

Magazine of the Hertfordshire Folk Association

Affiliated to  
EFDSS

# PUDDINGSTONE



**AGM 2013 edition**

## **Affiliated Clubs & Chairman's Report**

Inside  
this  
issue:

- **Editorial**
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# Issue 57

## Autumn 2013

August - November

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Where sold



## HERTFORDSHIRE FOLK ASSOCIATION

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**COPY DATE**  
for Winter Issue  
(December 2013 -  
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**1st November**

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The views expressed in this magazine are not  
necessarily representative of the HFA or the editor.

The editor reserves the right to edit received  
items as appropriate.

Puddingstone welcomes articles, news,  
pictures, letters and music, as well as  
Advertising, and will review CDs on receipt  
(space permitting). All material should be  
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or .PDF. Preferred text format:- Word or  
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considered on receipt.

If you would like an advert/article/piece of  
music etc. published in Puddingstone but  
do not have the facilities to electronically  
produce it, please contact me, as I may be  
able to do this for you.

(subject to available time)

### COPY DATES

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**1st July** for Autumn (Aug - Nov) Issue  
PUBLISHED 1st AUGUST

Distribution with thanks to the  
HFA committee, particularly  
Roger Swaine, Nic Nicolson &

Terry Elvins.

For the very latest information on all our activities please  
visit our web site at: [www.hertsfolkassn.org.uk](http://www.hertsfolkassn.org.uk)

# Editorial



Thank you once again for all your contributions. Although I had feared that this issue was going to be rather thin, lots of material arrived at the last minute, much of it from people I hadn't been badgering.

We note the passing on of Brian Limbrick, sadly another of the generation who inspired my interest as a youngster in Morris, music and Country Dance.

We have reports on "Spring Sing" and Baldock Midnight Morris day of dance, and about the younger generation from Young Miscellany and the HFA Children's Festival. Hilary Vare's report from HFA Chair covers many of the HFA activities through the past year, and she supplements this with a piece on the

Bill Ranscombe award to Eileen and Peter Sinden for their many years of service to Folk in Hertfordshire.

Do please keep the copy and letters coming, I would be particularly pleased to hear about song clubs, groups and concerts as these don't get enough mention.

Adrian Burrows

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### WANTED: CD reviewers

Puddingstone often receives CD's in the post to be reviewed. The editor does not often have time to do this and is always looking for reviewers.

If you would be interested in receiving a **free CD** and writing a review, please contact the editor using the details on page 2.

### Do you have a story but no time to write it?

Why not contact the editor (details on page 2) and we will arrange for one of our reporters to contact you and write up your article. They will then send you a copy to approve and we will include it in our next edition.

Similarly, if you have any great photos from folk events, please send them in with the basic details of who/where etc. and we will include them.

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## **YOUNG MISCELLANY – “A bit about us, and our dancing year”**

Some say the only people interested in English Folk are getting on a bit. If so, nobody seems to have told Young Miscellany! For 21 years, YM have been providing a safe environment for children and young people to learn about, practice, and perform English Traditional Folk Dance.

Most Folk dancing groups concentrate on a particular style, but YM's aim is to cover a wide variety of dances and regions, including: Border Morris (see picture below), from the borders of England and Wales; Cotswold Morris; North West Morris from the Lancashire area; Stave Dancing from Dorset; Molly Dancing from the Fens in East Anglia; Broom Dancing from Devon; Step Clog from Lancashire and the Durham area; Rapper Sword from the mining district of the east of England; Country Dancing and Maypole. We take the view that young dancers should be given a broad view of the whole menu before they can make an informed choice about what



they may want to pursue later.

English traditional dance and song is enjoying a resurgence of popularity at the moment, with a lot of young musicians and dancers entering the folk scene, and winning awards for their expertise. Folk dance is also a fantastic way of keeping fit! Young Miscellany is now recognised by many other dance groups throughout the country as one of the best groups for inspiring youngsters to dance, with regular invitations to many of the folk festivals in the south of England and even abroad.

So far this year Young Miscellany

have enjoyed performing in a variety of different settings. In January the group took part for the first time in the Whittlesea Straw Bear festival – a good experience, albeit very cold! The season started properly with the St George's Day event in Luton with English Miscellany, and was followed by the Rochester Sweeps Festival on the early May bank holiday. This is always a favourite of ours. At the end of May Young Miscellany performed for the first time at the Chippenham Folk Festival where all our youngsters really enjoyed dancing on the stage. In June we were invited to an event closer to home, at the Abbots Langley Carnival, when we were surprised and delighted to win a cup for the strollers section of the Carnival. Strollers is probably not the right word for YM, as they danced

most of the 2 mile long procession! Most recently they also enjoyed taking part in the St Albans Folk Festival Day of Dance. The season continued with return visits to two well-loved events: The Potty Morris Festival in Sheringham, (with a Border dance, "Tides" in the sea at the end of dancing on the Sunday lunch time!!), and Ely Folk Festival where we have danced for many years. Another exciting and new opportunity ends the season at Hatfield House's Folk by the Oak Festival, where we are providing some dance displays whilst the celebrity bands change acts. We look forward to a similarly successful season next year.

The group rehearses two Sundays a month in Harpenden, Hertfordshire, and is open to all youngsters from 6 to 18. As well as a chance to make friends and have fun, our dancers keep fit, learn new skills and find out about folk traditions in a very practical way. We have a website – [www.youngmiscellany.co.uk](http://www.youngmiscellany.co.uk) and we always welcome new members – see details for our Open Day below.

***Lynda Swaine***



## **YOUNG MISCELLANY FOLK DANCE GROUP OPEN DAY**

**SUNDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2013  
10.30am–12.30pm – free to all**

**Venue - Park Hall, Leyton Road, Harpenden, Herts, AL5 2LX.**

**We welcome all children aged 6 -18 and parents, to watch us display, join in with the fun, and maybe learn some of our dance traditions:-**

***Country; North West, Cotswold & Border Morris; Step Clog;  
Stave; Broom Dance; Rapper; Molly & Maypole.***

**We are currently in a position to welcome new dancers/complete beginners, and young musicians who would like to join our group, this would be a great opportunity for them.**

\*\*\*\*\*

## **RAPPER WORKSHOP**

**SUNDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2013  
10.30am – 12.30pm – Open to children and adults**

**Venue - Park Hall, Leyton Road, Harpenden, Herts, AL5 2LX.**

**Come and learn how to do rapper sword dancing with an experienced, award winning youth side – Cost £5 for non YM members**

***For both events, please contact: Lynda 01707-324413  
or Chris 01727-751555***

***& view our website: [www.youngmiscellany.co.uk](http://www.youngmiscellany.co.uk)***



# **Hertfordshire Folk Association**

## **Children's Summer Folk Dance Festival**

### **at Sherrardswood School,**



The big day finally came for the Hertfordshire Children's Country Dancing Festival. We had been practising our dances for weeks! We all wore our brightly coloured outfits especially for the day.

We joined in about 18 dances and Codicote School performed some Maypole Dances. Despite the scorching hot weather we all joined in and enjoyed ourselves. We brought picnics, had ice creams and we all had a really good day with our families.

As a Year 6, I am sad to be leaving, but as I have been dancing for the last three years maybe I will come back next year and help out!

**Katie Dilley**, 11 years old  
Green Lanes Primary School

# CD Review

## **GAVIN DAVENPORT – ‘The Bone Orchard’ (Haystack records HAYCD004)**

If you like traditional folk songs, this CD is brimful of them: if you like them sung with a strong expressive voice, then you should love this CD. However, despite being

billed as ‘his second solo album’, most of the tracks feature a variety of accompanists and vocalists. This makes it, to my mind, a ‘band’ CD. Given Gavin’s background as a lifelong fan of, and then a member of the Albion Band, and his membership of bands like Crucible and Glorystrokes, that shouldn’t be surprising. If you like your traditional dish spiced up a bit then you will like this very varied 12 track selection. To illustrate the range: a rather dull tune to opening track ‘The Whitby Lad’ is enlivened by some quirky band work and ‘Farewell to Yorkshire’ features some haunting fiddle. The title track is given a nightmarish quality by an overlay of archive material and ‘Banks of Yarrow’ is beautifully sung a cappella with Jim Causley.

You can listen to ‘Jim Jones in Botany Bay’ on Gavin’s web site ([www.gavindavenport.com](http://www.gavindavenport.com))

**John Hart**

## **London Barndance**

**Saturday 14th September 8 p.m.**

**Rhodri Davies**

**Vertical Expression**

**Saturday 19th October 8 p.m.**

**Mark Elvins**

**Corporate Fiddle**

**Saturday 9th November 8 p.m.**

**Adam Hughes**

**Chesapeake**



All dances are held at  
Cecil Sharp House  
2 Regents Park Road  
London NW1 7AY

Further details from  
Andrew and Jane:  
01628 633962  
[home@barndance.org](mailto:home@barndance.org)

Tickets: £10 (EFDSS £9, LBC & concs £8)  
[www.barndance.org](http://www.barndance.org)

## Spring Sing 2013

Market Day in Royston, Hertfordshire, Saturday 16th March: A small group of people, some with instrument cases, made their way , alone or in small groups, to the Function Room of The Old Bull Inn. The Spring Sing was about to begin.

Having purchased the obligatory glasses of vocal cord lubrication from the bar we all made our way to the Function Room, settled down and started swapping songs and stories. Although the total number of participants was not as large as we would have hoped they had arrived from quite a widespread area: one group had come from the Waltham Abbey Folk Song Club and a second group from the Herga Club in Harrow, plus individual singers from Radlet, Luton and Ware.

By the end of the afternoon we had heard four or five stories, old and new, traditional and modern, scary, scandalous, amusing or thought provoking and songs, from a variety of genres including, traditional, self penned original, music hall and modern, from each participant and everyone agreed that they had enjoyed an excellent and entertaining afternoon.

Next year's Spring Sing will take place on Saturday 15th March 2014, also at The Old Bull Inn, Royston, Hertfordshire.

Put the date in your diaries.

**John Grey**



If you are under  
25  
and play  
traditionally  
based music, this  
is for you.

There are two categories, under 18 and 18-24. The judges will give constructive feedback and award performance opportunities.

**Closing date January 31**

**To enter**, send a CD with up to 15 minutes of your music to:  
Alison Macfarlane, 40 Warwick Road,  
St Albans, Herts AL1 4DL

**Finals April 2014**

For further details, see  
[www.new-roots.org.uk](http://www.new-roots.org.uk)  
[info@stalbansfolkmusic.org.uk](mailto:info@stalbansfolkmusic.org.uk)

**St Albans Folk Music presents  
Folk at the Maltings**

**Friday Oct 4 at 8.00pm**

**John Kirkpatrick**

**Saturday Oct 5 10.00am**

**Workshop with John Kirkpatrick**

**Fridays Nov 1 and Dec 6**

For details see: [www.stalbansfolkmusic.org.uk](http://www.stalbansfolkmusic.org.uk)  
[info@stalbansfolkmusic.org.uk](mailto:info@stalbansfolkmusic.org.uk)

Maltings Arts Theatre,  
The Maltings, St Albans AL1 3HL

Tickets £10, Student concessions £8  
Workshop £15, £5 under 25  
from: [www.ticketsource.co.uk/ovo](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/ovo)  
07807 521436

St Albans Tourist and Information Centre





# **HERTFORDSHIRE FOLK ASSOCIATION**

(Affiliated to the English Folk Dance & Song Society)

## **NOTICE OF THE NINETEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

To be held at:

29, Turmore Dale, Welwyn Garden City, AL8 6HT

On

Tuesday 12th November 2013.  
at 7.45pm

### **AGENDA**

- 1 To receive apologies for absence
- 2 Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on  
13th November 2012.
- 3 To approve Report and Accounts for 2012 /2013
- 4 To elect an Hon. Treasurer
- 5 To elect up to 7 Committee Members
- 6 To appoint an Independent Examiner of Accounts
- 7 To consider any other business
- 8 Date and venue of next AGM

**Nineteenth ANNUAL REPORT**  
**For the period ended 31st August 2013**

It is this issue of Puddingstone that includes notification of our AGM and full details are listed in the Folk Dance Diary section.

We hope you will be able to attend and look forward to seeing you there.

Once again, throughout this last year, Hertfordshire Folk Association has continued their support, promotion and contribution to a wide variety of folk activities.

The Children's Summer Folk Dance Festival was held at Sherrardswood School, Welwyn.

The event was M.C.'d by Ann Gibson and Jump the Vortex provided the music for social dancing, displays and maypole dancing. Our thanks are due to the PTA, the members of our sub-committee and everybody concerned for ensuring an excellent event. It is, of course, the present participation of our younger generations that ensures the future enjoyment and security of our folk traditions and we look forward to many more successful occasions at this new venue.

As planned, the annual Spring Sing took place in March and we again ran an accordion workshop during April, with grateful thanks to John Grey and Roger Swaine respectively. In November we organised a West Gallery workshop and it was pleasing that a good time was had by all.

We continue to support The Hertfordshire Folk Development Fund (HFDF). Details are available from our web site and applications that meet the required criteria are invited. Updates will be provided in Puddingstone. This year we were again privileged to provide financial support to New Roots, an annual event ably and successfully organised by Alison Macfarlane.

2013 was the 90th Anniversary of Watford Folk Dance Group and their celebrations were widely reported. As far as we know they are the oldest dance group in the county but if you know of others, please send us details. We would also like to hear of other activities and celebrations throughout the county.

For many years the Bill Ranscombe award has been presented to those who have given valuable services to English folk dance, song and music in Hertfordshire. For their long-term commitment and outstanding contributions, Eileen and Peter Sinden were the 2012 recipients.

Puddingstone continues to thrive and, I am sure you will agree that, Adrian has ensured this year's editions have provided interesting articles and reports. Please keep him supplied with contributions and details of your folk activities. This issue of Puddingstone lists all our affiliated Clubs /Groups from which Hertfordshire Folk Association welcomes a representative, with your ideas and comments, to our Committee meetings; Minutes of each last meeting note our future dates. Please let us know if any details about your Club /Group need to

be up-dated. Continuing with communication news, our web site provides details of our activities and diary dates, as well as other relevant links, so access us on [www.hertsfolkassn.org.uk](http://www.hertsfolkassn.org.uk) and contact Roger Swaine re any additions/comments etc. We are certainly indebted to his continued commitment that ensures everything is relevant and up-to-date.

As always, we owe a vote of thanks to all our present committee members who work so hard on your behalf but particularly, our Officers, Roger Swaine and Terry Elvins. We are also grateful to Nic Nicholson for his continuing work as both Minutes and Membership secretary.

You, the members of Hertfordshire Folk Association are our strength. Thank you for your continuing support and, on your behalf, we look forward to furthering our activities during the coming year.

Hilary Vare. Chairman

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## HERTFORDSHIRE FOLK ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE

Elected Members & Officers as from November 2012

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Chairman: **Miss Hilary Vare** [hilaryvare@yahoo.com](mailto:hilaryvare@yahoo.com) Tel: 02083 606846

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Hon Treasurer: **Mr Roger Swaine** [roger.swaine1@btinternet.com](mailto:roger.swaine1@btinternet.com)

Tel: 01707 324413

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Correspondence **Mr Terry Elvins** [mail@ptelvins.plus.com](mailto:mail@ptelvins.plus.com)

& Diary dates:

Tel: 01707 320299

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Membership **Mr Nic Nicholson** [nic.jackie@btinternet.com](mailto:nic.jackie@btinternet.com)

Secretary:

Tel: 01727 854183

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Elected Member: **Mrs Libby Byne-Grey** [l.byne-grey@herts.ac.uk](mailto:l.byne-grey@herts.ac.uk)

Tel: 01920 460553

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Elected Member: **Mr John Grey** [l.byne-grey@herts.ac.uk](mailto:l.byne-grey@herts.ac.uk) Tel: 01920 460553

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Elected Member: **Karon Lyne** [Karon.Lyne@btconnect.com](mailto:Karon.Lyne@btconnect.com)

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Puddingstone Ed: **Mr Adrian Burrows** [editor@hertsfolkassn.org.uk](mailto:editor@hertsfolkassn.org.uk)

Co-opted Member

Tel: 01727 866086

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Affiliated Club Representatives: **Brenda Brookes (English Miscellany)**

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All Affiliated Clubs can send a representative to committee meetings, so we look forward to seeing you! There are only four or five meetings a year and your input would be welcomed. Just get in touch for more information.

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Puddingstone would like to hear about regular folk events taking place in Hertfordshire. If you are involved in a regular ceilidh or song session, we would love to hear from you (please use contact details on page 2).

# Diary Dates 2013

ANTI-CLASH SERVICE : Please notify Hertfordshire's Events Secretary, Terry Elvins, of your Forthcoming Fixtures. If you are planning an event please contact him to check that your event will not clash with another taking place. Email him at: [mail@ptelvins.plus.com](mailto:mail@ptelvins.plus.com)  
Other contact details available on page 2.

Aug 10	<b>Winchmore Folk Dance Club</b> , Trinity Church Hall, Church Street, Enfield, EN2 6AN 0208 926 7293 John Wood with The Forest Band	7.30pm
Aug 24	<b>St Andrew's Folk Dancers</b> , Trinity Church Hall, Church Street, Enfield, EN2 6AN 0208 366 3982 Suzanne Harper with Spring Greens	7.30pm
Sep 7	<b>Dunton Folk Concerts</b> , St Mary Magdalene Church, Dunton, Biggleswade. 01767 316124/310424 Megson <a href="http://www.duntonfolk.co.uk">www.duntonfolk.co.uk</a>	8.00pm
Sep 14	<b>Winchmore</b> , Arnold Stem with The Forest Band	7.30pm
Sep 14	<b>London Barndance</b> , Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regents Park Road, London, NW1 7AY 01628 633962 Rhodri Davies with Vertical Expression	8.00pm
Sep 21	<b>Dunton Folk</b> , Folkstock Folk Festival.	See website
Sep 28	<b>St Andrew's</b> , Carol Hewson with The Forest Band	7.30pm
Oct 5	<b>Staplers Folk Dance Club</b> , St Ippolyts Parish Hall, Hitchin SG4 7RB 01582 881966 <a href="http://www.staplers.org.uk">www.staplers.org.uk</a> Lynn Render with Deo Volente	7.30pm
Oct 5	<b>Masque Workshop</b> , Herts Early Dance, St Stephen's Church Hall, Leader Anne Daye St Albans, AL1 2PX 01442 862545 <a href="mailto:info@hertsearlydance.org.uk">info@hertsearlydance.org.uk</a>	10.30am to 5.00pm
Oct 6	<b>Open Day, Young Miscellany</b> , Park Hall, Harpenden, AL5 2LX See advert	10.30am
Oct 12	<b>Winchmore</b> , Suzanne Harper with The Forest Band (AGM)	7.30pm
Oct 19	<b>London Barndance</b> , Mark Elvins with Corporate Fiddle	8.00pm
Oct 19	<b>Dunton Folk</b> , Pete Morton	8.00pm
Oct 20	<b>Rapper Workshop, Young Miscellany</b> , Park Hall, Harpenden, AL5 2LX	10.30am

# DIARY DATES 2013 (continued)

Oct 25 - Oct 27 <b>Early Dance Festival</b> , 01246 851221		See advert
Oct 26	<b>St Andrew's</b> , Michael Holdup with Recorded Music (AGM)	7.15pm
Oct 27	<b>Chiltern Folk Association</b> Family Dance, Amersham Common Village Hall, HP7 9JD 01628 486845 Val & Ian McFarlane with Toucan Play See advert	2.30 to 5.30pm
Oct 27	<b>Staplers Workshop</b> , Gary Roodman Dances, John Turner with Paul Hutchinson	2.00pm
Nov 2	<b>Staplers</b> , Frances Oates with The Turnabouts	7.30pm
Nov 2	<b>Chiltern Folk Association</b> Playford Ball, Amersham Community Centre, HP6 5AH 01628 486845 Alan Davies with Shane & Julia See advert	7.30pm
Nov 9	<b>Winchmore</b> , Brian Jones with The Forest Band	7.30pm
Nov 9	<b>London Barndance</b> , Adam Hughes with Chesapeake	8.00pm
Nov 16	<b>Harrow Folk Dance Club</b> 41st Playford Ball, Shaftesbury High School, Headstone Lane, Harrow Weald, HA3 6NP 0208 868 7526 Carol Hewson with The Forest Band	7.30pm
Nov 16	<b>Friday Folk</b> , 01727 856508. See website <a href="http://www.fridayfolk.org.uk">www.fridayfolk.org.uk</a> Mark Elvins with Mollie & Ali	
Nov 23	<b>St Andrew's</b> , Keith Wright with Toucan Play	7.30pm
Dec 7	<b>Staplers</b> , Andrew Swaine with Momentum	7.30pm
Dec 7	<b>Dunton Folk</b> , Victorian Christmas with Blast from the Past	8.00pm
Dec 12	<b>St Albans Abbey Folk</b> , UR Church Hall, Homewood Road, St Albans, AL1 4BH 01727 834977 Keith Wright with Spring Greens	7.30pm
Dec 14	<b>Winchmore</b> , Barrie Bullimore with The Forest Band	7.30pm
Dec 14	<b>London Barndance</b> , Geoff Cubitt with Fat Harry	8.00pm
Dec 28	<b>St Andrew's</b> , Club Callers with The Forest Band	7.30pm

# HFA Affiliated Clubs & Groups

Please notify any further corrections or updates to Nic Nicolson, Membership Secretary by emailing [nic.jackie@btinternet.com](mailto:nic.jackie@btinternet.com) or phoning 01727 854183.

**Danse Herts** - Ashleigh Milner 10 Swinburne Ave, Hitchin, SG5 2RG

**Dunton Folk** – Simon Bailes 01767 301 424 or [www.duntonfolk.co.uk](http://www.duntonfolk.co.uk)

**English Miscellany** - [info@englishmiscellany.com](mailto:info@englishmiscellany.com) or 01483 755278

**Fleetville FDG** - Mrs B Howlett, 39 Westfields, St. Albans AL3 4LR

**Friday Folk** - 020 8366 1703 or [gilltibbs@hotmail.com](mailto:gilltibbs@hotmail.com)

**Harrow FDC** - Mr Roy Martin, 57 Waverley Road, Rayners Lane,  
Harrow, HA2 9RG

**Hemel Hempstead FDC** - Mrs Samme, 118 Crawley Drive,  
Hemel Hempstead, HP2 6BX

**Hertford CDG** - 01438 714539

**North London Folk** - Vivien Mallindale, 40 Summerlee Ave, London, N2 9QP

**Offley Morris** - 01462 624210 or [bill@davis7.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:bill@davis7.fsnet.co.uk)

**Phoenix Morris** - PO Box 115, Rickmansworth, WD3 1WB.

**Rainmakers International FDC** - Mark Balaam, 133 Arlesey Road,  
Ickleford, SG5 3TH

**Roundabouts CDC** - 22, Gainsford Cresnet, Hitchin, SG4 0QG

**St Albans Abbey FDC** - 60 Woodland Drive, St Albans, AL4 0ET

**St Albans Morris Men** -

01727 863727 or [bagman@stalbansmorrismen.org.uk](mailto:bagman@stalbansmorrismen.org.uk)

**St Andrew's FDC** - Mrs A Dunn, 3 Conway Gardens, Enfield, EN2 9AD

**Standon Morris Men** - John Grey, Musley House, 9 Homefield Rd, Ware  
SG12 7NG

**Staplers FDG** - 01582 881966 or [www.staplers.org.uk](http://www.staplers.org.uk)

**Tappalachian** - 07957 614064 or [miniange@postmaster.co.uk](mailto:miniange@postmaster.co.uk)

**Watford FDC** - 55, West Way, Rickmansworth, WD3 7EH

**Welwyn Garden City FDC** - Mr T Elvins, 32 Templewood,  
Welwyn Garden City, AL8 7HX

**Winchmore FDC** - Secretary: tel. 02088 862696

**Woodside Morris Men** - 39 Holland Gardens, Garston, Watford.

**Young Miscellany** - 01707 324413 or [Lynda.swaine@btinternet.com](mailto:Lynda.swaine@btinternet.com)

Affiliated clubs and groups are welcome to send a representative to  
HFA committee meetings - please ask for details!

**Reminder:**  
We are still awaiting a number of clubs  
sending in their renewals.

The Bill Ranscombe award is presented by Hertfordshire Folk Association for valuable services to English Folk Dance, Song and Music in Hertfordshire

**Eileen and Peter Sinden**  
**Citation for the the Bill Ranscombe award 2012**  
**Presented 18<sup>th</sup> May 2013**

Eileen and Peter met at a dance occasion in Verulamium Park in 1951. This was a Hertfordshire District event....part of a dancing, cycling and YHA weekend. At that time they were members of the Society for International Dancing.

In 1960 they joined the Circassian Circle Folk dance Club and were regular members until it closed on 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2009.

In 1961 Peter joined Woodside Morris Men; he was Bagman for several years and keeper of the Archive. He left in 1995 but has continued to follow their activities ever since.

During the 1970's the whole family joined Nonsuch, a demonstration team run by Terry Summers. The practices were held in the Teahouse at Hampstead Garden Suburb and shows were given for PTA's and garden fetes etc. The team attended Broadstairs Folk Festival for two consecutive years and a trip to Denmark provided life-long friendships.

During Peter's membership of the Hertfordshire District Committee (subsequently Hertfordshire Folk Association) he wrote to eight local young people's groups, offering to arrange a folk dance evening for their club but, unfortunately, he received no replies. He also suggested that music workshops could take place here.....at this church hall in Homewood Road. Several of these sessions were run by Roger Nichols and proved a great success with Eileen and Peter organising refreshments.

Eileen began calling at Circassian Circle Club with Denis Searls and over the years has derived much pleasure, as well as gaining many friends, by calling for up to ten clubs in both Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire.

PTO

She also likes encouraging others to “have a go” and willingly provides both instruction and music.

In 1992 Eileen and Peter moved to St. Albans and St. Albans Abbey Folk Dance Club. It was not very long before Eileen was calling there and then, until recently, was also their Club Secretary.

It is clearly obvious that while, over the last 50 years or more, Eileen and Peter’s folk involvement has ensured they have both had a great time....their commitment, participation and enthusiasm has also brought considerable enjoyment to many others, so it is with great pleasure that:-

Hertfordshire Folk Association are proud to present you both with  
The Bill Ranscombe Award 2012.

**Hilary Vare.** HFA Chairman

## *Friday Folk*



If you enjoy a lively  
barn dance, you'll  
find

Friday Folk is  
a great way  
to meet  
like-minded  
people and  
have fun.

Newcomers are  
always welcome.  
And there's no need  
to bring a  
partner.

From 7:45 to 10:00 pm at the  
Methodist Church Hall, Marlborough  
Road, St Albans, AL1 3XG.  
[www.fridayfolk.org.uk](http://www.fridayfolk.org.uk) – 01727 856508  
Standard Friday admission £3

### *Autumn 2013*

- 6 Sep Barrie Bullimore
- 13 Sep Mark Elvins and Friday Folk Band
- 20 Sep Bob Lilley
- 27 Sep Club callers and AGM
- 4 Oct Barry Goodman and Spring Greens
- 11 Oct John and Elaine Meechan and  
Brian Stone
- 18 Oct Bob Barrett and FF Band
- 25 Oct Paul Garner
- 1 Nov Frances Oates & The Turnabouts
- 8 Nov Mike Bennett
- 15 Nov Wendy Harrup and FF Band

**16 Nov Saturday Special Dance with  
Mark Elvins, Mollie and Ali**  
See website for details

- 22 Nov Bea Hawkins
- 29 Nov Bob Barrett
- 6 Dec Jane Pfaff and FF Band
- 13 Dec Christmas Special with Colin Hume  
and Spring Greens
- 20 Dec Carol Singing around St Albans



## **Brian Limbrick MBE 1931 – 2013**

Hertfordshire lost an inspirational figure when Brian died on 7th May 2013.

He started dancing as a teenager, going along with his mum to a Women's Institute evening class, which led to him forming his own evening class and then founding Staplers in 1958, which continues to thrive today. Club members put on an impromptu dance display at his 80th birthday celebration.

Alongside his passion for country dancing, he was also a keen morris man and founded Offley Morris in 1955 with his friend Ted Wright. The morris men danced, as a tribute to Brian, at his funeral in St. Mary's Church, Hitchin.

Brian was an enthusiastic caller, well-known all over the country, leading workshops, courses at Halsway Manor and festivals such as Gorhambury.

He and Yvonne, his wife, were the cornerstones of the successful Hitchin Gathering for many years.

As his physical health declined, Brian devoted his energies to the British Schools in Hitchin for which he single handedly launched a campaign to save the building, which is now a working museum.

Brian had a vast knowledge of both the history of Hitchin and folk dance.

He was presented with the MBE in 2003 for services to the history of education. Yvonne said, "The MBE was the proudest moment of his life".

Bridget McRury – founder member  
Cecilia Mills – secretary of Staplers

## What can the Herts Folk Development Fund do for you?

During the Autumn period there are numerous folk festivals all over the country which provide the opportunity to experience different aspects of folk dance, song and music. If you want to learn a new clog dance, find a different North-West Morris dance or try a new Cotswold tradition there are often specific workshops where you can acquire or develop these skills. There are also courses at Cecil Sharp House in London for music, dance and song led by excellent tutors. Closer to home, the Herts Folk Association organise workshops to help develop our folk arts skills within the county.

Why is this relevant for you? Perhaps you have been unable to take part in an event because of the cost of travel or maybe your side was unable to meet the cost of a tutor to run a specific workshop for you. It is possible that the HFDF can help you or your club, to benefit and promote folk activities in the area. Please contact Roger Barnes, the secretary to the fund, to request the simple application form (complete with guidance notes). Email:

[Barnesstab@aol.com](mailto:Barnesstab@aol.com)

**Brenda Brookes.** Herts. Folk Development Fund

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**To renew your membership, please use the form below  
or visit our web site *[www.hertsfolkassn.org.uk](http://www.hertsfolkassn.org.uk)***

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Hertfordshire Folk Association		
Membership Application Form		
<b>Annual fees:</b> (Annual membership includes three issues of Puddingstone)	<b>Individual £2</b> <b>Household £3</b> <b>Group/Club £10</b>	<b>To have Puddingstone delivered to your door, please add £1.50 to your annual fees</b>
<b>Club/group</b> (if applicable): _____		
<b>Name/s:</b> _____		
<b>Address</b> _____		
<b>(inc. postcode):</b> _____		
<b>Tel:</b> _____		
<b>Email address:</b> _____		
I/we would like to apply for Individual* / Household* / Group* membership (please delete as applicable)		
I/we would like each edition of Puddingstone posted to us (£1.50 for the year) (please tick box) <input type="checkbox"/>		
and enclose a cheque payable to the Hertfordshire Folk Association Please return completed form to:		
HFA Membership Secretary, 6 Blackthorn Close, St Albans, AL4 9RP		
Alternative pay by standing order: Hertfordshire Folk Association		
Sort Code : 60 18 11 Account : 45217718		

## **M ASSED MORRIS AT STREET FAIR!**



Baldock Midnight Morris

Members of Baldock Midnight Morris held their Day of Dance to coincide with Baldock Festival's 'Historic Baldock Street Fair' on Saturday 18 May. With 12 sides attending, it promised to be one of the biggest gatherings of Morris dancers that North Herts had seen in recent years. Morris sides came from all over the south east, and included Westrefelda from near Ipswich, Black Annis from Leicester, Whitethorn from Harrow, Old Mother Redcap's from Stony Stratford and Gog Magog Molly and Manor Mill from Cambridge. Others had less far to travel:

Letchworth Morris, Bedfordshire Lace, Ramrugge, Standon, Staplers Folk Dancers and, of course, the host side. The dancing started at 10.30am outside the White Lion in the High Street and continued until 4.00pm there and at other venues around the town.

The sides all have a variety of dances in their repertoires and include traditions from the Cotswolds, North West, borders of Wales and England and Molly Dancing from the Fens.

The dancers were welcomed with coffee and biscuits at the White Lion and all twelve sides performed one dance each before splitting into three groups to dance at various spots around the town. Baldock Midnight Morris hold their Day of Dance on the same day as the town's Festival event 'Historic Baldock Street Fair' where there are stalls, re-enactors, arena events, children's rides and a host of food and drink. This achieves two important objectives – it firstly brings more colour,



Gog Magog Molly Dancers

fun and vibrancy to an already well-supported and exciting event, but it also ensures that all the dancers get a really large and enthusiastic audience. This year residents of and visitors to Baldock were much entertained by Gog Magog Molly as most of the audience had not seen Molly dancing before and, while Gog Magog were dancing, it was left to other members of the sides to explain to enquiring members of the public what the Molly dancers were doing, and where their tradition came from.

During their lunch breaks members of visiting sides had the opportunity to wander around the stalls, pick up bargains and watch the entertainment on



Black Annis

offer, which included a Victorian magician, Medieval re-enactors, a Punch and Judy show, choirs from Baldock's junior schools and a performance, in costume, from Chiltern West Gallery Choir. Stall holders are encouraged to dress up for the day in appropriate costume celebrating Baldock's history, starting in Neolithic times and going (for the purposes of costume choices) to the 1920s. After lunch the sides reconvened at The White Lion where they formed up to dance a processional through the market stalls and other entertainments, bringing a taste of Morris dancing to those stall

holders who had been busy on their stalls all day and had seen none of the activity elsewhere. The procession was followed by each side doing one exhibition dance outside the White Lion before saying farewell to those sides who had to leave. The rest went on to the Orange Tree for tea, coffee and an abundance of cakes, made by members of the host side, as well as a choice of about eight real ales, while the musicians enjoyed playing something other than Morris tunes!



Standon Morris

If you are a member of a Morris side and would like to be included in next year's Day of Dance

(Saturday 17 May) please get in touch by emailing [info@baldockmidnightmorris.org.uk](mailto:info@baldockmidnightmorris.org.uk)

Anyone wishing to learn more about Baldock Midnight Morris (a mixed side) – and possibly join in the autumn when practices restart (Tuesday 17 September) - should visit the website:

[www.baldockmidnightmorris.org.uk](http://www.baldockmidnightmorris.org.uk) or phone 01525 630 546.

## Maureen Maddren



**29<sup>th</sup> August to 1<sup>st</sup> September**

Performers include Royal Albert Hall favourites SHOW OF HANDS, RICHARD DIGANCE, FEAST OF FIDDLES and THE SPRINGFIELDS (yes, Dusty Springfield's band members) feature alongside many of Britain's leading folk artists such as JEZ LOWE, REG MEUROSS and FAKE THACKRAY.

More info: [www.newforestfolkfestival.co.uk](http://www.newforestfolkfestival.co.uk)

Photos sent in by Andrew Godfrey of HED dancing at Dorney Court and below with a few visitors



The building was an interesting example of development from Tudor onwards, but inside, cold, dark and full of clutter from centuries of occupation



### **Hertfordshire Early Dance**

**A club for dancers and musicians interested in the dances of earlier times.**

All welcome. No previous experience necessary. First visit is free.

Meetings are held about every 3 weeks on Sunday (2:15 to 5:00)  
at St Stephen's Church Hall, St Albans, AL1 2PX.

Please contact us for more information: telephone: 01442 862545

email: [info@hertsearlydance.org.uk](mailto:info@hertsearlydance.org.uk)

website: <http://hertsearlydance.org.uk>

The club's band  
**"The Presence"**  
provides the music  
for meetings and for  
performances



### **Dates for Autumn 2013**

Sun 8th Sept, 2:15 to 5:00 - 16<sup>th</sup> century dances

Sun 29th Sept, 2:15 to 5:00 - 16<sup>th</sup> century dances with Helen Young

**Sat 5th Oct, 10:00 to 4:00 - Masque Workshop with Anne Daye**

Sun 20th Oct, 2:15 to 5:00 - 15<sup>th</sup> century dances with Robert Huggett

Sun 10th Nov, 2:15 to 5:00 - 16<sup>th</sup> century dances

Sun 1st Dec, 2:15 to 5:00 - pre Xmas Anne Daye

PTO



Left:  
HED members dance “the Earl of Essex Measures” in the grounds of Dorney Court.

The Club meets about every 3 weeks on Sunday (2:15 to 5:00) at St Stephen’s Church Hall, St Albans, AL1 2PX.



Right:  
HED members dancing a farandole with Dorney Court visitors.

### 30<sup>th</sup> Early Dance Festival 25<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2013

The Victoria Hall, Akeman Street, Tring, HP23 6AA

Info: Velma Pursehouse, 15 Heath Road, Heath, Chesterfield, S44 5RP

Telephone: 01246 851221



#### Trinity Church Hall Church Street/Gentleman’s Row

Enfield EN2 6AN

Resident Musicians

The Forest Band

Membership £7 + £4.00 per Dance

Guests £6.00 per Dance

#### Callers for 2013

August 10 John Wood

September 14 Arnold Stem

October 12 Suzanne Harper +  
AGM

November 9 Brian Jones

December 14 Barry Bullimore

**7.30 – 10.30**

Info: John Wood 020 8926 7293

#### CHILTERN FOLK ASSOCIATION

(Affiliated to EFDSS)

#### AUTUMN FAMILY DANCE

Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> October 2013 2.30-5.30pm

Amersham Common Village Hall, White Lion Road  
HP7 9JD

Val & Ian McFarlane with Toucan Play

£5, children under 14 free

Please bring a plate of food to share

#### PLAYFORD BALL

Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2013 7.30-10.30pm

Amersham Community Centre, Drake Hall,

Chiltern Avenue, Amersham HP6 5AH

Alan Davies with Shane & Julia Day

Dress to impress

£10 Please bring a plate of food to share

Contact for both dances 01628 486845

# CD Review

## CLANNAD

Clannad Christ Church Cathedral  
(ARC Music EUCD 2441 & EUDVD0015)

With many thanks to those very nice folks at Arc Music excuse me while I wipe away a nostalgic tear thinking of my identical twin brother Chris and our support slot to Clannad in the good old days (around 1977) at The National Club, Kilburn and the “Two Kevins” who organised it. For it was there I first experienced the full dramatic force of this family unit. Quelling a crowd of...let’s face it...good natured drunks (and yes they did have to go through that kind of gig as well) with their intoxicating brand of jazz-folk and ethereal sounds that not only captivated the rabble but I’m sure turned them all into converts. This simultaneous release of CD and DVD of the band’s first fully documented ‘live’ concert in forty years will prove a more than worthy addition to collectors of ‘folk’ music and the greater public in general. The first ten tracks re-trace the band’s career from the ‘early’ days and from tracks eleven to nineteen they move up a gear to the more commercial sound they became universally established for. If it’s OK with you in this short review I’ll credit “In A Lifetime” where they are joined by guest Brian Kennedy, the “Robin Of Sherwood” medley and the Top Of The Pops hit “Harry’s Game”. Of course these get a mention to make this review more appetising to a wider audience and in the vain hope that I can get across just how good the band are who, when armed with their arsenal of (predominantly) acoustic instrumentation all topped by the majesty of Moya Brennan’s vocals, make the CD and DVD an absolute must purchase! [www.clannad.ie](http://www.clannad.ie) **PETE FYFE**

For info about nationwide tour: Clannad & Mary Black: [www.clannad.ie](http://www.clannad.ie)



### Programme 2013

All concerts at: St Mary Magdalene Church, Dunton, Biggleswade. Doors open at 7.30pm and concerts start at 8.00pm. Bar available at all concerts.

**7th September Megson**  
The most original duo on the folk scene. Their infectious sound is a mix of heavenly vocals, lush harmonies, and driving rhythmic guitars and mandolin.

**19th October Pete Morton**  
A songwriter and performer with a wealth of great songs and stage presence. His shows are dynamic and intense, while remaining approachable and fun loving.

**7th December Victorian Christmas with Blast From the Past**  
A show guaranteed to delight and enthral audiences from young to old. Veering effortlessly from high drama to low comedy, from delicate melodies to full-throated harmonies.

Tickets available on the door or from Andy (01767 316 124) or Simon (01767 310 424). Also have a look at our website [www.duntonfolk.co.uk](http://www.duntonfolk.co.uk).  
If you would like to be included on our mailing list drop us a line at [duntonfolk@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:duntonfolk@hotmail.co.uk)

**Sidmouth FolkWeek**  
2nd – 9th August  
For full details visit  
[www.sidmouthfolkweek.co.uk](http://www.sidmouthfolkweek.co.uk)  
Sidmouth Tourist Information  
Centre: 01395 577952

**Local Festivals**  
**Dacorum Folk Festival**  
Saturday 10th August  
**Folkstock Folk Festival**  
at Aldenham Country Park  
Saturday 21st September  
More info online :  
[www.whatsonindacorum.org.uk](http://www.whatsonindacorum.org.uk) &  
[www.folkstockfestival.com](http://www.folkstockfestival.com)



# **HARROW FOLK DANCE CLUB**

*(Charity Registration No .801346; Affiliated to EFDSS,  
Hertfordshire Folk Association, North London Folk and SIFD)*

## **41st PLAYFORD BALL**

**SAT.16<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2013**

## **CAROL HEWSON**

∞ ∞ **with music by:** ∞ ∞

## **THE FOREST BAND**

**at SHAFTESBURY HIGH SCHOOL  
HEADSTONE LANE, HATCH END, HA3 6NP.  
(near Headstone Lane London Overground Station)**

**First dance 19.30 (promptly) – until 22.45 hrs.**

**Tickets (on the door) £8.00 including refreshments.**

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

### ***Forthcoming attractions:***

***44<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dance – 15<sup>th</sup> March 2014  
(Barrie Bullimore with Mollie & Vic.)***

***42<sup>nd</sup> Playford Ball – 15<sup>th</sup> November 2014  
(Ian & Val McFarlane with Keeping Thyme)***

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***The Harrow Folk Dance Club meets most Mondays (except  
in August) 7.30 – 9.55 pm at Belmont School Lower Hall,  
(entrance at the back of the school)  
Hibberd Road, (off Locket Road), Harrow Weald, HA3 7JT.***

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***For further information contact:  
Roy Martin – 020 8868 7526***