



SOLENT WAVES



Newsletter of the Folk Association of South Hants

No. 468

February 2025

FASH 'Chat' – Carolling

For over fifty years, I have wanted to take part in the Sheffield and Derbyshire carolling tradition. This year it ran from 11th November through to 3rd January, including 160 events, which is a long time to spend there, so on 7th December I went to the 'Festival of Village Carols', which has been organised for about 30 years by a committee under Ian Russell. The exact location varies each year, but this time was in Grenoside, just north of Sheffield itself. The Festival is supported by the West Gallery Association, which is perhaps best known in this area through 'The Madding Crowd.'

This festival is not for the fainthearted; it started at 9:45am and went through to 11:15pm, with breaks for lunch and evening meal. Moreover, for quite a bit of that time, we were handed sheet music written in four-part harmony and given the instructions "Off you go!" During the workshop we sang many carols that are far from well known outside the region, such as 'Egypt', 'Once More', 'Prospect' and 'Fleecy Care'. However, by way of a break we were also treated with twelve from The Redruth Carol Choir, six from the 'Traveller's Rest' pub in Oughtibridge and a performance of three from the 'Royal Hotel' in Dungworth by four school age violinists. This last is perhaps an indication of the latest threat to the carolling tradition, since the pub closed its doors in March 2024, after being the local for over 200 years. Like so many pubs, there was just not enough custom for it to be viable.

Nevertheless, the carollers are not giving up! We had these young instrumentalists – 'The Royal Quartet' - while the main singers have moved a little way down the road to meet in 'The Old Band Room', which is, I gather, a community centre of sorts.

The Festival usually has a visiting guest from elsewhere, and this year it was a researcher and choir from Redruth in Cornwall. Like the Sheffield and Derbyshire carols, this research was not a record of what happened in the past, but part of a project based on visiting lots of places in Cornwall and recording what is still being sung in the pubs, clubs and streets. Redruth used to be a major centre for Cornish carols – the original collectors and several songsmiths came from there – but there was little still current in the town until this choir was created. Accompanying this project is a book 'Hark! The Glad Sound of Cornish Carols'.

Another notable event at the Festival was the publication of a manuscript from the village of Eyam. This consists of a photocopy of the manuscript then a second copy where everything has been transcribed much more clearly. A goodly proportion of these were not known from elsewhere.

As those interested in carols will know, there are an inordinate number of tunes for 'While Shepherds Watched'. The Cornish project found 34 sung there, though the book includes a mere eight (plus a local version of

'Lyngham'). The Eyam manuscripts add another one, though I haven't checked to see if it is distinct from other local versions.

So, all in all, a very interesting experience.

I will probably go again next year, unless I go to one of the other areas where a carolling tradition continues.

Dave McGlade – FASH Treasurer

DANCE DIARY

FEBRUARY

Monday 8.00-10.00 Beaus of the Park FDC. Mostly Playford. Church of the Resurrection Hall, Penarth Avenue, Drayton, PO6 2AP. Sue Bradshaw 02392 713158 <http://beausdance.weebly.com>
3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th.

Monday 7.30-10.00 Bournemouth FDC. The Annunciation Church Hall, 218 Charminster Road, Bournemouth, BH8 9RW. Liz Neal 07471 207563 chair@bfdc.club www.bfdc.club
3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th.

Monday 7.30-10.00 Eastleigh Folk Dance Club. Railway Institute, Romsey Road, Eastleigh, SO50 9FE. Live music. 02380 252248 www.facebook.com/Eastleigh.folk.dance.club
10th, caller Nigel Close, 24th, caller Barrie Bullimore.

Monday 8.00-10.30 Southampton Irish Set Dancers, Immaculate Conception Church Hall, 346 Portswood Road, Southampton, SO17 3SB. Traditional Irish (square) set dances. £5, contact: southamptonirishset@gmail.com
3rd, 10th, 24th. (check dates via email before travelling)

Tuesday 1.45 for 2.00 start. Isle of Wight Folk Dance Club. Wootton Methodist Church Hall, IOW PO33 4RE. contact Elaine Shiers iowshiers@gmail.com.
4th, 11th, 18th, 25th.

Tuesday 7.30-9.30. Salisbury Folk Dance Club, St. Martin's School, Shady Bower, Salisbury, SP1 2RG. www.salisburyfolkdance.org.uk/ Contact Chris Nettle on chairsfdc@hotmail.com
4th, 11th, John Turner with Pete and Sue Hall, 18th, 25th.

Tuesday 8.00 Solent CDC. Bedhampton Community Centre, Havant, PO9 3ES. Caller Sue Bradshaw. 02392 713158 <http://solentdance.weebly.com>
4th, 11th, 18th, 25th.

Tuesday 10.00 Stubbington International Folk Dance Group. Roman Catholic Church Hall, Bells Lane, Stubbington, PO14 2PL. £7.00 including refreshments. Bob Neal 01329 609589 / 07748009838. neal.bob61@gmail.com
11th, 25th.

Wednesday 7.40-9.20 Chichester Country Dance Group, St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Sherborne Road, Chichester, PO19 3AG. Most Wednesdays with holiday periods. chichestercountrydancegroup@gmail.com
5th, 12th, 19th, 26th.

Thursday 7.30-9.30 Fordingbridge English Country Dancing, Godshill Village Hall, Fordingbridge SP6 2LG. <https://brodsue.wixsite.com/countrydancing> fbcountrydance@gmail.com
6th, 13th, 20th, 27th.

Thursday 7.30 Highcliffe Folk Dance Club, Greystones House, Waterford Road, Highcliffe BH23 5JL. Jan Harris 01202 427523 janharris16@hotmail.co.uk. <https://highcliffecountrydancing.weebly.com/>
6th, 13th, 20th, 27th.

2 10.30-3.30 **FASH** Workshop. Durley Memorial Hall, SO32 2AD. Caller Louise Siddons with Linda Game & Ali Messer (Box of Frogs). Workshop title "Not Quite and Mostly Contra". £12, FASH members £9. BYO lunch.

5 2.00-4.30 Woodlands Folk Dancers. Woodlands Village Hall, Verwood Road, Woodlands, BH21 8LJ. Caller John Turner with Pete and Sue Hall. Tea and coffee provided, bring your own mug. Contacts 07888 759471, 07471 207563 or 07749 206499

6 7.30-10.00 Shawford Parish Hall, Pearson Lane, SO21 2AA. "as many as will", The Best of English Country Dance. Caller Nigel Close. 01962 714220 nigelclose9@gmail.com

- 9 2:30-5:30 Sunday Afternoon Contra Dance, The Jurgens Centre, 91 Harvest Rd, Englefield Green, Egham. TW20 0QR. Caller Mark Elvins with Box of Frogs. £10 a ticket. www.ashfordfolkdancers.org.uk/contradances/
- 12 2.00-3.30 FolkActive Dance with Live Music for the over-50s. Freemantle and Shirley Community Centre, SO15 3HE. Details from www.folkactive.org.uk/wellbeing/folkactive-dances.
- 12 8.00-10.30 Solent Contras, Shawford Parish Hall, Pearson Lane, Shawford, SO21 2AA. Callers Barrie Bullimore and friends. Doors open 7.45 £5 (cards accepted). solentcontra@gmail.com
- 14 7.30-10.00 Kimmeridge Keilidh. Kimmeridge Village Hall, The Etches Collection BH20 5PE. Arish Mel Ceilidh Band with caller Teresa Williams. £7.50 on the door, no bar so BYO drinks and nibbles. www.earwicker.org/arish_mel.htm
- Sat 15 3.00 - 5.45 East Dorset Folk Dance Club. St. Mark's Church Hall, Hinton Wood Ave., Highcliffe, BH23 5AA. Caller Liz Neal. £6 per person. Bring and Share tea. Contact: Jan Harris 01202 427523, janharris16@hotmail.co.uk. <https://edfdc.weebly.com/>
- 19 8.00 Sams Stepping. Samuel's Rest, Upper Church Rd., Shedfield, SO32 2JB. Southern Step Dancing Session. Jo and Simon Harmer 01489 899023. jo@folkactive.org.uk
- Sat 22 7.00-10.00 PDSW February Ceilidh. Pavilion Dance South West, Westover Road, Bournemouth, BH1 2BU. Dance to Bristol Ceilidh Quartet with caller Erin Mansfield. Adult £17, concessions £14. Box Office 01202 203630, or book via www.pdswh.org.uk/whats-on/ Fully licensed bar available. Doors open 6.30.
- Sat 22 7.30-11.00 SHOCC Ceilidh. The Hilt (Cuckoo Bushes Hall), Chandlers Ford, SO53 5NP. Caller Emma Wooders with The Diatonics Ceilidh Band. Ian Nichols 07765820919 www.shocc.co.uk/
- 23 10.30-3.30 SusFA Sunday Workshop, Pulborough Village Hall, RH20 2BP. Caller Janet Douglas, workshop title "Slightly Foreign Dances from Abroad". £10, tea and coffee available, bring a picnic lunch. <http://susfa.interfolk.co.uk/events/index.html> For details call Janet Douglas 01243 265010
- 27 7.00-9.00 WinQeilidh. The Nutshell Arts Centre, 15 Kings Walk, Winchester SO23 8AF. Gender-free ceilidh class with caller Louise Siddons and live music from Linda Game. £10, £5 to students. www.facebook.com/groups/winqeilidh <http://louisesiddons.com/WinQ.html>

MARCH

Monday 8.00-10.00 Beaus of the Park FDC. Mostly Playford. Church of the Resurrection Hall, Penarth Avenue, Drayton, PO6 2AP. Sue Bradshaw 02392 713158 <http://beausdance.weebly.com>

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10th, caller Joy Simmons – Eastleigh FDC 50th Birthday Celebration, 24th, caller TBA.

Monday 8.00-10.30 Southampton Irish Set Dancers, Immaculate Conception Church Hall, 346 Portswood Road, Southampton, SO17 3SB. Traditional Irish (square) set dances. £5, contact: southamptonirishset@gmail.com

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4th, 11th, 18th, 25th, Francis Oates with Pair of Shears

Tuesday 8.00 Solent CDC. Bedhampton Community Centre, Havant, PO9 3ES. Caller Sue Bradshaw. 02392 713158 <http://solentdance.weebly.com>

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4th, 18th.

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6th, 13th, 20th, 27th.

5 2.00-4.30 Woodlands Folk Dancers. Woodlands Village Hall, Verwood Road, Woodlands, BH21 8LJ. Callers Malcolm Churchill and Liz Neal with Pete and Sue Hall. Tea, and coffee provided, bring your own mug. Contacts 07888 759471, 07471 207563 or 07749 206499

6 7.30-10.00 Shawford Parish Hall, Pearson Lane, SO21 2AA. "as many as will", The Best of English Country Dance. Caller Nigel Close. 01962 714220 nigelclose9@gmail.com

9 10.30-3.30 **FASH** Workshop. Soberton Village Hall, SO32 3PF. The Madding Crowd – West Gallery Music – a music workshop, come to sing, play or just listen. To book (essential) contact info@fash.org.uk or 01243 531497. £12, FASH members £9. BYO lunch.

9 2:30-5:30 Sunday Afternoon Contra Dance, The Jurgens Centre, 91 Harvest Rd, Englefield Green, Egham. TW20 0QR. Caller Louise Siddens with The Linda Game Band. £10 a ticket. www.ashfordfolkdancers.org.uk/contradances/

12 8.00-10.30 Solent Contrasts, Shawford Parish Hall, Pearson Lane, Shawford, SO21 2AA. Callers Barrie Bullimore and friends. Doors open 7.45 £5 (cards accepted). solentcontra@gmail.com

12 2.00-3.30 FolkActive Dance with Live Music for the over-50s. Freemantle and Shirley Community Centre, SO15 3HE. Details from www.folkactive.org.uk/wellbeing/folkactive-dances.

14 7.30-10.00 Kimmeridge Keilidh. Kimmeridge Village Hall, The Etches Collection BH20 5PE. Arish Mel Ceilidh Band with caller TBA. £7.50 on the door, no bar so BYO drinks and nibbles. www.earwicker.org/arish_mel.htm

Sat 15 7.30 St. Patrick's Day Barn Dance, The Bridge, Milford-on-Sea, Sea Road, Milford on Sea, SO41 0PH. With Murphy's Lore, tickets £18, which includes a single course supper, via the website. Licensed bar available.

Sat 15 3.00 - 5.45 East Dorset Folk Dance Club. St. Mark's Church Hall, Hinton Wood Ave. Highcliffe, BH23 5AA. Caller Sue Bradshaw with Pete and Sue Hall £7 per person. Bring and Share tea. Contact: Jan Harris 01202 427523, janharris16@hotmail.co.uk. <https://edfdc.weebly.com/>

Sat 15 8.00-11.00 The London Barndance Company, Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regent's Park Road, London NW1 7AY. Contra dance, caller Mark Elvins with Vertical Expression. £15 (members £13) Tickets available via the EFDSS website or on the door. More info from www.barndance.org/

19 8.00 Sams Stepping. Samuel's Rest, Upper Church Rd., Shedfield, SO32 2JB. Southern Step Dancing Session. Jo and Simon Harmer 01489 899023. jo@folkactive.org.uk

Sat 22 7.30-11.00 SHOCC Ceilidh. The Hilt (Cuckoo Bushes Hall), Chandlers Ford, SO53 5NP. Caller Barry Goodman with Jigfoot. Ian Nichols 07765820919 www.shocc.co.uk/

23 10.30-3.30 **FASH** Workshop. Durley Memorial Hall, SO32 2AD. Caller Frances Oates with Pete and Sue Hall. Workshop title "What Happens Next?". £12, FASH members £9. BYO lunch.

You will note a new addition to the Dance Diary in this month's issue of 'Solent Waves'. After several year's absence there will once again be a Folk Dance group, or more accurately a Country

Dance group, in Chichester. The new group, started up by Abigail Penfold, will not meet in Fishbourne as did the previous one, but in St Wilfrid's Church Hall, Sherborne Road, and will

as many as will
the best of english country dance
past and present

SHAWFORD PARISH HALL Pearson Lane SO21 2AA
7.30 – 10 pm £4 nigelclose9@gmail.com
Thursdays 6th February & 6th March

Sam's Stepping
Southern step dancing pub session
Musicians and dancers welcome

Third Wednesday of the month from 8pm (except August)

 Samuel's Rest, Shedfield SO32 2JB
Jo & Simon Harmer 01489 899023
jo@folkactive.org.uk

 **Hampshire Regency Dancers**

Regency Dancing in the Winchester area, 8pm Wednesdays. Have fun recreating dances of Jane Austen's lifetime, costuming, entertaining the public, even attend a Ball. We're a local group with a global reputation.

For more details see our website: www.hrd.org.uk
We are also on Facebook: @hampshireregencydancers
For enquiries, email us at info@hrd.org.uk

Are you a dancer who would enjoy dancing the traditional (square) set dances of Ireland?

Southampton Irish Set Dancers meet most Mondays from September to June. 8.00 – 10.30 in the Immaculate Conception Church Hall, 346 Portwood Road, Southampton, SO17 3SB £5.

Contact:
southamptonirishset@gmail.com



SOLENT CONTRA DANCES
With Barry Bullimore and friends

 Shawford Parish Hall
Pearson Lane, Shawford. SO21 2AA

8:00 to 10:30pm on the
2nd Wednesday of the month
from September to May
£5.00 per person on the door

For more information, please email solentcontra@gmail.com
<https://www.facebook.com/solentcontradances>

 **The Madding Crowd's annual
West Gallery workshop for FASH**

Sunday 9th March 2025
Soberton Village Hall 10.30 to 3.30pm
£12 including music (£9 FASH members)
tea/coffee £1 all day; byo lunch

www.maddingcrowd.org  [@TheMaddingCrowdUK](https://www.facebook.com/TheMaddingCrowdUK)

be on most Wednesdays (I hope to include which Wednesdays in the diary). The first meeting will be on the 5th of February, and we gather there is adequate parking around the hall.

Hearing of the success of the Bournemouth Folk Dance Club's Tea Dance in November, to which the Bournemouth U3A dancers were also invited, led me to see what other U3A folk dance groups are active in our area. I knew that the Eastleigh group had closed due to low numbers, but there are several others: the Bournemouth group meets on a Monday in the Freemasons Hall in Knole Road. The group leaders are Liz Neal and Richard Lane, who are both also involved in the Woodlands Folk Dancers. More to the east, the Christchurch U3A has two International dance groups, both meeting on a Thursday in the New Church Hall, in Carbery Avenue. The leaders are Janet Mason and Janice Harris, with the earlier session at 10.15 aimed at beginners and improvers.

Ferndown U3A appears to have a Country dance group led by Barbara Westcott, but the fact that it does not appear in the "Groups with

Vacancies" suggests that it might be full. Fairly near, Verwood also has a U3A Folk Dance group led by Mike Billington. It meets fortnightly on a Friday, and the page on the website suggests it is mainly Regency in style.

Coming further east I found there is very little in the way of U3A folk dance around Portsmouth (confirming my suspicion that Portsmouth is a bit of a folk dance 'desert') with the exception of Gosport. Barrie Bullimore leads a group there, monthly on the second Monday, in the Methodist Church in Stoke Road. Note that Gosport U3A also has a Folk Music group which meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays each month under the leadership of Gerry McGuire.

If any of these dance groups is of interest to you just search the web with "U3A" and the town name you are interested in to find the active groups and the contact details of the leaders. Membership fees seem to vary among the many locations, but once paid you are entitled to join more than one group (provided of course there is space) and participate in other activities.

cont. on page 9

EVENTS AT FOLK CLUBS and ART CENTRES

ANVIL ARTS

Churchill Way, Basingstoke, RG21 7QR. (The Haymarket is at RG21 7NW) 01256 844244

www.anvilarts.org.uk

Feb	8	Family Folk Show with Megson at The Forge
Mar	21	Smith & Brewer and The 4 of Us at The Forge
	23	Levellers Collective: 2025 Acoustic Tour at The Anvil
	27	Phil Beer at The Forge
	30	Cara Dillon: "Coming Home" at The Haymarket

THE ARC

Jewry Street, Winchester, SO23 8SB

www.arcwinchester.org.uk/

Feb	13	The Salts
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BOURNEMOUTH FOLK CLUB

St Andrew's Church, Millhams Road, Bournemouth BH10 7LN. or Trinity United Church, Christchurch Rd., Ringwood, BH24 1DH info@bfcprepresents.co.uk

Feb	7	Eliza Marshall at Bournemouth
Mar	14	Peter Knight's Gigspanner Trio at Ringwood

BRUNNY FOLK CLUB

Cafe@the Allendale Centre, Hanham Rd.,

Wimborne BH21 1AS. www.brunnyfolk.co.uk/

Feb	10	Club night
	24	Les Wild
Mar	10	Club night
	24	John & Di Cullen

FOCSLE MUSIC

Live Guests on 2nd (and occasionally other)

Tuesdays, at The Guide Dog, Earls Road,

Southampton, SO14 6SF www.focsle.org/

www.facebook.com/FoczleMusic Zoom meetings

2nd and 4th Wednesdays www.focsle.org/#online

Feb	11	Singaround
Mar	11	Singaround (TBC)

FORDINGBRIDGE FOLK CLUB

Avonway Community Centre, Shaftesbury St,

Fordingbridge SP6 1JF

www.fordingbridgefolk.com/

Feb	7	Wessex Folk Orchestra
Mar	7	Crows

WHAT'S ON THIS WINTER



Emerald Falls
1 Feb, 8pm

Emerald Falls isn't just a band; it's a symphony of voices and instruments, capturing the essence of country rock.



Davey Dodds & Gillie Hotston
13 Feb, 7.30pm

Davey's arresting lyrics will be accompanied by Celtic rhythms and stunning musicianship.



Sound Of The Sirens
21 Feb, 8pm

Firm favourites as "one of the UK's finest folk acts" not only on the West country scene, but nationally, and internationally too.

HANGER FARM
Charity no. 1053319



MORE SHOWS BOOK NOW ONLINE!

www.hangerfarm.co.uk | 023 8066 7683
Aikman Lane, West Totton, SO40 8FT

FOREST FOLK

8pm North Boarhunt Social Club, Trampers Lane,
N. Boarhunt. 01329 833625 www.forestfolk.co.uk/

Feb	3	Singaround
	24	Jim Causley & Miranda Sykes
Mar	3	Singaround
	17	Phil Odgers and Bobby Valentino

GRAYSHOTT FOLK CLUB

Grayshott Village Hall, Grayshott, GU26 6TZ.
01428 607096 www.grayshottfolkclub.co.uk/

Feb	8	The Tannahill Weavers
Mar	1	Polly Paulusma (with Jon Thorne)
	11	Kris Drever with Chris Stout (Note: at Churt Village Hall, GU10 2JA)
	29	Steve Knightley

HAMBLEDON FOLK CLUB

8.30-11 Next to The Vine, Hambledon
02392 632719 www.hambledonfolkclub.com/

Feb	12	Detta Kenzie with guitarist Tobias ben Jacob
Mar	12	Will Finn and Rosie Calvert

HANGER FARM ARTS CENTRE

Aikman Lane, West Totton, Southampton,
SO40 8FT 02380 667683 www.hangerfarm.co.uk/

Feb	1	Emerald Falls
	13	Davey Dodds & Gillie Hotston
	21	Sound of the Sirens – Seasons
Mar	13	Gigspanner Trio

THE HYDE TAVERN

57 Hyde Street, Winchester, SO23 7DY
www.hydetavern.co.uk/

Mar	6	Brothers Gillespie
	20	Polly Paulusma

MILFORD-ON-SEA FOLK CLUB

Village Community Centre (now The Bridge), Sea
Road, Milford-on-Sea, SO41 0PH. 01590 643404
<https://thebridgemos.org.uk/>

Feb	13	Folk at The Bridge: Mick Ryan
Mar	13	Folk at The Bridge: Innominata
	15	St. Patrick's Day Barn Dance – with Murphy's Lore – details in the Dance Diary

LYMINGTON ACOUSTIC

The Angel and Blue Pig, Lymington, SO41 9AP.
www.facebook.com/lymingtonfolkclub/

Feb	11	Singaround 1st Tuesday
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THE MUSIC INSTITUTE

The Guildford Institute, Ward Street GU1 4LH
<http://www.musici.club/>

Feb	14	Acoustic Open Stage
Mar	14	Acoustic Open Stage

NONSUCH FOLK CLUB (every other Thursday)

Bishop's Waltham Social Club rosiej79@gmail.com
<https://sites.google.com/site/nonsuchfolkclub/>

Feb	13	Singaround
	27	Singaround

THE RAILWAY INN

3 St Paul's Hill, Winchester, SO22 5AE
<https://www.railwayinn.pub>

Mar	1	State of the Union
	20	Chris Wood + Sarah Rose
	27	Stick In The Wheel

THE SPRING ARTS CENTRE

56 East Street, Havant 02392 472700
<https://thespring.co.uk/>

Feb	6	Jack Rutter
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ST. MARY'S CHURCH, TWYFORD

Church Lane, SO21 1NS www.wegotickets.com/

Feb	6	Emily Barker
	14, 15	Andy Burrows (waiting list only)
Mar	26	Ashley Hutchings & special guest Blair Dunlop

TURNER SIMS

University of Southampton SO17 1BJ.
www.turnersims.co.uk/

Feb	27	Fairport Convention with Support From Danny Bradley
Mar	6	Lady Maisery with O'Hooley and Tidow

WEMS FEST

Live music etc. around Emsworth
www.wemsfest.com/ wemsfest@btinternet.com

Mar	15	Kris Drever & Chris Scout at Chidham Village Hall, PO18 8TL
	24	Steve Knightley: "The Winter Yards in Spring -Sole Tour at Chidham Village Hall, PO18 8TL
	29	Fara at Chidham Village Hall, PO18 8TL

WESSEX ACOUSTIC

The Royal British Legion, Blandford Forum
01202 732239 <https://wimborne-acoustic.co.uk/>

Mar	28	Phil Beer
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WEST END CENTRE, ALDERSHOT

48 Queens Road, Aldershot, GU11 3JD.
www.westendcentre.co.uk/

Feb	8	The Blackheart Orchestra
	28	Martin Simpson

WHITCHURCH FOLK CLUB

Whitchurch Parish Hall, London Rd, RG28 7LQ,
<https://whitchurchfolk.com/whitchurch-folk-club/>

Mar	8	Ainsley Hamill with Sam Kelly and Toby Shaer (WPH)
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FOREST FOLK
North Boarhunt Village
Hall, Trampers Lane,
North Boarhunt PO17 6DD



Phil Odgers & Bobby Valentino **Monday 17 March 2025**

For tickets (£18) and further info,
tel Charles on 01329 833625,
Janet on 023 9226 4288 or
email info@forestfolk.co.uk
www.forestfolk.co.uk

WINCHESTER ACOUSTIC CLUB

The Railway Inn, St. Paul's Hill, Winchester,
SO22 5AE

www.facebook.com/WinchesterAcousticClub/

Feb	5	Singaround every 1st Wednesday
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WOOLSTON and BURSLEDON FOLK CLUB

Long Lane, Bursledon, SO31 8BZ.

<http://woolstonandbursledonfc.co.uk/wp>

Feb	9	Singaround 2nd Sundays
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Having ceased presenting concert events with invited guests, Guildford's Music Institute Folk Club have now announced the dates for their 'Come All Ye' singarounds which they have renamed "Acoustic Open Stage". As long as it is acoustic any music genre is welcome, together with poems and stories. No need to book; if you are a performer, expect to do a couple of spots, one in each half. We are reminded there is a bar, and admission is £3 whether you are a performer or have just come to listen.

The Melodeon Playgroup are running another tuition weekend at Bretforton near Evesham, starting on Friday 7th February. Unfortunately the website, www.melodeonplaygroup.org/ does not

say how full the various levels are, but if you are interested, book soon.

There are other melodeon workshops: the next one at Halsway Manor is not until mid-May (<https://halswaymanor.org.uk/>) and there are workshops run by EFDSS although the last one was in January and there are no dates yet posted for the next one. Mel Biggs' next workshop at Wavendon, near Milton Keynes, is for players with some basic knowledge of the D/G melodeon and is on the 1st March. The venue is The Stables; look at their website <https://stables.org/> for more information.

Staying with free-reed instruments, perhaps not necessarily folk, but if you would like to play along with others, with maybe a solo or duet in the second half of the evening, Dorset Accordion Orchestra are starting a new Accordion Club on the first Monday of each month. Find more information and details on the orchestra's website <https://dorsetaccordionorc.wixsite.com/website>.

We now know the date of the 'Schools Ceilidh', the annual event which FASH sponsors to encourage youngsters to learn about country dance and to dance together. Many schools feel this is a worthwhile experience for their KS1 and KS2 pupils and we have had up to 200, occasionally more, dancing to live music. As in the last two years, this event will be held in the Palace grounds at Bishops Waltham as part of the Bishops Waltham Festival but this year there will be no families' ceilidh in the evening. The date will be the 27th June with dancing in the afternoon. Invitations will go out to schools which have taken part before but if your school is local and has not previously taken part, but you feel it is something worth doing, encourage the staff to make an initial approach to FolkActive via the link under 'About Us' on their website www.folkactive.org.uk/.

We have now set the date for the FASH AGM. It will take place on the 18th May at 4.00 p.m. As in the last couple of years we shall hold it via the 'Zoom' application; officers' reports, a copy of this year's accounts and details of how to join the meeting will be sent out nearer the time. If you would like to attend but think we do not have your e-mail details, let us know via info@fash.org.uk.

We finish on a more sombre note:

Ken Goddard-Coates writes:

Elizabeth Haigh

15th March 1938 – 23rd November 2024

Many of you will have met Elizabeth as she never



The next FASH Event:

Sunday 2nd February, Durley Memorial Hall, 10.30 – 3.30

Louise Siddons with Linda Game and Ali Messer

“Not Quite and Mostly Contra”

missed a FASH workshop and presided over the kitchen for us. She was a loyal supporter of all things folk and loved dancing until bouts of giddiness prevented her from enjoying it so much. She joined the FASH committee many years ago, taking responsibility for providing the tea, coffee and biscuits. When the weather got colder, she also made delicious soup! For as long as I can remember, no matter what the weather, Elizabeth turned out to watch Wickham Morris and other sides celebrate New Year's Day.

She was also a musician and a founder member of the Four Marks Dance Band, in which she played her piano accordion. The band is still going strong as the Four Marks Folk Band, although she actually stopped playing with them several years ago. She was an excellent hand bell ringer and still played regularly every Tuesday with the Kingsworthy Bells until a severe stroke put her in hospital in July 2024. On two occasions she brought her own set of hand bells to Soberton for the Do Something Different workshops. We all enjoyed having a go, but it made us realise how much skill was involved in playing them properly!

We learned from her family that she was for many years a house mother in a Methodist children's home, which might explain why she was so good at catering for large numbers. When Daphne and I got married 10 years ago Elizabeth was incredibly kind and made mountains of scones for a cream tea after the ceremony! When child care policy changed in the 1980s many children's homes, including Elizabeth's, were closed and the children were fostered instead. Elizabeth and another house mother then set up and ran a small and very successful care home. She came to Hampshire when she retired and looked after her father until his death.

Elizabeth was a lovely person and a good friend and we will all miss her. A Thanksgiving Service for her life will be held in St Peter's Church, Bishop's Waltham at 2pm on Saturday 25th January, followed by a reception in the Church Hall at 3pm. She was always such a positive person and the family think she would have preferred people not to wear black. It will be good to meet other people who knew her and be able to share many happy memories.

Kenneth Coates 14th January 2025.

Folk Association of South Hants

As well as promoting and supporting folk activities and events in Hampshire, we hold workshops on Sundays, at Soberton or Durley Halls, from 10.30 to 3.30, see www.fash.org.uk for details. FASH members £9.00, non-members £12.00. Tea and coffee available. Please bring your own lunch.

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‘SOLENT WAVES’ is published 10 times a year, by the Folk Association of South Hants (FASH). Any views expressed are those of the contributor and not necessarily those of FASH, its officers, or the Editor. Solent Waves cannot guarantee the accuracy of Diaries or other entries, but we hope there are few errors. It can be sent by email in pdf format each month; just email the editor if you wish to be added to the mailing list