

FOLK IN CORNWALL



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JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH 2023

Welcome to Issue 24 of Folk in Cornwall. Issue 1 was published in January 2017 so this publication has now been running for six years. That first issue ran to just 12 pages so we have grown over the years, at least in size.

The objective of the magazine is, and has always been, to provide information on the wide range of activities taking place in Cornwall (and a small part of Devon) that can be considered as “folk”. Editing Folk in Cornwall has made me realise just how wide a range this is. From folk clubs, through more informal music and song sessions (usually held in a pub), to the various forms of dance – social, Irish, Scottish and Morris. We have been able to publicise various festivals and other events which might interest our readership, such as the Cornwall Heritage Awards in this issue. We have also found 24 excellent tunes deserving inclusion.

Though the club and diary listings remain central to each issue we have tried to surround them with short articles and other items in an effort to make the

Continued on Page 2

CORNWALL FOLK FESTIVAL *Presents*

Winter's Almost Over"

Ceilidh

WADEBRIDGE
TOWN HALL

Friday 24th Feb
7.30pm

£10/5 under 16s

Tickets from:

CornwallFolkFestival.com/

ceilidh OR

Wadebridge Bookshop OR

On Door



Continued from Page 1

magazine readable. We receive a steady stream of CDs for review from music publisher James Soars – thank you Jim. A flow that sometimes daunts our reviewer and friend Dave, but hopefully keeps him entertained listening to them.

A lot has changed since the first issue of Folk in Cornwall was published and the last six years have been hard for many people with, I'm afraid generally more bad news than good. The threat of Covid hasn't gone away and, for some, remains a restriction on their social life. Added this year has been the financial threat caused by high fuel and energy costs – generally termed the cost of living crisis. The social and financial environment has changed a lot and this change has been reflected

in the folk scene. There is still concern about going into crowded places and, increasingly about the cost of travelling to events.

A number of sessions that closed on the outbreak of Covid have not restarted. For this issue we have gone through our records and removed any unlikely to start again. However, on the positive side, a number of new sessions started in 2022 – including one local to me in Lostwithiel. I've detected a trend for sessions to start and finish earlier than in the past as maybe people have got out of the habit of staying out late, but generally the numbers attending seem to have recovered to the levels before Covid.

Certainly the folk scene is up and running again. For Folk in Cornwall, the income received from advertising and donations still covers the cost of producing and distributing the magazine and there are still people prepared to come up with interesting copy and to get each issue together ready for our printers. Many thanks to all of you - you may be a relatively small group, but your efforts are much appreciated.

Happy new year to all our friends and readers. I hope 2023 will be a good year for us all.

John Tremaine

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TROYLS AND SCOOTS

I am no expert at all on Cornish History, but I was surprised to find a whole seam of dance terms I hadn't heard of before.

I think we all know about Furry/Flora dances, and even Morris dances, but I hadn't heard of Troyls (which seem to be roughly equivalent to a ceilidh elsewhere). Scoot dancing seems to be akin to Step dancing (perhaps in clogs?). You can see fine Bal Maidens on YouTube dancing a Tin Stamp, which seems to be one representation. American Line dancers talk about Boot Scootin', which is something else altogether.

Some references exist to Mattachines – which is a sort of Sword dance, and one of the highly decorated bench ends at St Nonna's Church at Altarnun is supposed to show this (or is it just a Morris dancer with a stick?).

Then there is supposedly Geese Dancing (aka Guise-dancing) - mentioned by many writers including Quiller-Couch, but most people see this as a description of the various Mumming plays across the county. Turkish

Knights are fearsome enough without adding dance steps to the routine.

Bishop Peter Quinel of Exeter apparently issued an edict banning circle dances in churchyards back in 1287, and I certainly haven't seen many in my years in Cornwall.



I'm surprised it wasn't taken up when the Primitive Methodists split from the Church of England!

So are there probably even more oddities out there – even proper Cornish ones like Nos Lowen Serpent dances with links to Breton Fest Noz celebrations? My education continues . . .

Neil Hartwell

SLOW & EASY Folk Sessions



Every other Monday night 7-9pm

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

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

Meet in the Quimperle Rooms,
Public Hall, Liskeard.

3-5 West Street, PL14 6BW

Any Questions?

Tel: Jimmy Manley on 07759 442059

We are on Facebook

DEVORAN ACOUSTIC SESSIONS
@ Devoran Village Hall

Bully Wee Band

Farewell Tour

Saturday 28th Jan

John Spiers

Friday 24th March

01726 63513/www.crbo.co.uk
or Truro TIC in person

John Spiers Melodeon Workshop

Saturday 25th March

Details contact devoranvh@live.co.uk

Unsung heroes and heroines recognised at Cornwall Heritage Trust annual awards

The independent Cornish charity presented three prizes as part of its Heritage Champion Awards, which recognise people who have made a significant contribution to Cornwall's heritage in a voluntary capacity.

This year's winners were Elizabeth Dale 'The Cornish Bird', St Columb Old Cornwall Society and Trevor Smitheram. The awards were sponsored by Coodes Solicitors, a leading Cornish-based law firm with a long and proud history that dates back 275 years.

Elizabeth Dale was named the winner of the Sir Richard Trant Memorial Award for Heritage Champion Award 2022. The award is presented in honour of Cornwall Heritage Trust's former Chairman, who, following a distinguished career in the Army, dedicated his remaining years to helping promote Cornwall's unique and distinct heritage.

Elizabeth won the award for her work with the 'Cornish Bird' blog which shines a light

on Cornwall's hidden places and untold stories. The blog is very well received with over 234,000 page views and over 7,400 Twitter followers.

Elizabeth said: "I started the "Cornish Bird" blog in 2016 because I wanted somewhere to share my love of Cornwall and its incredibly diverse history and folklore. I was very aware that I hadn't been taught any Cornish history at school and that the Cornwall that I saw represented in the media was not one that I really recognised, I wanted to fill that gap for me and others like me. I thought that at some point I would surely run out of things to write about but that just hasn't happened yet!"

Elizabeth also has regular columns in local publications such as MyCornwall magazine, a slot on the Tiffany Truscott Show and has appeared on a number of TV programmes to tell local stories and add colour to the topic.



Elizabeth Dale, winner of the Sir Richard Trant Memorial Award for Heritage Champion Award 2022

St Columb Old Cornwall Society was presented with the Heritage Organisations and Groups Award. An active member of the Federation of Old Cornwall Societies, St Columb earned the award for its commitment to the preservation of Cornwall's traditions and heritage at Castle an Dinas, one of the 12 historic sites Cornwall Heritage Trust cares for.

Every year, the society hosts a well-attended midsummer bonfire at the site and this June it supported Cornwall Heritage Trust with another bonfire lighting, held as part of Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee beacon lighting celebrations.

The last Heritage Champion Awards were presented in 2019 and, with this in mind, the final prize to be presented was a special Heritage Champion Lockdown Award. This was awarded to Trevor Smitheram.

During pandemic lockdowns, Trevor posted regular, almost daily, videos on social media featuring dialect stories and poems which kept up the spirits of local communities and saw people from all over the world engaging with his work. A stalwart of the Hayle Old Cornwall Society, Trevor now offers his dialect stories in-person on a twice-weekly basis as well as continuing to give his time with tours, talks, fundraising and practical help to a number of Cornwall's heritage organisations.

Over 100 guests headed to Scorrier House near Redruth last Thursday to celebrate the winners' achievements at a glittering awards ceremony, which was hosted by Cornwall Heritage Trust's President, Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall, Colonel Edward Bolitho OBE. The Trust's Chairman, Lieutenant Colonel Richard Trant and Tiffany Truscott from BBC Radio Cornwall also joined him to present the awards.

Guests were treated to Cornish music and song from Mike O'Connor and Barbara Griggs and refreshments, which were generously provided by Colwith Farm Distillery and Navas Tonic.



St Columb Old Cornwall Society, winner of the Heritage Organisations and Groups Award

Cathy Woolcock, Cornwall Heritage Trust CEO said: "What a special night! It's such an honour to recognise the inspiring people whose achievements in preserving and strengthening Cornwall's heritage all too often go unsung. Their invaluable work is helping connect people with Cornwall's landscape, stories and communities and we wish them all huge congratulations. Thank you to everyone who made the wonderful evening possible."



Trevor Smitheram, winner of the Heritage Champion Lockdown Award



Bagas Crowd News



Bledhen Nowydh Da Onan hag Oll, Happy New Year to You All.

We very much enjoyed several seasonal bookings last December. We played at a café in Twelveheads near Redruth in aid of Little Harbour Children's Hospice, in Redruth itself where a couple of us also ended up playing for a Mummer's Play with the Redruth Festival Band, and in Truro for the Afternoon WI who served us amazing refreshments including the best meringues!

We've laid aside our Cornish folk carols now and we're working on a new set list for our gigs at St Piran's Tide and beyond. All our repertoire has a Cornish connection, whether it's a traditional tune or a recently written one. We will be including a variety of tune types, jigs, polkas, furies, kabm pemp (5 step tunes) and maybe a slow tune with some lyrics in Cornish. Then we'll be prepared for playing at nos lowens or travelling to Brittany, which we've been invited to do over Easter. I'll tell you more in the next issue!

We welcome any new fiddle/strings/hand percussion players to join us, either in the Malabar Centre Truro or in our Bagas Bubble at Penryn. All welcome, any age and any level of fiddle experience! Tuition one to one is also available.

We are going to be playing at St Piran's Day, Saturday March 4th, in St Austell town centre, as part of a programme of music and dance from 10am till 3pm.

As well as performing, we also often bump into each other at various other Cornish music events as lots of us are involved with other projects and ensembles. In 2022 the wonderful venue The Cornish Bank in Falmouth began regularly hosting nos lowens.

This year they continue with Twelfth Night Celebration Degol Stul on January 8th, trio Heb Mar on February 12th, and Fool's Rock Album Launch on March 12th. You'll find Bagas Crowd members featuring in all these events.

DREAMERS FOLK
We are the music makers *We are the dreamers of dreams*

The Victoria Inn, 1 The Square, Four Lanes, Near Redruth . TR16 6PZ

Sunday 22nd January
Jim Causley
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Sunday 19th February
Silvington

Tricia Moore & John Connor combine excellent song writing with gorgeous harmonies & instrumentation

Sunday 5th March
Mike Silver

A Dreamers Folk favourite, Mike returns to Four Lanes with his sublime vocals & guitar to entertain

All other Sundays are
 Open House / Come All Ye / Singers Nights
www.dreamersfolk.co.uk

Philleigh Folk

See us on Facebook
 At the Roseland Inn, Philleigh

WEDNESDAY 11th January
 The welcome return of musician, Storyteller and singer extraordinary
MIKE O'CONNOR
 With the haunting sound of
BARBARA GRIGGS' harp.....£8

WEDNESDAY 22nd February
INCINQUE - A 5-Piece band from North Cornwall with several familiar faces.....£8

WEDNESDAY March 15th
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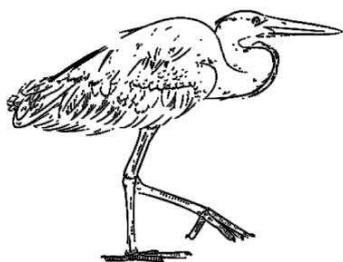
Reserve tickets from Greg Williams
 01326 270 379 or ardowr@gmail.com 379
 or ardowr@gmail.com

COUNTRY WISDOM

There are many sayings related to the weather. "Red sky at night shepherds (or sailors) delight" being probably one of the best known, but "Rain before seven, fine before eleven" is another I remember well from my childhood. I've actually heard scientific explanations for both of these, but I won't repeat them here.

You can actually find scientific explanations for a lot of rhymes and saying about weather some of which seem more likely than others.

An old Cornishman I worked with always used to say "Bullocks running with their tails up – sign of thunder". Not sure if there is a scientific explanation for this, but we used to drive to work every day past a field of bullocks and they would have their tails up quite often. Now in those days we seemed to get more thunder than we do now – but not as often as the tails were up!



However my favourite weather saying was one I found many years ago in a magazine about birds. "Heron on one leg at noon, it'll put its other leg down soon". Can't argue with that one . . .



It's Back! Wadebridge Folk Club

Thurs 19th Jan 2023, 7-10pm £5

Pentireglaze Café, Near New Polzeath, PL27 6QY

Come ready to listen or to sing

Hot and cold drinks available

Contact Neal: neal.jolly@gmail.com



Bodmin Folk Club

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



- January 6th and 13th - Open House
January 20th - OH ft. Rob Barratt
January 27th - Peter and Barbara Snape
February 3rd and 10th - Open House
February 17th - Sally Ironmonger and Brian Carter
February 24th - Open House
March 3rd - Steve Turner
March 10th - Krelys
March 17th and 24th - Open House
March 24th - Open House
March 31st - Brian Peters

For further details and contact please visit our Facebook page, our website, or Cornish Riviera Box Office, details below
www.bodminfolk.co.uk • www.crbo.co.uk



FOLK ON THE MOOR
The Moorland Hotel
Wotter

GUEST LIST

- 15 Jan Flash Jack
29 Jan Barron Brady
5 Feb Ukraine Fundraiser
12 Feb Jim Reynolds
26 Feb Newman/Chathasaigh
5 Mar Steve Turner
19 Mar Tom McConville
26 Mar Lee Collinson

NEW VENUE!

Club meets every Sunday at 7.45pm
Non-specified dates are Open Nights

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or email: folkonthemoor1@gmail.com



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The Tolmen Centre, Constantine

- a small village venue with a big vision

Wesleyan chapels are ten a penny throughout Cornwall. Many have been converted for various purposes, but few as successfully as the one in Constantine, five miles west of Falmouth, which over the past twenty years has developed into one of the most successful small performance venues in the county. Re-incarnated as The Tolmen Centre (the name derives from the Tolmen stone, an enormous granite boulder that once stood atop a nearby granite quarry before being unceremoniously blown up), the venue is run entirely by local volunteers.

Downstairs is a large open room, which serves as a cafe when events are running, as well as a space for yoga classes and the like. We have a small 'bring and borrow' book and video library, and the walls are used for a programme of art exhibitions by local artists. The fortnightly 'Tolmen movies' are shown downstairs, and a small stage is available for other events, including literary evenings and dances.

Upstairs the auditorium provides seating for up to 180, in the original semi-circular raked wooden pews that used to house the chapel congregation. A purpose-built stage, lighting rig and sound desk allow for professional theatre productions and concerts of all sorts. We run three seasons through the year (we close for the month of August), with roughly equal numbers of theatre and music events.

Our music programme covers a range of genres, from folk to classical. For readers of Folk in Cornwall, here is a sample of performers from the folk world who have appeared at the Tolmen over the past decade: Martin Carthy, Peggy Seeger, Martin Simpson, Chris Wood, Steve Tilston, Wizz Jones & Ralph McTell, Martha Tilston, Steve Knightley, Spiers & Boden, Jackie Oates, Jim Moray, Daoiri Farrell, Rob Heron and the Teapad Orchestra, Talisk, Andy Irvine, Kitty Macfarlane, The Odd Folk, Will Keating, The Carrivick Sisters, The Changing Room, Ye Vagabonds, Stefan Grossman, Lynched, Madison Violet ... and the list goes on. We have also welcomed music from Africa with Kanda Bongo Man, the West African Love Affair, and Black

Umfolosi; flamenco with Jaime Cantera; gypsy jazz from the Budapest Cafe Orchestra; cabaret from Barb Jungr; solo guitar from Clive Carroll; and jazz from John Etheridge and Andy Sheppard.

If you haven't visited the Tolmen Centre yet, we'd love to see you. All our shows begin at 7.30pm, and for most of them we provide a limited number of places at our on-site cafe (bookable in advance only), serving excellent two-course meals for £15. We have a bar, and a stairlift is available. Parking in the village is always possible but you may have to walk a few hundred yards so it is worth leaving a bit of time. Details of our programme can be found on our website at www.tolmencentre.co.uk

Hoping to see you soon!

Dougal Jeffries
(music promoter)

THE TOLMEN CENTRE

Fore St, Constantine, Falmouth TR11 5AH

Presents

Phil Beer :

Sat. January 28th

Chris Garrick and John Etheridge

Sat. March 11th

Kathryn Roberts & Sean Lakeman

Sun. March 19th

Martha Tilston :

Sat. April 1st

Information and tickets

www.tolmencentre.co.uk

DIARY DATES

JANUARY

Sat 28 CONCERT. Devoran Acoustic Sessions, Devoran Village Hall, Quay Rd, Devoran TR3 6PW. Bully Wee Band Farewell Tour. 01726 62513 / www.crbo.co.uk or Truro TIC in person.

Sat 28 CONCERT. The Tolmen Centre, Fore St., Constantine, Falmouth TR11 5AH. Phil Beer. Information/tickets www.tolmencentre.co.uk

FEBRUARY

Fri 24 FUNDRAISING CEILIDH. Cornwall Folk Festival. Wadebridge Town Hall, starting 7.30pm. Band: Cataclews. £10 / £5 for Under 16s. From Wadebridge Bookshop, www.CornwallFolkFestival.com/ceilidh or or on the door. Bar.

MARCH

Sat 11 CONCERT. The Tolmen Centre, Fore St., Constantine, Falmouth TR11 5AH. Chris Garrick & John Etheridge. Information/tickets www.tolmencentre.co.uk

Sun 19 CONCERT. The Tolmen Centre, Fore St., Constantine, Falmouth TR11 5AH. Kathryn Roberts & Sean Lakeman. Information/tickets www.tolmencentre.co.uk

Fri 24 CONCERT. Devoran Acoustic Sessions, Devoran Village Hall, Quay Rd, Devoran TR3 6PW. John Spiers. 01726 62513 / www.crbo.co.uk or Truro TIC in person.

APRIL

Sat 1 CONCERT. The Tolmen Centre, Fore St., Constantine, Falmouth TR11 5AH. Martha Tilston. Information/tickets www.tolmencentre.co.uk

Sat 22 CENTENARY DANCE. Launceston Folk Dance Club. Launceston Town Hall, 8pm-11pm. Band: The Dartmoor Pixie Band. Caller: Sarah Bazeley. Bring and Share Supper.

Please note that the deadline for Diary Dates and Advertising for the April-May-June 2023 Edition #25 will be March 1st 2023

MY FAVOURITE SONGS

It must have been almost 40 years ago that I first heard a song called Barrett's Privateers. There is a line in the chorus about being a broken man on a Halifax pier and I remember the singer joking that once a Yorkshireman had asked him "where's t'pier in Halifax". At the time I didn't get the joke. If you don't know the song you probably won't get it either so I'll explain. It was written by a Canadian, Stan Rogers, who came from Halifax Nova Scotia – so it's not about Halifax in Yorkshire.

Barrett's Privateers has, over the years, become one of my favourite songs. Usually sung acapella, it's about the adventures of the crew of a sloop trying to make their fortune by committing acts of piracy on American shipping in the 1700s. They didn't turn out well. I suppose this could be said to be an early example of privatisation, where the English government would authorise – by issuing what were called letters of mark –

ships to attack American vessels at a period when relations between our two countries were somewhat strained.

The ship in the song was not in a good state to begin with. The song says - "The Antelope Sloop was a stinking sight. She'd a list to port and her sails in rags, and the cook's in the scuppers with the staggers and jags". Stan Rogers had an amazing ability to create a vivid picture in very few words. The Antelope was in an even worse state after her brush with an American ship, with the sole survivor of the twenty strong crew taking five years to get back home to Halifax.

Stan Rogers' own story has all the elements of one of his songs. He was killed, tragically, in the 1980s, in an aeroplane fire after going back into the plane to rescue other passengers. If I were to make a list of my favourite songs the majority would come from him, with Barrett's Privateers near or at the top.

CONTACTS – FOLK CLUBS

These listing details are believed correct, but please contact the organisers to confirm dates and time before travelling to a session



BAGAS CROWD Community group for fiddles and strings of all ages and abilities. Meeting some Saturday mornings at Malabar Community Centre, Albany Road, TRURO TR1 3ND email bagascrowd@gmail.com

BODMIN FOLK CLUB Reopened November 2021 at new venue St. Petroc's Parish Centre, Priory Road Bodmin PL31 2DT. Fridays 8pm. Contact Sylvia Watts - sylvwatts@aol.com

BUDE FOLK CLUB Falcon Hotel, Breakwater Water Road, Bude, EX23 8SD. Sunday Contact Vince Jerrison 07788 156210. www.budefolk.com

DEVORAN SLOW AND EASY FOLK Village Hall, Quay Road, Devoran, TR3 6PW. 4th Wednesday. Contact devoranvh@live.co.uk

DREAMERS FOLK CLUB Victoria Inn, Four Lanes, Redruth TR16 6PZ. Sundays 7.15pm. Contact Jonathan Ryan 01736 711743.

FOLK ON THE MOOR Change of venue to: The Moorland Hotel, Wotter, PL7 5HP. Sunday 7.45pm. Contact Anton Horwich 01822 853620, www.moorfolk.co.uk

LISKEARD SLOW AND EASY FOLK Public Hall, West Street, Liskeard PL14 6BW. Monday. Contact Jimmy Manley 07759 442059.

MILLBROOK FOLK CLUB Millbrook Village Hall, PL10 1AX. Normally takes place on the 3rd Friday in each month from 8pm. Contact Joshua Lacey-Roberts 07981 551454 or email millbrookfolk@gmail.com

PENZANCE FOLK CLUB Bath Inn, Cornwall Terrace, Penzance TR18 4HL. Alternate Wednesdays. 8.00pm to 10.30pm. Contact Linda Collins 01736 333007. Website: www.penzancefolkclub.co.uk currently being updated.

PHILLEIGH FOLK The Roseland Inn Philleigh TR2 5NB. Monthly. Contact Greg Williams 01326 270379 www.philleighfolk.co.uk

WADEBRIDGE FOLK CLUB Re-opening in new venue: Pentireglaze Cafe near New Polzeath, PL27 6QY. Thursday 19th January 2023. £5. Email neal.jolly@gmail.com

CONTACTS - PUB SESSIONS

ARTILLERY ARMS SESSION 6 Pound St, Stonehouse, Plymouth PL1 3RH. First and Third Tuesday in the month from 8.00pm. Contact Marilyn Cowan 01752 309983.

BENBOW CORNISH SESSION The Admiral Benbow, 46 Chapel Street, Penzance TR18 4AF. Thursdays. Contact John Gallagher – jg250750@gmail.com

BLUE ANCHOR SESSION Blue Anchor, 50 Coinagehall St, Helston TR13 8EL. Thursdays. Acoustic music – all styles. Contact Tim Hague 07383 988481.

BUDE FOLK SESSION Falcon Hotel, Breakwater Road, Bude, EX23 8SD. Tuesdays. Contact Vince Jerrison 07787 156210 or see www.budefolk.com

CADGWITH SESSIONS Cove Inn Cadgwith, TR12 7JX. Every Tuesday from 7.30pm. Contact Dave Greenough 01326 281417. Also first Sunday in each month from 3.00pm. Contact Brian Jenkins 01326 290008.

CONSTANTINE SESSION Trengilly Wartha Inn, Nancenoy, Constantine, Falmouth TR11 5RP. Wednesdays from 8.00pm. Alternates between traditional and contemporary sessions. Contact 01326 340332.

CORNISH ANCESTOR SESSION The Cornish Ancestor, Callington PL17 7AS. Third Friday in the month 8.00pm. Music/song session in the bar of the pub. Contact 07904 269495, or via Facebook.

CORNWALL OLD TIME American Old Time Music. Out of the Blue, Mill Lane, Porthleven TR13 9LQ. Some Wednesdays. For details see <https://oldtimemusic-cornwall.weebly.com>

COUNTRYMAN CORNISH SESSION Countryman Inn, Piece, Nr Redruth TR16 6SG. Every Monday from 8.00pm. Previously held at the Seiners in Perranporth. Contact 01209 215960.

COUNTRYMAN INN SESSION Countryman Inn, Piece, Nr Redruth TR16 6SG. Wednesdays. Contact 01209 215960.

COUNTRYMAN UKEJAM Countryman Inn, Piece, Nr Redruth TR16 6SG. Last Monday in each month 7:00-8:30pm. Round the Room Sing and Play Along 01209 215960.

CROWS NEST SESSION Crows Nest Inn, Nr Liskeard PL14 5JQ. Usually first or second Monday in each month. Bluegrass / Old Time / Americana acoustic session. Contact Jan Holden 077619 491990.

DANCING FLEA'S UKEJAM Smugglers Inn, Calais Road, St Erth, Praze TR27 6EG. Second Tuesday in each month. 7.30-9.30pm. Contact Dave on 07891 340539 or email: dancingfleaorchestra@gmail.com

GOLOWAN BAND FOLK SESSION Bath Inn, Cornwall Terrace, Penzance, TR18 4HL. First, third, fourth and fifth Tuesdays from 7.30pm. Contact Cassandra 07572 518831.

JONAH'S LIFT The Mariners, 4 Grove Place, Falmouth TR11 4AU. Second Friday in the month at 8.30pm. World and folk music. Play a tune, sing a song, read some poetry, or just come along and enjoy the craic!

CONTACTS - PUB SESSIONS

LOSTWITHIEL SESSION Social Club, Fore Street, Lostwithiel, PL22 0BL. Acoustic Jam – all styles welcome. 2nd Friday in each month from 8pm. Contact 01208 872124.

LUXULYAN CORNISH SESSION Kings Arms, Bridges, PL30 5EF. Second Sunday in each month 5.00 to 8.00pm. Contact Chris Bartram 07545 094490.

MELODEON PRACTICE GROUP Various locations Stithians / Ponsanooth area. Contact organiser for times and locations. Email jarmins@btopenworld.com

MOTH AND MOON SESSION 31 Killigrew Street, Falmouth TR11 3PW. Tuesdays from 7.00pm. Acoustic session with traditional and contemporary folk songs and tunes, traditional blues, acapella singers and acoustic genres that fit with the theme of the evening. Contact 07717 097157.

NANSTALLON SESSION The Institute, Nanstallon PL30 5LZ. 1st Friday in each month. From 7pm. £1.50. Contact Mark Walters 01208 831875.

PENZANCE CROWN SESSION Crown Inn, Victoria Square, Penzance, TR18 2EP. Every Monday 7.00pm to 10.00pm. Contact Alan Shepherd, 07866 949261.

PENZANCE RAFFIDY DUMITZ BAND Star Inn, 119 Market Jew Street, Penzance TR18 2LD. Saturdays 5.00pm to 6.30pm. Contact Tom Jane 07854 424513. Cornish folk for Cornish culture events. All abilities and acoustic instruments welcome.

ST DOMINICK SESSION Who'd Have Thought It Inn, St Dominick PL12 6TG. Second Saturday in month from 7.30pm. Contact Sylvia Watts 01579 382711.

ST JUST SESSION The Kings Arms, 5 Market Square, TR19 7HF. 1st Sunday of each month from 7.30pm. Around the room acoustic session, open to all musicians, singers and genres. Contact 01736 788545.

TOP HOUSE SESSION The Top House Inn, Lizard, TR12 7NQ. Wednesdays from 7:30pm. 01326 450098.

TRURO FOLK SESSION The Old Ale House, 7 Quay Street, Truro, TR1 2HD. First Tuesday in each month 7.30pm. Contact via Facebook or phone 01872 271122.

TYWARDREATH UKE JAM Ship Inn, Polmear, Par. PL24 2AR. Irregular. Contact dquoroll@hotmail.co.uk



*Are we featuring your
Session in our listings?*

CONTACTS – ONLINE SESSIONS

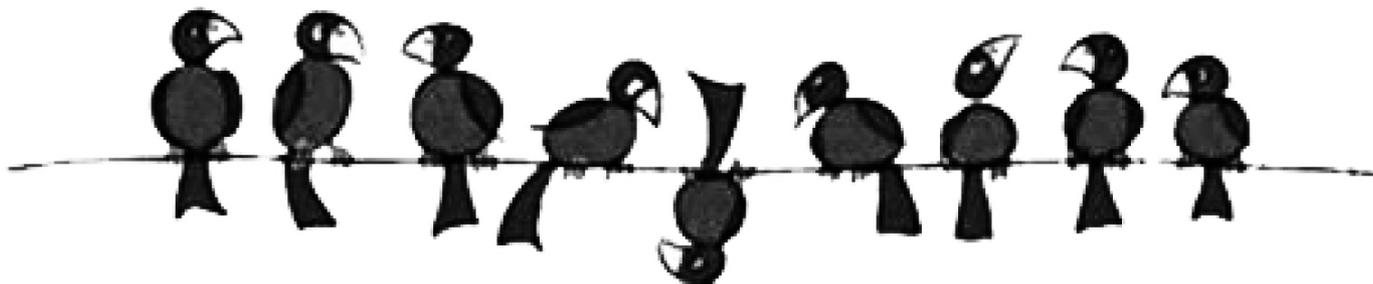
CORNISH ZOOM FOLK CLUB 4th Saturday in each month. Please contact Nigel Morson ntmorson@aol.com for information. This session follows on from the Zoom sessions run by Dreamers Folk Club that have ceased now the club has started meeting again.

WADEBRIDGE ZOOM CLUB Every Tuesday from 7pm. Featuring invited performers but open to anyone who would like to listen.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89531239117?pwd=cVRvK2M5bW5EUjc4bytSKzVXYWIRUT09>
Meeting ID: 895 3123 9117 Passcode: 013507

NOT THE BODMIN ZOOM Hosted by Pete Grassby. Every 2 weeks on Fridays from 7:45pm. link is 87338821694 password 115009

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87338821694?pwd=UGJDMW1VcnuOEtjdTV0RUE5ZGZTUT09>



CONTACTS – DANCE CLUBS

CAMELFORD DANCE CLUB Camelford Hall, Clease Road, PL32 9QX. Fridays 2-4pm. Playford. Contact Barbara Perry 01840 212655 .

ILLOGAN DANCE CLUB The Old School Centre, Nance Lane, Illogan TR16 4SW. Now on 1st , 3rd and 5th Thursdays in each month from 2-4pm. Frances Oates 01209 217918.

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

MADRON DANCE CLUB 3rd Friday in each month. Irish Set Dancing. For information contact Jane 01736 788565

PENSILVA DANCE CLUB Millennium House, Pensilva, PL14 5NF. Alternate Thursdays starting 4th Jan 2023, 7.00 to 9.00pm. Contact Ray Buckingham 01579 382402 or Frances Tucker 01579 363718.

ST AUSTELL CIRCLE DANCE Meeting irregularly at various locations usually outdoors. For details contact Nina Riddell 01726 833806

ST TUDY DANCE CLUB Village Hall, Wadebridge Road, St Tudy PL30 3ND. Every Monday 2.00pm to 4.00pm. Country Dance Club. Contact Jenny Muir 01208 850293

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

Come along and have a try at this fun dancing - you know you want to!

CONTACTS – MORRIS AND DANCE GROUPS

BOLINGEY TROYL Perranporth Memorial Hall Annexe TR6 0DP. First and third Thursday of each month 7.30pm. Cornish and Celtic Dance. New members very welcome. Contact Chris or Mary 01209 212019

BRETON DANCE AND MUSIC Princes Pavilion, 41 Melville Road, Falmouth, TR11 4AR. Mondays 7:30-10pm. Replacement for the long running Front'ere sessions. Contact: andrewrendell@btinternet.com

CARN BREA MORRIS Village Hall, Carnkie, Redruth TR16 6SB. Mondays. Mixed Cotswold. Contact Tom Sturch - tsturch@btinternet.com - for more information

CARNKIE CLOGGERS Carnkie Village Hall, Redruth TR16 6SB. Tuesdays 7.30pm. Contact Kate 01209 822221 or email: carnkie.cloggers@gmail.com

CAT'S EYE MORRIS Liskerrett Community Centre, Liskeard, PL14 4AP. Tuesdays 8.00pm. Mixed Border. Sally Kington 07768 613894.

HEVVA CORNISH DANCING 2nd Thursday in month in Redruth, and 4th Thursday in Truro. Dates / venues may change. Details: 01872 261263, or e-mail hevva@outlook.com

PENSANS MORRIS Humphrey Davy School, Coombe Road, Penzance TR18 2TG. Thursdays 7.30pm. Mixed Border. Contact Bob Glanville 07980 643121.

PENZANCE GUIZERS Cornish and Celtic Dance. For details contact Helen Musser 01736 362482 / 07773 755 605 or visit www.penzanceguizers.com

PLYMOUTH CLOG Emmanuel Church Hall, 1 Compton Avenue, Mannamead, Plymouth PL3 5BZ. Thursday evenings, <https://www.plymouthclog.wixsite.com/plymouthclog> (formerly Plymouth Maids)

PLYMOUTH MORRIS St Budeaux Church Community Hall, The Green, Higher St Budeaux, PL5 2HN. Wednesdays 7.30pm. Cotswold. Marion Reece 07837 271769. www.plymouthmorris.uk

TATTERS BORDER MORRIS and **REDRUTH FESTIVAL BAND** Star Inn, Vogue, St Day, Redruth TR16 5NP. Tuesdays 7.00pm. Mixed border side with Cornish influences, session afterwards, everyone welcome. Contact Chris Bevington, 07972 015928 <https://www.tattersmorris.co.uk/> or find us on Facebook.

TRIGG MORRIS Bodmin PL31 2DB. Thursdays 8.00pm. Cotswold. Roger Hancock 01208 73907. www.triggmorris.co.uk

TROS AN TREYS New Venue: The historic ballroom at the Union Inn, Chapel St., Penzance, TR18 4AE. Sundays 3.00-5.30pm. Cornish Dance. Contact Alex Taylor 01736 332238 for information on all activities. www.trosantreys.co.uk

TYWARDREATH MORRIS Village Hall, Tywardreath, Par PL24 2QG. Wednesdays 8.00pm. Mixed Cotswold. John Tremain 01208 872124. www.tywardreathmorris.org.uk

WRECKERS BORDER Parish Hall, St Dominick, Callington, PL12 6TL. Thursdays 8.00pm. Mixed Border. Contact Judith Graham on wreckers.bag@gmail.com

CONTACTS – SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING

BODMIN SC DANCERS, St Mary's Parish Centre, Bodmin PL31 1NF. Wednesdays 7.00-9.00 pm. Contact Jenny Scawin 01208 813610.

CARNON DOWNS SCD CLUB (beginners). Carnon Downs Methodist Church Hall, TR3 6HY. 7.30pm to 9.30pm. Come and learn some of the basic formations and steps. Contact Polly Barton 01872 864779 for more information.

LISKEARD SCD CLUB St Martin's Lower Hall Liskeard PL14 3QA. Wednesdays 7.30pm to 10pm. Harry Richmond 01579 349550

LOOE MONDAY MORNING SCD CLUB Riverside United Church West Looe, PL13 2BU. Mondays 10.15am-12.15pm. Betty Attrill 01503 264862.

MARHAMCHURCH SCD CLUB The Central Methodist Church Hall EX23 8LA. Wednesdays 7.30pm-10pm. Les Burden 01840 261708.

SALTASH SCD CLUB (mixed ability). St Nicholas Hall, Saltash PL12 6AN. Fridays 7.30-10pm. Graham & Annette Quartly 01752 492471.

ST AUSTELL SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS Trethurgy Village Hall, Trethurgy, St Austell PL26 8YE. Tuesdays 2-4pm. Neil Scott 01726 68054.

ST GERMAN'S SCD CLUB (beginners). Community Centre (Eliot Hall), St Germans PL12 5NR. Thursdays 7pm-9.30pm. Harry Richmond 01579 349550.

TREVONE SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCE CLUB Fraddon Village Hall, Fraddon TR9 6NT. Mondays 7.30pm-9.30pm. Ros McLaughlin 01872 560786.

IRISH SOCIAL DANCING

Dance the Irish sets with us. Beginners are very welcome. No partner needed to join this fun and friendly group.

7.30pm every third Friday of the month
Madron Village Hall, TR20 8SW

Contact: Jane on 01736 788565

FOLK IN CORNWALL

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AND BEYOND - SEE

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And our 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

LAUNCESTON FOLK DANCE CLUB

- Celebrating a Century of Dancing!

With a little fear and trepidation the committee of the Launceston Folk Dance Club decided to restart the club after a 2¹/₂ year interruption. In mid-September the first meeting was held where we welcomed some new members and many previous members. It was recognised that things would be topsy turvy for sometime with people shielding or isolating, but with everyone working together the club has met since September with the help of callers Alison and Jerry from Holsworthy and Sheila from Camelford.

A lot of fun and laughter makes up the evenings as we all realise how much we have forgotten; so rustiness and newness have worked together and a couple of members have tried their voice at calling again after having had the break. With sanitizer available, its use encouraged and open windows and doors to aid ventilation, the St Johns Ambulance Hall where the club meets is as Covid free as much as possible and masks can be worn. Members want to feel safe.

With trepidation the committee took the step of holding the Autumn dance in the Town Hall with a band called "Accordian" and Callers Alison and Jerry. Numbers were lower than at the usual Town Hall dances but a fun evening was had with a really friendly atmosphere. For some dancers it was their first visit to Launceston Town Hall and they were suitably impressed. People

travelled from different areas, with one coming from Truro.

So the pattern for the club has been set in motion with Callers coming each Tuesday and occasional nights when club members can try their hand at calling, and we look forward to our Christmas Party night which we had wondered whether there would be one again.

In 2023 the club celebrates its Centenary, having started in 1920 - so two years late - and on 22nd April 2023 the next dance in the Town Hall is booked with the Dartmoor Pixie band playing with their Caller Sarah Bazeley. This band has probably been playing at Launceston since the original band itself was formed in the 1930s. The club is very grateful to Launceston Town Council for awarding a grant in 2019 in order for the club to celebrate the Centenary.

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 post-free from the Editor.

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STEELEYE SPAN

LIVE AT THE RAINBOW THEATRE 1974

It was when my girlfriend at the time played me Steeleye Span's 'Please to see the King' album that my ears were opened and I first got into 'Folk' music, so I was delighted to receive this Live double album dating back to a concert in 1974. Not only is this a real vinyl LP - it's bright red! (you didn't get that back in '74).



ering the band's Chrysalis albums from 1972 to 1983. It features the band at the height of their powers playing to a sold out audience at London's Rainbow Theatre in November 1974.

As you can see from the track listing below the album Include many Steeleye classics:

The concert was recorded fairly soon after the band recruited drummer Nigel Pegrum and his 'machine gun' style is very much to the fore, driving the sound along with Rick Kemp's bass. This is definitely Folk Rock, with Bob Johnson's crashing electric guitar to the forefront as well. Add to this Peter Knight's fiddle playing and Maddy Priors vocals, you have the classic Steeleye sound.

It's a live recording, so it's not as tight as a studio work and I feel that some of the more subtle playing by Tim Hart is rather lost in the mix at times, but it certainly has energy and highlights what a great live band they were at this time. (I much preferred their concerts to their studio albums). Although most of the titles are available on other albums, the performance here is so different it is still worth buying this pressing and if you don't have any Span from the 70s, this is what they were all about.

This 2LP release is taken from the 12CD box set "Good Times Of Old England" cov-

SIDE ONE

1. Bach Goes To Limerick
2. The Ups And Downs
3. Demon Lover
4. Two Magicians

SIDE TWO

1. The Wife Of Usher's Well
2. One Misty Moisty Morning
3. Long Lankin
4. Jig Jam

SIDE THREE

1. The Musical Priest/The Silver Spear
2. Little Sir Hugh
3. Thomas The Rhymer
4. Cam Ye O'er Frae France

SIDE FOUR

1. Oh, You Beautiful Doll
2. Gaudete
3. Irish Jigs (Including Paddy Clancy's)
4. The Mason's Apron

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 (January 2023) will be December 1st 2022. 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.

More magic from Lady Maisery

Uniquely captivating band Lady Maisery return with their first studio album in six years. The combined vocal and multi-instrumental talents of Hazel Askew, Hannah James and Rowan Rheingans (individually three of the most accomplished and adventurous artists in modern folk) transmute to form a unified voice, carrying stories of sisterhood, human struggle, the joy of living and the vitality of music.

Their new album, *Tender*, comprises original songs written by Lady Maisery, as well as contemplative and personal interpretations of work by Björk, Tracy Chapman and the late Lal Waterson.

An arresting record that explores the power in vulnerability and the strength in kindness, these are songs which acknowledge our collective wounds while striving forward with a visceral hope for the future.

Frequent festival headliners, Lady Maisery have for over a decade enraptured audiences



throughout the UK and Europe. Their return to the live stage has been eagerly awaited.

"Exquisite, thrilling" - *The Guardian*

"Ambitious and beautiful" - *Mark Radcliffe, BBC Radio 2*

'Lady Maisery are women with ideas, purpose and urgency ... powerful, enthralling work' - *Songlines* * * * *



*We're all ears!
Just waiting to hear
the news of what's
going down in your
local folk scene!*

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.



Nashville Cats in Cornwall?

Nashville cats play clean as country water... [John Sebastian, for The Loving Spoonful]

The name Nashville may make you think of the Grand Old Opry, and Country & Western singers with wailing steel guitars and Republican values. Indeed, the techniques for getting a bright, treble-y sort of sound out of a guitar using what we call Nashville tuning really did come out of Nashville's studios in the mid-20th century – the brain-child of session guitarist Ray Edenton – but it certainly isn't just a C&W weapon.

High-strung tunings have been used by notables such as the Rolling Stones, Pink Floyd, Smashing Pumpkins, and – more folkily and locally – Sarah McQuaid; and also, less illustriously, by me.

I was first introduced to the technique in the 1980s by the excellent songwriter/guitarist Pat Orchard – one of the few people apart from me (that I know of) to use it as a solo accompanying instrument. However, I didn't start using it until about 2018, when I started to experiment with it on a travel guitar; and I liked it so much I started using it in sessions, on recordings, and once even in a radio interview. You can hear an example of it here, if you'd like to: https://whealalicemusic.files.wordpress.com/2018/09/emastered_chivalry-nashville.mp3

But what is it?

Classic Nashville tuning involves replacing the bottom four strings of a 6-string guitar with much lighter strings so that they can be tuned an octave higher than normal, like the octave strings on a 12-string guitar. It sounds very different to a normal 6-string or 12-string,

and it certainly doesn't suit every song or instrumental when used as a solo or primary instrument, but it has a distinctive sound of its own that people seem to like. That said, I've also found it very useful in the studio, as a second instrument, for getting tone colours similar to bouzouki, dulcimer, even autoharp – and I don't feel for a moment that I've exhausted its possibilities yet.

When using it in sessions and solo spots, I found that quite a lot of people liked the sound enough to ask questions about it, so I wrote a fairly lengthy blog article on the subject. I considered reworking it as an appendix for a book I'm working on, but as I added material, realized that it was going to be way too long, so it's now a short textbook in its own right, called *Introduction to Nashville Tuning for Guitar*.

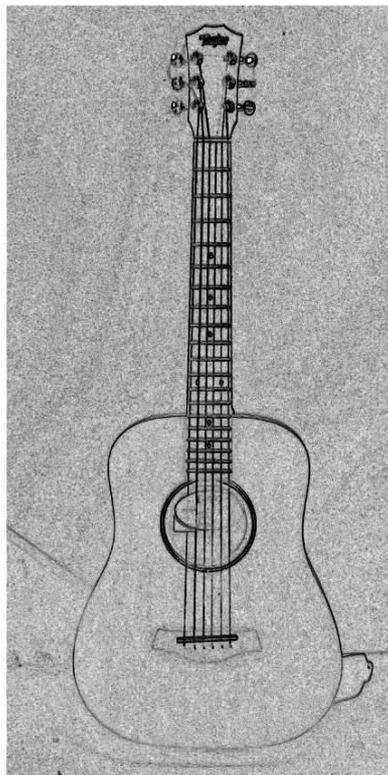
Essentially, it's a sort of back-grounder to what is planned be a wider-ranging series of books on music (mostly my music – sorry!), poetry and history. This one includes the history and implementation of

Nashville and allied tunings with linked or embedded audio examples, plus information on other alternative tunings, re-entrant tunings, suitable string sets, instruments and scale lengths.

If that interest you, you can find it on Amazon both as an eBook and paperback. <https://www.amazon.co.uk/David-Harley/e/B001HPS1NK>

But if it doesn't interest you, I'm still always at david.a.harley@gmail.com

David Harley

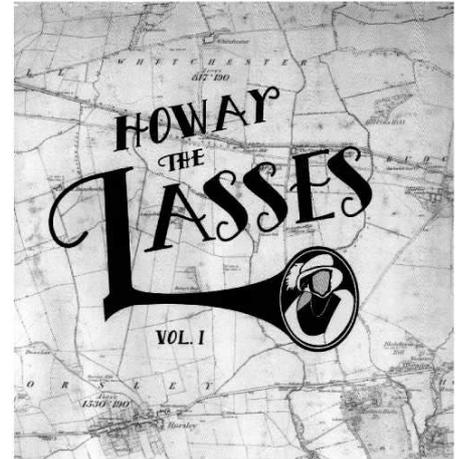


Reviews

ALBUM OF THE SEASON

HOWAY THE LASSES – *Howay the Lasses Vol.1*

Joyous, uplifting and inspiring tales about women from the North East with subjects ranging from a Roman matron living by Hadrian's Wall to the Newcastle United women's football team. These newly composed songs are written and performed in a traditional idiom that gives them a timeless quality. Great stories, great musicianship and lovely harmonies all combine to make this a must have album. Utterly engaging and enjoyable with a blend of guitars, accordion and cello combining beautifully. <https://howaythelasses.bandcamp.com/>



LUKE DANIELS – *The Cobhers*



Well, this is a first – reviewing a CD that starts with a Bee Gees cover. Luke Daniels stated intention is to try and reach out to a wider audience and maybe draw some new converts to traditional music. A laudable objective, but I wonder how successful it might be. Most of the tunes on this largely instrumental album are in a more traditional idiom with a strong Irish/Scottish feel. The playing is excellent as you would expect from someone with Daniels' pedigree and he is well supported by the Cobhers (pronounced Covers). It's good to push musical boundaries. www.lukedanielsmusic.com

PLU – *Tri*

Here's an unusual offering from this sibling trio as the lyrics are all in Welsh as are the sleeve notes. I found it enjoyable 'poppy' folk with nice harmonies that at times reminded me of Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young. There is a gentle guitar accompaniment on most tracks with other backing instruments adding to some tracks. A pleasant disc to spin. I would like to know what they're singing about, but I guess costs prevented a translated lyric sheet. www.pluband.com



Plu Tri

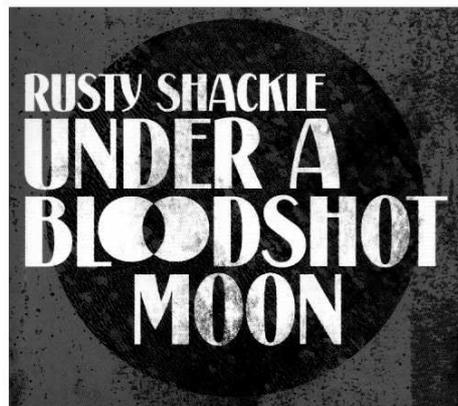
Reviews

RUSTY SHACKLE – *Under a Bloodshot Moon*

An enjoyable and pulsating new album from these South Wales folk-rockers. To my ears they are clearly influenced by the great Seth Lakeman, both in vocal delivery and with their instrumentation that includes both fiddle and tenor guitar. Their songs, however, do not have the historical inspiration of Seth but deal with more contemporary subjects and are on the whole pleasantly upbeat and optimistic after the angst of so many lockdown inspired offerings.

Funnily enough the album opener is about the Devils pulpit – a place that I walked to in the Wye valley this summer.

<https://rustyshackle.bandcamp.com/album/under-a-bloodshot-moon>



ELISE BOEUR & ADAM IREDALE – *Grey Fiddle Tunes*



Does exactly what it says on the tin, a very pleasant way to spend forty odd minutes listening to some tunes played on the fiddle. A mixture of Scandinavian and Irish traditional tunes along with some more recently penned compositions. All are played joyously on fiddles with some being accompanied on guitar and double bass. The playing is fluid and expressive and the listener feels that one is almost eavesdropping on a pub session or some friends enjoying making music informally after a

good dinner. <https://www.eliseandadam.ca>

THE TONIC – *Feeling Better*

You might well come across these tunes and songs in any traditional session or Barn Dance and they are performed here with gusto. It's a melodeon led sound with keyboards and percussion that reminds me a bit of Banter, though not quite taking the music to the heights of that superb Simon Care led band. I'm also reminded of such 70s line ups as the Old Swan Band and The New Victory Band, not top mention Ashley Hutchings Kickin' up the Sawdust. If you enjoyed those old albums, you'll certainly enjoy the Tonic.

There's also some well known songs including 'Keep that wheel a turning'. CD's elizatwells@yahoo.co.uk

download at <https://thetonic.bandcamp.com/album/feeling-better>



TUNE OF THE SEASON #24

This issue's offering is just a good-time tune which is known by a whole range of different titles such as The Spy, South of France, Fairies on Acid, etc., and is also widely believed to be a traditional composition. It was, in fact, composed by John Kirkpatrick and appeared on his first solo album of the same name. Despite its passing through the hands of countless musicians worldwide, the tune has varied very little over the past 50 years or so; a real indicator to a great composition. John Kirkpatrick received a well-deserved MBE in the 2021 New Year's Honours List for Services to Folk Music.

Jump at the Sun



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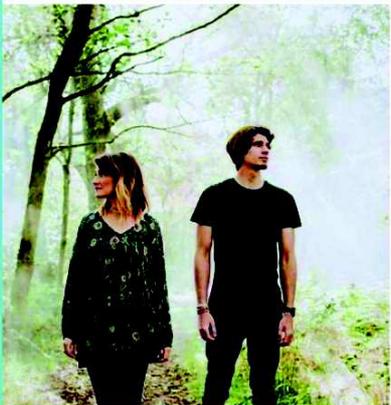


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Lakeman & Rob Murch Windjammer Chris Ostler + more

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