



Magazine of the Hertfordshire Folk Association

# PUDDINGSTONE

**Issue 73**   **Herts Early Dance at Cecil Sharp House**  
**Taking part in Dance Around The World**



Paul Quezada-Neiman Photos

**December**  
**2018**

Dec -March



**40p**

Where sold





## HERTFORDSHIRE FOLK ASSOCIATION

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

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

Membership secretary: **Adrian Burrows**  
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St Albans, AL1 2BD  
Tel: 01727 866086

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

Correspondence & diary dates to: **Mr Terry Elvins**  
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(Apr - July 2019)

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

# Editorial



Hi there, I would like to say a really big “THANK YOU” to the HFA member who anonymously donated the funds to enable the Herts Playford Day. This was a very successful event with a workshop by Anne Daye teaching steps from the various periods when Playford’s Dancing Masters were published. Andrew Swaine teaching dances in his workshop looking at recent research and newly unearthed documents. All accompanied by Barbara Burton and Martyn Boardman (Jump the Vortex). The evening dance (Andrew Swaine) played for by musicians who had been at a day-long workshop run by John Dipper.

For more information about HFA:  
[www.hertsfolkassn.org.uk](http://www.hertsfolkassn.org.uk)

**Adrian Burrows**

## WANTED: CD reviewers

Puddingstone often receives CDs 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.

# Contents

Pg 2 Useful information  
Pg 3 Editorial & contents  
Pg 4 Stanstead Abbots Ceilidhs  
Winchmore, Chiltern Folk Assn  
& Dunton Wassail  
Pg 5 GDPR Statement  
Pg 6 HFA Membership renewal  
Pgs 7 & 8 Country Hop  
Pg 9 Piano Accordion Workshop 2019  
Pg 10 Spring Sing 2019  
Pg 11 CD Review  
Pg 12 Abbots Langley Winter  
Acoustic Concerts

Pg 13 HFA Committee information  
Pgs 14 & 15 Diary dates  
Pgs 16 & 17 Affiliated Clubs & Groups  
Pg 18 Dance Around the World  
Pg 19 CD Review  
Pg 20 New Roots Press release  
Pgs 21 - 25 Ash Vale Sword  
Pg 24 Friday Folk  
Pg 26 Photos of HFA Playford Day  
Pg 27 Harrow Playford Ball  
Pg 28 Country Hop Photos

# CHILTERN FOLK ASSOCIATION

(Affiliated to EFDSS)

## NEW YEAR DANCE

Saturday 5 January 7pm to 10.30pm  
**Amersham Community Centre HP6 5AH**  
**HOWARD BALLARD**  
**with KELLY'S EYE**

£10 Please bring a plate of food to share  
 Contact 01494 727512 or 01494 773189

## SPRING FAMILY DANCE

Sunday 24 February 2.30pm - 5.30pm  
**Amersham Common Hall HP7 9JD**  
**TED MORSE**  
**with TOUCAN PLAY**

£5 Accompanied children 5 to 16 free  
 Please bring a small plate of food to share  
 Contact 01494 727512 or 01494 773189

## CHESHAM CHRISTMAS PARTY

Friday 14 December 8.00 - 10.00 pm  
**Guide HQ Chesham HP5 1HX**  
**PHYLLIS CHAPMAN** with recorded music  
 £3 Contact 01494 783890 or 01494 86322



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

Resident Musicians: **The Forest Band**

**7.30 – 10.30**

December 8 Mike Bennet

January 1st (Anglo-Scottish)  
 Andrew Kellet & Steve Russell

January 12th Sue Needham

February 9th Brenda Godrich

March 9th Sibby

April 13th Bob Barrett

Info: **Gillian:0208 360 6226**

**Suzzane: 0208 508 4770**  
**886 2696.**

**VICKI SWAN & JONNY DYER'S**  
**Winter Warmer**  
 A Festive Pick-n-mix

Stanstead Abbotts Ceilidh Society

"Stunning contemporary folk" "Incredible musicianship"

**Sunday 16 December 2018**  
 In **Stanstead Abbotts Parish Hall**, Roydon Rd

£7 Adults in advance  
 £9 Adults on the door

**7.30 start** doors open at 7pm

Tickets [www.ticketsource.co.uk](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk) or ring 01920 870558 or 877588. soft drinks and snacks available, bring your own alcohol

## Don't Forget the Dunton Wassail

From 1st of December, Dunton is creating a living advent calendar, decorating windows and creating displays each day till Christmas. Culminating in the Dunton Wassail on Sat 5th January 2019.

This is a mid winter festival of fun and frivolity. All free and a superb family event supported by local groups and organisations, Dunton Folk, Dunton Community Garden, Singtastic, Brafront Guizers, Bedford Morris Men, Letchworth Morris Men and the March Hare pub.

Our mailing address is:  
 Dunton Folk, 10 Chapel Street,  
 Dunton Biggleswade, Beds SG18 8RW

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

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

GDPR 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 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 your permission (see membership renewal).

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

### Membership Renewal 2019 and Permission to hold personal information under the GDPR

In order to comply and for us to continue to hold your personal information as explained 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 .....

Club/group (if applicable):.....

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

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

To have Puddingstone delivered to your door, please add £2.40 to your annual fee.
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1/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  
Alternatively pay by standing order:

Hertfordshire Folk Association Sort code: 60 18 11  
Account: 45217718



# Country Hop Finds its Feet

English Miscellany thought it would be fun to run a Country Hop, like a Morris Ale only country dances and tea and cakes rather than Morris and beer, and invite dance clubs from the region to come along and share a dance or two with all the other dancers present.



In late September six or seven clubs came together in Bedmond on a cloudy Sunday, with live and recorded music and danced a series of celebratory, new, old, English, Balkan and Scottish dances. Celebratory with a diamond jubilee dance for Staplers,



The Hitchin Diamond by Colin Hume, called by Barry Goodman; and a 95th Anniversary dance for Watford Folk Dance Group, called by Fran Beake; Balkan, with circle dances from Barnet International FDC; and Scottish with a Strathspey and a reel from Berkhamsted Strathspey and Reel Club.



English Miscellany provided a dance from its repertoire and Adrian Burrows, Alain Williams and Janet Jenkinson all provided dances.



Tea and cake were served. From the word go, the floor was alive with the sound of dancers and there was a smile on every face. It was generally agreed that the afternoon had been a great success and many want it added to the annual calendar, and would like to see a Country Hop held more often. English Miscellany is now looking for a larger hall as we expect even more dancers and clubs will want to be part of the Country Hop in Autumn 2019.

**Mike Heylin**





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

## **Piano-Accordion Workshop**

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

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**

### **“Getting into character” 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, and was our tutor last year!

Using a selection of tunes from around the World (e.g. Tango, Calypso, Musette) we will be exploring how the finer details of articulation, rhythmic emphasis & ornamentation give extra authenticity and character to different types of dance music. She will be teaching by ear but sheet music will be available.

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



**Hertfordshire Folk  
Association**

# **Spring Sing 2019**

**Saturday 16th 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)**

# CD Review

## Neil Brophy Band – True stories

I often wonder about song-writers, are they writing for themselves, as a singer or to get their words out there for someone else in the industry to pick it up and play with the original treatment, develop it further and perhaps make it into a hit?

The Neil Brophy Band is distinctly folk rock and on this CD sometimes ends between the two stools. There is an interesting mix of lyrics and sounds. The early numbers; One Man Folk Band, Hitching NZ, Far



Away and Road to Meo would all be stronger with a truly rock arrangement but each has that special something that makes me think this is an album that any band should explore.

A number of these tracks have been released as singles, and at least two of them resonate with the style of Show of Hands. The star track for me is without doubt Bears Go Fishing. From the opening bar you just know you are going to

be singing along and tapping your foot. An Appalachian banjo, rhythm and lyric which is catchy, involving and has the sound of truth, everything comes together to connect the song to the place. This number would go down well in any singaround, will become a festival anthem for Neil Brophy, and, along with Viking Rover, would justify adding this CD to your collection.

The CD is delivered with the full lyrics printed in the sleeve booklet.

Check it out at [www.neilbrophy.co.uk](http://www.neilbrophy.co.uk)

**Mike Heylin**

## Abbots Langley Winter Acoustic Concerts

Sunday 10th February 2019 at 3pm

### **Rosie Hodgson and Rowan Piggott**

Rosie and Rowan perform mostly traditional material, both acapella and accompanied by guitar and fiddle. A very engaging and accomplished duo who seem better every time I see them!



Sunday 10th March 2019 at 3pm

### **JIB**

Jim Mageean, Ingrid and Barrie Temple are three of the finest North East singers. They are justly respected for their great stage presence and deep understanding of the songs and music of the North East of England.



To be held in Abbots Langley Community Centre,  
Gallows Hill Lane, Abbots Langley, Herts, WD5 0AP

Concerts start promptly at 3 pm - doors open 2:30pm

Entrance £12 includes tea, coffee & cake in the interval

Ticket enquiries to [ALConcerts@gmail.com](mailto:ALConcerts@gmail.com)

Or call Tim and Lesley Brooks on 01923 264536

more info at <http://www.oldtimetim.com/alwac.htm>



## **HERTFORDSHIRE FOLK ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE**

Elected Members & Officers as from November 2018

**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 - 2019

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.

Dec 1	<b>Staplers FDC.</b> St. Ippolyts Parish Hall, Hitchin. SG4 7RB. Colin Hume and the Ivel Valley Band	7.30pm
Dec 8	<b>Winchmore FDC.</b> Trinity Church Hall, Church St. Enfield. EN2 6AN 0208 360 6226 / 886 2696 Mike Bennett with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Dec 13	<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> Vicky Swann & John Dyer Christmas Special see advert pg 4	
Dec 22	<b>St Andrews.</b> Trinity Church Hall, Church St. Enfield. EN2 6AN 0208 366 3982 Keith Wright with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Jan 1	<b>Winchmore FDC.</b> (Anglo Scottish) Andrew Kellet & Steve Russell with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Jan 5	<b>Chiltern Folk Association.</b> Amersham Community Centre, HP6 5AH Howard Ballard with Kelly's Eye 01727 856508 See advert pg 4	7.00pm
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
Feb 2	<b>Staplers FDC.</b> Rhodri Davies with Kelly's Eye	7.30pm
Feb 9	<b>Winchmore FDC.</b> Brenda Godrich with the Forest Band	7.30pm

## 2019 DIARY DATES cont.

Feb 23	<b>St. Andrews.</b> Terry Elvins with Spring Greens	7.30pm
Feb 24	<b>Chiltern Folk Association.</b> Family Dance, Amersham, Common Hall, HP7 9JD Ted Morse with Toucan Play (see advert pg 4)	2.30pm
Mar 2	<b>Welwyn Garden City FDC,</b> UR Church Hall (opp. Sainsburys) Church Rd. WGC <b>NEW VENUE</b> Mark Elvins with Momentum 01707 320299	7.30pm
Mar 9	<b>Winchmore FDC.</b> Sibby with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Mar 16	<b>HFA Spring Sing.</b> The Crown, High Street, Buntingford, SG9 9AB see advert pg 10	12 noon to 6pm
Mar 23	<b>St. Andrews.</b> John Green with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Mar 24	<b>HFA Accordion Workshop,</b> Backhouse Room 116, Handside Lane Welwyn Garden City. AL8 6SZ see advert pg 9	10am for 10.30
Apr 6	<b>Harrow FDC.</b> Pinner Village Hall, Chapel Lane, Pinner. HA5 1AA <b>ANOTHER NEW VENUE</b> (see advert) Andrea Stodell with Toucan Play 020 8868 7526	7.30pm
Apr 7	<b>New Roots Final,</b> Trestle Arts Base, St Albans. <b><a href="http://www.new-roots.org.uk">www. new-roots.org.uk</a></b>	
Apr 13	<b>Winchmore FDC</b> Bob Barrett with the Forest Band	7.30pm
Apr 27	<b>St. Andrews.</b> Andrea Stodell with Harewood	7.30pm
May 11	<b>Winchmore FDC</b> tba	
May 18	<b>St Albans Abbey FDC</b> David Ketteridge with the Forest Band	7.30pm
May 18	<b>Herts Early Dance.</b> May Revels (booking essential) St Stephens Church Hall, St Albans. AL1 2PX	2.30 - 3 to 9pm
May 25	<b>St. Andrews.</b> FDC Club callers with Spring Greens	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@stalbansmorris.org.uk](mailto:bagman@stalbansmorris.org.uk)  
We practise 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).

# **Dance Around the World and back again?**

Dance Around the World (DATW) is, for the many people who enjoy the dances from diverse cultural heritage, a wonderful opportunity to share the pleasures with others. The Festival is entirely run by volunteers and all the participants, whether dancing in a display, running a workshop or helping organise, give their time freely for the pleasure of sharing the dances of other groups. This amazing event has been run for 18 years under the expert eye of Anne Leach.

The event is held at Cecil Sharp House in London and so attracts groups that can get there with relative ease and not too much expense. This year it attracted groups of dancers that danced dances from places as diverse as China, India, New Zealand, the Philippines and many Middle East and European countries too. In all there were 44 groups. All did a 20 minute display and many ran a one hour workshop.

The Quadrille Club have been attending for several years. Herts Early Dance, on the other hand, have only been twice - so far.... The last time we went we did 16th century dances. This year we did a wonderful culturally diverse collection of 15th century dances - from England, Burgundy, Italy and finished with a couple of our favourite Guglielmo dances that he called French Ballo. What could have been more appropriate?

The reaction to our historical take on cultural diversity was brilliant and our workshop (despite being the last one on Sunday afternoon, and competing with the Society for International Folk Dance's AGM) was successful in attracting a good group of people.

'Spreading the word' about the historical and cultural basis of our dances and music is a message that is extremely appropriate for this group of International dancers and musicians. The diversity in our histories and multiple cultures are drawn together through sharing an interest in dance and music. Few things could be more important in our world today.

With many many thanks to the members of HED, dancers and musicians, who made our part in this festival possible. A special thanks to Helen Young for masterminding our display and workshop..... and all on her way home from the Early Dance Festival!

Next year's festival is 26-27 October 2019.

**Jan Guyatt**

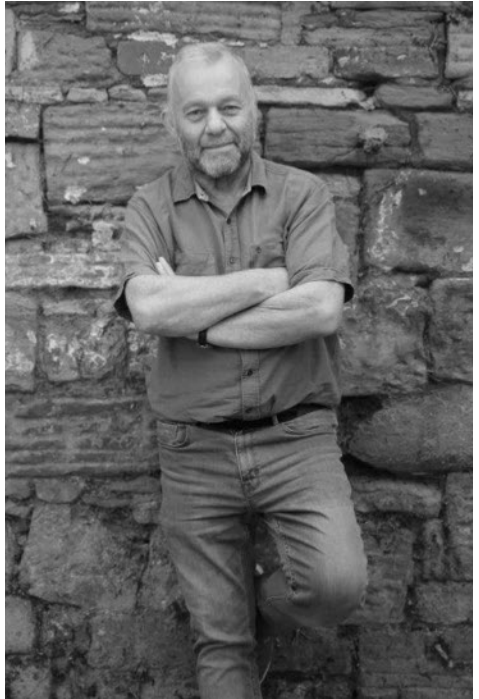
## Late Cut – Steve Turner

Steve Turner's eighth solo album sees him presenting an eclectic mix of music from England, Ireland, Scotland and America in the company of Sam Carter, Eliza Carthy, Martin Simpson, Simon Dumpleton, Gina le Faux, Ricki Gerardy and Bob Hallard.

Opening with Steve's own version of "Lily of the West", featuring a beautiful arrangement for concertina and Sam Carter's guitar, the tempo rises with "Ain't Gonna Work Tomorrow", where Martin Simpson's five string banjo duels with Gina le Faux's driving fiddle. Anti-slavery song "Babylon has Fallen" by Henry Clay Work (best known for "My Grandfather's Clock") has a jaunty tune that fits Steve's concertina perfectly, and the rare Irish song, "On the Road to Tipperary" showcases the vocal qualities we have come to expect from this great performer over the years.

A fascinating Scottish version of "The Two Sisters", completely new to me, and a cheeky "Rambling Sailor" give Steve the opportunity to demonstrate his skill as a story-teller in song, while "Palestine" (words by Paul Metsers, tune by Steve Turner) is possibly the stand-out track, telling of ordinary people's suffering in a situation they are unable to control and pleading for peace and reconciliation.

Songs by Bob Dylan, Sam Richards, Robert Burns, Les Sullivan and Tom Yates complete this fine album of carefully-chosen material, produced by the very talented Simon Dumpleton together with Steve himself and performed with consummate skill and conviction by one of the most enduring performers on the English folk music scene.



**Barry Goodman**



## **An event for young musicians**

### **Press release – New Roots 2019**

The call is out to young musicians under the age of 25 who sing or play traditionally based music to enter for New Roots 2019. Whether your style is traditional or contemporary folk, roots or world music, whether you perform traditional material or write your own, the organisers would like to hear from you. There are two categories, under 18 and 18-24. New Roots has been running since 2000 and the standard rises every year.

The list of judges for 2019 has now been finalised. Between them, John Dipper, Anna Tabbush, Andy Stafford and Valmai Goodyear represent a wide spectrum of insights into the folk scene. Their task will be firstly to listen to the entries sent in and select the performers who will take part in the final on Sunday 7th April 2019 at Trestle Arts Base in St Albans. On the day they will give constructive feedback to performers. There is no overall winner and everyone who makes it to the final will win one or more performance opportunities. The aim is to match the performers to the opportunities at folk festivals, clubs and other events which are offered to New Roots finalists. At folk clubs, opportunities include support slots, featured spots on singers' nights and full bookings.

Performers who want to enter are invited to complete the entry form on the New Roots website and email it to [info@new-roots.org.uk](mailto:info@new-roots.org.uk). In reply, they will get an email telling them how to upload up to 15 minutes of their music. The closing date is 31st January 2019. For further information see the website [www.new-roots.org.uk](http://www.new-roots.org.uk). This also has a form for event organisers who wish to offer performance opportunities for young musicians.

Further details:

[www.new-roots.org.uk](http://www.new-roots.org.uk) email: [info@stalbansfolkmusic.org.uk](mailto:info@stalbansfolkmusic.org.uk)  
or ring 01727 852111.

# **Ash Vale Longsword**

The origin of Ash Vale Longsword Team began with Lea Valley Mummers in summer 1985 when they wanted to do something special at the wedding of John Grey, one of the founding Mummers, to Libby Byne.

A few meetings were held with an almost “Overlord” level of secrecy, but no useful ideas were forthcoming; so it was hoped that something might present itself in a workshop at Sidmouth International Folk Festival that year. There being no Mumming or other Folk Drama workshops, two Mummers chose to attend a Longsword Dance workshop run by Trevor Stone, self-confessed Longsword fanatic, historian and archivist (and all-round thoroughly good egg!). Under his inspired tutelage (plus many beers after each session to pick up further hints and tips on technique), an idea began to form for a short, snappy dance (about 2 minutes long) which could be rehearsed sufficiently in the eight weeks available before the wedding by a team of six, ranging in experience from nil to very experienced Morris and Rapper dancers, in one evening per week.

A short dance was written out on the back of a beer mat, with four locks in quick succession for “pezazz”, and back in Hertfordshire, some practice swords and spares were quickly made from a sheet of plywood – a bit whippy and fragile, but they “did” until some real steel swords were “magicked” from somewhere.

With a number of false trails, smoke screens and red herrings (all right – bare-faced lies!) John was kept in the dark about rehearsals, and a uniform was decided on as black shoes, socks and trousers, pale blue cummerbund, white shirt and neckerchief of individual colours.

Come the day of the wedding, LVM were introduced, and a few mutterings of, “Oh God – Mummers”, but a few gobs were well and truly smacked when, with a lively 4 bar intro of “Over the Hills and Far Away”, the team sallied forth, swords decorated with white ribbons, and delivered the dance crisply, with no mistakes! Thus occurred the only-ever public performance by the Lea Valley Mummers Wedlock Team!

(Original team; Bob Higgs, Keith Hicks, Ted and Dicky Ovenden, “Snowy” Snow, and Bob Smith, with Geoff Austyn as Clown: Musicians; Bryan Blanchard (concertina), Neil Bullen (violin) and Andy Paton (accordion).



Sadly four of the dancers and two musicians had commitments to other teams and did not have time or inclination to continue with Longsword, but others showed interest and a dance team carried on as Ash Vale Longsword (after the River Ash that flows near Wareside Village hall where we practised) as a mixed sex group.

At first an “Unseasonal Mummers Christmas Play” was performed at cash-raising events (for repair work on the village hall) while newcomers were melded into a dance team for pub dance-outs etc..

As time went on, we seemed to acquire new members at the same rate that others left, including, luckily, one who had learned Longsword as a lad, and two new dances were acquired (as well as doing 5-person versions of dances in case of illness).



For some years the team was invited to dance out with other local, well established teams and even to rather prestigious events such as the “Living Crafts” weekend at Hatfield House (and invited back again!).

Fees from such events allowed us to purchase a brand new set of swords (luxury), a drum (noisy) to help time-keeping, and purple bolero/waistcoats (colourful).

Sadly, however, the inexorable march of time and members moving away took its inevitable toll, and the team folded in the early years of the 21st Century.

All assets were disposed of – cash accrued going to various charities, the blue and yellow drum going to a North-West Clog Dancing team with similar colours (for a donation to charity) and the two sets of steel swords (and even some of the original plywood practice swords) were given/loaned to various people/organisations who could run Longsword/Folk events and workshops.

As all of the team’s past members get ever further “Over the Hills and Far Away”, it would be great to think that our swords will be passed on to future groups to learn longsword dancing, hopefully enjoying it as much as we did, and keeping this rather special part of British Heritage going. Rattle on, my boys!!

## **Bob Higgs (August 2018)**

Two sets of 8 steel Longswords in closed cases and one set of 8 wooden practice swords ended up for safekeeping with John & Libby. They had been persuaded to give up stewarding at Sidmouth, where they first met in 1985, & instead join the Workforce for Broadstairs Folk Week. There they met some of the organisers of the Cleckheaton Folk Festival. At various festivals they met Sue & Pete Coe & Ryburn Three Step Longsword.

At Broadstairs Folk Week 2017 Sue Coe was running a series of Longsword Workshops and was happy to accept the loan of the Ash Vale wooden swords for the duration.

It was agreed that she could keep these for teaching future workshops. However, when Libby & John told her about the Ash Vale steel Longswords they had in their keeping, Sue was very interested in  
(continued over)

making use of these with Ryburn 3 Step. Libby obtained agreement, from as many past Ash Vale members as possible, that handing the swords over to Ryburn 3 Step was a good way forward.

John & Libby took the two sets of cased steel Longswords with them when they went to work for the Festival as Cleckheaton Town Hall Venue Managers in July 2018. They travelled on from Cleckheaton to present the two sets of steel Longswords to Sue Coe at her home in Ripponden. Sue & Pete Coe were delighted with the Ash Vale Longswords and decided to offer a £50.00 donation to be channelled through the Hertfordshire Folk Association & EFDSS to NYFTE. Two weeks later Libby & John received two photos of Ryburn 3 Step using Ash Vale Longswords in performance in Durham. They said they made the most wonderful 'Sword locks'.

To be continued in the next edition of Puddingstone...

## Libby Byne-Grey

### *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 Dec Suzanne Farmer and FF Band
- 14 Dec Christmas Special with Wendy Harrup and Cloudburst
- 21 Dec Carol singing around St Albans

#### **Spring 2019**

- 4 Jan Paul Garner
- 11 Jan David and Rebecca Capron and Friday Folk Band
- 18 Jan Club callers
- 25 Jan Bob Barrett
- 1 Feb Andrea Stodell
- 8 Feb Mike Bennett, Spring Greens
- 15 Feb Colin Hume and FF Band
- 22 Feb Bob Lilley
- 1 Mar Mark Elvins & Jump the Vortex
- 8 Mar Friday Folk Band
- 15 Mar Red Nose Day with Suzanne Farmer
- 22 Mar Mike Ruff and Spring Greens
- 29 Mar Club callers



With thanks from Ryburn Longsword

Many thanks to Ashvale  
Longsword Team for the  
donation of these swords.  
Pete Lee + Sheila  
Ryburn 3step.

## First photos from HFA Playford Day workshops and dance



Barbara Burton and Martyn Boardman  
(Jump the Vortex ) playing for the workshop



Musicians from music workshop playing for the  
evening dance

Right:

Andrew  
Swaine (tutor)  
& John Dipper  
(music tutor)



Below Right:

Anne Daye  
(tutor)  
demonstrating  
steps



**More photos and article to follow in next issue of Puddingstone**

# **HARROW FOLK DANCE CLUB**

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

## **49th ANNIVERSARY DANCE**

**Saturday 6th APRIL 2019**

*(Please note change of date from that previously advertised)*

\* \* \* \* \*

## **ANDREA STODELL**

~ ~ with music by: ~ ~

## **‘TOUCAN PLAY’**

*(Chris and Patsy Smith)*

*at*

**Pinner Village Hall, Chapel Lane,  
Pinner, Middx., HA5 1AA**

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

***Free car parking in the public car park next to 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)**

\* \* \* \* \*

***Next Dance: Saturday 16th November 2019 – 47th Playford Ball.***

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

***The Harrow Folk Dance Club meets most Mondays (except  
August and Bank Holidays) 7.45 – 9.45 pm at  
Belmont School (lower hall), Hibbert 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***



# Country Hop Photos



Getting to grips with the allemand swing



A dance from the Berkhamsted Strathspey and Reel Club.



Andrew, Brenda, Marilyn and Eileen hard at work in the Kitchen



The Duke of Wellington's Quadrille



Stepping in a circle with the Balkan dance group