drop of a hat and have sung together from early childhood.

John Howarth, a friend of Larry from primary school days was plucking a banjo in an Oldham pub when a chance meeting with the two brothers resulted in the renewal of the school-boy friendship and the formation of a musical trio.

After a hard apprenticeship their music attracted a strong following, first in Oldham and then further afield.

Their pride in being Northern they found, was shared by many; and the fact that this is reflected in their songs contributed greatly to their popularity.

Chauvinism however, need not be humourless

and northern humour is indeed greatly in evidence in the work of the 'Oldham Tinkers'.

Much of their effort has been directed at the songs and games of children and the three have no trouble

whatever in recalling their own childhood days and the songs and games they played.

The 'Oldham Tinkers' repertoire is littered too with songs of the industrial revolution, songs

concerning the Napoleonic wars, pub songs, ballads and songs which 'Topic' Records call 'daft ditties'.

The 'Oldham Tinkers' enjoy singing, being sung with and being listened to.



The Oldham Tinkers

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#### LAURA

In this world of today, when love passes by me  
like the wind in its freedom, I blow alone  
like the stillness of the morning before  
automation has its say  
like the coldness of the winter before the sunshine  
day

Entombed so to say, I languish in my room  
where the coldness can't bite me, where a day is  
just a day  
like the heart inside me which beats, well it beats  
like the coldness of winter before the sunshine day.

She passes before you, in colours of love  
where even her shadow, warms your ash ridden way.  
Get after her man, and love her while you can  
before it gets you - like the coldness of  
winter before the sunshine day.

c 1973 d. orrell

# news in brief

## Paxton at Preston

by Ian Gartside

The first half, I thought, was lacking in life. He is so well known that his songs are predictable. However his recently composed 'Talking Watergate Blues' was excellent although we still had to endure songs for his entire family - a feature of all his previous concerts.

I must confess that the second half of the concert brought about a certain warmth in the hall which had hitherto been lacking. It was only achieved by the inclusion of songs which have become old favourites.

I think that many people in the audience were, like me, looking for something new in the performance and I think that, again like me, most of them were disappointed in that respect.

'Tamlyn' Editor Steve Harrop resigned this month as he is going abroad in the New Year.

Blackpool Folk Club will now be taking over the running of the magazine, the new Editor being Paul Rodger one of the club organisers.

All correspondence

### Mike Lyddiard FOLKSINGER

Guitar - Dulcimer - Autoharp  
305lyne Rd., Bolton-le-Sands  
Carnforth, Lancs. Tel Hest Bank  
823468



Brian Dewhurst

regarding 'Tamlyn' should now be addressed to Paul at 22 Moresby Ave., Normoss, Blackpool.

Steve however will still be involved with 'Tamlyn' in an advisory capacity until he departs, and will be keeping the current office open until January where he will carry on printing and publishing.

Seaman/Songwriter Ron Baxter tells us that he was refused admission into the near empty 2 + 1 F.C. at the Liverpool Centre Hotel.

Reason given was that he was not a member and he would have to be a member for 24 hours.... blah....blah....blah.

We believe that none of this was mentioned in their ad in the local paper so Ron and we assume many others had a wasted trip.

Artists scheduled to appear at the Hardrock Theatre in Manchester on Dec. 2nd are Richie Havens, The Dubliners, Planxty, Harvey Andrews, Bill Barclay, Mike Harding and a host of other fine performers.

## A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Originally I wrote a long boring farewell note, but with the office looking as though somebody has lobbed a hand grenade in, it soon got lost.

Whether this be fortunate or not I would still like to say a very big thankyou to all those of you who have helped to get 'Tamlyn' off the ground and feel sure that you will still participate in doing your best to make your magazine more popular than ever.

It is not an easy task running a magazine as my colleagues at 'Lancashire Wakes' will tell you, and as such it is only with your help that a magazine of this type can exist.

I am sorry to leave 'Tamlyn' but as I have been offered a once in a lifetime opportunity I am taking advantage of it and can only say once again THANKYOU to all those people who have helped.

Goodbye and take care.

## Blackpool Folk Club

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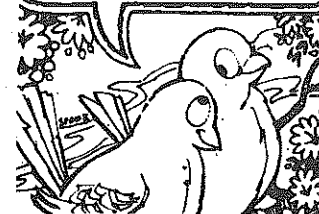
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# music

## James Maclean

c Mike Lyddiard 1973



Mike Lyddiard

James Maclean was written by Mike Lyddiard for a radio show he is doing in the New Year with Jon & Judie Surr-idge.

Maclean otherwise known as the Gentleman Highwayman, took to the road after his wife had died and he failed to win the hand of a wealthy widow.

His exploits on the road brought him fame and he was adored by London women.

Maclean was eventually captured and sentenced to hang a Tyburn. His stay in

Newgate Gaol was marked by the visit of over 3,000 women who wished to see their idol just one more time.

I dress meself all in me best  
Tally high ho etc.  
Gold and Silver I'll take no less  
Tally High ho etc.  
I stop fine coaches day and night  
Pretty maids are my delight  
I lift me hat and bid good morn  
I'll take your jewels and I'll be gone  
I may rob and I may steal  
Not a drop of blood will I spill  
The Kings men well they captured me  
In Newgate Gaol they turned the key  
As I wait for the Gallows tree  
3,000 maidens comfort me  
Come all young men this life do lead  
There's many a heart for you will bleed

# LAMPREY

Contact Gregg Butler & Pete Ashworth  
at 052 - 478 - 544

# pot pourri

## GUIDE TO BRASS RUBBING



The student of brasses often finds it useful to obtain a permanent record of the various brasses he has seen.

The most useful method of procuring a copy is that of brass rubbing, the obtaining of an impression of the brass of paper by rubbing heelball-wax over it. The materials necessary for brass rubbing are:

1. Detail or lining paper.
2. Heelball.
3. Adhesive or masking tape.
4. Soft brush and rag.

Many brass rubbings lose much of their character because the paper is not wide enough to cover the canopy or inscription. It is important to use a paper of adequate width and weight.

Heelball, suitable for making rubbings, can be obtained from any good quality art shop. The best, made specially for brass rubbing, is obtained from Phillips and Page

Ltd., 50, Kensington Church Street, London, W.8 who can supply other brass-rubbing requisites.

The brush and cloth should be used for removing grit and dust before starting on the rubbing.

Once you have decided upon a brass to rub it is necessary to obtain permission. It is both courteous and advisable to write to the priest of the church concerned - enclosing a stamped

addressed envelope - stating the day you wish to make your rubbing. The address of the incumbent responsible for the upkeep of the church ornaments is to be found in Crockford's Clerical Directory, which can be consulted at most local libraries.

Brasses are often situated in awkward positions - on walls, under pews, covered by matings, behind the organ or even outside. The situation of the brass can be ascertained when making enquiries to the priest in charge, who will inform you of its accessibility and whether any fee is payable. Many churches in need of restoration have a box for donations towards the upkeep of the church and its fabric.

Before starting on your rubbing, clean the brass plate carefully with the brush to remove any dust or dirt. Roll out the paper on the brass, noting any protruding rivets or faults, and securing it firmly with tape. Then take the cloth and bring out the outline of the brass on the paper by gently feeling for the outline of the plate and indent.

Start rubbing. The most popular technique seems to be to start at the top of the figure and work towards the feet. Brass rubbing is hard work if a dark even effect is to be obtained. Thus, it is advisable to experiment on a piece of scrap detail paper in order to find the pressure necessary to provide the desired effect. A good way to avoid rubbing over the outline and edges of a figure brass is to use a designer's 'flexi-curve' held firmly as a barrier along the edge to be rubbed.

Where a brass is so detailed that a heelball rubbing is not clear enough, the technique of dabbing may be used. Powdered graphite, obtainable through a chemist, is mixed with raw linseed oil to form a light paste. A pad of chamois leather filled with cotton wool is then moistened with the paste and the effigy is dabbed, a light paper, of tissue quality, being used to obtain a faint grey but fine impression. As dabbing has been known to loosen brasses the incumbent should be consulted first.

Remove the paper, noting any slight mutilations or missing portions to be restored. Where mutilation means that the precise nature of the design cannot be properly determined, only the outline should be filled in, so that the composition of the original is preserved. Polish the finished rubbing with a silk rag before moving and take care to replace any mats or church furniture.

Rubbings can be mounted for decoration or calico or linen-cloth, and hung between wooden laths tapestry-fashion. Shields can be coloured with poster print. An interesting adaptation of this method is to make a silk-screen print of the rubbing. Facilities for silk-screening exist at local art schools, where evening tuition in the craft is usually available for adults. Another attractive alternative is to make a facsimile colour reproduction of the brass using black or grey paper as a background and a bronze metallic rubber.

## Tape recording in folk clubs

by B.A. OSBORNE

Tape recording in Folk Clubs can be very rewarding to Folk enthusiasts in so much as you can build up a vast collection of songs, that may not be available on commercial recordings.

To achieve success, however, it is necessary to observe a few simple rules. Remember that the first thing to do before attempting to record in ANY club - is to gain permission from club organisers AND ARTISTS. Remember also these recordings must be for a personal and private collection only, and must not be offered for broadcasting or public performance.

The range of tape recordings available is staggering, but exceptionally good results may be obtained from very modest equipment. Most people today are using portable cassette machines or battery reel to reel recorders. Either are excellent, but the cassette machine has the added advantage that the tape is fixed to the spool. (No more fiddling threading tapes in the dark.)

You may only want to do your recording in your local Club, so if a mains supply is available, you could use a larger reel to reel machine. With a 7 inch spools of standard tape and a tape deck speed of 7 1/2 inch per second, you can improve the sound quality of the recording quite a lot.

Microphones ideally should be positioned on stage in front of the

performers. This will enable you to exclude most off stage noises, i.e. clinking of glasses etc., if this is not possible, try to sit close to the stage, so that the recording level will not have to be set very high. It is possible to make a cone reflector of cardboard to slip over the head of the microphone. This helps to make the microphone more directional.

Field recordings of events such as Folk Festivals and Carnivals are well worth doing. For this you will need a portable recorder, the best being the cassette, as remember, there are no problems of the tape unwinding from the spool. One point that does need watching, however, is Wind noise. This will reproduce as a buffeting sound, and can spoil an otherwise good recording. Try to shield the microphone from the wind with your body, and fit a sponge rubber baffle. These baffles can be obtained from most good accessory shops.

You may like to try your hand at interviewing people. Here the secret is to put your subject at their ease. Ask your questions briefly and in a manner that does not require a simple 'yes' or 'no' for an answer. Try to arrange your questions in a logical order, and let your subject do most of talking.

So, if you possess a tape recorder, take it with you to the next Folk Club you visit. I feel sure if you can follow these simple instructions, you will not be disappointed with the results.

Here's a little something we dug up for Gourmets, Gourmands and starving students.

As the use of herbs in dishes is becoming more popular in this age of "plastic food" we have been scouring granny's cook book and discovered that you can work wonders with eggs.

Egg dishes lend themselves better than most to experiment with the flavours produced by herbs as the eggs themselves are of a sufficiently mild flavour not to predominate.

"Omelettes aux fines herbes" is an old favourite made by the addition of chopped parsley, chives, chervil and tarragon to an omelette mixture as it is cooking.

Chervil itself is a delicious addition to a cheese omelette, and scrambled egg on toast with a sprinkling of thyme makes a quick and appetising snack.



Gordon Raikes

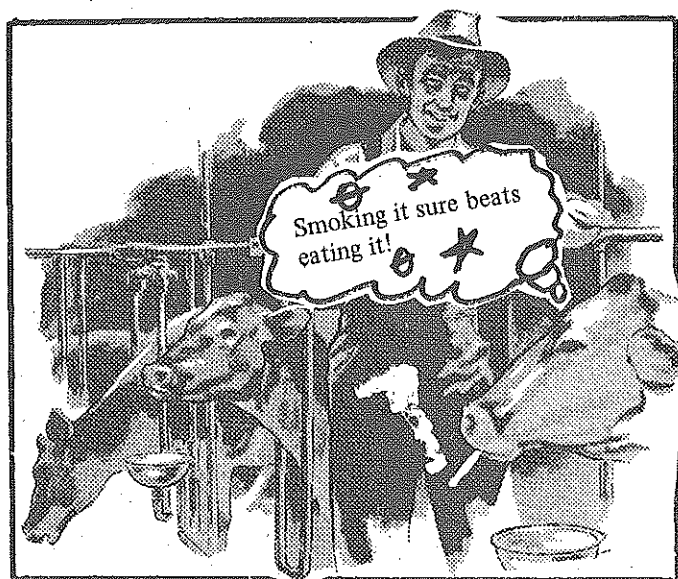
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Telephone Preston 38860.

or  
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# humour

- 1) In the event of a nuclear war do you
  - a) Go about your business as usual?
  - b) Blame it on the weather?
  - c) Go to the nearest pub?
- 2) Is it true that Bob Williamson is alive and well and living in the Phenomenal B. Wrigleys jockstrap?
- 3 Who was responsible for sinking the Titanic
  - a) Ian Gartside
  - b) Ivan Iceberg
  - c) Isaac Goldberg
  - d) Unsure
- 4) What does 'Hüten Sie sich vor Ansteckung' mean
  - a) Pete Rodger is cuddly
  - b) Beware of Infection
  - c) Please help, my toothbrush is on fire
- 5) Have you heard I.W.Hankoff playing ten beats to the bar on his organ.
- 6) Is Ted Heath really
  - a) A cardboard cut - out
  - b) Dave Walters in drag
  - c) A famous person

Answers Across



Answers

- 1) Got to the Nearest Pub
- 2) Rang him up and find out
- 3) Unsure
- 4) It's certainly not (a)
- 5) Don't be dirty
- 6) A cardboard cut - out.

## THE CLOGGIES

An everyday saga in the life of Clog Dancing Folk  
by BILL TIDY and by kind permission of PRIVATE EYE



# folklore

## POTIONS AND STUFF

by Cath Madden.

'Are you going to Scarboro Fair,  
Parsley, Sage, Rosemary  
and Thyme.....

This folk song from the North Riding of Yorkshire is well known, but how many people know of the folk-lore behind the plants mentioned?

According to Nicholas Culpepper, a famous astrologer - physician of the early 17th century, Parsley comes under the influence of Mars. 'The seeds contain an essential oil, and will cure intermitting fevers or agues. A strong decoction of the roots is a powerful diuretic, and is good against the Jaundice and gravel.'

Sage is a very interesting plant. In Northamptonshire, a girl who picked twelve sage leaves at midnight on Xmas Eve could expect to see the shadowy form

of her husband to be.

Try the following cure:- 'Take of spikenard, ginger, of each two drams; of the seed of sage toasted at the fire, eight drams, all these being brought into powder, put to this as much of the juice of sage as may make them into pills, take a dram of them morning and night, fasting and drink a little pure water afterwards.

'This is good for pains in the head, helps falling sickness, lowness of spirits and the palsy. The juice if drank with vinegar, is good for the plague, also used against venereal diseases, though it has been set aside since the introduction of mercury.'

Rosemary is dominated by the sun, and was used as a protector against spirits, fairies, lightning, and as a love charm.

'The decoction of Rosemary in wine helps a weak memory, and clears dim eyes. The oil drawn from the leaves is good for diseases of the head and brain.'

Thyme as an important place in folk-lore. It was associated with death and planted on Welsh graves. A 17th century recipe which enabled one to see the fairies contained rose-water, marigold water, buds of Hollyhock, young Hazel, the flowers of wild Thyme gathered near the



side of a hill where fairies used to be, and the grass of a fairy throne.

'Thyme kills worms in the belly, and being a notable herb of Venus gives safe and speedy delivery to women in childbirth. An ointment of it

takes away warts, helps sciatica and gout, and is used to anoint the testicles that are swelled.'

So next time you hear 'Scarboro Fair', think of the facts behind the words of the song.

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Derek Atkinson,  
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## knights anthem

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# history

## a medieval ritual lives on ...

These are sometimes known by the more picturesque name of Well Flowerings. What are they and where do they take place?

They are peculiar to Derbyshire alone. Wells are of great importance there for the soil is chiefly limestone. During the summer months well dressing takes place on an appointed day as a way of saying thank you for the water supply that the wells provide.

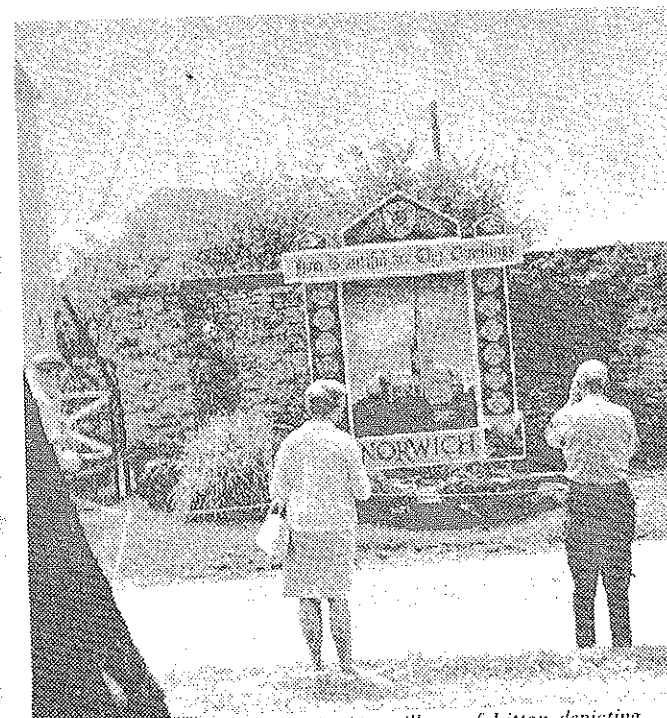


The Children's Well-Dressing at Litton.

I have just returned from a visit to the charming little village of Tissington which is said to be the Mother of all the Well Dressings. The custom dates back to 1350. Tissington has five wells called respectively The Yew

Tree, The Hand, The Town and The Coffin Well. They are dressed with flowers for Ascension Day. A service is held and each well is blessed in turn.

The flowering has often remained with one family for years although everyone in the village is called upon to help. For days beforehand the children are busy collecting wild flowers moss, sprays of Yew and Alder Bobs. Some cultivated flowers are also used. Wells are first decorated with greenery by the village children. Then a frame or screen depicting a scene from the Bible is set up alongside. The frames are filled with pure soft clay and the outlines are clearly marked by sticking larch cones. Now comes the intricate and painstaking task of filling the picture in with flower heads, thousands of petals and greenery. The petals are fitted to overlap slightly like the slates on a roof so that the rain may run off. Flower petals are carefully chosen to give the desired effect. Blue and white pansy petals make the sky with its clouds. Golden yellow buttercups provide the colouring for an



A well-dressing from the Derbyshire village of Litton depicting Norwich Cathedral.

Eastern robe whilst velvety crimson wallflowers make a rich cloak.

The effect is one of a wonderful mosaic that has to be seen to be believed.

When the picture is complete it is surrounded by a wooden frame again worked in flowers and then set in place by the well. Each well depicts a text or quotation from the Bible. The most effective well flowering I saw said "Even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these." A very apt description for a picture that was

truly gorgeous in colour and detail. I wouldn't have missed it for worlds.

People come from all parts of the world to see these well dressings. Once a special train was run from St. Pancras.

The Flowerings take place at many other villages so why not make a special effort to see one. There is often a well dressing Queen too. You will find it well worth while. You will come away feeling as I did that the days of true craftsmanship are very much with us.

## CLAYTON ANNALINE

A tale of pollution and other nasty things featuring Clayton the Bear and Annaline the Doll  
by Steve Harrop

