

aroundkent folk

Issue 128
April / May 2025



Your **FREE** Guide to Folk Events
in Kent, Surrey, Sussex and beyond



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Promoting folk song, music, dance, crafts and traditions.

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GTSF

The Gate To Southwell Festival

Richard Thompson

El Pony Pisador (Spa) Skinny Lister

Seckou Keita & The Homeland Band

Jon Boden & The Remnant Kings (Sen)

Alabama 3 Acoustic Katherine Priddy Track Dogs

Banter Sam Kelly Trio Hat Fitz & Cara (Aus) Ruben Moreno (US)

The Hunch Narthen Tautas Roks Rosie Hood Band Sunjay

Veronica Sbergia & Max De Bernardi (Ita) The Cadillac Kings

Winter Wilson Mr Tea & the Minions The Mandolinquents

New York Brass Band Sam Carter She Shanties The Magpies

Sherburn Bartley Sanders Mike West Band (US) The Activators

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Welcome to issue 128 April/May 2025 issue of Around Kent Folk

Welcome to issue 128 of AKF. It was not planned but, this issue has ended up with quite a bit about folk dance music and dancing which seems to be having a bit of a revival at present. Let's hope it continues and grows. John Sweeney has written about the local social dance scene, Nina Taylor has reviewed the La Batons dances and Gavin Atkin tells us about his u3a dance music group. There is also a piece about 50 years of Whitstable Jack in the Green. We would like to hear more about the folk dance scene in our area and would welcome adverts for your barn dances, ceilidh, folk dance clubs or Morris sides. The only reason this magazine does not contain more about dancing and dances is that you do not send it in to us. All the festivals advertised in this issue no doubt also include dance events in their programmes and it looks like being an exciting and busy summer festival season. Which ones are you going to? Of course we also have a couple of articles about the folk music scene. We were very sorry to hear of the death of local folk club organiser Nigel White in January after a long illness. You can read a short obituary later in this issue. There are also all the usual articles, news and reviews that you would expect to see in AKF.

Alan Castle (Editor)

PS: You can make a donation to Tenterden Folk Festival or this magazine via our websites or by post (see payment details on last page). Thank you.

www.tenterdenfolkfestival.org.uk www.aroundkentfolk.org.uk

Melting Vinyl

Melting Vinyl have some good gigs coming up in Folkestone over the next couple of months. The Highlights for our readers are probably Joan as Policewoman (solo) 12th April, The Young'uns 22nd April

Richard Dawson in both Folkestone and Brighton on 23rd and 24th May, and then Eliza Carthy in Brighton on 20th and Folkestone on 21st June. Also coming up in Brighton are The Rheingans Sisters on 9th May.

Check out MV's website www.meltingvinyl.co.uk/whats-on/ for full details.

Find us online at www.aroundkentfolk.org.uk

You can also find us on social media:

**Twitter/X: @AroundKentFolk @TenterdenFolk
@TenterdenCraftFair**

Instagram: TenterdenFolkFestival

Facebook: AroundKentFolk and tenterden.folkfestival

You can always find a link to the latest and past issues of AKF there. Please pass the link on to your mailing lists and place it on your social media so that as many potential readers as possible can find AKF online.



Donate Now

Front cover: Les Batons Music Session



English Country Dance Tunes in Kent

In January, we celebrated something that began 16 years ago. Something that some people have described as slightly mad, and others doubt can be true or serious. But it is true, it is serious, and it has been for quite some time.

People have asked 'Why do all this work for no payment if you don't have to?' But January marked sixteen years of running English country dance tune workshops and meetings playing and learning English country dance tunes in local villages around Marden, here in Kent.

I came to the project with a few things on my side and a lot of experience to share. My wife Julie's moral and musical support was obviously essential, but I could also draw on a large repertoire of tunes and decades of playing for dancing with various dance teams and bands, including the successful Kent ceillidh band Florida, and of taking part in many sessions with some of the most celebrated English tunes players around.

I had presented many fiddle, guitar and duet concertina workshops at festivals and tutorial weekends over the years. And, because I've picked up and still play several different kinds of plucked, bowed, blown and squeezed instruments, I had the experience to help people playing most of the instruments people were likely to bring along.

To make the experience as useful as possible, we share not only the tunes but also what we've learned about playing them.

The format has evolved a little over time. Now part of the Goudhurst and District u3a (the University of the Third Age), these days we meet to learn new tunes at the Goudhurst Club on the morning of the first Monday of the month.

Written music is emailed to regulars in advance of each meeting, and also appears on the Singdanceandplay.net website, along with links to steady-speed YouTube demonstrations designed for playing along with.

Musicians and learning musicians need a social setting in which to practice their art and to carry them along, so we also organise mid-month tunes sessions and twice-yearly barn dances that help to connect the music with the dances they're designed for. The dances are important because they lend the tunes so much meaning.

All this preparation, video-making and organising is a lot of work, but it's also fun, keeps our own playing up to the mark and is hugely sociable. And for us there are special moments that we'll remember for a long time – such as the instant when a learning player's face lights up on realising they can play by ear, find a simple style point lends added life to the written music, or maybe play for dancing for the first time. And because we have practiced together, the sessions often sound wonderful.

In practice, a mixture of people attend the meetings: some are local people who have got an unused instrument down from on top of the wardrobe, while others are long established folk players from across the county and beyond who are pleased to be playing regularly and learning new tunes. What I can say for certain, however, is that they're a friendly, welcoming group who are keen to help each other and enjoy a laugh.

If you are at a stage where you can get through a few tunes you'll be able to cope with most of the fairly simple material we mostly play. The only costs to attendees are a £2-3 whip-round each time to cover the very reasonable hire of the room, and an annual £20 to join the u3a, which provides me with useful administrative assistance and other practical help, and entitles members to take part in other local u3a activities including regular talks and special interest groups, such as photography, science and wine tasting.

The magic that makes the music swing along well is partly the tunes themselves but also in the way we play them. Even if you don't ever make it along to one of our meetings or sessions and only play for yourself, I have three easy playing tips you can try at home:

Try playing 'short' – play the notes (crotchets, quavers etc) shorter than they're written, except at the end of a line. Where notes are longer, consider breaking them up into short beats that lend rhythmic drive. I hear the 'playing short' principle in use by traditional sources across English traditional source musicians from Northumberland, East Anglia, the Cotswolds and the West Country, and it brings a light, crisp and danceable quality you can't get by playing all notes as written. It even works with waltzes and slow airs. The principle applies equally to instruments playing rhythm such as percussion, pianos and guitars, all of which can use damping to achieve the required danceable effect. In the end, these tunes are nearly all for dancing, and I'd suggest it should be possible to dance to every instrument in the band.

Think of tune as a conversation – our tunes include recognisable 'calls', 'responses' and 'choruses'. In a section of a tune, typically the first two bar phrase is the first 'call', the second two-bar phrase is a 'response', the third is another 'call' and the final phrase can be treated as a 'chorus'. Try singing or humming the phrases of a singable tune such as the jig Pop Goes the Weasel: firmly deliver the first phrase 'Half a pound of tuppenny rice', make the second a little lighter 'Half a pound of treacle', go back to a firm tone for 'That's the way the money goes' and

Continued Overleaf...



finally go loud for the big chorus 'Pop goes the weasel'. Nearly nobody talks about this, but it really works a treat!

Repeated notes are not equal – I've said that most notes should be played a bit shorter than written, except at the end of a line. That's broadly true, but where you have repeated notes, the earlier notes benefit from being played very short indeed, with the final note just slightly longer. If you recall how the 'did-dit-dit-dahhh' at the beginning of Beethoven's Fifth gets your attention, we're looking for something of the same effect. Think of the children's song that goes 'One, two, three, four, five, Once I caught a fish alive'. The first two words are on the same repeated note, and so the word 'One' is best sung or played very short and emphatic, while the 'two' can be allowed a little more length.

If you'd like to join our monthly meetings at Goudhurst, email me at gmatkin@gmail.com or see the website at Singdanceandplay.net.

Gavin Atkin



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May 5th May Day Singers and Musicians Night £4

12th Bob Fox £15 (£12) bobfoxmusic.com

19th Milton Hide £10 (£8) miltonhide.com

26th Closed for Bank Holiday

June 2nd Singers and Musicians Night £4

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B & T Music, 9 Claremont, Hastings TN34 1HA. Free parking on site. Disabled access.

Scene & Heard (April-May 2025)

So away swept Molly, Hoodeners, Howlers, Guisers, Wassailers, ensuring a good growing season... tradition alive and kicking... Cold Winter brought just enough frost to keep weevils and bugs at bay... if not to freeze flakes of ice in milkmaid's pails... Time to look forward to another feast of festivals... spring permitting...

But first, pleasing to report that local clubs and sessions ran full programmes through January and February, to audiences still willing to attend in dark and dreary times. For various reasons I'm reliant on reports this issue, so my thanks to organisers who have kept S&H in the picture. See their ads for some great upcoming gigs.

A heads-up for concerts in support of Broadstairs Folk Week- the Horsebridge Centre in Whitstable is hosting a series of monthly fund-raisers with artists like Katriona Gilmore & Jamie Roberts, followed by the Singing Loins- keep an eye out for them!

Deal runs twice a month on Thursdays, Crisis (Chris Sadler & Chris Taylor) belting the joint before the welcome return to gigging of Brian & Marian Rodgers. Always worth popping in to their Singers' nights too, an eclectic mix.

Up North, Dartford always hosts exceptional talent of high quality, ranging from established veterans to the rising stars- both they and the Orpington clubs, Thursday/ Friday have useful transport links throughout the year if you don't fancy driving late at night. Tonbridge too, close to its station, as is Faversham, where the move to 7.30-10.00 pm has proved most helpful. Rainham 2nd Weds of the month is likewise in the Oast by the railway.

Others range further afield- Travelling Folk roam West Kent, and it was good to hear the indomitable Mick Lynn in full flight on English tunes, Roger Resch and Liz Randall too, encouraging locals in their quest to introduce genuine melodies to one and all.

Tonbridge's early season plucked good audiences, auguring well. A real mix, some entertaining local songsmith, then Dave Ellis & Boo Howard, **Sally Ironmonger & Brian Carter** followed by new to me **The Claras** from Sussex. A lovely find, harp and harmonies, revisiting tradition whilst including a few surprises. All grand value.

Open Water began Faversham's guest list, full tilt into the new year with delicious guitar work and triple vocal settings of appealing intricacy. A visit from Sally &



The Claras



Sally Ironmonger
& Brian Carter

Brian on their new year world tour, Rosslyn next day, with an outstanding new song

– Battleship Grey- to add to their ever popular favourites- catch that one soon... **Porchswing** Blues frolicking through Chris Berry's originals with Dave Ferra branching out on bass and Brian Langsdon singing powerful Americana... Will Allen & Martin Clarke (melodeon/fiddle) proving how much fun you can have with sets of dazzling virtuosity- everyone smiling from the sheer joy going on. The innovation of Singers Plus with the Whitstable Hoodeners and Global Fusion Singers (Morrigan's Ros Hone arranging), 2x20 min slots adding to the regulars , proved successful, well worth including in the mix. Our thanks to them for cheerful January evenings!



Rosslyn Court's raucous sea shanty sessions on the 2nd Friday, 7 pm, run by the Snottledogs are proving popular, 'rollicking nights of song and quaff'... Morag has lyrics projected overhead to encourage participation, always helpful to new singers especially. A good time is had by all, judging from the angles they assume in the photographs... a new venture is the promotion of a larger concert at ARC (the cultural centre round the corner) in Cliftonville on May 8: Granny's Attic are the guests. Tickets from Rosslyn- be sure to contact Morag directly as scammers have tried (unsuccessfully) to get in on the act... true, sadly for initiatives everywhere these days.

An excellent start-up in Tenterden is a DAYTIME session run by Dave & Eileen Masterson on the 1st Tuesday of every month from 11.30 – 14.30 in the Platform 2 Bar of the Club in Church Road (TN30 6AT)- which complements the long-running Folk Sessions there on the 2nd Weds from 1930-2230... with that session's blessing. Hop on the 2 from Ashford, the 12 from Headcorn or, if you fancy a rural ramble, the 297 from Tunbridge Wells...the more the merrier!

Jerry Crossley tells S&H of a session at the Kings Head Grafty Green ME172AN on 2nd Tuesdays... Sunday Woodsheds at the Wrotham Arms dovetail with plenty of roots and blues in Broadstairs, and I'm told the Faversham music session is still running on Tuesdays at the Market Inn... if you contact the mighty CJ you're sure to find an open mike practically every day of the month in East Kent somewhere... fantastic to have so much choice.

Fourgone Confusion (John & Di Cullen and Pete & Brenda Storer) have been widely well received at many folk clubs around the country, and they've been busy in the studio too. Their first joint release is reviewed later, suffice to say it's a lovely collection of songs well worth seeking out...

And so... with the KSC show Portraits & Landscapes freshly written and in rehearsal for Broadstairs, (Thursday 14 Aug Crampton 1715, plug), it's on to Mayday and Sweeps- all being well I'll be on Boley Hill stage, with an array of acts- please do come and say Hi, it's always good to see familiar faces and enjoy the amazing spectacle that Medway and Dougie Hudson put on over the weekend 3,4,5 May. Will there be cherry blossom and maypoles? Baldricks and bells? Harper's Frolic and Speed The Plough?

Bob Kenward



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2nd June Scan Tester fan Club

16th June Iona Lane

7th July Marilla Homes

Tel: 01892 822945
info@tonbridgefolkclub.org
www.tonbridgefolkclub.org



The 4 of Us / Smith & Brewer

Sun 23rd March, Canterbury Cathedral Lodge

Peter Knight's - Gigsprinter Big Band

Sun 13th April, Gulbenkian, Canterbury

Karine Polwart

Monday 28th April, Colyer-Fergusson Hall,
Canterbury

Oysterband – sold out

Friday 2nd May, Gulbenkian, Canterbury

Daphne's Flight

Sunday 18th May, Gulbenkian, Canterbury

Lindisfarne

Saturday 14th June, Colyer-Fergusson Hall,
Canterbury

www.folkinthebarn.co.uk

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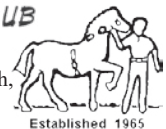
Affiliate of the English Folk Dance and Song Society



ORPINGTON FOLK CLUB

Farnborough Social Club

6 Pleasant View Pl, Farnborough,
Orpington, BR6 7BL



APRIL

3rd, 10th, 17th,
24th

Singers & Musicians Night
Ian K Brown

MAY

1st, 8th, 15th, 29th

Singers & Musicians Night

22nd May ~ 60th Birthday Night



£10 Entrance

Orpington Folk Music and Song Club exists to promote folk
music and song. It is a non-profit making organisation and is for
those who wish to listen to or take part in an informal evening of
folk music and song.

Every Thursday @ 8:00pm

Contact : 0208 325 6513 ~ 01474 853189

Website : <https://orpingtonfolkclub.org.uk>
email: info@orpingtonfolkclub.org.uk

CD REVIEW

Four Gone Confusion - RUMMAGE (13 Tracks)

www.fourgoneconfusion.org

A pleasure to review, this first offering from FGC. It's a fruitful collection of their collaboration since 2016, when John & Di Cullen allied their talents to those of Pete & Brenda Storer to explore their repertoires with the results audiences are now appreciating. Songs from the likes of Karine Polwart, Sydney Carter and Chris While rub shoulders with traditional Bird-In-The-Bushery and Shoemaking; French Breton tunes deftly played with a Spanish song from Los Payos and an arrangement of a Gershwin classic. Always fresh, they include the poignant Javelins after a rumbustious Blackpool Belle; also Stuart Marson's Over The Lancashire Hills. To each song appropriate and interesting instrumentation, the two guitars combining deftly, a flute and bazouki contributing discreetly, always complementing the lyric. Four part a capella harmony Low Down In The Broom and always the sense of underlying togetherness, making the most of the variety of tones and accents in their quartet. A real feelgood recording and mix, with some tough messages neatly placed. Well worth seeking out- catch them live if you can too, they have a most engaging banter which sends you out cheerful. A most desirable gift-highly recommended.



Bob Kenward

Rochester Sweeps Festival

Rochester Sweeps Festival runs from Saturday 3rd May to Monday 5th May with some pre festival events on Friday 2nd. This will be the 41st Sweeps.

Headlining this year are Feast of Fiddles in the Castle Gardens on Sunday 4th with other appearances from Kimber's Men, French group Black Ship, Crazy Water Common, Hot Rats and Gypskazz. Sur Les Docks are also coming sponsored by the Rising Sun pub as unofficial guests.

Rochester Cathedral plays host to an original classical folk inspired piece, Mercurial IV, by Kentish composer and musician Jacob Bride. A new feature will be an evening tune session every night at the Granville led by Lisa Bradley.

All this plus the biggest collection of Morris sides in the country, some invited international dance teams, two other stages and a host of pub gigs. All events are free and the whole festival is a Medway Council sponsored event. See the unofficial Rochester Sweeps Festival Facebook page plus the Council's website for up to date info on the whole programme.

Doug Hudson

Faversham Folk Club



Save these dates! Reservations recommended 07957 461832 or 07885 642763

Please note we are a cash-only club.

There are 2 cash points close nearby.

www.favershamfolkclub.net



April - May

Doors open 7.00 pm every Wednesday, Club runs 7.30 - 10 pm

New for 2025: Singers Nights Plus: *2x20 min sets from singing guests £2

- APR 2 **STEVE TILSTON** - Welcome return for a hugely respected master of his craft- 'Slipjigs & Reels' to new work from Such Times, guitar work to die for, sure to be a memorable evening- reserve early! £12/13
- APR 9 **SINGERS* CHORUS SPECIAL** £2
- APR 16 **THE KIMBERLEYS** - Dazzling duo, back by popular demand- songs from The Shape Of The Year, Isobel & Jim bring a contemporary take on traditional songs as well as their originals of powerful impact. £9/10
- APR 23 **SINGERS PLUS: ERRANT or BARREN KNIGHTS*** £2
- APR 30 **TWANGTOWN PARAMOURS** - Marybeth Zamer & Mike Lewis, award-winning duo from Nashville, touring Kent – we are fortunate to welcome them, they've both attracted amazing reviews for their acoustic performances – check them out! Then come and see them! £9/10
- MAY 7 **SINGERS** £2
- MAY 14 **DAN WALSH** - What's to say? Dan is quite simply one of the best banjo players in Britain, highly respected for his repertoire and his crackling variety. Always entertaining and full of generous hints for aspiring players. £8/9
- MAY 21 **JEZ LOWE** - So many of Jez's song lyrics have become part of our vocabulary- his ability to charm and speak for our generation is legendary. There'll be plenty to sing and be amused by, and then to mull over. Another peak performer. £12/13
- MAY 28 **SINGERS** £2
- JUNE 4 **STEVE & JULIE WIGLEY** £9/10
- JUNE 11 **SINGERS PLUS* LOCAL SONGS** £2
- JUNE 18 **JAMES KEELAHAN & DAVID WOODHEAD** £12/13

Coming soon: July 2 - Terry Lees & Natasha Norodien,
July 9 - Lynne Heraud & Pat Turner, July 23 - The Lost Notes

The Limes, Preston St, Faversham ME13 8PG.

Folk Dance in Kent

Song & Dance: the two key elements of our folk heritage, plus of course the wonderful music that underlies them. Both song and dance have a wonderful repertoire stretching back for centuries; both are still living traditions with new dances and songs being written all the time, together with experimentation in fusing music from other genres to make something new and exhilarating.



There are thousands of wonderful dances in the ceilidh/country dance/square dance/traditional dance spectrum. You can try a Barn Dance or Ceilidh to have fun dancing the easy dances. If you fancy trying a wider range of dances then try a Folk Dance Club; most of them dance every week.

If you want to see what it is like then you can find links to lots of videos at contrafusion.co.uk. The “Ceilidh/Barn Dance Videos” button will take you to a playlist with the easy dances at the top and more interesting ones at the bottom. The “Dance Videos” button further down will show you even more different styles of dancing.

That is the social side of dancing. There is also the performance side: Morris Dancing! There are over 25 sides in Kent, dancing a wide range of different styles.

Around Kent Folk lets you find all the best song sessions in Kent; but what about the dancing? For many years there was Folk in Kent, a similar magazine about dance. Sadly issue 181 in Autumn 2022 was the last issue.

We now have a Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/folkdanceinkent to try to fill the gap.

Pinned at the top of the page you will find details of the nineteen Folk Dance Clubs that meet regularly in Kent. There are also links there to all the Morris sides.

Another useful link is www.facebook.com/KentCeilidhs to find Ceilidhs with live music. We have a lot of great dance bands in Kent and it is worth going along to some of these sessions just to hear the music!

If you have a dance event please post it at Folk Dance in Kent. If it is a Barn Dance/Ceilidh with a live band then e-mail me at john@modernjive.com and I will post it at Kent Ceilidhs.

Whether you try a Barn Dance, a Ceilidh, a Folk Dance Club or a Morris Side you will find a wonderful group of people who are very welcoming and will teach you everything you need to know to have fun and to exercise your mind, your body and your smile!

John Sweeney

Editor's Note. We would love to have more adverts for barn dances, ceilidhs, dance clubs, Morris sides, etc. in AKF. Check out the rates at the back of this issue. We also welcome dance related articles.

The

TENTERDEN FOLK SESSIONS

have moved to

The Tenterden Club

Wednesday 12th March

Wednesday 9th April

from 7:30 to 10:30



The Tenterden Club
Church Road
Tenterden
TN30 6AT
thetenterdenclub.co.uk

The second Wednesday of the month
Free folk song and music in ground floor bar
All welcome

Membership of the Tenterden club is recommended if you are coming to the Folk Sessions regularly and starts from only £15 for over 65s.

The
Tenterden Club



Tenterden Folk Club has been running consistently since 1992
For information contact Alan Castle

E: info@tenterdenfolkfestival.org.uk T: 01233 626805

W: www.tenterdenfolkfestival.com/Tenterden-Folk-Sessions/

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Enquiries: dartfordfolkclub@gmail.com

FLOOR SINGERS WELCOME (PLEASE BOOK)

FEATURED GUESTS

01 April - Johnny Coppin ****Change Of Artist****

08 April - Catch the Rain

15 April - Tom McConville with Michael Biggins

22 April - The Brothers Gillespie

29 April - Steve Tilston

06 May - Joe Topping

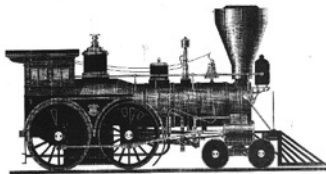
13 May - Clive Gregson ****Change Of Artist****

20 May - Eric Sedge

27 May - Wychbury

Members £8, Non-Members £12, Membership £10 (to end 9/25)

FOR UPDATES AND FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE GO TO
OUR WEBSITE & FACEBOOK PAGES



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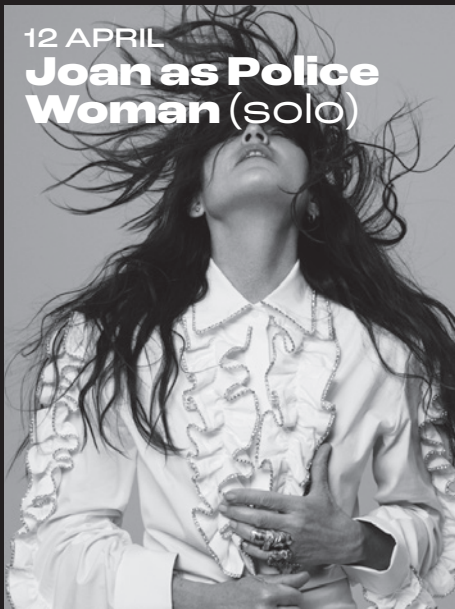


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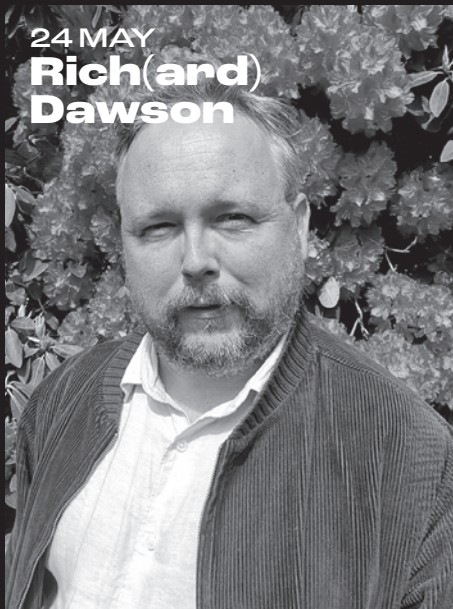
12 APRIL

**Joan as Police
Woman (solo)**



24 MAY

**Rich(ard)
Dawson**



22 APRIL

The Young 'uns



21 JUNE

**Eliza Carthy
+ Jennifer Reid**



CHICKENSTOCK MUSIC FESTIVAL



31ST JULY - 3RD AUGUST 2025 • STOCKBURY, KENT • WWW.CHICKENSTOCKFESTIVAL.CO.UK

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- LOS KAMER •
- KARL PHILLIPS & THE REJECTS
- JOSHUA BURNELL BAND •
- MEMBERS OF 'BIG COUNTRY'
- KING CERULEAN • GREEN DIESEL •
- KINGS & BEARS
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- SIMON GILES AND THE SITUATION
- LIAM VINCENT & THE ODD FOXES •
- THE BAD DAY • THE FONTANAS
- THE SWAMP STOMP STRING BAND •
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Issue 201
June to August 2024
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Essex Folk News

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Les Batons review

So, did you kick start the new year on the dance floor or, instead, on the sofa listening to your Christmas '24 C.D.'s and finishing off those leftover goodies...?

Harking back to the pre-lockdown annual January 'Euro Bash' whole weekend events of dance, instrumental and 'singing for dancing' workshops plus spectacular Saturday evening Bal, this year's January Les Batons session, entitled "DanceAbout", featured 3 dance specific workshops to live music interspersed with French and Breton offerings from other excellent musicians on a wide variety of instruments.

The session band started us off, then Anne Wolpe and Jim Cunningham taught us the steps and played 2 processional dance tunes, the 'Gavotte de Bas Leon' followed by a couple dance 'Gavotte de Lannilis'.

Next up, Petra Reulecke and Bill Gilkes began by teaching us in a circle to establish the steps for a first Zwiefacher, then as couples for the second tune and for the third, playfully, leaving it up to us the dancers to listen to the music and work out for ourselves which steps and in which order fitted best!

Last of all, whilst Chris Walshaw played, Kerry Fletcher taught us a fast moving 6 couples Bourree, named "de lundi", because they learned it 'on the hoof' in France on a Monday! Followed by "Bourree de Poile", a couple dance with much changing of direction and handholds. Great fun once you have both mastered it!

The feedback from the afternoon was very positive, so watch this space or www.lesbatons.org, if this format appeals to you.

Meanwhile as I type this, I am still relishing yesterday's top quality music from Quatre Quarts and the whole afternoon's many dances...schottisches, mazurkas, 3 and 5 times



waltzes, bourrees and many more. Not forgetting the delights of the Bring and Share buffet...

No need to be experienced as a dancer of any genre nor to bring partner, just wear shoes that can slide across the floor easily.

It's fun, keeps you fit and is sociable. All in all no better way to spend a Sunday afternoon for just £7 cash in the giant Marmite pot.

Nina Taylor
les.batons@yahoo.co.uk



PIG'S EAR FOLK ALE

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Border Crossing - CJ & Dave Reay - Capella - Chan Reid - Chicken
Shed Zeppelin - CJ and Max - Crazy Water Common - Delphis -
Demon Gin - Didge Beat George - Emma Tubmen - Erin Mansfield -
Forest of Fools - Fourgone Confusion - Greg Ireland - Gypskazz -
Henty & English - Hobo & the Hippies - James Kerry and the
Friends of Folk Ale - The Last Hurrah - Mother Lantern - Natasha
Norodien & Terry Lees - Nick Lawrence - Paul Downes - Ravens
Wedding - Sally Ironmonger & Brian Carter - Shake Me Up Sally -
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and many more to be

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The club meets every Monday evening at The Drum Inn, Stanford, Stone Street (TN25 6DN), between Canterbury and Hythe, from 7 till 10pm.

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For more information, contact Jeff on 01303 813188

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April 17th – Singers Night £3

May 1st – Singers Night £3

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Broadstairs Folk Week – 60th Anniversary Update

Broadstairs Folk Week celebrates its 60th Anniversary from 7th to 15th August 2025, with events across our stunning, cliff-top seaside town. This year, we have a massive program featuring a wide variety of folk music, new concert series, dance opportunities, pub gigs, singing and playing sessions, an introducing stage for young musicians, busking opportunities, and a broad range of workshops. We've worked hard to honour the festival's traditional legacy while introducing exciting new elements, including a History of Folk Week exhibition.

Since joining Folk Week last September, I was tasked with bringing back some of the festival's most-loved performers from the past decade for an extra-special anniversary lineup. We've secured some of the biggest names in folk, including English folk rock legends Lindisfarne, influential traditional singer Martin Carthy with Eliza Carthy, leading Scottish singer-songwriter Eddi Reader, and the renowned Anglo-Irish quartet Flook, who are also celebrating their 30th anniversary.

Many of our concerts in 2025 will feel more like 'double-bills' than traditional headline-support shows, as we've packed the lineup with talent like



the eclectic Folk/Americana/Roots band Track Dogs, the energetic Noble Jacks, and the sublime Kathryn Roberts and Sean Lakeman, also marking 30 years of performing together. As part of our anniversary we have also expanded our concert series with six additional coffee concerts (11 am–12noon) at Queen’s Road Baptist Church, to include the innovative Goblin Band, Urban Folk Quartet’s banjo player Dan Walsh with concertina master Alistair Anderson, and more.

Dance & Workshops

We are thrilled to announce that our dance program is now in the expert hands of fiddle player and traditional dance caller Alison Rowley. The lineup includes family ceilidhs, a Sparkling Diamond fancy dress ceilidh with Banter, and Jack’s Night Ceilidh, with favourites like Whapweasel and Brown Boots Boogie Band. Our dance workshops will cover a diverse range, from country dance to Tudor dance, Northern and Appalachian clogging.

Family-Friendly Activities

Our free family program at the Bandstand is led daily by experienced educators and ESL interpreters Innovation Creative, with regular visits from our cheeky Hooden Horses and Clarence the Dragon. There will also be a music and craft fair with a busking stage and bar in Victoria Gardens.

Special Events & International Sounds

A festival first: we are hosting a live online Q&A with the iconic Peggy Seeger at The Palace art cinema, hosted by Sally Ironmonger. Mojo Magazine describes Seeger’s life as “the stuff of a rip-roaring blockbuster... illuminating, witty, revelatory, and unflinchingly candid.”

Our world music offerings have expanded too. Saturday’s double-bill features Guinean percussionist Falle Nioke followed by the fantastic Bangladeshi folk fusion band Khiyo. Led by third-generation British-Bengali singer Sohini Alam, Khiyo explores all aspects of Bengali music, from folk tunes to mystical Baul poetry, film themes, protest songs, and even

Continued Overleaf...



Bangladesh's national anthem. Sohini Alam will also lead a Bangladeshi folk workshop. Later in the week, we'll be treated to the infectious rhythms of Zimbabwean four-piece Gonora Sounds, a journey to the backstreets of Paris with Fifi la Mer, and a tour of Poland and Southern Europe with guitarist Rob Luft and Polish jazz/folk singer Alice Zawadzki.

New for 2025: Free Community Hub

One of the most exciting additions for our 60th anniversary is the Free Community Hub at Pierremont Park, supported by Broadstairs and St. Peter's Town Council. This centrally located green space will be a welcoming place for festival goers to picnic, join a session, or sign up to busk. The hub will also house our 60th Anniversary History of Folk Week exhibition, an Introducing Stage for young musicians, free taster sessions, and early evening performances. To honour our roots, we are also planning a special tribute to the original 1966 Folk Shows, scheduled for the end of festival week.

Get Involved!

Did you know you can attend Folk Week for free as a volunteer? We are looking for new Workforce members and would love to hear from you! Email us at volunteers@broadstairsfolkweek.org.uk, or complete the form on our [make it happen > volunteers](#) page.

A Town-Wide Celebration

As one of the UK's longest-running folk festivals, Broadstairs Folk Week fills our beautiful seaside town with over 400 events across eight festival days. From exclusive concerts to our lively Saturday parade, featuring over 25 Morris sides and traditional Kentish Hooden Horses, to free performances for all ages, Folk Week is a true town-wide festival spread across 20+ venues. A key part of Kent's cultural heritage since 1966, Broadstairs Folk Week looks forward to celebrating our 60th anniversary with you!

Kai Hoffman, Festival Director

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A Lifetime of Folk ~ A History of Folk Song at Orpington Folk Club

Three local music enthusiasts launched Orpington Folk Club on the 17th May 1965, Kevin McCabe, Chris Andrews and Terry Sparkes. To advertise the club they performed in Orpington, Bromley and Sidcup High Street. With Terry dressed in a town criers outfit.

The first evening featured a group called "The Levee Breakers" supported by the resident group "The Poachers". It was held at the "Royal Oak", Green Street Green. This was to be the club's home for more than fourteen years, until the pub was refurbished in 1979.

On that first night, over two hundred people attended. So many that the guest group performed outside for 60 or more of those who were unable to get into the room. In its infancy the club regularly featured such notables as Ralph May later to become Ralph McTell (Ralph had his first ever paid gig at Orpington) John Renbourn, Davey Graham, Martin Carthy and Dave Swarbrick. David Bowie and his sidekick Ken "Wild Man" Simons did several floor spots, Wally Whyton, Bill Clifton and many more have all played at the club.



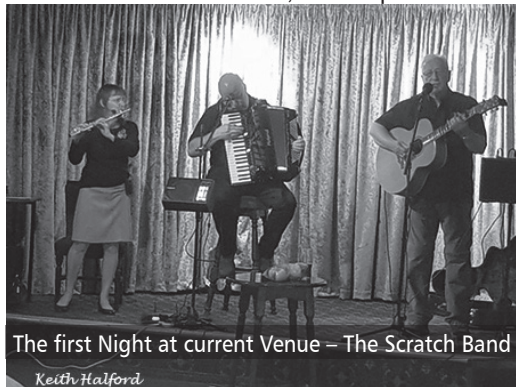
The First Night – The Poachers

Due to a change of ownership and renovations in 1979 the club moved. It found a new home at the 'Royal Albert', Lower road, Orpington. A group of members got together to bring chairs and tables from "The Royal Oak", travelling in convoy to the new venue with items of furniture including a stall sticking out the windows. The change of venue at this time spawned a change in organisation. Some of the mainstays of the club got together to spread the work load and each chipped in £5 to help with the cost of advertising for reopening the following Friday.

Due to alterations, on the 5th November 1982 and the need for more room, the club moved to 'The White Hart', Orpington, situated centrally in the High Street, in the upstairs function room.

In 1986 the club celebrated its 21st birthday, an event marked by the unveiling of a commemorative plaque on the front wall of the pub, a live broadcast by Radio Kent, produced and edited by the late Simon Evans and much loved Charlie Jacobs.

1990 was the club's 25th anniversary year. It was celebrated by making a live recording of the then "Scratch Band", made up of resident musicians and organiser. As part of our



The first Night at current Venue – The Scratch Band

Keith Halford

own celebrations and Bromley council's Arts Festival, 'The Scratch Band' played in concert with Jake Thakray at Coney Hall, near Hayes, Kent. In March there was a special club night sponsored by Bromley Council with John Kirkpatrick and his wife Sue Harris. And finally on the 25th anniversary night the 17th of May, an evening of music was arranged with as many of the original organisers and musicians that could be mustered. The club organised a few open-top bus trips. Stopping off at the 'Norman Conquest'

Rochester for lunch and several Kent village pubs on the way back. Laden with beer, musical instruments and performing to the locals at every opportunity.

After 20 years at The White Hart, Orpington Folk Club had to move. We were able to find a venue at the 'Anglesea Arms' Kent Road, Orpington from 26th September 2002 until 16th December 2004. It was decided that evening to find some where else as the previous landlords had left and we were not made as welcome. After much travelling around looking for a venue we found another home at the 'Change of Horses', Farnborough Village.

May 19th 2005 was the clubs 40th birthday. Many guests, ex-resident singers/musicians and members were invited. Ross Barlow sang a song specially written by him to mark the occasion called, 'When Ralph McTell played Orpington'.

In March 2019 the Change of Horses had to close for an undetermined time. After much searching by us all, in April 2019, we found a venue at the Rosecroft Social Club, St Mary Cray. Our first guest for the new venue was the wonderful Jez Lowe. After being at the Rosecroft Social Club for about a year the owners of the venue have decided to call it a day and close for good.

After 13 months of the dreaded Covid19 lockdown we found a new home. We are now based at The Farnborough Social Club.

Thursday 23rd February 2023, A film crew headed by Rufus Howe from Leeds Beckett University, to make a short documentary about the club, the focus being on keeping the tradition of folk alive. The film is called "Good Folk a Short Documentary"

We shall be celebrating our 60th Anniversary on 22nd May with guests "The Salts".

The current Residents: Ted Handley, Anne Halford, Mike Stapley and Keith Halford are at the helm with a regular following of singers and musicians to keep alive the oldest continuing surviving folk club in historic Kent. All singers and musicians are welcome to perform at the club.

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Egerton Folk and Blues Club

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No paid guest performers, just residents, itinerants and wayfaring strangers (rich or poor).

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Contact details: Jerry 'Hatrack' Crossley
Phone - 07387 382050
Facebook - EgertonFolkandBluesClub



Traditional country dance music and great old songs



- Come to a family-friendly barn dance at the Goudhurst Club on the 26th April, 7-10pm. As well as dances there will be party games. Music by the local u3a tunes group and a professional caller. Entry £6 adults; £3 children; £12 for a family of four. Bring friends for a social night out!
- Julie and Gavin Atkin are accomplished performers of mainly trad songs and tunes, and play a variety of instruments for dancing and song events. Also contact us for information about the Goudhurst and District u3a tunes group and our highly regarded Sunday evening trad-leaning online song and tunes Zoom
- Info: Singdanceandplay.net; email gmatkin@gmail.com

A collage of several covers of the magazine 'Folk London'. The covers feature various artists and interviews, including John White, Alice Nicholson, Karine Polwart, and Angelina Morrison. The text 'Folk London' is prominently displayed at the top. Below the collage, there is a large text box that reads '£18 annual subscription (six editions)'. At the bottom of the collage, there is a text box that reads 'Online CD shop featuring local and grassroots artists'. The website address 'www.folklondon.co.uk' and the Twitter handle '@folklondonmag' are also visible at the bottom.

A NEW DAY, A NEW VERSE

G C G
1. I have no time for Colleges, Such learning I despise;

A D
What I prefer to knowledge is, Conspiracies and lies.

G G7 C C7
Don't care for our health scientists, That clap-trap that they preach;

G D7 G
They don't take heed of my ideas, Like vaccines made of bleach.

2. Why should I trust these specialists, With all their damned degrees;
Prefer the fake news fantasists, To smart-arse expertise.
Who needs these eco warriors, Naivety of youth;
Believe instead keyboard warriors, Who spread the Real Truth.

3. I don't believe in climate change, These weathermen all lie;
We can't afford such lifestyle change, Though rivers might run dry.
Let migrants seek wetter climes, But don't you dark my door;
My people long for better times, I've said we'll have no more.

4. These migrants eat pet animals, Economies they've wrecked;
They're all convicted criminals, Be one in White House next.
My Wall protects this border, Of our Land of the Free;
We'll jail those that cause disorder, Unless rioting for me.

Chorus: I garner popularity, By voicing what some think;
I might cause you hilarity, As I kick up a stink.
No one's thinking's lazier, Or dares to speak so free;
I'll tell you who is crazier, It's those that vote for me.

5. Let's make the US great again, And grate on all their nerves;
Let's let our Golden Age begin, My face and hair just first.
Like Lincoln and Washington, FDR, JFK;
All right, just one Republican, And he got blown away.

6. But we've RFK Junior, Not just to safeguard health;
We need someone who's loonier, Than President himself.
According to his theses, Vaccines should be refused;
It's best to bring back diseases, Than gays, transgenders, Jews.

7. I tell you these air disasters, Are caused by Democrats,
Recruiting Air Traffic masters, From immigrant ex-pats.
Insisting on diversity's, Disastrous in itself,
Their intellect's much worse, you see, Endangering our health.

8. You homeless in California, Deserve no aid for fires;
Your State cannot afford for you, Maintained water supplies.

Your Fire Crews aren't cleverest, Or best equipped no doubt;
Best drain your summer reservoirs, Then let crops die from drought.

9. Let's base our ideologies, On business expertise;
We'll blur the lines of politics, And rebrand what was sleaze.
Those who did invest in us, Will win some fat contracts;
They really must share desks with us, And scratch each others' backs.

10. Let's place tariffs on all China, For we don't need their stuff;
Our home-made goods are all finer, They just cost twice as much.
I'll take on Sumo Wrestlers, If trade wars we must fight;
We have our own US Teslas, To set the world alight.

11. Why don't we annex Canada, To save a lot of fuss?
They don't descend from Spaniards, So largely lots like us.
Trade tariffs cause some anguish, But we've so much to share;
We don't just share common language, They've oil and gas to spare.

12. Hawaiians think they're the newest, To join the USA;
But Greenland's totally US, Just like me, you could say.
Their people aren't all Danish, And won't make any fuss;
We must have more missile bases, And far away from us.

13. If we are to be great again, America comes first;
Let's stop the US Aid Programme, We want our money's worth.
We'll stop support for others, Watch deaths from AIDS increase;
If our drugs business all suffers, That one's a first at least.

14. We don't need United Nations, Don't care for foreign folks;
Nor World Health Organisation, And their Pandemic hoax.
We don't regard it lawful, To have the ICC;
To try our friends is awful, When next it might be me.

15. I am the Planet's peace maker, Due Nobel prize for sure;
Partitioning must be saviour, It's worked so well before.
I'll clean up Gaza's troubles, With Palestinians shipped;
We'll cleanse those folks, then the rubble, To make a hotel strip.

16. I'll simply bang heads together, To bring peace to Ukraine;
We will concede just whatever, Aggressors might have gained.
We'll leave it to side nations, To sort out all the mess;
Despite riots and migrations, I'll claim it my success.

17. Let's plant our flag on Planet Mars, That's quite some real estate;
Recruit some hotel janitors, Golf courses we'll create.
Your organs soon might freeze there, That's quite a way to go;
I'm told take 'one giant leap' there, It's quite a way, I know.

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CD REVIEWS

Flook - Sanju (Flatfish007CD)

Flook's fifth studio album since 1995 features Brian Flinnegan on whistle and wooden flute, Sarah Allen on Alto flute, Ed Boyd on acoustic guitar and John Joe Kelly on bodhran. Various guest musicians add a range of other instruments including viola, piano, synth, ukulele and even Wurlitzer. The five tracks have a playing time of between four and just over seven minutes each and total around 30 minutes. Most of the music was composed by Brian with one tune from Sarah including one, The Farther Shore, in collaboration with Phil Cunningham. As you would expect, there is a noticeable Scottish and Irish tinge to most of the arrangements but also wider influences including Ukraine in. The album lacks much in the way of sleeve notes but information is available on Flook's website. If you are in to tunes then you will definitely enjoy this album.

.....



Reg Meuross - Fire & Dust (A Woody Guthrie's Story) (HAT026)

This CD tells the story of the life and times of Woody Guthrie in 16 songs mainly written by Reg Meuross but also includes some of Woody's own songs; So Long it's Been Good to Know Ya, I Ain't Got No Home in this World Anymore, This Land is Your Land, and Deportees. I've never been a great fan of Reg but I was very impressed with this album and the Woody stories his songs tell so well. The album includes a comprehensive booklet with a seven page introduction by Reg and the words to all the songs. The album was commissioned by the Who's Pete Townshend who also plays on a couple of tracks. There are numerous other guest artists including Phil Beer and Marion Fleetwood, but the arrangements remain clear and precise. The album was launched in January and the album tour runs from March to September and includes St Edith Folk on 7th June, Broadstairs Folk Week on 10th August and Ropetackle Arts in Shoreham on 13th September. Well worth a trip to one of these local venues if you can.

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Gigspanner Big Band - Turnstone (GSCD009)

I've seen Peter Knight's Gigspanner live in concert several times but I've not seen the Big Band although, of course, I've heard them on CD, Youtube, etc. This, their third album, features Peter with Roger Flack, Sacha Trochet, John Spiers, Phillip Henry and Hannah Martin. It features 11 mainly traditional and well known tracks and runs for over an hour, the shortest track, Sovay being 4.27 minutes long and the longest, Northern Frisk / Red Haired Boy / Moth From Upstairs, running for 10.35 minutes. Other tracks include their arrangements of The Rolling of the Stones, Basket of Eggs, and Hard Times Come Again No More / Arthur Peter's Reel. The album was produced by Edd Blakeley. The amount of organisation and management that



goes into organising recording an album like this and putting together the following tour with musicians with many other commitments should not be overlooked and all this hardwork is done by Peter's wife Deborah. I must admit I prefer the smaller Gigsrunner to the Big Band but that may just be my ears not being able to separate all the instrumentation involved. You can make up your own mind by catching them on tour in April at venues including Cranbrook (12th), Canterbury (13th) and Colchester (14th).

Alan Castle (Editor)

PRESS RELEASE - 50 Years of Whitstable Jack-in-the-Green

Celebrations are underway for the 50th consecutive year of Whitstable's Jack-in-the-Green Procession in 2025.

The May bank holiday Monday 5th will feature a Procession with morris dancers, musicians and the arrival of Jack-in-the-Green (a walking bush!), symbolising the start of summer, and leading the dancers up through the town to Whitstable Castle and Gardens.

The fun starts with a very special May Day ceilidh on Saturday 3rd May in Canterbury's Westgate Hall. Original Oysterband members Ian Telfer, John Jones and Alan Prosser will play for a one-off event, along with some very special guests including Ian Kearey, Chris Taylor, Chris Wood, and Ray Sprawson, with caller Chris Rose. Oysterband came out of Duke's Folk, the trailblazing folk club at the Duke of Cumberland, Whitstable and this event comes at the very end of their farewell tour after five decades in the business.

The ceilidh will feature a special guest performance from the legendary Great Western Morris from Exeter who will also join the procession on Monday.

Kerry Fletcher

Nigel Ernest White (September 1954 - January 2025)

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of the founder of Boughton Monchelsea folk club, Nigel White, on 11th January 2025. Nigel encouraged all to come along and sing, play, read poems, whatever they wanted to do as long as it was strictly acoustic. A proud Lancastrian, Nigel joined the R.A.F. at an early age meeting and marrying his wife Hazel. He still carried on his military connections into the T.A. when he left the R.A.F. and moved into international banking rising quickly to major positions. After well earned early retirement, he focused heavily on his church and village work as a parish councillor, vergger, festival organiser, talented musician and band leader. His folk repertoire consisted of many songs of industrial gloom, mining disasters and shipwrecks, in contrast to his happy, sociable, optimistic, and determined character. His memorial service was very well attended and included many musical tributes, from worship to folk. Tunes of a more secular nature followed in the Cock Inn afterwards.

Nigel will be hugely missed, many of us were encouraged to sing in public for the first time by the friendliness of the music sessions he created, but Tony, (the other half of Nigel's singing duo The White Rose and the Red) and Gidge and Ellen (founder members of Boughton Folk Club) will ensure that the monthly folk sessions in the Cock Inn, Boughton Monchelsea continue in the same spirit endures. Boughton Monchelsea folk club is held on the fourth Tuesday of the month from 7.30pm at the Cock Inn, everyone is welcome.



Lewes Saturday Folk Club **Traditional music every Saturday night**

Elephant & Castle, White Hill, Lewes BN7 2DJ 8.00 – 11.00

www.lewessaturdayfolkclub.org

valmaigoodyear@aol.com

01273 476757

Loyalty card: 6 evening visits = £5 off an evening

All payments in cash on the day. Access by staircase.

Assistance dogs only please.

Apr 5 Kathleen O'Sullivan & Jacqueline Hynes

Authentic trad Irish voice & flute. £10 cash

Apr 12 A Sailor Among Tailors Young Trad & Early duo, guitar, harmonica, songs. New Roots 2024 finalists. £8 cash

Apr 19 Easter songs & tunes Bring seasonal items. We serve home-made Easter biscuits. £6 cash.

Apr 26 Carole Etherton & Andrew McKay Songs in trad style about the Gower, South Wales, Crane duet concertina, early woodwind. £10 cash.

May 3 Singing in the May Bring seasonal items. We serve home-made Maids of Honour. £6 cash.

May 10 Come All Ye Bring songs & tunes. £5 cash

May 17 Ken Wilson Unaccompanied trad & trad style songs from one of the great Wilson Family. £12 cash

May 24 Come All Ye Bring songs & tunes. £5 cash

May 31 Belinda Kempster & Fran Foote Mother & daughter sing trad songs from their Essex family repertoire. £12 cash

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SUSSEX FOLK NEWS April/May 2025

The Lamb Folk Club meets on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, upstairs in The Lamb Inn, High Street, Old Town, Eastbourne, BN21 1HH

2nd April 2025 - Chris & Wendy Moreton - chrismoretonmusic.com |- £8 (cash) Pay on the door.

Described by the Independent as 'the best bluegrass guitarist in the country', Chris is indeed a world-class multi-instrumentalist, singer and purveyor of mischievous humour! Add Wendy's excellent double bass and you have the perfect match.

16th April 2025 - Open stage - Singers and musicians all welcome – free entry

7th May 2025 - Steve Tilston - stevetilston.com – £10 (cash) Pay on the door.

One of our most celebrated song smiths, widely recognised within the world of folk and contemporary music; the words, arrangements and subtle, quite superb guitar playing could be no one else.

21st May 2025 - Rosewood Acoustic Trio - rosewoodband.co.uk - £8 (cash) Pay on the door.

A trio comprising 3 members of regular visitors Bof! who sing and play traditional and contemporary songs and instrumentals, some of which they write themselves. Their unique features are the variety of their source material and the range of instruments they play.

HORSHAM

Sunday Evenings at 8 pm (doors open 7:45) at:

The Normandy Centre Denne Road, Horsham, West Sussex RH12 1JF

Sunday 6th April - Song and Dance

Songs, tunes and poems from members & visitors plus dancing to our excellent ceilidh band.

Beginners and experts alike are welcome and our experienced callers ensure everyone can work their way through the dances with enjoyment. Admission: Members £2; Non-members £4.



Sunday 13th April - Cohen Braithwaite-Kilcoyne

Cohen Braithwaite-Kilcoyne is at the forefront of his generation of English folk musicians as both a powerful and commanding singer and a masterful player of the Anglo concertina and melodeon. Since bursting onto the scene in his teens, Cohen has amassed a string of awards and nominations, including a nomination for the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards Horizon Award in 2018, and has toured extensively across the UK and abroad, both as a soloist and with the much-loved

energetic trio Granny's Attic. Expect traditional songs and tunes along with some self-penned material and a few surprises along the way.

A spine-tingling traditional folk performer, Cohen Braithwaite-Kilcoyne (Granny's Attic) is a fine player of both the melodeon and Anglo concertina. His rich voice soars through a range of historical ballads, industrial songs and shanties, with a particular penchant for material from the West Midlands, where he's lived for much of his life.

Admission £10 (Members £7)

Sunday 20th April - Open Floor

Our open floor nights are an opportunity for anyone to try a song, a tune or a poem knowing they have a sympathetic audience, although there is no obligation to perform, and

those who simply like to listen are welcome.

Admission: Members £2; Non-members £4



Sunday 27th April - Open Floor & SPOTLIGHT on Sally Wilton

Our open floor nights are an opportunity for anyone to try a song, a tune or a poem knowing they have a sympathetic audience, although there is no obligation to perform, and those who simply like to listen are welcome.

Tonight Sally Wilton will have the spotlight to herself as she entertains us with her beautiful, clear interpretations of folk - and other - songs.

Admission: Members £2; Non-members £4

CHICHESTER

Lewes

5 APRIL - KATHLEEN O'SULLIVAN & JACQUELYN HYNES - £10 cash

Kathleen offers Irish traditional singing at its finest, with flute from Jacquelyn Hynes (Associate Professor, Leeds Conservatoire). Jacquelyn has played alongside and supported many of Ireland's leading artists including Martin Hayes, Michael McGoldrick, Mary Coughlan & Lunasa & toured with Liam Ó Maonlaí.

12 APRIL - A SAILOR AMONG TAILORS - £8 cash

A young folk duo based in Leeds: Rowan Scourfield (guitar, bass, percussion) & Perseus Morgan (harmonica, piano) They play traditional folk tunes from the 16th Century to the present day & are students at Leeds Conservatoire. They were finalists in New Roots 2024 & played at Sidmouth Folk Festival the same year.

19 APRIL - EASTER SONGS & TUNES - £6 cash

Bring songs & tunes for the season. We serve home-made Easter biscuits.

26 APRIL - CAROLE ETHERTON & ANDREW MCKAY - £10 cash

Andrew (Crane duet concertina) & Carole (early woodwind) sing mostly entertaining, evocative & exciting songs written by Andrew in traditional style about the history & folklore of his native South Wales.

3 MAY - SINGING IN THE MAY - £6 cash

Bring songs & tunes for the season. We serve home-made Maids of Honour, a traditional May treat made with cream cheese, almonds, eggs, lemons, currants & pastry.

10 MAY - COME ALL YE - £5 cash

Bring songs, tunes, poems, stories. Vocal & instrumental groups are welcome. A good night to try performing in public for the first time to friendly listeners. Derek Seed is in the chair.

17 MAY - KEN WILSON - £12 cash

Ken is one of that glorious vocal powerhouse The Wilsons. He's also a compelling solo singer with a wide range of traditional & new songs.

24 MAY - COME ALL YE - £5 cash

Bring songs, tunes, poems, stories. Vocal & instrumental groups are welcome. A good night to try performing in public for the first time to friendly listeners. Derek Seed is in the chair.

31 MAY - BELINDA KEMPSTER & FRAN FOOTE - £12 cash

A mother & daughter duo singing traditional songs from their native Essex with great charm & authenticity. Many of their songs were learned from Belinda's great uncle, farm labourer Ernie Austin, who was recorded for Topic's 'Voice of the People' series in 1974.

Vic Smith

This issue of Around Kent Folk was produced by Alan Castle and Andy Wood on behalf of Tenterden Folk Festival. Promoting folk song, music, dance, crafts and traditions. Registered Charity No 1038663

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Then ...

18th April 2025 – June / July

18th October 2025 - December / January

18th June 2025 – August / September

18th December 2025 – February / March

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AIF

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Dan Walsh & Alistair Anderson | Noble Jacks

Angeline Morrison, Cohen Braithwaite-Kilcoyne, John Palmer

& Jon Bickley | Peggy Seeger in conversation

Fire & Dust: a Woody Guthrie Story | Granny's Attic

Cider House Rebellion with Molly Donnery | Whapweasel

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