FOLK IN CORNWALL

EDITOR: John Tremaine. 7 The Moors, Lostwithiel, PL22 0BX mail@folkincornwall.co.uk Tel: 01208 872124

Facebook - www.facebook.com/folkincornwallmagazine

Website - www.folkincornwall.co.uk

ISSUE NUMBER FIVE

JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH 2018

WELCOME to Issue 5 of Folk in Cornwall. It may not seem like it but we have now been going for a year. So it seems like a good time to take stock of where we are and how we might develop in the future.

The good news is that the magazine has achieved its short-term goal of becoming established in its new substantial handy A5-sized format with added features to hopefully generate interest to a wider audience.

For this to happen, extra advertising has been taken on board to help offset the considerable added costs of printing and postage. However, existing advertising, subscriptions and the many generous donations received during the year continues to be the beating heart of this publication, and your magazine remains a non profit-making exercise.

The current format means we can adjust the size fairly easily to match the material available, as we did several times during last year. I suppose we could

Continued on Page 2



Bodmin Folk Club



HELP US CELEBRATE OUR 50th BIRTHDAY

Saturday, 19th May 2018 at WADEBRIDGE TOWN HALL
BUY ENTRY TO 2 CONCERTS WITH A WHOLE DAY TICKET
BAR and HOT DRINKS/LIGHT REFRESHMENTS OPEN DURING CONCERTS

VOCAL & LOCAL CONCERT

Baldrick's Plan
Sue Franklin & Tim Brine
Geoff Lakeman
Rum & Shrub Shantymen
(in order of appearance)
2.00 pm to 5.00 pm

FINAL CONCERT

LANKUM
Nancy Kerr & James Fagan
Tom Dale
Viv Legg
(in reverse order of appearance)
7.30 pm to 11.00 pm

Tickets just £25 for 6¹/₂ hours of GREAT entertainment Purchase tickets from crbo.co.uk 01726 875900, TICs in Cornwall. Bodmin Folk Club on a Friday night or Mike on 01726 816454

Continued from Page 1

change from black and white to colour, but that would lead to increased costs and complications that I don't really feel ready to contemplate at the moment.

I sort of started the magazine on a whim, having always enjoyed Folknews Kernow and found it useful, and therefore wanting to make sure that the information Chris Ridley used to provide could continue to be available.

The thing is that there are so many aspects of the Folk scene in Cornwalll that I know little about. I've done quite a bit of Morris dancing over the years – currently bagman with Tywardreath Morris – and I'm happy to go along to a session or two, but that's about it. I've actually found the administration side of Folk in Cornwall fairly straightforward – collecting material, arranging printing and then distributing the magazine etc.

What all this is leading up to is an appeal for correspondents, for anyone who would like to, and is able to write for Folk in Cornwall. I can keep the magazine going in its present format, but I think it could do better. I also think there is a lot going on in the Cornish folk and music scene that we are missing, mainly because I don't know about it.

Folk in Cornwall is, after all, your magazine and I would like to think that it can be a vehicle to advertise the folk scene that you are involved in. I'm afraid contributions would be unpaid, but we can take your articles, edit them into the magazine and print your name at the end.

Finally I want to give a really big thank you to everyone who has supported Folk in Cornwall over the past year. The many messages of support encouragement and donations I have received have made producing this magazine worthwhile.

A big thank you too to Graham Owen for his time and skill in generating the computer ready artwork for each issue that has kept the cost of printing down to an affordable level.

Happy new year to all our readers.

John Tremaine





SULTANS OF STRING

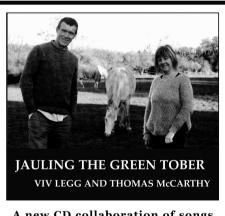
Now here is something different. Sultans of String are a globe trotting multi award winning group from Canada who have been thrilling audiences with their genre-hopping tapestry of Spanish Flamenco, Cuban rhythms, Gypsy-jazz, and middle eastern folk.

Fiery violin dances with kinetic guitar, while funky bass, acoustic strings and electronic wizardry create layers and depth of sound like no other.

Informed by flamenco and Romany traditions, Sultans of String's music has hit #1 across Canada on national radio charts and received multiple awards and accolades, including 3 Canadian Folk Music Awards.

Is this folk music? Who knows? Who cares. You can decide for yourself. Sultans of String are playing at the Hall For Cornwall on Tuesday 23rd January 2018 at 7:30pm. Ticket prices range from £17.50 to £25.50.

Contact Hall for Cornwall Box Office 01872 262466. www.hallforcornwall.co.uk



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Helen Reynolds - whistle/fiddle/voice

Chris Fayers - guitar Chris Humphreys - caller

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Latest Folk News



Since the last issue we have received details of two new sessions.

Carthew session – in the bar of the Sawles Arms pub. This takes place every other Tuesday starting about 7:30pm. For details contact the Sawles Arms 01726 850317.

This is an informal open acoustic music and song session where you might hear anything from unaccompanied singing through folk and blues to Americana.

There is also now a session in Truro. This has been running since July monthly – usually on the first Tuesday - in the bar of the Old Ale House starting at 7.30pm.

Details and videos are available on the Truro Folk Session Facebook page or you can contact the pub on 01872 271122.

This is another friendly open session where anything acoustic can be sung or played.

8.15pm every FRIDAY NIGHT 12th Jan Si Barron 26th Jan Carrivick Sisters 9th Feb Laura Smyth & Ted Kemp 23rd Feb Rachel Newton 9th Mar Sara Grey & Kieron Means 23rd Mar lan A. Anderson All other Fridays: Open House Mike Freemantle (publicity) 01726 816454 Website: www.bodminfolk.co.uk

Finally the established folk club at the Roseland Inn, Philleigh will be meeting on Thursdays instead of Wednesdays this year.

The first meeting will be on Thursday 11th January starting at 7:30pm when the guests will be Wayfarers. See the advert in this issue for more details.

If you know of anything happening that we have not included please let us know.





General information contact tel. 07342 920442 Falmouth Poly Ticket Office tel. 01326 319461

For further information and latest updates, see

www.facebook.com/cornwallharpngurdy

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Time to go a-Wassailing

This is the time of the year to seek out one of the oldest traditions in the UK. The term wassail is believed to derive from the Anglo Saxon toast waes hael or good health, evidence that the custom was around before the Norman Conquest. Wassailing is common throughout much of England, including Cornwall.

Like all worthwhile activities Wassailing generally involves singing, drinking and ceremony. In fact, the term is now applied to a range of different customs and traditions taking place at this time of the year.

One type of wassail takes place in an orchard and is done to encourage the trees, usually apple trees, to bear more fruit in the coming summer. There are many local variations of this ceremony, several of which take place in Cornwall.

A blessing, Christian or pagan, may be included. Sometimes some of last year's cider is poured around the base of the trees, or bread may be hung in the branches. A theme common to all these is the making of a lot of noise – shouting, banging things or even firing guns – to frighten away any evil spirits that may be present.

A, probably modern, variant here is to include Morris dancing in the celebrations. In 2013 a community orchard was established at Lanteglos near Camelford and this is now the venue for an annual Wassail celebration. Tywardreath Morris have been invited to take part in this for the last few years, and will be attending this year's event on the 20th January.

Another type of Wassail is known as the house-visiting wassail. This version, which has much in common with caroling is, perhaps most famously, found in Bodmin.

Each year on 6th January a group of men make their way around the town singing wassail songs to the locals. They dress in top hat and tails, smart outfits comprised of "gentlemen's hand-me-downs" — clothes acquired from the local gentry and passed down from one wassailer to another over the decades.

Bodmin wassail lays claim to having the oldest surviving heritage. The first known record being in the will of Nicholas Sprey, a three-times mayor of Bodmin who died in 1624. As well as providing for his family, he also bequeathed the sum of 13s 4d for an



"annual wassail cup" to promote "the continuance of love and neighbourly meetings" and "remember all others to carry a more charitable conscience".

Sprey – who was also Town Clerk and the MP for Bodmin during his career – directed that the wassail cup be taken to the mayor's house each year on the 12th day of Christmas, raising funds as it passed through the town.

The Bodmin Wassail's relationship with the town's mayors has continued as well, with the group calling at his or her house each year. In 2008 former mayor John Chapman cemented that relationship further by presenting the Bodmin Wassailers with a specially commissioned bowl.

Drinking out of a wassail bowl is an oftmentioned element of the tradition in the songs, and as this type of wassailing increased in popularity throughout Cornwall in the 19th and early 20th centuries, the vessel used was a cup made of wood and decorated with holly, laurel and tinsel

In Bodmin, however, it was always made of pottery, as recalled by Mr Tom Green Snr, who wassailed in the town for over 70 years until the late 1980s. The current bowl was made by Lostwithiel potter John Webb, and is displayed throughout the year in the Tourist Information Centre in Bodmin's Shire Hall.

Recent years have also seen a refurbishment of the collecting box, which the Wassailers use for collecting money for local charities. The box was based on a church collection box donated by Wassailer Paul Scoble's father, an old box which had been used for decades by the bell ringers of St Petroc's Church.

WASSAIL SONGS are an important part of the tradition, with each village or area having it's own variant. Extracts from two are shown below:

LOSTWITHIEL WASSAIL

Now Christmas is coming
And new year begin
Pray open your doors
And let us come in.

CHORUS: With our Wassail Wassail Wassail Wassail And joy come with our Jolly Wassail.

SOMERSET WASSAIL

Wassail and Wassail all over the town The cup it is white and the ale it is brown The cup it is made of the good ashen tree And so is the malt of the best barley

CHORUS:

For its your Wassail and its our Wassail And its joy be to you and a Jolly Wassail.





Folk in Cornwall is also Online

There is now a website – www.folkincornwall.co.uk And a Facebook Page – www.facebook.com/folkincornwallmagazine.

Both are still being developed – check them out to see progress and keep up to date with the latest news on the folk scene in Cornwall

Wadebridge



Folk Club

Churchill Bars, 54 Molesworth Street Wadebridge PL27 7DR

2nd Thurs each month, 8-11pm

Dates for your Diary

2018

Jan 11th: **Open House**

Feb 8th: **Open House**

Mar 8th: **Open House**

Apr 12th: **Open House**

May 10th: **Open house**

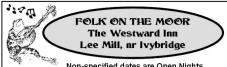


Membership: £5 per annum (free entry first night)

Open House Night:

Members: £2.50; non-members: £3.50 01637 880604 or on door

Promoters: Tim & Sue Brine, Mike & Jan Walford Tel: 07880 592065 or 01637 880604



Non-specified dates are Open Nights

14 Jan Charlotte Carrivick & Kieran Towers

28 Jan Mitchell and Vincent

11 Feb Steve Turner

25 Feb Ben Savage & Hannah

Saunders²

11 Mar Sara Grev 25 Mar Gareth Davies-Jones

For further information or directions visit www.moorfolk.co.uk or call 01752 493360

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Folk in Cornwall



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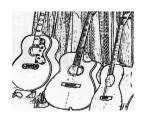
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www.facebook.com/devoransessionsTickets: 01872

262466/www.hallforcornwall.co.uk



DIARY DATES

DECEMBER

Sun 31 TRURO FOLK DANCE CLUB NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE. 8:00pm. At Kea Community Centre, Playing Place, Truro TR3 6ET. Music by The Amycrofters. Bring and Share supper. Raffle. £8 admission on the door.

JANUARY

- Sat 6 FRADDON FOLK DANCE CLUB. NEW YEAR DANCE. 8pm-11pm. At Fraddon Village Halll TR9 6NT. Beryl Jukes. Admission £5 on the door. Bring and share supper. Ken Warren 01209 717759
- Sat 6 BODMIN WASSAIL. From 12pm. Traditional event taking place in Bodmin. For details see the feature on Wassailing in this issue
- Sat 20 FRADDON FOLK DANCE CLUB. DAYTIME DANCE WITH A CALLER'S CHANCE. 9:15am to 4:30pm. Fraddon Village Halll TR9 6NT. Morning, afternoon or both call or dance you choose. £2.50 per session or £4 for the day. Ken Warren 01209 717759.
- Thu 25 CONCERT SARAH MCQUAID. 8.00pm. The Acom Parade Street Penzance TR18 4BU. Special CD release concert. Tickets £11 advance, £13 door.

FEBRUARY

- Fri 2 CONCERT SARAH MCQUAID. 7.30pm. The Royal Comwall Polytechnic Society, Falmouth. Special CD release concert. Tickets £11 advance, £13 door. Contact: The Poly, 24 Church Street. Falmouth TR11 3EG. Tel: 01326 319461.
- Sat 3 CONCERT SARAH MCQUAID. 7.30pm. The Millpool Centre, West Looe PL13 2AF. Special CD release concert. Tickets £10 advance / £12 Door. Contact: 01503 265947.
- Sun 11 CONCERT SARAH MCQUAID. 7.30pm. The Wharf, Canal Road, Tavistock, PL19 8AT. Special CD release concert. Tickets £12 advance / £14 door. Contact The Wharf, Canal Road, Tavistock, PL19 8AT.
- Sat 24 BARN DANCE. 8pm to 11pm. Charlestown Church Hall Church Rd, PL25 3NS. Live music with Jig & Reel. Callers Beryl Jukes & Ken Warren. Bring & Share supper. Raffle. Admission £5. Organised by St Austell Soroptimists in aid of Mid Cornwall Women's Refuge. Contact 01726 816613.

MAY

Mon 7 BLACK PRINCE FLOWER BOAT PROCESSION. Start 10am at Millbrook Village Hall, moving in the afternoon to Kingsand and Cawsand. Contact Lesley Weeks 01752 822271.

Please note that the deadline for Diary Dates and Advertising for the April-May-June 2018 Edition #6 will be March 1st 2018





FRONT'ERE musicians play for Breton, French and other dancing every Monday at the Front, Custom House Quay, Falmouth. Free, informal and all welcome.

(01326) 314573

CONTACTS - SONG / MUSIC CLUBS AND SESSIONS

BATH INN FOLK CLUB, PENZANCE Bath Inn, Cornwall Terrace, Penzance TR18 4HN. alt Weds 8.30pm. All musical styles welcome. Bill Goodyear 07479 606950.

BODMIN FOLK CLUB Band Club, Honey Street, PL31 2DP. Fris 8.15pm. Steve Hunt 01579 348434. See Advert for details.

BODMIN STORYTELLING SESSION Mason's Arms, Bodmin PL31 2JY. Last Mon in each month, 8pm. Moe Keast 01208 75818.

BUDE FOLK CLUB Falcon Hotel, Bude EX23 8SD. Some Suns 7.30pm. Most nights "Come all Ye" - see website for details. Debbie Merritt 01409 254144, www.budefolk.com

BUDE FOLK SESSION Falcon Hotel, Bude EX23 8SD. Most Tues 9pm. Folk Session organised by Bude Folk Club - see website for details. Debbie Merritt 01409 254144. www.budefolk.com

CADGWITH SUNDAY SESSION Cove Inn, Cadgwith TR12 7JX. 1st Sun in each month 2.30pm. Music and song. Dave Greenough 01326 281417.

CADGWITH TUESDAY SESSION Cove Inn, Cadgwith TR12 7JX. Tues 9pm. Singarounds and Music. Dave Greenough 01326 281417.

CARTHEW SESSION Sawles Arms, Carthew PL26 8XH. Alternate Tues from 8pm. Acoustic Music and Song. All welcome. Contact 01726 850317.

CRACKINGTON SESSION Higher Crackington Institute, Crackington EX23 0JL. Monthly Suns. Kevin Johnson 01840 230792. www.budefolk.com

CRANTOCK SESSION Old Albion Inn, Crantock TR8 5RE. Last Sun in each month 8pm. Informal Sing and Play. Peter Brand 07889 282030.

DEVORAN SLOW AND EASY FOLK Lower Hall, Devoran Village Hall, Quay Road, Devoran TR3 6PW. 4th Weds in each month. 6-30-8.30pm. Tuneworks session. All abilities and instruments welcome. Ann Cunningham 07765 423751..

DREAMERS FOLK CLUB Sportsman's Arms, Four Lanes, Redruth TR16 6LR. Suns 7.30pm. Cathy Timmins 01736 850630. www.dreamersfolk.co.uk See advert for details.

FOLK ON THE MOOR Westward Inn, Lee Mill PL21 9EE. Suns 7.45pm. Anton Horwich 01822 853620. www.moorfolk.co.uk See advert for details.

GOLANT SESSION Fisherman's Arms, Golant PL23 1LN. Some Suns 8pm. Open session when the tide is out. John Tremaine 01208 872124.

JOLLY SAILOR TUESDAY SESSION Jolly Sailor, West Looe PL13 2EP. Tues, 8pm. Session by Miner Quay and friends. Brian Young 01503 265367 or brian@minerquay.org.uk.

LISKEARD ACOUSTIC SESSION White Horse, The Parade, Liskeard PL14 6AF. 1st Sun in each month starts 3.30pm. Acoustic session. Andrew Card - Dynlisk@hotmail.co.uk

CONTACTS - SONG / MUSIC CLUBS AND SESSIONS

LISKEARD SLOW AND EASY FOLK Quimperle Rooms, Public Hall, 3-5 West Street, Liskeard, PL14 6BW. alt Mondays, 7-9pm. Tuneworks Session. All instruments and abilities welcome. Jimmy Manley 07759 442059.

LOOE ACOUSTIC MUSIC CLUB Social Club, West Looe PL13 2BU. 1st and 3rd Sun in each month 7pm-10pm. www.looeacousticmusic.co.uk

LOSTWITHEL ACOUSTIC SESSION Social Club, Fore Street, Lostwithiel PL22 0DL. 3rd Fri in each month at 7.30pm. 01726 816787 or email acoustic-sessions@live-for-the-music.org.uk www.live-for-the-music.org.uk. Acoustic music session

MELODEON PRACTICE GROUP Alternate locations. Contact the organiser for details. Stithians or Ponsanooth. Tues 10am-12 noon. jarmins@btopenworld.com

METHERELL SESSION Cross House Inn, Metherell PL17 8DN. 1st Sat in each month, Oct to April. 8.30pm. Mike Warman 01579 382711.

NANSTALLON SESSION The Institute, Nanstallon PL30 5LZ. 1st Fri in each month Sep to May 8pm. Acoustic Music Session £1. Mark Walters 01208 831875

PENSILVA SESSION Millennium House, Pensilva, PL14 5NF. Second Thursday of each month at 8pm. Steve Sutton 07410 447818 steve@stevesutton.plus.com

PENZANCE FOLK CLUB Admiral Benbow, Chapel Street, Penzance TR18 4AF. alt Weds 8.30pm. Mostly round the room – occasional guest nights. Linda Collins 01736 333007. www.penzancefolk.co.uk

PENZANCE PIRATE SESSION Pirate Inn, Alverton, Penzance TR18 4PS. Tues 8.30pm. Tunes session, some songs. Alan Collins 01736 363157.

PENZANCE TURK'S HEAD SESSION Turk's Head, Chapel Street, Penzance TR18 4AF. 4th Fri in each month, 8pm. Singing Cellar. Pete Wray 07740 409072. www.singingcellar.co.uk

PENZANCE YACHT INN SESSION Yacht Inn, Green Street, Penzance TR18 4AU. Last Sun in each month, 8pm. "Songs the Cornish Love to Sing". Pip Wright 07899 890214.

PHILLEIGH FOLK The Roseland Inn, Philleigh TR2 5NB. Monthly (usually 1st Thurs) from Oct-June. Greg Williams 01326 270379. www.philleighfolk.co.uk See advert for details.

PRAZE SESSION St Aubyn's Arms, Praze-an-Beeble TR14 0JR. Mon nights. Matthi Ab Dewi via Facebook.

TRURO FOLK SESSION The Old Ale House, 7 Quay Street, Truro TR1 2HD. 1st Tues each month. Contact 01872 271122.

WADEBRIDGE FOLK CLUB Churchill Bars, 54 Molesworth St., Wadebridge, PL27 7DR. 2nd Thurs each month, 8pm. Mike and Jan Walford, Tim and Sue Brine. 01637 880604 or 07880 592065.

CONTACTS - SONG / MUSIC CLUBS AND SESSIONS

WADEBRIDGE SHIP INN FOLK CLUB Ship Inn, Wadebridge PL27 6DF. 4th Tues in each month. Songs and Music. Mike Walford 01637 880604.

WIDEMOUTH MANOR SESSION Widemouth Manor Hotel, Bude EX23 0DE. Monthly Suns. For dates see club website. Organised by Bude Folk Club. Debbie Merritt 01409 254144. www.budefolk.com

CONTACTS - DANCE CLUBS

CAMELFORD DANCE CLUB Sir James Smith's School, Camelford PL32 9UJ. Every Thursday 7.30pm, Playford, Barbara Perry 01840 212655.

CARBIS BAY DANCE CLUB Memorial Hall, Carbis Bay, St Ives TR26 2TQ. 2nd & 4th Mondays in each month 7.30pm. Christine Donaldson 01736 798050.

FRADDON DANCE CLUB Village Hall, Fraddon TR9 6NT. 1st Tues in each month 8pm. Beryl Jukes 01209 712357. fraddonfolkdanceclub.weebly.com.

FRONT'ERE The Front Bar, Custom House Quay, Falmouth TR11 3LH. Mons 8.30pm. Breton Dancing. 01326 314573.

HEVVA Boscawen Park Scout Hut, Malpas Road, Truro TR1 1SG. Thursdays 8pm. Cornish dancing. Emma Jenkin 01872 261263. www.hevva.co.uk

ILLOGAN DANCE CLUB The Old School Centre, Nance Lane, Illogan TR16 4SW. 1st, 3rd & 5th Thursdays in each month. 7.30pm. Christine James 01872 520368.

LAUNCESTON DANCE CLUB Ambulance Hall, Westgate Street, Launceston PL15 7AE. Tues 8pm. Rosemary Phillips 01566 774491.

MADRON DANCE CLUB Village Hall, Madron, Penzance. 2nd Friday in each month. Irish Set Dancing, 01736 788565.

PENSILVA DANCE CLUB Millennium House, Pensilva PL14 5NF. alternate Thurs. Jan 11th, 25th. Feb 8th, 22nd. Mar 8th, 22nd. Apr 5th, 19th. Ray Buckingham 01579 382402.

ST AUSTELL CIRCLE DANCE The Quaker House, High Cross Street, St Austell PL25 4AN. Thurs 7.30pm, during school term time only. Nina Riddell 01726 833806.

ST EVAL DANCE CLUB Village Hall, St Eval. alt Weds 2.30-4.30pm. Playford. Barbara Bassett 01841 532469.

ST TUDY DANCE CLUB Village Hall, Wadebridge Road, St Tudy PL30 3ND. alt Mons 2.15-4.15pm. Country Dance Club. Jenny Muir 01208 850293.

TRURO DANCE CLUB Kea Community Centre, 44a Old Coach Road, Playing Place TR3 6ET. Weds 8pm. Anne Humble 01872 864011.

Clubs are open to all; guidance is provided so meetings can be enjoyed by beginner or expert alike.

CONTACTS – MORRIS AND DANCE GROUPS

BLUE ANCHOR MORRIS Blue Anchor, Coinagehall Street, Helston TR13 8EL. Occasional meetings only. Pete Reynolds 01326 573706.

BOLINGEY TROYL Memorial Hall, Perranporth TR6 0DP. Thurs 7.30pm. Cornish music and dancing with the Bolingey Troyl band. Chris Humphreys 01209 212019.

CARN BREA MORRIS Village Hall, Carnkie, Redruth TR16 6SB. Mondays, Mixed Cotswold. Josie Tapp 01209 699364.

CARNKIE CLOGGERS Carnkie Village Hall, Redruth TR16 6SB. Tues 7.30pm. Sue Hill 01736 762418. www.carnkiecloggers.co.uk

CAT'S EYE MORRIS Village Hall, Dobwalls PL14 6LS. Tues 8pm. Mixed Border. Sally Stafford 07768 613894.

PENSANS MORRIS Penlee Coach House, Penzance TR18 4HE. Thurs 7.30pm. Mixed Border. Bob Glanville 01736 369310. www.pensansmorris.com

PENZANCE GUIZERS YMCA, Alverton, Penzance TR18 4SX. Weds 5-6.30pm. Cornish and Celtic Dance. Helen Musser 01736 362482.

ROS KELTEK WI Hall, Connor Downs TR27 5DT. Fris 8pm. Celtic. Mark Dungey 01209 860970. www.roskeltek.org.uk

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING Various locations in Cornwall. Various dates and times. Ros McLaughlin. 01872 560786.

TATTERS BORDER MORRIS Contact organiser for details. Thurs. Chris Bevington 01209 821188.

TRIGG MORRIS Bodmin PL31 2DB. Thurs 8pm. Cotswold. Roger Hancock 01208 73907. www.triggmorris.co.uk

TROS AN TREYS Penlee Coach House, Penzance TR18 4HE. Suns 3pm. Cornish Dance. Alex Taylor 01736 332238. www.trosantreys.co.uk

TYWARDREATH MORRIS Village Hall, Tywardreath, Par PL24 2QG. Weds 8pm. Mixed Cotswold. John Tremaine 01208 872124. www.tywardreathmorris.org.uk

WRECKERS BORDER Parish Hall, St Dominick, Callington PL12 6TL. Thurs 7.45pm. Mixed Border. Heather MacKellar 07754 723846. www.wreckersmorris.org

These groups are generally available to be booked for performances. They also give a very warm welcome to new members.

If you are interested, go along for a trial with no obligation.

Keep Folk in Cornwall Alive - Support these Groups!



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SINGING TOGETHER

Lets go back in time about 100 years to when Cecil Sharp and others were collecting the songs that founded the folk tradition as we know it now. Where and how were they being sung? Almost always in pubs and houses where, before the days of mass media, a few people would gather to make there own entertainment.

There might be an instrument or two, often a piano or perhaps a fiddle, but everyone would probably join in. The idea of dividing the group into "performers" and "audience" would certainly not have occurred to them. Of course there have always been professional singers and musicians, but in those days they would not have been performing what, today, is generally regarded as folk music.

Moving forward about 50 years we get to the folk revival. By now we have the foundations of the modern mass media. Instead of gathering round the piano people go to the cinema. listen

to the radio, or play records. There is building, in the general population, the idea that singing is somehow specialised, something you need to be trained to do. The divide between "performers" and "audience" is growing.

Personally the main reason I am involved in folk is for the opportunity to play and sing together — I don't want to be a performer and I don't want to be in the audience. Yes it's nice to just listen to a new song or tune, but for me it is not nearly as important as joining in.

Why is this particularly relevant now? Because this is one of the few times of the year where everyone gets the chance to sing. How many of you were singing carols in the run up to Christmas, at a club or session where words were given out and, because the tunes were simple and well known, everyone joined in. How much did you enjoy it?

Want to join the dancers? This is when they practice -

SEE MORRIS AND DANCE GROUPS FOR CONTACT DETAILS

MONDAYS

Carn Brae Morris, Redruth Carbis Bay Dance Club (every 2 wks) St Tudy Dance Club (every 2 wks)

TUESDAYS

Carnkie Cloggers, Redruth Cat's Eye Morris, Dobwalls Launceston Dance Club Fraddon Dance Club (Monthly)

WEDNESDAYS

Penzance Guizers Truro Dance Club Tywardreath Morris St Eval Dance Club (every 2 wks)

THURSDAYS

Bolingey Troyl, Perranporth
Camelford Dance Club
Hevva, Truro
Pensans Morris, Penzance
St Austell Circle Dance
Tatters Border Morris, Penzance
Trigg Morris, Bodmin
Wreckers Border Morris, Callington
Illogan Dance Club (every 2 wks)
Pensilva Dance Club (every 2 wks)

FRIDAYS

Ros Keltic, Connor Downs Madron Dance Club (Monthly)

SUNDAYS

Tros an Treys, Penzance

Hornpipes - and their place in traditional music

Hornpipes are probably the most English type of tune, much loved by musicians and dancers, especially in the 18th Century.

Nowadays these are almost exclusively in 4/4 time, but were previously mainly in 3/2 or 9/4 time (triple hornpipes).

The "hornpipe" dance takes its name from an old instrument called the hornpipe, a predecessor of the clarinet. Early hornpipe instruments consisted of wooden pipes with spaced holes and reed mouthpieces.

They had a horn at each end; one as a bell (for amplification) and the other to control the air flow around the reed when blowing.

The instrument was first documented by Geoffrey Chaucer around 1380; and its first reference as a dance was in a play in 1485. Both Purcell and Byrd composed pieces called 'Hornpipe' in the 17th Century, and are similar in form to what we know as a 3/2 hornpipe.

There are records of hornpipes for social dancing in Lancashire in the early 17th Century; and Samuel Pepys noted the dance as "The Jig of the Ship", while



Captain Cook insisted his men dance the hornpipe to keep themselves fit.

It was about this time that the violin became established socially in Britain, but would have fared badly at sea with the salt air and damp. The hornpipe was both sturdy enough to survive and loud enough to play over the wind and waves, so it is feasible that this was used aboard ship.

As folk music evolved more tunes were being composed in 4/4 time, but were still referred to as hornpipes. A record emerged of a certain tune which we now know as the Sailor's Hornpipe (do your ears hang low?), performed by the dancer Yates at Drury Lane in 1740.

WANTED

CORRESPONDENTS FOR FOLK IN CORNWALL

No pay I'm afraid, but if anyone feels they might llike to have a go at writing material for **Folk in Cornwall**, either about yourself and what you are doing - or more generally about anything of interest within the folk scene we would love to hear from you. We reserve the right to edit supplied material to fit available space.

He danced "A Hornpipe in the Character of a Jacky Tar" with comic actions of looking out to sea, and actions of a sailor's work such as climbing the rigging and lurching on deck, and was probably solely responsible for the strong association of sailors with dancing the hornpipe.



As well as being played for sets of dancers, hornpipes were danced all over the "British Isles" as solos, and this became a competitive pastime at the time of the Industrial Revolution, where working men and ladies would stamp out the rhythm of the tune wearing their wooden workboots (clogs).

They seem to have been especially popular with navvies, sailors and miners as a form of release from their hard lives. In many western areas (Lancashire, Wales) the thing was to dance in heavy work clogs on the smallest pub table top you could find. The smaller the table the better the dancer.

The emergence of the 4/4 dotted hornpipe rhythm from somewhere on the Scottish East Coast at the start of the 1800s revolutionised the music. The fiddler/composer James Hill introduced it to Tyneside, and the new rhythmic tunes became known as 'Newcastle hornpipes', and their popularity escalated, pretty well eclipsing the 3/2 - which morphed into 9/8 time and were rediscovered as slip jigs.

The dancing became more exciting and competitive, as the main footwear for the working class all over England were clogs, and they saw their heyday from the 1840s to the 1920s. The new hornpipe rhythm became very popular, especially in Ireland, with its bouncy rhythm and groups of triplets.

Strangely enough, many of the dotted hornpipes that travelled to America reverted back to the old straight rhythm.

So how are you to tell the difference between a even-tempoed hornpipe and a reel? According to The Fiddle Handbook by Chris Haigh the answer lies at the end of each line, where the hornpipe will almost always end with three even crotchets. Who are we to argue . . .?

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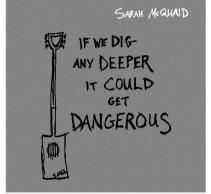
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If we dig any deeper it could get dangerous!

Here in Cornwall we tend to regard Sarah McQuaid as one of our own - despite her having lived and worked in many places. So the release of her fifth album is

bound to be of interest. If we dig any deeper it could get dangerous has been produced by another Cornish connection, guitar legend Michael Chapman, so it is probably not surprising that the guitar is the main featured instrument here.

There are 12 tracks on the album, mostly Sarah's own songs. A couple of instrumental tracks add variety as does a cover of Forever Autumn. Cornwall, and its history of mining, get a direct mention in the song - Cot Valley (in West Cornwall near St Just).



Sarah is launching her new album with a tour that includes several dates in Cornwall and Devon – see the diary page for details. If you can't get to see her in person the CD is now available to pre-order at a special discounted price of £10 from https://sarahmcquaid.bandcamp.com/album/if-we-dig-any-deeper-it-could-get-dangerous.

Northern Rock from Hadrian's Union



Hadrian's Union are a five piece folk rock band from the north of England / Scotland comprising Stew Simpson, Robin Jowett, Brian Bell, Malcolm Bushby and David Pratt

The CD notes say the sound is the product of a dynamic creative process with each member bringing something different to the band.

I've listened to many CDs where I've thought every track sounded much the same – not this one. Here every one of

the 12 tracks, instrumental or vocal is refreshingly different and of high quality.

The CD is available from www.hadriansunion.co.uk and in digital form from I'tunes, Amazon, Google Play etc.

TUNE OF THE SEASON #5

This issue's tune is a lovely slow air written by Thomas Walsh, an accordionist from Dublin, in the 1970s. As an air, it is differentiated from a waltz by its lyrical phrasing, and it remains a very popular tune in Irish sessions. However, it does play well as a slow waltz, and it would be great to see efforts uploaded on YouTube as **Folk in Cornwall TOTS#5**; all instruments and abilities would be viewed with interest.



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Info and advance tickets from Greg Williams 01326 270 379



Every other Monday night 7-9pm

If you're a beginner on <u>any</u> instrument and want to play along with others but are not up to pub sessions, this is just the club for you!

Listen to the beginners' tunes and download the tunebook from the web - soon you'll be joining in with others all at the same stage!

> Meet in the Quimperle Rooms, Public Hall, Liskeard. 3-5 West Street, PL14 6BW

Any Questions?
Tel: Jimmy Manley on 07759 442059

We are on Facebook



4th Wednesday 6:30-8:30pm

For anyone who wants to play along with others at an easy pace and where it doesn't matter if you can only catch one note in four.

You will pick it up over time and we make sure that no-one is left behind.

If you've a beginner any age or instrument, are new to folk or find pub sessions a bit too fast and furious then this is the place for you.

> Meet in the Lower Hall Devoran Village Hall Quay Road, Devoran TR3 6PW

> > Any Questions?

Tel: Ann Cunningham on 0776 542 3751

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