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**Researched articles in our Folklife Traditions Journal ~**

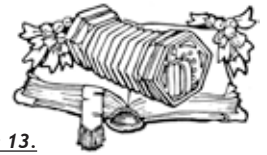
- **Folklife Traditions Journal** •
- **Traddodiadau Bywyd Gwerin** •
- **Earishlioar Seihll Tradishoonagh** •

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Regular FTJ contributors receive free FTJs; do join us!

And all available online on [www.folklife-traditions.uk](http://www.folklife-traditions.uk), which also has an archive - and you can download all as pdfs. And on that site, there's also a Folklife Traditions Directory.



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our Folklife Traditions Directory is on [www.folklife-traditions.uk](http://www.folklife-traditions.uk) ❖ A LIST & PHOTOS © Doc Rowe

a list compiled by DOC ROWE ©  
plus a few \*contributors as named



top: Padstow May Day

left, and 2 photos above:  
**The Bury Man**  
South Queensferry, Lothian  
2nd Fri. in Aug.

**We are very grateful to Doc for generously providing such detailed listings & photos.**

**Football in the river** Bourton-on-the-Water, Glos  
Bank Holiday Mon *A note from the late Bill Pullen.*

For over 100 years, on [what is now] August Bank Holiday Monday, Bourton-on-the-Water, Glos., had "Football In The River (Windrush)" - not mass participation but organised by Bourton Rovers Football Club (1st play 2nds or 2 mixed teams), to benefit themselves and local charities; it is run alongside a Fete on the Green and draws huge crowds. ~ **Bill Pullen**

See: [www.soglos.com/sport-outdoor/28383/Bourton-Football-in-the-River](http://www.soglos.com/sport-outdoor/28383/Bourton-Football-in-the-River)

**Next deadline: 20 Jul., for Sep. Journal**

**The Doc Rowe Collection Support Group** has been set up to support the Archive of Doc's unique collection.  
See: [www.docrowe.org.uk](http://www.docrowe.org.uk)

**MAY, & WHIT & ASCENSIONTIDE** (Ascensiontide is 40 days after Easter)

Well Dressing	various	Derbyshire	Ascensiontide - Sept
May-Pole Raising	Barwick In Elmet	Yorks	Whit/May
Padstow May Day	Padstow	Cornwall	1st May
Minehead Hobby Horse	Minehead	Somerset	1st-3rd May
Jack In The Green	Hastings	Sussex	May Bank Holiday wk'end
Cadi Ha' [Summer Kate] street dance	Holywell	Flintshire	Early May * Eds
Well Dressing	Malvern	Worcs	May BH weekend * Eds
Randwick Cheese-Rolling	Randwick	Glos	1st Sun in May
Randwick Wap	Randwick	Glos	Sat after Cheese-rolling * Audrey Smith †
Knutsford Royal May Day	Knutsford	Cheshire	First Saturday in May
Ickwell Green May Day	Ickwell	Beds	Saturday / Monday
Helston Flora Dance	Helston	Cornwall	8th May
Abbotsbury Garland Day	Abbotsbury	Dorset	13th May
Etwell Well Dressing	Etwell	Derbys	2nd week in May
May Festival	Hayes Common	Kent	2nd Saturday in May
Dunting The Freeholder	Newbiggin by the Sea	Northumberland	Wed near 18th May
Cyclists Memorial Service	Meriden	West Midlands	Sun near to 21st May
Mayoring Day/Hot Pennies	Rye	E. Sussex	23rd May
Blessing The Sea	Hastings	E. Sussex	End of May
Castleton Gala Day	Castleton	Derbys	29th May
Grovelly Rights	Wishford Magna	Wilts	29th May
Founders Day	Chelsea Royal Hospital	London	29th May
Arbor Tree	Aston on Clun	Salops	29th May
Bampton Morris Dancing	Bampton	Oxon	Spring Bank Holiday
Headington Quarry Morris	Headington	Oxon	Spring Bank Holiday
Hunting The Earl Of Rone	Combe Martin	N Devon	Spring Bank Holiday
Cheese Rolling	Cooper's Hill, Birdlip	Glos	Spring Bank Holiday
Maypole Raising	Barwick-in-Elmet	W. Yorks	Spring BH every 3 yrs
			was postponed due to Covid so was 2022, so next 2025?
Dicing For Maids Money	Guildford	Surrey	Mid-May [was late Jan]
Dovers Games	Chipping Campden	Glos	Friday after Bank Holiday
Scuttlebrook Wake	Chipping Campden	Glos	Sat. after Bank Holiday
Planting The Penny Hedge	Whitby	Yorks	Ascension Eve
Beating The Bounds	Tower Of London	London	Ascension Day ev.3yrs 2023
Bisley Well Dressing	Bisley	Glos	Ascens. Day * Audrey Smith †
Wicken Love Feast	Wicken	Northants	Ascension Day
Well Dressing	Tissington	Derbys	Ascension Day
St Mary Redcliffe Rush Sunday	St Mary Redcliffe	Bristol	Whit Sunday
Bread & Cheese Throwing	St Briavels	Glos	Whit Sunday
Dicing For Bibles	St Ives	Camb	Whit Monday

**JUNE**

Thaxted Morris Festival	Thaxted	Essex	June / July
Blessing the Boats	Whitby	N. Yorks	June
Appleby Fair	Appleby	Cumbria	2nd week June
Border Riding	Hawick	Borders	Fri after 2nd Mon in June
Gŵyl Ifan: Codi'r Pawl Haf / St John's Day Festival: Raising the Summer Pole	Caerdydd / Cardiff		Mehefin / June *Eds
Election of Mayor of Ock Street Abingdon		Berks	Saturday near 19th June
Selkirk Ridings	Selkirk	Borders	Third week in month
Midsummer Fires	various	Cornwall	23rd June
Youlgreave Well Dressing	Youlgreave	Derbys	Saturday near 24th June
Tideswell Well Dressing	Tideswell	Derbys	Saturday near 24th June
Winster Wakes	Winster	Derbys	Sat following Sun after 24 Jun
Cakes And Ale Ceremony	Bury St Edmunds	Suffolk	Last Thursday in June
Rushbearing	Warcup	Cumbria	28th June
Walking Day	Warrington	Cheshire	Friday near 30th June

**JULY**

Horse Fair	Seamer	Yorks	July
Kilburn Feast - Mock Mayor & Mayoress	Kilburn	Yorks	July
Rushbearing	Gt. Musgrave & Ambleside	Cumbria	1st Saturday in July
Grand Wardmote of Woodmen of Arden	Meridan	Warks	July/August
Orange Parades	various	N. Ireland	12th July
Vintners Street Sweeping to St James Garlickhythe church	London		2nd Wed July
Holsworthy Pretty Maids	Holsworthy	Devon	2nd Wednesday in July
John Knill Ceremony	St Ives	Cornwall	25 July (every 5 yrs) 2026
Honiton Fair	Honiton	Devon	Tu. before Wed. after 19th Jul
Italian Festival	Clerkenwell	London	3rd Sunday in July
Swan Upping	The Thames	various	Usually third week in July
Doggets Coat and Badge Race	London Bridge to Chelsea	London	Late July
Eisteddfod Genedlaethol / National Eisteddfod	Boduan, Gwynedd		5 - 12 Aug 2023

**AUGUST**

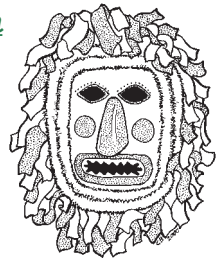
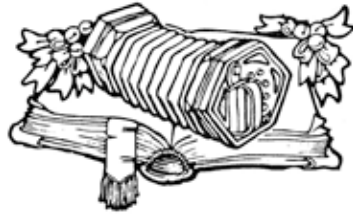
Gooseberry Contest	Egton Bridge	N. Yorks	First Tuesday in August
Rose Queen Ceremony	Little Beck	N. Yorks	First Tuesday in August
Feast of St Wilfrid	Ripon	N. Yorks	First Saturday in August
Knighthood of Old Green	Southampton	Hants	1st full week in August
Rushbearing	Grasmere	Cumbria	Saturday near 5th August
The Bury Man	South Queensferry	Lothian	2nd Friday in August
Burning The Bartle	West Witton	Yorks	Saturday near 24th August
Coracle Race	Cilgerran	Pembs	2023: mid-Aug tba * Eds
Notting Hill Carnival	Notting Hill	London	Bank Holiday Sat to Mon
Football in the river	Bourton-on-the-Water	Glos	Bank Holiday Mon * Bill Pullen †
Eyam Plague Sunday	Eyam	Derbys	Last Sunday in August

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All events subject to change, please check first.



## *Traddodiadau Bywyd Gwerin • Earishlioar Seihll Tradishoonagh*



**FOLKLIFE TRADITIONS JOURNAL** . . . is both part of **FOLKLIFE WEST** print magazine, -- *and* -- available separately.

© our Minehead Hobby Horse logo, **Chris Beaumont**; book/concertina, **John Crane**; morris dancers **Annie Jones** (from Dave Jones *The Roots Of Welsh Border Morris*).

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*Regular FTJ contributors receive free FTJs; do join us!*



### Sunderland Songs, by Eileen Richardson & Keith Gregson

**Eileen Richardson** and **Keith Gregson** have been working on songs from Sunderland and the North East of England in general for a number of years – both together and separately. Examples of their research have featured recently in online talks for the Traditional Song Forum and a publication by the Ballad Partners. Here we have a couple of examples of their work;

**Eileen**

Some years ago I set myself the task of finding songs from my native city of Sunderland. Living in the north east and visiting folk clubs in the region I was aware of the plethora of 19<sup>th</sup> century songs from Tyneside and sing a few of them myself at singarounds and clubs. I began to wonder if there were any similar songs from Wearside. My search took me to the wonderful archives of the Sunderland Antiquarian Society. The society was founded in 1899 and has amassed a treasure trove of documents, photographs and artefacts concerning the city. I was fortunate in finding broadsides, songs and poems in the obvious archival boxes, such as those labelled 'Literary' and 'Keel Boats'. One day, however, I was looking through a box of documents relating to 'Shopping' when I came across the following advertisement written in the form of a song. It caught my attention particularly because about 100 years after this was written my grandmother ran a confectioner's shop which also had a subscription scheme. In my grandmother's version, around 25 subscribers paid a weekly amount and each subscriber took a turn in having the full weekly total to spend in the shop.

The song, to which I added a chorus, is an advertisement from around 1840 for a confectionary shop in High Street, Bishopwearmouth, Sunderland. Vint & Carr's Directory of 1844 records Mowatt's Confectioner at 29 High Street with the proprietor's name given as Janet Mowatt. I subsequently discovered that by this time William Mowatt was dead. Scottish by birth, as well as being a confectioner Willie Mowatt was also a Christian Unionist lay preacher. His sudden death at the age of 45 in June, 1843 was reported in *The Christian Reformer* or *Unitarian Magazine* where he was described as a "warm-hearted, pious and zealous man".

### William Mowatt's Subscription Sale of Confectionary *adapted by Eileen Richardson*

Oh, hae ye seen Mowatt's shop  
Beside the Londonderry  
The best in the all the town by far  
The things are bonny – very  
There's scranchum, nuts and candy spice  
Scotch cakes a prince may chew at  
Fine lozenges and brandy snaps  
All sold by Willie Mowatt.

*So get yersel' to Mowatt's shop the best in all the town  
With cakes and sweets and candy spice the finest to be found.*

This splendid sale is open now  
To buy you'll sure be willing  
And if you toss you're sure to win  
The ticket's but a shilling.  
One head prize is a bridal cake  
Which thousands wish to throw at  
You'll get full value for yer brass  
Wi' honest Willie Mowatt

His sweets delight both rich and poor  
The sight is really braw man  
His cakes would grace a royal feast  
The cottage or the hall man  
The lasses come frae far and near  
To view the splendid show at  
They taste and try and quickly buy  
The spice of Willie Mowatt

The next prize is a great goose pie  
As big's a watter-skeel man –  
The lowest is a shilling's worth  
It's sure to please all weel man.  
Five hundred tickets now are sold  
With many more to go at –  
Come tickets buy and give a shove  
To honest Willie Mowatt

Researched articles & folklife news



**Our aims include stimulating a wider interest in folk studies & folk culture: Folklife Traditions Journal.**

- On [www.folklife-traditions.uk](http://www.folklife-traditions.uk), the **FTJ Online Archive**: links to issues, index, articles, free PDF downloads.
- And also the **FT Online Directory**, fully-detailed free-entry listings, online, listing, with **Folklife Studies & Institutions**; **Folklife Societies**; and **Seasonal Local Celebrations** (for May-Aug: also in print), list & photos, mostly by **Doc Rowe**.

**We are a non-profit group of volunteers, please support us by subscribing, or by donating £3** via website [www.folklife-traditions.uk](http://www.folklife-traditions.uk)  
**We welcome volunteers, to index articles; or to research/check FT Online-Directory listings. Please contact [sam@folklife.uk](mailto:sam@folklife.uk)**

**Keith**

The old song known variously as 'Windy Weather' / 'Up Jumped the Herring' (Roud 472) seems to have enjoyed popularity among fishermen and sailors across the world. I have just come across a photocopy of a handwritten version sent to me by Roy Palmer in the 1970s. A note on it said that it was collected in 1863 'in Sunderland' which is why Roy thought it might have been of interest to me. Sadly I have no record of the source although the song title 'The Meeting of the First to take charge of a ship' is intriguing - (please let me know if others have come across it as a title). I entered this title into a major search engine and got one single hit - for an article in a local newspaper in 2021 about my own shanty research!

The song has many verses. Some 15 years ago and as part of a 'Sing London' project I put together a collection of songs ancient and modern relating to Sunderland to be used mainly in schools. I included some of the verses from Roy's song (and proceeded to make up new ones with youngsters when we used the song in the classroom). The verses printed below can be compared with those sung by Harry Cox, Johnny Doughty, Tom Brown and Peggy Seeger and featured on the Mainly Norfolk site and also a version written down in an intriguing article on the Norfolk Longshoreman in a fairly recent Exeter University publication. While many (most?) shanties had verses which turned up in various versions, 'Windy Weather' seems to have been one highly suited to what may be described as audience (or working sailor) participation in its creation. With this in mind it is interesting to note that the chorus of the Sunderland version has a rather unexpected extra line.

**The Meeting of the First to take charge of a ship adapted by Keith Gregson**

*A version of 'Windy Weather' / 'Up Jumped the Herring'.* Verses selected for schools. Same tune as Blow the Man Down

*For its windy weather – It's stormy weather  
 Where/when the wind blows pipes all hands together  
 Upon my soul it is windy weather*

Up jumped the eel with his slippery tail  
 He jumped on the main yard –took a reef in the sail

Up jumped the flat fish with his crooked mouth  
 If you want a good wind you must head for the south

Up jumped the turtle with his stripy shell  
 He jumped in the boat and began for to bale.

Up jumped the heron all with his red eyes  
 He jumped up to the masthead to look out for a prize

Up jumped the haddock so white and so glib  
 He jumped on the forecandle and hauled down the jib

Then up jumped the seal – so long and so slim  
 If you want a good hand then I'll serve for the king

Up jumped the whale – so broad and so low  
 He got hold of the painter and began for to blow

Up jumped the salmon as bright as the sun  
 He jumped on the forecandle and fired the bold gun

Up jumped the mussel as black as a rook  
 If you want a good hand then I'll serve as your cook

Up jumped the shark with his six rows of teeth  
 He jumped into the copper and stole the cook's beef

**Eileen Richardson © May 2023; Keith Gregson © May 2023**

Both authors have papers in *Thirsty Work and other Legacies of Folk Song* – Roud and Atkinson (Ballad Partners 2022; [www.theballadpartners.co.uk/publications](http://www.theballadpartners.co.uk/publications)) (noted in FTJ 72, Jan 2023):

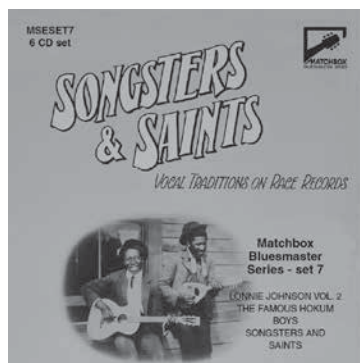
Eileen Richardson: 'From Tyneside to Wearside: In Search of Sunderland Songs'

Keith Gregson, 'That is all the explanation I am at liberty to give in print': Richard Runciman Terry and Songs from the Sea'

**publications & recordings announced**

- **Publicity** for **appropriate books/publications** and for **recordings of collected songs**: up to 200 words plus cover ~ please see [www.folklife-traditions.uk](http://www.folklife-traditions.uk) ⇒ "Contributions" page.
- **We don't review 'Folk' CDs.**

Folklife Members are welcome to send album news (up to 200 words +pic) for Folklife West pages.



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Earishlioar Seihll Tradishoonagh is Folklife Traditions Journal in Manx (thanks to Culture Vannin for the translation)

BOALDYN / MAY 2023

EARISHLIOAR SEIHLL TRADISHOONAGH / FOLKLIFE TRADITIONS JOURNAL 73.



# John Callister (1833-1912) And His Songs, by Stephen Miller



This photograph of John Callister is to be found in the Photographic Archive of the Manx National Heritage Library (MNHL, PG/12314). It is one of a number of such images of folk singers from the parish of Jurby in the Isle of Man, taken in 1897 by the incumbent there, the Rev. Frederick William Stubbs.

In the 1891 census Callister was aged 58, born in Jurby, and farming Ballachonelly at Jurby East. The 1881 census records it as being 130 acres in extent. He was married to Jane Callister (60), born in Michael, and they had four children living with them: John (34), a farmer's son, Christina (28), "teacher of schools," Catherine (24), another school teacher, and Edith (16), farmer's daughter. All were born in Jurby. There was a servant, Elizabeth Gawne (24), also born in Jurby. Callister was enumerated in 1901 as a Manx speaker as was his wife. [See, Census Enumerators' Book for Jurby 1881, RG 11/5599, fol. 3, sch. 1; CEB Jurby 1891, RG 12/4684, fol. 56, sch. 9; CEB Jurby 1901, RG 13/5302, fol. 74, sch. 17.]

The Gill brothers, John Frederick and William Henry, on their folk song collecting tours in 1895 and 1898, took down tunes from him on both occasions. They first came across him on 6 August 1895 at the West Nappin in Jurby, farmed by Daniel Clarke. Their second meeting took place on 12 October 1898 in Parliament Street in Ramsey, with Frederick Tellet, a physician and surgeon, also present.

Four tunes in all were recorded (titles here are the ones given by the Gills), three in 1895, and one in 1898: (1) The Farmer's Daughter, [OC] 1/2 (0.54); (2) Lord Bateman, [OC] 1/3 (0.55); (3) 'Twas once I loved a lady fair, [OC] 1/4 (0.56); (4) On a fine Sabbath morn, [OC] 48/1 (0.91). [(1)-(3), taken down on 6 August 1895; (4) 12 October 1898.] [OC] = THE ORIGINAL COLLECTION | OF | MANX FOLK MUSIC | [rule] | MADE BY | HIS HONOUR THE DEEMSTER GILL | MR W.H. GILL & DR. CLAGUE | COMPLETED IN 1895 & 1896. MNHL, MS 09702, Deemster J.F. Gill Papers, Box 1. Bound up and paginated in 1912 by Mrs Lucinda Gill. Tunes are referenced by the page number and their order on the page

### THE SONGS

#### THE FARMER'S DAUGHTER

"A Sailor courted a Farmer's Daughter" (Roud 993), with the first lines, "A Sailor courted a Farmer's Daughter, That lived convenient to the Isle of man [sic]." Broadside published between 1820-40, see NLS, APS.4.95.15(3).

The Farmers' Daughter - (Dorian) "Young men if you'd get married" from ms: Callister at Clarkes' Vest 7, July taken by D. H. G. 6 Aug '95

0.54

109

? Version of source

See C 0.18

#### LORD BATEMAN

A well-known and widely-distributed English and Scottish traditional ballad (Child 53) & (Roud 40).

Lord Bateman

0.55

110

#### ONCE I LOVED A LASS

The first line here suggests a number of songs, the words a ready commonplace opener. It is likely connected with the group of songs known as "The False Bride" (Roud 154).

"'Twas once I loved a lady fair"

0.56

111





## John Callister (1833–1912) And His Songs, by Stephen Miller

### THE SABBATH BREAKER RECLAIM'D

"On a fine Sabbath morn[, in the sweet month of May]" is in full the first line of "The Sabbath breaker reclaim'd, or A pleasing history of Thomas Brown" (Roud V14068). The (partial) first line used by the Gills for a title. This first appeared, twinned with a hymn, the first line of which is "Enlisted with Jesus to fight against sin," on a broadside printed by J.K. Pollock of North Shields between 1815–55. For the broadside itself, see Bodleian Library, Broadside Ballads Online, Bodl5019. As regards Callister's comment to the Gills, "J.C. says this was addressed to Thos: Brown & his family (not T.E. Brown)," this is an attempt to link the hymn to the Isle of Man, where there is no such association at all.

Stephen Miller, RBV © May 2023

A dedicated researcher into Manx folklore, folksong, and folk dance, plus the figures and collectors involved with the Celtic revival, Stephen's extremely impressive work in Manx and Celtic Studies are shared freely online, in print and in person, and freely available to others on his **Chiollagh Books** website, <http://chiollaghbooks.com> RBV: winner of the annual Reih Bleeaney Vanannan award 2020, see <https://culturevannin.im>



## Folklife news: societies & organisations

### Accessing Folk Singing in England A Gathering of Views

*Do you want to get a better understanding of the issues people experience in accessing and participating in folk singing? Do you want advice on what you can do to make folk singing more inclusive and inviting to diverse groups of people? If so, you probably want to read Accessing Folk Singing in England...*

**Accessing Folk Singing in England** is an introduction to the experience of different groups in participating and accessing folk singing activities in England. It summarises and draws on conversations as part of Access Folk's Consulting Groups in 2022. The purpose of the Consulting Group was to gather current issues faced by different sectors of society when accessing folk singing in England and explored six areas where it seemed that getting involved with folk singing might be problematic – Belief, Politics & Religion; Disability; Gender & Sexuality; Race & Ethnicity; Age; and Class & Socio-Economic Background. Taking the lead from the participants, the report highlights possible best practice changes for organisers and individuals within the folk scene.

**Accessing Folk Singing in England** is aimed at anyone involved in the contemporary folk scene wanting to make a change and provides an introduction to issues experienced by a diverse group of people wanting to engage with folk singing.

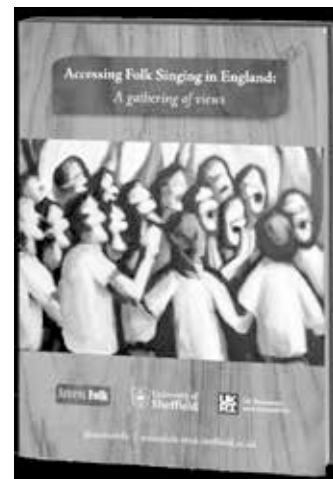
The report was co-written by participants in the Consulting Groups and academics from the University of Sheffield. It contributes to the further development of Access Folk's research and will inform future initiatives by the project.

Download the free report from the Access Folk website, <https://accessfolk.sites.sheffield.ac.uk/resources>, connect with us on social media @accessfolk and let us know if the report was useful.

For more information please contact:  
[accessfolk@shef.ac.uk](mailto:accessfolk@shef.ac.uk)

*Access Folk is exploring ways to increase and diversify participation in English folk singing. Dr Fay Hield, singer and researcher at University of Sheffield is overseeing a team of academics and community members working together to ask important questions about the scene.*

"An ambitious new research project" – *Songlines Magazine*



**Access Folk Team 2022**, L to R: Dr Fay Hield; Helen Grindley, Project Manager; Esbjörn Wettermark, Research Associate.



## Married to a Mermaid by Charles Menteith

Now it's of a brisk young far-mer, and he lived on Sals-bury Plain. He  
 loved a rich knight's daugh-ter, and she loved him a - - gain. But the  
 knight was so dis - - tress - ed that they should lo - vers be that he  
 had that young man press - ed and he sent him off to sea. Sing - ing  
 rule Brit - tan - nia, Brit - tan - nia rule the waves, Bri - tons ne-ver, ne-ver shall be  
 ma - ri - i - ed to a mer - ma - ied at the bot-tom of the deep blue sea.

1. Now it's of a brisk young farmer,  
And he lived on Salisbury Plain.  
He loved a rich knight's daughter,  
And she loved him again.  
But the knight was so distress-ed  
That they should lovers be,  
That he had that young man press-ed  
And he sent him off to sea.
2. It was on the broad Atlantic  
Mid the equally noctial gales  
That this young fellow fell overboard  
Amid the sharks and whales.  
Now down he sank like a streak of light  
So swiftly down sank he,  
Until he came to a merma-ied  
At the bottom of the deep blue sea.
3. She raised herself on her beautiful tail  
And gave him her lily-white hand.  
"I have long been waiting for you, my dear,  
Now welcome safe to land.  
Go back to your messmates for the very last time  
And tell them all from me  
That you're mari-a-ied to a merma-ied  
At the bottom of the deep blue sea.
4. We sent a boat to look for him  
Expecting to find his corpse,  
When up he came with a bang and a shout  
And a voice sepulchral hoarse.  
"Oh my comrades and my messmates,  
Now do not weep for me.  
For I'm mari-a-ied to a merma-ied  
At the bottom of the deep blue sea.
5. In my chest you'll find my half-year's wage,  
Likewise a lock of hair;  
This locket from my chest you'll take  
And bear to my young wife dear.  
My carte de visite to my grand-mother take,  
Tell her not to weep for me,  
For I'm mari-a-ied to a merma-ied  
At the bottom of the deep blue sea.
6. The anchor was weighed and the sails unfurled  
And our ship was running free,  
When up we came to our Capita-ain,  
And our tale we told to he.  
He went straightway to the old ship's side  
And out loud bellowed he:  
"Be as happy as you can with your wife, my man  
At the bottom of the deep blue sea."

Here is another song that I have been singing since long ago. I learnt verses 2-6 with the Oxford Morris in the early 60's. It was printed in the Scottish Students' Song Book (1), 1891, in which the words are attributed to A.J.C. and the arrangement to Michael Watson. It was "reprinted by permission of Edwin Ashdown, Limited, London". My first verse came from John Foreman, the cockney singer(2). This is a song where the tune has to be made to fit the words. This may involve replacing a crotchet with two quavers, or one or two crotchets with a triplet. I have transcribed the first verse, and found that almost all the ties and slurs had to be dotted, to fit the requirements of other verses. I have not been able to indicate where triplets might be required, so please use your initiative.





## Married to a Mermaid by Charles Menteith

*continued from previous page*

The song arose from Rule Britannia, (3) the final musical number in Thomas Arne's *Alfred*, a masque about Alfred the Great, the words being co-written by James Thomson and David Mallet, and first performed at Cliveden, the country home of Frederick, Prince of Wales, on 1 August 1740. There is debate as to whether Thomson or Mallet actually wrote it. In 1751 Mallet altered the words. He is stated to have omitted three of the original six stanzas, adding three others, written by Lord Bolingbroke. However, the new stanzas all seem to me completely different to the originals. It became extremely popular when Mallet produced his *Masque of Britannia* at Drury Lane Theatre in 1755. (4) The original chorus ended with slaves where you would expect, rather than the *marri-a-ied* sequence.


### References

- (1) The Scottish Students' Song Book, ed. Abbie JG et al., Bayley & Ferguson, London & Glasgow, 1891, pp 120-21, viewed at [https://archive.org/details/scottishstudents00scot\\_0/](https://archive.org/details/scottishstudents00scot_0/)
- (2) See Folktracks 30-210, *John Foreman, Music Hall Songs* or Reality records RY 1004, *JOHN FOREMAN the 'ouses in between*.
- (3) <https://www.contemplator.com/sea/marriedmer.html>
- (4) [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rule,\\_Britannia!](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rule,_Britannia!)

Charles Menteith © May 2023



## Remnants and Yarns by Rosie MacGregor (better known as Rosie Upton)



**Remnants and Yarns**  
Poverty and Protest in the woollen industry in Bradford on Avon

By Rosie MacGregor  
(aka Rosie Upton)

Published by White Horse (Wiltshire)  
Trades Council, November 2022

£10 including postage and packing  
can be ordered from:

[www.watermarx.co.uk](http://www.watermarx.co.uk)

*The book exposes the gaps between the impoverished lives of those who produced the cloth and those who grew rich on the profits.*

*The Napoleonic Wars resulted in a boom in trade but this declined after Waterloo and led to widespread discontent and greater poverty.*

**Why are people inspired to write books?** It was Ted and Ivy Poole 10 years ago who suggested I write a biography of Angela Gradwell Tuckett. My first and final book, or so I thought. It was the Covid lockdown, bored with nothing to do, that inspired my third book.

The real inspiration came from a talk many years before about Thomas Helliker given by Adrian Randall, Emeritus History Professor, Birmingham University and born in Trowbridge. Helliker was an apprentice sheerman, born in 1783, hanged despite his innocence, on his 19<sup>th</sup> birthday 22 March 1803 at Salisbury's Fisherton Gaol for allegedly setting fire to Littleton Mill. His body lies in St James' Churchyard, Trowbridge.

This was a period of great industrial unrest over the introduction of machinery, including the shearing frame that could do the work of 10 skilled shearers. They didn't shear the sheep as the name might imply but dressed or cropped the finished cloth to produce a fine even sheen. The most skilled of all wool trades.

After hearing the talk I thought there must be similar stories of unrest in Bradford on Avon where I live, other than the only one of which I

was aware, a riot in 1791 when some 500 angry workers assembled at the home of wealthy clothier Joseph Phelps who fired on them killing three including a child. The so called 'mob' then burnt the hated scribbling frame on the town bridge and threw the remains into the river. The coroner's verdict was to award Phelps £250 compensation and record that it was 'justifiable homicide'.

Bradford on Avon at the southernmost point of the Cotswolds had an infinite amount of water and labour ideal for production of broadcloth. Reliance was placed on a workforce paid poverty wages whilst the clothiers grew rich on the profits. It was not uncommon for angry disputes between the cloth workers for whom life was a constant struggle against the clothiers who employed them. The first documented riot in Bradford on Avon took place in November 1726 in a dispute over increased work for reduced pay. There were at least two further major riots, numerous strikes and a wealthy clothier was shot after a prolonged campaign of harassment.

Though early clothiers flourished and made huge profits this was not the case in later years. There had been greater resistance to the introduction of machinery in the west country in comparison to Yorkshire. By the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century Bradford in West Yorkshire was known as the "wool capital of the world" with more than 300 textile mills and Bradford on Avon and the woollen towns of West Wiltshire, Somerset and Gloucestershire were in decline with clothiers bankrupt and many workers left destitute. Some facing starvation and suicide.

I dedicated *Remnants and Yarns* to my 'A' level history teacher Godfrey Curry, now 96 years old, in Matlock. He made history accessible with an unerring energy and enthusiasm, which inspired a life-long love of history and the historic environment. The 'A' level syllabus British Political History 1815 – 1914 served me well in the background to the account. Matlock where I grew up had numerous working wool and cotton mills as well as the ruins of Cromford Mills, widely acknowledged as one of the birth places of the Industrial Revolution, the source of the factory system and home to Sir Richard Arkwright. The mill complex built in 1771 is now a UNESCO World Heritage site and was the world's first successful water powered spinning mill. Only one working textile factory, Smedley's at Lea Mills, now remains in the area.

A section in the book on propaganda features relevant broadsides and pamphlet literature. It is no coincidence, given dates which correspond with the discontent and upheaval in West Wiltshire from 1815 until the 1830s, that many broadsides in support of Napoleon praising his bravery and heroic deeds survive from the same period. It is with regret due to my oversight in checking the proofs that my acknowledgement of the late Pete Wood for his advice and a conversation I had with him about his important book *The Green Linnets* on Napoleon was not included in the finished publication.

Rosie Upton © May 2023

Copies of the book at £10, including postage and packing, can be ordered from WaterMarx Media in Devizes at [www.watermarx.co.uk](http://www.watermarx.co.uk).



## The Banks of the Nile, by Roy & Lesley Adkins

By the end of the 18th century Egypt was all but forgotten to those in the West. Over a millennium earlier the Arabs had overrun the country, and then in 1517 the Ottoman Turks took control. By 1798 Egypt had been closed to western travellers for hundreds of years. The few western merchants were mostly confined to the north, in Alexandria, Cairo, Damietta and Rosetta. Only a handful of men had ever travelled south of the Nile Delta, for which an armed escort was essential.

The Ottoman Empire was starting to crumble, and so the idea of taking over Egypt as a colony of France was attractive to Napoleon Bonaparte, quite apart from the unfounded stories that the country possessed untold riches. Whoever controlled Egypt would be in a position to create an overland route to India and undermine the trade that was essential to Britain's prosperity. At the very least, Britain might have to accept peace terms with France.

France was governed by the Directory at this time, and Napoleon was a general in the army. By allowing him to invade Egypt, his power could be curbed, though Napoleon had a vision of Egypt being the start of a conquest of Asia and Africa to equal the exploits of Alexander the Great. He lost no time in assembling an army and a fleet to carry all the troops, scientists and equipment, and they set sail on 20th May 1798.

Nelson was commanding a British fleet in the Mediterranean and so was soon in pursuit, but Napoleon's destination was unknown. He actually landed at Malta and looted the riches of the Knights of Malta, loading it on board the French ships to help finance the expedition. Leaving an occupying garrison at Malta, Napoleon next sailed for Egypt. Nelson had reached Egypt before Napoleon and then wasted much time searching for him elsewhere. Once the French arrived in Egypt, they moored their transport ships in Alexandria harbour and anchored their warships in a line in Aboukir Bay, 12 miles to the east.

On 1st August, Nelson's fleet discovered the warships and immediately attacked. The result was an overwhelming British victory that became known as the Battle of the Nile, even though it did not take place on the River Nile. It was the making of Nelson's reputation. The French naval power in the Mediterranean had been destroyed and the French army was trapped in Egypt. It was the first major setback for Napoleon, who up to now had been hailed as invincible. Napoleon eventually escaped the British blockade and fled back to France, leaving his army stranded.

The song *The Banks of the Nile* is often presumed to refer to Nelson's naval victory over the French in August 1798, but that is not the case. Although his victory was called the Battle of the Nile, it was a sea battle fought in Aboukir Bay, and the song actually refers to the subsequent land campaign of 1801. The ballad sheet containing the verses below was printed in the second half of the 19th century and can be seen on the *Broadside Ballads Online* website:

### THE BANKS of the NILE

*Hark, hark, the drums do beat my love, and I must haste awa,  
The bugles sweetly sound, and no longer can I stay,  
We are called up to Portsmouth, many a long mile,  
All for to be embarked for the Banks of the Nile.*

*Billy, dearest Billy, these words will break my heart,  
Come let us now be married before that we do part,  
For the parting from my Billy is like parting with my life,  
O stay at home my Billy, and make me your lawful wife.*

*O Nancy, dearest Nancy, sure that will never do,  
For Government has ordered no women there to go,  
For Government has ordered, the king he doth command,  
And I am bound on oath, my love, to serve on foreign land.*

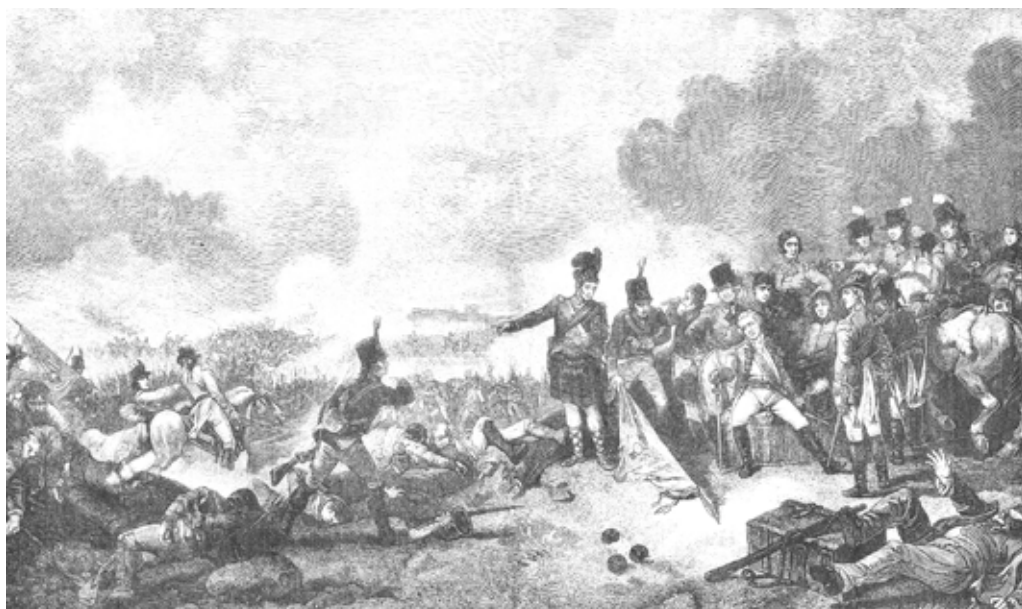
*I'll put on my velveteens, and go along with you,  
I'll volunteer my service, and I'll go to Egypt too,  
I'll fight under your banner, kind fortune yet may smile,  
And I'll be your loving comrade on the Banks of the Nile.*

*Your waist is rather slender, your complexion is to[o] fine,  
Your constitution is too weak to stand this hot campaign,  
For the sultry sun of Egypt your precious health would spoil,  
And the hot sandy deserts on the Banks of the Nile.*

*O cursed, cursed be the day that e'er the wars began,  
For they've taken out of Scotland, O many a pretty man,  
They've taken from us our life guards, protectors of our isle,  
And their bodies feed the worms on the Banks of the Nile.*

*Let a hundred days be darkened, let maidens give a sigh,  
'Twould melt the very elements to hear the wounded cry,  
Let a hundred days be bright, let maidens give a smile,  
And remember Abercrombie on the Banks of the Nile. (1)*

**Abercromby fatally wounded at the Battle of Alexandria** in March 1801 (a print from *The Graphic* 17, 2nd February 1878, p.117).







## The Banks of the Nile, by Roy & Lesley Adkins

Nearly three years after Nelson's victory, a British army expedition was organised to expel the French from Egypt, led by the popular Scottish army officer Lieutenant-General Sir Ralph Abercromby (often spelled as Abercrombie). It was supposed to be a joint expedition with Turkish forces, but they proved inadequate. The resulting battle near Alexandria in March 1801 was very closely fought, with many casualties on both sides. Abercromby himself was wounded. He died a week later and was buried at Malta. The British forces pushed further into Egypt's Nile Valley, and the French finally agreed to a treaty that allowed them to leave Egypt, which was ratified by the British on 2nd September. (2)

Versions of the song are found in English-speaking countries around the world. The main theme is the soldier departing for a campaign in Egypt and saying goodbye to his beloved. She says she will dress like a man and accompany him, but he refuses (usually with the excuse that the climate is too bad or that women are not permitted on this campaign). He promises to return and leaves her lamenting. Some mention Abercromby and soldiers from Scotland, and substantial numbers of Scottish troops did take part in this campaign. Abercromby was considered to have had a heroic death, and although he was famous in the years immediately after the battle, he tended to be forgotten by most people, unlike Nelson. It is therefore likely that the earliest versions of the song are those that mention Abercromby and have a Scottish viewpoint. It would not have been worthwhile for a ballad seller to try to revive the song by adding these themes later on.

In the last verse given here, there are two mentions of 'a hundred days'. This must refer to the period between Napoleon's escape from exile on Elba and his final replacement by King Louis XVIII, which became known as 'the hundred days'. The original version of this song can therefore be dated to some time after July 1815, when the phrase was first used.

Roy Palmer gives a short song that features a naval seaman rather than a soldier and refers to 'Nelson's victory', which must mean the Battle of the Nile of 1798. (3) Other lines mention a 'hot campaign' under the 'sultry suns of Egypt' - elements that are not consistent with a sea battle, but are often found in verses that feature soldiers. The naval song also talks about going to fight with Nelson on the banks of the Nile, which feels unrealistic and must have been adapted from the army version.

This song could be easily altered for later campaigns in Egypt, and Roy Palmer suggested it might have served as a model for songs about campaigns in other countries too. (4) This would also have helped its continued survival, and it remains a very popular song with singers and their audiences.

### References

- (1) See <http://ballads.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/search/title/The%20banks%20of%20the%20Nile>. It is Bod1374 and Roud Number 950.
- (2) For the Battle of the Nile and the Egyptian campaign, see R. & L. Adkins 2006 *The War for All the Oceans: From Nelson at the Nile to Napoleon at Waterloo* (London), pp. 7-59, 96-7.
- (3) Roy Palmer (ed.) 1973 *The Valiant Sailor: sea songs and ballads and prose passages illustrating life on the lower deck in Nelson's Navy* (CUP), p.10.
- (4) Roy Palmer (ed.) 1977 *The Rambling Soldier: Military life through soldiers' songs and writings* (Penguin), p.173.

Roy and Lesley Adkins © May 2023

Roy and Lesley Adkins are authors of books on naval and social history, including *Jack Tar* and *Eavesdropping on Jane Austen's England*. Their latest book is *When There Were Birds: the forgotten history of our connections*, published by Little, Brown (in hardback, e-book, audiobook and now in paperback). See [www.adkinshistory.com](http://www.adkinshistory.com).



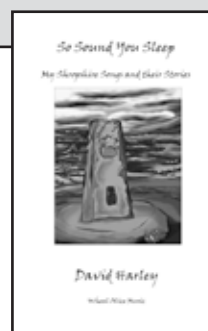
## Books announced

**SO SOUND YOU SLEEP: MY SHROPSHIRE SONGS AND THEIR STORIES**, David Harley.

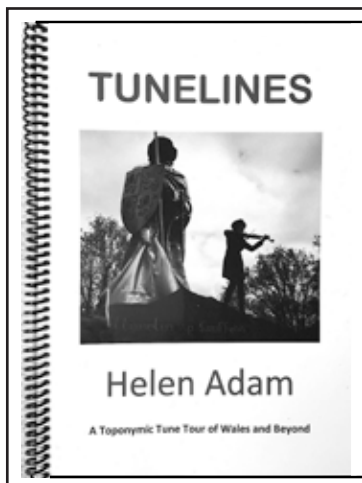
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Songs and settings of verse by Housman and others with a (sometimes tenuous) connection to Shropshire and the Welsh Marches, with copious historical, traditional, musical and/or biographical information. The songs and settings can be heard and even bought on Bandcamp: <https://davidaharley.bandcamp.com/album/so-sound-you-sleep-more-tears-of-morning>  
[david.a.harley\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:david.a.harley[at]gmail.com); <https://whealalice.com/2023/02/18/new-book-and-album/>



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## Here we go a-wassailing in Bradford on Avon, Wiltshire by Rosie Upton

There has been a massive resurgence across the west country in recent years in the ancient tradition of wassailing and celebrating the fruit of the apple tree. A fine thing indeed. Wiltshire may not be noted for its apple orchards or for traditional cider making, unlike the neighbouring counties of Somerset, Gloucestershire and Dorset but there are some historic orchards as well as small-scale cider makers too. Added to which it is great fun and surely there doesn't need to be an excuse to revive interest in the ancient 'pagan' or Anglo-Saxon practice of wassailing. English reserve is cast aside to encourage an abundance of fruits of the orchard, heartened perhaps by thoughts of cider and apple brandy.

# WASSAIL!

So back in 2017 Bradford on Avon Preservation Trust under the expert guidance of folk musician Nick Nicholls (he was at school with Martin Carthy) embarked on, not so much a revival of this ancient art because there is no evidence of wassails taking place here, but an invention on the last Saturday in January. Traditionally wassails being held on twelfth night, or more accurately the 17<sup>th</sup> of the month; old twelfth night before the introduction of the Gregorian calendar in 1752.

The location for this new festivity could not be better, adjacent to one of the most spectacular sites in the town. The massive 14<sup>th</sup> century Tithe Barn, once owned by the Nuns of Shaftesbury, takes centre stage together with an ancient Granary, West Barn and other historic buildings surrounding a former Stack Yard. Owned in part by English Heritage and the Preservation Trust. This group of buildings is one of England's greatest examples of a medieval monastic farmstead.

An orchard was planted some years ago alongside this site. Called the Hens' Orchard in memory of two feisty women, Elizabeth Stephenson and Katherine MacKean who were founders of the local Preservation Trust. They formed The Trust in 1964 to oppose and prevent further wholesale demolition of many of the historic buildings in the town by the former Urban District Council as 'slum clearances'. The two women ran an antique shop in the town called The China Hen and locals with deference rather than humour referred to them as The China Hens!

The Wassail is now firmly fixed in the Bradford on Avon calendar and each January attracts several hundred town's people to enjoy music and song, cider, apple juice and spiced apple cake. A brazier installed in the centre of the Stack Yard with blazing logs is a welcome treat in the cold of winter.

A local cider maker from a farm close by has in the past served this popular beverage. Not so 2023 due to lack of the necessary licence to sell alcohol - whoops! Spirits may have been dampened slightly but long queues still formed for non-alcoholic drinks and apple cake.

The ceremony began with dances performed by Bell's Angels, female Cotswold Morris side from Holt, followed by Bath based Widcombe Mummers performing a short play attended by a diverse range of Wassail Princesses, a King, a Hobby Horse, venerable folk musicians and singers. They sang the Gloucestershire Wassail (well Bradford on Avon is close to the border and geographically as well as geologically within the Cotswolds). The Birch Tree Folk Choir led singing of the specially written Hen's Orchard Wassail Song composed by Anne Gregson and poet Keri Hendy.

The assorted throng then processed from the Tithe Barn to the adjoining orchard to carry out various incantations, pour cider over the roots, hang cider-soaked toast on the branches and sing to the trees. This was followed by a clamour of banging drums, saucepans and other kitchen implements to waken the trees from their winter slumber, drive away evil spirits and encourage an abundant harvest. This isn't a conventional apple orchard and there are fruit trees of all types here but it seems to work because every year there is an abundance of fruit. Well done to all concerned.

Having spent my career in architecture and the historic built environment I have always been wary of pastiche but in this instance appropriation of the wassailing custom is forgivable. Its roots are firmly planted in tradition even if this isn't a traditional wassail as such. It is a praiseworthy event, family friendly and above all fun and colourful in contrast to the gloomy winter weather.

The word Wassail may have originated from the Nordic greeting "waes hael" meaning "be in good health". It might have worked for the trees but my body needed to recover. I headed off into the dark to another great British tradition - haddock and chips from the local chippie. My excuse, the downside of an open-air event that lasted for two hours in January, I was very cold and hungry.

Rosie Upton © May 2023

### Folklife news: societies & organisations



#### @ Trac Cymru

The folk development organisation for Wales, which works to promote our traditional music, dance and song at home and beyond. It is funded by the Arts Council of Wales and the Welsh Government.

Free online resources: <https://trac.cymru/en/learning-resources/> including:

- **Traditions:** Articles on Wales' iconic instruments & song traditions according to the experts. <https://trac.cymru/en/articles/>
- **A Collection of Welsh Folk Songs** with the help of Arfon Gwilym, one of our major tradition bearers: videos, soundfiles, dots, & words: <https://trac.cymru/en/songs/>
- **Tunes:** get playing videos, soundfiles, and dots. <https://trac.cymru/en/tunes/>

**Trac Cymru** organises **Gwerin Gwallgo**, a residential Folk Weekend for 11-18s [see our **FESTIVALS & WORKSHOPS DIARY**]

See **trac** website, <https://trac.cymru>, for news, directory, listings, resources, and on Facebook, at [facebook.com/traccymruwales](https://www.facebook.com/traccymruwales), where you will find videos, details of gigs, etc. @ **trac**, Music Traditions Wales, [trac@trac.cymru](mailto:trac@trac.cymru), 01446 748 556, <https://trac.cymru/>

#### Note from the Editors:

Folklife would like to thank Blanche Rowen, Trac Cymru Manager, for all her work to promote Welsh folk music and to welcome new Manager Megan Lloyd. Go to <https://trac.cymru> and see **Wales Directory, Resources** including articles, songs, tunes, Artist Development, etc etc, an amazing site, -- and additionally amazing as created by a small staff and limited resources.

On a personal note, Eleanor & I would not be singing Welsh folk songs without the BEAM workshop weekends! ~ *Diolch o galon, Eleanor a Sam*





## Folklife news: societies & organisations

📧 **PEDLARS PACK.** A discussion list for people interested in street literature and cheap print of the past (broadsides, chapbooks, songsters, prints, etc.) in Britain and beyond.

The whole point of the group is to facilitate communication, so don't be shy about telling us of books, articles, projects, events, that you are involved in - we won't think you're showing off. And if people would like to introduce themselves with a brief (yes, brief) statement of their interests, it would be a good way to start the ball rolling.

One thing to mention at the start is that it is clear that we will be coming at our core interest (cheap print) from different angles. The impetus for the group comes from those of interested in song (broadside ballads) and related content, but many who have joined through the SHARP list, in particular, will be from book history, printing history, bibliography, literacy, and various other fields.. This is exactly what we want because we need each other to get to grips with a fascinating, but often slippery subject. Please be patient and tolerant of other peoples' obsessions.

To join, email [pedlars-pack+subscribe@groups.io](mailto:pedlars-pack+subscribe@groups.io) Steve Roud

**TSF** **The Traditional Song Forum (TSF) 📧** A national organisation dedicated to the promotion, performance and publication of traditional folk song in the UK. The Traditional Song Forum has organised successful talks on Zoom, more are planned. These talks are very popular, now attracting international visitors, currently limited to 100 places; so if interested, see [www.tradsong.org](http://www.tradsong.org) sooner rather than later. This website is a gateway to a number of useful resources for those interested in researching or performing traditional folk songs. There is a newsletter to sign up to. Latest details on [www.tradsong.org](http://www.tradsong.org)

All enquiries to 📧 **Martin Graebe** (TSF Secretary), [martin.graebe@btinternet.com](mailto:martin.graebe@btinternet.com)

### TSF's Gloucestershire Folk Song Study Day, 13 May 2023

This programme of talks about the traditional songs of Gloucestershire will take place in the Dunrossil Centre at the Gloucestershire Heritage Hub, in Gloucester. The aim of this Study Day is to provide participants with a better understanding of the songs that the ordinary people of Gloucestershire sang in former times. Though it will be of interest to traditional song enthusiasts, it is designed to appeal to a non-specialist audience and will be focussed on the history of folk song, rather than its performance today. This will be an in-person only event, though we will record the talks with a view to putting them onto the TSF YouTube channel at a later date. There will be no charge for attendance at the event. Full details of the programme and how to book a place can be found on this Eventbrite page, <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/gloucestershire-folk-song-study-day-tickets-606441792727> and on the TSF website, [www.tradsong.org](http://www.tradsong.org)



**The Folklore Society 📧** Office address: The Folklore Society, 50 Fitzroy Street, London W1T 5BT, 0203 915 3034. Our Folklore Society Library and Archives are still at University College London Library and Special Collections, and publicly available for consultation. Many of our books can be loaned by Folklore Society members.

#### Forthcoming Folklore Society Events:

📅 **Tuesday 9 May, Scandinavian Werewolves Online Talk**, 6pm-7.30pm.

A Folklore Society online talk by Tommy Kuusela (Institute for Language and Folklore, Uppsala, Sweden)

In this talk, we will meet the werewolf from Old Norse sources through to contemporary popular culture in Scandinavia. The talk will mostly focus on descriptions of the werewolf as recorded in Swedish folklore archives, where it differs from later depictions in popular culture. Werewolves abound in Scandinavian folklore and we have thousands of descriptions of them in the archives. The talk will also address the question of animal transformation in folklore.

Tommy Kuusela is a researcher and archivist at The Institute for Language and Folklore in Uppsala, Sweden. He has a PhD in History of Religions and is a folklorist who has written more than 50 articles on his research interests. He is also the host of Sweden's biggest podcast on folklore - *När man talar om trollen*.

Tickets £6.00. Every ticket sold helps to support the work of The Folklore Society

📅 **Thursday 25 May, Folklore Now! Newer Researchers Day**, 10am to 4pm.

Centre for Folklore, Myth and Magic, 65 Halifax St, Todmorden, OL14 5BB, <https://www.folkloremythmagic.com/>

Sponsored by The Folklore Society, The Elphinstone Institute, and the University of Hertfordshire

The Newer Researchers Day brings together researchers from all disciplines with an interest in folklore research. It is a workshop intended to celebrate, share, and develop skills in the innovative ways in which many researchers are approaching the subject of the folklore of now.

Experts will run informative and interactive sessions on material culture of folklore, folklorists in the field, child-lore, and more.

During the event, we aim to provide an informal space to share experiences, achievements, and strategies in overcoming challenges in researching contemporary folklore; explore potential collaborations between newer researchers; and consider what different disciplines can bring to Folklore Studies and vice versa.

For more information about the programme and registering for Folklore Now! please contact the organizers Ceri Houlbrook, Lucy Wright, and Claire Slack on [c.houlbrook@herts.ac.uk](mailto:c.houlbrook@herts.ac.uk).

Free workshop, but if you are able to make a donation to the Folklore Society, that would be greatly appreciated.

📅 **Friday 14 to Sunday 16 July, Folklore, Geography and Environment: Ways of Knowing Water, Landscape and Climate in the Anthropocene**

The Wilberforce Institute, University of Hull, 27 High St, Hull, HU1 1NE, and online

A Folklore Society Conference. Conference Fees: see FLS website

Details on [www.folklore-society.com](http://www.folklore-society.com)

### FOLK LIFE TRADITIONS JOURNAL

Articles & news ~.

Please see [www.folklife-traditions.uk/contact-contribute.html](http://www.folklife-traditions.uk/contact-contribute.html)

### FOLK LIFE TRADITIONS JOURNAL

Published as part of Folklife West folk magazine, and also separately.

FTJ cost when published separately

1 year 3 issues, £9. EU £16, rest of world £20.

### Online: [www.folklife-traditions.uk](http://www.folklife-traditions.uk)

Webpages are:

• **THIS ISSUE** copy of print pages; read and/or download as PDF (free)

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• **Index: ISSUES-1** (Index to No. 1-50),

has links to each issue's free PDF downloads & list of contents.

• **Index: ISSUES-2** (Index to No. 51+), ditto.

+ subpages: individual issues as images + PDFs from FT-65 onwards.

• **Contact & Contribute**

• **Directory: Folklife Societies \***

• **Directory: Folklife Studies & Institutions \***

• **Directory: Seasonal Local Celebrations \***

\* FT DIRECTORY ~ entry forms (free) on the relevant webpages:

### Deadlines

- **FW Jan** < Jan • Feb • Mar • Apr > **Copy by 20 Nov**
- **FW May** < May • Jun • Jul • Aug > **Copy by 20 Mar**
- **FW Sept** < Sep • Oct • Nov • Dec > **Copy by 20 July**

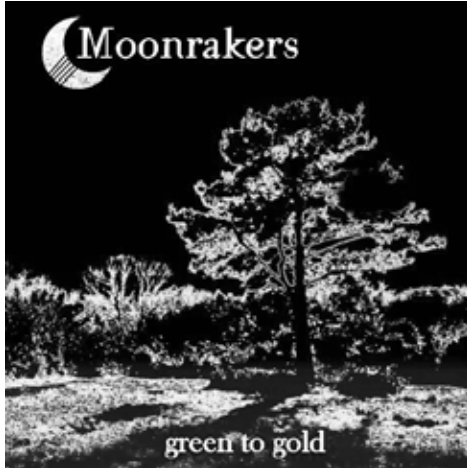
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# Moonrakers

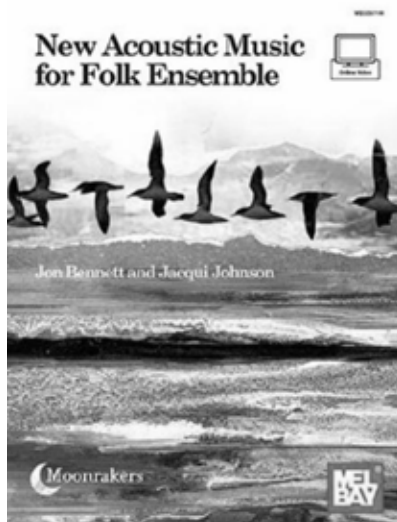


Moonrakers perform sparkling and unique arrangements of traditional UK folk songs and tunes as well as their own compositions. Their new album, **Green to Gold**, is their 5<sup>th</sup> and includes their trademark warm multi-instrumental sound and sophisticated arrangements that make this band special. With many years' experience playing at community centres, festivals, arts centres, churches and private functions, the band's prolific output has received glowing reviews from the music press ("*The real deal*", The Living Tradition; "*Uplifting, sensitively crafted songs and tunes*" FATEA magazine, "*Multi-instrumental and vocal delights played with skill and verve*" Shire Folk magazine, "*There is a sparkling upbeat positive feel to this band*" Rock&Reel).

The 2023 Moonrakers tour comprises 32 dates including workshop/courses. Moonrakers have been described as "*startlingly talented*" (Oxford Times), with five albums of "*exquisite music*" (BBC) and "*truly wonderful*" performances (Broadstairs and Wycombe Festivals). For live videos and further information, go to [www.moonrakers.net](http://www.moonrakers.net). For social media, go to [www.facebook.com/MoonrakersBand](https://www.facebook.com/MoonrakersBand).

**Saturday 27th May !!ALBUM LAUNCH!!** St Peter's Church, Upper **WOLVERCOTE**, Oxford OX2 8AQ. Tickets available from [www.ticketsoxford.com](http://www.ticketsoxford.com) 01865 305305. £15 (also concessions) and on the door. Enquiries: 01865 769206.

**Sunday 30th July WATERPERRY GARDENS**, Oxfordshire, OX33 1JZ. 6.00pm Our annual early evening (6pm) concert in the fabulous open air Amphitheatre with an extended interval - bring a picnic, bar available. £20 (+concessions) from [www.ticketsoxford.com](http://www.ticketsoxford.com) 01865 305305, some tickets on the door.



## Folk Orchestra Workshops

Multi-instrumental residential and day courses across the UK and throughout the year. Suitable for intermediate and advanced players, the focus is on arranging and performing tunes in an ensemble. Professional tutors and lots of creative fun! Further details: [www.moonrakers.net](http://www.moonrakers.net)

[www.moonrakers.net](http://www.moonrakers.net)

01865 769206 / 07914 79 5823





**PRINT MAGAZINES:** *FW, FOLKLIFE WEST, FOLKLIFE TRADITIONS JOURNAL, FOLK WHAT'S ON.*  
*JOURNAL:* part of *FW*, and available separately. *FOLK WHAT'S ON:* simply *FW's* ads.

- The same print adverts appear in all print magazines ~
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**ONLINE:** • [www.folklife-directory.uk](http://www.folklife-directory.uk) ~ *FOLK DIRECTORY, ONLINE*. Free entries for all.  
• [www.folklife-traditions.uk](http://www.folklife-traditions.uk) ~ copy of print *JOURNAL*: articles, folklife news, archive.  
• [www.folklife.uk](http://www.folklife.uk) ~ copy of print *FOLKLIFE WEST* Members' news pages; + **UPDATES**.

**EMAIL:** more publicity! free emailed **UPDATES** for: *DIRECTORY; JOURNAL* news; *Members' Folk News*.

- ❖ **MAY 2023**
- ❖ **FOLKLIFE WEST, No 73**
- ❖ **FREE emailed Updates**, 6-12 per year; just email [sam@folklife.uk](mailto:sam@folklife.uk) with your name, + country, or for England, your region.
- ❖ Also on [folklife.uk/updates](http://folklife.uk/updates)



**THE EDITORS** • Sam & Eleanor Simmons  
• [Sam@folklife.uk](mailto:Sam@folklife.uk) • 01684 561378  
• 16 Barrett Rise, Malvern, Worcs WR14 2UJ, UK

## OUR INFO-PAGE

**THIS PAGE COPIED FROM P3 "INFO PAGE" IN FOLKLIFE WEST AND GIVE AN IDEA OF FW MAGAZINE (WHICH INCLUDES THIS JOURNAL)**  
**FW contents >>> ① JOURNAL. ② FOLK NEWS, from Folklife Members. ③ FESTIVAL & WORKSHOP DIARY from our Members.**

### FOLKLIFE WEST: FOLK NEWS by area, pages in this order; plus Correspondents

- ❖ **CYMRU-WALES** Tudalen Cymru • Wales page ..... **Mick Tems**  
N-E Wales & Cheshire ...[not this issue] ..... **Brian Bull**  
Gwynedd: Travelling Sessions ..... **list: local sessions**
- ❖ **ENGLAND: WEST COUNTRY, the South-West region**  
Kernow•Cornwall ..... **Lamorna Spry**  
Our Glos-based Roving Correspondent ..... **Cresby aka Mr Red**
- ❖ **ENGLAND: WEST MIDLANDS region**  
S. Birmingham & nearby ..... **Bob Bignell**  
Warwickshire with Coventry ..... **Malc Gurnham**  
Cotswold Folk: S.Warks / N.Cotswolds + listings ... **Paul Bryan**  
S.W. Herefs and nearby ..... **John & Jane Baxter**
- We now have some news from other areas: more welcome!*
- ❖ **ENGLAND: EAST MIDLANDS**
- ❖ **ENGLAND: SOUTH-EAST** Folk Arts Oxford website **list: local folk**
- ❖ **ENGLAND: NORTH-WEST** Cumbria & N.Lancs ... **Steve Harrison**
- ❖ **ENGLAND: NORTH-EAST**
- ❖ **ENGLAND: YORKS & HUMBER**
- ❖ **ALBA-SCOTLAND**
- ❖ **FOLKLIFE INTERNATIONAL!** online only, on [www.folklife.uk/world](http://www.folklife.uk/world)
- ❖ **CORRESPONDENTS** as above, more welcome! ❖ **Other TEAM MEMBERS:**  
\* **Editing:** David Harley. \* **Zoom/web advice:** Paul Clarke.  
\* **Illustrations, Logos:** Chris Beaumont, Chris Stewart, John Crane.  
\* **Photographs:** Eden Tanner, Colin Davies.  
\* *We thank our team, we are all Volunteers ~ more welcome!*
- ❖ **FOLKLIFE TRADITIONS JOURNAL:** contributors listed on page 4.

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**1 year 3 issues, £9. EU £16, rest of world £20.**

### FOLKLIFE WEST Members' News

*What we publish comes from our Members who pay for this magazine, so: please don't send the editors albums to review, & don't ask for interviews*

**Members:** your club news, band, new album, festival ...  
your Reports, Dates, Festival Info, info on your latest album ...

**Each news item or festival/workshop diary entry:**  
~ up to 200 words, each news item! **More words if advert:**  
**1/8 up to 275; 1/4 up to 300; 1/2 up to 350; A4 up to 450.**

- ◇ **Don't count:** heading [venue/start time]; end [contact details]
  - ◇ **Photos:** B&W high-res (300 dpi) welcome X not low-res copied from web X
  - ◇ Members can send in a review if we've room; members' news is our priority
- AREA CORRESPONDENTS:** 350 to 700 words

### FOLKLIFE TRADITIONS JOURNAL

Articles & news ~ word limits by arrangement.  
Please see [www.folklife-traditions.uk/contact-contribute.html](http://www.folklife-traditions.uk/contact-contribute.html)

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☞ email text: just email us the words; you can also attach 1 logo to be included; we'll typeset, free (as we often do for smaller clubs)  
✓ We use: Mac OS 10.13.6, Adobe InDesign CS 6.  
✓ Colour ads: you are advised to send us a printout so we can check colours.  
✓ If B&W: pl convert colour to greyscale, & check that before sending.  
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X complex adverts may appear different; ask a professional designer to send them

### Deadlines

- **FW Jan** < Jan • Feb • Mar • Apr > **Copy by 20 Nov**
- **FW May** < May • Jun • Jul • Aug > **Copy by 20 Mar**
- **FW Sept** < Sep • Oct • Nov • Dec > **Copy by 20 July**

- ❖ **Changes after deadline?** Possibly, conditions are:  
☞ **Adverts must be same size** ..... changes by 30 Nov, 31 Mar, 31 Jul  
☞ **News must be no longer than previously sent** ... by 6 Dec, Apr, Aug
- ❖ **Non-Members' news** to Correspondents ..... 2 months (= 1 Nov, Mar, Jul)



# CORNWALL FOLK FESTIVAL

Since 1972 • One of our Finest Small Festivals

## Seth Lakeman Gigspanner Big Band Kinnaris Quintet

Windjammer Sarah McQuaid Teyr  
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Chris Ostler Cat Florence Thurs Ceilidh  
+ much more

**Thurs 24th–Mon 28th August Bank Holiday 2023 Wadebridge, Cornwall**



Gigspanner Big Band



Kinnaris Quintet



Seth Lakeman



Sarah  
McQuaid



Teyr

It's the  
**50th**  
Cornwall  
Folk Festival!

"The vibe was  
just amazing!"  
"Has that lovely kindness  
of Cornish folk...  
everything a folk festival  
should be."

### 40<sup>TH</sup> ST NEOTS FOLK FESTIVAL 9, 10 & 11 JUNE

**Friday evening: Showcase concert.**

Lynne Heraud & Pat Turner, Anna Hester,  
Den Miller Plus a New Roots finalist

**Saturday: Day of Dance in Town  
+ evening concert**

**Jez Lowe,**

**Jack in a Barrel,**

**The Shackleton Trio**

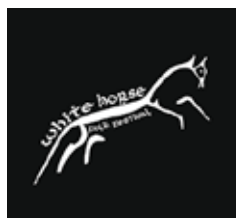
**Sunday evening-**

**Miranda Sykes & Suntrap**

Tickets on the door or from the Club  
or ticket application form via web  
site or leaflet.

**The Priory Centre, St Neots,  
PE19 2BH**

For more information see website:  
[www.stneotsfolkclub.co.uk](http://www.stneotsfolkclub.co.uk)



### White Horse Folk Festival

Grove, Wantage, Oxfordshire

**18 – 20 August**

*A small, friendly festival with the emphasis on joining in. Sessions, workshops, concerts, ceilidh and morris dancing. Camping on site.*

**Guests:** Jon Doran, Mossy Christian, Sound Tradition, The Medlars, Dave Plimmer, Nerida Cuddy, Out of Hand ceilidh band with Erin Mansfield

**MCs and Session hosts:** Kitty Vernon & Derek Burgess, Bill McKinnon, Denise Underwood, Jeff Gillett, Elaine Gillett

**Tickets & Info.**

Jeff & Elaine Gillett

[whitehorsefolkfestival@gmail.com](mailto:whitehorsefolkfestival@gmail.com)



### BODMIN FOLK CLUB CORNWALL ♣ FRIDAYS 8.00

St Petroc's Parish Centre, Priory Rd, Bodmin PL31 2DP


- ♣ May 12th     Peta Webb & Ken Hall
- ♣ May 19th     Anna Bass & Ray Taylor
- ♣ June 23rd    Bacca Pipes - Keighley Folk Club
- ♣ June 30th    Bob Fox
- ♣ July 21st     Pete Coe
- ♣ July 28th     Jerry O'Reilly & Rosie Davies

All other Fridays will be Open House and all of August will be Open House

Enquiries: Sylvia Watts, [sylvwatts@aol.com](mailto:sylvwatts@aol.com)

[bodminfolk.co.uk](http://bodminfolk.co.uk) [www.facebook.com/bodminfolk/](http://www.facebook.com/bodminfolk/)





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every  
Friday



8.00 pm  
folk club

**The Lamp Tavern**  
157 Barford Street, Highgate, B5 6AH

12 May 23 Tom Lewis  
9 Jun 23 Twiddlers  
7 Jul 23 *to be confirmed*  
21 Jul 23 *last night of season*  
*then closed for summer until*  
1 Sep 23 Scold's Bridle  
20 Oct 23 Hilary Spencer

*all other Fridays are*  
**Singers and Musicians Nights**

Contact Paul Ryan 0121 357 7326

Phil Cross 0121 357 4098

e-mail: [contact@blackdiamondfolkclub.org.uk](mailto:contact@blackdiamondfolkclub.org.uk)

<http://blackdiamondfolkclub.org.uk>



**PENNYMOOR SINGAROUND**

3rd Wed, 7.30pm ~

Lamb Inn, Sandford EX17 4LW

~ Bidy 01271 373305

[bidy.mallabone@outlook.com](mailto:bidy.mallabone@outlook.com)

**MUSIC SESSION**

12 noon, last Sun of month ~ The Half Moon, Cheriton  
Fitzpaine EX17 4JW ~ Clare 01884 860023

**SONG/MUSIC SESSION**

12-3pm, 1st Thurs of month ~ The London Inn,  
Morchard Bishop EX17 6NW ~ Jon 01363 83740

Facebook: *Penny Moor Singaround*



**Cheltenham Folk Club**

Usually **2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays**, 8pm.

May 15 **STEVE ANDISAW**

May 29 *No club - Bank Holiday*

June 12 **STEVE TURNER**

June 26 **t.b.c.**

July 10 **t.b.c.**

All dates are hopefully at the **Sandford Park Ale House**, 20 High St, Cheltenham, GL50 1DZ, but are currently only provisional. Please check before travelling!

**Please join the mailing list for up-to-date information:**  
[machteltje@gmail.com](mailto:machteltje@gmail.com)

Chris ~ 01242 571185 • Judith ~ 01242 577506

**Totnes Folk Song Club**

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the Month – 8.00pm

The Dartmouth Inn

The Plains, Totnes



**Most club nights are Singers Nights  
with occasional Guest Nights.**

Visit Totnes Folk Club on Facebook

Or for more information

contact Anne & Steve Gill 01803 290427

or Andy Clarke 01803 732312



**THE FOREST FOLK CLUB**

Orepool Inn, Chepstow Road,

Sling, Coleford GL16 8LH

*Cash only on the door please, £8 for guest nights,  
£2 for Singers Nights. Doors open at 7.30 for 8pm start.*

- May 7: The Lost Trades
- May 21: Singers Night
- June 4: Johnny Coppin.
- June 18 & July 2: Singers Night
- July 16: Jim Causley
- August 6: Harp and a Monkey.
- August 20: Singers Night
- September 3: The Jigantics
- September 17: Singers Night
- October 1: Huw Williams

Contact: Jan O'Neill

[www.forestfolkclub.com](http://www.forestfolkclub.com)

[www.facebook.com/groups/236526483056148](https://www.facebook.com/groups/236526483056148)

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30th September ~ Rhodri Davies  
with Chris and Julie Dewhurst  
16th December ~ Ivan Aitken  
with The Falconers

CLUB NIGHTS with live music, every WEDNESDAY,  
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Contact John: 01384 897 179, or  
goodevans.thenook@yahoo.co.uk

[www.sytchamptondanceclub.org.uk](http://www.sytchamptondanceclub.org.uk)



## NAILSEA FOLK CLUB

Tithe Barn, Nailsea, N. Somerset  
all events Tithe Barn except stated otherwise  
occasionally at Ring of Bells



Fri 5 May, 8pm,  
Ring o' Bells:  
The Lost Trades



Thurs 18 May, 8pm, Holy Trinity Church:  
Sam Sweeney

also NAILSEA FOLK singers & musicians nights  
Grove Sports Centre, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues, 8pm

online tickets: [www.ticketsource.co.uk/nailsea-folk-club](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/nailsea-folk-club)  
• [nailseafolkclub@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:nailseafolkclub@hotmail.co.uk) • Dave Francis 01275 540231  
[www.nailseafolkclub.co.uk](http://www.nailseafolkclub.co.uk) for full details



Worcester's oldest folk club!  
**the Somers**  
traditional folk club  
live 1st & 3rd Fridays, 8.15pm



Bishop Allenby Hall, St Stephen's Church, St Stephen's St  
off A449 Ombersley Rd, WR3 7HS Lots of parking in  
churchyard. 4 miles from M5 J7, for directions see website.

"A place where traditional song is at home"

The club runs from 8.15pm (doors open 8pm) until 10.45pm  
(no unaccompanied under-18s, no animals, please)

Please bring your own drinks & glasses ~ alcohol allowed!

- Live £3 members, £3.50 visitors (optional 2023 membership £10)
- 1st live visit free to visitors!

- **May:** 5th Folk Night, with Choruses to start  
19th Folk Night
- **Jun:** 2nd Folk Night, with Choruses to start  
16th & 30th Folk Nights
- **Jul:** 7th Folk Night, with Choruses to start  
21st Folk Night
- **Aug:** 4th Folk Night, with Choruses to start  
18th Folk Night

- 1st & 3rd Fridays usually, please check website for exceptional changes  
Other Fridays are on Zoom (Somers members only)
- Theme nights and features - see our website

**Come and join us on 1st & 3rd Fridays!**

Chris: [info@somers-folk-club.org.uk](mailto:info@somers-folk-club.org.uk) • Sam & Eleanor: 01684 561378

[www.somers-folk-club.org.uk](http://www.somers-folk-club.org.uk)

Visitors £3.50 ... your 1st live visit is FREE!



# Bromsgrove Folk Club

Bringing the best in folk, roots and acoustic music  
from the UK and beyond to North Worcestershire

Meeting at 8.00pm on the second & last Thursday of each month  
at Catshill Social Club, Meadow Road, Catshill, B61 0JJ

Booked in 2023 .....

Ian Bruce (11/05) Louise & Chris Rogan (25/05)  
Pete Morton (08/06) Ruth Angell (29/06) Dan Sealey (13/07)  
Pete Abbott (27/07) Showcase (10/08) Enda Kenny (31/08)  
Dan McKinnon (14/09) Lee Collinson (28/09)

## BROMSGROVE FOLK FESTIVAL

6<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> July 2023

@ Avoncroft Museum of Buildings, Bromsgrove, B60 4JR

Booked to date..... Colum Sands, The Jigantics,  
The Lost Notes, Zulu Tradition, Dave Gibb,  
Anthony John Clarke, Vicky Swan & Johnny Dyer,  
Kenny Speirs, Keith Donnelly, Lauren South,  
Patchwork Skies, Fairfield, Silvington, Stitherum, Tosh Ewins

**What fun we shall have!!**

Contact - Bob 07828 716842

OR email [bobcynfolk@aol.com](mailto:bobcynfolk@aol.com) to get on Mailing List  
OR log on to [www.bromsgrovefolkclub.co.uk](http://www.bromsgrovefolkclub.co.uk)

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**Priddy Folk Festival**  
30th Festival

**7TH - 9TH JULY 2023**  
PRIDDY VILLAGE GREEN  
SOMERSET BA53BB

**TIM EDEY \* KRIS DREVER**  
**DERVISH \* FARA \* THE JEREMIAHS**  
**TARREN \* OPA ROSA \* KABANTU**  
**OLD BABY MACKEREL \* THE DILLYBOYS**  
**BONFIRE RADICALS \* HONEY AND THE BEAR**  
**MISHRA \* THE RIN TINS \* AMADOU DIAGNE**  
**MEDICINE CREEK \* THE DRYSTONES**  
**NICK HART \* THE OFTEN HERD**  
**SAM EVANS \* BRYONY GRIFFITH + ALICE JONES**

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CHILDRENS' FESTIVAL AND THE FRINGE

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11-18 August 2023

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THE JEREMIAHS | URBAN FOLK QUARTET | HOME SERVICE | BANTER  
THE OFTEN HERD | ANGELINE MORRISON | RANAGRI | HARMONIA  
HONEY & THE BEAR | THE HILL TOP CEILIDH BAND  
WILL PAGE | CORACLE | WINTER WILSON | PATAKAS  
KATIE SPENCER | SUNTOU SUSSO | CLUB DEBRIS | SOURCE  
THE RELENTLESS CEILIDH BAND | JON WILKS | NICK DOW  
DAVE ELLIS & BOO HOWARD | SUTHERING | DAN SEALEY  
BEN & DOM | WILDWOOD JACK | MALCOLM MACWATT | CAPELLA  
ELVIS FONTENOT & THE SUGAR BEES | KEITH & SYLVIA  
BOB KENWARD | BECKY SYSON | PAULA RYAN | PAUL ARMFIELD  
JOHN & DI CULLEN | SHAKE ME UP SALLY

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4TH - 11TH AUGUST 2023

**Pre-Festival Shows:**  
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Barbara Dickson Fri 4 August

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(GIGSPANNER BIG BAND WITH RAYNOR WINN)  
**THE YOUNG UNS • SETH LAKEMAN • CARA DILLON**  
**KATHRYN TICKELL & THE DARKENING**

**LADY MAISERY • LEVERET**  
**BREABACH • THE MAGPIE ARC**  
**ANGELINE MORRISON • BANTER**  
**TOPETTE!! • TASHI LHUNPO MONKS**  
**CERYS HAFANA • DOMINIE HOOPER**  
**JOHN TAMS • SAM SWEENEY**  
**MADDY PRIOR & THE FORGOTTEN LANDS**  
**MCCUSKER MCGOLDRICK DOYLE • ELIZA CARTHY TRIO**  
**BRIGHDE CHAIMBEUL, ROSS AINSLIE & STEVEN BYRNES**  
**PEAT & DIESEL • BLACKBEARD'S TEA PARTY • VRĪ**  
**NARTHEN • CROWS • PAUL SARTIN TRIBUTE**  
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Christine Watkins – Claire Mace – David Ambrose – Dafydd Davies Hughes – Daniel Morden  
Deb Winter – Deepa Nair Rasiya – Ffon Phillips – Fiona Collins – Guto Dafis  
Gwilym Bowen Rhys – Jo Munton – Julie Murphy – Kamalagit Hughes – Katy Cawkwell  
Kes Morton – Lisa Schneidau – Mair Tomos Ifans – Megan Lloyd – Michael Harvey  
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