
The English Folk Dance and Song Society South Hants District Newsletter

5p

NEWS FROM THE DISTRICT.

AGM - Riverside Inn, Winchester.

A reminder that the AGM will be held at 6pm, May 5th., at the Riverside Inn, Winchester. The committee hope that as many members as possible will attend, to use their vote and to support the society in the area.

National Folk Day - events are now organised throughout the day and the tickets for the evening ceillidhs will soon be on sale. The District Sec. now has some blank posters and car stickers available for you to advertise what you are doing on the day, these can be collected at the AGM or sent on if you ring and say how many you want. A list of events for this day will be published in the next issue.

Southampton Show - July 7th, 8th, 9th. - after our contribution to the show last year, as a member of Southampton Arts Council, we are invited to take part again. The committee were pleased with last year's effort, and we are inviting anyone who may like to be included, or who would like to offer help to contact the secretary as soon as possible.

Allen Harper.

We received a telephone call the other day from Allen, who is now home again and recovering from a very worrying ordeal in hospital. He sounded bright and cheerful, and told us that he is going to have a rest until September, when he hopes to resume calling. He asked us to pass on his thanks to the many friends who have written to him and sent their regards whilst he was in hospital. We look forward to seeing you at the A.G.M., Allen.

Festivals.

Just a reminder that we would welcome comments about any of this year's festivals that you may attend, but please let us have them as soon after the festival as possible.

Letters to the Editor.

Having constantly tried to get people to write to me (as Editor, that is), the first letter I do get is in support of a venture with which I am involved. However, the writer has threatened me with grievous bodily harm if I don't publish it, so it appears elsewhere in this issue!

Future Issues.

It is hoped to bring out a bumper issue of Solent Waves in July, mainly for distribution at the Southampton Show. This will only be possible if we can boost the advertising, and also if we have articles to print. If anyone would like a special article included, particularly anything telling the general public about your folk activities, please let us have the information BY THE END OF MAY if at all possible. Thanks. Also, it is not planned to produce a 'Solent Waves' in August, due to the complications of holidays and general lack of local activities.

WOODFIDLEY IN THE ISLE OF MAN.

Car ny Rankie, Peter O'Tavey and Car y Phoosee may be familiar to many of our audiences as they are the names of some of the Manx dances Woodfidley have performed over the last few years. These dances came to the team from two of its members who learnt them at University from a Manxman. Woodfidley aim to perform dances from the British Isles and we decided to try and learn some more Manx dances. Going to the horse's mouth, as it were, David Slater, our leader, wrote to Mona Douglas, who originally collected the Manx dances. This resulted in an invitation to the Island to learn the dances direct from a Manx dance team called Bock Yuan Fannee (the Manx equivalent of Shanks's pony).

We accepted (of course !) and set about finding the cheapest way to travel over to the Isle of Man. The Southern Tourist Board were very helpful and not only arranged a cheap flight with British Island Airways, but also gave us a grant towards expences. In return, the team distributed specially printed leaflets about the South of England. So, on Easter Tuesday, in the rain, we drove to Blackpool Airport for the flight to Ronaldsway. The Island welcomed us with bright sunshine and we were driven by coach to Quayles Hall, Ramsey, where we were to stay.

For the first three days, we used our 'bus rover' tickets to travel around the Island, dancing in Laxey, Douglas, Castletown and Peel. The Manx people were very friendly and I think we must have lost count of the number of complete strangers who started conversations on buses, in streets, almost everywhere. On Saturday the real work started, learning the dances from Bock Yuan Fannee. They taught us a number of dances, including some which are unpublished. We hope to show some of them for the first time at the Winchester Folk Festival.

Mona Douglas has invited us back to the Isle of Man in August, for Yn Chruinnaght. This means 'the Assembly' and is a kind of Manx eisteddfod. It died out during the War and they are hoping to revive it this year. We are staying on for a holiday this time, but we have to learn the dances before then - and save up the pennies !

Slaynt !

Mike Holloway.

WHEN I FIRST CAME TO THIS LAND.

You may recognise the title above as that of a popular folk song. In that respect, you are quite correct. Unfortunately, one night after a rather energetic session of merris dancing, King Jehn's Merris got hold of it, and the following variation was born. A number of other verses were suggested, but we felt that we dare not print them - beer can't do that, can it ?

When I first came to this land, I was not a healthy man,
So I bought a pint of beer, I drank what I could.
On H.S.B. I could not see.
For the beer is sweet and good, if it's from the wood.

In subsequent verses, the third line is gradually added to :-

Watneys Red sent me to bed,
Winter Ale made me pale,
Pempey Royal made me boil,
Royal Oak made me creak,
Badger Breck gave me a shock,
I.B.A. made me sway,
Pedigree was ecstasy,
Director's bitter made me fitter.

We cannot verify the effects stated above, and suggest that you find appropriate hostelries and examine the results yourself.

WINCHESTER FOLK FESTIVAL.

For the fifth time, the first Saturday in May will greet the Winchester folk festival in 1978. It is always easy to criticise the arrangements of any event, both before and after, and so many things are governed by the vagueries of the weather, but looking at an advance programme, David Slater, the festival director, seems to have most possibilities covered. The variety of events seems better than ever, and most of the time I think the majority of people will have difficulty in making a choice. A very good 'planner' type programme is available for 10p, which should help you in making decisions. Just to get you started.....

Friday May 5th. Guildhall Main Hall, Grand Festival Ceilidh,
7.30 pm. Pete Chadbund and Chandlers n-Some, plus singers
and dancers from the festival.

ALSO..... Riverside Inn, Come All Ye with Winchester Morris Men.
ALSO..... Y.H.A., Festival Folk Concert, Barry Lockyer, Cutty
Wren Folk Club and guests.

Season tickets for all Saturdays events may be obtained from the Festival Office in the Guildhall on Friday evening or after 9.00 am on Saturday.

Programmes can be obtained from Winchester Travel Service Ltd., The Pentice, and Stina Swedish Design and Craft, Jewry Street, or by post from David Slater, 3 Swanmore Park House, Swanmore, Southampton.

See you there !!

ROMSEY FOLK FESTIVAL.

And talking of folk festivals, let us look retrospectively at 'Folk Under Aries', the Romsey folk festival, which took place in mid-April. It is difficult when you are "involved" to try and judge the overall impression of a festival, and unfortunately, no-one else has proffered any comments. However, no-one that I have spoken to had anything significantly bad to say about it, and everyone looked happy. Presumably that included the people of Romsey who managed to force the festival out of the town centre, because unless you were in the area of the Crossfield Hall or one of the other event venues, you wouldn't have known anything was happening.

Which prompts me to ask - what makes a series of events into a festival? First and foremost, it must not only have the consent of the town involved, but that town must be seen to be actively supporting it. Secondly, the town must be given something by the people coming in to perform. Don't push the people into the back streets to dance, don't push the singers into the remotest corner of a dingy pub, surround them by their three best friends, and leave them to practice their latest 468 verse dirge. Thirdly, the organisers must ask themselves WHY? and then think for a while about their answer. If your festival is for the "folky", what right have we to take over a town? If it is for the town, are we able to present their folk heritage to them, and are they really prepared to be bombarded by what is, to a lot of towns-people, an alien music? Festivals are becoming two-a-penny, and soon there are not going to be enough venues, organisers, artistes, etc., to go around. It may be a lot easier and more effective to stage a one-night festival in your local pub - this is often done by local Morris sides - the cost is negligible, and if successful, can easily be repeated next week!

But back to Romsey. I feel that SCoFF did a very good job under some difficult circumstances. 'Folk Under Aries' was a success. 'Romsey Folk Festival' failed miserably. Perhaps SCoFF should stick to what they do well - organising song clubs - and leave 'festivals' to be organised by people with a wider outlook on the folk scene..... or come to EFDSS for advice - that's what we are here for.



Sponsored by the Berkshire District of the
ENGLISH FOLK DANCE AND SONG SOCIETY

THE SIXTH BERKSHIRE MIDSUMMER FOLK FESTIVAL

23-25 JUNE 1978
Whitehouse Farm
Spencers Wood ~ Reading

ADULT SEASON TICKETS
before 1st June £4.75
*EFDSS members £4.25
after -- -- £5.25 (all)
(+50p if camping)

Bookings/Enquiries/Programmes 15p
Mrs E Johnson
31 Angel Mead, Woolhampton,
nr READING, Berks.
Woolhampton 2708

Pete & Chris Coe • Muckram Wakes • Ken Langsbury
The New Victory Band • Bernie Parry • Ray Fisher
Packie Byrne & Bonnie Shaljean • Squire • Hugh Rippon
Hugh Crabtree • Ian Dunmur • Johnny Collins
Whittakers Patent Remedy • Jenny Millett • Curate's Egg
Pumpkin Pie • Dave Williams • Dick Hewitt • Paddy O'Neill
Shepherds Race • Kitsyke Will • Berkshire Tragedy
Concerts • Ceilidhs • Singarounds • Crafts
Workshops • Morris • Children's Events • etc

Starts with GRAND CEILIDH - FRIDAY at 8pm.

S.A.E. with ALL Enquiries & Orders - Please

THE EDELWEISS BAVARIAN SHOWBAND.

Yes, you did read the title correctly, and the person responsible for it is Stewart Marshall of Portsmouth. Stewart 'phoned me recently because they are looking for musicians to augment their existing line-up, so I took the opportunity of discussing the band with him.

The band at the moment consists of five professional musicians, playing clarinet, saxophone, electronic accordion, bass and percussion, and taking their turns on vocals. A lot of their material is the sort of pub sing - along material that everyone knows and enjoys, but their specialities are initially given away by their traditional bavarian costumes. They introduce to their audience a range of traditional Bavarian songs and tunes, imported direct from West Germany, and to assist in the comprehension of these, and to improve audience participation, they distribute song sheets written both in English and German.

The band is obviously capable of doing a wide range of engagements, from music for dancing to the more formal concert, via the pub sing-along type of evening, most of which they already have experience of and are keen to repeat. Of interest to other musicians is that certain venues lend themselves to a larger band, and thus Stewart is looking out for more musicians on a semi-professional part-time basis. He is particularly looking for an accordion, two trumpets, a trombone and a bass, so if anyone plays these instruments and you fancy trying your skills with traditional Bavarian music, give Stewart a ring on Portsmouth 699315, or write to him at 27 Childe Square, Stamshaw, Portsmouth.

Of course, if you would like to book the band, or to know more about them, I'm sure Stewart would be glad to hear from you.

BANDS AND CALLERS

CONTACTABAND

Folk dance bands and callers.
Tel. Totton 7234.

CHANDLERS n-SOME

Band and caller.
Tel. Fair Oak 2758

BURSLEDON VILLAGE BAND

Band (and caller)
Tel. Bursledon 2255.

GARRY AND THE HAYMAKERS

Band and caller.
Tel. Horndean 593674

CORN RIGS

Folk dance band.
Tel. Southampton 773715.

FOR SALE

EKO TIVOLI ORGAN, single manual, chord buttons, rhythm unit, very compact. V.G.C., still under guarantee. £140 o.n.o.
Tel. Winchester 2797.

BELSTAF FRAME TENT, 14'x7'x7' high, plus kitchen extension 7'x4', inner 7'x7' (all approx.) Heavy canvas (not nylon), steel frame. Good condition, well run in for Folk Camps and festivals. Offers around £45 to Pete and Sue,
Tel. Fair Oak 2758.

KLINGER STEREO RECORD PLAYER compact deck / amplifier two separate speakers, recently overhauled, new cartridge. £25 o.n.o. Headphones extra.
Tel: Southampton 558663.

TRANSPORT

MUSICIAN joining Folk Band class at Chandlers Ford in September willing to share transport. Gosport / Fareham area.
Tel: Gosport 23607.



Anchor

 FOLK CLUB

TUESDAY EVENINGS

8.00 - 10.30

ANCHOR INN, EAST STREET, SOUTHAMPTON



Abbey Court Print Ltd
DESIGN & PRINT

2 The Broadway, Winchester
Hampshire
Telephone Winchester 60526

MUSICAL INSTRUMENT REPAIRS (free needs and strings)

Psalteries, dulcimers, etc.,
built to order.

Pete Chadbund, 82 Sandy Lane,
Fair Oak. Tel. Fair Oak 2758.

MAKE YOUR OWN RECORDS & CASSETTES TO SELL AT YOUR GIGS

TAPES FOR AGENTS ETC

P.A. HIRE - ALL EVENTS

HAMPSHIRE STUDIOS EASTLEIGH 613339

FOLK AND CLASSICAL guitar tuition

Beginners & Advanced
Professional Teachers

THE CLASSICAL GUITAR CENTRE
59 St. Mary's St. Soton. 20573

THE DISTRICT REGISTER giving all the local folk contacts

50p + A4 SAE. From Sue Chadbund,
82 Sandy Lane, Fair Oak, Eastleigh

DISTRICT PROGRAMME.

May	1	e	11.30-4.30		May Day Fete, St James' Park, Shirley. King Johns Morris, Fryern Morris Minors. Solent Country Dancers, EFDSS stall.
	5	e	7.30	CNS+PC	Winchester Festival Ceilidh.
	6	e			WINCHESTER FESTIVAL. Details Bishops Waltham 2591.
	6	e	6		EFDSS AGM, Riverside Inn, Winchester.
	8	d	7.30	N8	Centre 66, Cranbury Rd, Eastleigh.
	12	d	7.30	IS+JT	St. Boniface CH. Hall, Shirley.
	13	d	8-11	HAY+GT	St. Claires Farm, Corhampton. Tics. Droxford 642.
	13	c	8-11	CNS+PC	Scout HQ, Botley Rd, Fair Oak.
	16	d	8-11	OPP+GD	Priory Hall, Christchurch.
	18	c	8-11	HAY+AH	Ponderosa, N. Boarhunt.
	20	d	8	WCD+NC	Twyford Village Hall. Tics. 22, Twyford Rd, E/L.
	20	d	8-12	CNS+AO	Meon Bye Farm, Tichfield. Tics. Tich. 41388.
	22	cc	8-10.30	WCD+DS	St Peters Ch. Hall, Bishops Waltham.
	24	e	7.30	EFDC	Longsword Wksp, Guide Hut, Woodside Ave, Eastleigh.
	26-29				Lacock and Chippenham Folk Festival.
June	1	d	8-11		Winchester Guildhall.
	2	c		CNS+PC	Alton Festival Ceilidh.
	3	e			ALTON FOLK FESTIVAL.
	9/10/11				CHRISTCHURCH FOLK FESTIVAL.
	10	d	7.30	IS+AH	St. Philips Church Hall, Cosham.
	12	d	7.30	EFDC	Centre 66, Cranbury Rd, Eastleigh.
	13	d	8-11	OPP+RD	Priory Hall, Christchurch.
	15	d	8-11	CNS+PC	Ponderosa, N. Boarhunt.
	17	e			NATIONAL FOLK DAY, three area CEILIDHS.
			8.	CNS+PC	Waterlooville Community Centre.
			8.	BVB+JT	St Edmunds Art Centre, Salisbury.
			8.	V+BG	Eastleigh Tech. College.
	23/25				BERKSHIRE MIDSUMMER FOLK FESTIVAL.
	24	d	8-12	TVB+S	Hatt Farm, Motisfont. Tics. Lockerly 40722.
	26	cc	8.	WCD+DS	St Peters Ch. Hall, Bishops Waltham.
	28		7.30	EFDC	Guide Hut, Woodside Ave, Eastleigh.

Key to abbreviations.

EFDC	Eastleigh Folk Dance Club	WCD	Wessex Country Dance Band.
CNS	Chandlers n-Some	HAY	Haymakers
AO	Alex Orba.	PC	Pete Chadbund
OPP	Old Pull and Push	AH	Allen Harper
IS	Ichen Scratch	NC	Nigel Close
JT	John Turner	GT	Gary Thomas
BVB	Burseldon Vill. Band	DS	David Slater
TVB	Test Valley Band	S	Sibby
BG	Brian Gurney		
V	The Villagers.		

Phone numbers are only given where tickets are required.

c - ceilidh cc - ceilidh club d - dance e - special event.
.....

MORRIS TOURS.

Further information from Knightwood oak to add to last month's list.

June	9-11			CHRISTCHURCH FESTIVAL
	15	Thu	20.00	RINGWOOD, High Corner.
			20.45	REDSHOOT, Nr. Ringwood.
			21.30	HIGHTOWN, Ringwood, Elm Tree.
	17	Sat		PURBECK Day Tour (courtesy Bourne River and Bourne Bumpers) inc. Lytchet Matravers Carnival, 15.00
	23-25			BERKSHIRE MIDSUMMER FESTIVAL
	29			I.O.W. with Men of Wight.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Dear Mr Editor,

Writing to 'Solent Waves' about folk dancing is of course preaching to the converted. However it is your own 'Fair Oak Folk' evenings that I write about, as from what you say it seems that unless there is more regular support then the evenings that I am certain have given a great deal of folk fans a great deal of pleasure will not continue in the autumn.

So, dear readers, make a note of a special date, Saturday MAY 13th, the last Fair Oak Folk evening, unless Pete and Chandlers n-Some can be persuaded to carry on. If you are quite unable to make it, then telephone Pete on Fair Oak 2758, or write and explain why you have been unable or unwilling to make a regular date of Fair Oak Folk.

Many have come, enjoyed themselves but not come again. Is it 'no bar', is it, in your opinion 'for dancers only', is the Scout Hut too small, or too crowded when a good crowd turns up. Pete would like to know and unless you do something about it then another excellent venture will cease.

Come on May 13th, an easy date to remember, and raise the roof when Pete says 'shall we carry on in the autumn' with a thunderous YES and then come regularly, and you won't fail to enjoy yourselves.

Barbara Duffner.

For the enlightenment of those that don't know, Chandlers n-Some started Fair Oak Folk a little over two years ago, with the idea of running a village 'hop' and providing a practice night for the band. In the first year, attendances averaged about 50, which is what we hoped, but few were villagers, about half were raw beginners each month, and most of the others friends. The atmosphere was - and still is - very friendly, but we thought that it was not fair for the regulars to have to keep doing the same basic dances, which are done at a lot of other dances, to pacify the beginners. The situation was rationalised during the past season by assuming that everyone knew the basics of dancing, and the beginners got pushed along - and came back for more. We got through lots of new and interesting dances, but the average attendance was only around thirty, which means that we just cover our costs. Saturday is a busy night for any band, and although we enjoy the evening, we could be out giving enjoyment to 200 people. Thus, we have decided to try to find an alternative venue that is available on a Friday night, not too large (say 100 people) and readily accessible to bus routes, etc. If anyone can suggest anywhere, please give me a ring. Editor.

The above letter really manages to spot-light a fundamental difficulty that many dance-orientated activities meet at one time or another, that of falling attendances. The biggest problem seems to be, not one of attracting the people, but one of attracting a regular group of people, large enough to make the event viable. Folk song clubs run weekly, in general, and seem to keep the regulars plus a few extras. Their venue costs are comparatively low, and they have a large source of cheap - if not free - artists available. Dances involve bands who, if they are any good, are usually semi-professional, with expensive P.A equipment to maintain; alternatively records may be used, but with a rather different feel about the proceedings. Generally speaking, rooms large enough to dance in are expensive to hire, and also difficult to find. Would the regular dancers prefer regular weekly dances for small numbers, and to records, or a band ?

continued on back page.

continued.

Have you thought recently about how well off the average folk dancer must be nowadays ? I remember, about seven years ago, paying 2s 6d (12½p) to go to a folk song club, and between 5s and 7s 6d (25p and 37½p) to go to a dance, depending generally on the size of hall - but these were dancers dances, not beginners. Even dance club admission, to dance to records, was about the same as for song clubs. But song club admission has increased three or four times (although most of the artists still cost nothing !) while dance prices have doubled, or slightly more. Folk dance bands are still relatively cheap compared with normal dance bands - and are, for example , The Albion Dance Band, really worth four times as much as a local dance band?

We often get 'phone calls from people who ask why is there no regular dance in Southampton. Well, the St. Denys/Coal Porters venture failed due to lack of support, even though admission was reasonable, the band was one of the most experienced locally, and there were a variety of good callers. So come on, dancers, don't be fickle. Put pen to paper and tell us what you really do want. There are plenty of people here waiting to organise it for you ! P.S. Come on then !!

SONG CLUB ROUND-UP.

Sunday	Centre Hotel Cutty Wren Den of Folk	Pembroke Park, Portsmouth. Station Hotel, Totton. Market House Tavern, Forton Rd, Gosport.
Monday	Anvil Bugle Railway	Duke of Wellington, Bugle St, Soton. West Street, Fareham. Claremont Road, Fratton, Portsmouth.
Tuesday	Anchor King Alfred's College	East Street, Southampton. Student Union Building, Winchester.
Wednesday	Broadside	Old House at Home, Locksway Rd, Eastney.
Thursday	Dr. Hobb's Jug of Punch New Sarum Sussex Barn	The King Alfred, Saxon Rd, Winchester. Black Dog, Havant. St. Edmunds Arts Centre, Salisbury. (Fortnightly) Bull's Head, Fishbourne, Sussex.
Friday	Den of Folk Fo'c'sle	Market House Tavern, Forton Rd, Gosport. Joiners Arms, St. Mary's St, Soton.

EDITORIAL INFORMATION

Publication : 1st. of each month
Copy date : 7th. of each month
Correspondence to the editor :
Peter R. Chadbund
82 Sandy Lane
Fair Oak, Eastleigh
Hants. SO5 7GB.
Tel. Fair Oak 2758.

ADVERTISING RATES (Pre-paid)

Classified - 50p per entry
up to 20 words.
Patch - £1 per entry for
25 words or 6
lines by ½ page.
Display - ½ page £5
¼ page £3
⅛ page £2

DISTRICT COMMITTEE.

Chairman John Turner, 32 Radway Road, Shirley, Southampton.
Tel. Soton 773226

Secretary Sue Chadbund, 82 Sandy Lane, Fair Oak, Eastleigh.
Tel. Fair Oak 2758

Membership Secretary Cheryl Jordan, 20 Monks Road, Winchester.
Tel. Winchester 66491