



Magazine of the Hertfordshire Folk Association

# PUDDINGSTONE

**Whitethorn Morris 40th Anniversary**



December  
2017

Dec - March



Issue 70 40p

Where sold





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

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The views expressed in this magazine are not  
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**There is a 10%  
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Roger Swaine & Terry Elvins.

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

# Editorial



Hi there,

Well in the last issue I asked for people to send in their news and that of their clubs' activities, and I am very pleased with the results. A big thanks to you all.

As you will see we have again had a lot of entries for the diary dates and have expanded this section by an extra page to accommodate them. In future we will be listing for the six months after publication in each issue.

Just a quick reminder (for those who haven't already done so) that membership renewal is due from January 1st. I will be sending out reminder invoices to clubs in the new year.

For more information about HFA see our website:

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

**Adrian Burrows**

## 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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# CHILTERN FOLK ASSOCIATION

(Affiliated to EFDSS)

## NEW YEAR DANCE

**Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2018**

**7pm - 10.30pm**

**Amersham Community Centre, Drake Hall,  
Chiltern Avenue HP6 5AH**

**TED MORSE with KELLY'S EYE**  
**£10 Please bring some food to share**

## FAMILY DANCE

**Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

**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 a little food to share**

Contact: 01494 773189 / 01628 486845  
chilternfolk.org.uk



## Trinity Church Hall

Church Street/Gentleman's Row  
Enfield EN2 6AN  
Resident Musicians  
The Forest Band

December 9 Andrea Stodell

## Callers for 2018

January 1 A. Kellet &  
Andrea Stodell  
January 13 Keith Wright  
February 10 Steve Russell  
March 10 Suzanne Harper  
April 12 Anne Dunn

**7.30 – 10.30**

Info: Gillian:0208 360 6226,  
Joyce:020 8886 2696,



*Evenings of live  
traditional music and  
dance every month.*

Monthly events alternating  
between ceilidhs and  
concerts.

Find us on **Facebook** for details of  
each event or contact  
01920 877 588 / 870 558.

**Tickets from [www.ticketsource.co.uk](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk) or on the door**

**Adults: £8 (£6 in advance); Children: £5 (£3.50 in advance)**

**Advanced family ticket (2+2): £15**

*Refreshments available, bring your own alcohol.*

**Doors:** Ceilidh: 6.30pm for 7pm. Concerts: 7pm for 7.30pm start.

### Ceilidh dates for 2017/18:

**19 November**  
Random Ceilidh Band  
**17 January**  
Take the Biscuit Band  
**18 March**  
Take the Biscuit Band  
**15 May**  
*To be confirmed*

### Concert dates for 2017/18:

**10 December**  
Rattle on the Stovepipe  
**18 February**  
Mary Humphreys & Anahata  
**15 April**  
Jimmy Aldridge & Sam Smith  
**17 June**  
Dave Gibb

# Hertfordshire Early Dance

## 12th Night Celebrations

**Sunday 7th January 2018 2pm-6pm**  
**St Stephen's Church Hall, Watling St,  
St Albans AL1 2PX**

## May Revels

**Saturday 19th May 2018**  
**St Stephen's Church Hall, Watling St,  
St Albans AL1 2PX**

For tickets or more information and  
about our Sunday meetings contact:  
01442 862545 or  
[info@hertsearlydance.org.uk](mailto:info@hertsearlydance.org.uk)

# Dancing for 95 years

Members and guests celebrated Watford Folk Dance Group's 95<sup>th</sup> Anniversary recently with an informal party dance evening. Usually a visiting caller will run a club evening but, with several regular callers present, their names were put into a (Morris) hat and drawn out as the evening progressed. The dancers enjoyed a varied programme with the callers' choices of dances ranging in style from Playford to Contra.



Members brought contributions for the refreshment break and two food laden tables were moved into the centre of the hall. The break culminated in a gathering around a very special celebration cake. Two of the group's previous leaders, Joan Franklin and Ivan MacKenzie were remembered at this point in the evening. Both of them had joined in the 1940s, Joan had led the group from 1963 to 1971 and Ivan had succeeded her from then until 2006.

Together they had cut the cake for the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2012; sadly, as reported in Issue 68 of Puddingstone, they had died within a week of each other last December.



Joan's god-daughter Sarah had made a donation in Joan's memory suggesting that some of this was used for a beautiful cake. Cake-maker Ian Nicholls (of *A Slice of Cake*) piped on some dancing figures and incorporated sweet peas and daisies, Joan's Birthday flowers, into the design for the cake.

Sweet peas were particularly apposite, indicating pleasure – Joan and members enjoyed great pleasure over the years dancing in the group. On this occasion, the cake was cut by Ivy and Ray Webster who have been dancing with the group for some 40 years.



Ivan's widow Edna had brought along some of his mementos. Whilst the cake was being sliced, their daughter Jeannie read out some of Ivan's memories of dancing with the Watford group: members had gone out and about to display dances at various festivities and enjoyed Saturday dances as well as attending the weekly Monday dance sessions.

The dancing finished with 'Never Love Thee More', introduced as the customary last dance for a party by Watford's first permanent leader, Miss Lena Stone. But that was not quite the end of the evening. Chairman Eileen was given a card signed by members to mark a forthcoming 'significant birthday' and her scrummy chocolate



cake was then cut for people to take and enjoy at home.

*Photos by: Ellen Simpson, Malcolm Beak, Kath Batchelor & Fran Beak*

**Fran Beak** Secretary, WFDG

## **Clive Partridge Remembered**

Clive died on August 7th 2017 at the age of 84. He was known in the East Herts area for his folk dance and music activities. This interest started in childhood when he was brought up by his grandparents, living near Sleights, near Whitby. Whilst a pupil at Whitby Boys School he learned the local longsword tradition. This skill was revived later when he became a founder member of Ashvale Longsword. {This side was originally formed as “Wareside Wedlock Longsword” to perform at the wedding ceilidh of John Grey (of Standon Morris Men) and Libby Byne-Grey ( of Hertfordshire Holly North West Clog Dancers) in October 1985.}

In 1991 Clive changed traditions to North West Clog Morris and joined Ramrugge Morris, based near Stevenage, both as a dancer and musician. He toured with Ramrugge to many places both at ‘home’ – such as the Saddleworth Rushcart procession - and ‘abroad’ – a tour of Ireland producing some memorable incidents. Throughout this time he was a regular supporter, along with his partner Lis, of the Hoddesdon Folk Music Club, which later moved to The Old Bulls Head pub in Ware, until its closure.

Although he initially qualified as an Electrical Engineer, Clive’s lifelong interest was in Archaeology and he spent most of his life as a professional Archaeologist, leading ‘digs’ at many sites of local, national and international importance.

**John Grey**

We have just heard some sad news, that Graham Lyndon-Jones passed away on the evening of Sunday 12th November. There has not been time to arrange an obituary before going to press, so we will be putting one into the next issue. If you have any memories you would like to contribute, please contact me using any of the methods listed on pages 2 and 13.

**Adrian Burrows**



# CD Review

## Aural Borderalis by Hadrian's Union

Hadrian's Union are a five piece Contemporary Folk Rock band from "the debatable lands of England and Scotland" whose influences include Lindisfarne, Jethro Tull, Stackridge and the Bonzo Dog Dooh Dah Band. All the songs on this CD are written by founder member and guitarist Stew Simpson, and they range from the philosophical "Are we there yet?" to the intriguing "Wandering Winnie" and a plea for togetherness in "Union Song".

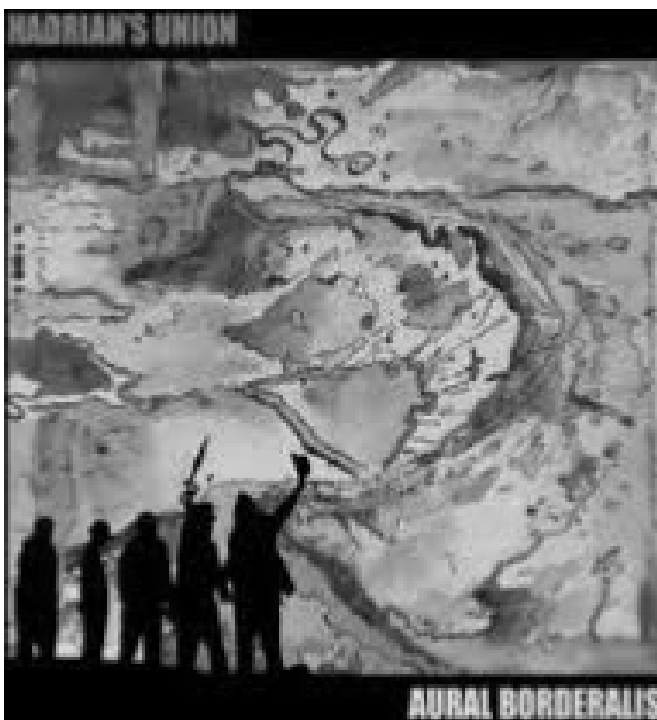
There's also a strong theme of love lost and longed for, especially in "Alice", "Falling Free" and "Love is a curse". "Body to Body", one of the strongest songs on this album, refers to the 1970s novel, "Jonathan Livingstone Seagull" to emphasise the message that life is what you make it, while "Reason for Living" is a simple outpouring of love for another human being, incorporating in the lyrics some lines from WH Auden's "Funeral Blues".

The band comprises Simpson (vocals, guitar), Robin Jowett (melodeon, keys, backing vocals), Malcolm Bushby (violin, bouzouki), Brian Bell (bass guitar, backing vocals) and David Pratt (Drums, keys). Folkies may recognise the names of Robin Jowett and Brian Bell as past and present members of Whapweasel; Malcolm Bushby's previous bands include Folkestra and the Tom McConville Band.

The ensemble playing is strong, and much thought has clearly gone into the arrangements of each of the songs. The two instrumental tracks, a lovely waltz entitled "Liesl" and a stately jig, "Duncan McGillivray Chief Steward", are very well played, with a great feeling of dance about them, and Bushby's fiddle-playing stands out in many of the arrangements, particularly in "Alice" and "Reason for Living".

The two lighter tracks, "English eccentric" and "Pour me another one"





don't really work for me – it feels as if Simpson was trying a bit too hard to inject some humour into the set, but there's a lack of incisiveness and sharp wit that made these songs fall flat, for this listener at least.

The album is expertly produced and mixed by Saul Rose and mastered by Nick Cooke. The enclosed booklet contains lyrics of most of the songs, although a mix-up in the printing of the CD sleeve means that the track listing is in slightly the wrong order; my copy had a note explaining this, and the error is very slight, so shouldn't affect your enjoyment of the album.

This is a CD packed with original songs played by outstanding musicians. The various influences brought to the band by each individual member produce a sound that is eclectic, a bit quirky, but ultimately unique. The Borders are certainly alive with the sound of music – Aural Borderalis!

**Barry Goodman**



**Hertfordshire Folk Association**

# **Spring Sing 2018**

**Saturday 17th 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](http://www.hertsfolkassn.org.uk)**

**Call John Grey 01920 460553**

**Or email [Libbybyne-grey@outlook.com](mailto:Libbybyne-grey@outlook.com)**

## **Historical Dance Society Study Days: Working with the Sources**

At the heart of our dancing lie the original sources and their reconstruction. The Historical Dance Society has always sought to develop understanding of these in the light of current knowledge as the basis for informed teaching and the publication of dance instructions. We now launch a series of study days exploring key sources for Renaissance dance, led by experts in each field. Both theoretical and practical, the study days will support those who teach or lead dancing and interest those who wish to extend understanding of the dances they enjoy.

### **Anne Daye on the 'Inns of Court' manuscripts**

Saturday 2nd December, 2017, hosted by Herts Early Dance in St Albans  
Future topics include Domenico, Playford, the Galliard (synthesising various sources) and Music. (education@historicaldance.org.uk)  
On-line booking (pay by credit/debit card or PayPal)

### **A Cornucopia of Terpsichorean Delights-** Course director: Barbara Segal

To include a selection of the choicest country dances from the eighteenth century that were set to the beautiful music of Purcell and Handel  
26-28 January 2018,

High Leigh Conference Centre, Hoddesdon, Hertfordshire, EN11 8SG  
Online booking available soon.

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## **All in Accord**

I lead a small accordion group in Hitchin, **All in Accord**, which was founded by my wife Barbara in 1992. When she died in 1999, we decided to keep the Band going, and we have given numerous concerts both at home and in the concert room at my piano teacher's house.

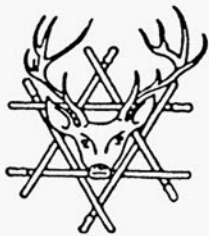
We meet on alternate Mondays for practice and giving concerts or musical evenings to friends and relations, resulting in small profits going to Cancer Research.

Due to illnesses and whatnot I am in need of a couple more accordionists who might like to play a range of music from old popular to classical, marches, and jazz. Currently, we comprise two accordionists, drums and a piano / keyboard / accordionist, but need more accordionists for some of my arrangements.

Obviously I am wondering if you might know of anyone who might like to join our small band.

**George Caple**

If you are interested please contact: [GeorgeCaple@aol.com](mailto:GeorgeCaple@aol.com)



## **Hertfordshire Folk Association**

(affiliated to the English Folk Dance and Song Society)

<http://www.hertsfolkassn.org.uk>

### **Piano-accordion workshop**

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

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 4pm. Unfortunately there are no eating facilities nearby, so please bring a packed lunch.

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

**Cost: £40**

### **“Tunes in 3/2” with Becky Price.**

Becky Price’s formal training was as a pianist, and she gained an honours degree in this from Cambridge. Her parents, however, were both folkies and in her final year she discovered a passion for the accordion, which has been her main instrument since then. She’s played with various ensembles, including “Hell said the Duchess” and “Broadwood”, as well as performing as a soloist. She is also a popular teacher!

Tunes in 3/2 were quite common during Playford’s time, then largely died out, but there’s been a resurgence of interest recently. During the workshop, Becky will be covering a selection of 3/2 tunes from 17th & 18th C English dance tune collections (including Playford), looking at the amazing variety of mood and style present within that particular tune type, and thinking about appropriate left hand harmonies and techniques to accompany them.

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



## **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

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 2	<b>Staplers F.D.C</b> St. Ippolyts Parish Hall, Hitchin. SG4 7RB www.staplers.org.uk 01582 881966 Karhryn and David Wright with most of Momentum	7.30pm
Dec 2	<b>Herts Early Dance,</b> St.Stephens Church, St Albans, Historic Dance Society Workshop - Inns of Court Manuscripts. See advert pg 4	
Dec 9	<b>Winchmore</b> Trinity Church Hall, Church St., Enfield. EN2 6AN 0208 926 7293 Andrea Stodell with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Dec 10	<b>Stanstead Abbots Ceilidh Society,</b> Concert Rattle on the Stovepipe 01920 877588 / 870558 See Advert	7.00pm
Dec 14	<b>St Albans Abbey FDC,</b> Homewood Rd. UR Church Hall, Sandpit Lane, St. Albans. AL1 4BH 01727 834977 Suzanne Harper with Spring Greens	7.30pm
Dec 16	<b>Dunton Folk</b> St. Mary Magdalene Church, Dunton, Biggleswade. SG18 8RR The Churchfitters Christmas Cracker	7.30pm
Dec 23	<b>St. Andrews</b> Trinity Church Hall, Church St., Enfield. EN2 6AN 0208 366 3982 Anne Dunn with the Forest Band	7.30pm
	<b>2018</b>	
Jan 1	<b>Winchmore</b> Anglo Scottish Dance. Andrea Stodell and Andrew Kellet with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Jan 6	<b>Chiltern Folk Association,</b> Amersham Community Centre, Chiltern Ave. 01494 773189/01628 48645 HP6 5AH Ted Morse with Kelly's Eye See Advert	7.00pm

## DIARY DATES cont.

Jan 7	<b>Herts Early Dance</b> , 12th Night Celebrations See Advert Pg 4	
Jan 13	<b>Winchmore</b> Keith Wright with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Jan 17	<b>Stanstead Abbots C S</b> , Ceilidh Take the Biscuit See Advert pg 4	
Jan 27	<b>St. Andrews</b> John Woods with Toucan Play	7.30pm
Feb 3	<b>Staplers</b> Lynne Render with English Contra Dance Band	7.30pm
Feb 10	<b>Winchmore..</b> Steve Russell with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Feb 18	<b>Chiltern Folk Assn.</b> Family Dance, Amersham Common Village Hall. HP7 9JD Ted Morse with Toucan Play See Advert pg 4	2.30pm
Feb 18	<b>Stanstead Abbots C S.</b> Concert: Mary Humphreys & Anahata See Advert pg 4	
Feb 24	<b>St. Andrews.</b> Brenda Godrich with Spring Greens	7.30pm
Mar 3	<b>Welwyn Garden City FDC</b> , U.R. Church Hall, Church Rd. W.G.C. AL8 6PS 01707 320299 Colin Hume with Kelly's Eye	7.30pm
Mar 10	<b>Winchmore..</b> Suzanne Harper with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Mar 11	<b>HFA</b> Piano Accordion Workshop see Advert pg 12	
Mar 17	<b>HFA</b> Spring Sing see Advert pg 10	
Mar 17	<b>Harrow FDC</b> , The John Greer Hall, Eastcote. 02088687526see HA5 2SH Ted Morse with Meg'n'More advert pg 27	7.30pm
Mar 18	<b>Stanstead Abbots C S</b> , Ceilidh Take the Biscuit See Advert pg 4	
Mar 24	<b>St. Andrews.</b> Peter Leedham with the Forest Band	7.30pm



## DIARY DATES cont.

Mar 18	<b>Stanstead Abbots C S</b> , Ceilidh Take the Biscuit See Advert pg 4	
Apr 15	<b>Stanstead Abbots C S</b> , Concert: Jimmy Aldridge & Sam Smith      see advert pg 4	
Apr 28	<b>St Andrews</b> . Bob Barrett with the Forest Band	7.30pm
May 12	<b>Winchmore</b> . Dave Kerridge with the Forest Band	7.30 pm
May 19	<b>St Albans Abbey FDC</b> Judith Inman with the Forest Band	7.30 pm
May 19	<b>Herts Early Dance</b> May Revels    see advert pg 4	
May 26	<b>St Andrews</b> . Club Callers with Spring Greens	7.30 pm
June 16 & 17	<b>St Abans Folk Festival</b> (main events on Saturday June 16th)      see pg 24	

## HFA Affiliated Clubs & Groups

Please notify any corrections to Adrian Burrows, Membership Sec by emailing [adrian.r.burrows@btopenworld.com](mailto:adrian.r.burrows@btopenworld.com) or phoning 01727 866086.

English Miscellany - [info@englishmiscellany.com](mailto: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 - St Albans - 01727 856508, [www.fridayfolk.org.uk](http://www.fridayfolk.org.uk)

Harrow FDC -  
Mr Roy Martin, 57 Waverley Road, Harrow, HA2 9RG.    020 8868 7526  
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](mailto:janewton39@gmail.com)"

## HFA Affiliated Clubs & Groups (continued)

Herts Early Dance - Malcolm Gibbs, 114 Ridge Lane, Watford WD17 4SY  
[www.hertsearlydance.org.uk](http://www.hertsearlydance.org.uk)

Offley Morris Men - Squire: 01462 624210 Bagman.  
 email: [info@offleymorris.org.uk](mailto: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](http://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](mailto:janewton39@gmail.com)"  
[www.roundabouts.org.uk](http://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  
 020 8366 3982

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

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

Staplers CDG - 01582 881966 or [www.staplers.org.uk](http://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](mailto:mail@ptelvins.plus.com)

Winchmore FDC - Joyce Leedham 0208 886 2696

Tappalachian - Ange Williams 01923 33014

Woodside Morris Men - 39, Holland Gdns, Garston, Watford.  
 Nick Wilson: [bagman@woodsidemorrismen.com](mailto:bagman@woodsidemorrismen.com)  
 or [www.woodsidemorrismen.com](http://www.woodsidemorrismen.com)

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

## Membership Renewal

# Hertfordshire Folk Association

## Membership Application Form 2018



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

To have Puddingstone delivered to your door, please add £2.40 to your annual fee.

Club/group (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_  
Name/s: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Inc. Postcode) \_\_\_\_\_  
Tel: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

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 (£2.40 for the year)  
(please tick box)

☐

And enclose a cheque payable to the Hertfordshire Folk Association

Please return the completed form to:

HFA Membership Secretary, Adrian Burrows, 1 Leyland Ave, St Albans, AL1 2BD

Alternatively pay by standing order: Hertfordshire Folk Association.

Sort code: 60 18 11 Account: 45217718

# 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](http://www.fridayfolk.org.uk) – 01727 856508  
Standard Friday admission £4

## Autumn 2017

- 1 Dec Mike Bennett and FF Band
- 8 Dec Suzanne Farmer
- 15 Dec Mark Elvins, Mollie and Ali
- 22 Dec Carol Singing around St Albans

## Spring 2018

- 5 Jan Ann Gibson
- 12 Jan Suzanne Farmer and the Friday Folk Band
- 19 Jan David and Rebecca Capron
- 26 Jan Modern Jive with Bob Barrett
- 2 Feb Bob Lilley
- 9 Feb Bob Barrett and FF Band
- 16 Feb Denise Devonald
- 23 Feb Club callers
- 2 Mar Wendy Harrup and FF Band
- 9 Mar Jane Austen evening - Colin Hume and Spring Greens
- 16 Mar Dave Kerridge
- 23 Mar Barry Goodman
- 30 Mar Closed for Easter

## Surprise Morris

On holiday in Transylvania (Romania) imagine our surprise as we were having lunch on the square opposite Vlad the Impaler's House, when Towersey Morris Men started dancing. They were touring Transylvania. After they finished their set, we heard some traditional Romanian folk music with an alpine style horn and a bagpipe which was made from an entire rabbit including the head.

## Rob Burrows



## **EFDSS announces Gold Badge recipients**

Four individuals and a family group are the latest recipients of Gold Badge awards from the English Folk Dance and Song Society (EFDSS). Gold Badges are given for unique or outstanding contributions to folk music, dance or song, distinguished service to EFDSS and/or exceptional contributions to EFDSS' work. Gold Badges for 2017 will be awarded to: Johnny Adams, Nicolas Broadbridge, Dave and Maggie Hunt, The Wilson Family. They join an illustrious list of Gold Badge holders including EFDSS founder and pioneering folk-song collector Cecil Sharp, composer and collector Ralph Vaughan Williams, performer/writer A L Lloyd, and musicians The Spinners, together with EFDSS President Shirley Collins and Vice President Eliza Carthy. For more information about EFDSS Gold Badge awards, see [www.efdss.org/efdss-about-us/gold-badge-award](http://www.efdss.org/efdss-about-us/gold-badge-award).

## **Explore English Country Dancing at Cecil Sharp House**

A new look at a long-established tradition...

Local dance tutor and caller Mike Ruff has been given the job of running the long standing and famous English Country Dance Classes at Cecil Sharp House for EFDSS. The classes take place every Thursday at 7.30–10pm. Mike comments, "It is a real privilege and challenge to take on these classes. I really hope that I can keep the best traditions of the classes and the country dancing that we all love very much alive. We have already had a good mix of all ages and levels of experience through the door and a really positive response to the range of dances."

The format is designed to work equally well for people who work every day in the capital and also for occasional visitors: you can choose to book up for a full term or just drop in when you can. Carnet tickets are also available for regular dancers who can't quite commit to attending every week.

Dancers of all levels of experience and abilities have a new way to explore England's rich heritage in social folk dance.

The classes cover English country, ceilidh and barn dancing from 350 years of history as well as related social folk dance styles from further afield. They are open to everyone, including absolute beginners, and there is no need to bring a partner. The dancing takes place to a live band led by Ian Cutts, well known locally for his appearances at Friday Folk with Spring Greens, and musicians playing melody instruments are welcome to join the band.



So, Instead of joining the rush home at the end of the working or shopping day in London, why not spend Thursday evenings with a friendly group of enthusiasts at the home of English folk? EFDSS presents a wide range of other folk activities at Cecil Sharp House, with gigs and other events throughout the week alongside classes for all ages – which also include Morris Dance on Tuesday evenings. The Vaughan Williams Memorial Library, which was fully refurbished in 2017, provides yet another reason to spend time in Cecil Sharp House.

For details, see [efdss.org/englishcountrydancing](http://efdss.org/englishcountrydancing)

**Peter Craik**

**Director of Marketing and Communications**

**English Folk Dance and Song Society**

**Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, London NW1 7AY**

**T: +44 (0)20 7241 8958 M: +44 (0)7927 783023**

## **A busy summer for the mAy team**

Who are the mAy team? A group of dancers, teachers and musicians with an interest in Maypole Dancing brought together by Mike Ruff. We are called the mAy team because for our first show we had two Alisons, an Alice and an Arwen so I thought "The A team? No, the mAy team!". Our biggest event and our finale, both this year and last, was 4 days of performances at Countryfile Live. This huge event at Blenheim Palace has around 40,000 visitors a day. We were on The Village Green with a purpose-built Maypole alternating with Brass Bands and a different Cotswold Morris side each day. We had three Maypole performances each day with the public joining in and a separate showcase performance where we included Country Dancing, English and Appalachian Clog, North West and Cotswold Morris (not bad from seven of us in half an hour). During the Maypole sequences we were often joined by Pudsey Bear and once, with the cameras rolling, Anita Rani



**Anita Rani with the mAy team**



from Countryfile joined in a dance which was then broadcast a few weeks later (for about 10 seconds). The team for the four days included Ali Heywood, Angie Williams and Sue Rawlins, who will be known to many in this area, plus Alison Rowley, Deborah Chalmers and Arwen Hobday. Our summer had started appropriately enough on the May Day weekend at Butser Ancient Farm in Hampshire with a small version of the team.

This was part of their Wicker Man celebrations with the largest Wicker Man I have seen. This was swiftly followed (about 15 hours later) with a return to The Swiss Garden in Bedfordshire with their Mad Hatters Tea Party. A sell-out crowd for the event meant plenty of willing volunteers to join in after our displays. The following day saw two of us at a low key event in Stoke Park just outside Slough and the full team was back in action the following weekend at a major alumni event at Bath University.



**Wicker man and Maypole at Butser**

where we were joined by Tatters & Tails Border Morris side.

Our next two events were for Dacorum Heritage who had a pop-up site in The Marlowes in Hemel Hempstead. On the Saturday of the late May Bank Holiday Deborah Chalmers and myself went to their shop site, played tunes and sang songs. This was a taster for the main event the following week where we gave four displays in the main shopping centre encouraging others to join in or visit the shop site.

Then there was a corporate event at Heythrop Park and a spin off at The Swiss Garden where Deborah, Alison Rowley and I were joined by historical dance expert Barbara Segal, Beth Gifford and Rick Bolton to

provide period dances and music from a string quartet for their Regency Garden Party.

Quite a summer of activity and clearly there is a market for this type of event.

We already have bookings in the diary for next year, returning to Butser Ancient Farm and The Swiss Garden, and are planning a Get Together on March 4<sup>th</sup>. If anyone wants to find out more or

get involved visit our website or talk to Mike Ruff by phone or when you see him at events around Hertfordshire.

Our website is [www.themayteamdance.wordpress.com](http://www.themayteamdance.wordpress.com)



**Mike Ruff**

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### **St.Albans Folk Festival**

St Albans Folk Festival will take place on Saturday and Sunday June 16 and 17, with the main events on Saturday June 16. Apart from the festival concert, which will feature a high profile headline guest, it will be a free festival, with a Day of Dance and free showcase performances in five local pubs and Waterstone's bookshop, plus sessions, singarounds and workshops. As last year, the festival is developing activities to involve young people and families with children, in collaboration with Shooting Roots and Young Miscellany. Further details to be announced: [www.stalbansfolkmusic.org.uk](http://www.stalbansfolkmusic.org.uk) and [www.stalbansfolkatthefestival.org.uk](http://www.stalbansfolkatthefestival.org.uk)

After a break of seven years, sessions have re-started at the Rose and Crown, St Michael's Street, St Albans. There will be a break in December because the pub has pre-existing bookings for seasonal events, but it is hoped to re-start in January.

For more, see [www.stalbansfolkmusic.org.uk](http://www.stalbansfolkmusic.org.uk).

### **NEW ROOTS 2018**

The call is out for entries for the annual New Roots event for young singers and musicians aged under 25. The closing date for entries is January 31 and the final is on Sunday April 8 at Trestle Arts Base in St Albans. There is no overall winner. Performers who are selected to take part in the final will get feedback on their performances and opportunities at folk festivals and other events.

For details, see [www.new-roots.org.uk](http://www.new-roots.org.uk)

## **40 Years Young – Whitethorn’s Big Birthday**

For those of you who are not young enough to remember punk rock, Virginia Wade winning Wimbledon and the Queen celebrating 25 years of reigning, then you were not around when Whitethorn Morris were launched in September 1977. How long ago that now seems. No world wide web, laptops, mobile phones, Facebook, Instagram or Twitter. The Whitethorn ‘bagman’ did not have to update the side’s Twitter feed prior to a gig. No, he or she had to find a map, make photocopies and post or hand them to the dancers and musicians. No sat-navs either – many bookings started late as someone usually got lost en-route!



So in the autumn of 1977, Whitethorn Morris made their entry into the wonderful world of Morris from the London suburb of Wealdstone in Middlesex. Dancing in north-west style and clad in Laura Ashley smoky floral dresses with black Gamba shoes (our wooden clogs came along in the very early 80s) but don't let the floral frocks fool you – Whitethorn were energetic, ballsy and very much precursors of the ‘girl power’ that the Spice Girls thought they invented. Two years on in 1979, our kit was upgraded to a more dynamic blue cotton dress with a red pinafore and a blue mill-girl's cap. Over the years we have been mistaken for nurses, nuns and cheese demonstrators – no, please don't ask!

**Continued over**

Back in the early 1980s, Whitethorn had enough dancers and musicians to fulfil two different bookings with two teams on many occasions. We've danced at Sidmouth (once busking and once officially), Whitby, Rochester, Chippenham, Swanage, Wimborne, Sheringham and in London (we were often to be found in Covent Garden on Sunday afternoon entertaining the tourists). In recent years, we have danced in Brittany at a Europeade event and in Prague at a folklore gathering. Two members remain from the original starting line-up, although only one of them is still dancing, the other plays a lethal crowbar and triangle in the band. Quite a few members have been around for many years, fitting in



dancing alongside building careers, getting married in some cases and having babies, most of whom donned the mini Whitethorn kits that were passed down the line, until they discovered it was completely uncool. However, we do have the pictures in the team's scrapbooks...Our team come from far and wide to practice, which is still held in Wealdstone in a scout hut.



**CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE**

# **HARROW FOLK DANCE CLUB**

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

## **48th ANNIVERSARY DANCE**

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2018**

\* \* \* \* \*

## **TED MORSE**

∞ ∞ with music by: ∞ ∞

## **‘MEG ‘N’ MORE’**

*(Meg Winters, Jane Harrison & Heather Bexon)*

*at 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 22.30 hrs.**

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

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***Forthcoming attractions:***

***46<sup>th</sup> Playford Ball – Sat. 17<sup>th</sup> November 2018***

***(Caller and Band to be announced)***

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*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***





Sue travels from Newport Pagnell, Jenny, our Foreman, from Oxfordshire. Some of us still live near Wealdstone, but we also reside in Bucks and Herts. We have three members in Bristol, who still join us for dancing out whenever they can. We would love more dancers to join us, any new recruit is a marvellous bonus. So, 40 years on, it is time to

celebrate friendship, music, dancing and years of shared memories, fun, cakes, tea, coffees, wine, cocktails and prosecco and this we did on 23rd September in Tring, Herts.

We had 40 cakes, bubbly, beers, lovely food, music, dancing and a brilliant ceilidh with The Geckoes. Fourteen Morris teams came and joined us and many of our ex Whitethorn Morris members also came along to party.



To find out more about us please email [jandent@viaint.com](mailto:jandent@viaint.com) or [secretary@whitethornmorris.com](mailto:secretary@whitethornmorris.com) or have a look at our website, Facebook or Twitter. I did say, times have changed! Whichever portal you use, there is absolutely no doubt at all that Whitethorn are #FabAtForty

**Janice Dent**

Secretary - Whitethorn Morris  
[www.whitethornmorris.com](http://www.whitethornmorris.com)

