

MARDLES

February – April
2016

The Folk Magazine for East Anglia

Suffolk, Norfolk, Cambridgeshire and Essex News, Reviews and Listings



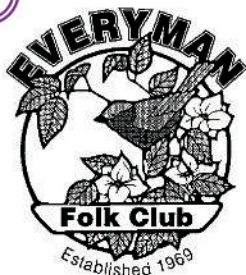
Step Dancers at SamFest

Oxjam ~ Folk Evenings With a Difference ~
Norfolk Folk Association ~ SamFest
Roy Dommett ~ The Secret Language of Fans



Published Quarterly by Suffolk Folk
~ Free to Members ~

£1.50



EVERYMAN FOLK CLUB

26 February 2016 PETE COE & ALICE JONES

Pete and Alice present ballads, broadsides and dance tunes from Leeds folk song collector Frank Kidson (1855-1926) whose contribution to the folk collecting movement has been forgotten by many in the wake of later and more prominent folk song collectors. Alice is an impressive singer and a fine keyboard player. Unfortunately, there is not nearly enough space here to list all of Pete's talents.



25 March 2016 VICKI SWAN, JONNY DYER & JOHN DIPPER

Vicki (nyckelharper, flute), Jonny (spinnet, guitar, accordion) and John (viola d'amore) have combined to present a lighthearted programme of music. This trio will have a humorous fusion of instruments and blend folk with baroque, singing songs and playing tunes from Britain and Sweden. Three people playing 99+ strings. Look out for appearances by their gandola and flageolet too.



29 April 2016 THE WILSON FAMILY

One of the foremost acapella groups on the British folk scene, Teeside brothers Tom, Chris, Steve, Ken and Mike have a telepathic sense of timing when performing together. Their renditions of traditionally orientated songs are full of powerful vocals, glorious harmonies, deep understanding and joy. With great songs combined with the spontaneous humour of the brothers, we are sure to have a terrific evening.



**The Everyman Folk Club is held on the last Friday of the month at
The Riverside Centre, Gt Glemham Road,
Stratford St Andrew, Saxmundham, Suffolk IP17 1LL**

All events start at 8.00 pm.

Tickets are only £5 if bought in advance (otherwise £6 on the door).
For advance ticket sales please telephone Mary & Steve on 01449 615523.

Visit our web site at www.wheatstone.co.uk



Registered Charity Number: 267165

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them in Mardles!**

ADVERTISING IN MARDLES

Rates

Back cover (colour)	£45
Inside covers/centre (colour)	£40
Single inside full page:	£30
Single inside half page:	£18
Single inside quarter page:	£10
Four consecutive insertions:	-10%
Small ads, 20 words max:	£2

(Free to Suffolk Folk Members)

Copy Dates

15 March	for May-July issue
15 June	for Aug-Oct issue
15 September	for Nov-Jan issue
15 December	for Feb-Apr issue

Advertising Copy

Advertising copy can be received electronically as a JPEG, PNG or PDF at a minimum of 300dpi, or as camera-ready hard copy. No Microsoft Publisher (.PUB) files please. PDF should contain embedded fonts. Advertisements are mostly greyscale. Contact us for availability of colour advert space.

We can set your advertisement for you from plain text, for an extra charge of £10.

Sending your advert and enquiries

Email: advertising@suffolkfolk.co.uk
Phone Simon 01473 828745 (home)
or 071818 417780 (mobile)

Payment

Online:
www.suffolkfolk.co.uk/adpayment.php
Please make cheques payable to **Suffolk Folk** and send (with details of what it's for) to:

Mardles Advertising
4, Church Street
Hadleigh,
Suffolk IP7 5DU

Contacting Mardles

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editor@suffolkfolk.co.uk

Anahata 01638 720444

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Listings@suffolkfolk.co.uk

Postal Address for Review or Editorial Material

5 Market Street, Fordham, Ely
Cambridgeshire CB7 5LQ

Morris News/Club Updates

Dave Evans and Gill Brett

Email: morris@suffolkfolk.co.uk

Social Dance News

Helen Barrett

dance@suffolkfolk.co.uk

Small Print

Whilst all reasonable care is taken to ensure content is honest and truthful, no liability can be accepted if you find otherwise. Information is believed to be correct at the time of printing, and no liability will be accepted for errors or omissions. We recommend you check dates and venue details with the venue or organisation.

Suffolk Folk welcomes contributions but accepts no responsibility for unsolicited material. Views expressed are solely those of the author, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor or the Suffolk Folk Association.

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Suffolk Folk Committee

Chair

Jill Parson

Flat C, 100 Earlham Road

Norwich

NR2 3HB

01603 620273

info@suffolkfolk.co.uk

Secretary

Maggie Moore

maggie@suffolkfolk.co.uk

Treasurer

Mary Humphreys

treasurer@suffolkfolk.co.uk

Membership

Mike Rudge

membership@suffolkfolk.co.uk

Other Committee Members

Anahata Mardles editor, webmaster

Mike Lawrence, Sue Lawrence

events diary

Stan Bloor

events organiser

Val Haines

Mardles distribution

Simon Haines

Publicity, advertising

Special Email Addresses

Mardles editor

editor@suffolkfolk.co.uk

Mardles advertising:

advertising@suffolkfolk.co.uk

Club and event listings

listings@suffolkfolk.co.uk

Suffolk Folk membership

membership@suffolkfolk.co.uk

Website and email

webmaster@suffolkfolk.co.uk

Social and ceilidh dance

dance@suffolkfolk.co.uk

Morris On!

morris@suffolkfolk.co.uk

Anything else

info@suffolkfolk.co.uk

Web site: www.suffolkfolk.co.uk

From The Editor

Reaching Out to the Neighbours

In the last issue I mentioned a plan to make more links between Suffolk Folk and folk organisations in Norfolk, Cambridgeshire and Essex. One part of this plan was to have pages in Mardles dedicated to Suffolk's neighbours, and invite contributions for those pages. We've always done well with Norfolk, which has been the subject of substantial contributions to Mardles, such as coverage of the Walter Pardon Centenary Celebrations. In 2015 we had both a preview of SamFest and a report and pictures in this issue from Colin Cater.

We've also had an enthusiastic response from Peter Rushmer at the Norfolk Folk Association, which we introduce in a special article in this issue. Peter has chosen to highlight an organisation based in Sheffield, but don't let the fact that it's not in East Anglia put you off — its activities should be of interest to English folk music enthusiasts everywhere. We hope to have regular contributions from Essex and Cambridgeshire in the future, though the latter doesn't have an active county-wide folk organisation so I may have solicit contributions from a variety of sources.

Check Your Listings!

Just recently, a committee member who is also in the Cambridge Contra Dance Club happened to mention that the club's entry was out of date, and it had been like that for a year. At a guess, almost everybody who reads Mardles is involved in some event that is listed in the club listings, whether it's folk club, dance group or just a singaround session. Please have a look at the sessions and club listings and check on anything of which you have personal knowledge. If it's wrong or out of date, don't tell your friends

what an unreliable lot we are — tell us what the entry should say so we can fix it! Either email listings@suffolkfolk.co.uk or call the number shown at the start of the clubs listing section, and make a much-appreciated contribution to keeping our information fresh and accurate.

The listings and events diary are maintained by Mike and Sue Lawrence. In particular the events diary is Sue's task, and finding out what's on is a huge exercise of detective work, not helped by venues and clubs that don't keep their web sites up to date or send in information. Sue does a great job and doesn't miss much. More than once I've received an advert for an event and found she's already included it in the listings before I've told her about it. It's always a pleasure to receive an email with two big files of what I know will be well-researched information, and it usually arrives at just the right time as I put the magazine together.

French Music Revival?

Is it my imagination, or has there been a resurgence of traditional French dance in the area? A few years ago, there were always adverts in Mardles for Bury Bal, On-y-va! and Pied à Terre, then it all went rather quiet, and the Cam-French group in Grantchester almost fizzled out too. Now we have the recently started Prêt à Danser in Ipswich, On-y-va! is back and there's a Hadleigh weekend coming up. Pied à Terre is still going, as is Bury Bal (though on a smaller scale), and Cam-French is newly thriving in Girton.

Playford Ball - Sold Out

Normally we'd be advertising the Playford Ball in this issue, but as a member of the band I'm particularly gratified to be able to say it sold out before Christmas!

Anahata ~ December 2015

Ceilidhs ON THE MOVE

www.cotm.suffolkfolk.co.uk



English ceilidh and barn dances for all ages and abilities,
With music from the best local and national bands

Spring 2016 Dates

20 Feb	DUCKING AND DIVING	Clopton VH, IP13 6QN
19 Mar	KEGS	Clopton VH, IP13 6QN
16 Apr	INERTIA REEL	CloptonVH, IP13 6QN
21 May	HOSEPIPE BAND	Clopton VH, IP13 6QN

Doors open at 7pm, dancing from 7.30 to 11.00pm

**** NO BAR – BRING YOUR OWN DRINKS ****

Tickets

Adults	£8
Youth (10-16)	£4
U-10s	Free
Family	£20
(2 Adults, 3 children)	

Advance tickets available from
01394 383329 or email
christine@sills12.fsnet.co.uk

Members of **Suffolk Folk**
receive a £1 discount



From The Snug

I think the first thing I need to say is that this report is no longer being written in the 'Snug' as I have now relocated to Norwich — check the new address and telephone number on page 5. However, I loved my 'Snug' and I like the title so with the consent of the people who now enjoy sitting in that space (they are morris dancers too!) I shall continue to use it to headline my contribution to the magazine.

Turbulent times with the move and other things have meant that I have not been giving SF the attention it deserves just lately, but the committee has met and carried on very ably in my absence and I am looking forward to finding my bag of files sometime soon so that I can do some catching up. It can't be far away...

Amongst the redirected mail was a reminder to renew my subscription to EFDSS as their membership, like ours, runs from 1st January. As a caller I much appreciate the Public Liability Insurance that I get from being a member and would like to call that benefit to the attention of anyone who does a bit of calling for dances. You shouldn't be calling without this sort of protection. At some venues, you cannot call unless you show proof of PLI and also proof that any electric equipment you are using has been PAT tested.

What is a hobby for many has serious overtones these days so make sure you have got the proper cover in place before you venture out.

I was at one of the Norfolk Ceilidhs the other day and walked straight into the problem of trying to promote a magazine produced by Suffolk Folk to a Norfolk audience. Seems to me the best thing to do is not mention SF when trying to sell Mardles but just concentrate on it being a quality folk magazine that covers all four counties.

The ceilidh was excellent! It really had a festival atmosphere going and with an excess of 70 people up and dancing it was a fun evening. Check it out if you happen to be in Norwich on the right night — the dates are listed under 'Norfolk Ceilidhs' elsewhere in this edition of Mardles.

Wishing you all a happy and prosperous 2016!

Jill Parson – December 2015

Folk At The Riverside

If you haven't booked yet, hurry up!
It's on 6th February.

Contact Mike and Sue Lawrence
mikelawrence@suffolkfolk.co.uk or
phone 01449 766747.

Full details on facing page and also on
the web site:

www.suffolkfolk.co.uk/riverside.php



STANTON MUSICIANS

Is a Suffolk Folk Session designed to encourage you to play traditional music mostly in the keys of G & D. Good tunes played at a moderate pace in friendly company and with mutual support.

Music available if wanted.

We meet at The Church Rooms, Old Bury Road, Stanton IP31 2BX (next to the church!) from 7.00 to 9.00pm on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. It costs just £2 including a cuppa and a nibble.

Enquiries to Pip or Colin Bedford
01359 251013 or p1p@sky.com





Suffolk Folk Presents The Riverside Folk Day

**On
Saturday 6th Feb 2016 at
The Riverside Centre
Stratford St Andrew, Suffolk
(just off the A 12) Sat Nav: IP17 1LN**

**Four Workshops, Concert and lunchtime session
with:**

Paul Scourfield Dave Shepherd



**Plus
Where's Spot,
East Creek Union,
Alice Martin and
Old School
Rapper**



**Brilliant local food served all day long in the breaks plus tea and
coffee and a bar (with Adnams Ale)**

**Tickets: Suffolk Folk Members £5 for the whole day.
Non Members: £10**

**Available from: Mike & Sue Lawrence, Rose Cottage, 38 Front Street,
Mendlesham, Suffolk, IP14 5RY.**

Tel: 01449 766747 Email mikelawrence@suffolkfolk.co.uk

Provisional Programme for:
Suffolk Folk's
The Riverside Folk Day

Saturday 6th Feb 2016

The Riverside Centre, Stratford St Andrew

9:15am : **Registration, Welcome and Coffee**

10.00 - 11:00 : **Workshop 1** : English Dance Music: Tunes of George Watson (Improvers) with Dave Shepherd

Workshop 2 : Playing for English Ceilidhs (Beginners) with Paul Scourfield

11:30 - 12:30: **Workshop 3** : English Dance Music: The East Anglian Repertoire (Beginners) with Dave Shepherd

Workshop 4 : Playing for English Ceilidhs (Improvers) with Paul Scourfield

12.45: **Lunch**

Sing and Play session in the Lounge

3:00- 6.00 pm: **Concert** : Paul Scourfield, Dave Shepherd, East Creek Union, Where's Spot, Alice Martin, Old School Rapper

Cut here

Riverside Folk Day 2016 Ticket Order

Ticket Type	Non Suffolk Folk Members	Suffolk Folk Members	Number of Tickets Required	Total Cost
All Day (Workshops & Concert)	£10	£5		
Total Cost				

Membership Number(s) (if applicable.)
 Not compulsory but this would really help us. You can find this on your Mardles envelope.

Name.....

Address.....

Please send your cheque payable to Suffolk Folk with the completed form and S.A.E to:

Mike & Sue Lawrence, Rose Cottage, 38 Front Street, Mendlesham, Suffolk, IP14 5RY

Tel: 01449 766747 Email mikelawrence@suffolkfolk.co.uk

Suffolk Folk Membership

What Your Membership Does for YOU

- ✓ Free copy of Mardles magazine
- ✓ Reduced entry to venues hosting Suffolk Folk Events
- ✓ Vote at the Suffolk Folk AGM
- ✓ Help, advice and support in running your own folk event or project

Your membership subscription also helps Suffolk Folk to:

- ✓ Produce Mardles Magazine
- ✓ Promote Folk Events
- ✓ Promote and sponsor folk music, dances and song in East Anglian Schools

To Join Suffolk Folk

Online	www.suffolkfolk.co.uk/membership.php You can renew using any UK credit or debit card.
By cheque	Use the form overleaf to join Suffolk Folk or print the form at www.suffolkfolk.co.uk/contact.html
Standing Order	Existing members can renew by standing order using the mandate form on the web site.

Please note:

Children under age 16 are free and receive their own membership number so it's important to give their names.
Young adults half price.

Visit our web site:
www.suffolkfolk.co.uk



SUFFOLK FOLK MEMBERSHIP FORM

Date

1.

Name

Surname

2.

Membership number (if renewing)

Children's
Names

Young Adults
(16-18)

Address
(including
Postcode)

email address

(Please note completion of the email address implies permission for its use)

Phone

Musical
interests

Please note if you join after July 31 your membership runs to the end of the following year.

Young Adult (16 – 18)	£6
Single Adult (18 +)	£12
Joint/Family (2 Adults)	£20
Additional donation (optional!)	
Total (cheques payable to "Suffolk Folk")	£

Please send completed form and payment to:

Suffolk Folk Membership
18 Alderton Close
Haverhill,
Suffolk CB9 7RA

**NB Suffolk Folk undertakes to keep the above information for its own use only, and not to divulge details to any third party.*



The Milkmaid Folk Arts Centre Railway Station Refurbishment



The Milkmaid helping Disadvantaged and Vulnerable people access the Folk Arts!

Please **help** us raise money to refurbish part of Bury St Edmunds railway station. We are turning it into a Folk based arts centre which will accommodate people with disabilities and mental health issues access the folk arts during the day. The evenings and weekends will be for the whole community to enjoy, participate and create folk music, song and dance, making this an important new venue on the folk circuit!

The whole cost of the refurbishment is £540,000 of which we have raised £168,000.

Donations can be made through our donations page on our website www.milkmaidcentre.com or go straight to www.milkmaid.charitycheckout.co.uk

You can donate a 'one-off amount' or sign up to a monthly standing order which will give us a regular amount coming in through the year.

Anything you can afford from £1 to a million pounds will be gratefully received!

Information:

4 Baxter Court Bury St Edmunds Suffolk IP33 1ES Tel: 01284 488279 or 07749 299377

Email: milkmaidterry@yahoo.co.uk Web: www.milkmaidcentre.com

Opening of The Milkmaid Folk Arts Centre Bury St Edmunds

On Saturday morning, 5th December 2015, the ribbon was cut and to the cheers of a small crowd of supporters the Milkmaid Folk Arts Centre was officially opened.

The brainchild of Terry Walden, this is set to become a day centre for people with disabilities to join in with all sorts of folk-related projects, ranging from instrument making to music, dance and drama groups.

The ribbon was cut by Dave Pegg and Anthony John Clarke who had been guests at the Milkmaid Folk Club (they are both patrons) the night before.

In the evenings the centre will be available to hire for public use, concerts (it will have a 120 seat auditorium) and rehearsal space for anyone who needs it.

You needed a bit of imagination to appreciate all of that on Saturday as the work is very much ongoing! But with mince pies, mulled wine and a good crowd it was easy to see the potential and the good that this centre will do for everyone.

Milkmaid Molly provided the entertainment. This dance group for adults with learning disabilities meets in Bury twice a month. As one of their musicians I have been privileged to see how much the members have gained from taking part in this most social of activities. Milkmaid Molly regularly dance out at events that Terry has organised and the Mollies have acquired an impressive level of performance together with their 'buddies'.

If you are interested in supporting Milkmaid Molly in any way please contact Gill Bosley – 01284 767476 to find out more.

The fundraising continues and there is a lot to do, but as Terry said at the opening cere-

mony, now that the building lease is secured the work can really begin.

Jill Parson ~ December 2015

On y Va! Dance & Music Club

On y va! will restart in January 2016, having had 3 successful sessions at the end of 2015. We are now meeting monthly on the 4th Tuesday of the month and plan to organise a bal sometime in the Spring and hopefully another in the Autumn. These will all be held at the Riverside Centre, Gt. Glemham Rd, Stratford St. Andrew, Saxmundham, IP17 1LL.

Regular club nights will have a music session from 7.30, some dance tuition from 8.30 and free dancing till 10.30 pm, all to our live music. Dave Shepherd has expressed an interest in helping with the music workshops on a bi-monthly basis, but is currently waiting to go in for an operation so we are unable to say when these may start. All musicians who are interested in adding French tunes to their repertoire are welcome to our monthly workshop, and we can supply music prior to workshop.

Our main focus with the dance tuition will be on Breton dances that require no partner, but there will be some couple dances from Central France. If you have two left feet don't worry, we will turn them into two right ones, with workshops aimed at beginners and improvers.

If you enjoy dancing, socialising or would just like to come and listen to the music put the dates in your diary.

If you wish to know more please contact Monica on 01728 830085 or Lin on 01728 602465.

Email: frenchdancer2004@yahoo.co.uk or go to our Facebook page.

Lin Barnes & Monica Meadway ~ Dec 2015

Come and Join the Band Workshop 2016

For anyone who doesn't already know, Stan and Maggie have run a monthly workshop called "Come and Join The Band" for a good few years now, most recently at The Ark in Needham Market. (See advert).



Come and Join the Band workshop

Most people who have come over the years have become members of Suffolk Folk and enjoy having Mardles sent to them free as well as all the discounts that are available to them as members... one of which is reduced entry to said workshop!! Just some of these members are :

Brenda Read, who formed a Ceilidh band (called 'Fourplay'), who regularly play for functions and events. Andrew Collins plays his concertina for 'Old School Rapper', who you can come and see at the Riverside Folk Day on Saturday 6th Feb 2016! (*see ad p.9*).

Another regular at the workshop is Mary Jolly, who plays a lot for the Suffolk Punch Trust events, along with fiddlers Karen and Jim... all Suffolk Folk members.

There are lots of others who enjoy the evening, once a month, so if you fancy coming along and trying out your playing skills in a fun and jolly environment, then you are very welcome. Just phone Maggie on 01449 722615.

Maggie Moore ~ December 2015

COME AND JOIN THE BAND



A Suffolk Folk Workshop
to bridge the gap between
playing at home and in public
sessions.

Learn easy traditional tunes
Play at a reasonable pace
Learn to play as a band
Play harmonies & arrangements
Gain confidence playing socially

Designed for Beginners and
Improvers on acoustic
instruments in the keys of D & G.

At The Ark,
Needham Market

Every Second Thursday
from 7.30pm to 9.00pm

~ Admission £2.00 ~
~ Suffolk Folk Members £1.50 ~

For more details call
01473 832565 or, even better,
just turn up!

New Squeezebox Session

With 3 others I have just started, on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, a squeezebox evening, where players of all abilities can get together to play, practice, and gain confidence in a friendly, relaxed atmosphere. We start at 8pm in a cosy room with woodburner at The Gardeners Arms, Moats Tye, Combs, Stowmarket. IP14 2EY. Phone Barrie Pearce on 01449 673963 (answerphone after 6 rings). The pub no longer trades so bring your own drinks — glasses available.

Barrie Pearce ~ December 2015

Christmas Carols at the Wild Man

Maggie Moore and Stan Bloor, "Pluck and Squeeze", led the community carol singing, ably supported by Graham Schofield, on Sunday evening, 6th December. We were not in the deep midwinter, the weather was more like late Summer.



Stan and Maggie with Graham Schofield lead carols at the Wild Man

The Sproughton Wild Man made us welcome and the landladies, Marta and Jill, provided tempting nibbles and a young daughter who joined in with the session, performing a dance for us.

Jackie Sears recited some Christmas poems to help set the mood. Both Jackie and Graham introduced carols that were not in

Stan and Maggie's booklet of 30 or so carols. We sang most of these carols, some with unexpected but familiar tunes, and one or two requests. A good time was had by all and the young daughter kept re-negotiating her bed time with her parents.

Maggie and Stan always put on a good show and I hope we return to the Wild Man next year for another rousing carol session.

Bob Wilkinson ~ December 2015

Carols at the Mendlesham Kings Head



Maggie and Stan's Carols at the King's Head

Wow... what a night!!! there must have been about 45 of us crammed into the Bar Room at the King's Head in Mendlesham last night, and what a brilliant time we all had. As well as everyone who had come to sing all the carols from the Suffolk Folk Carol Sheet, we had the Shelfanger Singers (or the SS as we named them for the night), plus the singing talents of Pip Wright and also Graham Schofield. Traditional Carols, specially arranged choral singing, funny songs, silly songs, poems from Jackie Sears (read from her favourite book)... we had them all, along with tunes from various musicians who'd come along, and Stan and Maggie accompanying where appropriate.

We really did miss Val and Simon and friends, who've not been able to come for the

last 2 years. We missed the set of bells Val brought as well. However, not to be outdone, and amazingly with landlord Paul looking on fondly it seemed... loads of people mustered their beer glasses and used them to provide bell-like accompaniments to *Sweet Chiming Bells*!!

A brilliant evening. Let's do it again next year.

Maggie Moore ~ December 2015

Christmas Lights Switch-on with SqueezEast Concertinas

The very next morning after SqueezEast Concertinas had been discussing 'playing out' over Christmas, out of the blue came an invitation, "Could you play your concertina for... and do you know any other musicians?" Well, that was it! A quick check to see if we were all up for it and there was our first public performance, date, time and venue all sorted.



SqueezeEast Concertinas at Mattishall

On December 6th, eight members of the group played a selection of Christmas Carols in the historic setting of All Saints' Church, Mattishall, while many people tucked into a substantial Christmas Tea, fundraising for G.A.T.E. (Gambian Aid Through Education.) The fun was not yet over for us as we then moved on to set up under the shelter of a

marquee, ready to accompany community carol singing on the village green at the ceremony of the lighting of the Christmas Tree. The green was packed with people of all ages, who joined in the singing with great gusto, warmed, no doubt, by the mulled wine and mince pies.

We had a great afternoon, our first really public performance, and our music was very well received. It has given rise to some interest in our 'unique band', which we intend to follow-up in the new year. We are keen to promote interest in the concertina, (not necessarily just to fellow folkies,) as they are such versatile and fascinating instruments, so why not get in touch!

For further details, email us at squeezeeastconcertinas@gmail.com, visit our Facebook page, or website (being currently developed as I write) squeezeeast.org.uk.

Sally Barrett ~ December 2015



East Anglian
Folk Dance
Band

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What's A Mardle?

People have been heard to ask why this publication is called 'Mardles.' Well might they ask, for as you travel around Suffolk you'll find the word has a host of meanings and interpretations. It may be a story or a song, reminiscence or a lie: sometimes it is hard to tell the difference. When Sonny Vincent wrote his little book, 'Cotton Mardles', it was all about how he remembered the village in his youth. His memory of days past was more detailed than most, and maybe there was more truth there than there might be should we put pen to paper about our childhood.

I write local history books. So much of what I deal with is really half-story. Parts are forgotten, long-gone and in need of someone to fill in the missing bits, like in a join-the-dots picture. This is where mardles come in. Stories and bits of stories still pass from generation to generation, picking up embellishments along the way. So mardles comes to mean more than the story, but also involves the storyteller and the listener, the place and the ambiance. In a way, it is the nearest we have in English to the Irish 'craic'. It is conversation, it is setting, it may well involve no small measure of drink and above all is about the company we keep. To mardle (for it is also a verb) may be to amble, to wander: either to take a walk or to tell at length what others might call 'a shaggy dog story.'

I have recently published a good mardle. It is called 'The Class of '63' and is about a class of eight labourers' sons educated in 1763 in a small charity school in Earl Stonham in Suffolk. I won't try to pretend it is the exact truth. History leaves us too many gaps for that, but it is probably close to the way those boys might have told their story in later years, allowing for selective memory to have

played its part. In writing it, I have sensed the schoolmaster, Thomas Warren at my shoulder keeping an eye on what is also very much his story.

So there we have it. Folk songs are about stories — true, partly true or otherwise. They are about the tale and its telling, the event and the atmosphere, both past and present. Mardles are our conversations, exaggerations, performances and narrations. They are the way we communicate and how we learn best.

Pip Wright ~ November 2015
www.pipwright.com

Changes at the Holywell Ferryboat Session

St. Ives, Cambridgeshire

We're changing the Old Ferryboat Inn, Holywell session in two ways in the new year: first, it's now going to be on the 3rd Monday of the month from January 18th and second, it's maturing into a more standard type of 'round the room' session. We're calling it an acoustic session rather than pure folk so people can bring what they'd like to do, songs, tunes or poems for example. It'll be less 'managed' than before, relying more on individual contributors. It's a great venue, right by the river and I think could prove very popular. We'd love to see you there too!

The Old Ferryboat Inn

Holywell PE27 4TG — near St. Ives

Third Monday of each month

In the spacious back room of the pub
from 7.30pm, with music between 8.00pm-10.30pm

Large car park

Contact: Clive Quick 01480 468177

c.j.q@btinternet.com

Clive Quick ~ December 2015

Music at the Blaxhall Ship



The Ship at Blaxhall is a 'free house' allowing a good range of real ales and very good home cooking from professional chefs all at moderate prices. The pub is open all day throughout the year and has 8 en-suite accommodation units.

The Ship is famous for traditional music, song and dance and is a welcoming venue for all live performance.

Regular traditional music and song sessions take place almost every Wednesday evening but call the pub to check.

There are open sessions every Monday afternoon from 2pm for every standard of performance and the old Ship on a Monday is a good place to find support and encouragement.

There is also a continuous program of Live Music events at other times including everything from Blues through Reggae, Latin and good old Rock & Roll to professional performances of traditional music and song.

Special events at the Ship Inn

The Chorus Cup 17th April, 2016 from 2pm

The ninth year of the light hearted but hotly contested competition for at least 3 but no more than 6 people to sing a traditional type song with a Chorus followed by music and song until late

The Percy Webb Cup Sunday 1st May at 8pm

A long tradition of competition for solo singers sponsored by Suffolk Folk for the commemoration of that fine old Suffolk singer Percy Webb.

Midsummer Free Festival of Folk 17th, 18th & 19th June

Continuous music, song & dance over the three days of for those who like the opportunity to be part of the events. Camping available.

**For details about these and other events, call Terry 01394 282033
www.blaxhallshipinn.co.uk**

Roy Dommett CBE



Roy Dommett CBE

Modern morris: "it's not a revival — it's a reinvention of Morris for modern days".

Roy Dommett CBE, who died in November aged 82 was, according to one of his work colleagues, an eccentric genius and a rocket scientist who worked on Blue Streak and the Polaris nuclear missiles; however, his professional life was not known, until recently, to his Morris friends.

Few Morris dancers can claim to have advised Margaret Thatcher on the Trident missile system or have been described as making the Polaris defensive missile "dance in the sky"¹ to avoid detection, but Dommett has been credited with both of these achievements. He regarded Morris as a counter-balance to his professional life and an interesting research project. His interest began in 1953 when he went to work at the Royal Aircraft Establishment (RAE) in Farnborough and joined a side of Morris enthusiasts at the RAE.

Dommett was a believer in the principles of deterrence but once had to reassure a member of the security services that, despite appearing at a CND demonstration in Dudley, he was not a member of that organisation. He explained his presence by saying it was a just a coincidence; he was there to attend a day of dance hosted by Barley Morris!

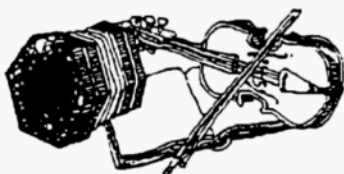
Dommett was regarded by some as one of the most influential characters in "the revival" of Morris in the 1960s, 70s and 80s, however, he believed that this period was not a revival and argued that "It's a reinvention of Morris for modern days; there's no way what we do looks like the way it was in the 19th century or earlier."

Dommett must also take credit for inspiring and encouraging women's Morris through his links with Fleet Morris and the Morris Federation. An announcement of his death on their website described him as a "lifetime friend of the Federation [whose] influence on Women's Morris cannot be overstated". Likewise the Morris Ring said: "A great man who will be sadly missed. The Morris world has for many years had the pleasure of Roy's research and teachings and his legacy will live on for many years to come".

Despite, in recent years, being confined to a wheelchair he was an enthusiastic researcher and teacher and ran workshops all over the country and in the USA, Australia and New Zealand. Some of his workshops can be seen on YouTube: *Dommett — Life and Times* (October 2012) and *Dommett teaches Juniper Hill* (April 2013). He was held in high regard and affection because he had a bumbling charm, had done his homework into the history and tradition of Morris, was an authority on the subject and loved to share the joy of the Morris. In the first of the YouTube clips he describes how in the 1950s and 1960s he had spoken to many of the surviving pre-war dancers, including William "Bill" Kimber and the Headington Quarry men as well as members of Fieldtown, Bidford, Bampton, Longborough and Upton on Severn.

As a teacher and believer in reinvention, Dommett created new forms of the dance and devised *Juniper Hill*, a Brackley style tradition, as a tribute to Flora Thompson's

St. Neots Folk Club



The Priory Centre,
St. Neots, PE19 2BH
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Email - stneotsfolkclub@aol.com



Telephone - 01234 376278
www.stneotsfolkclub.co.uk

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Feb 9 PerKelt

Feb 16 North Sea Gas

Feb 23 Round the Room

Mar 1 Steve Turner

Mar 8 Pete Coe & Alice Jones

Mar 15 Open Stage

Mar 22 Tom Lewis

Mar 29 Round the Room

Apr 5 Ninebarrow

Apr 12 QuickSilver

Apr 19 The Worthys & Tony & Karen **Apr 26** Round the Room

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Roy Dommett and Family, 1970

novel “Lark Rise to Candleford”, set on the edge of the Cotswolds. It also had a personal connection as one of his seven sons was a Vicar in a nearby Parish.

His workshop tours included at least 2 sessions in Suffolk. The first workshop in Haughley Village Hall is recorded in the Hageneth archive from 1978;

“As this was the first major season it was obvious that Hageneth would chalk up a few ‘firsts’, and included an instructional by Roy Dommett and Tubby Reynolds (Stanton Harcourt and Ducklington)”.

I can also remember attending one in the early 1980s at the Drummond Centre, Bury St. Edmunds, which was organised by Bury Fair and featured Kirklington *Lumps of Plum Pudding*. Hageneth had the opportunity to perform this in front of Roy during the Open Morris event in Bury St. Edmunds in June 2010. When asked what he thought about it, as I remember, he said, “Not much, you shouldn’t have mucked about with it”!

Sources:

1. Dave Wright, rocket historian, BBC Radio 4 – “Last Word”.

Also Daily Telegraph, Wikipedia, YouTube.

David Evans ~ December 2015

Thaxted, Mary Neal and Cecil Sharp (continued)

It was good to receive some feedback from Mike Garland (East Suffolk MM and past

Squire of the Ring) on a previous article. Mike, who is researching a PhD on Morris, provided a few more details on the origins of the current Thaxted Morris side, the dispute between Sharp and Mary Neal and also on the theories about the origins of Morris.

Mike pointed out that in describing the origins of twentieth century Morris dancing in Thaxted I had given more credit than was due to Conrad Noel, the Vicar of Thaxted. Mike pointed out that it was his wife, Miriam Noel, and the curate George Chambers who originally started a folk group in Thaxted. Miriam had seen one of Mary Neal’s Esperance shows and invited them to send a trainer to Thaxted and Blanche Payling initially spent a week there. Mary Neal came to see one of their shows in Thaxted and was so impressed that she invited some of the Thaxted dancers to join her national team.

Out of this came the group that became the Thaxted Morris Men. For a period of time Kate Butters was one of their main musicians and there is a photo of her (*see below*) in Harry de Caux’s book “Thaxted: A Desperate Morris Place”.



Thaxted musician Kate Butters and Clifford Yeldham, Thaxted Fool, in 1938

The Neal/Sharp argument was complicated, but it basically came down to the fact that Sharp wanted precision — his precision — while Neal wanted fun. Neal’s view came directly from the old dancers who came to

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teach the Esperance club, while Sharp's view was his own. Neal's connection with the Suf-fragettes didn't help her relationship with Sharp. Nevertheless Neal's Esperance groups spread all over southern England, but when WW1 started she gave up the club and went into war work. After the war Sharp became dominant and the Society grew.

Sharp, and many others in Edwardian Eng-land, thought that James Frazer was absolute-ly spot-on in his book 'The Golden Bough' when he attributed many folk traditions to some pagan fertility rites, despite the fact that there is no evidence whatsoever for anything other than the Morris being an entertainment. But because Sharp was held in such high esteem by the ladies of the Society after WW1, everything he said was regarded as gospel. So it has come down through the years, and many clubs still repeat the old pagan fertility business when talking to audiences today.

Mike Garland (contributed) ~ December 2015

Please Put a Penny in the Old Man's Hat

The tradition of Morris sides collecting money from the audience or from the sponsor of the event where they are performing is one of the best ways of finding out about the origins of the Morris. One of the earliest references is from 1477, when it is recorded that the Draper's Guild paid for a morris dance at the Midsummer Watch (summer solstice) celebrations in London (John Forrest; "The History of Morris Dancing 1458 – 1750").

Local sides collect for a variety of purposes. Devil's Dyke and Old Glory are two sides who are renowned for being very effective collectors of donations from their audiences. Devil's Dyke have often collected over £1,000 per season which they have donated to local Community Transport services in the

Cambridge / Newmarket area. Old Glory collect for a variety of charities, most recently for the East Anglian Air Ambulance. A recent performance at the Bury Christmas Fayre netted the substantial sum of £366.

Hageneth have been particularly useless at collecting ever since Roger Green, aka "The Betsy", left us in the 1990s, and in recent years have never managed to get more than a few quid in during a whole dance out season. None of it goes to charities, unless you count Greene King as a charity.

Despite this recent history we know that we should collect and even had an official handmade collecting tankard made for us a few years ago (it now resides in my shed and the only thing it collects is dust and cobwebs).

Our Squire, Andy Mellen, recently tried to inspire us to try harder and on National Poetry Day (8th October) he composed an "Ode" which he performed prior to our first dance two days later at the Wyverstone Apple Day.

The ode inspired the audience too and we managed to con them out of £35, not bad for 3 dances!

David Evans ~ December 2015

An Ode for the Collecting Hat By Andy Mellen

Ladies and gentlemen, be of good cheer!
Now open your lugholes and prick up your ears,
I don't want to be crass, don't want to be funny,
But a man's coming round with a hat for your money!

'So why do these dancers need money?' you ask,
Well let me explain – though it is quite a task.
We don't spend it on wine, or waste it on beer,
We have some expenses, and I'll make them quite clear:

We pay for our bells, our hankies and kit,
The Morris Ring membership costs us a bit,
The hire of a hall where we practice our craft,
(Yes – we do practice, I know that sounds daft)

And one last expense, lest I test your endurance,
We do pay for public liability insurance.

So look in your purse, see what can be found –
It may be a penny, it may be a pound,
But give us a quid, give us two, three or five,
And help keep the dance of Old England alive!

Andy is not precious about the poem and if any other sides are of a mind to use or adapt it they are welcome to do so. It would be marvellous for it to be “discovered” in a few decades time attributed to that famous poet “Anon”.

Andy Mellen (contributed) ~ October 2015

Beware! Devils Dyke's Underwear Don't Go Unnoticed

Devil's Dyke celebrated a double anniversary in November as it was the 40th anniversary of Staploe Hundred Morris Men and the 35th anniversary of the Devil's Dyke, the successor side. It was a joyful and well attended evening with original members of Staploe and more recent and youthful recruits to Devils Dyke; the usual suspects were also in attendance.

It had been organised by Ian Trowse, the DD archivist, and great fun was had by looking back at the old photos, a short film of DD dancing in Newmarket, and lots of press cuttings and written material. These gave an insight into the history of the side and some of the controversies which many sides have faced, such as relations between new dancers and the foreman and the issue of women musicians.

DD are one of the few sides that have always had a woman musician and now that women musicians are allowed to play at Ring meetings they have joined the Ring. Some of the correspondence on the subject is probably still too controversial to share and I will stick to the 30 year rule (but on the other hand, that's probably up by now!).

A couple of things that interested me in the archive were a beautiful drawing of a man dancing and the following press cutting:

“I don't want to be a killjoy – honest – but now that the Devil's Dyke Morris Men are recruiting for their season can you put your hand on your heart and say that you enjoy the sight and sound of these energetic folk shattering the peace of pub gardens everywhere?”

Do you gaze on them affectionately thinking ‘Aha, yes, this is how it was in Merrie England’?

Or do you, perhaps, count how many of them are injudiciously wearing brightly-patterned underpants beneath their white trousers, and sort of wish they'd skip over the hills and far away, and then feel guilty because you know they raise money for charity? Yes, I feel the same”.

David Evans ~ December 2015

Granta Blue A Brief History

Back in January 2010 a group of friends from Cambridge University went to see the film “Morris: A Life with Bells On” in Ely. Unfortunately, due to technical issues they never got to see the second half of the film and on



*Drawing from
Devil's Dyke
Archives*

the train journey home they came up with the idea of forming the first mixed Cotswold side in Cambridge as part of the university.



Granta Blue Morris at one of their first public dance-outs 15/05/2011

After roping in more friends from the Cambridge University Ceilidh Band and various local morris sides, the new side was formed and had their first practice on the evening of Sunday April 25th 2010. The first dances they learnt were *Lads a Bunchum*, which has become a standard, and *Step And Fetch Her*, which has rarely been danced since. [*Shame – it's one of my favourites – DE*].

The side's colours are a combination of Cambridge Blue and Dark Blue, and the name Granta Blue Morris was agreed on after a suggestion from a former member of "Granta Morris" (a mixed Cotswold morris side that had been based in Cambridge during the 1980s and 90s).

After two years as a university side we unfortunately reached a point where we were down to a single active dancer from the university, so we had to stop being a university society in 2012 and are now completely independent.

Extract from the Granta Blue website

Morris Shorts New(ish) Sides

Two (fairly) new sides have been in touch with their contact details, which are:

- Holt Ridge Morris (Mixed Cotswold); Practice at Blickling Hall on Monday evenings except in the height of summer. Squire and main contact: Brian Antuar (Open Morris Secretary) 01263 715762 or Roddy McKenzie 01508 470851
- Granta Blue Morris (Young Mixed Cotswold); Practice at Nuns Way Pavilion, Nuns Way, King's Hedges, Cambridge CB4 2PF on Wednesday evenings 8pm-10pm; e-mail contact cumorris@gmail.com, www.grantablumorris.co.uk

Pig Dyke Molly Urgent Call for Musicians

Pig Dyke Molly are in urgent need of musicians for early 2016 and/or longer.

Practices are on Monday nights in Peterborough, and there are some important specific dates when you'd be needed.

To learn more contact Tony on 01733 345883 or email jantony@waitrose.com

Diary Dates

7th February — Mary Neal Day.

There does not seem to be a national event but may be something will be organised in the East Anglian counties?

27th February — Hoxne Ale

Thorndon Village Hall, IP23 7IX

Workshop starts at 3.30pm with Mike Barclay taking us through the Sherborne tradition. Ale starts 7.30. Cost: Workshop £3, Ale £10 or £13 for both

12th March — The Second Halesworth Day of Dance

From 10 am until 4 pm, starting with a mass dance in the market square, followed by a

parade and an evening event. Indoor and outdoor camping (for the hardy types) will be available at the Scout Hut. For more info contact Zoe-Anne Wadey, tel 01986 948532 or email oxbloodmolly@gmail.com

22nd March — Cecil Sharp House Lecture

"Maypoles, Morris and Minuets: Restoring Old England's Dances before the Folk Revival" by Theresa Buckland

Start: 7:30pm – 8:30pm, followed by 30 min Q&A

This illustrated lecture looks at the appeal of 'English' dances to the popular historical imagination, their use by significant individuals such as Mary Neal and Grace Kimmins, and the role of such dances in building a sense of citizenship in progressive England.

23rd April — Rumburgh Morris St. George's Day event

12:30 and 14:30 Dancing displays at Norwich Castle and 7pm Dancing, Mummers' Play and singing at the Rumburgh Buck.

23rd April — Joint Morris Organisations' National Day of Dance in York

Organised by the Morris Federation and Minster Strays Morris (from 10 am to 5 pm)

To be part of this event contact your side's Morris organisation (The Morris Federation, The Morris Ring or Open Morris) as soon as possible, and at the latest by 31st January.

Places will be limited to 55 sides

1st May — May Day

Hooray, it's on a Sunday this year – no excuses, everyone up early – you can lie in later.

3–5th June — Thaxted Ring Meeting

News from your side

Thanks to Mike Garland and Granta Blue for getting in touch – if you have news about your side or an event you've been to, please e-mail: morris@suffolkfolk.co.uk

Dave Evans & Gill Brett ~ December 2015

On-Y-Va!

French Dancing

On y va! are hosting their club nights on the fourth Tuesday of the month, meeting next on Tuesday 26th January 2016 at 8.30pm. Formally based at the Kelsale Village Hall, On-Y-Va now practise in new premises and dance to live music.

If you have two left feet - don't worry, we will turn them into two right ones! There will be a workshop at the beginning of each club night for beginners and improvers.

No partners required. If you enjoy dancing, socialising or would just like to come and listen to the music put the date in your diary.

**Riverside Centre, Gt Glemham Road,
Stratford St Andrew,
Saxmundham, IP17 1LL**

For more info: Monica on 01728 830085
Or Lin on 01728 602465
Email: frenchdancer2004@yahoo.co.uk



- 26 January 2016
- 22 March 2016
- 24 May 2016
- 23 February 2016
- 26 April 2016
- 28 June 2016

• July, August & December 2016 - Break

- 27 September 2016
- 22 November 2016
- 25 October 2016

8.30pm - 10.30pm Entrance £4

Musicians workshop from 7.30pm

PLEASE SEND IN ANY UPDATES AFTER YOUR AGM to morris@suffolkfolk.co.uk

SUFFOLK CLUBS

BARLEY BRIGG (Mixed Northwest). Wed 8pm, Yoxford Village Hall, Andrew Paige, 01728 648556 andrewnpaige@gmail.com www.barleybrigg.org.uk

BURY FAIR WOMEN'S MORRIS - Wednesdays 8pm. Trinity Methodist Church, Brentgovel Street, Bury St Edmunds. Bagman: Linda Moden 01284 702967 Email: buryfair@gmail.com; Web: www.buryfair.co.uk

DANEGELD MORRIS (Mixed Northwest). Tues 8.15pm, Bredfield Village Hall, Nr. Woodbridge. Val Sherwen 01394 384067 val_sherwen@hotmail.com

EAST SUFFOLK MORRIS MEN. Mondays 8pm, Gosbeck Village Hall. Contact; Mike Garland, esmm@btinternet.com; www.eastsuffolkmorris.org.uk

GREEN DRAGON MORRIS mixed border side, meet at Fornham-all-Saints Community Centre IP28-6JZ; every Monday 8-10pm until April 2014 . contact: Andy at - gdbagman@gmail.com; 22 Orchard way, Thetford, IP24-2JF.

HAGENETH MORRIS MEN. (Cotswold Morris) Practice at 8pm in Haughley Village Hall IP14 3NX on first, third and fifth Wednesdays from 7th October – end April. Contact Bagman@Hageneth.org.uk or Mike Seaman, 01449 781151 michaelseaman2000@btinternet.com

HAUGHLEY HOOFS (Ladies Northwest Clog) Practice at 7.30pm every Sunday in Haughley Village Hall, Haughley from September – end April. Contact 01449 676083, email pjosephs.150@btinternet.com; www.haughleyhoofers.org.uk

HOXON HUNDRED (Cotswold, Northwest, Garland, Clog) Weekly practice Wednesdays 7.30-9.30pm (9.30-10pm social country dancing) from 10th September, St Edmunds Village Hall, Hoxne. Tel Chris 01379 678169 or email janbud@live.co.uk

LAGABAG MORRIS (Mixed Cotswold). Mon 8pm, Claydon Village Hall. Charles Croydon 01473 214116. bagman@lagabagmorris.org.uk; www.lagabagmorris.org.uk

LITTLE EGYPT MORRIS MEN. Tuesdays 8pm. Glemsford Church Hall. Brian Stephens 01787 280721 millhill@hotmail.com

OLD GLORY MOLLY DANCERS. Sundays 10am. Not during spring or summer. The Rumburgh Hut, Nr Halesworth. Graham Elliott 01502 714661, 07733 348811, management@old-glory.org.uk www.old-glory.org.uk

OX BLOOD MOLLY (Mixed Molly and Mumming) Practices; Peasenhall Assembly Hall most Sundays autumn/winter 2- 4pm. Please ring first as we may be dancing out. Contact Zoe-Anne Wadey 07767763318; e-mail oxbloodmolly@gmail.com

POINT DEVIS (Mixed NW & Garland). Thursdays 8-10pm, at The Gannon Rooms, Saxmundham. Lin Barnes frenchdancer2004@yahoo.co.uk

RUMBURGH MORRIS Mixed Cotswold & Mumming; Practice Night Tuesdays 7.45pm at St Margaret South Elmham Village Hall IP20 0PN starting 7:45pm and afterwards at the Rumburgh Buck contact Rita Jackson 01986 897082 Bagpeople@rumburghmorris.org

WESTREFELDA (Mixed Cotswold). Mon 8pm. Westerfield Parish Hall, Church Lane, Westerfield. Ipswich. Liz Whatling 01473 281141. squire@westrefelda.co.uk or Jenny Everett; bag@westrefelda.co.uk www.westrefelda.co.uk

NORFOLK CLUBS

EBEKNEEZER (Appalachian Step). Sat am, venue variable in Norwich. John Dimascio 01263 734640 or jsdimascio@aol.com

FIDDLESTICKS (Women's Northwest Clog). Mondays 7.30pm, High School, Newmarket Road, Norwich. Janet Selvey 01953 882453 or inquiries@fiddlesticksclog.org.uk www.members.aol.com/fiddlesticksclog

GOLDEN STAR MORRIS (Mixed Cotswold). Sundays 7.30pm. St. Catherine's Church Hall, Aylsham Road, Norwich. Eamonn Andrews 01379 384207 goldenstarmorris@hotmail.co.uk www.goldenstarmorris.org.uk

HOLT RIDGE MORRIS (Mixed Cotswold) Monday evening practice at Blickling Hall except in the height of summer. Squire and main contact: Brian Antuar (Open Morris Secretary) 01263 715762 or Roddy McKenzie 01508 470851

KEMPS MEN Wednesdays 7:30pm. St Marks Church Hall, Hall Road, Norwich. Richard Woodham 01603 736411 kempsmen@hotmail.co.uk

KENNINGHALL MORRIS Peter Osborne 01953 888291 peter@pozitive.co.uk www.krap.org.uk

OUSE WASHES (Molly). Mon 8pm, 2nd, 4th & 5th Mon, Village Hall, Wimbotsham; 1st & 3rd Mon, Parish Rooms, Swaffham. Nicky Stockman 01362 687156 nicky.stockman@virgin.net www.ousewashes.org.uk

PEDANT'S REVOLT (Border). Wed eve, variable, in Norwich. John Dimascio 01263 734640 or jsdimascio@aol.com

WEAVERS MORRIS Wednesdays 7.45pm at St Nicholas Church Hall North Walsham Contact Colin on 01263 513589 or email colin@poppy-house.co.uk

ESSEX CLUBS

ALIVE & KICKING (Women's Northwest / Clog). Wednesday 7.45pm. NHS Clinic, Maldon Community Centre, Wantz Close. Angela Clarke 01621 857569 ovals@sky.com

ANNIE'S FANTASIES (Mixed Northwest) Sunday, Sheila Kelly 01206 798076 Annies@theatrearts.biz

BELCHAMP MORRIS MEN Clive Hopkins, 91 Beridge Road, Halstead, Essex CO9 1JX or 01787 479508 or 07761 632776 or hoppo@btinternet.com

BOWS 'N' BELLES (Women's Northwest/Garland). Sundays 3pm. Aldham Village Hall. Sue Pratt 01206 240682 bowsnbellesclog@yahoo.co.uk

CHELMSFORD MORRIS: Men's Cotswold and Border Morris - Wednesdays 8pm, Writtle Christian Centre, Writtle. Also Women's Northwest and Step Clog - Thursdays 8.15pm, at Great Waltham Village Hall, South Street, Great Waltham CM3 1DF. Celia Kemp; bagman@chelmsfordmorris.co.uk; www.chelmsfordmorris.co.uk

Social Dance Up a Double and Back — Helen Barrett

COLCHESTER MORRIS MEN. Fridays 8pm. Mile End Methodist Church Hall, Mile End Road. Martin Theobald 01206 853500, bagman@colchestermorrismen.org

COLCHESTER PLATYPUS APPALACHIAN. Wednesday 8pm. Wilson Marriage Community Centre, Barrack Street. Christine Fenn 01206 795215 christine.fenn@barnardos.org.uk

CROUCH VALE CLOG MORRIS Wed. 8pm Cathy Carpenter 01245 353558 cathy@chippies.eu

DARK HORSE MORRIS Thursdays, Maldon. Susan Watson darkhorsemorris@yahoo.co.uk

HANDS AROUND, Fridays in Thurrock; Border, Cotswold, Mumming; June Wells 01268 521645 junestorytent@btinternet.com

HAWKSWORD: Mixed Longsword and Rapper - Mondays 8pm, Leyton. Peter Kemp 01245 263753 peter.kemp@dsl.pipex.com

LEADING LIGHTS: Mixed Cotswold, St Joseph's Church Hall, Fronks Road Dovercourt, Mondays 8 p.m., Peter Davis 01255 240220 peter1987.pd@gmail.com

MALDON GREENJACKETS: Mixed Cotswold, United Reform Church, Market Hill, Tuesdays 8 p.m., Jim Murphy 01268 747869 gj_bag@maldonmorris.org

RISING LARKS (Women's Northwest/Garland/Step Clog). Friday 8pm (not first Friday) Beaumont Village Hall. Sue Curd 01255 507835. susiecurd@hotmail.co.uk

PRIORY MORRIS (Mixed Border Morris). Sunday 1pm. Kings Arms, St Osyth. Miriam Russell 01255 822481

SOKEN MOLLY (Mixed Molly). Wednesday 8pm. Royal Marine, Walton-on-the-Naze. Malcolm Batty 01255 851399 mrb@battym.freeserve.co.uk

CAMBRIDGESHIRE CLUBS

CAMBRIDGE MORRIS MEN. Tuesdays in term time 8.15pm. Mayfield Primary School, Warwick Rd (off Histon Rd). John Jenner 01763 242127 bagman@cambridgemorrismen.org.uk

CROSSKEY CLOG (Mixed Northwest). Wed 8pm, Wistow Community Hall, P/boro. Pete Stafford-Honeyball 01733 320252 or pete.staffordhoneyball@o2.co.uk

DEVILS DYKE MORRIS MEN. Thursday 8pm. Bottisham Scout Hut. Randall Scott. 01223 208253. bagman@devilsdykem.org.uk; www.devilsdykem.org.uk

ELY & LITTLEPORT RIOT, (Women's Border / own dances) Fridays, Maggie Kent, 01353 615503, smockmill@ntlworld.com

FENSTANTON MORRIS (Mixed Cotswold). Mon in winter, 8pm, The Church Centre, Fenstanton fenstantonbag@gmail.com; New "joint bags" are Penny James and Amy Pignatiello

GOG MAGOG (Molly). Tues 8pm. Adam Hughes 01223 229996 adamoutside@yahoo.co.uk; molly@cusu.cam.ac.uk; www.cam.ac.uk/societies/molly

GRANTA BLUE MORRIS (Young Mixed Cotswold). Practices Wednesday Evenings 8pm-10pm Nuns Way Pavilion, Nuns Way, King's Hedges, Cambridge CB4 2PF. Email cumorris@gmail.com, www.grantablue-morris.co.uk; <https://www.facebook.com/GrantaBlueMorris>

HEARTSEASE and ST NEOTS SWEEPS & MILKMAIDS: Thursdays Eynesbury C of E Primary School, Montagu Street, Eynesbury, PE19 2TD. Patti Pitt 01234 376278 pattipitt6@aol.com

MANOR MILL MORRIS (Women's Northwest Clog). Mon in school term, 7.45pm, St. Augustine's Church Hall, Richmond Road, Cambridge. Andrea Lamble 01223 843529 manormillmorris@hotmail.com www.manormillmorris.org.uk

MEPAL MOLLY Michael Czarnobaj 01353 666441 michael.czarnobaj@hotmail.co.uk

OLD HUNTS MOLLY. Plough Monday/Straw Bear Festival. Robin James 01954 210650 or 07947 774482. Other contacts : see Fenstanton above

PETERBOROUGH MORRIS MEN. Peterborough Sports and Leisure Centre, 651 Lincoln Road, Peterborough, PE1 3HA – Tues. 8pm 01733 206627 or 01733 705786 bagman@peterboroughmorris.co.uk

PIG DYKE MOLLY. Mondays 8.15 pm. Burghley Square Club, Burghley Road Peterborough, PE1 2QA Peterborough. Sadie Heritage 01733 204505 info@pigdyke.co.uk www.pigdyke.co.uk.

ROCKINGHAM RAPPER & CLOG (Rapper and Appalachian) - Childer's Club, 1A Station Road, Whittlesey, Cambs PE7 1SA, Thursdays 8 – 10 pm - most - 07901 754064 or 07901 874513; rockinghamrapper@yahoo.co.uk; www.rockinghamrapper.org.uk; Facebook or Twitter@RockinghamSword; www.myspace.com/rockinghamrapper



The poster for the Bury Folk Festival 2016 features a stylized sunburst background. On the left is a circular logo for 'BURY FOLK COLLECTIVE' with a central image of a field and a small building. On the right is a stylized tree with musical notes. The text 'bury folk collective presents' is at the top, followed by 'Bury Folk Festival' in large, bold letters, and '2nd July 2016' below it. At the bottom, it says 'Nowton Park, Bury St Edmunds', 'Save the date - more details coming soon', and 'Real ale Food Entertainment Live music' with decorative floral symbols.

bury folk collective presents

Bury Folk Festival

2nd July 2016

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Nowton Park, Bury St Edmunds

Save the date - more details coming soon

Real ale Food Entertainment Live music

Costume and The Secret Language of Fans

During the long, dark, winter months, it is comforting to look forward to the promise of Spring. In Suffolk, we hold our Playford Ball on March 12th, so have a wonderful spectacle ahead of us.

As more of our dancers are choosing to wear period costumes, I am taking a look at the DIY and Costume Hire options.

For those with nimble fingers and ingenuity, charity shop curtains provide an inexpensive starting point and can look quite classy. Remember to choose fabric that moves well and you won't look like a pair of curtains. Ladies' dress patterns in both Georgian and Regency style are available. Both Simplicity and Burda produce patterns. Several of us have tried these, but the patterns need adapting if you actually want to dance in them instead of standing around looking decorative. The more mature and matronly figures would traditionally sit and gossip, whilst the willowy young ladies took to the dance floor. Many Regency gowns were very revealing, so it is now a compromise between modesty and authenticity. Men's patterns seem harder to find but are available. They retail at £15, whilst the ladies' patterns are available for £5.

An easier option, and not always more expensive, costume hire could be the answer, costing around £35 for the costume including accessories. In Mid Suffolk we are lucky in having several good quality options. I have visited The Costume Closet, conveniently located on the High Street in Needham Market. Jemma has a range of Regency and Georgian costumes for hire.

Tucked away in rural Suffolk, Masquerade can be found at Church Farm, Earl Stonham and online at www.masqueradeshop.co.uk.

Sally has an extensive range of costumes suitable for Playford and Regency Balls plus wonderful accessories. I enjoyed trying on several gowns all in the cause of research and decided to reserve one for myself for the March Ball.



Regency couple — costumes from Masquerade

Costume hire is also available from The Theatre Royal, Bury St. Edmunds by appointment.

The way we dress affects the way we move. Once in costume, the Playford moves of *Up a Double and Back*, *Turn Single* and *Siding*, as interpreted by Cecil Sharp, take on a whole new fluidity. Accessories are an essential part of the finished outfit. Hats and headdresses, shoes and shoe decorations, gloves, jewellery and fans set off an outfit that can look very ordinary “undressed”.



Dancing provided the opportunity for subtle flirtation and an aid to this flirtation was the fan. The language of the fan was the text messaging of the day. I am not sure how the suitor responded, but we can use our imagination. Imagine this conversation at your next Ball.

"Follow me"

"Oh dear, we are being watched"

"You have changed"

"I wish to get rid of you"

"I hate you"

"You are cruel"

"Do you love me?"

"Kiss me!"

Fan is carried in front of the face

Fan is twirled in the left hand

Fan is drawn across the forehead

Fan is placed on the left ear

Fan is drawn through the hand

Fan is opened and shut

Fan is presented shut

Fan handle placed on lips

— And you thought you were there to dance!

Whatever you are wearing and wherever you are dancing this Spring, I hope you enjoy yourselves. Please send me your highlights and your photos.

Dates For Your Diary

Mid Suffolk Folk Dance Club: Sunday February 28th Tea Dance. Stowupland Village Hall Phone 01473 742015

Suffolk Playford Ball: Saturday 12th March. Woodbridge Community Centre. (sold out!)

Mid Suffolk Folk Dance Club: Saturday April 23rd 7.30 - 10.30p.m. Stowupland Village Hall. Live music from Heather and friends with Caller Ron Coxall. Tickets available from 01449 676491.

News From Your Club

Please let me have the news from your club for publication in the next Mardles.

Email me at dance@suffolkfolk.co.uk or phone 01449 676491.

Helen Barrett ~ December 2015

Wonderful Weekend in Walsham and Winterton

A Personal Reminiscence of SamFest, Celebrating the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Death of Sam Larner, Fisherman and Singer

It was Mardles – summer 2015 where we first heard about SamFest. The decision to go was instantaneous. Peggy Seeger in concert: Karen had never seen her perform and all my memories of her were from the London folk clubs in the 1960s – Dave Burland too, though in the end we missed him; and talks about Sam's life and about the making of the Radio Ballads, in particular 'Singing the Fishing' in which Sam Larner and Ronnie Balls, both from Winterton, were the principal informants for Ewan MacColl, Charles Parker and Peggy Seeger. Folk music is good at singing, music and dance, both performing and listening, less so at reflection and listening to speech. This would be different. We couldn't wait.



Peggy Seeger in concert

But first we had to get there, braving the Norfolk roads. Coming to North Walsham from Essex, this offered a zero sum choice between snailing around the Norwich Ring Road during rush hour or the bounceathon along country lanes (sorry, A roads) that time had forgotten and that certainly hadn't been mended since. We chose to test our suspension (and that of our van), but arrived in good time in North Walsham, where

Karen had once lived and worked. The Atrium was a revelation, a lovely medium sized modern venue: Peggy Seeger's concert set even more so. Still a political activist in her eighties, the stridency of youth has mellowed into a reflective but piercing wit, embellished with carefully selected magazine cuttings. Peggy is a wonderful musician on any number of instruments, principally banjo; a gifted songwriter, and able to draw on a lifetime's experience to illuminate many aspects of folk music and tradition. For over an hour, everyone was treated to a tour de force. For me the American country version of the Child Ballad *Jellon Graeme* and *Everything Changes*, recently written by Peggy and with piano accompaniment, linger in the memory, but for Karen and many others, hearing Peggy sing *The First Time Ever*, possibly the best love song of the entire 20th century and written for her by Ewan, must have been the high point.

On Saturday morning everyone gathered in Winterton at the Hermanus (no Teutonic jokes please!) where Peggy was talking with Peter Cox, who wrote the book 'Set into Song' about the creation of the Radio Ballads. Immediately beforehand Peggy had spent time talking with George Balls, son of Ronnie, whom she remembered from times past. Then the technology failed, which was probably a blessing as we were treated to insights into the creation of 'Singing the Fishing' and Sam Larner's recordings. These included how Ewan MacColl made song lines from the speech of Sam, Ronnie and others; so that when Sam first heard *Shoals of Herring* he said he'd known the song all his life. Ewan created tunes by gradually re-

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shaping melodies from folk songs in current repertoire: *The First Time Ever* was based on the Scottish lament *Friendless Maggie* recorded by Ewan and by Nigel Denver. None of the final production would have been possible without the tireless painstaking work of Charles Parker. In the digital age it is difficult to conceive of an hour-long radio programme made by tape recordings, each lasting no longer than fifteen seconds, being manually spliced together to create a tapestry consisting of fishermen's speech, an instrumental band, singing by both fishermen and folk singers and sound effects. Yet it was this labour of love, burning midnight oil that won the Prix d'Italia for 'Singing the Fishing'.



Peggy Seeger talking to George, son of Ronnie Balls

On Sunday morning, we convened again, this time at the Village Hall, where the technology did work, where Chris Holderness of Rig-a-Jig talked about Sam, to an audience including members of Sam's family. Sam had gone to sea as a boy, initially as cook but quickly becoming a full crew member. Sam had been a singer all his life. He'd once won a prize in Lerwick, Shetland singing *Old Bob Ridley*, a song he'd learned from the Minstrel Shows, and his song repertoire seemed to me to have mainly

included ballads and songs that were still circulating widely on broadsides and on radio when he was young. Singing was an important part of community life, both on shore and on board ship, where everyone sang, especially when on watch to stave off tiredness and boredom. Someone with a strong voice could be heard miles away on a calm night. Back home after a long trip, everyone would pile into the Fisherman's Return in Winterton and stay there for several days – a beerful antidote to a very hard life. Later on, Chris examined how and why Sam's songs had survived, praising Ewan and Peggy and Peter Bellamy, the professional singers, for their work. Initially I bristled inwardly a bit at this – why did it matter that the singers were professional, but, and I hope I've got this right, Chris was making the critical point that without the professionals to disseminate Sam's songs they might not have circulated very far in the last fifty years.



Lenny Whiting step dancing

Other parts of the weekend were a folk community event. The Celebration Band

played on Friday Night; there was plenty of round the room singing, including Tony Hall's magnificent melodeon playing and Mike Barber's splendid songs *One for the Rook* and his Nelson's relics song. It was good to see and hear Graham Schofield, also an expat, from Suffolk. On Saturday afternoon the musicians magically fell into the Fisherman's Return for tunes and stepdancing from Doreen O'Connor and others. But above all SamFest was a Winterton community event, with a vigil by Sam's grave on Sunday afternoon, which unfortunately Karen and I weren't able to stay for. The whole weekend was a really good do. Congratulations to Brian Gaudet and his team for organising it. Surely it can't be too long before there's a reason to celebrate the life of Harry Cox.

Colin Cater ~ November 2015

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2015 Bury St Edmunds OXJAM Folk Weekend

This year's Bury St. Edmunds OXJAM Folk Weekend, which was organised by Gill and John Bosley, took place on 24th and 25th October in All Saints Church and church hall. OXJAM is Oxfam's month-long music festival with hundreds of events around the UK, all organised by volunteers who know and love their local music scene.

Having had such an enjoyable time when we attended the last three years' events, my wife and I once again made the round trip of 260 miles because we could see from the excellent line-up of folk artists that we were going to have another great weekend. In addition to a plethora of highly talented performers from East Anglia, John had managed to persuade the Jigantics to headline the Saturday evening concert and it was well worth waiting for. This five piece band had the audience enthused by lively, foot-tapping music, demonstrating excellent musicianship, brilliant vocals and a variety of musical experiences. Lively folk rock was balanced by sensitive songs and the overall experience was enjoyed by both fans of the band and people like my wife and I who had not seen them before.

This folk weekend is a very successful collaboration between a group of folk artists and All Saints Church, all working together with the aim of raising money for the Oxfam Charity. The folk artists, MCs and sound technicians give their services freely, the church provides the venue and church members and friends provide excellent refreshments throughout the weekend as well as running a well stocked bar.

Although we had seen many of the artists before, and therefore knew the quality of their performances, we were eager to see some East Anglian acts that we had not seen

before with a view to considering them for a booking at Moira Furnace Folk Festival (www.moirafurnacefolkfestival.co.uk) which I help organise. Over the last five years I have booked several East Anglian folk performers for the festival. The quality of the new acts matched those that I had seen previously and several of them have already secured a booking at a future festival.



The Jigantics at OXJAM

For the weekend ticket price of only £28 there was the opportunity to listen to fourteen different acts performing a wide range of folk music and song. On Saturday evening there was a ceilidh, with music provided by the local band Stumpy Oak.

It was encouraging to see that many of the people attending the folk weekend attended the Sunday morning church service, which involved several of the folk artists as musicians or as soloists.

After the church service on Sunday there was an opportunity to watch two dance sides, Milkmaid Molly, which is a dance side that is made up of people with learning disabilities supported by experienced dancers, and Green Dragon Morris, perform.

The OXJAM Folk Weekend was a great success in so many ways with a total of £1,935.40 being raised during the weekend.

The people who attended were given excellent value for money with both established and newer artists providing a variety of folk music throughout the weekend.

Although the amount of money that was raised was slightly less than that raised in 2014 this was a brilliant achievement considering the numbers were down on previous years. This may well have been because of a clash with school half term so the organisers are looking to hold next year's event slightly earlier in October to avoid a conflict with other activities. There is room for more of you to attend in 2016 and enjoy a great weekend of music, song and dance at a very reasonable price. Keep an eye on the website www.oxjamburysteds.co.uk or the Facebook page for details of next year's Oxjam Folk Weekend.

Colin Grantham ~ November 2015



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This is a new venture and a leap of faith, based on the hope that the folk and wider community would welcome the chance to be entertained, informed and to participate in an evening with established performers.

These evenings will not be a concert or like a folk-club. They will start with a guest performance, followed by a music break for anyone who wants to play. After that the guest will answer questions and talk about their specialist knowledge and enthusiasm for their type of music. They will also encourage anyone who wants to join in with them, either playing or singing. It is hoped this will become a general session for all who wish to participate or just enjoy.

Each evening will usually be different from the previous. Much will depend on the guest and those who come. The aim is to have a good time and tunes and songs to join in will be welcome.



*Tom McConville, Happy Sam's guest
on 18th March*

The folk world always has been one of community and sharing, an opportunity for people to have fun, interact and encourage others. Many lifelong friendships have been

made, groups formed to work for social change and to keep our traditions alive.

Any profits for the evening will go to Suffolk Mind. This a small local charity, aimed at helping those in our community who need to improve their mental health well-being in order to have full and happy lives. Please look at their web site to see what they do. Government cuts have made services a shadow of what they should be, leaving many people unsupported at a difficult time.

A chance to play, sing and be inspired or just entertained does us all good so please come and have a good time. The evenings are held at Bredfield Village Hall which has wonderful acoustics, a large car park and is located close to the A12 near Woodbridge.

Come at 7.30 for an 8.00 pm start. The first guests of 2016 are:

10 February: Benny Graham

18th March: Tom McConville

22nd April: Peter & Barbara Snape

8th June : Jeff Warner

Tickets are on the door and will be between £5 and £7.

There is no bar so bring your own drinks, though an empty tankard can be filled from an honesty ale barrel provided. As well as the guest's CDs to buy there will be a table for donated CDs etc. This will be a chance to purchase and try out some music not heard before, whilst helping a local charity.

Full details of performers, links to their website, and enquiries at www.happysam.co.uk. Also there you will find the words of an old song — *Happy Sam* — which will no doubt be sung on a regular basis. Last minute news and updates will be found at the facebook page HappySam.

Looking forward to seeing as many as possible. (see ad p.43)

Nicky & Graham Schofield ~ December 2015

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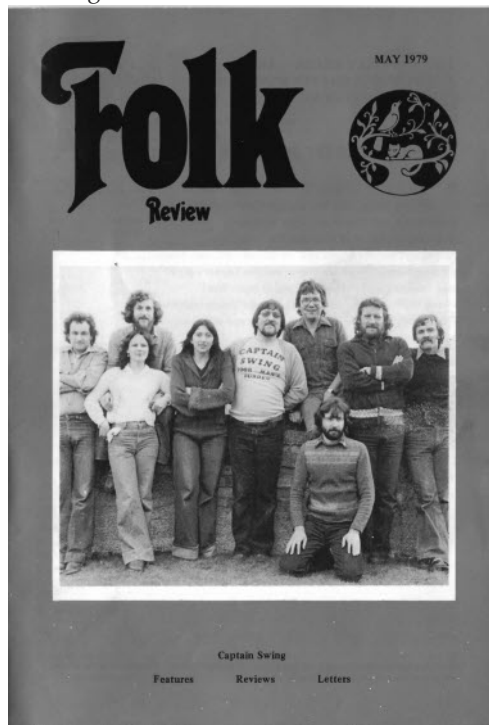
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Looking back more: 2 Mid-Seventies — Mid-Eighties

In my first Looking Back More, I left you at the point at which I had come across The Albion Dance Band, whose melodeon player, John Tams, had inspired me to try and play my old instrument again. The Old Swan Band had also recently brought out their first album, "No Reels", on the Free Reed label and this had got me very excited as well. I found these two very different bands truly inspirational and was determined more than ever to learn to play the melodeon or the concertina well enough to perform in public myself. I played a few floor spots at Colchester Folk Club and then out of the blue was invited to join Poor Man's Burden, a group that was about to put on a folk-rock opera "Captain Swing", which told the story of the agricultural riots of the 1830s.



Poor Man's Burden on the front of Folk Review

The band consisted of a number of people some of you will be familiar with: Elaine Barker, Alan and Pat Walters, Phil Manchester, Graham Alston, Jonathan Seath, Stan Harvey and Paul Riley. I was being brought in as a second melodeon player. I couldn't believe it — to my untrained ears we sounded like a cross between the Albion Band and The Old Swan Band: I was either John Tams or Rod Stradling. It was a revelation. We performed the show four times: twice in Colchester, in Ipswich and at the Norwich Folk Festival. We appeared on the front cover of the main national folk magazine of the time, Folk Review. It seemed as if I'd gone from floor spot obscurity to nationally known folkie within a few months. Poor Man's Burden fizzled out after this show but the core of the group re-emerged as The Hooligan Band to play for ceilidhs all over East Anglia for the next two or three years. It was an exciting time.



The Hooligan Band

At about this time, I made new musical discoveries — two bands that were completely different from each other but equally exciting: De Dannan and Blowzabella. For about a year I played their recordings incessantly on my car cassette player as I travelled round Essex for my job. De Dannan's "Star Spangled Molly" album was just out and featured the classic line-up of Jackie Daly (melodeon), Frankie Gavin



De Dannan

(fiddle), Alec Finn (bouzouki), Johny McDonagh (bodhran), Charlie Piggot (banjo) and Maura O'Connell (vocals). The music on this LP was predominantly the Irish – American music of the 1920s, the kind of music made popular by James Morrison (fiddle), John Kimmel (one-row melodeon) and John McKenna (flute). But De Dannan were always experimental and Side 1 of the album ended with an instrumental version of the classic Beatles' song *Hey Jude* – a version which ended with a sparse bodhran solo. I'd first come across the band's music in the TV drama *The Irish RM*. Until that time, Irish music had left me fairly unmoved – mainly because top bands like Planxty and The Chieftans did not include melodeon players. Suddenly here was music I could attempt to play – though most of it was pretty tricky for someone who played English G/D melodeon style. I discovered at this point that Irish melodeons were quite different – and astonishingly could play in more or less any key, as long as you accepted that you could hardly ever play the left hand basses and chords. Soon after this, I bought Jackie Daly's solo album, "Music from Sliabh Luachra". This also soon became a favourite and I did actually manage to play some of the tunes – which seemed somehow less "typically Irish" than the more hard-core fiddle-based music.

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Blowzabella's first album

Blowzabella, by contrast, introduced me to a whole new world of drone-based music. I would become intrigued by the combination of hurdy gurdy, bagpipes and melodeon – a combination which would become the basis of our line-up in Bof! twenty years later. The band's first LP "Blowzabella" (1982) featured old English tunes, but also, more surprisingly perhaps, French traditional dance music: another Eureka moment for me! The band's first line-up comprised Sam Palmer and Cliff Stapleton (hurdy gurdies), Jon Swayne (bagpipes, recorder, flute and whistle), Dave Roberts (melodeon and drums) Paul James (bagpipes, rauschfiele, bombard, saxophone) and Chris Gunstone (bouzoukis and drum). Being fairly satisfied with my standard of melodeon playing, I decided I had to have a hurdy gurdy and started looking. The first instrument I came across looked reasonably authentic but was impossible to get in tune. I took it to instrument maker Bill Molan in Laxfield who took one look at it, said he'd seen it several times before, and advised me to burn it. It was untunable and basically a pile of c**p. I didn't burn it and was not put off. I bought a hurdy gurdy kit from a German maker and managed to persuade

instrument maker Jeff Giddings to put it together for me. Two and a half years later it emerged as playable instrument, but it had an old-fashioned wooden axle which required lubricating with almond oil every five minutes or so which made the playing of long tunes frustrating.

Despite these new interests, I hadn't forgotten The Albion Band, but they were undergoing a process of change, moving away from solely traditional material in new directions. Their 1978 album "Rise Up like the Sun" included three songs by Richard Thompson and two by John Tams, in addition to the traditional shanty *Poor Old Horse*, Jimmy Shand's *Primrose Polka*, a John Coltrane jazz number *Afro Blue*, the Morris dance song *The Postman's Knock* and the raucously experimental *Gresford Disaster*.



Albion Band album cover

I was never as keen on this album as on their earlier recordings but it often appears alongside Fairport Convention's "Liege and Lief" and Shirley Collins' "No Roses" among the most popular folk rock albums of all time. This recording coincided with the Albion Band's move to the National Theatre where they became, from 1987 – 1991, the resident band – playing for such shows as Flora

Thompson's "Lark Rise to Candleford" and Tony Harrison's modern version of medieval English mystery plays "The Mysteries: The Nativity, The Passion and Doomsday". These were wonderful shows both from a theatrical and a musical point of view. As "promenade" performances, where the actors mingled with the audience in a huge open space, they were exciting, but also had their dangers. I arrived a little late for The Passion, so crept quietly in at what I thought was the back, only to find myself standing behind Jesus at the Last Supper. And at the end of Lark Rise, members of the public were invited to join in a giant Circassian Circle.

While this theatrical adventure launched John Tam's acting career, it put an end to that particular Albion Band line-up. Band leader Ashley Hutchings formed a new Albion Band – plundering most of what was the Cock and Bull Band. The rest of the band became Home Service.

As has always been the case, live performances are wildly superior to recordings and in 1983 I saw gigs by all three of the above mentioned bands: Blowzabella and Home Service at Towersey Festival and De Dannan at Colchester Arts Centre and Trowbridge Festival. These performances will remain with me forever: the Colchester gig featured the magic

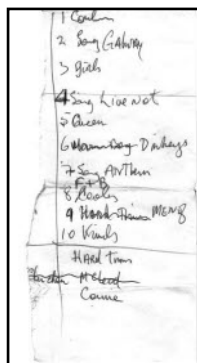
accordion of Máirtín (then Martin) O'Connor and not one but two female singers: Mary Black and Dolores Keane. At Trowbridge, De Dannan were due to follow Billy Bragg. Billy finished and nothing happened. We waited for over half an hour before the band arrived on stage. They'd refused to appear until they received their fee in cash –

allegedly £3,000 – and, in order to do this festival organisers had had to go round begging stallholders for the cash they needed. On this occasion I managed to retrieve the band's set list. It's still a treasured possession.

On the personal musical front, The Hooligan Band played until 1983. It was a great lumbering beast consisting of 10 players on most occasions. We recorded a couple of tracks for one of Richard Digance's Dambuster Records productions "Buttons and Bows", but keeping that number of players together proved tricky and a breakaway group of three of us formed Bass Instincts. Within a few weeks, Stuart Moffat (bass), Graham Alston (guitar) and myself (melodeon) were joined by Jon May (drums) and Val Woollard (recorder and bagpipes). It was the start of a new musical era.

Next instalment: Folk Festivals, Breton music and Bass Instincts.

Simon Haines ~ December 2015



*De Dannan's
Set List*

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ceilidh
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Introduction to The NFA

Peter Rushmer, Committee Member, Norfolk Folk Association

Welcome to what we hope will become a regular slot in Mardles from The Norfolk Folk Association (NFA).

The Norfolk Folk Association:

- Aims to promote and encourage folk music and dance in the county
- Runs Winter, Spring and Christmas folk dances near Norwich
- Publishes FOLKLIST with details of Morris and Molly sides, local dance clubs, folk song and music clubs across the county

We are keen to encourage new membership. Membership is not expensive so we would love to hear from you!

Contact Committee Members

David Radnedge Tel: 01603 615524 or

Peter Rushmer: peterrushmer@hotmail.com

The Full English and Soundpost

It should be no secret to most reading this publication that Norfolk has a rich and fascinating musical heritage and folk tradition, reflecting its cultural history. It therefore surprises me that, events like SamFest apart, this heritage and wider folk traditions throughout the UK often seem ignored and uncelebrated in many spheres of daily life and within the media.

So imagine my delight when I read of Soundpost in EDS (English Dance and Song) magazine. Soundpost started 4 years ago, with the intention of "bringing (folk) music, song and dance into people's lives" by inviting participants to explore The Full English — EFDSS' comprehensive and world-leading digital archive that draws

together early 20th century collections into a free, searchable database of British folk songs, tunes, dances and customs.

(www.efdss.org/thefullenglish)

Soundpost runs annual weekends where participants can have fun joining together to sing, play, listen, talk and think about these collections and learn how to exploit this amazing archive, learning from the experience of members of the award-winning Full English Band.

Each year these weekends have gone from strength to strength, with 2015 being no exception. The following review by Mike Wild, provided kindly by Soundpost, shows why these weekends are not to be missed!

Peter Rushmer ~ December 2015

Soundpost Full English Weekend Dungworth, Sheffield 23-25 October 2015 by Mike Wild

The first very successful Soundpost Singing Weekend was held in 2011 and there have been several since. These weekends build on the EFDSS Full English project in which Soundpost organiser Fay Hield was involved.

People from far and wide gathered from Friday afternoon at Dungworth in the Loxley Valley high above Sheffield, in lovely Autumn weather. Once registered at the Old Village Hall and availing ourselves of the Soundpost mugs and the promise of free drinks all weekend it was a matter of catching up with old and new friends and sorting out the plethora of workshops and sessions. Everybody went to their own slots and we were often like ships in the night, shuttling between the various venues between Underbank and Low Bradfield, coming together for breaks and briefings and concert or joint session spots.

~ The ~
Percy Webb Memorial Trophy

Sunday, 1 May 2016

The Ship Inn, Blaxhall 8.00pm



Singers are invited to compete for this trophy by
the singing of a traditional Folk Song.

The winner to be decided upon by votes cast by
the singers present.

The winner shall hold the trophy for one year.

Prospective entrants please indicate their choice of song
to Steve Dickinson
Tel 01449 615523

The tutors included Martin Carthy MBE, Nancy Kerr, Sam Sweeney, Jon Boden, Bryony Griffith, Pete Coe, Alice Jones, Fay Hield, Rob Harbron, Fiona Taylor, Simon Keegan Phipps, Cinzia Yates, Julia Bishop, Frances Watt, Laura Smyth, Rachel Elliott, Malcolm Taylor, Patrick Kingwell, Harriet Atherton and Kate Thomson. Value for money!

Fay gave a welcome talk and set the scene by describing the use of the Full English archive in work with schools, communities, performance and further research. She thanked the busy tutors, volunteers and stewards: a glowing testimony to all the committed people who make the weekends such an important aspect of Sheffield's contribution to the traditional arts. There is no distinction between performers, tutors and participants and the weekend is a very relaxed one that flows smoothly (as far as we know!)

I dropped in on a Q&A session with the Full English Band and a couple of singing workshops with Jon Boden and Nancy Kerr, both of which quickly led, by ear, to lovely harmony singing and belting it out energetically. This was followed by a great tune session in the Village Hall led by Nicola Beazley and friends. From then on in I can only outline "my weekend" and I know others had an equally inspiring one. With seven venues you can imagine the variety open to us.

Saturday was a busy day starting at Underbank Schoolroom with Nancy Kerr who took us through a workshop on taking a song from the archive, *The Seeds of Love* in this case, and showing how she dealt with words, tune and tweaking to arrive at a version unique but rooted in the tradition. She also led us to write our impressions of a piece of music and then to compose a song based on a traditional theme, which stimulated much interesting work and got some people writing a song for the first time. A surgery with Sam Sweeney for fiddle and other instruments was very

entertaining and informative and helped us to find the 'groove' in tunes and make them very danceable. Then off to a fascinating talk by Pete and Alice on Finding 'Five Finger Frank' Kidson, (not a mutation but his description of his own piano playing). This was an excellent talk on Kidson's pioneering work in Leeds well before Cecil Sharp and later collectors. Tutors' concerts closed the day and displayed the wide array of talent at the weekend.

Sunday was another busy day and I went to a voice workshop with Kate and Harriet, illustrated with videos of the larynx and vocal chords in action. There were many tips on how to control pitch and breathing and I would recommend their workshops. Next off was Padley Farm guesthouse and a surgery with Rob Harbron on song and tune accompaniment, which he handled superbly given the wide variety of different instrumentalists other than his English concertina. This was followed by a very helpful session with Fiona who showed us how she had used the Full English and worked with musicians and dancers to develop a project on mining with a junior class in her school in Barnsley. We all gained a lot from our different perspectives and the notes on the National Curriculum's demands and opportunities will be invaluable.

A farewell session in the village hall with some performances arising from the weekend was followed by a 'Survivors Sing' in The Royal and people were making their way home. Another great weekend as the thanks posted on the Facebook page show. I eagerly await the next such Soundpost Weekend and I'm sure I'm not alone. And you can still get there and back on the bus! [*maybe if you live in Sheffield!* — Ed]

www.soundpost.org.uk

www.vwml.org/thefullenglishproject

Mike Wild

Big Music Night 30

Friday March 11th 2016

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**Henley Community Centre, Church Meadows,
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Folk on the Hill - Aplomb

Green, Tricker & Ward

The Peter Kerr Band - Mike & Kay

And more TBC

Folk & other acoustic music, Instrumentals and more, usually comprising nine acts, leading to a finale.

Proceeds after expenses contribute to
Folk Music Education Programme in local schools.

Further details for any of the above:

Mike & Linda Green 01473-213740

greens@streetlegalmusic.com



Brian Peters Squeezebox, Voicebox Pugwash PUGCD010



Brian's brief description of the contents of this CD is "Old songs and music with melodeon & Anglo concertina". It is truly a tour-de-force from a master of both instruments. There are some real gems on here which will get played in lots of sessions (provided we can get our fingers round them). The songs are well worth a listen too.

It is so good to hear Margaret Peters singing on most of the song tracks. She has a lovely sweet voice that lends itself to unobtrusive and sensitive harmonies. Sarah Matthews plays fiddle and viola on several tracks too - an added bonus.

Brian says that the songs are based on his extensive research on manuscripts held in the Full English collections, but paradoxically starts the CD with *Factory Lords* — a set of verses from a broadside gleaned from a Roy Palmer book, which he has set to a rousing tune well suited to the bitter tone of the poem. Sarah Matthews supplies driving fiddle to complement the melodeon backing. Later there is a striking song called *The Ghost So Grim* in 5/4 time that

deserves to be more widely sung. *Ranzo*, sung to a tune not well-known in these parts has some amazing musical interludes that have snippets of other tunes interleaved between the verses. Very amusing.

There are seven tune tracks which demonstrate Brian's breadth and depth of musical interests, from Playford, village band music, ceilidh tunes, ceremonial tunes and a couple which he has written himself. The last track, Scott Joplin's *Weeping Willow Rag* played with supreme panache shows off Brian's musical dexterity on the anglo which has few equals anywhere. The CD is worth buying just for this track.

Mary Humphreys ~ December 2015

Battlefield Band & Guests Beg & Borrow Temple Records CD COMD 2107 Download COMD 2107



Named after the Glasgow suburb of Battlefield, where the group was formed by four student friends in 1969, The Battlefield Band have now been on the world's roads for over forty five years, distilling their own unique form of the Scottish spirit.

On this latest album from this very professional group we encounter a varied

mix of Scottish and Irish music. Scotland and Ireland are separated by 12 miles, hence the 12 guests in these 18 tracks fusing a marriage of Irish and Scottish genres. It leads to a great album that offers a superb introduction to traditional English-based novices and knowledgeable Gaelic aficionados alike.

The tunes and songs take us back through the sands of time from the legend of Finn McCool, Picts and the Gales, from clans and risings, clearances, the Potato Famine and emigration to industrialisation and a bit of everything in between, showing the magnificent cross-fertilisation of music and song that binds the two nations together yet takes them both throughout the wider world.

The opening track welcomes the listener with a driving set of pumping Scottish Reels featuring the combined playing of Donegal fiddler John Doherty and the chanting of Mike Katz. A rousing and technically accomplished start to an album that follows much in the same vein throughout.

There are also some songs on the album, that recount tales of mining disasters, unrequited love, Jacobite sympathies, etc. – all good combined Gaelic folk traditions. The last reference is to a haunting Irish *Dream Song*, sung beautifully by Christine Primrose, intriguingly translated from Scottish to Irish Gaelic.

Another feature of some of the tune sets is the traditional combination of a Strathspey followed by a reel where the reel is in 2/2 with a swung rhythm, as a release of the rhythmic tension created during the strathspey (4/4 snapped). For those of us used to playing (mainly) English sets where we endeavour to pair tunes of a similar ilk, this subtle change of rhythm and speed makes a refreshing aural experience.

The album notes are superbly comprehensive, giving background on the tunes, songs and guest musicians. This



The Milkmaid

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5th Raintown Seers
19th Damien Barber & Mike Wilson

March

4th Mawkin
18th LongShore Drift

April

1st Lucy Ward
15th David Cambridge

AT THE APEX:

February

12th Fairport Convention
26th Geordie MacKeeman & his Rhythm Boys

March

15th The Poozies

April

2nd Jaquie McShee's Pentangle
9th Martin Taylor & Martin Simpson
18th Treacherous Orchestra
25th Altan

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milkmaidjohn@yahoo.co.uk

www.milkmaidmusic.co.uk

*For Apex Theatre events phone
box office on 01284 758000*

album is well worth a listen for anyone who has interest in the Gaelic genre, and is value in itself for the superbly technical musicianship of all the contributors.

Mike Rudge ~ December 2015

Dave Ellis & Boo Howard **Facebook Friend** **Doghouse Records DGHCD 528**



It is refreshing to hear a singer-songwriter duo which has avoided the cast of thousands on their CD. Although appearing light-textured this set of songs nevertheless deals with some very difficult topics — disillusion, loss of faith, loneliness, relationship breakdown. *God Save Olive Cooke* is a devastating song commemorating a 92-year-old woman who took her own life after losing faith in humanity. Fortunately for the listener, there are one or two more light-hearted tracks — *Two Left Feet* is a jaunty little number with superb mandolin playing from Dave.

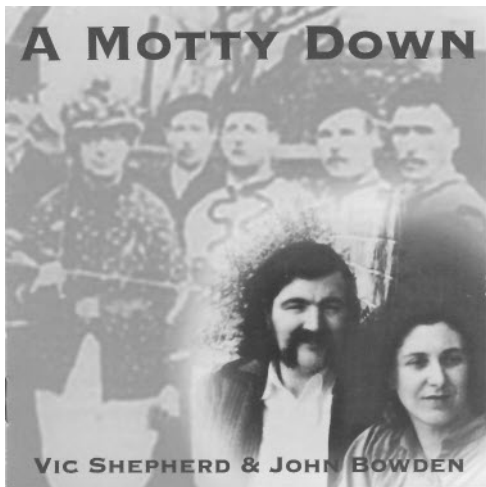
Without overloaded backing music, it is possible to decipher all the complex ideas and language that comprise the songs. Here we have no ballads, no story songs. The songs are all about emotions, filled with metaphors. They make you think, rather than

immerse you in a story. Although my preference is for the latter, it has been a very interesting experience listening to a genre of music that is not one I would normally choose.

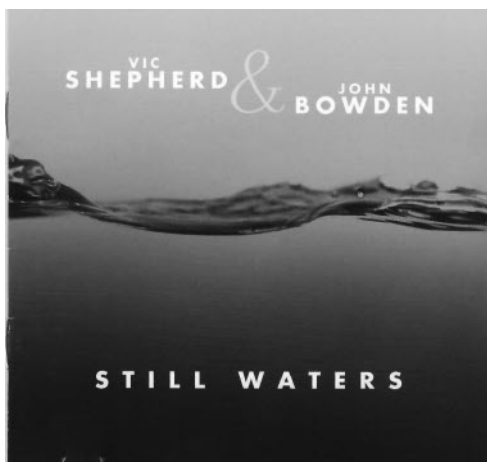
If you like singer-songwriters who sing nicely in tune, with sensitive musical backing, then this is well worth a listen. There is not a duff track on the album.

Mary Humphreys ~ December 2015

Vic Shepherd & John Bowden **A Motty Down** **Still Waters**



Here are two albums recorded 33 years apart by the Sheffield duo Vic Shepherd and John Bowden (not Jon Boden, as John himself points out). *A Motty Down* could be used as a tutorial to all young folk performers; choose some unusual songs, use tasteful accompaniment and above all do not lather the finished product with an omnipresent guitar. I love this CD for these reasons. Seven of the thirteen tracks have North American origins, picked up by John during his student days and the remaining songs are unusual ver-



sions of English songs, some well-known and some not so. The sparse instrumentation is lovely. Two tracks, *Peg'n'All* and *The Cuckoo*, have just John's vocal accompanied by Vic's virtuoso Jew's harp. *Tavern in the Town* is sung by Vic with Dave Shepherd's fiddle accompaniment, and *Press Gang Sailor* finds John on vocals with Vic's recorder and Dave's fiddle, although a drum also appears later, muddying the sound somewhat. However, Dick Shepherd's drumming on the Grenoside song *Six Jolly Miners* (which includes mention of the Motty Down), combined with John's melodeon is perfect. From 1999 to 2006 Vic and John were members of Sheffield's only maritime song group Sheafknot and seven of the fourteen tracks on *Still Waters* are unreleased recordings of this group. Janet Brown, John Fowler, Steve Flude and John Horsey provide the vocal chorus for these songs with John Bowden taking lead vocals. The voices here have mellowed and deepened in the intervening years. Vic's singing of *My Johnny* and reminded me immediately of Norma Waterson. The couple's daughter Lizzie sings along on the chorus in a voice reminiscent of her mum of 33 years earlier. Son Nic plays a lovely whistle melody on *Banks of Green Willow* and other son Richard joins in on percussion on *The Nightingale*. Linda Lee

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- Feb 29 The James Brothers
- Mar 7 Hannah Sanders and Ben Savage
- Mar 14 Winter Wilson
- Mar 21 Gigspanner
- Mar 28 closed — Easter Monday
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- Apr 11 The Askew Sisters
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Welch joins Vic and John on two tracks: *Mer-rimac at Sea* and *Roll the Woodpile Down*.

These two recordings remind us, amidst the current wave of innovation and experimentation-for-its-own-sake, of the worth of simple uncomplicated folk music.

Val Woollard ~ December 2015

Jess and Richard Arrowsmith

Off We Go Again

www.arrowsmithmusic.co.uk



What an absolute gem of a CD for anyone with children, grandchildren, teachers, etc.

How I wish something like this had been available when my own children were little!! Obviously, being a musician and a singer, I always sang nursery rhymes and songs with them, but this would have been brilliant for playing whilst we washed up or did other things together, and we could have sung along to all the great musicians that are on this disc.

Jess and Richard Arrowsmith provide vocals, fiddle, viola, teacup, clapping, feet and bells, plus melodeons (and the voice of a 'distressed llama' in "Old MacDonald"). Additional vocal and sound effects come from

Lucy Arrowsmith and Hamish and Harry Fagan. As if this wasn't enough, they are joined by Jon Boden (vocals), Simon Dumbleton (harmonium and sound effects), James Fagan (vocals, guitar, bouzouki, mandolin, and voices for the pig, duck, east wind and old woman). Fay Hield brings vocals, plus a chicken and a lion voice. Aisling Holmes brings bagpipes and a horse sound to her vocals, and Nigel Holmes adds his vocals, plus a lamb and a lion voice. Nancy Kerr adds her vocals, plus a cow, a lion and the sound of clogs. Jo Maher contributes vocals as well as oboe and cor anglais. Lucy Nelson contributes the whistle playing, and finally, Jo Veal plays clarinet and adds the sound of the east wind.

What a fabulous list, and believe me, it is worth hearing all these songs even if you don't have anything to do with children at all! Everything is played and sung with such life and rhythm... no electronic stuff in sight anywhere... and all of it made me feel really merry without one glass of wine!!

This is a follow up to the 2010 CD: "Off We Go", because so many people loved the first one. Jess and Richard themselves work as a duo, but also with the bands Melrose Quartet, Hekety and Crucible.

I can thoroughly recommend this CD to anyone who appreciates good, honest music-making for the young (and old). Probably the best recommendation comes from my 5 year old grandson Oscar, who, upon listening to it during a car journey with me, said, "Please can we play that again right now Granny?!"

Maggie Moore ~ December 2015.

Decent Scrapers

The John Clare Project

Johnclaremusic.com

The Decent Scrapers quartet (named after John Clare's description of himself) comprise



Sue and John Cubbin, Ed Caines and Paul McCann. The CD was recorded and produced by John Cubbin. There is a track listing of all songs and tunes on the CD itself, but full notes are given on the web site above. Sue, who when working at the Essex Record Office wrote the definitive "That Precious Legacy: Vaughan Williams and Essex Folk-song", is noted for extensive and accurate song notes. She extends her expertise here into the John Clare manuscripts, not just drawing extensively on George Deacon's landmark work but enhancing it with her own researches.

The tunes are played mainly by the full band, though Paul McCann stars on *The Dorsetshire March* playing his duet concertina (ironically, the Crane duet system, not the MacCann) faultlessly throughout. Ed Caines leads most of the fiddle tunes, often at a cracking pace that makes them so danceable and thoroughly enjoyable. Sue joins him on fiddle through some pretty tricky tunes, with John adding guitar accompaniment. It was interesting to hear Sue singing a Canadian version of Bachelor's Hall (the English version from Clare is not quite so long and with a different tune). I was particularly drawn to the song *War's Alarms*, which has only one

verse in the Deacon book, but Sue has discovered the original text which has another verse which she sings here. It was intriguing to hear *The Bud of The Rose* which is textually remarkably similar to Percy Webb's *Yellow Handkerchief*. Even the tune has a hint of the Suffolk version.

Altogether this CD gives the listener a good selection of the songs and tunes that were current in John Clare's time, and, apart from the concertina, would have been a pretty accurate rendition of the sort of sounds he might have heard during an evening in the pub.

This is a must-have for all John Clare enthusiasts. It is also well worth buying for anyone who likes a rattling good tune played in a no-nonsense style, interspersed with some unique songs sung in a delicate and sympathetic way. Lovely stuff!

Mary Humphreys ~ December 2015

Folk and Acoustic Music Nights

**The Ansell Centre, Market Place
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FRIDAYS at 8 O'CLOCK

**Feb 5 East Creek Union
+ Tony Winn**

**Mar 11 Pete Cooper & Richard Bolton
+ Robert Castellani**

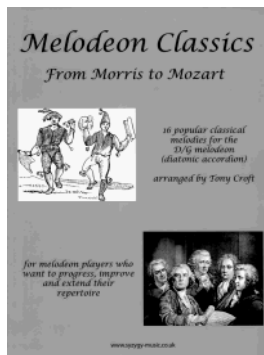
**Apr 15 French Evening with Richard
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Web: www.hadleighfolk.org.uk**

Tony Croft Melodeon Classics www.syzygy-music.co.uk Available on Amazon at £8.95

What a great little book for the beginner melodeon player! It takes you through the layout of the notes and chords, mentioning that there are some variations depending on the instrument. Then we get the bare bones of music theory so you can understand the symbols, the time signatures and most things that will enable you to read a simple music score. It is as much as anyone going to a music session will ever need in order to get by.

Most of the book is taken up with music scores of well-known favourite classical music excerpts with notes and information about the music. The very first piece is *Shepherd's Hey* that Percy Grainger used in his orchestral composition. Here we get thrown in straight away to using two rows, playing across the rows in



order to get the correct chords. There are even indications on when to use the air button. The layout is clear and very easy to follow.

This is a thoroughly well-written book stuffed full of great tunes from

composers such as Vivaldi, Bach and Dvorak. It makes helpful suggestions to get round the variations in melodeons, including what to do if you don't have a B minor chord! There is even a free series of YouTube videos played by Tony Croft at a good steady pace for you to play along with. If your New Year's resolution was to learn to play, or play better, here is the best help you will get all year.

Mary Humphreys ~ December 2015



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Laura Cannell MMus BMus	01508 548659
Capstan Full Strength	01473 743080
Dave Cooper	01328 838271
Folk On The Hill	01473 658487
Alex Goldsmith	07747 186972
John Goodluck	01473 626954
Mike Green & Dave Tricker	01473 213740
The Harvs	01379 640353
High Water Mark	01473 780625
Peter Hood	01502 566656
Mary Humphreys & Anahata	01638 720444
Bill Johnston & Sheila Darling	01473 720344
Kettle Girls	01449 615816
Colin Snell	01284 810454
Maggie & Stan	01449 722615
Norfolk Gallery Quire	01328 838271
Royal Marine Shanty Crew	01255 860432
Triangle	01394 274395
John Ward	01502 588137
XXL	01394 420735

French Music and Dance Weekend in Suffolk

Concert, Workshops and Dance

Friday - Sunday April 15th - 17th 2016

with



Duo Synkro from France



Dave Shepherd & Anna Pack



Gwendal Moele & Paul Riley



Bof!



Richard & Maria

Friday 15th April - 8.00 pm – Folk Club – Concert with
Richard Overton & Maria O'Brien • Gwendal Moele & Paul Riley
Dave Shepherd & Anna Pack • Duo Synkro

Saturday 16th April – Day workshops and Evening Bal with
Bof! • Gwendal Moële • Duo Synkro • Dave Shepherd & Anna Pack

Sunday 17th April – Informal dance and music session

all events take place at

The Ansell Centre, Market Place, Hadleigh, Suffolk IP7 5DL

Information from 07818 417780 / 01473 828745 or email aqwc71@dsl.pipex.com

Club and Session Guide

For amendments to the Club and Session Guide, please phone Mike Lawrence on 01449 766747 or email listings@suffolkfolk.co.uk

If you know of a new session or are aware that a session has ceased to exist, please phone Mike or send the details to listings.

SUFFOLK CLUBS

www.suffolkfolk.co.uk

Social Dance

ALDEBURGH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB. Church Hall, St Peter & St Paul. 2nd and last Wednesdays 11am. Helen Gardner 01728 453993

BECCLES FOLK DANCE CLUB. Tuesdays (not 2nd) 7.30pm. Fortreyheap Hall, The Street, North Cove. Not Aug. Joyce Slater 01502 716430 or Neville 713872.

BURY BAL. French & Breton dance & music workshop: Constitutional Club, 12 Guildhall Street, BSE IP33 1PR. 4th Tuesdays (not Aug or Dec) 8pm. Jan Taylor 01842 763626 burybal@taylord-gardens.co.uk or Steve Kellett burybal@sprezzaturra.com

BURY ST. EDMUNDS: Whiting Street Church 8pm Sundays Feb 7th, Mar 6th, Apr 10th. Mid Suffolk Folk Dance Club 01473 742015/01449 258865

BURY ST. EDMUNDS REEL CLUB. (Scottish). Wednesdays 7.30-9.30pm, St James Middle School Dining Room. Marie Neal 01284 810272

CAPEL IRISH and CEILI DANCING. St Mary's Church Hall, The Street, Capel St Mary, IP9 2EL. Beginners always welcome, no partner required. Chris Haste 01473 311615 or chris.haste01@btinternet.com

CIRCLE DANCING. United Reformed Church, Whiting Street, Bury St Edmunds. folk dancing done in a circle to music from all over the world, no partners needed. 1st Thursdays 2-3.30pm. Jen Larner 01284 705548

CIRCLE DANCING. Drinkstone Village Hall. Thursday 10-11.30 at. Gentle fun dancing in a circle to music from all over the world, no partners needed. Jen Larner 01284 705548.

GRUNDISBURGH FOLK DANCE CLUB. Village Hall. Mondays during term time, 7.45pm. Sally Talbot 01473 735788.

HAUGHLEY: Village Hall 7.30pm Thursday Feb 11th & 25th, then every Thursday from Mar 3rd. Mid Suffolk Folk Dance Club 01473 742015/01449 258865

HIGH SUFFOLK SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE GROUP. Fridays 8pm. September to May. Yaxley Village Hall. Ann Bennoch 01379 641476

IPSWICH ANGLO SCOTTISH SOCIETY. Beginners & Intermediates 2pm Tuesdays at Rushmere Village Hall, Humber Doucy Lane. £2.50. Jim 01473 710215 jim.cranmer@ntlworld.com. Evening groups at Felixstowe & Debenham. Sec Christine Erskine 01206 303375 christine@cerskine.co.uk www.ipswichscottishdance.org

IPSWICH FOLK DANCE CLUB. St John's URC Hall, Cowper Street IP4 5JD. 1st & 3rd Tuesdays (not August) 8pm-10pm. Keith Kingsbury 01473 240272

IPSWICH SHIRTS 'N' SKIRTS. American Square dance. Wednesdays 7.30pm. Kesgrave All Saints Church Hall, (near the Bell PH). Yvonne Holcrost 01394 610548

LAVENHAM SCOTTISH DANCERS. Mondays 8pm. Sep-Apr. New Village Hall. £3. John Busby 01284 830138

LOWESTOFT FOLK DANCE CLUB. Wednesdays 7.30pm, St. Marks Church Centre, Bridge Road, Oulton Broad. Neville Oxborough 01502 713872

LONG MELFORD FRIENDSHIP DANCERS AND MUSICIANS. East European dance. Wednesdays 7.30pm school term time only. Long Melford Old School. Robin Hart 01787 269613

KELSALE Village Hall: Line Dancing. Mondays 11.30am - 2pm. Sue Mallion 01728 604627

STOWMARKET High School, Onehouse Road IP14 1QR. Dancing 2nd & 4th Tuesdays during term 7.30pm. Helen & David Howe 01473 717979
helenmhowe@yahoo.co.uk

ON-Y-VA French Dance & Music Club: Riverside Centre, Stratford St Andrew IP17 1LL. 4th Tuesdays 7.30-8.15pm music workshop; 8.30-10.30pm dance workshop & free dance Lin Barnes 01728 602465 frenchdancer2004@yahoo.co.uk

STOWUPLAND: Village Hall. Combined Dance Clubs. Sunday afternoon tea dance Feb 28th 2pm-5pm. Tickets from Mid Suffolk Folk Dance Club 01473 742015/01449 258865

WETHERDEN: Village Hall. 8pm Fridays Feb 5th & 19th; Mar 4th & 18th; Apr 1st, 15th & 22nd. Mid Suffolk Folk Dance Club 01473 742015/01449 258865

Music & Song Clubs

BURY FOLK COLLECTIVE: Oakes Barn, St Andrew's St South, Bury St Edmunds IP33 3PH. Mondays 8pm. Wednesdays 8.00pm-10.30pm. Sundays 7.00pm-10.00pm. See individual days below for more detail. www.buryfolkcollective.co.uk (see ad)

COME AND JOIN THE BAND: The Ark, Needham Market. Learn traditional tunes in G & D. 2nd Thursdays 7.30pm. Stan 01473 832565, Maggie 01449 722615

EVERYMAN FOLK CLUB: Riverside Centre. Stratford St Andrew. Last Fridays. 8pm. £6 (£5 in advance). 01449 615523 everyman@wheatstone.co.uk
www.wheatstone.co.uk (see ad)

HADLEIGH FOLK AND ACOUSTIC MUSIC NIGHTS: The Ansell Centre, Market Place, Hadleigh, IP7 5DL. Usually the 1st Friday of the month 8.00-10.30pm. Entry £5. Simon Haines 07818 417780 / 01473 828745 (see ad)

HALESWORTH FOLK CLUB: The Triple Plea Halesworth. Every Friday 9pm-11pm. informal singaround.

HENLEY FOLK NIGHTS: Henley Community Centre, Boughton Room. 8pm 3rd Fridays (not Aug or Dec) Mike Briggs

MILKMAID FOLK CLUB: Constitutional Club, 12 Guildhall St, Bury St Edmunds, IP33 1PR. Mainly 1st & 3rd Fridays. John Bosley 07980 840220
milkmaidjohn@yahoo.co.uk www.milkmaidmusic.co.uk (see ad)

STANTON MUSICIANS: Church Rooms, Old Bury Road, Stanton IP31 2BX. 1st & 3rd Tuesdays 7.00-9.00pm. Cost £2. sheet music & tea/coffee provided. Pip & Colin Bedford 01359 251013 mob 07795 412539 p1p@sky.com

SHOTTISHAM The Sorrel Horse: 2nd Mondays Folk nights with featured guests-spots available. 8.30pm. Chris Harvey 01394 411960 chris@jigdoll.co.uk
www.thesorrelhorse-shottisham.co.uk

Club and Session Guide

WAVENEY FOLK CLUB: Gunton Estate Community Hall, Hollingsworth Road,
N.Lowestoft NR32 4DZ. Alternate Fridays. No Bar-BYO. Peter Hood
peterhood@talktalk.net www.waveneyfolkclub.co.uk

Music & Song Sessions (Suffolk)

VARIABLE DAYS

U3A Traditional Music and Song Sessions. Rob Neal 01473 610951
<http://tinyurl.com/u3afolk>

MONDAYS

BLAXHALL The Ship Inn: Monday afternoons "The Company of The Blaxhall Ship" (The Blaxhall Boys) Good old singsong-All welcome 2.00pm 01728 688316
BURY FOLK COLLECTIVE: Oakes Barn, St Andrew's St South, Bury St Edmunds IP33 3PH. Traditional unaccompanied folk singers. 1st Mondays 8.00pm.
BURY ST EDMUNDS The Dove, Hospital Road: 3rd Mondays. Traditional sing & play around the room. Linda & David 01284 764563
BURY ST EDMUNDS Old Farmhouse, Horsecroft: Easy Peasy Music Group. Tune session for beginners. Alternate Mondays 7.30-9.30pm. John Phillips
horsecroft@hotmail.com
THORNHAM MAGNA Four Horseshoes: 1st Mondays. Traditional tunes and songs. 01379 678777

TUESDAYS

MOATS TYE, COMBS, STOWMARKET The Gardeners Arms: Round the Room acoustic busking session. 1st Tuesdays 8pm. Barrie Pearce 01449 673963 Bring own drinks as Pub not trading, glasses available.
MOATS TYE, COMBS, STOWMARKET The Gardeners Arms: Squeezebox evening 2nd Tuesdays 8pm. For players of all abilities to play, practice & gain confidence in a friendly relaxed atmosphere. Barrie Pearce 01449 673963 Bring own drinks as Pub not trading, glasses available.
RISBY Crown and Castle, South St: 1st Tuesdays 8.30pm. 'Sing, Say & Play' Pub 01284 810393 or Dave Cooper 01328 838271
STRATFORD ST MARY The Anchor: Bluegrass session on 3rd Tuesdays 8pm. All welcome Chris 07889 607612
STOWMARKET Winchester's Wine Bar-Bistro, 7 Old Fox Yard: Busking Night. 3rd Tuesdays from 7.30pm. All welcome. Wendy & Allan Winchester 01449 770023 or wendywinch@googlemail.com
TATTINGSTONE White Horse: Bluegrass session on 2nd & last Tuesdays 8pm. All welcome. Chris 07889 607612

WEDNESDAYS

BOXFORD Fleece, Broad Street: Folk Night 1st Wednesdays 8.30pm. All welcome to play or just listen. 01787 211183
BLAXHALL The Ship Inn: Session on variable Wednesdays from 9.00pm. All welcome to attend and join in for a relaxed & informal session. 01728 688316
BLAXHALL The Ship Inn: Shipshape (The Company of The Blaxhall Ship). 4th Wednesdays 8.30pm. All welcome to attend & join in. Music, singing, stepping, stories. 01728 688316

BURY FOLK COLLECTIVE: Oakes Barn, St Andrew's St South, Bury St Edmunds IP33 3PH.
Contemporary Folk 1st Wednesdays 8.00pm (with American Roots & Branches
every third month).

BURY FOLK COLLECTIVE: Oakes Barn, St Andrew's St South, Bury St Edmunds IP33 3PH.
Folk from the Tradition. 3rd Wednesdays 8.00pm. www.buryfolkcollective.co.uk

CRATFIELD Poacher: 3rd Wednesdays. Acoustic 'jam' session'. Roger 01986 798206

EDWARDSTONE White Horse: 2nd Wednesdays. 'Traditional' session. 01787 211211

HUNDON Rose & Crown: Folk club/session on 3rd Wednesdays. Anne 01440 762772
ags@mypostoffice.co.uk

RISBY The Crown and Castle: Last Wednesdays 8.30pm

RUMBURGH The Rumburgh Buck, Mill Road, Rumburgh, Halesworth: 1st Wednesdays
8.30pm. Keshar Whitelock 01986 782258

WOOLPIT The Bull: 2nd Wednesdays in the back room. Traditional songs and tunes
around the room. 01359 240393 or John 07784 260006

THURSDAYS

BARDWELL The Dun Cow: 2nd Thursdays 8pm. Informal music & song. Allen Nurse
01359 250806

BLAXHALL The Ship Inn: Blaxhall Busk hosted by Matt Bayfield. Get together for
musicians & lovers of good music. Open Mike PA provided, bring own leads.
Alternate Thursdays 8.30-10.30pm 01728 688316

EASTBRIDGE Eels Foot: Every Thursday 'Squit' Session. 01728 830154

IPSWICH The Lattice Barn, Woodbridge Road, Ipswich: Alternate Thursdays 8pm 01473
727447 / 274977

IPSWICH Steamboat Tavern, New Cut West: Last Thursdays. Music & song. 01473 601902

KELSALE Social Club Bar: Singaround on 2nd Thursdays from 8pm. All welcome to join in
or just listen. Mike Garratt 01728 603995 mikegarratt94@gmail.com

MARKET WESTON Mill Inn : 1st Thursdays. Informal music & song. 01359 221018

FRIDAYS

BLAXHALL The Ship Inn: Irish Folk Club. Informal evening of traditional irish folk music.
2nd Fridays from 8.30pm. 01728 688316

BOXFORD Fleece, Broad Street: Folk Night 3rd Fridays 8.30pm. All welcome to play or just
listen. 01787 211183

CRATFIELD Poacher: Last Friday 'Busker's evening'. PA available. Roger 01986 798206

GLEMSFORD The Angel: Traditional music and a few songs. All welcome. Last Fridays
8.00pm to ...? Terry Yarnell 01787 281594

LONG MELFORD Cock & Bell, in the back room: 2nd Friday. Mostly song - formal
performances on stage. 01787 379807

SATURDAYS.

BREDFIELD Bredfield Castle, The Street, Bredfield: 1st Saturdays 8.00pm. Acoustic music
& song round the room. All welcome. 01473 274977 or 01394 385927

SUNDAYS

BURY FOLK COLLECTIVE: Oakes Barn, St Andrew's St South, Bury St Edmunds IP33 3PH.
Wired Folk (with PA & sound engineer). 3rd Sundays 7.00pm.

Club and Session Guide

EASTBRIDGE. Eels Foot: Last Sundays Folk session. 01728 830154

IPSWICH The Mulberry Tree: Alternate sunday session 7.00pm. Traditional song and tunes. James Bell 07909 005543

OFFTON Limeburners: Every Sunday. Song & Music session. 01473 658318

PETTISTREE Greyhound: Acoustic singaround on 2nd Sundays from 7.30pm. 01728 74645

SOUTHWOLD Harbour Inn: 1st and 3rd Sunday 'Shindig' sessions. 01502 722381

TATTINGSTONE White Horse: 1st and 3rd Sundays. Busking sessions 01473 328060

SUDBURY Bar of The Quay Theatre, Quay Lane: Acoustic music. Open music nights. Mostly last Sundays 7.30pm. All welcome. See website or 01787 374745 for details.

Storytelling

IPSWICH Margaret Catchpole Pub: The Gippeswyk Storytelling Circle. 1st Mondays 8pm. Storytellers & listeners welcome. Robin Herne robinherne@hotmail.com

NORFOLK CLUBS

Norfolk Folk Association: David Radnedge 01603 615524. Pete Rushmer 01263 577885 peterrushmer@hotmail.com

See also www.norfolkfolk.co.uk

Social Dance

BRANCASTER STAITHE FOLK DANCE GROUP. Approx Monthly on Mondays, Village Hall. 7.30 English/Scottish. Janet Bowles 01485 210587

BRISLEY FOLK DANCE GROUP. Village Hall Mon 7.30pm. Molly 01362 687210 or Steve 07850 343697 stevemfaas@yahoo.co.uk

CROMER FOLK DANCE CLUB. Tue 7.30pm, (not August) W.I. Hall, Garden Street. John Twell - 01263 578224.

JELENKA BALKAN FOLK DANCE GROUP. Hempton Memorial Hall, nr Fakenham NR21 7LG. Monthly Saturdays 2pm. Dawn Wakefield 01328 856582 dawnwakefield@btinternet.com

NORFOLK CEILIDHS. John Innes Recreation Centre Club, Norwich Research Park, NR4 7UH. Fridays see www.norfolk-ceilidh.org.uk for dates. John 01603 812472 info@norfolk-ceilidh.org.uk

NORWICH HISTORICAL DANCE. Norwich High School Thursdays 7.30pm during term time. Harriet Cox. 01603 458447.

NORWICH REEL SOCIETY (Scottish Country Dancing) Alternate Weds. United Reformed Church Hall, Unthank Rd. Contact Janice McKellar 01603 717898

NORWICH WEDNESDAY FOLK DANCE CLUB. Wednesdays 7.30pm, Methodist Church Hall, Chapelfield Road, Norwich. Maureen Parker 01603 613084

NORWICH FRIDAY FOLK DANCE CLUB. (Country/Playford). 7.30pm Fridays term time, Cringleford Pavilion, Oakfields Road, NR4 6XF Val Grogutt 01379 608313.

NORWICH PIED À TERRE. European Music & Dance 1st Wednesdays. 7.30pm Keir Hardie Hall, St Gregory's Alley. Sarah Bates 01603 768463 www.piedaterre.me.com

SHERINGHAM FOLK DANCE CLUB. Mondays 7.30pm (not Aug). St Andrews Methodist Church Hall, Cromer Road. Margaret Farley 01263 820050

STIBBARD FOLK DANCE GROUP. Alternate Fridays 7.45pm, Stibbard Village Hall, near Fakenham. (Not July & Aug) Mary Dugdale 01328 829215

THETFORD FOLK DANCE CLUB. Mondays 8pm, Methodist Church Hall, Tanner Street, Margaret Ince 01842 763183

TROWSE IRISH SET DANCING: Manor Rooms, Trowse nr Norwich.. 4th Mondays 8.00-10pm £2.00 incl tea & biscuits. Peter Jackson 01986 897082
www.irishsocietyofeastanglia.co.uk/dancers

WROXHAM FOLK DANCE CLUB. Church Hall, Norwich Road. Most Fridays 7.30pm. Mick Wade 01692 404447

WROXHAM Church Hall: Barn Dances on Last Saturdays. Michael Ottaway 01603 720414

YARESIDERS FOLK DANCE CLUB. Thursdays 7.30pm, Unitarian Hall, Yarmouth Way, Great Yarmouth. Mrs Gillian Johnstone 01493 843099

Music & Song Clubs

NORWICH FOLK CLUB: Christ Church Centre, Magdalen Road, New Catton NR3 4LA: Fridays 8.30-11.30pm. Guests monthly, song sessions other Fridays. Bridget Lely. 01603 425546 www.norwichfolkclub.net

NORWICH PHAB CLUB: Vauxhall Centre, Vauxhall Street, Chapelfield Road, Norwich NR2 2SA. Tuesdays 7pm. Martin Fuller 01603 404558 www.norwich.phab.org.uk

FOLKSPOT RADIO: internet radio at www.westnorfolkradio.co.uk: Sunday night folk and live music. 7pm-10pm broadcasting from Great Massingham Social Club

SHERINGHAM FOLK CLUB: The Tyneside Club, Sheringham. 2nd Wednesdays. 8pm. Eddie Bailey 01263 821129

ROD WARD



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Club and Session Guide

WAVENEY FOLK CLUB: Gunton Estate Community Hall, Hollingsworth Road, N.Lowestoft NR32 4DZ. Alternate Fridays. No Bar BYO. Peter Hood
peterhood@talktalk.net www.waveneyfolkclub.co.uk

WAVENEY VALLEY FOLK COLLECTIVE: Crossways Inn, Scole IP21 4DP. Showcase events & local artists nights. Bryan Pearson 07958 758602
bernardbaines@gmail.com

WEYBOURNE FOLK CLUB: Maltings Hotel: 3rd Sundays 3pm-6pm. Singers, musicians & audience all welcome. Tony Baylis 01263 588781. tonyandcarmen@btinternet.com

Music & Song Sessions (Norfolk)

MONDAYS

SHERINGHAM Tyneside Club Station Road: 1st Mondays. Singaround. Pete Sampher
01263 826911 Call first.

TUESDAYS

GORLESTON ON SEA Shrublands Community Centre: Tuesdays. Music & Song from
8.30pm 01493 603780

HARLESTON The Swan: Every Tuesday 2pm-6pm. Acoustic songs and tunes. All welcome.
Come and join this easy going happy crowd. Elaine 01379 740238

HEMPTON Bell Folk Music Sessions. The Bell, Nr Fakenham. 2nd Tuesdays. Dawn
Wakefield 01328 856582

NORWICH The Duke of Wellington, Waterloo Road: 9pm. Dougie 01603 441182

RINGSTEAD, The Gin Trap Inn, 6 High Street PE36 5JU: Acoustic session, friendly
atmosphere. Songs, tunes, all instruments. Last Tuesdays 7.45-10.30pm. Adrian
Tebbutt 01553 631697 or Steve Knowles 01485 525264 www.gintrapinn.co.uk

WEDNESDAYS

NORWICH The Gatehouse, Dereham Road: Irish session. 01603 620340

SHERINGHAM The Tyneside Club: 2nd Wednesdays 8pm. Eddie Bailey 01263 821129 (not
Nov, Dec or Feb)

THURSDAYS

EAST HARLING Swan: 5th Thursdays. Informal music & song. Julian Flood 01359 221540

NORTH LOPHAM King's Head: 3rd Thursdays. Music and song. George Estcourt 01379
688007

NORWICH Gatehouse Dereham Road: 9.00-11.30pm. 01603 620340

REDGRAVE Cross Keys: 4th Thursdays. Informal music & song. Julian Flood 01359 221540

WOLFERTON Social Club: The Wolf Folk Club Sing-arounds on alternate Thursdays.
www.norfolkfolk.co.uk Roger Young 01485 600948

FRIDAYS

HINDOLVESTON Village Hall Bar: Last Fridays. Rig-a-Jig-Jig band & friends. Local
traditional music, song & step dancing. Chris 01263 861694
christopherholderness@gmail.com Call first.

SATURDAYS

FLYING FOLK CLUB. Various venues around Norwich. Saturdays approx monthly. Call
Geoff Roberts 01603 429897

RAVENINGHAM Ravenous Cafe, Raveningham Centre, Beccles Road NR14 6NU: 2nd Saturdays 7.30 -10.30pm. Singers, Musicians & listeners all welcome. 01508 548406 mal@norfolkkrugs.co.uk www.mdcannellantiques.com

SUNDAYS

GAYTON Crown: 1st Sundays. Songs & Tunes. 01553 636252

NORWICH Gatehouse, Dereham Road: 2nd Sundays 2pm. Celtic. John Gates 01603 620340

WYMONDHAM The Feathers: Meet in the Hedge session. Last Sundays 01953 605675

ESSEX CLUBS

Essex Folk Association: Janet Barclay 01621 828576 janet@lbarclay.demon.co.uk

Essex Folk News Celia Kemp cakemp@hotmail.com www.essexfolk.org.uk

Social Dance

BULMER FOLK DANCE CLUB. 2nd & 4th Mondays 8.00–10.00pm (Not July & Aug), Bulmer Village Hall. Kate Badrick calls. Wendy Rowe - 01787 375935.

CLACTON & DISTRICT CALEDONIAN SOC. Mondays 7.45pm. Conservative Club, Old Road. Pat Hockley 01255 435237 (1st monday in Sept to last monday in April)

COLCHESTER FOLK DANCE CLUB. Fortnightly, Wednesdays in school terms. 8pm. St. John's Green School. Tom Grady 01206 549176 tomjgrady@gmail.com

MARKS TEY FOLK DANCE CLUB. 1st, 3rd and 5th Tuesdays 8pm. Church Hall. Mary Coffin 01206 211530

PRET A DANSEUR: French & Breton music & dance. 13th Jan, 10th Feb, 9th Mar. 7pm music workshop, 8-10pm dance. The Piatto Cafe, 17-19 Priory Walk, Colchester CO1 1LG lindalicejones@hotmail.com keytothecellar@gmail.com

TOUCHSTONE FOLK DANCE CLUB. Thursdays (not summer holidays & Christmas). 8pm. Wivenhoe Congregational Church Hall. Elaine Wood. 01206 822877.

TRIANGLE FOLK DANCE CLUB. 1st, 3rd & 4th Mondays 7.30pm. Frinton Community Assn, Soken House, The Triangle, Frinton. Liz Bruce 01255 676960.

Music & Song Clubs

COLCHESTER FOLK CLUB: Arts Centre, St Mary-at-the-Walls, Church Street. Mondays 8pm. Elaine Barker 01206 735606. colchester.folk.club@gmail.com Arts Centre 01206 500900 www.colchesterartscentre.com

COLCHESTER WAITS: St Andrews Church Hall, Marks Tey. 1st Fridays-Renaissance & Medieval music on period instruments. 3rd Fridays-any instrument. Lizzie Gutteridge 01206 212466 lizzie@elizabethgutteridge.co.uk

COLCHESTER SLACK FOLK: Old Police Station, Queen St, Colchester CO1 2PQ 2nd Saturdays 2-4.30. www.facebook.com/SlackFolk. 078507732910

HAVERFOLK (Havering Folk Club): Stables Function Suite, White Horse, Chadwell Heath, Romford, Essex RM6 6NU. Wednesdays 8pm. Open session Jam session for instrumentalists until 8.30pm followed by floor spots. www.haverfolk.com, haverfolk@gmail.com

HEMPSTEAD Bluebell Inn: Guests/free music sessions mostly on Tues, other events on Weds & Sundays. Rod & Marion Stokes 01799 599199. www.thebluebellinn.co.uk

Club and Session Guide

HOY AT ANCHOR FOLK CLUB: The Royal British Legion, 7-9 Northview Drive, Westcliff on Sea. SSO 9NG. Every Tuesday 8pm. Tony Prior 01702 715111

STORTFOLK; Royal British Legion 28 Windhill Bishop's Stortford CM23 2NG. Thursdays 8.30pm. Jon McNamara.01279 656664 J.f.mcnamara@talk21.com

WIVENHOE FOLK CLUB The Flag Inn, Colchester Road: 1st Thursdays. doors open 7.30pm music starts at 8pm. Denise Bidewell 01206 827759 a.v.l@online.net.

Music & Song Sessions (Essex)

MONDAYS

LITTLE GREEN Compasses: 3rd Mondays. Myles Barrett 07831815134
myles.barrett@btinternet.com.

TUESDAYS

LITTLE BENTLEY Bricklayers: 3rd Tuesdays Bluegrass. 8pm. 01206 250405

TATTINGSTONE Wheatsheaf: 2nd Tuesdays Bluegrass.

TATTINGSTONE White Horse: Last Tuesdays Bluegrass Chris & Jill.

CHELMSFORD United Brethren, New Writtle St: Every Tuesday Main session in bar 9pm.
Reduced tempo beginners session in back room 7-8.30pm occasional tuesdays.
Fred Field 01621 862608

WEDNESDAYS

FRATING The Kings Arms: On the A133, Clacton side of Colchester. 4th Wednesdays 8pm.
Brenda Perry 01206 230537 07895196656 perrybr@btinternet.com.

HEDINGHAM MUSICIANS NIGHT Snooker & Social Club, Station Rd, Sible Hedingham:
4th Weds. Acoustic open mic session & featured artist. Terry Crouch 01787 460264
onebigidea@hotmail.co.uk.

THURSDAYS

ALTHORNE The Huntsman and Hounds: 2nd Thursdays Meg Crawford 01621 783965

MARGARETTING TYE White Hart: 2nd Thursdays. Informal song & music sessions in the bar. Paul McCann 01277 353388 pauldmccann@hotmail.com

PLESHEY The Leather Bottle: 1st Thursdays 8.30pm. Fred Field 01621 862608

PURLEIGH, The Bell CM3 6QJ: 3rd Thursdays Meg 01621 783965

SOUTHMINSTER Station Arms: 4th Thursdays. Meg Crawford 01621 783965

WOODHAM FERRERS B1418: 1st Thursdays Meg Crawford 01621 783965

WRITTE GREEN Rose and Crown (Ex Blackmore FC) 1st Thursdays, singaround. Dave Andrews 07871 628981 david@andrews714.freeseve.co.uk

FRIDAYS

INGATESTONE Viper, Mill Green: 2nd Fridays 8.30pm. Fred Field 01621 862608

CHIGNALL ST JAMES Three Elms (near Chelmsford): 1st Fridays 8.30pm. Fred Field 01621 862608

ROXWELL The Chequers (near Chelmsford): 3rd Fridays 8.30pm. Fred Field 01621 862608

SATURDAYS

COLCHESTER Foresters Arms, 1-2 Castle Road, Colchester, Essex CO1 1UW: 2nd Saturdays, 5pm onwards (following Slack Folk) song & tune session.
tomashardy@gmail.com

SUNDAYS

BRAINTREE King William 4th, London Road, Black Notley: 3rd Sundays 8.30pm. Fred Field 01621 862608

BRAINTREE The Angel, Bradford Street: 4th Sundays. Fred Field 01621 862608

COLCHESTER The Forester's Arms: 4th Sundays 5.30 to 8.00pm Irish/Celtic session. 07525751513 or bobtracey@btinternet.com. 8.00-11.00pm English, Scandinavian & French Session run by Kieran Fitzgerald, David Shepherd, Emma & Tom Hardy tomashardy@gmail.com.

LITTLE HORKESLEY Beehive: 1st Sunday lunchtime. Carolyn Last 01206 511925

HATFIELD BROAD OAK The Cock, 2nd Sundays 7.30-10.30pm. Mixed music & song, all genres. Chris Brimley 01245 360082 freemusicssession@btinternet.com.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE CLUBS

See also www.cambridgefolk.org.uk and www.peterboroughfolkdiary.org.uk

Dance Clubs

CAMBRIDGE CONTRA DANCE CLUB: Alternate Fri 8pm.

www.cambridgefolk.org.uk/contr/ St Andrews Church Hall, St Andrews Road, Chesterton, CB4 1DH Hugh Stewart 01223 368641



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Club and Session Guide

- CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL CLUB: www.cambridgeinternationalclub.co.uk
International folk dance. 2nd & 4th Mon 8.00pm. Gibson Hall, St Columbas
Downing Place 01480 468359
- CAMBRIDGE SCOTTISH SOCIETY DANCE CIRCLE: www.camscotsoc.org.uk Thurs 8pm.
Unitarian Hall, Victoria Street. Donald Wilson 01954 210683
- CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY STRATHSPEY & REEL CLUB: cusarc.soc.srccf.net Mon (social
dance) Wed (joint with RSCDS) 8-10pm. soc-cusrc-committee@lists.cam.ac.uk
- THE ROUND (Cambridge University English Country Dance Club) round.soc.srccf.net/
Thursdays in University term 8pm. Wesley Church Hall, King St. soc-round-request@lists.cam.ac.uk
- ROYAL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY: Classes Tues & Wed eves. Ladies step
dance monthly Sun afternoons. Highland monthly on Thur eves. Lindsey
Ibbotson 07977 905291
- CAPRIOL SOCIETY FOR EARLY DANCE: Tues 7.45pm. St. Mark's Church Hall, Barton
Road, Newnham. Angela Dyer 01799 521257 ajdyer@hpcb.co.uk
www.capriolsociety.org
- HARSTON & HASLINGFIELD FOLK DANCE CLUB Village Halls on Tues (not
July&Aug). Venue & info: email info@circleleft.org.uk www.circleleft.org.uk
Clive Blower 01223 870741
- HEARTSEASE & ST NEOTS SWEEPS & MILKMAIDS: Thur 8.15pm not summer term.
Eynesbury C of E Primary School, Montagu Street, Eynesbury, PE19 2TD. Patti
Pitt 01234 376278
- HILTON REELS: Hilton Village Hall. First & Third Weds Oct to April 8pm. Torrie Smith
01223 264054 / 07711 147277
- PETERBOROUGH FOLK DANCE CLUB: Weds 7.30-9.30pm. Marholm Village Hall. PE6
7JA. Pat on 01733 266 873 or pfdc0987@gmail.com
- TRIPLE A SQUARE DANCE CLUB. Fri 7.45-10.15pm. The Village Hall, High St,
Hemingford Abbots. Wendy Ward secretary@aaasquares.co.uk

Music & Song Clubs (Cambridgeshire)

- CAMBRIDGE FOLK CLUB. Fridays 8pm. Golden Hind, 355 Milton Road. Marian Treby
01638 603986 enquiries@cambridgefolkclub.org www.cambridgefolkclub.co.uk
- ELY FOLK CLUB. Weds monthly (not Aug) The Old Dispensary, 13 St Mary's Street, Ely.
No Bar BYO 01353 740999 / 01353 664706. Details on www.elyfolkclub.co.uk
- MAYFLOWER FOLK MUSIC. The Portland Arms, 129 Chesterton Rd, Cambridge, CB4
3BA Occasional singers sessions & concerts Debbie Patterson-Jones 01954 205433
- ST NEOTS FOLK CLUB: Last Tuesdays weekly(not Aug) 8.15pm. The Priory Centre,
Priory Lane, St. Neots. PE19 2BH. Roger Pitt 01234 376278
www.stneotsfolkclub.co.uk

Music & Song Sessions

SUNDAYS

Hardwicke Arms, Arrington, 1 pm alternate Sundays Nigel Pennick .Check with pub before
travelling.

MONDAYS

CHATTERIS The Honest John: Third Mondays 9pm. Keith Cheale 01354 652868

HOLYWELL Old Ferry Boat Inn, PE27 4TG Nr St Ives. 3rd Mondays Round the Room acoustic music. Come & play, sing or listen 7.30pm. Clive Quick 01480 468177 c.j.q@btinternet.com

MELBOURNE The Black Horse Orchard Road. Alternate Mons 8pm. Greenshoots Slow Session Starting from the dots. Paul Hardy 01223 263232
www.greenshootsmusic.org.uk

TUESDAYS

CAMBRIDGE The Boot, Histon High Street: First Tuesdays 8.30pm. Crofters Folk session. Contact: Dick Brading 01223 232 770

GREAT WILBRAHAM Meml Hall Social Club, Angle End: Second Tue. Mainly English tunes. David Dolby 01440 783280

WEDNESDAYS

ELY The Kings Arms, St. Marys St, Ely: Last Weds 8.00-11.00pm Singarounds Liam Browne 01353 659614 : mob.07876 672166 liamdebrun@outlook.com

RAMSEY Railway Inn, 132 Great Whyte: 2nd & 4th Wednesdays. Backroom Acoustic Music Club. Jools 07771 748247 Nigel 07756 468910 backroomacoustic@hotmail.co.uk
www.thevac.co.uk

THURSDAYS

BURWELL FOLK CLUB: Ex Service and Social Club 8:30-11. Michael Freaney, tel. 01638 610458, 3rd Thursdays See Burwell Folk on Facebook.



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Date Club

Guest

Jan 2016

28 Everyman Folk Club The Foxglove Trio

Feb 2016

Mon	1 Colchester Folk Club	The Churchfitters
Tue	2 Romford Folk Club	Open Night
	St Neots Folk Club	Maz O'Connor
	Hoy at Anchor Folk Club	Tom Lewis
Wed	3 Hoy at Anchor Folk Club	Hoy Singers session @ The Crooked Billett
Fri	5 Hadleigh Folk & Acoustic	Music Nights — East Creek Union + Tony Winn
	Milkmaid Folk Club	Raintown Seers
	Cambridge Folk Club	Jim Page + Jackson Creek Band
Sat	6 Riverside Folk Day	See advert for details
Mon	8 Colchester Folk Club	The Changing Room
	Sorrell Horse Folk Club, Shottisham	— Bards of the Heath
Tue	9 Romford Folk Club	Open Night featuring Martin & Jacque Gregory
	St Neots Folk Club	Perkelt
	Hoy at Anchor Folk Club	Damien Barber & Mike Wilson
Wed	10 Happy Sam Folk Events	Benny Graham
Fri	12 Milkmaid @ The Apex, Bury St Edmunds	— Fairport Convention
	Cambridge Folk Club	Brooks Williams + Clark & Zuppari
	Waveney Folk Club	Mary Humphreys and Anahata
Sat	13 Norwich Friday Folk Dancers	Bawburgh VH — Valentines Dance
	Folk at The Cut, Halesworth	— Tannahill Weavers
Mon	15 Colchester Folk Club	Phillip Henry & Hannah Martin
Tue	16 Romford Folk Club	Open Night
	St Neots Folk Club	North Sea Gas
	Hoy at Anchor Folk Club	Open Night
Wed	17 Ely Folk Club	Keith Donnelly
Fri	19 Milkmaid Folk Club	Damien Barber & Mike Wilson
	Cambridge Folk Club	Clifford's Bophouse Blues + Anto Morra
Sat	20 Ceilidhs on the Move, Clopton Village Hall, IP13 6QN	— Ducking and Diving
Mon	22 Colchester Folk Club	Moirai
Tue	23 Romford Folk Club	25th Anniversary Celebrations
	St Neots Folk Club	Round the Room
	Hoy at Anchor Folk Club	Moirai
Fri	26 Everyman Folk Club	Pete Coe & Alice Jones: The Search for Five Fingered Frank
	Milkmaid @ The Apex, Bury St Edmunds	— Gordie MacKeeman & His Rhythm Boys
	Norwich Folk Club	The Changing Room
	Norfolk Ceilidhs, John Innes Recreation Centre, Norwich	— The Keel Band

- | | | |
|--------|--|--------------------------------|
| | Cambridge Folk Club | Sally Barker + Richard Wildman |
| | Waveney Folk Club | Hannah Sanders |
| Sun 28 | Mid Suffolk Folk Dance Club, Stowupland Village Hall | — Sunday afternoon Tea Dance |
| Mon 29 | Colchester Folk Club | The James Brothers |

March 2016

- | | | | |
|-----|----|---|--|
| Tue | 1 | Romford Folk Club | Open Night |
| | | St Neots Folk Club | Steve Turner |
| | | Hoy at Anchor Folk Club | North Sea Gas |
| Wed | 2 | Hoy at Anchor Folk Club | Hoy Singers session @ The Crooked Billett |
| Thu | 3 | | |
| Fri | 4 | Milkmaid Folk Club | Mawkin |
| | | Cambridge Folk Club | Open Stage with Judy Buchanan, Dave Jenkins, Marion Treby |
| Sun | 6 | Diss Corn Hall on Tour @ Garboldisham Village Hall | — Churchfitters |
| | | The Apex, Bury St Edmunds | — Otava Yo |
| Mon | 7 | Colchester Folk Club | Hannah Sanders & Ben Savage |
| Tue | 8 | Romford Folk Club | Open Night |
| | | St Neots Folk Club | Pete Coe & Alice Jones: The Search for Five Fingered Frank |
| | | Hoy at Anchor Folk Club | Winter Wilson |
| Fri | 11 | Hadleigh Folk & Acoustic Music Nights | — Pete Cooper and Richard Bolton + Robert Castellani |
| | | Henley Community Centre, Henley, Ipswich IP6 0RP | Big Music Night 30 |
| | | Cambridge Folk Club | Sunjay Brayne + Matt & Erin Cudby |
| | | Waveney Folk Club | Lynne Heraud & Pat Turner |
| Sat | 12 | Suffolk Folk Playford Ball, Woodbridge Community Hall | — Fendragon + Andrew Swaine |
| Mon | 14 | Colchester Folk Club | Winter Wilson |
| | | Sorrell Horse Folk Club, Shottisham | — The Twisty Turns |
| Tue | 15 | Milkmaid @ The Apex, Bury St Edmunds | — The Poozies |
| | | Romford Folk Club | Open Night |
| | | St Neots Folk Club | Open Stage |
| | | Hoy at Anchor Folk Club | Craobh Rua |
| Wed | 16 | Folk at The Electric Palace, Harwich | — Craobh Rua St Patrick's Special |
| | | Ely Folk Club | Jim Moray |
| Fri | 18 | Happy Sam Folk Events | Tom McConville |
| | | Norwich Folk Club | The Askew Sisters |
| | | Milkmaid Folk Club | Longshore Drift |
| | | Cambridge Folk Club | Sam Carter + David Cambridge |
| | | Norfolk Ceilidhs, John Innes Recreation Centre, Norwich | — Ethel's Cats |
| Sat | 19 | Ceilidhs on the Move, Clopton Village Hall, IP13 6QN | — Kegs |
| | | Folk at The Cut, Halesworth | — Gigspanner |

Events Diary **What, where and when**

	EATMT, Mendlesham	Melodeons & More
Sun 20	EATMT, Mendlesham	Melodeon Maintenance Day
Mon 21	Colchester Folk Club	Gigspanner
Tue 22	Romford Folk Club	Open Night featuring the Broadside Boys
	St Neots Folk Club	Tom Lewis
	Hoy at Anchor Folk Club	Open Night
Fri 25	Everyman Folk Club	Vicki Swan, Jonny Dyer & John Dipper
	Cambridge Folk Club	Showcase: The Broadside Boys, The Larks, Rosie Eade
	Waveney Folk Club	Singers Night
Mon 28	Colchester Folk Club	closed Easter Monday
Tue 29	Romford Folk Club	Open Night
	St Neots Folk Club	Round the Room
	Hoy at Anchor Folk Club	Quicksilver
Wed 30	Mayflower Folk Music	Sam Kelly & James Francis

April 2016

Fri 1	Milkmaid Folk Club	Lucy Ward
Sat 2	Milkmaid @ The Apex, Bury St Edmunds — Jacqui McShee's Pentangle	
Mon 4	Colchester Folk Club	Moore, Moss & Rutter
Tue 5	Romford Folk Club	Open Night
	St Neots Folk Club	Ninebarrow
	Hoy at Anchor Folk Club	Tom McConville & Leonard Brown
Fri 8	Norwich Folk Club	The Dovetail Trio
	Waveney Folk Club	Ninebarrow
Sat 9	Milkmaid @ The Apex, Bury St Edmunds — Martin Taylor & Martin Simpson	
Mon 11	Colchester Folk Club	The Askew Sisters
	Sorrell Horse Folk Club, Shottisham — The Ross Burkitt Trio	
Tue 12	Romford Folk Club	Open Night
	St Neots Folk Club	Quicksilver
	Hoy at Anchor Folk Club	Dave Ellis & Boo Howard
Wed 13	Ely Folk Club	Lucy Ward
Thu 14	The Apex, Bury St Edmunds — Feast of Fiddles	
Fri 15	Milkmaid Folk Club	David Cambridge
	Norfolk Ceilidhs, John Innes Recreation Centre, Norwich — The Valiant Dance Band	
	Hadleigh Folk & Acoustic Music — French Music & Dance Weekend: Dave Shepherd & Anna Pack, Duo Synkro, Richard Overton & Maria O'Brien, Gwendal Moële & Paul Riley	
Sat 16	Hadleigh Folk & Acoustic Music — French Music & Dance Weekend	
	Ceilidhs on the Move, Clopton Village Hall, IP13 6QN — Inertia Reel	
	The Apex, Bury St Edmunds — Treacherous Orchestra	
Sun 17	Blaxhall Ship	The Chorus Cup
Mon 18	Colchester Folk Club	Kathryn Roberts & Sean Lakeman

		Milkmaid @ The Apex, Bury St Edmunds — Treacherous Orchestra
Tue	19	Romford Folk Club Guest Night with 1940's theme
		St Neots Folk Club The Worthy's + Tony & Karen
		Hoy at Anchor Folk Club Open Night
Fri	22	Happy Sam Folk Events Peter & Barbara Snape
		Waveney Folk Club Daniel Nestlerode
Mon	25	Colchester Folk Club The Dovetail Trio
		Milkmaid @ The Apex, Bury St Edmunds — Altan
Tue	26	Romford Folk Club Open Night
		St Neots Folk Club Round the Room
Wed	27	The Apex, Bury St Edmunds — Red Hot Chilli Pipers
Fri	29	Everyman Folk Club The Wilson Family

May 2016

Sun	1	Blaxhall Ship Percy Webb Memorial Trophy
Mon	2	Colchester Folk Club closed for Bank Holiday
Tue	3	St Neots Folk Club Open Stage
Fri	6	Hadleigh Folk & Acoustic Music Nights — Na Mara + Swallow and the Wolf
		Waveney Folk Club Keith Christmas
		Cromer Pier Folk on the Pier 2016
Sat	7	Cromer Pier Folk on the Pier 2016
Sun	8	Cromer Pier Folk on the Pier 2016
Tue	10	St Neots Folk Club Jimmy Aldridge & Sid Goldsmith
		Hoy at Anchor Folk Club Kieren Goss
Fri	13	Norfolk Ceilidhs, John Innes Recreation Centre, Norwich — Skylarking
Tue	17	St Neots Folk Club Clive Gregson

Event and Venue Contact Details

The Apex	www.theapex.co.uk 01284 758000
Big Music Night	greens@streetlegalmusic.com 01473 213740
Bury Folk Collective	www.buryfolkcollective.co.uk Brian Kew 01284 717199 twitter.com/buryfolk
Blaxhall Ship	www.blaxhallshipinn.co.uk 01728 688316
Cambridge Corn Exchange	www.cornex.co.uk Box Office 01223 357851
Cambridge Folk Club	www.cambridgefolkclub.co.uk Marion Treby 01638 603986
Ceilidhs on the Move	cotm.suffolkfolk.co.uk Christine 01395 383329 christine@sills12.fsnet.co.uk
Colchester Folk Club	www.colchesterartscentre.com colchester-folk-club@ntlworld.com 01206 500 900
Diss Corn Hall	www.disscornhall.co.uk Box Office 01379 652241

Electric Palace, Harwich	www.electricpalace.com/index.php?topic=folkBox office 07870 620273, folk@electricpalace.com
Ely Folk Club	www.elyfolkclub.co.uk Ruth Bramley 01353 740999
Everyman Folk Club	www.wheatstone.co.uk/everyman Steve/Mary 01449 615523
FaB Club	www.fabclubgrays.com fabclubgrays@googlemail.com
Hadleigh Folk and Acoustic Music Nights	www.hadleighfolk.org.uk 07818 417780 info@hadleighfolk.org.uk
Halesworth Cut	newcut.org Manager 01986 873285 , Box office 0845 6732123
Happy Sam Folk Events	happysam.co.uk happysam@reallyneat.co.uk
Haverhill Arts Centre	www.haverhillartscentre.co.uk 01440 714140 (box office)
Hoy at Anchor Folk Club	www.ridgeweb.co.uk/hoy.htm Tony Prior 01702 715111
Mayflower Folk Music	www.mayflowerfolkclub.org.uk deb.patjones@gmail.com
Mid Suffolk Folk Dance Club	01473 742015 or 01449 258865
Norfolk Ceilidhs	www.norfolk-ceilidh.org.uk info@norfolk-ceilidh.org.uk John 01603 812472
Milkmaid Folk Club	www.milkmaidmusic.co.uk John Bosley milkmaidjohn@yahoo.co.uk
Norwich Folk Club	norwichfolkclub.net Bridget Lely 01603 425546 bridget.lely@gmail.com
Norwich Friday Folk Dancers	Val Grogutt 01379 608313
Norwich Historical Dance Group	www.norwichhistoricaldance.org.uk
Norwich PHAB Club	norwich.phab.org.uk Martin Fuller 01603 404558
St Neots Folk Club/Festival	www.stneotsfolkclub.co.uk Roger/Patti Pitt 01234 376278
Romford Folk Club	www.romfolk.com romford.folkclub@btinternet.com Mick Brown 020 8592 2409 or 07757 497 584
Sorrel Horse Music	www.thesorrelhorse-shottisham.co.uk chris.harvey8@btinternet.com
Waveney Folk Club	www.waveneyfolkclub.co.uk Peter Hood peterhood@talktalk.net
Waveney Valley Folk Collective	Bryan Pearson 07958 758602 bernardbaines@gmail.com
Weybourne Folk Weekend	www.WebbunFolkFest.com Tony Baylis 01263 588781 tonyandcarmen@btinternet.com
Wivenhoe Folk Club	www.wivenhoe.gov.uk/Orgs/folkclub/Brian 01206 823877 or Denise 01206 827759

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FOLKSPOT RADIO live music show broadcast every Sunday between 7 and 10 over the internet through www.westnorfolkradio.co.uk

THANK GOODNESS IT'S FOLK 10:00-12:00 Friday morning folk show on Sheffield Live! www.sheffieldlive.org presented by Dave Eyre.

MIKE NORRIS'S CLASSIC FOLK PROGRAMME broadcasts on 'The Wireless' (www.thewirelessradio.com) at 7pm-9pm Mondays and listen again on the EFDSS website at www.efdss.org/listen.

MIKE HARDING FOLK SHOW weekly podcast www.mikehardingfolkshow.com

PUBLICATIONS and WEB

ENGLISH DANCE & SONG. Quarterly publication of EFDSS. 2 Regent's Park Road, London NW 7AY 0207 485 2206 www.efdss.org

EFN. (Essex Folk News). Quarterly. Editor/adverts/review: Editor Celia Kemp cakemp@hotmail.com www.essexfolk.org.uk

FOLK LONDON. Bi-Monthly. Editors Peter Crabb-Wyke and Sue West phone 01494 791231 / 020 8509 0545 email folklondon@hotmail.com www.folklondon.co.uk

FOLK LEADS. Folk Songs & Customs. Sam Dodds & Ed Lawrence 01977 685122 (Leeds) ed.sam.music@virgin.net www.grovefolkclub.org.uk

FOLK ORBIT. Clubs & Events in England & Wales. Colin Matthews 01244 313892 (Chester) folkorbit@yahoo.co.uk www.folkorbit.co.uk

LITTLEBIRDTOLDME Norfolk and North Suffolk Folk diary, listings, venues. <http://littlebirdtoldme.info>

LIVING TRADITION. National coverage Magazine. Bi-monthly. PO Box 1026 Kilmarnock KA2 0LG 01563 571220 www.folkmusic.net

fROOTS. National monthly covering folk and world music available from newsagents www.frootsmag.com

NORFOLK FOLK LIST. Clubs & Sessions. 3 issues per year (November, March & July). David Radnedge, 20 Kenneth McKee Plain, Norwich 01603 61554

NORFOLK FOLK DIRECTORY. www.norfolkfolk.co.uk

PETERBOROUGH FOLK DIARY. For Peterborough, North Cambridgeshire, South Lincolnshire, East Northamptonshire & West Norfolk. www.peterboroughfolkdiary.org.uk

PUDDINGSTONE. Hertfordshire. 3 issues per year. Adrian Burrows, 1 Leyland Avenue, St Albans, AL1 2BD

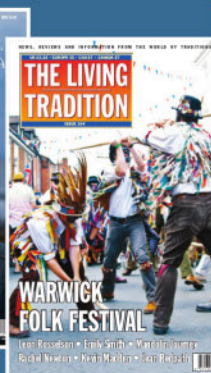
SET & TURN SINGLE. Bi-monthly newsletter for folk dancers. Also a directory of Dance Clubs, Bands, Callers, & Dance Display Teams. Chris Turner, 0208 889 0634 www.setandturnsingle.org.uk 9 Glendale Avenue, London N22 5HL

THE GRAPEVINE. Free monthly music 'What's On' in East Anglia available from music venues www.grapevinelive.co.uk 01473 400810

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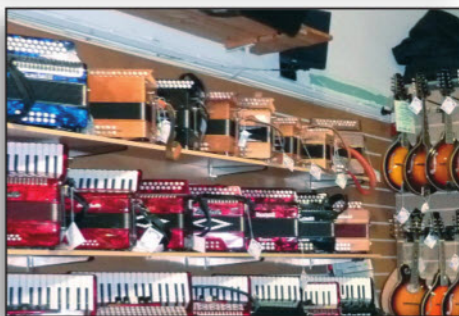
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