

FOLK IN CORNWALL



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OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER 2018

WELCOME to the colourful autumn issue of Folk in Cornwall, which can't seem to be able to stand still. I had no intention of blossoming into colour, but when there was an enquiry from a new advertiser about having their ad in colour if they paid extra it seemed just too good an opportunity to pass up. So here we are – and I've no idea where the magazine will go next. It will be exciting to find out.

There is no doubt that our “on line” presence has been a major factor in the success of the printed version of this magazine. I'm sure that amongst our readers there will be a complete range of experience and enthusiasm about using the Internet, and other social media platforms like Facebook and Twitter. The pace of technological change can be difficult to keep up

Continued on Page 2

Celebrating Cornwall's Cultural Heritage and Its Celtic Connections

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Continued from Page 1

with – a while ago I heard someone on a BBC radio programme give out all the platforms listeners could use to contact him, and then finish by saying “or you can use old fashioned email”.

Personally while I don't tend to use social media, I do use the Internet, a lot, and have come to the conclusion that those who don't are at an ever growing disadvantage.

The Internet is a tremendous resource; as an example not only can you find the lyrics to almost every song and music to every tune, you can also watch and listen to them being sung and played. Just typing the title into a search engine (like Google) will, almost instantly, make the information appear. And, generally, it's all free.



**Don't forget -
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*

All the Morris and Folk Organisations have websites where you can access information and archive material on pretty much any aspect of the folk scene that you are interested in or want to know about.

I've always been interested in electronics, computers and coding so when I started Folk in Cornwall and realised it should have a website I decided to have a go at producing it myself from scratch. I'd never done it before so had quite a steep learning curve.

I did it by getting the information I needed from the Internet. Not only the information. All the resources I needed including software - apps in modern jargon – were available for me to download. And they were all free.

Some of you reading this will think I've stated the obvious. Some of you will think it of no interest whatsoever. Maybe some of you will be a bit interested. If you're one of the latter please have a go and see what you can find online – it's all out there.

John Tremaine

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TO HEAR ABOUT
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FOLK IN CORNWALL**

ADVERTISING RATES FOR FOLK IN CORNWALL

To Advertise in Folk in Cornwall please contact the editor. Rates (per column centimetre) are as follows: Front page £1.50, back page £1.25, elsewhere £1.00. Please enquire for colour advertising rates.

Please note that the last date for inclusion in the next issue will be Dec. 1st 2018. Folk in Cornwall intends to keep our folk community informed. Please support our advertisers and spread the word! Donations also kindly appreciated to sustain and improve this publication.



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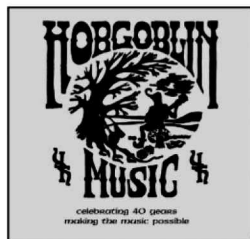
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Latest Folk News



It's not that often that a new morris side comes into being in Cornwall so the main news this month is the formation of Common Morris – see the article in this issue for more details.

Paul White of Common Morris has also started a monthly music and song session in St. Cleer at the Market Inn.

Three other sessions have been added for this issue, all have been running for a while without us knowing about them. They are Cornish themed sessions in Hayle and Luxulyan and the Millbrook Folk Club.

If you know of any other clubs or sessions we don't list please let us know so we can include and publicise them – it's what we are for after all.

The Pirate Inn in Penzance has recently got a new landlord. As a result the session there, one of the several running in Penzance, has had to move. They have found a new home at the Dock Inn on Quay street and still meet every Tuesday evening. We have renamed it the Penzance Dock Inn session in our listings.

Moving on to less happy things we have to report that Ros Keltic have decided to cease operations due to low numbers.

I have also heard from Ray Buckingham, the organiser of Pensilva Dance Club. After running the club for many years Ray has decided to retire at the end of this year. At the moment the future of the club is uncertain.



Bodmin Folk Club

bodminfolk@yahoo.com

Every Friday from 20.00 at

St Petroc's Church Hall, Priory Rd., Bodmin,
PL31 2DP (next to Enterprise Rent-a-Car)



October 12th

YOU ARE WOLF

October 26th

YE VAGABONDS

November 2nd

THOMAS MCCARTHY

November 16th

BROWN BOOTS

All other evenings are
Open House

(please check for details)



FOLK ON THE MOOR
The Westward Inn
Lee Mill, nr Ivybridge

Non-specified dates are Open Nights

7 Oct **Kevin Dempsey**
21 Oct **Craig/Willoughby**
4 Nov **Stephen Fearing**
18 Nov **Jody Kruskal**
2 Dec **Jigantics**
16 Dec **Johnny Coppin & Co**
"All on a Winter's Night"

SUNDAYS
7.45PM

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

Plump Dead Thighs & Pretty Blue Eyes With The Hamoaze Band

After years of playing their own brand of original and traditional “folk-ish” music, heavy on the harmony lines and light of touch in the arrangements, The Hamoaze Band (Joshua Lacey Roberts on guitars and vocals, Nicky Roberts on keyboards and vocals, Jo Vening on vocals and Ryan Evans on fiddle and vocals) has come up with a whole new show.

“Plump Dead Thighs and Pretty Blue Eyes” takes its title from a lyric in the traditional Scots song Twa Corbies; it’s a theatrical concert based on the great tradition of the murder ballad.

Featuring plenty of off-kilter humour and a wide selection of ballads, there are character monologues from each of the band as they portray victims, murderers and witnesses exploring the histories and backgrounds of the songs.

Some of the songs have been taken from Victorian broadsides, sold at public executions by enterprising people with access to a printing press: they would write a simple ballad of the condemned felon’s dastardly deeds so the assembled throng could sing them to pass the time before the main event!

The tunes might have been lost, but The Hamoaze Band has written new ones. There are also traditional songs such as The Two Sisters and Billy Taylor alongside a couple of more up-to-date murder ballads from the late 20th century.

The show was successfully previewed in August of this year and there is now a series of dates lined up for the winter and early spring season, some in Cornwall, and performances booked for the Bath Fringe Festival in early June with more to follow.



The confirmed Cornish dates so far for this winter:

Saturday November 10th:
The Millpool Centre, Looe. Doors open 7:30pm, on stage 8pm. Tickets £8 from www.thehamoazeband.co.uk

Saturday January 26th:
Dowderry & Seaton Village Hall. Doors open 7:30pm, on stage 8pm. Tickets £8 from www.thehamoazeband.co.uk

Saturday March 23rd:
St Bartholomew’s Church Hall, Church Street, Lostwithiel. Doors open 7:00pm, on stage 7:30pm. Tickets £8 from www.thehamoazeband.co.uk

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Reading the dots . . . is it necessary?

Ah . . . the age old question. If you ask a number of people this you are likely to get one of three answers (a) no (b) yes (c) maybe, but I just can't do it.

YOU ARE BETTER OFF WITHOUT WRITTEN MUSIC

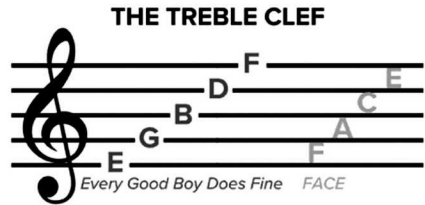
This call usually comes from people with a natural ear for music who can't understand why the rest of the world have to develop their ear for music over a number of years.

There is also the argument that if you learn music by ear you play it much more naturally and from the soul. Paying particular attention to the music form (or chord sequence) one can sit in with a group playing familiar tunes and quickly learn to substitute short phrases of notes for similar phrases, thereby initiating improvisation.

Indeed, this is how tunes evolve. The well-known and varying English morris tune called Princess Royal was written by celebrated Irish harpist Turlough O'Carolan in the early 18th Century. After it had been listened to and handed down many, many times in true "Chinese Whispers" fashion, it bears little resemblance to the original tune.

Originally written in a mode equating to the modern key of G minor, it has been picked up by players who have modified it to the G major key to suit their instrument (eg. six-holed whistle, pipe and tabor, crumhorn), which couldn't reproduce the flattened notes, or accommodate the range of notes if they played it in a different key for their instrument.

Arguably, this is the essence of folk music; where a tune is heard by the common man and reproduced to suit his environment and his peers, and to this end the execution is hindered by adhering to the written tune.



YOU NEED THE MUSIC AS A REFERENCE

For the play-by-ear wizards, it is not a disaster if they can't remember a tune because once they hear the strains of it again, they are right back into it. I have found that a lot of 'ear' players (is that an actual term?) can't put a name to a tune, but they seldom need to; they are just artists.

For those of us who need to refer to books and manuscripts (until we learn the tune, at least), we are constantly reminding ourselves of the tune's title, and it serves as a bonus when calling tunes or putting a set together.

We are aware that the jigs and reels, etc., which are written down is a mere skeleton of the tune to be played. The notes played are the 'voice' and the embellishments such as grace notes, triplets, rolls, lilt, et al are the 'tongue' with which a folk musician makes his instrument sing.

So, on reflection, most of us need the dots to learn the tune in the first place, but are pleasantly surprised when we go back to the music 12 months later to find that we have 'improved it' without realising.

IT'S ALL GREEK TO ME

Well, in my view, that has summed up the pros and cons of reading music. I have a few music books and sometimes spend an evening playing through them; this helps my sight-reading and keeps me familiar with the tunes.

If you have tried to read music and feel that it is like a foreign language, you are most certainly right. It is alien to anybody. However, if you have tried, it means that you feel you need to be able to read them.

I know melodeon and whistle players who convert the music to their own personal fingering language then learn the tune from that. It works for them and that's great, but it means they can't play a tune they don't know right away.

I have yet to find a music tutorial that is not stiff and mechanical, perhaps in future issues we can simplify it. Please give us your views.

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Wadebridge Folk Club



Churchill Bars, 54 Molesworth Street Wadebridge PL27 7DR

2nd Thurs each month, 8-11pm

Dates for your Diary

2018

Oct 11th	Open House
Nov 8th	Davey and Hunt
Dec 13th	Xmas Party

2019

Jan 10th	Open House
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Membership: £5 per annum
(free entry first night)

Open House Night:

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Online Academy of Irish Music

Headquartered in beautiful Doolin, Co. Clare, the heart of traditional music in Ireland, the Online Academy of Irish Music (OAIM) provide quality tuition in traditional Irish instruments - via video streaming - to the world.



As with most folk traditions, historically they were always passed down from generation to generation by listening, watching and being present with the music masters. Today, OAIM provide this musical presence of the masters, teaching popular folk tunes using the 'phrase by phrase' technique, via their subscription based online portal.

Kirsten Allstaff, acclaimed flute and tin whistle player, along with her husband Mathew Curley, budding concertina player, began the Online Academy of Irish Music in 2010 - changing the face of Irish music learning, as we know it, in the process.

While Kirsten brought the musical acumen, Mathew brought the technical know-how, and together they enrolled the support of twenty three of Ireland's finest musicians to create a formidable video library of Irish musical tuition.

Every year they continue to innovate and grow the Academy. They were quick to embrace the Virtual Reality revolution, recording some 50 sets of live Irish pub sessions in 360 degrees viewing format.

They also innovated with a practice tool that allows you to play along to a track with a choice of 3 different speeds, with or without melody or accompaniment.

Along with carefully formulated tutorials, come PDFs for download with music notation in standard and ABC format, and mp3s of all tunes taught. Plus, the video library is accessible across all devices, meaning you can take your music learning with you wherever you go.

OAIM has quickly become a well renowned resource for international students keen to master Irish music instruments, their YouTube channel alone boasts over 43,000 subscribers, with their videos amassing almost 5 million views!

OAIM offer a free Starter Account so you can see "under the hood", and test drive their learning system with some sample tutorials. Then, if you find you like learning this way, full membership, is available for as little as €19 a month.

They don't sell individual courses, they offer membership to the Academy - like a club membership - giving you access to everything they have with that monthly membership.



Currently they have 46 courses, covering 14 instruments, with new courses added frequently. OAIM has quickly become a musical home away from home for the Irish diaspora worldwide and for those who share a love for Irish music, wherever they're from.



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DIARY DATES

OCTOBER

Sat 20 Truro Folk Dance Club member Carol Waters has organised a Folk Dance at Kea Community Centre, Playing Place. Truro TR3 6ET. 8pm. To raise funds for Alzheimers UK in memory of her late husband Les and to celebrate what would have been their 60th Wedding Anniversary. Music with Jig'n'Reel. Everyone welcome. Telephone Carol 01872 272951.

NOVEMBER

Thu 1 CONCERT - Sarah McQuaid. 8pm. At No.8 Cafe and Deli Westgate St, Launceston PL15 7AB. www.sarahmcquaid.com

Sat 3 MILLBROOK FOLK CLUB CONCERT. 8pm. Millbrook Village Hall PL10 1AX. Lucy Farrell. Tickets £8. millbrookfolk@gmail.com

Sat 3 LAUNCESTON FOLK DANCE CLUB. 8pm. Dance at Launceston Town Hall. Tickets £8. Bring and Share supper. Caller Les Burden & Folk 2. Rosemary Phillips 01566 774491.

Sat 10 Plump Dead Thighs and Pretty Blue Eyes. 7.30 for 8pm. Theatrical concert with the Hamoaze Band based on the great tradition of the murder ballad. The Millpool Centre West Looe PL13 2AF. Tickets £8. www.thehamoazeband.co.uk

Wed 21 TRURO FOLK DANCE CLUB. 8pm. Free call night hosted by Howard Burrows. Music with Jig'n'Reel. trurofolkdanceclub@hotmail.co.uk

Fri 23 THE OTHER BAND. 7:30 - 11:00 pm. Dance at Nancegollan Village Hall, near Helston TR13 0AH. www.theotherband.co.uk

Fri 30 FRADDON FOLK DANCE CLUB. 8pm. Christmas dance with the Dartmoor Pixie Band and Sarah Bazeley calling. Fraddon Village Hall. Bring and share supper and raffle. Entry £5. Beryl Jukes 01209 712357.

DECEMBER

Sun 2 CONCERT. 8pm. Sarah McQuaid. At The Old Bakery Studios, Blewetts Wharf, Malpas Rd, Truro TR1 1QH. www.sarahmcquaid.com

Wed 19 TRURO FOLK DANCE CLUB. 8pm. Christmas Club night, wear something Christmas - hats, jumpers, T-shirts. trurofolkdanceclub@hotmail.co.uk

Mon 31 TRURO FOLK DANCE CLUB. 8pm. New Year's Eve dance at Kea Community Centre, Playing Place. Truro TR3 6ET. Calling with all our resident callers Howard, Beryl, Frances, Peter and Ken. Bring and Share supper. Raffle. admission on the door. All welcome to see in 2019. trurofolkdanceclub@hotmail.co.uk

JANUARY 2019

Sat 5 FRADDON FOLK DANCE CLUB. 8pm. New Year Dance with live music from the club band Jig'n'Reel. Fraddon Village Hall. Bring and share supper and raffle. Entry £5. Beryl Jukes 01209 712357.

Please note that the deadline for Diary Dates and Advertising for the January-February-March 2019 Edition #9 will be December 1st 2018

WANTED CORRESPONDENTS FOR FOLK IN CORNWALL

No pay I'm afraid, but if anyone feels they might like 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.



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 Change of Venue - now at St Petrocs Parish Centre, Priory Road, Bodmin, PL31 2DT. 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

CORNWALL FOLK FESTIVAL SESSION Ship Inn, Wadebridge PL27 6DF. 4th Tues in each month. Songs and Music. Mike Walford 01637 880604.

CORNWALL OLD TIME SESSION American Old Time Music. Out of the Blue, Mill Lane, Porthleven TR13 9LQ. Alt. Weds. www.oldtimemusic-cornwall.weebly.com/old-time-sessions.html

COUNTRYMAN INN SESSION at Piece, Nr Redruth TR16 6SG. Weds from 8:30pm alt each week between traditional folk and Americana. Contact 01209 215960

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.

CONTACTS – SONG / MUSIC CLUBS AND SESSIONS

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

HAYLE CORNISH SESSION at The Cornish Arms, 86 Commercial Road, Hayle TR27 4DJ. 3rd Sunday in each month from 8pm. Cornish Celtic Evening. 01736 753237

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

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.

LOSTWITHIEL ACOUSTIC SESSION Social Club, Fore Street, Lostwithiel PL22 0DL. 3rd Fri in each month at 2pm. Contact Frank Bigham 07907 845458. frankbigham@hotmail.co.uk

LUXULYAN CORNISH SESSION at the Kings Arms, Bridges, PL30 5EF. 2nd Wednesday in each month from 8pm. Mainly music and mainly Cornish tunes. Contact Chris Bartram 07545 094490.

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

MILLBROOK FOLK CLUB The Balcony Room, Millbrook Village Hall, PL10 1AX. 2nd Fri in each month 8pm to 11pm. £2 entry, licensed bar. Singarounds – all performers and listeners welcome. Contact Joshua Lacey-Roberts 07981 551454 or email millbrookfolk@gmail.com

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

PADSTOW Folk Sessions. Upstairs Bar, Padstow Brewery's Shop, Broad St, Padstow. 8pm. 1st Thurs in each month.. Local singers & musicians (all ages) invited to perform. Bucket passed around in aid of the Deep Sea Fisherman's Mission. All audiences welcome! Contact jerryclark@macace.net Mike Walford 01637 880604 / Tim & Sue Brine on 07880 592065.

PENRYN ACOUSTIC SESSION Fish Factory Art Space Cafe, The Sail Loft, Commercial Rd, Penryn TR10 8AG. Every Tues 7.30-10.30pm. Trad folk songs/tunes, Americana, Irish, blues, songwriters, contemporary, etc. Len Hatcher 07789 743661. www.fishfactoryarts.com

PENZANCE DOCK INN SESSION Dock Inn, 17 Quay Street, Penzance TR18 4BD. Tues 8:30pm. Tunes session, some songs. Alan Collins 01736 363157.

PENZANCE FOLK CLUB Bath Inn, Cornwall Terrace, Penzance TR18 4HN. alt Weds 8.30pm. Mostly round the room. Occasional guest nights. Linda Collins 01736 333007. www.penzancefolk.co.uk

PENZANCE TURK'S HEAD SESSION Turk's Head, Chapel Street, Penzance TR18 4AF. Now takes place 3rd Fri in each month (previously listed as 4th Fri), 8pm. Singing Cellar. Pete Wray 07740 409072. www.singingcellar.co.uk

CONTACTS – SONG / MUSIC CLUBS AND SESSIONS

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) 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.

ST CLEER SESSION at the Market Inn, Well Street, St Cleer PL14 5DG. Acoustic music and song. Monthly. Usually 2nd Friday but confirm with organiser Paul White 01579 348743.

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.

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

Keep Folk in Cornwall Alive - Support these Groups!

SLOW & EASY
Folk Sessions



Every other Monday night 7-9pm

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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!

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Any Questions?

Tel: Jimmy Manley on 07759 442059

We are on Facebook

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Folk Sessions



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

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. 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.

SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS

*Individual subscriptions are available for £3 per year with subscribers receiving a copy of each of the four issues of the magazine. If you would like to subscribe or make a donation to Folk in Cornwall please send cheques payable to **John Tremaine to 7 The Moors, Lostwithiel, PL22 0BX**. If you would prefer to pay by BACS or PayPal please contact me and I will give you the information to do so.*

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. Pauline McKeogh 07407 501688.
CARNKIE CLOGGERS Carnkie Village Hall, Redruth TR16 6SB. Tues 7.30pm. Kate 01209 822221. email: carnkie.cloggers@gmail.com website: www.carnkiecloggers.co.uk
CAT'S EYE MORRIS Village Hall, Dobwalls PL14 6LS. Tues 8pm. Mixed Border. Sally Kington 07768 613894.
COMMON MORRIS Memorial Hall, St Cleer PL14 5ED. Wednesday 8pm. Cornwall's newest morris side. Mixed border. Paul White 01579 348743
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.
PLYMOUTH MAIDS CLOG DANCERS St Bartholomew's Church Hall, Milehouse, Plymouth. Thurs evenings. Contact: plymouthmaids@hotmail.com
PLYMOUTH MORRIS The School for Creative Arts, 22 Millbay Road, Plymouth PL1 3EG. Weds 7.30pm. Cotswold. Call Marion on 07837 271769. www.plymouthmorrismen.co.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. Rachel Kaleta wreckers.bag@gmail.com

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.

DREAMERS

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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)
Common Morris, St Cleer

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

New Kids on the Block

The county's newest morris side - Common Morris - takes its name from the village where it was formed – Common Moor.

Our first few practices were held in the village's new hall but practical issues meant a move was needed. So now the side meets on Wednesday evenings at the Saint Cleer Memorial Hall.

As with any new side, membership has fluctuated. Some promising dancers have come and gone since the side was born in March of this year. Currently there is a core of seven dancers and four musicians.

Despite being only a few months old, Common Morris is already dancing out and has been invited to perform at local events and venues coming up to Christmas.



Not bad for a bunch of people who were all morris virgins a few short months ago.

We have formed a solid bond which will be important as we grow – and we do need to grow.

Efforts are being made to recruit new dancers so anyone who fancies giving us a try please get in touch. Experience is welcome but certainly not necessary.

We are a Border Morris side but will try other traditions and have already got to grips with one Cotswold dance.

Upton came in to the repertoire as a result of a visit by members of Tinnars Morris from South Zeal on Dartmoor. Using sticks and hankies in a dance which involves movement from start to finish was a challenge but we were up to it.



The dance is currently being honed and will see the light of day in a first performance sometime before Christmas.

Among the places we have danced so far are the streets of Liskeard, at the London Inn in St. Neot, at the Crows Nest Inn Darite, with Tywardreath Morris, and at a craft fair in Saint Cleer.

More pub appearances are planned as are performances at the Darite Octoberfest, the arrival of the flying Scotsman in Liskeard and, probably, Pudsey Day in Tavistock.

An important day on the calendar is the 11th of November when events will be staged up and down the country to mark 100 years since the end of the first world war.

We have gone for a harlequin pattern kit which, if nothing else, it's pretty eye-catching. A regular, monthly music night has developed, meeting on a Friday at the Market Inn in St Cleer. All welcome, so give it a go!

Also, Common Morris is looking for an extra melodeon player. Co-founder Sally Hamlyn currently plays melodeon with two recorder players and a drummer. "We've got a good sound," she says. "But another melodeon would also give me the chance to dance."

You will find Common Morris on Facebook where you will also find



information on the regular music nights. Next date: 19th October.

Contact Paul White on 01579 348743 or at pwhite420@btinternet.com

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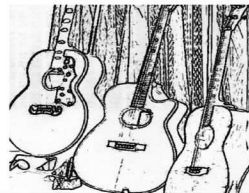
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A FAIR SUBJECT FOR A SONG

*“And its oh, and where be a-going
And what be a-doing of there?
Heave down your prong and stamp along
To Tavistock Goosey Fair”*



This season, Michaelmas, is the time when many of the best known fairs take place – including Tavistock Goose Fair and Widecombe Fair. The song about Widecombe Fair is arguably as famous as the fair itself, but Widecombe is not the only fair to have been the subject of a song, as the lyrics above show.

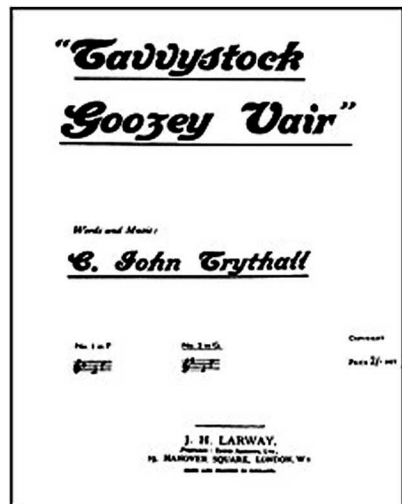
The Tavistock Goosey Fair song is credited to C John Tryhall who published it in 1912, although there are some suggestions that it existed in some form before publication. It's about the adventures of two friends who set off across Dartmoor in a pony and trap to visit the fair. On the way home, probably somewhat the worse for drink, the trap runs into a ditch being “skat to flibberts” and they have to walk the rest of the way home – 13 miles.

In England, fairs began to develop in the early Norman period, reaching their heyday in the 13th century. During the 12th century, many English towns acquired the right from the Crown to hold an annual fair, usually serving a regional or local customer base and lasting for two or three days. These fairs were an important aspect of trade in this period often selling wholesale imported goods to merchants as well as produce to local people.

Local nobles and churchmen could draw a considerable profit from hosting these events, and in turn the crown benefited from the payments given for the original charter. Over 2,200 charters were issued to markets and fairs by English kings

between 1200 and 1270, including one for the fair in Tavistock.

Tavistock Goose Fair is still going today in a form that would probably be unrecognisable to a time traveller from the original era. Geese are still sold, local children are given the day off school and a funfair provides entertainment long into the night.



Historically, the fair was mainly attended by the townsfolk, but the mix of visiting gypsy travellers, showmen, local miners and sailors from Devonport gave the fair a reputation for drunken behaviour and fighting. From the mid-1850s the railway lines that once served Tavistock brought people in from outlying villages, and the station platforms were often awash with litter and drunken stragglers by the end of the day.

Before the motor car era people from villages without a rail connection did not tend to travel to the fair partly because of its reputation but also because the journey could be difficult – as it was in the song. The fair's rowdy atmosphere must have been in stark contrast to the more genteel charabanc picnic outings and paddle steamer excursions that were popular in the Tamar Valley area during the Edwardian era.

There is another Charter Fair in Devon – at Bampton and, yes, there is a song about this one as well - Bampton Fair by Paul Wilson featured on Tony Rose's 1982 album Poor Fellows. The charter for this fair was granted in 1258 and it appears to have been running continuously ever since, taking place on the last Thursday in October.

It even kept going through the two world wars in the last century, probably because its primary purpose was to act as a livestock market for cattle sheep and ponies. Although no longer a livestock market – the last pony sales were held in 1985 – the fair is still a popular event with a street market and traditional funfair. Probably because of its importance for the sale of Exmoor ponies Bampton fair was noted for a strong traveller presence and this is reflected by Romany references included in Paul Wilson's song.

The most famous fair in Devon, Widecombe, is actually not a charter fair and has only been running since 1850. It began after a particularly successful livestock market when some of the gentry held a dinner to celebrate. It's always on the second Tuesday in September, and is a major local event with gymkhana, pony, sheep and cattle shows. The associated song about Tom Pearse has become one of the few generally known, but can actually be traced back in various

forms from various parts of England to well before the fair at Widecombe existed.

We have a charter fair in Cornwall, at Summercourt. The origins of this can be traced back to the 11th Century, and "The Long Fayre" held in Bodmin. The fair moved west, first to Penhale and then to Summercourt during the reign of King Edward II (1307 – 1327). The charter for it was granted in 1234. The modern fair runs from the third Thursday in September with the main market day the following Monday. Apart from the market, the principal attraction is the funfair provided by Showmens Guild member David Rowland and Sons.

Newquay based singer songwriter Ruarri Joseph has written a song called Summercourt Fair – 1995 which features on his album Tales of Grime and Grit released in 2007. Although this can't really be classified as a folk song it nice to know that the tradition of writing songs about fairs is still active.

The thing is I have a vague memory of hearing a song about Summercourt Fair a long time before Ruarri's song was written. I couldn't find any reference to it during my Internet research for this article. Does any reader know anything about it? If so perhaps you could let us know.

Additional Copies of this issue of

FOLK IN CORNWALL



**All clubs listed in this magazine
receive a few free copies.**

*If your Club or Organisation require
additional copies, these are available
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SOCIAL DANCING

What has happened to social dancing? At one time the Diary Dates page in Folk News Kernow was filled with fifty dances within a three month period. Now most Diary Dates seem to provide 'sit, watch and listen' events with the occasional exercise of jaws by joining in a chorus.

We are continually bombarded with advice on health matters. We are an obese nation, we are anxious, depressed, lonely. Our memories are in decline. The chemists' shelves are stacked high with pills, potions and tablets all promising great results (at a cost) while surgery visits become more difficult.

One of the best kept secrets to help matters is dancing. Some hospitals now offer dance therapy but it is available to all countrywide. What is good about it? It provides a pleasant way to

exercise rather than walking on a treadmill, running alone or pedaling madly on a stationary bike! It raises the heart rate and helps burn off those calories as well as strengthening the muscles and improving balance. It aids the memory. As a bonus it is done to good music .

Many people say they are isolated and have no friends. Dancing can counteract loneliness and reduce depression, anxiety and stress. It boosts self esteem and gives a sense of well being. The benefits cannot be overlooked as it is a shared activity with folk who become friends and act as a caring family.

Come on then and welcome in newcomers to the activity! Go out of your usual groove and bring along those you think could benefit. Get Dancing!

Beryl Jukes

Here is where and when to 'GET DANCING'

MONDAYS	Carbis Bay Dance Club – every two weeks 7:30pm St Tudy Dance Club – every two weeks 2:15-4:15pm
TUESDAYS	Fraddon Dance Club – Monthly 1st Tuesday 8pm Launceston Dance Club – every week 8pm
WEDNESDAYS	St Eval Dance Club – every two weeks 2:30-4:30pm Truro Dance Club – every week 8pm
THURSDAYS	Camelford Dance Club – every week 7:30pm Illogan Dance Club – every two weeks 7:30pm Pensilva Dance Club – every two weeks
FRIDAYS	Madron Dance Club – monthly 2nd Friday

Full details of all the above clubs are included in our Contacts section.

TUNE OF THE SEASON #8

This issue's tune was written by French musician Maxou Heintzen, in 1981, originally in 4/4 time. Sometime in the 1990s it was re-written as a jig in 6/8 time by Undine Hornby, of The Late Night Band fame. This proved to be inspirational as it is a tune that pairs well with many others as a set, and has become very popular for that reason. As always, it would be great to see efforts uploaded on YouTube as **Folk in Cornwall TOTS#8**; all instruments and abilities would be viewed with interest.

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