



Magazine of the Hertfordshire Folk Association

PUDDINGSTONE



Issue 64

Winter
2016-7

Dec - March

**WINCHMORE
FOLK DANCE CLUB**
Is celebrating the 100th birthday of their
Founder and President
CYRIL JONES

40p
Where sold





HERTFORDSHIRE FOLK ASSOCIATION **Key contacts (see further details on middle pages)**

Chairman: **Miss Hilary Vare**
 31 Firs Lane, London, N21 2HT
 Tel: 0208 360 6846

Membership
 secretary: **Adrian Burrows**
 1, Leyland Ave.
 St Albans, AL1 2BD
 Tel: 01727 866086

Hon Treasurer: **Mr Roger Swaine**
 29 Turmore Dale, Welwyn Garden City, AL8 6HT
 Tel: 01707 324413

Correspondence
 & diary dates to: **Mr Terry Elvins**
 32 Templewood, Welwyn Garden City, AL8 7HX

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PUDDINGSTONE EDITOR

Mr Adrian Burrows

adrian.r.burrows@btopenworld.com

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 and groups.**

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 HFA committee, particularly
 Roger Swaine & Terry Elvins.

For the very latest information on all our activities please
 visit our web site at: www.hertsfolkassn.org.uk

Editorial



I would like to start by saying a big thank you to all of you who have contributed copy, adverts and photos to this edition.

I would also like to take the opportunity to extend seasonal greetings to all our readers.

Just too late to get hold of a copy to have reviewed, I found out about new album by Shirley Collins (LODESTAR). Although I haven't yet heard it I am sure it will be worth getting hold of, it's from Fledg'ling Records.
www.fledglingrecords.co.uk

Adrian Burrows

For more information about HFA see our website:
www.hertsfolkassn.org.uk

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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St Albans Folk Festival

Saturday June 24

Festival concert

Day of Dance in the City Centre
Free performances, sessions and
singarounds in local pubs.

Sunday June 25

sessions and singarounds
For further details see web site

St Michael's Street folk evening

Wednesday July 5

Dancing in the street and music
everywhere

info@stalbansfolkmusic.org.uk

www.stalbansfolkfestival.co.uk

Enquiries 01727 852111/ 833028



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 helpful advice and
award performance opportunities.

Closing date January 31

To enter, send us 15 minutes of your music.
See instructions on our web site.

Final Sunday April 2

Trestle Arts Base, St Albans

www.new-roots.org.uk,

info@stalbansfolkmusic.org.uk

WINCHMORE FOLK DANCE CLUB



is celebrating
the 100th birthday of our
Founder and President



CYRIL JONES

At Highlands School,
148 Worlds End Lane. N21 1QQ
Saturday 14th January 2017, 7:00 for 7:30

M.C. Brian Jones and Guest callers
The Forest Band and Guests

Admission Free

Please contact Brian Jones if you will be joining us
brian.jones2@ntlworld.com or 07967 394614

Please bring drinks, glasses and
a plate of food to share



**Winchmore Folk
Dance Club**



Trinity Church 7.30 start

Church Street
Enfield EN2 6AN

Resident Band: **The Forest Band**

Membership £7 + £4.00 per Dance

Guests £6.00 per Dance

Sat 10th Dec

Peter Leedham

Mon 2nd Jan

(Anglo-Scottish)

Andrew Kellet & Andrea Stodell

Sat 14th Jan Cyril's 100th Birthday

Brian Jones and guest callers

Sat 11th Feb

Anne Dunn

Sat 11th March 11th

Mary Bryan

Sat 8th April

Suzanne Harper

Also: term time **TUESDAY** mornings

10 - 12 noon at: The Village Hall,

St Peter's Church, Vera Avenue N21 1RJ

Info: John Wood 020 8926 7293

Barbara Bollins (d. 3rd November 2016)

Barbara Bollins, folk musician, dancer, mother and sister has died peacefully at home at the early age of 62, surrounded by her family and following a short illness.

It was as a Cotswold Morris musician, playing the fiddle, that Barbara Bollins joined English Miscellany (EM), more than 10 years ago. Cheerfully turning out on many a bleak and bleary Sunday morning to learn new tunes or, more realistically, patiently playing the same few phrases over and over until the dancers got it right!

Barbara also played Cotswold tunes for Northampton Morris but, as she loved to dance, as well, she joined the country dance section of EM. She was a good dancer too; her great vigour and enthusiasm, quickly gave us a reliable performer in displays. When not dancing, she naturally picked up her fiddle and joined in with the rest of our band.

Barbara also turned her attention to Mumming and immediately became known for always remembering her lines. This fame was made more evident by the lack of this essential skill in the rest of us! From her ability to take direction when it was needed and argue robustly when it wasn't she made progress with every performance.

In looking back over Barbara's life, we find there is a great deal to celebrate.

With her increased involvement in EM, we became aware of her broader achievements. Her Open University degree, variety in an adventurous professional life and in her hobbies, Barbara was always up-beat, worked hard and set herself high standards, which she certainly achieved. It is true to say that she was just getting into her stride in key areas of her life - and she promised great things for the future.

Being self-employed, Barbara was no stranger to driving, alone, around the country – and, it turned out, across Europe as well. On a club trip to the Czech Republic, Barbara's independent approach to travel resulted in a detour through northern Germany to visit a good folkie friend - whilst also carrying mountains of kit in her car to help out the rest of us with our meagre flight baggage allowance. English Miscellany has lost a dear and much loved friend who will be remembered for her helpfulness, incredible optimism and enjoyment of everything she undertook. Hers was a practical, generous sort of love and she quite simply made a difference.

Barbara will be sadly missed by sons Steve, Ian and Richard, mum Joan, sister Patricia and all of her family and friends. Barbara's strong family links provided support when she most needed it. In English Miscellany, we also feel we have lost one of our family.

Note: Donations are especially welcome to Cynthia Spencer Hospice and Macmillan Cancer Support who were such a support to Barbara during her illness, and to Water Aid projects in Mozambique, which Barbara always wished she could support more.

Norman Dobbing (English Miscellany Leader)

CHILTERN FOLK ASSOCIATION

(Affiliated to EFDSS)

NEW YEAR DANCE

Saturday, January 7th 2017

6.30pm-10.30pm

Amersham Community Centre, Drake Hall,

Chiltern Avenue HP6 5AH

BARRY BULLIMORE with

KELLY'S EYE

£10 Please bring some food to share

SPRING FAMILY DANCE

Sunday, February 19th 2017

2.30pm-5.30pm

Amersham Common Village Hall

White Lion Road, HP7 9JD

TED MORSE with TOUCAN PLAY

**£5 Accompanied children very
welcome, under 16 free**

Please bring some food to share

Contact: 01628 486845 or e-mail

chairman@chilternfolk.org.uk



Forthcoming Concert:

Sunday 18th December • 11.00am

St Mary's Church,

Kensworth,

Dunstable LU6 3RA

Info@cwqq.co.uk

01462 629539

07505 131880

The Sherman Dance manuscripts ("Rothamsted Dances")

As some of you may remember, in the mid 1980s two manuscript books of dance tunes associated with the Sherman family came to light in Harpenden, among a collection of material put together as part of plans for a museum in Harpenden. The larger of the two, dated 1806, carried the name of Marianne Sherman who later married John Bennet Lawes of Rothamsted; their son of the same name started agricultural experimentation on the Rothamsted estate. The smaller volume appeared to belong to her mother.

Frank Stageman, a member of Harpenden Local History Society (LHS), listed the text and then passed the books to Chris Green, a Rothamsted scientist and folk dancer, who danced with St Albans Morris Men. Chris listed the dances by name and whether or not they had dance instructions. Of the 40 dance tunes in the two volumes, only nine had instructions. Three had only the title and a further two were incomplete. Five other longer pieces of music were not obviously linked to contemporaneous dances. Some were traditionally English or Scottish and many were from abroad, especially from France.

Chris visited Sheffield to consult Joan Flett, a folk dance collector and historian. On her advice, he looked in the Vaughan Williams Library (VWL) at books containing collections of dances published around 1806 and found instructions for many of the dances. The books also gave a picture of how the upper

classes danced at the time, including etiquette, style and steps and many can now be found online on the VWL web site.

Chris concluded that the manuscripts were mainly a collection of existing favourite dances. He selected dances less likely to be known to folk dancers in the mid 1980's. In 1985, he put them together in a monograph, '19th Century Dancing of the Gentry of Hertfordshire' after trying them out at a workshop at a regional festival, Folk East. A dance was organised at Rothamsted to give local dancers an opportunity to try them.

Two of the dances were different from the others in that each had instructions in French for a series of figures. One contained a note to say that it had been danced at Devonshire House on June 15, 1803. Devonshire House in Piccadilly was the London house of the Duke of Devonshire. Also there in the summer of 1803 were his wife Georgiana, nee Spencer, and his mistress, Lady Bessborough. Georgiana was a friend of the Prince Regent, as was also Marianne's husband-to-be, John Bennet Lawes I, who entertained the Prince Regent to hunting around Harpenden. The dances were investigated by Guy Towner, Rothamsted soil physicist and folk dancer. He compared the two dances in the Sherman manuscript with instructions for doing the quadrille in books published in 1826, 1875, 1892, 1893, 1895, 1919 and 1950 and drew up a comparative table. He concluded the dances were quadrilles, although books on dance history say that the quadrille was first introduced to London in 1815 by Lady Jersey at a club called Almacks. On the other hand, Georgiana had spent time in France, so would have had the opportunity to learn the quadrille and bring it back to England. Guy Towner concluded that the quadrille reached England before 1815. He and Chris Green started drafting an article for Folk Song Journal. Then major cuts at Rothamsted led to Chris Green being made redundant and moving to Australia, stalling the project indefinitely. Typescript of the first half of the article and rough notes for the second half survive. Chris left before the dance at Rothamsted took place and Mike Bennett was caller. The project for a museum for Harpenden foundered and the material was farmed out to various members of Harpenden LHS for storage until being brought together at Park Hall. I recently came across my copy of Chris Green's monograph and wondered what had happened to the dance books. By coincidence, my friend Rosemary Ross, a lynchpin of Harpenden LHS, told me that she had just come across them at Park Hall and had contacted the VWL. Thanks to St Albans Museum, which has let us use its scanner, we have now digitised the manuscripts at the very high resolution required for archiving, and given a copy to the VWL. In October, we gave presentations to the St Albans Local History Networking Day, aided and abetted by Adrian Burrows and Liz Rose, and to the Harpenden LHS. As Chris Green died in Australia and Guy Towner is now in very poor health, we will be taking advice on what to do about their half finished article.

Alison Macfarlane

Cyril Jones - 100th Birthday

I enjoyed reading the article on Young Miscellany's visit to Cecil Sharp House in the August edition of Puddingstone. What a wonderful experience for them and good to see the children continuing the folk tradition, In 1976 an annual schoolchildren's dance display was held at several Primary Schools and took place on the lawn in front of the house.



The Oak Apple Band provided the music for a programme of traditional English dances.

The event continued for some years thanks to the interest of Cyril Jones who played a big part in planning and organising the day. It was a memorable occasion for parents and visitors on a Sunday afternoon in June or July and was much enjoyed

by the children who were rehearsed and accompanied by their teachers. Many people will have taken part in the various folk activities Cyril has organised. The work he has done promoting folk dance in Enfield and beyond will be acknowledged as his 100th birthday approaches. The opportunities given to the children of Enfield deserve a special mention.

Anne Dunn

The Tradition continues

After a gap of several years Marion Coram-Ware, Dance and PE Co-ordinator at the London Borough of Enfield, revived the annual Primary Schools' Folk Dance Festival in July 2004. The venue for the event was again the lawn at Forty Hall. Local Folk Dance Clubs, Winchmore (Cyril is President of this club), St Andrew's, and Friday Folk (St Albans) were interested in the project and gave their moral support. The children danced a selection of English Country dances. In addition each school performed a dance chosen by the teachers. These dances either reflected the ethnic mix of the schools or personal favourites of the teachers. There were various callers but at most of the Festivals it was Jane Pfaff. The music was provided by Jeremy Monson and the Black Pig Band. The Festivals still continue, the most recent was in July 2016. Other folk traditions are now included. The children are encouraged to bring musical instruments, and the opportunity for them to accompany the band and sing a folk song before lunch has become another tradition.

During lunch the children are entertained. Examples of this entertainment have included demonstrations and joining in a dance by the Enfield Circle Dancers, Winchmore Folk Dance Club, Maypole dancing, Indian dancing and this year a demonstration/taster session of Tai Chi and Jig Dolls. A Heritage Lottery grant was obtained several years ago and resulted in the production of two books - "Dance From Our Heritage" and "Folk Festival Toolkit". Twelve schools took part in the production of these books and the children from the schools involved in this project were very excited to have their dancing filmed for inclusion in the DVDs



that accompany the books. Every Primary school in Enfield have copies of these books. Cyril attended most of the Festivals as guest of honour and he very much enjoyed watching the children dancing with such enthusiasm and joy. He also joined in the dancing as often as possible and always called "I Want To Be Near You" - a favourite dance of all the children. The 2017 Festival is in preparation.

Gill Tibbs

HFA Spring Sing 2016

Earlier this year, on Saturday 19 March, a smallish but dedicated band duly assembled in the back room of the Crown Inn, Buntingford, for the Annual Spring Sing. This was run on the customary 'sing-around' format with singers taking turns, in sequence, around the room, to sing a song, recite a poem or tell a story (or to 'pass' if they had just come to listen as 'audience').

During the afternoon we got through 60 to 70 different items and, although no themes or topics had been decided in advance, quite often a 'theme' would evolve as one title would prompt the next performer to be inspired to offer a song/poem/story on a similar topic. While some songs were so well known that all present could join in enthusiastically with singing the choruses, there were a good few new or less well-known contributions. All those present indicated how very much they had enjoyed the event and were keen to let the organisers know that they would like to return to participate next year. They were advised to look out for details in the advertisement for the Spring Sing 2017 in the December 2016 edition of Puddingstone. (see over)

John Grey



Hertfordshire Folk Association

Spring Sing 2017

Saturday 18th March

12 noon – 6pm

At

THE CROWN

**17 High Street, BUNTINGFORD
Hertfordshire, SG9 9AB**

ADMISSION £5

(food available from the bar)

For further information

See www.hertsfolkassn.org.uk

Call John Grey 01920 460553

Or email Libbybyne-grey@outlook.com



HERTFORDSHIRE FOLK ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE

Elected Members & Officers as from November 2016

Chairman: Miss Hilary Vare hilaryvare@yahoo.com
Tel: 0208 360 6846

Treasurer: Mr Roger Swaine
roger.swaine1@btinternet.com
Tel: 01707 324413

Correspondence Mr Terry Elvins mail@ptelvins.plus.com
& Diary dates: Tel: 01707 320299

Membership Secretary: Adrian Burrows
adrian.r.burrows@btopenworld.com Tel: 01727 866086

Cttee Member: Mrs Libby Byne-Grey
Libbybyne-grey@outlook.com Tel: 01920 460553

Cttee Member: Mr John Grey
Libbybyne-grey@outlook.com Tel: 01920 460553

The Committee has a number of vacancies and would be pleased to hear from individuals who might be interested in taking an active part in the running and organisation of the Association

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.

Diary Dates

2016-2017

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
Other contact details available on page 2.

Dec 10	Winchmore. Trinity Church Hall, Church St. Enfield. EN2 6AN 0208 926 7293 Peter Leedham with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Dec 15	St. Albans Abbey F.D.C. Homewood Rd U.R.Church Hall, Sandpit Ln. St. Albans. AL1 4BH 01727 834977 Andrea Stodell with Spring Greens	7.30pm
Dec 18	Chiltern West Gallery Quire Concert, St Mary's Church, Kensworth, Dunstable. LU6 3RA info@cwggq.co.uk 01462 629539	11.00am
	2017	
Jan 2	Winchmore. (Anglo -Scottish) Andrew Kellet and Andrea Stodell with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Jan 7	Chiltern Folk Assn Amersham Community Centre Barrie Bullimore with Kelly's Eye (see advert pg 6)	6.30pm
Jan 14	Winchmore. Brian Jones and guest callers with the Forest Band. Highlands School, 148 Worlds End Lane N21 1QQ Admission free. brian-jones2@ntlworld.com (See advert pg 6) 07967 394614	7.00 for 7.30pm
Jan 28	St Andrews. Trinity Church Hall, Church St. Enfield. EN2 6AN 0208 366 3982 David Kerridge with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Feb 4	Staplers F.D.C St. Ippolyts Parish Hall, Hitchin. SG4 7RB www.staplers.org.uk 01582 881966 Colin Hume with Folkus Pocus	7.30pm
Feb 11	Winchmore. Anne Dunn with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Feb 19	Chiltern Folk Assn. Family Dance, Amersham Common, Village Hall. Ted Morse with Toucan Play. (See advert Pg 6)	2.30pm

DIARY DATES cont.

Feb 25	St Andrews. Suzanne Harper with Spring Greens	7.30pm
Feb 26	HFA Piano Accordion Workshop (See advert Pg 16)	
Mar 4	Welwyn Garden City F D C Welwyn Civic Centre, Prospect Place, Welwyn AL6 9ER 01707 320299 Ivan Aitken with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Mar 11	Winchmore. Mary Bryan with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Mar 18	HFA Spring Sing (see advert pg 10)	
Mar 18	Harrow The John Greer Hall, Eastcote HA5 2SH 0208 868 7526 (see advert pg 23) Madeleine Smith with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Mar 25	St Andrews. Bob Barratt with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Apr 8	Winchmore. Suzanne Harper with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Apr 22	St Andrews. Barrie Bullimore with Patchwork	7.30pm
May 13	Winchmore. John Green with the Forest Band	7.30pm
May 20	St Albans Abbey F D C , The Church Hall, Marlbrough Rd, St Albans. AL1 3XG Barrie Bullimore with the Forest Band (Please note the change of venue)	7.30pm
May 27	St Andrews. Club caller with Spring Greens	7.30pm
Jun 10	Winchmore. Bob Barratt with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Jun 24	Friday Folk Samuel Ryder Academy, St Albans www.fridayfolk.org.uk 01727 856508 Geoff Cubitt with TBA	7.30pm
Jun 24	St Andrews. Val & Ian McFarlane with the Forest Band	7.30pm
July 8	Winchmore. Phyllis Chapman with the Forest Band	7.30pm
July 22	St Andrews. Terry Elvins with the Forest Band	7.30pm

HFA Affiliated Clubs & Groups

Please notify any corrections to Adrian Burrows, Membership Sec by emailing adrian.r.burrows@btopenworld.com or phoning 01727 866086.

Dunton Folk – Simon Bailes 01767 301 424 or www.duntonfolk.co.uk

English Miscellany - info@englishmiscellany.com or 01483 755278
Country Section • 2nd/3rd/4th Wednesdays in a month
NW/Cotswold sections ••• 1st and 3rd Sundays in the month

Friday Folk - 020 8366 1703 or gilltibbs@hotmail.com

Harrow FDC -

Mr Roy Martin, 57 Waverley Road, Rayners Lane, Harrow, HA2 9RG
Club night: Mondays (except August and Bank Holidays) • 7.45 - 9.45.
••• Belmont School, Hibbert Road (off Locket Road) Wealdstone, HA3 7JT

Hemel Hempstead FDC - meet most term time Fridays 8.15 - 10.15 pm
Mrs Samme, 118 Crawley Drive, Hemel Hempstead, HP2 6BX

Hertford CDC - Jenny Newton. tel. 01438 714539
or e-mail janewton39@gmail.com

Herts Early Dance - Malcolm Gibbs, 114 Ridge Lane, Watford WD17 4SY
www.hertsearlydance.org.uk

Offley Morris Men - Squire: 01462 624210 Bagman.
email: info@offleymorris.org.uk

Phoenix Morris - Michael Stimpson, Heron Wharf, 12 Heron Close,

Batchworth, Herts. WD3 1NF Tel: 01923 770425 www.phoenix-morris.co.uk
Practice on Wednesday evenings at 8.30

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

Roundabouts (Stevenage) Country Dance Club - Jenny Newton.
tel. no. 01438 - 714539 or e-mail janewton39@gmail.com
www.roundabouts.org.uk

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

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

HFA Affiliated Clubs & Groups (continued)

St Albans Morris Men - A. Torrington. 44 Foxcroft, St Albans. AL1 5SP
01727 833028 or bagman@stalbansmorrismen.org.uk
We practice on Monday evenings October to April.
Men and women welcome as dancers or musicians.

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

Staplers CDG - 01582 881966 or www.staplers.org.uk

Mondays 8.00 - 10.00 p.m. St. John's Community Centre, Hitchin SG4 9JP,

Watford FDC - Eileen Fudge, 30 Beechpark Way, Watford WD17 3TY

Welwyn Garden City FDC Meet on Thursday evenings 8 - 10
at U R Church, Church Road, Welwyn Garden City (Opposite Sainsburys)
- Terry Elvins, 01707 320299 or mail@ptelvins.plus.com

Winchmore FDC - Joyce Leedham 0208 886 2696

Tappalachian - Ange Williams 01923 330147

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

Young Miscellany - 01707 324413 or Lynda.swaine@btinternet.com
Practices 2 Sunday mornings per month, at Park Hall, Leyton Road,
Harpenden, AL5 2LX. Dates listed on website www.youngmiscellany.co.uk.

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

Puddingstone welcomes articles, news, pictures, letters and music, as well as Advertising, and will review CDs on receipt (space permitting). All material should be sent to the editor - preferably by email. Preferred digital format for artwork:- .JPG or .PDF. Preferred text format:- Word or plain text. Other file types will be considered on receipt.

If you would like an advert, article or 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).

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).

Haddenham Ceilidhs First Saturday of the month

For more information visit our website or email john@actionfolk.co.uk or phone John on 07717 047 039 or go to www.haddenhamceilidhs.co.uk



Hertfordshire Folk Association
(affiliated to the English Folk Dance and Song Society)
<http://www.hertsfolkassn.org.uk>

Piano-accordion workshop

Sunday 26th February 2017

To be held at the Backhouse Room, 116 Handside Lane, Welwyn Garden City,
AL8 6SZ.

Doors open 10am, workshop starts at 10:30, and ends at about 3:30pm.
Unfortunately there are no eating facilities nearby, so please bring a packed lunch.

Tea & coffee & biscuits will be provided during the day.

Cost: £40

“Playing for Playford” with Rod Stradling.

Rod is a highly experienced accordionist, band leader, and tutor. He was the tutor at last year’s workshop, and we’re delighted to have him back to help us solve the problems of playing a style of music that was composed long before the accordion was invented. Rod comments:-

“The Playford publishing dynasty lasted from the middle of the 17th Century into the early 18th Century. Borrowing from composers of the day such as Purcell, they left us with a large catalogue of music and we will be trying some of the tunes, not just to hear how they sound, but to examine how well they reflect the dances. At the time there was no instrument like an accordion so we will review how the character of our instrument affects the music. The tunes will range from some that are familiar today to some you may never have heard, and from tunes in familiar keys and time signatures to a couple of more challenging titles.

As our knowledge of Playford’s work has expanded over recent decades, the dancing masters of today have written new dances and tunes in the Playford style. We will try some of these as well.”

Booking is essential as places are limited: Please telephone Roger Swaine on 01707 324413, or E-mail him on “roger.swaine1@btinternet.com” to reserve a place.

Membership Renewal

Direct Payment: please note change for p&p

Although HFA membership rates remain unchanged: Individual £2.00, Household: £3.00 and Club/Group: £10.00, we have had to increase p&p to cover the increase in postal charges,. It now costs an additional £2.40 to have your issues of Puddingstone mailed to your address.

You will need to contact your bank to adjust your automatic payment if you pay direct from your bank.

Each Member and club receives three issues of Puddingstone per year. If you want to receive them via the bulk dispatch to your Associated Club, please let your club secretary know, and let me have the name of your club so that we can send the correct number of copies. I can be contacted on 01727 866086 or e-mailed adrian.r.burrows@btopenworld.com

Adrian Burrows

Hertfordshire Folk Association

Membership Application Form 2017



Annual fees: Individual: £2
(annual membership Household: £3
Includes three issues Group/Club £10
Of Puddingstone)

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Alternatively pay by standing order: Hertfordshire Folk Association.

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Folk at the Maltings St Albans

Jan 7 Alden, Patterson and Dashwood, Steph West and the Midnight Patisserie, The Barber Sisters
 Feb 3 Dipper-Malkin plus Elie Rees
 Feb 4 Workshops with John Dipper and Dave Malkin. 10am
 Mar 3 Dan Raza, Danny Pedler and Rosie Butler-Hall, Saul Bailey
 Mar 31 The James Brothers plus New Roots finalists Shorelark

8pm at the Maltings Arts Theatre,
 The Maltings, St Albans AL1 3HL
 Tickets £10, Student concessions £8
 from: www.ticketsource.co.uk/ovo 0844 870 0887

DUNTON CONCERTS

For the last concert of our 2016 programme we have an amazing collection of talented musicians to entertain us and to set us up perfectly for Christmas.

MEGSON, HANNAH SANDERS & MEMBERS OF THE WILLOWS present:
A Winter Union – An evening of folk music from Christmas and the Winter Solstice.
 For more info e mail duntonfolk.co.uk or call Simon on 01767 310 424

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.

Meeting Fridays from 7:45 to 10:00 pm
 at The Church Hall, Marlborough Road,
 St Albans, AL1 3XG.

www.fridayfolk.org.uk – 01727 856508
 Standard Friday admission £4

Autumn 2016

2 Dec Ivan Aitken and FF Band
 9 Dec Christmas Special with Colin Hume and Jump the Vortex
 16 Dec Carol singing around St Albans

Spring 2017

6 Jan Bob Lilley
 13 Jan Mark Elvins and FF Band
 20 Jan David and Rebecca Capron
 27 Jan Bob Barrett
 3 Feb Paul Garner and Spring Greens
 10 Feb Colin Hume and FF Band
 17 Feb Jane Pfaff and Jeremy Monson
 24 Feb Mike Ruff
 3 Mar Mike Bennett and FF Band
 10 Mar Wendy, Martin and Adrian
 17 Mar Irish dances with Anne Leach
 24 Mar Suzanne Farmer and Spring Greens
 31 Mar Club Callers
 7 Apr Brenda Godrich and FF Band

Roger Nicholls

Roger Nicholls, the leader of the Orange and Blue, who has died at the age of 81, showed a keen interest in music early, learning to play the piano from the age of 7 and a church organ in his teens. At Oxford University he joined the Cecil Sharp Club where he learnt to dance Morris and Country and to play the piano accordion. He danced with Oxford University Morris Men and he became the Cecil Sharp Club president in Michaelmas Term 1958.

On leaving university Roger taught at Magdalen College School, Brackley [from 1959-1964] and he started a Morris side among the boarders, teaching the Brackley tradition. That revived Brackley side still dances and even now includes some of his past pupils.

In 1964 Roger moved to Bedford to teach and he remained in Bedford until his death. Fred Hamer introduced him to John Kelly and Philip Marsh and the Orange and Blue Band was formed for Christmas 1965. Their first booking was at Titchmarsh on 26th February 1966. Daphne, his wife, joined the band in 1968 and although the line up changed over the years, Roger and Daphne were the “constants” playing for countless dances in and around Beds, Herts, Bucks and Essex taking their children, Heather and Andrew, along with them when small.

The Orange and Blue played at the 25th Anniversary Sidmouth festival as well as for the Whitby and Bromyard folk festivals, and for several National Gatherings. In the 1970's the band made several recordings, in particular the three Playford “English Dancing Master” records for EFDSS, the arrangements being by Roger himself.

The Orange and Blue became the resident band for 36 years at Ickwell May Day and it also played for 28 annual Hitchin Gatherings.

Roger was a long serving member of Bedford Morris Men. He joined in 1964, and as well as being an excellent dancer, was their main musician for many years, was Bagman in 1969, and also served as Foreman, teaching Morris to many young - and not so young - Bedford men over the years. He forged links between the Morris and Bedford Town Band, of which he was a member, arranging music and organising brass musicians to accompany North-West Morris tours.

Roger also joined Bedford Fine Companions in 1964. He served as a caller, club leader and finally president. He organised a club band, giving club

PTO

members the opportunity to dance to live music and bringing many musicians from outside the dance club into the Folk World.

Since his retirement from teaching modern languages, Roger had been instrumental in taking folk dance and music out into the wider community through Lower Schools' dance festivals and 'Dance for all' activities and he also provided music for "Music 4 Memory."

Roger was awarded the English Folk Dance and Song Society's Gold badge in 2009. Roger himself always said, "He did what he could," but what he could and did was actually a great deal!

Margaret Bull November 2016

DISCOVERING CHRISTMAS with the Vivace choir.

Classical musicians meet the folk tradition The First Nowell - God Rest You Merry Gentlemen - O Little Town of Bethlehem - On Christmas Night - This is The truth Sent From Above: are all deeply embedded in our idea of the traditional Christmas.

But 100 years ago none of these tunes had ever been heard in churches or concert halls. They were known and loved by country people, but for the educated few who controlled musical life they simply didn't exist.

We owe God Rest You Merry to Cecil Sharp, and On Christmas Night to Ralph Vaughan Williams: professional musicians who wanted to find out what ordinary people were singing, and learn from them a whole new musical language. With composer colleagues such as Holst, Butterworth, and Grainger they travelled through the English countryside talking to local singers, writing down their songs, and introducing them to 'educated'



audiences. In effect they discovered the music of the English Christmas as we know it today.

OK, they had their limitations and prejudices; but how amazing in this post-Brexit world to see two Cambridge graduates take ordinary people's values seriously, and how relevant now seems their aim to broaden and strengthen English identity by making something new.

Vivace Choir will be exploring these themes in a forthcoming concert, which features all the carols I've mentioned:

- "Discovering Christmas", 7.30 pm Saturday 10 December, Tilehouse Street Baptist Church, Hitchin.

Classical and folk music come together in this warm-hearted seasonal event full of wellknown carols from the folk tradition and opportunities for the audience to sing. At its heart is the Fantasia on Christmas Carols by Vaughan Williams, a lively piece inspired by the composer's excitement at re-discovering the traditional carols of the English countryside.

The idea of "Discovering Christmas" also inspires our choice of shorter choral items, many by living composers, which will almost certainly be new to you.

Do come along!

tickets@vivace.co.uk or 01462 711 735

Robert Bunting

conductor of the Vivace choir.

Herts Early Dance at Stevenage and Royston Museums

Herts Early Dance meet regularly to enjoy dancing together. Every now and then we are asked to perform in public. Earlier in the year we danced at Stevenage Museum, and this was so popular that in September we were invited by Royston Museum to present a similar programme.

About a dozen of us all resplendent in period costume with our band of trusty musicians similarly attired performed a variety of dances, some showing dazzling virtuosity (!) and others suitable for the audience to join in with a little help. The dances were selected from those popular in Shakespeare's time. Allmaines, Corantos, Canarios, Branles and of course what the English were noted for, Country Dances. They are all researched from original sources so in a way they are like precious museum objects in themselves.

Thank you Royston Museum for we certainly enjoyed our day out and judging by their response the public enjoyed joining in. Also, we hope the museum benefitted by offering a view of living history which is not always possible to capture in a static display.

Our next planned museum outing is to help Ashwell Museum on 14th May, 2017 for their annual 'Ashwell at Home' event. Ashwell is celebrating 1100 years of history and a large crowd of dancers from Herts Early Dance with friends will be bringing the Tudor era to life.

Peter Greener

Dance Around the World 2016

The sixteenth Dance Around the World event took place in Cecil Sharp House, Camden, on 22nd and 23rd October. The structure was the same as in previous years: you could sit and watch in the refurbished main hall, with a new display coming on every 20 minutes or so, or you could have a go yourself, joining one of the three workshop venues: one hour to learn as much as you can of one of the dance styles on offer. Or of course you could sit and meet friends and chat in the café...

There is so much going on that everybody's experience is a bit different. I dropped in on the Saturday, the Balkanplus join-in – not new to me but there were a lot of new faces – and then later the Tanec Bulgarian dance events which are always a high-energy part of the weekend, Boiko Andonov who leads the join-in has a real knack for inveigling newcomers into doing some quite energised dances. On Sunday a typical choice was to watch Czech & Slovak dance (followed by Chinese), or to join in with Greek, Flamenco or Polish; or later the options were to watch the Greek, or join the Czech and Slovak or the Tappalachian or the Scandi-Tea Dance. I particularly enjoyed the Odissi Indian Dance display which had two dancers in gorgeous costumes doing elegant and exciting dances in two different traditions. In previous years I have watched south sea islands dancing, or joined in the Breton dance, or the French. Evening festivities this year were a choice of Latin American or Cajun on Saturday, and Anglo-International or Tango on Sunday.

“Around the world” includes “around the centuries” and there was a significant historical element, with displays and workshops from Redding Moreys doing Historical Morris, London Victorian and Regency Dancers doing Historical Quadrilles – with very elegant costumes in the display – and another costumed performance from Herts Early Dance, perhaps slightly nervous to be appearing for the first time with a programme of dances from the Tudor and Stuart period, starting with simple couple and circle dances and ending with a Playford dance, Row Well. Certainly this was the first time I've ever been asked for a costume photo (by a Bulgarian friend – English Tudor is obviously as exotic to her as some of the Balkan costumes are to us). Later on, Anne Daye led the join-in Early Dance event.

With so much going on, it is not possible to describe it all, or even to experience it all, this is just trying to give you a flavour. The people displaying or leading the events are of course mainly from London or nearby – if you are in a dance group then it is a great opportunity to show your dance to some new people and get them interested. I expect next year's event will appear on <http://www.datw.org.uk/> sometime before next October!

Alan Trangmar

HARROW FOLK DANCE CLUB

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

47th ANNIVERSARY DANCE

SAT. 18th MARCH 2017

* * * * *

MADELEINE SMITH

~ ~ with music by: ~ ~

‘THE FOREST BAND’

**in The John Greer Hall, Eastcote UR Church,
Bridle Road, Eastcote, HA5 2SH**

(at the junction with Rushdene Road)

Limited car parking on site – access only from Bridle Road.

Street parking in adjacent roads – please park responsibly

Bus route H13 (Ruislip to Northwood Hills) stops outside the Hall.

First dance 19.30 (promptly) – until 22.45 hrs.

Tickets (*on the door*) £10.00 (includes refreshments)

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Forthcoming attractions:

45th Playford Ball – 18th November 2017

(Ian & Val. McFarlane with Stradivarious)

48th Anniversary Dance – 17th March 2018

(Caller and Band to be announced)

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

The Harrow Folk Dance Club meets most Mondays (except

August and Bank Holidays) 7.45 – 9.45 pm at

Belmont School (lower hall), Hibberd Road, (off Locket Road)

Harrow Weald, HA3 7JT. (ample car parking on site)

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Further information from Roy Martin – 020 8868 7526



Herts Early Dance at Royston Museum



Herts Early Dance at Cecil Sharp House for “Dance Around the World”

