



Magazine of the Hertfordshire Folk Association

# PUDDINGSTONE

Issue 72



**The Dovetail Trio & Granny's Attic**  
**Performers at the St Albans Festival Concert**

**August**  
**2018**

Aug - Nov



**40p**

Where sold



## **ERRATUM** Puddingstone issue 72 Page 24

The article “**St Albans Day of Dance (Tappalachian)**” was attributed to **Lynn Willson** by mistake. She kindly arranged for this to be written by **Ian Holt** to whom it should have been attributed.

I apologise to them both for any confusion, problems or embarrassment caused by this mistake, and thank them both for their help, support and work in producing this article.

Adrian Burrows (editor)



## HERTFORDSHIRE FOLK ASSOCIATION

### Key contacts (see further details on middle pages)

Chairman:	<b>Miss Hilary Vare</b> 31 Firs Lane, London, N21 2HT Tel: 0208 360 6846
Membership secretary:	<b>Adrian Burrows</b> 1, Leyland Ave. St Albans, AL1 2BD Tel: 01727 866086
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### COPY DATE

## 1st Nov for DECEMBER ISSUE

(Dec 2018 -  
Mar 2019)

### PUDDINGSTONE EDITOR

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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.

## Special Advert Rates

### There is a 10% discount on adverts for affiliated clubs 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](http://www.hertsfolkassn.org.uk)

# Editorial



I hope the weather has cooled by the time you are reading this. It certainly spoiled dancing.

I have been very busy ensuring that HfaA complies with the new Data Protection Regulations. Please see the info on pgs.5&6.

This shouldn't affect us too much as we aren't a big concern that sell our members data on to third parties, but I feel we need to be keeping ourselves in line with legislation. I will be redesigning the membership renewal form so that when you renew next year you will be providing the required permission for us to hold your data. The current DPR form is only a stop-gap.

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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**Centre pull out: HFA Playford Day**

## CHILTERN FOLK ASSOCIATION

(Affiliated to EFDSS)

### PLAYFORD BALL

**SATURDAY, 22nd SEPTEMBER 2018**  
AMERSHAM COMMUNITY CENTRE  
HP6 5AH 7.00pm - 10.30pm

**COLIN HUME with  
SHANE & JULIA**

**£10**

Please bring a plate of food to share

### AUTUMN FAMILY DANCE

**SUNDAY 21st OCTOBER 2018**  
2.30pm- 5.30pm

Amersham Common Village Hall HP7 9JD  
**VAL & IAN MCFARLANE**  
with TOUCAN PLAY

**£5 Accompanied children 5 to 16 free**  
Please bring a small plate of food to share

Contact 01494 773189 or [chilternfolk.org.uk](http://chilternfolk.org.uk)

Chesham Dance, Sunday 7 October 2018, 2.30 - 6pm  
Ivan Aitkin with Jip - HP5 1HX



## Inchmore Folk Dance Club



**Church Street/Gentleman's Row**  
Enfield EN2 6AN

Resident Musicians: **The Forest Band**

August 11 Peter Leedham  
October 13 Judith Inman + AGM  
November 10 'PLAYFORD'  
Gillian West  
December 8 Mike Bennet  
7.30 – 10.30

### Saturday September 8

### Memorial Dance for John Wood

St Pauls Centre, 102A Church St.  
Enfield. EN2 6AR. 7.30 - 10.30 £5.00  
Please bring a plate of finger food to share  
and a cup if possible

**Info: Gillian:0208 360 6226**  
**Suzzane: 0208 508 4770**



*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.

#### 2018 Programme

22 July: Ceilidh with Mrs Savages Whim with caller Emma Wooders  
(No August event)

16 September: Ceilidh with Take the Biscuit Band

21 October: Stepling in concert

18 November: Ceilidh (TBC)

16 December: Vicki Swann & Jonny Dyer Christmas Special

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 open at 7pm for 7.30pm start.



**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: 31 January 2019.

To enter, email an entry form and you will  
receive information about how to upload  
15 minutes of your music. Entry form and  
details at: [www.new-roots.org.uk](http://www.new-roots.org.uk)  
[info@new-roots.org.uk](mailto:info@new-roots.org.uk)

**Finals: 7 April 2019**

**Trestle Arts Base, St Albans**

# **General Data Protection Regulations (25.5.2018)**

## **GDPR & the Herts Folk Association.**

GDPR, the General Data Protection Regulations, are the new EU wide rules on data protection that came into force on May 25th this year. The new rules supersede the Data Protection laws that have existed and evolved since the 1980s.

The HFA holds personal data on its members, provided by those members for the purposes of postal contact (Puddingstone) and non-routine information distribution.

### **GDPR statement.**

The HFA holds personal data on its members, and affiliated clubs and groups provided by them for the purposes of postal contact (Puddingstone) and non-routine information distribution [Name, Address, Phone number, e-mail address].

This information is held only by the HFA Membership Secretary, and Committee members for distribution of Puddingstone, as password protected files.

Information is also held by the Puddingstone Editor for the purpose of contacting clubs and individuals using the Puddingstone for advertising, as a password protected file.

The HFA only holds and uses these data to meet its stated purposes:

- Support and/or initiate all forms of folk activity in Hertfordshire.

- Encourage the initiation of such activities by others.

- To act as a liaison point for all forms of folk activity in Hertfordshire.

Personal data is not shared with any other organisation or persons without the express permission of the person concerned.

***The GDPR emphasises that any personal information held must be with the permission of the person to whom it applies and that this permission must be recorded.***

In order to comply and for us to continue to hold your personal information as explained above we must receive the tear-off slip below giving your express permission.

The GDPR requires the HFA to have means for people to see the personal data we hold on them and to request changes or deletion. To do this please contact *The Membership Secretary (Adrian Burrows)*, by letter or by e-mail and we will respond as required within one month of receipt of the request.

If you do not wish us to hold this information you can still be a member and receive information via our website ([www.hertsfolkassn.org.uk](http://www.hertsfolkassn.org.uk)) or by our sending your copy of Puddingstone to the Club or Group of your choice.

## Hertfordshire Folk Association

### Permission to hold personal information under the General Data Protection Regulations

In order to comply and for us to continue to hold your personal information as explained overleaf we must receive your express permission:

**Please return by post or e-mail to** HFA Membership Secretary, 1 Leyland Avenue, St Albans, AL1 2BD or [adrian.r.burrows@btopenworld.com](mailto:adrian.r.burrows@btopenworld.com)

I am happy for you to hold the information below for e-mail and postal communication.

Signed.....

Name.....Date.....

Name/s: .....

Address .....

Inc. Postcode .....

Tel: .....

E-mail address .....

**OR**

If you do not wish us to hold this information you can still be a member and receive information via our website

([www.hertsfolkassn.org.uk](http://www.hertsfolkassn.org.uk)) or by our sending your copy of Puddingstone to the Club or Group of your choice.

If this is the case please tell us the club through which we can send you your copy of Puddingstone:

I only want you to hold my name for contact purposes and and no other information, and wish to receive Puddingstone via a named club/group.

Signed.....

Name.....Date.....

Club/group.....

**If you have not renewed your membership yet, please also see over.**

*No information regarding members will be shared with any other organisation without permission.*

# 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](mailto:adrian.r.burrows@btopenworld.com)

**Adrian Burrows**

## Hertfordshire Folk Association



### Membership Application Form 2018

Annual fees: (annual membership Includes three issues Of puddingstone	Individual: £2 Household: £3 Group/Club £10
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To have Puddingstone delivered to your door, please add £2.40 to your annual fee.
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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 GDP form (see over) and 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

# Spring Sing 2018



On a cold March day 8 singers, half of whom were members of the Waltham Abbey Folk Song Club, whilst the other half were from the North Herts area, met together in the back room of the Crown Inn in Buntingford. Between us we performed three dozen songs and poems across a wide range of genres, including the serious, the funny, solos, duets and choruses, traditional, modern, music-hall and self-penned, although being St Patrick's Day, there was a bit of an Irish theme which developed in the performances and emerged throughout the day, often with interesting and surprising results.

All the participants had a very enjoyable time, not only in singing, but also in catching up on news and gossip with friends not seen for some time. However, having noticed the snow outside was falling more heavily, we all decided that safety should be our watchword, so we finished well before the intended time, with an enthusiastic rendition, including chorus, of 'When All Men Sing'. We then all headed out to do battle with the elements and off home, while it was still safe to drive, considerably earlier than originally planned.

**John Grey**

## **St Andrews Folk Dance Group**

**are offering the following equipment for sale:**

1. Realistic 35w PA amplifier. Mono with only tone adjustment
2. Two Realistic 8 ohm Loud Speakers of average quality
3. Cassette tape recorder, Carltone, deck only, feeds amplifier
4. Cassette recorder player, mains/battery.
5. Microphone. T&D Dynamic model B1051
6. Mic stand.
7. 13 Amp power extension lead.
8. Goldring Lenco Transcription turntable model 69 - possible collector's item - heavy.

These have been used to accompany dancing with recorded music

**If you are interested please phone: 020 3663982**

# Third Kimpton Folk Festival

Its beginnings can be traced to a conversation I had with a local folk fan at one of the pub sessions I used to run. This was late 2014. She suggested a Kimpton Folk Festival, and I was quite cross to hear that suggestion because I knew the idea would stay in my head, and it did. So despite all sorts of misgivings, I contacted a group of the session regulars to explore the idea. We met in the local pub - established what it was we wanted to achieve and decided to go ahead with the idea. We formed a committee and hit on a date - 9 July 2016.

We had no idea what was involved, but we found out pretty quickly. Thanks to sponsorship and healthy ticket sales our first event was a financial and artistic success, so we continued. The second event built on the success of the first, with even greater revenue from ticket sales and so it continued.



## Doug Jenner

I was lucky enough to be at the Kimpton Folk Festival on Saturday 7th July. As someone who had been a folk festival organiser, I've always been amazed how these guys have been able to create a day festival with such a range of good performers from scratch. The day started by



being greeted by lots of enthusiastic volunteers organising the car park, giving directions & handing out maps, and running the venues. As I walked through the area, I kept seeing bus stop signs marked 'Busk Stop' which were giving a great opportunity to new singers & musicians. There were 2 venues where you had to pay to get in & free acts on the village green and open sessions at the Boot. There were events for the children & the organisers

had realised that to run a day festival, food & drink were needed. Various food stalls dotted the village green & the Boot. It had been very well organised with signposts everywhere guiding people. The artistes were amazing & I enjoyed all of their shows. It was great to see so many young & talented performers from all over the country. One group had come from Bournemouth, another from Glasgow. Whoever selected the musicians had done an excellent job. There was klezmer music

from the London Klezmer Quartet complete with one of those fiendishly complicated Russian accordions which has more buttons than Concorde. There were workshops on spoon playing, poetry, singing, ukulele & Indian dancing. The one slight disappointment was the lack of dance although there was a ceilidh on the village green run by a very enthusiastic caller.



But one of the nicest things about this festival was the way that the organisers had managed to integrate it with village life. It wasn't a case 'folkies & town', but the feeling that the village was part of the festival. I look forward to next year's festival.

**Alan Reimer**

**Photos by: Matt Willis**

# **Twenty Fourth ANNUAL REPORT**

For the period ended 31st August 2018

This issue of Puddingstone includes notification of our AGM; 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 have continued their support, promotion and contribution to a variety of folk activities.

As planned, the Spring Sing and our Accordion Workshop - both of which have become regular annual events - took place in March and we extend grateful thanks to John Grey and Roger Swaine respectively for all their organisation and hard work in ensuring successful events. If you would like us to consider any further workshops, please let us know.

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 the county of Hertfordshire and we are considering future recipients. If you would like to submit proposals for consideration, please contact one of our committee members.

We are very grateful to Adrian for his continued editorship of Puddingstone, and yet again he has ensured that this year's editions have provided interesting articles and information. We also extend our thanks to him for keeping our individual and club membership details updated; please help by ensuring subscriptions and relevant address changes etc., are notified as promptly as possible. This particular issue of Puddingstone lists, as usual, all our affiliated Clubs /Groups and Hertfordshire Folk Association welcomes a representative to our Committee meetings. This is your opportunity to participate with ideas and comments so do think about contributing. Meetings occur about four times annually and the Minutes of each last meeting note our future dates so please let us know if any of your members are able to join us.

Continuing with communication news, our web site provides details of our activities and diary dates, as well as other 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 considerable vote of thanks to all our present committee members who work so hard on your behalf but particularly, our Treasurer Roger Swaine, and our Secretary Terry Elvins. Libby Byne-Grey continues as Minutes Secretary and Adrian continues the enormous task of committing past Puddingstone editions and many other relevant records of our Hertfordshire archives to computerised storage, for which we are extremely grateful.

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**



# **HERTFORDSHIRE FOLK ASSOCIATION**

(Affiliated to the English Folk Dance & Song Society)

## **NOTICE OF THE TWENTY FOURTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

To be held at:

29 Turmore Dale, Welwyn Garden City AL8 6HT

on

Tuesday 13th November 2018  
at 7.45pm

### **AGENDA**

- 1 To receive apologies for absence
- 2 Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on  
28th November 2017
- 3 To approve Report and Accounts for 2017 / 2018
- 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

Please contact us if you hope to attend (01707 320299)



## **HERTFORDSHIRE FOLK ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE**

Elected Members & Officers as from November 2017

**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

## 2018

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 11	<b>Winchmore FDC.</b> Trinity Church Hall, Church St. Enfield. EN2 6AN 0208 360 6226 / 886 2696 Peter Leedham with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Aug 25	<b>St Andrews.</b> Trinity Church Hall, Church St. Enfield. EN2 6AN 0208 366 3982 Steve Russell with recorded music	7.30pm
Sept 8	<b>Winchmore FDC.</b> Memorial Dance for John Wood St. Pauls Centre, 102A Church St, Enfield EN2 6AR Club callers with the Forest Band 0208 360 6226 / 0208 508 4770	7.30pm
Sept 16	<b>Stanstead Abbots CS.</b> Ceilidh with Take the Biscuit	See advert pg. 4
Sept 22	<b>St Andrews.</b> Val & Ian McFarlane with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Sept 22	<b>Chiltern Folk Association.</b> Amersham Community Centre, HP6 5AH Playford Ball, Colin Hume with Julia & Shane See advert pg 4	7.00pm
Sept 23	<b>English Miscellany.</b> Country Hop. Bedmond Village Hall, WD5 0QP Mike@heylin.com See advert pg 19	2.30pm
Oct 6	<b>Staplers FDC.</b> St. Ippolyts Parish Hall, Hitchin SG4 7RB. Ron Coxall with 3D	7.30pm
Oct 13	<b>Winchmore FDC</b> Judith Inman with the Forest Band (AGM)	7.30pm
Oct 20	<b>Friday Folk.</b> Saturday Special Dance with Geoff Cubitt, Mollie & Ali. Samuel Ryder Academy 01727 856508	7.30
Oct 21	<b>Stanstead Abbot CS.</b> Stepling in Concert	see advert pg.4

# The Hertfordshire Playford Day

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2018

Beaumont School, St Albans

John Playford, a London publisher, published books of country dances, starting in 1651 and continuing for over 50 years, such was their popularity. They were largely sold to the emerging middle-class, and now represent a treasury of English dancing enjoyed by all levels of society from the court downwards. Then with changing fashions, Playford's books were largely forgotten about.

In the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century, Cecil Sharp discovered a copy of the First Edition of Playford's books, and produced and popularised edited copies of these, and his interpretations of the dances are now well-known and largely regarded as the definitive versions.

Thanks to a gift to the HFA, we're going to have a day to introduce dancers and musicians to the delights of Playford dancing, and to give experts some of the latest thoughts about Playford's dances. To this end, we have engaged three different, expert tutors – Anne Daye, Andrew Swaine & John Dipper.

**Anne Daye** is an inspiring and knowledgeable teacher of historical dance, and a leading expert of dancing in Playford's London. With extensive experience of leading dancers of all levels of ability in workshops on the country dances, she will teach skills of stepping and figuring alongside information on the social setting of the time.

**Andrew Swaine** is a lifelong folk dancer, caller and musician. In 2016 he ran a cumulative 23¾ hours of workshops on Playford era dances at Sidmouth folk festival, featuring a large number of new reconstructions, and last year ran a week of workshops on Playford dances and interpretation in California. His goal is to rediscover what originally made these dances fun, by an unpretentious approach backed up with extensive research.

**John Dipper (violin, concertina)** is an internationally renowned musician, composer and teacher, with a deep knowledge of Playford music, and he will be leading a parallel workshop for musicians, working with them on the same dances as Anne & Andrew. The musicians will then play for the evening dance that culminates the day.

# Plan of the Day

	Main Hall	Studio
From 9:30	Reception & registration	
10.00 to 13.00	Dancers - workshop with Anne Daye	Musicians - workshop with John Dipper
13:00 to 14:00	lunch	
14:00 to 17:00	Dancers - Workshop with Andrew Swaine	Musicians - workshop with John Dipper
17:00 to 18:00	buffet supper	
18:00 to 21:00	Dancing to the musicians!	

Children are welcome, but **must** be accompanied by a responsible (paying) adult.

We'll provide tea, coffee, sugar, milk, & hot water, but please bring your **own lunch**. We'll provide a simple buffet supper to eat at tea-time. (Vegetarian option available, but please let us know about other special dietary requirements). Please also bring your own tea/coffee mug so that we don't have to throw away too many plastic cups.

Musicians will need to be able to play at dancing speed, and also need to be able to read music – the notation will be sent out in advance (by email) so you can practice beforehand. You will be playing for the evening dance! Most acoustic instruments should be OK, but note that if your instrument only plays in a couple of keys, you may not be able to play all the tunes.

Please also note that the school does **not** allow any food or drink inside the studio (where the musicians will be practicing) except water in a closable bottle – so you may want to bring a water-bottle! No smoking is allowed on the site.

There is ample parking at the school. Maps will be sent out with the tickets – probably in September when the current building works at the school have been completed.

# Application Form

(1 per person – Please copy if necessary)

First or preferred name:.....

Surname:.....

Email address:.....

Postal Address.....

.....

.....

Telephone number(s).....

Dancer or musician? (please circle your choice)

If musician, what instrument?.....

If child, name of responsible adult.....

Special diet details.....

Costs:	adult dancer - £20	Child dancer	£10
	adult musician - £10	Child musician	£5

*(If you want to attend the evening dance only, just turn up and pay £5 at the door, but you won't get fed. Space permitting...)*

Please send the completed form, with cheque  
(payable to “Hertfordshire Folk Association”) and a stamped  
self-addressed envelope to:-

Roger Swaine (HPD)  
29, Turmore Dale  
Welwyn Garden City  
AL8 6HT

**Applications to arrive by Saturday 3rd November, please!**

# What is the Hertfordshire Folk Association, and what does it do?

The object of the Association is to:

- Support and/or initiate all forms of folk activity in Hertfordshire.
- Encourage the initiation of such activities by others.
- To act as a liaison point for all forms of folk activity in Hertfordshire.

It publishes this magazine: "Puddingstone" three times a year, runs workshops, and provides financial support to other folk activities in the county.

It also maintains "Diary Dates", which is a list of dances that are being run by the affiliated clubs (and others).

Membership costs £2 per year for an individual, £3 per year for a household, and £10 per year for a group or club.

For further information about the Hertfordshire Folk Association, you can E-mail: [info@hertsfolkassn.org.uk](mailto:info@hertsfolkassn.org.uk),

or look at our website:- <http://www.hertsfolkassn.org.uk>

The committee needs extra members if we are to run other events like this – please volunteer!

*For queries email Roger Swaine – [roger.swaine1@btinternet.com](mailto:roger.swaine1@btinternet.com)*

## DIARY DATES cont.

Oct 21	<b>Chiltern Folk Association.</b> Family Dance Amersham Village Hall, HP7 9JD Val & Ian McFarlane with Toucan Play	See advert pg. 4 2.30pm
Oct 27	<b>St. Andrews.</b> Suzanne Harper with the Footnotes (AGM)	7.30pm
Nov 10	<b>Winchmore FDC.</b> Playford. Gillian West with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Nov 17	<b>Harrow FDC.</b> Pinner Medothist Church Hall, Love Lane, Pinner. HA5 3EE <b>New Venue</b> Patricia Donnithorne with Momentum 0208 8868 7526	7.30pm
Nov 18	<b>Stanstead Abbot CS.</b> Ceilidh <b>TBA</b>	
Nov 24	<b>St. Andrews.</b> Phyllis Chapman with Toucan Play	7.30pm
Dec 1	<b>Staplers FDC.</b> Colin Hume with Ivel Valley Band	7.30pm
Dec 8	<b>Winchmore FDC</b> Mike Bennett with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Dec 15	<b>St Albans Abbey FDC,</b> Homewood Rd. UR Church Hall, Sandpit Lane, St. Albans. AL1 4BH 01727 834977 Sue Needham with Spring Greens	7.30pm
Dec 16	<b>Stanstead Abbot CS.</b> Vicki Swann & John Dyer Christmas Special see advert pg.4	
Dec 22	<b>St. Andrews</b> Keith Wright with the Forest Band	7.30pm
	<b>2019</b>	
Jan 1	<b>Winchmore FDC</b> (Anglo Scottish) Andrew Kellet & Steve Russell with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Jan 12	<b>Winchmore</b> Sue Needham with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Jan 13	<b>Herts Early Dance.</b> 12th Night Celebrations St Stephens, Church Hall, St Albans. AL1 2PX	2.15 To 6pm
Jan 26	<b>St. Andrews</b> Peter Leedham 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](mailto:adrian.r.burrows@btopenworld.com) or phoning 01727 866086.

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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

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Friday Folk - [sallywoodward1@yahoo.com](mailto:sallywoodward1@yahoo.com) 01707 377987

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Harrow FDC -

Mr Roy Martin: 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

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Hemel Hempstead FDC Mrs Samme: tel: 01442 259757 or e-mail:  
[susan.samme92@gmail.com](mailto:susan.samme92@gmail.com) meet most term-time Fridays 8.15 - 10.15 pm

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Hertford CDC - Jenny Newton:  
tel. 01992 581599 or e-mail [janewton39@gmail.com](mailto:janewton39@gmail.com)

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Herts Early Dance - Malcolm Gibbs, tel: 01923 224152 or:  
[www.hertsearlydance.org.uk](http://www.hertsearlydance.org.uk)

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Offley Morris Men - Squire: 01462 624210  
Bagman. email: [info@offleymorris.org.uk](mailto:info@offleymorris.org.uk)

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Phoenix Morris - Michael Stimpson, Tel: 01923 770425  
[www.phoenix-morris.co.uk](http://www.phoenix-morris.co.uk)  
Practice on Wednesday evenings at 8.30

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

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Roundabouts (Stevenage) Country Dance Club -  
Jenny Newton. tel. 01992 581599 or e-mail [janewton39@gmail.com](mailto:janewton39@gmail.com)"  
[www.roundabouts.org.uk](http://www.roundabouts.org.uk)

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

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St Andrew's FDC - Mrs A Dunn, 020 8366 3982

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## HFA Affiliated Clubs & Groups (continued)

St Albans Morris - 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.

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Standon Morris - [Libbybyne-grey@outlook.com](mailto:Libbybyne-grey@outlook.com) Tel: 01920 460553

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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.

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Watford FDC - Eileen 01923 233371 or Fran 01923 672341  
Mondays (except August and Bank Holidays)  
8 - 10pm Christ Church Hall, St Albans Road, Watford WD24 5BD

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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)

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Winchmore FDC - Joyce Leedham 0208 886 2696

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Tappalachian - Ange Williams 01923 33014

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Woodside Morris Men - Nick Wilson: [bagman@woodsidemorrismen.com](mailto:bagman@woodsidemorrismen.com)  
or [www.woodsidemorrismen.com](http://www.woodsidemorrismen.com)

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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 6).

# YOUNG MISCELLANY ON TELEVISION

## BLUE PETER EXPERIENCE

On Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May, Young Miscellany took part in the Joint Morris Organisation Day of Dance in Peterborough. Prior to this, the Blue Peter presenters had been in touch to make arrangements for both YM and Crosskey Clog (who were organising the day) to be filmed. Lindsey Russell, their main presenter (centre of picture below), was really keen to promote English Traditional Folk Dance, and to show what fun it is to do, despite the bad publicity it often gets. She wanted to be involved in dancing herself, so it was arranged for her to learn one of the Crosskey Clog dances, and also be able to play the drum, and interview the children of Young Miscellany. By doing this, Lindsey was hoping to put across the fun aspect of these styles of dance, and show that there is an enthusiastic young generation keeping these traditions alive.



The whole day was a great success. Lindsey learned and performed her dance with Crosskey Clog extremely well, and young Henry from YM taught her how to bang the drum for one of their dances. The YM children were all interviewed, and responded and danced really well. All the Blue Peter crew were fantastic with the children, and it was shown as part of the Blue Peter programme on telly two weeks later.

It was such an honour for YM to be asked to do this, and they are now all proud owners of Blue Peter badges.

Here are some of the children's comments:-

"I really enjoyed getting to meet Lindsey, and all the camera crew" – *Lauren*

"Through YM I met my first celebrity, Lindsey Russell" – *Lilia*

"Good fun meeting Lindsey" – *Clover*

"Enjoyed it all" – *Andrew*

"I got to see Lindsey. It was really fun and exciting" – *DeeDee*

"It was great being part of the filming, and meeting Lindsey" – *Henry*

"I had tonnes of fun meeting Lindsey and the crew, and also much fun being filmed" – *Bitty*

"I felt nervous before it, but a bit after I got the badge, I felt happy" – *Ellie*

"Two very happy kids. They both separately said it was one of the best days of their lives! Thanks to Lynda and everyone in YM for today" – *Ruth (YM parent).*

WELL DONE TO ALL THE CHILDREN! – *Lynda Swaine, Group Leader.*

We are recruiting now for new YM members to start in September. If you have a child who is interested in joining, then please contact us:-

[info@youngmiscellany.co.uk](mailto:info@youngmiscellany.co.uk)

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



**English  
Miscellany**  
folk dance group

EM Invite your dance club to an afternoon of  
social dance and music with other dancers and  
musicians

Bring a dance of your choice and the music to  
a

# Country Hop

(Like a Morris Ale, only Country and No Charge)

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2018**

**Bedmond Village Hall, High Street**

**Bedmond, Herts WD5 0QP**

**2.30 pm till 6.00 pm**

Tea and cakes provided

No charge but please RSVP

with numbers and the

dance you would like to share

[mike@heylin.com](mailto:mike@heylin.com)

<http://www.englishmiscellany.com/>

# 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 2018

7 Sep Bob Barrett  
14 Sep Rachel Bending and FF Band  
21 Sep Colin Hume and Spring Greens  
28 Sep Club callers and AGM  
5 Oct David and Rebecca Capron  
12 Oct Mike Bennett and FF Band  
19 Oct Barrie Bullimore

20 Oct Saturday Special Dance with  
Geoff Cubitt, Mollie and Ali  
at Samuel Ryder Academy

26 Oct Bob Lilley  
2 Nov Bob Barrett and Spring Greens  
9 Nov Frances Oates  
16 Nov Eileen's Birthday Party with  
Mark Elvins and Spring Greens  
23 Nov Jane Pfaff and FF Band  
30 Nov Anglo Scottish with Stephen  
Webb and Douglas Hedley  
7 Dec Suzanne Farmer and FF Band  
14 Dec Christmas Special with Wendy  
Harrup and Cloudburst  
21 Dec Carol singing around St Albans

## WOODFEST

Woodfest this year is on again, 7-9th September, at National Trust Hatfield Forest near Takeley, Bishops Stortford. As well as the main stage we are organising the Open Mic Acoustic Stage, also informal music sessions, which seldom stop. Chris and Lesley from Royston Folk Club, Jonathan Gatward, Martyn Hewitt and myself will be running the Open Mic Acoustic stage. There will be Barn Dances with bands on part of the Saturday and Sunday afternoons. We are now asking for performers to contact us, if you'd like a spot on our stage. You will get a 20 minute spot (including all setting-up and removal time). About 2 spots per hour are pre-bookable ('first-apply-first-offered'), the third will be available on the day. We will help performers set up as much as we can, to get the best possible sound, as quickly as possible. If you are new to the festival, better still, we want to hear from you. The stage is basically for acoustic performers, of all genres of music, but we interpret the word 'acoustic' widely. I'm afraid you won't be paid - it's intentionally a free festival. If you are interested, please let me know roughly when you would like to play. I will then ask for (an absolute maximum of) 50 words about yourself, and a small photo for publicity purposes. You do not need to do this yet, but you need to get your application in as soon as you can, as it's normally very popular. It would also help us if you could let us know who plays what, and what equipment and instruments you will bring. The stage will be running: **Fri 7th Sept:** 7-11pm, **Sat 8th Sept:** 12.00-11pm, **Sun 9th Sept:** 1200-4pm.

So if you would like to play on this great stage, at this amazing festival, please email me at [chrisbrimleymusic@gmail.com](mailto:chrisbrimleymusic@gmail.com). The spots go very quickly. I will deal with all replies I receive in date order, as soon as I can.

**Chris Brimley**

## **Folk at the Maltings: Walter Harvey Hallam (an ordinary man)**

In November, Folk at the Maltings will be on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup>, rather than on a Friday and will feature a one act play by Alison Raymond. Walter Harvey Hallam was a draper in east London as the horror of World War One was unfolding in Europe. His middle name 'Harvey' reflected a long established family tradition honouring his direct ancestral link to William Harvey, doctor to James 1st and discoverer of the circulation of the blood. Towards the end of 1915 Walter enlisted as a volunteer soldier in the Essex regiment and on July 1st 1916 he found himself cast into the horror of the first day of the battle of the Somme.

This short one act presentation tells the story of Walter's progress to that place and time and of his brief combat experience. Nothing can whitewash the obscenity of industrial warfare and no play can replicate the horror, but through spoken word, song and music we hope to honour the memory of Walter and of all who bravely served and suffered in the hope of securing a better World. The evening will be at the Maltings Arts Theatre, St Albans and will start at 8pm.

**Alison Raymond**

## **St Albans Folk Festival**

### **Friday Folk beginners night and Swedish workshop**

On 15 June Friday Folk hosted a 'beginners' evening', called by Bob Barrett, to coincide with the St Albans Festival. We were also joined by Spånga Folkdansgille, a Swedish dance side from Spånga, near Stockholm, who were guests of English Miscellany for the weekend.

Friday Folk is a friendly social dance group, dancing a variety of mainly English and American dances. We welcome new members at any time during the year, but took the Festival as an opportunity to particularly encourage less experienced dancers or those who wanted to try folk dancing for the first time. Some people joined us after seeing our adverts out and about, and existing dancers also brought along friends. Bob took the evening at a slower pace than usual, clearly explaining the moves to some simple but still lively dances. It was great to see new faces having fun and gaining confidence as the evening progressed - we hope they will join us again in the future!

Later, Spånga Folkdansgille, dressed in traditional costume and led by Bertill, gave a short performance and taught us some Swedish steps – we were all beginners at that! They were accompanied by fabulous music from Tania Simon on the nyckelharpa and some of English Miscellany's own musicians. The display included a dance called 'Sollerön' (named after an island in the Dalarna district), a waltz, and the 'Midsommer-hambo'. We then attempted a polka, a shottis (which involved lots of clapping), and a waltz. The waltz was a circle dance with a change of partners each time through... but with the men waltzing the lady on their */eff*.

Since old habits die hard and we all grasped this twist at different times there was much laughter and more than one abandoned partner! We also had a go at the ambitious 'hambo', a couple dance with the partners giving significant weight, almost in a sitting position, to step around each other.

We had a fabulous evening and extend our thanks to everybody who came along and made it so enjoyable. For more information about Friday Folk please visit [www.fridayfolk.org.uk](http://www.fridayfolk.org.uk).

## Katherine Narroway

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### **St Albans Folk Festival - 2018 (New Moon Morris)**

This was the first St Albans Folk Festival that I had done, although New Moon Morris have done several. Following advice, we got there early. Parking can be very difficult for Morris dancers at Festivals, but fortunately there was good parking arranged near to the Town Centre – however, we had been told that it fills up early. St Albans is a busy market town, and there was a full market going on in the town centre, so we found ourselves weaving between the stalls, trying to avoid distractions, to get ourselves some tea or coffee to wait for the dancing to begin.

There were a lot of interesting sides waiting to dance in the area in front of the St Albans Arena – it's always a good thing to be able to see other sides dancing – you can check out how good they are and watch for good moves and interesting dances. You also get the chance to catch up on friends and make new ones – sharing cards with the other sides so that you can meet up to dance at some time.

All the sides danced once outside the Arena, then they split up into groups of three or four sides to dance at various locations around the Town. Our first spot was outside Ye Olde Fighting Cocks – a pub dating back to the 8th Century - with Ramrugge Clog Morris and Hemlock Morris, both excellent sides. We danced on a paved area, with our New Moon musicians teetering over the River Ver.

Then back into the town to dance by the 'almost unique' Clock Tower, this time with English Miscellany, a side which dances in many styles, with magical costume changes in between dances, and also with a visiting Swedish dance group, Spanga Folkdansgille. There was a good crowd of appreciative locals watching us as we danced. It is a friendly festival. After a break for lunch we headed to the West Door of St Albans Abbey, to dance with English Miscellany and the Swedish group again. I found the Abbey fascinating, although we were too busy to be able to go inside. Robert Runcie, former Archbishop of Canterbury, is buried there. The West Door is a magnificent stone edifice, while the eastern end is largely built of 'half dressed' flints and Roman bricks 'robbed' from Verulamium. Embedded in amongst the flints are large pieces of what looks like concrete – stone with smaller pebbles embedded within it. It is, in fact, Hertfordshire Puddingstone, formed millions of years ago. Dancing outside the West Door proved to be a little difficult. Because of local conditions there was a howling gale coming from the South,

whipping our hats off as we danced and snatching away the strains of music coming from our musicians, all allowing for a degree of unexpected extemporising in our dancing. Finally, all sides gathered again outside the West Door, and we were treated to some excellent dancing as a finale. We did our dance but New Moon Morris were invited by Wicket Brood who were in the final dance spot to join with them, and with Phoenix Morris in a huge dance of 'Worcestershire Monkey' – a fantastic dance that involves loads of hitting sticks and hollering. For New Moon Morris it was the perfect end to an excellent day of dancing. Dancing with friends to a huge band of musicians, outside the ancient Abbey, with a large and appreciative crowd. It might have been my first St Albans Folk Festival, but I very much hope to be dancing there again next year.

**Cath Fincher** ( New Moon Morris )

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## **St Albans Folk Festival 2018 (English Miscellany)**

The weather was kind to everyone from the first dance to the last song. The massed display in front of the Alban Arena was well received by a large crowd who stayed attentive for most of the show. Spanga Folkdansegille, Swedish guests of English Miscellany, danced throughout the day, and finished with a short specially prepared dance piece at the beginning of the Festival concert at the Maltings in the evening, showing dances from around Sweden, especially the Sami peoples of the north, closely related to native North Americans, and the peoples of the Kamchatka Peninsula.

Young Miscellany completed the show with a participative Maypole session encouraging young audience members to get involved with winding the ribbons in intricate patterns around the Pole and then unwinding them, all to music. As this was happening the other dance sides moved off to the various venues around the town to entertain the good people of St Albans, many of whom enjoyed the additional entertainment applied to their Saturday shopping but a number did not get into the mood at all and complained about their passages being blocked by dancers! You simply cannot please all the people all the time.

Seventeen or eighteen dance sides from around the county, country and Europe with numerous musicians leading sessions and sing arounds, St Albans city centre came to life with the sights and sounds of the Folk Tradition. It is a shame that the City cannot make more of this event and enable more dancing in the main thoroughfares, rather than the lanes and byways. Promoted by the City Council as part of its cultural programme, the shops and market traders could all benefit from dramatically increased footfall, as the Festival would get bigger each year with positive support. Certainly the dancers danced their feet off during the day, enjoying the weather and the crowds, finishing outside the West Doors of the Abbey Church with a final massed dance.

Looking forward to St Albans 2019.

**Mike Heylin**

## **St.Albans Day of Dance 2018. (Tappalachian)**

The common feature for onlookers at Christopher Place was easily detectable, for all the dances had been brought to this country from abroad. The lively Indian dance group, the Purnagyan Dance Academy, in their bright orange costumes, including tiny ankle bells, brought the surprise of yellow duster hankies being wafted high in an elegant echo of Cotswold cousins. Two other local groups were involved, "Louise Walsh" and "Rinceoiri le Cheile" Irish Dancers, who brought their dances across the sea from Ireland. These were youthful and bounding in energy both when gracefully performing in their light shoes and then with so much purpose in their taps. To complete the cultural invasion, Tappalachian brought their music and dances from the backwoods of the Appalachian mountains, where the old time traditions of migrants and indigenous folk lingered just long enough for 'party pieces' to be blended into lively dances, to the authentic 'American old time music' which is portrayed so well by the band. Each of these four groups provided a very special ingredient to enhance the festival.

**Lynn Willson**

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### **A reflection on St Albans Folk Festival Day of Dance from one member of St Albans Morris**

The day was fine but windy with a threat of rain (remember that idea); I was even debating if I needed the "wet weather" accordion and when it was approaching our turn to dance at the Arena show I asked one of our non-dancers to be on standby with an umbrella! That initial show, outside The Alban Arena, is a great chance to see who is around and to do some catching up with members of other sides and members of the public. The range of dance styles was really diverse; everything from traditional Costwold and North West to more modern interpretations of Border and other Morris styles so that many sides now have a clear dance identity as well as that of their kit. One of the things I really enjoy about this part of the day is seeing how each side is progressing, the changes in how they are dancing and observing who has new recruits, which many do, and it really does indicate that Morris Dancing in its widest definition is alive and well. Then it's off on our different "tours". 5 different locations this year and a mammoth amount of planning to get this all in place and we all headed off after consulting lists and other people in our sides. This year St Albans Morris started at the West Door of the Abbey with Whitethorn Morris, Phoenix Morris and Queen's Oak Border Morris. Whitethorn are a ladies North West side from Harrow, their dances originating from Cheshire and Lancashire are danced to a strong band and at lively tempo with great energy. With their blue and red costumes and high kicking they got everyone's attention from the start and they are friends of long standing to St Albans Morris. Phoenix are a mixed side based in Rickmansworth who dance mainly Cotswold dances with a style that they have developed over the years and they provide a nice contrast to the St Albans

Morris style and although they are mixed were predominantly female on the day apart from their inimitable (and sometimes inaudible) Phoenix. Their costumes of black waistcoats, skirts and britches with red hankies and legs and plenty of ribbons and flowery hats certainly takes the eye. Queen's Oak were new to me and are a Women's Border Morris side from Northamptonshire. For some Border Morris conjures up images of painted faces, intimidating costumes, noise and mayhem but Queens Oak gave us a different interpretation with no sign of face paint and a relatively restrained use of tatters. Really nice dancing with a real emphasis on togetherness and intricate sticking pattern. St Albans Morris (no longer Morris Men) have been around for ever (in morris terms) but surprised everyone, ourselves included by having enough dancers for two sides of dancers for this show and the following one at the Fighting Cocks. We are still sticking to a very traditional style of Cotswold Morris and for those who don't know us our kit is white shirts and trousers, blue baldricks with trimmings of yellow (St Albans colours of course). So, four contrasting sides in both style and costume enjoying the wonderful acoustics and paved surface provided by the location outside the Abbey and getting a good range of dances and which entertained ourselves and the reasonable audience. Next to The Fighting Cocks, just down the hill. A much more intimate performance space and with the same group of dance sides equally enjoyable, especially as it gave us all a chance of liquid refreshment. As lunchtime was free, I had a look in at the music session at The Goat, sadly the session did not seem to have a great momentum and with the lack of any "festival options for a quick meal I moved on and ate my sandwiches watching the tail end of a choir who were performing near Nationwide and Ladbrokes, which was our next spot. For this show Phoenix had been replaced by Chiltern Hundreds. They are a mixed North West side and, while technically based in Bushey where they practice, they are almost a national side with many of their dancers travelling incredible distances to be part of it. With a really strong band and a distinctive dark green costume with black and yellow trim their shows are always powerful and exciting and one of the day's dancing highlights was a double dance they performed here with Whitethorn. Two great North West sides with distinctive costumes and similarities in style. Really good to watch.

The final dance session of the day was back at the West Door of the Abbey with all sides participating in rather more blustery conditions. After that I went to The White Hart Tap and sat down to a drink with one of key organisers and member of St Albans Morris, Trevor and we were joined by a couple from Hemlock Morris. There was just time for a final dance highlight of the day when Tower Ravens, a women's rapper side came into the pub and took advantage of the wooden floor to give a superb performance of rapper.

All in all a fabulous day when I had a chance to see so many different dances and styles (maybe we need an I-spy type identity chart), meet so many people and find convivial company throughout the day. Excellently organised as always and a pleasure to be part of it, especially as for once I did not have to rush off to work in the evening.

**Mike Ruff**

## **Saturday 16 June 2018: St Albans Festival Concert with The Dovetail Trio and Granny's Attic**

Organiser Alison Macfarlane had assembled a varied and talented line-up for this year's main concert on the Saturday evening of this year's festival.

The concert opened with a display of three dances by Spånga Folkdansgille, a dance group from Sweden, augmented by additional musicians from English Miscellany. Of special note were an interesting figure in the waltz set, and the bewildered looks on the reindeer's faces in the reindeer herding dance!

New Roots 2018 finalist Lizzy Hardingham, accompanying herself on guitar, gave a very confident performance of mainly self penned material, before 'Granny's Attic' took the stage.

Cohen Braithwaite-Kilcoyne (Vocals, Melodeon, Concertina,), George Sansome (Vocals, Guitar) and Lewis Wood (Vocals, Fiddle, ) showed why they are in such demand for festivals around the country with a mixed and lively set of songs (mostly Traditional) and Dance Tunes (penned by Lewis). Their diction is clear, their harmonies are strong, and they have a talent for not allowing the instruments to drown out the songs, yet add some real drive in the instrumental breaks.

The second half opened with Watford Folk Club song writing competition winner Julian Mount, with unexpected backing singer Linda Birmingham adding well to his performance, helping to emphasise the humour in some of the songs, the two finishing with his winning song 'Skeletons in my Closet'.

The final act was the award-winning Dovetail Trio. This now well established trio - BBC Radio 2 Folk Award nominee Jamie Roberts, BBC Performing Arts Award winner Rosie Hood, and Newcastle Folk Degree alumnus Matt Quinn are a three-part harmony group – sometimes un-accompanied, but mostly backed by Jamie's brilliant guitar work and Matt's concertina - introduced an interesting selection of less-well known versions of traditional songs from the south of England. In particular I enjoyed 'The Banks of Green Mossing', and the more familiar (though not performed so much recently) 'Claudy Banks'. Beautiful!

It was a bold move for Alison to put together two such seemingly similar trios for her headline acts, and yet the differences between them were brought out by this juxtaposition without either appearing inferior to the other. It all made for a great evening of faultlessly classy music.

The one sour note was the two gentlemen who sat themselves on the front row either side of the centre aisle, and took photographs continuously through the first half of the concert in a very distracting manner. The people in the audience around me were all muttering about this, but fortunately someone spoke to them in the interval, so this did not continue while the Dovetail Trio were performing. It is time in my view for Folk Music venues to follow the lead of the theatre world and ban photography while concerts are in progress.

**Tim Brooks**

# **HARROW FOLK DANCE CLUB**

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

## **46th PLAYFORD BALL**

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

\* \* \* \* \*

# **PATRICIA DONNITHORNE**

∞ ∞ with music by: ∞ ∞

## **‘MOMENTUM’**

**at Pinner Methodist Church Hall,  
Love Lane, Pinner, Middx., HA5 3EE  
(using the Avenue Road entrance to the Hall)**

***Please NOTE our NEW VENUE for this dance.***

***Free car parking in the public car park opposite the hall.  
Pinner Station (Met. Line) & local bus routes  
are within easy walking distance to the hall.***

**First dance 19.30 (promptly) – until 22.30 hrs.  
Tickets (on the door) £10.00 (includes refreshments)**

***Costume dress optional but very welcome.***

\* \* \* \* \*

***Dates for 2019: 16<sup>th</sup> March 2019 – 49<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dance  
16<sup>th</sup> November 2019 – 47<sup>th</sup> Playford Ball.***

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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***

# St Albans Folk Festival Day of Dance Photos



English Miscellany Northwest



Young Irish Dancers

Very Mixed Mass Morris out side the Abbey



Swedish group: Spånga Folkdansgille



Nyckelharpa & EM Music