



FOLKLIFE QUARTERLY'S
FT pages



Jan
2015

p40

Folklife Traditions ♦ Traddodiadau Bymyd Gwerin

© our logo, Chris Beaumont; © Annie Jones *The Roots Of Welsh Border Morris* (Dave Jones)

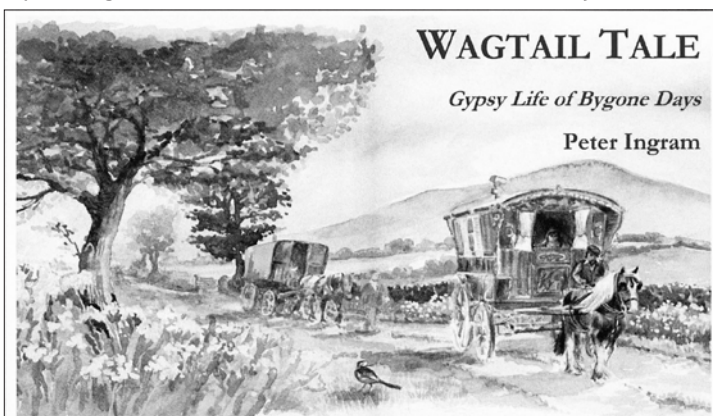
FQ's FOLKLIFE TRADITIONS PAGES

Our aims include stimulating a wider interest in folk studies & folk culture: **the FT pages**

- Article 'Drive the Cold Winter Away' by Roy & Lesley Adkins p43-44
- Song: 'All Through the Drunk', contributed by Gwilym Davies ... p45
- Publications News: CDs and Books below p40
- Folklife Societies: Diary: Talks & Conferences; News -Single Gloucester Project; Nonsuch Dulcimer Club p44
- List 7, Folklife Societies (Associations, Trusts, Organisations), 1-line Summaries p41
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 - A list for this quarter, by Doc Rowe p46; some date changes p45
 - Ottery Tar Barrels, note by Colin Davies p45; photos p1 & p47
- The next deadline is Feb 20 for Apr 1
- Regular FT contributors get free Membership!

Folklife Traditions: Publications

Please first consult Eds as to what is appropriate to publicise here. Up to 200 words per CD or book, more if advertising (heading & order details not counted in word limits)



Wagtail Tale, Gypsy Life of Bygone Days:

the 1961 summer of Welsh Border Gypsies Jimmy and Katie Lock

by **Peter Ingram**; illus. **K. B. Morgan**.

ISBN: 978-0-9928719-0-1. Softback, 348 pages, 38 line drawings. £12.00 + £3.00 p&p.

Old John and Genty, two Romanies, permanently encamped with their wagon and tent in a quiet spot along a green lane close to the Welsh border, living out their last years in peaceful contentment. Their two grandchildren come to stay with them, discovering the lifestyle which is their unknown heritage. Old John teaches Jimmy the skills of his forefathers, from making and using a catapult to making pegs, and Genty shows Katie how to prepare and cook food over the open fire. At night around the fire, Old John recalls tales of days gone by. Other relations have their own tales, portraying the lives they lead and recording their traditions and taboos. There is a visit to the ancient Obie and Britty, living in a woodland clearing in Wales in their woodsmoke-impregnated tent, in an almost forgotten lifestyle.

The author captures the essence of a way of life fast disappearing by the 1960s. You can almost smell the woodsmoke and damp earth, feel the discomforts and difficulties of keeping body and soul together, but sense also the contentment of living close to nature, the loving relationships, and the respect and eagerness of the younger generation to learn the old ways. *Jenny Boyd-Cropley, Cottage Books.*

Available from: **Limes End Yard Publishing**, High Street, Selborne, Alton, Hampshire, GU34 3LD. Tel: 01420 511486. limesendyard@outlook.com. Cheques payable to "P. Ingram".

CD: "Old Fiddle Tunes & Sentimental Songs of Welsh Border Gypsies"

A 19-track CD of songs and Romani language examples, featuring the voice of **Peter Ingram**, is available to complement the book.

£5 including P&P. Order details as above,

Musical Traditions Records - new double CD

MTCD369-0



Sam Lerner

Cruising Round Yarmouth

The 1958 - 1960 Ewan MacColl and Peggy Seeger recordings

Sam Lerner: Cruising Round Yarmouth

I'm very pleased to announce the publication of *Sam Lerner: Cruising Round Yarmouth* (MTCD369-0) - a double CD of all the recordings **Ewan MacColl** and **Peggy Seeger** made of Sam Lerner in 1958-60.

The more-or-less complete recorded repertoire of this wonderful Norfolk singer is here - 65 songs and fragments, plus four spoken passages and a very informative 44-page booklet, give a great impression of Sam's life and times.

But, most of all, it's the startling quality of his singing which is so impressive.. Available on the **MT Records' website**, price just **£16.00** + p&p.

® **Rod Stradling**

- **Musical Traditions Records**, with on-line credit/debit card purchasing at: www.mtrecords.co.uk
- **Musical Traditions Internet Magazine** at: www.mustringrad.org.uk
- 1 Castle Street, Stroud, Glos GL5 2HP, rod@mustringrad.org.uk, 01453 759475, mobile: 0793 099 1641

Mr Pepys and the Turk: Popular Constructs of the "Turk" in England by **Andrew C. Rouse**. Pécs, SPECHEL e-ditions, 2014

ISBN: 9630894556

In the seventeenth century the Ottoman Empire, not America, occupied the centre ground in foreign policy. The Turks and their unruly allies in North Africa held the key to trade in the Mediterranean. Not even the coasts of England were free from their influence; the Cornish especially suffered from their depredations, being enslaved in their hundreds. "Turk" became the generic name for any follower of Islam - the some fifty Renaissance "Turkish plays" include *Othello*, *the Moor*.

Mr Pepys and the Turk investigates how various constructs of the "Turk" emerged and were employed, from the early encounters through to modern social history, visiting inn signs, ballads, turbans, baths and battles. The central chapter takes two great achievements in the life of the seventeenth-century civil servant Samuel Pepys: his diary (1660-1669) and his impressive collection of ballads. While the latter is accepted as being by and large a later passion, there is evidence that Pepys was already purchasing street ballads at the time he was writing his diary.

The discussion is richly illustrated with ballad texts and Diary excerpts.



The Welsh Border Morris Dances of Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Shropshire

The Roots of Welsh Border Morris

by the late Dave Jones, 1988, revised 1995; ISBN No. 0 9526285 0 3.

£5 by post from:

Mrs. A. J. Jones, Millfield, Golden Valley, Bishops Frome, Worcs WR6 5BN 01885 490323; email chatter@anniej.me

❖ LIST 7: FOLKLIFE SOCIETIES Associations, Trusts, Organisations ❖ I-LINE SUMMARY LISTINGS ❖

- **SUMMARIES:** The 1st line of detailed entries in our ONLINE DIRECTORY, updated quarterly on <http://issuu.com/folklife> (deadline: as FQ)
 • Below, we list only confirmed entries: ® = Members, ❖ = others. Supporting our work by Membership (£15 a year) is most welcome.
 • The ONLINE DIRECTORY includes other listings researched by us (eg name + website), but yet not confirmed by that organisation

GENERAL: A1-A2 • Societies that include both folk music *and* song, or combine folk music, song, *and* dance.

A.1 FOLK MUSIC, SONG & DANCE SOCIETIES, NATIONAL

Canada ❖	The CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR TRADITIONAL MUSIC / La SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE POUR LES TRADITIONS MUSICALES	www.yorku.ca/cstm
Cymru/Wales	® BYWYD GWERIN (Welsh Folklife)	Sam ac Eleanor Simmons 01684 561378
	® trac Music Traditions Wales/Traddodiadau Cerdd Cymru	Blanche Rowen 02920 318863
England	® ENGLISH FOLK SONG & DANCE SOCIETY (EFDSS)	Office 020 7485 2206
	❖ FOLK CAMPS	Office 0208 1232136
England & Wales	® FOLKLIFE	Sam & Eleanor Simmons .. 01684 575704
Mannin / Isle of Man	❖ MANX HERITAGE FOUNDATION MUSIC DEVELOPMENT TEAM	 www.manxmusic.com

A.2 FOLK MUSIC, SONG & DANCE SOCIETIES, ENGLAND REGIONAL & LOCAL

England: East			
- Suf./nearby	❖ SUFFOLK FOLK	Mary Humphreys, Chair	www.suffolkfolk.co.uk
England: Midlands (East Midlands & West Midlands)			
- Midlands	® TRADITIONAL ARTS TEAM	Pam Bishop	www.tradartsteam.co.uk
- W. Mids	® WEST MIDLANDS FOLK FEDERATION (WMFF)	Geoffrey Johnson	www.wmff.org.uk
England: North (North-East, North-West, Yorkshire)			
- N.-West	❖ FOLKUS	Alan Bell	www.folkus.co.uk
- Gtr Man	® TAMESIDE FOLK ASSOCIATION (TFA)	Mike Riley	no website
England: South (South-East, South-West)			
- Devon	® DEVON FOLK	Colin Andrews	www.devonfolk.co.uk
- Glos	® GLOSFOLK	Peter Cripps, Chairman	www.glosfolk.org.uk
- Hfds	® The MUSIC POOL	Rob Strawson	www.musicpool.org.uk
- S.-East	❖ SOUTH EAST FOLK ARTS NETWORK (SEFAN)	Penny Allen, General Manager	www.sefan.org.uk
- South	® SOUTHERN COUNTIES' FOLK FEDERATION (SCOFF)	.....	www.scoff.org.uk
- Devon	® WREN MUSIC	Main office	www.wrenmusic.co.uk

SPECIFIC: A3-A6 • Societies that cover *solely* folk music *OR* song *OR* dance.

A.3 CERDD DANT SOCIETIES

❖ CYMDEITHAS CERDD DANT CYMRU	Delyth Vaughan (Administrator)	01341 423 072	www.cerdd-dant.org
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A.4 FOLK SONG SOCIETIES

❖ CYMDEITHAS ALAWON GWERIN CYMRU / The Welsh Folk-Song Society	Dr Rhiannon Ifans (Hon.Sec)	01970 828719	www.canugwerin.com
® PEDLARS PACK	Moderator: Steve Roud	.....	http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Pedlars_Pack
❖ YORKSHIRE GARLAND GROUP	.....	.....	www.yorkshirefolksong.net
❖ TRADSONG	Moderator: Johnny Adams	.....	http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/Tradsong
® TRADITIONAL SONG FORUM	Secretary: Martin Graebe	01452 523861	www.tradsong.org
❖ YORKSHIRE GARLAND GROUP	.....	.....	www.yorkshirefolksong.net

A.5 FOLK MUSIC SOCIETIES

❖ CLERA, The Society for the Traditional Instruments of Wales	Meurig Williams (Membership Secretary)	.....	www.clera.org
® DULCIMER WORLD CONGRESS	Sally Whytehead	0152764229	http://dulcimer.world.congress.co.uk
® NONSUCH DULCIMER CLUB	Sally Whytehead	0152764229	http://dulcimer.org.uk
❖ TRADTUNES	Moderator: Johnny Adams	.....	http://launch.groups.yahoo.com/group/tradtunes
❖ The VILLAGE MUSIC PROJECT	Project Director: John Adams	.....	www.village-music-project.org.uk

A.6. FOLK DANCE SOCIETIES For local dance groups, morris sides, etc., please see our "Member Performers"

❖ CYMDEITHAS GENEDLAETHOL DAWNS WERIN CYMRU / WELSH NATIONAL FOLK DANCE SOCIETY			http://dawnsio.com
❖ WILTSHIRE FOLK ASSOCIATION (WFA)	Geoff Elwell	01225 703650	www.wiltfolkassoc.webspace.virginmedia.com

SPECIFIC: A7-A15 • Societies covering Folklife activities other than the above.

A.7. FOLK DRAMA SOCIETIES

❖ TRADITIONAL DRAMA RESEARCH GROUP			www.folkplay.info
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A.8 FOLKLORE SOCIETIES

❖ AMERICAN FOLKLORE SOCIETY		614/292-4715	www.afsnet.org
® The FOLKLORE SOCIETY	.....	020 7862 8564	www.folklore-society.com
❖ NORTHERN EARTH	John Billingsley, Editor	.....	www.northernearth.co.uk
® TALKING FOLKLORE	Moderator: Steve Roud	.....	http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TalkingFolklore

○ A.9 Storytelling Societies, A.10 Oral History Societies, no confirmed entries

A.11 LANGUAGE & DIALECT SOCIETIES Arranged alphabetically: 1. by Country or Region, 2. within Country or Region, by name.

ELLAN VANNIN / ISLE OF MAN	❖ YN CHESHAGHT GHAILCKAGH (The Manx Gaelic Society)	.....	www.ycg.iofm.net
ENGLAND	❖ LAKELAND DIALECT SOCIETY	.....	www.lakelanddialectsociety.org
	❖ YORKSHIRE DIALECT SOCIETY	.....	www.yorkshiredialectsociety.org.uk

• Airlann / Éire / Ireland, Alba / Scotland, Cymru / Wales, Kernow / Cornwall no confirmed entries

A.12 FOLK LIFE GENERALLY - SOCIETIES

❖ The SOCIETY for FOLK LIFE STUDIES (SFLS)			www.folklifestudies.org.uk
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A.13 FOLK LIFE - OTHER SPECIFIC GROUPS

❖ PEARLY SOCIETY	Carole Jolly	0208 778 8670	www.pearlysociety.co.uk
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• DIRECTORY UPDATES are on FQ page 4.



❖ see also our new bilingual website ~ www.bywyd-gwerin.org.uk ❖
 ❖ Welsh-language Folklife Traditions ❖ articles and bilingual listings ❖

❖ LIST 8: FOLK LIFE STUDIES & INSTITUTIONS ❖ I-LINE SUMMARY LISTINGS ❖

- **SUMMARIES:** The 1st line of detailed entries in our ONLINE DIRECTORY, updated quarterly on <http://issuu.com/folklife> (deadline: as FQ)
- **Below**, we list only **confirmed entries**: ® = **Members**, ❖ = **others**. Supporting our work by Membership (£15 a year) is most welcome.
- The **ONLINE DIRECTORY** includes **other listings researched by us** (eg name + website), but yet not confirmed by that organisation

Fs.1 FOLK LIFE STUDIES: RESEARCHERS AND AUTHORS

❖ DAVID HERRON	David Eckersley	01422 832460	❑ www.herronpublishing.co.uk
® DOC ROWE	Doc Rowe	07747 687734	❑ www.docrowe.org.uk
® GWILYM DAVIES	Gwilym Davies	01242 603094	❑ www.cmarge.demon.co.uk/gwilym
® MARTIN GRAEBE	Martin Graebe	01452 523861	❑ www.sbgsongs.org
® MIKE RILEY	Mike Riley	0161 366 7326	❑ (no website)
® ROY ADKINS	Roy Adkins	[please contact via website]	❑ www.adkinshistory.com
® STEVE ROUD	Steve Roud	01825 766751 / 07739 901998	❑ (no website)

Fs.2 FOLK LIFE STUDIES: LECTURERS AND SPEAKERS see also List 2, Performers and List 5, Workshop Providers

® DOC ROWE	Doc Rowe	07747 687734	❑ www.docrowe.org.uk
® GWILYM DAVIES	Gwilym Davies	01242 603094	❑ www.cmarge.demon.co.uk/gwilym
❖ JOHN ADAMS & CHRIS PARTINGTON	.....	.....	❑ www.village-music-project.org.uk
❖ JOHN BILLINGSLEY	John Billingsley	.....	❑ www.northernearth.co.uk
® MARTIN GRAEBE	Martin Graebe	01452 523861	❑ www.martinandshan.net

Fs.3 FOLK LIFE STUDIES: ARCHIVES (in specialist folklife or general archives) listing where based, area of interest may be national, international, or local

CYMRU / WALES	❖ THE ARCHIVE OF WELSH TRADITIONAL MUSIC	01248 382181	❑ www.bangor.ac.uk/music/research/welsh_music.php.en
	® THE MICK TEMS ARCHIVE OF TRADITIONAL ARTS	Mick Tems 01443 206689	❑ www.folkwales.org.uk/archive.html
ENGLAND	❖ THE ARCHIVES OF CULTURAL TRADITION	.....	❑ http://www.shef.ac.uk/library/special/cectal
	® THE CHARLES PARKER ARCHIVE	Contact: Fiona Tait, Archivist 0121 303 4549	❑ www.birmingham.gov.uk/charlesparkerarchive
	® THE DOC ROWE COLLECTION ARCHIVE & Doc Rowe Collection Support Group	Access: please see note on website	❑ www.docrowe.org.uk
	® FOLKTRAX (the late Peter Kennedy's 'folktrax' website)	.....	❑ www.folktrax-archive.org
	❖ WILTSHIRE COMMUNITY HISTORY: FOLK ARTS section	.....	❑ http://history.wiltshire.gov.uk/community/folkintro.php
U.S.A.	❖ AMERICAN FOLK LIFE CENTER:	please see under Fs.5, FOLK LIFE LIBRARIES	

Fs.4 FOLK LIFE STUDIES: MUSEUMS (in specialist folklife or general museums) listing where based, area of interest may be national, international, or local

	○ Alba / Scotland, Cymru / Wales	- none confirmed - unconfirmed listed on Online Directory as above	
ENGLAND	❖ CAMBRIDGE & COUNTY FOLK MUSEUM	01223 355159	❑ www.folkmuseum.org.uk
	❖ GLOUCESTER FOLK MUSEUM [pictured]	01452 396868	❑ www.gloucestermuseums.co.uk
	❖ MUSEUM OF EAST ANGLIAN LIFE	01449 612229	❑ www.eastanglianlife.org.uk
	❖ PITT RIVERS MUSEUM	01865 270927	❑ www.prm.ox.ac.uk

**Fs.5 FOLK LIFE STUDIES: LIBRARIES** (in specialist folklife or general archives); includes Public/Community Libraries that are Folklife Members

ENGLAND			
Devon	® EXETER CENTRAL LIBRARY	.....	01392 384217 ❑ www.devon.gov.uk/libraries
Website	® FOLKTRAX	- please see under Fs.3, FOLK LIFE ARCHIVES	
Somerset	® HALSWAY MANOR LIBRARY (Kennedy-Grant Memorial Library)	.....	01984 618274 ❑ www.halswaymanor.org.uk
London	® VAUGHAN WILLIAMS MEMORIAL LIBRARY (EFDSS)	.....	020 7485 2206 ❑ http://library.efdss.org
USA			
DC	❖ AMERICAN FOLK LIFE CENTER	.....	(202) 707-5510 ❑ www.loc.gov/folklife

○ **Fs.6 Academic Courses & Research** (undergraduate or higher level), no confirmed entries):**Fs.7 FOLK LIFE STUDIES: MUSIC PUBLISHERS & RECORDING COMPANIES**

Eng SE Sussex	® HOBGOBLIN RECORDS	.....	01273 491456 ❑ www.hobgoblinrecords.com
Eng SW Cornwall	❖ HURLER RECORDS	 Chris Ridley	01637 880394 ❑ (no website)
Eng SW Glos	® MUSICAL TRADITIONS RECORDS	Rod Stradling	01453 759475 ❑ www.mtrecords.co.uk
Eng SW S Glos	® SAYDISC	Gef Lucena	 ❑ www.saydisc.com
Eng SW Devon	® WREN MUSIC	Contact	01837 53754 ❑ www.wrenmusic.co.uk

**Fs.8 FOLK LIFE STUDIES: PRINT BOOK PUBLISHERS & BOOKSELLERS**

Eng Cumbria	❖ BARRY MCKAY RARE BOOKS	Barry McKay	017683 52282 ❑ www.barrymckayrarebooks.org
Eng S. Yorks	❖ COLLECTORS' FOLK BOOKS	Dave Eyre	0114 234 4044 ❑ www.collectorsfolk.co.uk
Eng W. Yorks	❖ DAVID HERRON PUBLISHING	David Eckersley	01422 832460 ❑ www.herronpublishing.co.uk
Eng S. Yorks	❖ HALLAMSHIRE TRADITIONS	Paul & Liz Davenport	07947 490 052 ❑ www.hallamtrads.co.uk
Eng Somerset	® LANERCH PRESS & PUBLISHERS	.....	01278 781278 ❑ www.lanerchpress.com
Eng Herefords	® LOGASTON PRESS	.....	01544 327344 ❑ www.logastonpress.co.uk
Eng W. Sussex	❖ MICHAEL RAVEN PUBLICATIONS	Eve Raven	01903 872038 ❑ www.michaelravenpublications.com
Eng Worcs	® 'The ROOTS OF WELSH BORDER MORRIS' (by Dave Jones) Annie Jones	.....	01885 490323 ❑ (no website)

**Fs.9 FOLK LIFE STUDIES: PRINT JOURNALS** for FOLK MAGAZINES & LISTINGS (print & online), see list 3: SERVICES

Cymru	❖ CANU GWERIN , Welsh Folk-Song Society	Dr Rhiannon Ifans (Hon. Sec)	01970 828719 ❑ www.canugwerin.com
International ...	® FMJ (FOLK MUSIC JOURNAL)	EFDSS	020 7485 2206 ❑ http://fmj.efdss.org
... and we are	® FOLK LIFE QUARTERLY: Folklife Traditions	Sam Simmons	01684 561378 ❑ www.folklife.org.uk
...	❖ NORTHERN EARTH	John Billingsley, editor	 ❑ www.northernearth.co.uk

Fs.10 FOLK LIFE STUDIES: FOLK LIFE RESOURCES ONLINE: websites, and blogs with articles

Cymru / Wales (bilingual sites)			
❖ ALAWON BANGOR	Traditional Melodies, from Manuscripts in Bangor University		❑ http://alawonbangor.wordpress.com
❖ CANEUON GWERIN	Exploring and showcasing folk songs from Wales		❑ http://caneuongwerin.wordpress.com
❖ CLERA	The Society for the Traditional Instruments of Wales		❑ www.sesiwn.com
❖ MEU CYMRU	Welsh Tunes and Songs blog		❑ www.meucymru.co.uk/music/alawchan.htm

England			
® FOLKTRAX	(archive site of the late Peter Kennedy's 'folktrax' website)	.....	❑ www.folktrax-archive.org
® FOLK LIFE TRADITIONS online archive of articles etc (from <i>Folklife Quarterly</i>)	Sam Simmons	01684 561378	❑ http://issuu.com/traditions-uk
❖ FOLKOPEDIA	.....	.....	❑ http://folklopedia.efdss.org
® MUSICAL TRADITIONS INTERNET MAGAZINE	Rod Stradling, editor	01453 759475	❑ www.mustrad.org.uk
® THE ROUD FOLKSONG INDEX	Steve Roud	.....	❑ http://library.efdss.org/cgi-bin/query.cgi?query=
® 'SONGS OF THE WEST' , the Sabine Baring-Gould website	Martin Graebe	01452 523861	❑ www.sbgsongs.org
❖ The YORKSHIRE GARLAND GROUP	.....	.....	❑ www.yorkshirefolksong.net

• **DIRECTORY UPDATES** are on FQ page 4.



Drive the Cold Winter Away



by Roy & Lesley Adkins

A song of the Christmas season that always proves popular is *Drive the Cold Winter Away* (Roud number V9375). The words and tune date back some four centuries, and the earliest known version, of around 1625, survives as a printed broadside with twelve verses, headed: 'A pleasant Countrey new Ditty: Merrily shewing how To drive the cold Winter away. To the tune of, When Phoebus did rest, &c.' (EBBA ID 20083; Magdalene College Pepys Collection 1.186-7).

Decades later, in 1719, five verses and the musical notation were published by the prolific playwright and songwriter Thomas D'Urfey in his *Wit and Mirth: or Pills to Purge Melancholy; being a collection of the best merry ballads and songs, old and new* (vol. 4, p.241, London). He called it 'A New Song', with the title 'The Good Fellow'.

The first verse of the Pepys version reads:

'All hayle to the dayes,
That merite more praise,
then all the rest of the yeare:
And welcome the nights,
That double delights,
as well the poore as the Peere:
Good Fortune attend
Each merry mans friend,
that doth but the best that he may:
Forgetting old wrongs,
With Carrols and Songs,
to drive the cold Winter away.'



An illustration of feasting that is printed on the Pepys broadside and was used on other broadsides for different songs

The first verse of the 1719 D'Urfey version is slightly different:

'All Hail to the Days that merit more Praise,
Than all the rest of the Year;
And welcome the Nights that bringeth delights,
As well to the Poor as the Peer.
Good Fortune attend each merry Man's Friend,
That doth but the best that he may;
Forgetting old Wrong with Cup or a Song,
To drive the cold Winter away.
To drive, &c.'

The song has appeared as single broadsides and in collections of songs and ballads ever since, with several recordings by musicians in recent years – focusing especially on the festive verses. The early versions of the song contained a large element of hopeful fantasy, inviting everyone to act generously in winter, with lines such as 'Cross out of thy Books all Malcontent Looks', 'Tis ill for a Mind to Envy inclin'd, To think of small Injuries now' and 'The Court in his State sets open his Gate, and gives free welcome to most'.

This was a song born in a largely agricultural society, and the rural way of life depended on the seasons. Its key is expressed in the desire to 'spend the long Nights in honest delights, To drive the cold Winter away'. It was the prolonged darkness rather than the cold that drastically curtailed working hours. In the depths of winter, daylight lasted only about eight hours, with light levels reduced by poor weather.

Winter nights were indeed very long, dark and cold. The song suggests that if the wealthy ensured that the poor did not have to worry about survival in these desolate months, then the long dark evenings could be tolerable and even enjoyable.

With electric light everywhere now, it is very difficult to picture the winter darkness of past centuries. Indoor gas lamps were available from the first half of the 19th century, though outdoor lighting continued rather dim and patchy well into the 20th. The countryside often experienced virtual black-outs, and so moonlight was preferred for travelling. Diary entries are littered with such references, as with William Holland, vicar of Over Stowey in Somerset, who noted on 26th February 1812: 'My wife and I walked home by ourselves by the light of a very clear moon, tho' we had a lantern too' (Somerset Archives and Local Studies, A\BTL2/36).

Lanterns were lighted by candles, which were never cheap. The best candles were of beeswax or spermaceti, a waxy oil from the heads of sperm whales, but most were tallow candles formed in moulds or by repeatedly dipping a wick into hot tallow, giving rise to the name 'dips'. When these cheaper candles burned, a large amount of grease ran down the sides, and they tended to smoke if the wick was not kept trimmed. They also gave off an unpleasant stench – tallow candles of pig fat were the worst. Many people could not even afford tallow candles, but relied on rushlights, which were laboriously made at home. In 1775 the naturalist Gilbert White, who was curate of the church at Selborne in Hampshire, was told by an elderly householder that 'one pound and a half of rushes completely supplies his family the year round, since working people burn no candle in the long days, because they rise and go to bed by daylight'.

White described the task of making rushlights (which he published in *The Natural History and Antiquities of Selborne, in the County of Southampton*, London, 1789, pp.197-9). Firstly, rushes for the wicks were collected and prepared, then peeled and dipped in hot grease and fat: 'The careful wife of an industrious Hampshire labourer obtains all her fat for nothing,' he said; 'for she saves the scummings of her bacon-pot for this use'. He added: 'A good rush, which measured in length two feet four inches and a half... burnt only three minutes short of an hour ... These rushes give a good clear light.' Nowadays, we would regard rushlights as totally inadequate, but even worse were watchlights. They were made like rushlights, but more of the outer pith was left on the rush, which slowed the rate of burning and allowed matchlights to burn all night. White admitted that the light they produced was dismal – like 'darkness visible'.



Gathering round a meagre fire for warmth and light inside a rather grand fireplace

In many homes, the fire in the open hearth yielded the only light. When George Borrow was walking through north Wales in 1854, he met one elderly man at Llangollen. Owing to his father's death, he had had to work from an early age, but in the evenings he 'used to pore over Welsh and English books by the glimmering light of the fire at night, for that his

continued next page



Drive the Cold Winter Away by Roy & Lesley Adkins, cont'd

mother could not afford to allow him anything in the shape of a candle to read by. He told Borrow: 'I believe I strained my eyes at a very early age, when striving to read at night by the glimmer of the turf fire in my poor mother's chimney corner' (*Wild Wales: Its people, language and scenery* by George Borrow, 1955 edition, London, pp.97-8).

Imagine trying to spend every winter evening unable to afford lighting, except that from the cooking hearth fire. Throughout the long winter, family, friends and neighbours would have been drawn to the cosy circle of firelight, sharing not just warmth but also light. There might not be enough light to sew, write or read, but there was always enough light and warmth to tell stories, sing songs, eat, drink and be merry

- 'forgetting old wrong with cup or a song,
to drive the cold winter away'.

Roy and Lesley Adkins © 2014

Our thanks to Roy and Lesley Adkins, authors of several books on history and archaeology. Their latest book, *Eavesdropping on Jane Austen's England* (*Jane Austen's England* in the US), is now available in paperback. See www.adkinshistory.com.



Folklife Societies: News, Talks, Conferences, & Exhibitions

Folklife Societies: News, Talks, Conferences, Exhibitions

The Nonsuch Dulcimer Club

The Nonsuch Dulcimer Club has been busy planning for an international focus in 2015 as we work with our partners the international Cimbalom World Association and UK charity Dulcimer World Congress to bring a combined 8+ days of Dulcimer Magic to Malvern in Worcestershire next October. Take a look at the workshop and festival listings for more information about this once in a lifetime UK event. If you live in Worcestershire then please get in touch if you are interested in attending or getting involved with some community activities which we plan to run in conjunction with this event. We are particularly interested in hearing from schools and youth groups.

Wherever you live you can also have a go on hammered or mountain dulcimers as we organise a range of opportunities at festivals, historic homes, museums, parks and gardens. If you run a club or festival and would like to invite us we would also like to hear from you. We run beginner workshops (with loan instruments), do concert spots and an information stall where we hang around talking to people about the instruments.

For the latest news and information or to get in touch go to dulcimer.org.uk.

Sally Whytehead

The Single Gloucester Project

The *Single Gloucester* project was awarded a Heritage Lottery Grant of £27,000 to publish Gloucestershire traditional songs and tunes on-line, see article last issue. The project is well under way. 2014-15 is the year that the website is built and populated. The website developers have met and are working on a prototype with sample data.

On the transcription side, we have held 3 workshops and as a result 18 transcribers are signed up and working away at manuscript and audio files. To date about 200 songs have been transcribed out of a possible 800.

At the same time, much supporting documentation has now been deposited with the Gloucestershire Archives.

On the PR front, we have been liaising with some professional folk musicians and singers to put together a programme based on the material. There will also be performance opportunities for local singers next year.

There will be a wassail event in Stroud on 10 January, which will be supported by Gloucestershire Traditions.

Articles have been written for several other magazines including Gloucestershire Archives, Gloucester Local History Society and Gloucestershire Family History society, and we have had mentions in the folk press, e.g. the Traditional Song Forum, and the Christmas issue of the English Folk Dance and Society magazine.

One of the songs which forms part of the project, Thomas Green's *All Through the Drunk*, is featured on the next page.

Gwilym Davies

News in brief:

- **Paul Burgess** writes: I've just put up a new entry of my research on **Charlotte Shayler Neal**, who, as C S Neal provided James Madison Carpenter with many songs and singing games: http://folklopedia.efdss.org/wiki/C_S_Neal
There are various other biographies under both music and song on the Folklopedia site. Do feel free to add to them!
- **Lewis Jones** reports that Ingledew's "The Ballads and Songs of Yorkshire" (1860) is now online at www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/47607
- **Martin Graebe** has been making song recordings from the British Library collection available on the Traditional Song Forum Website - go to www.tradsong.org and click on 'Sounds Online'.
- **English Folk Dance and Song Society**: We're delighted to announce that **Rosie Hood** has been made the recipient of a BBC Performing Arts Fellowship to work with the EFDSS in 2015. And the EFDSS project, *The Full English*, has been nominated for a top education award for its work with schools. It has been shortlisted for the Best Musical Initiative category in the 2015 Music Teacher Awards for Excellence. The programme involved 19 schools across England taking part in creative projects involving traditional song, dance, drama, storytelling and other folk arts, inspired by *The Full English* digital archive that we launched in 2013.

DATES ~

- **Steve Roud** writes: the next **Broadside Day** will be held in London on **21st February**, 10am - 5pm. The **Broadside Day** is an annual gathering of people interested in street literature and other forms of cheap printed material from past centuries, such as broadsides, chapbooks, songsters, popular engravings, and so on. Venue: Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regents Park Road, London NW1 7AY. Tickets are now available from www.efdss.org/whats-on?now=0&length=day&date=2015-02-21
- **Traditional Song Forum**: for our first full TSF meeting in 2015 we will be going to **Newcastle upon Tyne** on **9 May**, where the meeting will be held at the University. Peter Wood and Vic Gammon are planning a day that will be focused on Napoleonic songs and ballads and there will, as usual, be a programme of supporting events over the weekend. www.tradsong.org
- **Folklore Society**:
"Folklore: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow", **17th - 19th April**, Sheffield University, Halifax Hall, Endcliffe Vale Rd, Sheffield S10 3ER.
"Calendar Customs and Seasonal Events", **26th - 28th June**, Exeter University. www.folklore-society.com
- The 2015 **Gŵyl Cerdd Dant** - the festival of *Cerdd Dant*, the Welsh traditional art of presenting or performing poetry to harp accompaniment - is on **14th November** at Porthcawl Pavilion. Details will be announced on the Cerdd Dant Society website, www.cerdd-dant.org



All Through the Drunk

1. Oh I had some fine trou - sers, some ve - ry fine trou - sers. Some
ve - ry fine trou - sers were they. For the bot-toms have worn right out, and the
seats were torn right out, and the knees were stick-cking through for bet - ter wea - - ther.

Chorus:

And it's all through the drunk, boys,
The merry, merry drunk, boys.
All through the beer and tobacco.
I spent all me tin through the girls a-drinking gin,
And o'er the briny ocean we must wander.

2. I had some fine boots, boys, some very fine boots, boys.
Some very fine boots were they.
For the tops they wore right out and the toes were torn right out,
And the toes were sticking through for better weather.
3. I had a fine hat, etc
The top was worn right out and the brim was tore about
And me hair was sticking through for better weather.
4. I had a fine coat, etc
The buttons were all gone off, and the back was tore right out
And me elbows sticking out for better weather.

Source: Sung by Thomas Green, Sapperton. Sung at the end of the Sapperton Mummers play.
Collected by James Madison Carpenter between 1927 and 1935.

©Gloucestershire Traditions

See news previous page: Single Gloucester Project. Contributed by Gwilym Davies

❖ SEASONAL LOCAL CELEBRATIONS ❖

5 Nov 2014: Tar Barrels, Ottery St Mary, Devon

The photos on front cover and page 47 are by @Colin Davies, who writes:

"Tar barrels: these show the ritualistic lighting of the main bonfire (a bit sinister) and a few shots of the barrels.

"The festivities are more carefully controlled than when we were last there 40 years ago. Each year there are concerns whether they will obtain insurance cover and if they will be able to find the tar to coat the inside of the barrels (now only one supplier in the country). There are different size barrels for children, women and men. The running around with the barrels is still within the crowd..."

Sidmouth Information Centre have informed that **two West Country dates** that we listed have now changed to Saturdays:

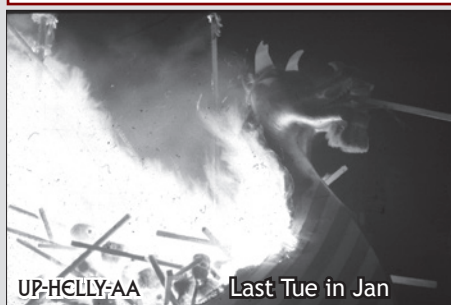
- **Bridgwater Carnival** is now on the 1st Saturday in November
- **Hatherleigh Carnival**, which also includes **Tar Barrels**, is now held on the 2nd Saturday of November.

® **Sidmouth Information Centre**, www.visitsidmouth.co.uk

Sending in contributions

For folklife societies & institutions, such as those we list:
for guidance, please see www.folklife.org.uk/contrib.html
Next deadline is 20 February for the 1 April quarterly.

❖ see also our new website www.bywyd-gwerin.org.uk for **Folklife Traditions Wales** ❖
The whole year is on our online **Folklife Directory** on <http://issuu.com/folklife>, click on FD picture



UP-HELLY-AA Last Tue in Jan



GOATHLAND PLOUGH STOTS
1st Sat after Plough Mon



UP-HELLY-AA

Last Tue in Jan

All listings © Doc Rowe *except any in italics*. All photos © Doc Rowe unless otherwise credited

LISTINGS UNDERLINED = see photos

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JANUARY

MARI LWYD	different places - different days	S.E. Wales	before Christmas to New Year's Day
WASSAILING	Combe in Teignhead	Devon	January
WASSAILING	Churchstanton	Somerset	January
DARKEY DAY	Padstow	Cornwall	1st January
HAXEY HOOD GAME	Haxey	Lincs	6th January
BODMIN WASSAILERS	Bodmin	Cornwall	6th January
TWELFTH NIGHT REVELS	Southwark	London	near 6th January
GOATHLAND PLOUGH STOTS	Goathland	North Yorks	1st Sat after Plough Mon
STRAW BEAR DAY	Whittlesea	Cams	Sat nr 6 Jan
HEN GALAN [old New Year], CALENNIG [New Yr gifts]	Cwm Gwaun	Pembs	13th January [Eds]
APPLE TREE WASSAIL	Whimble	Devon	17th January
WASSAILING	Carhampton	Somerset	17th January
ST DWYNWEN'S DAY	.....	Wales	25 January [Eds]
UP-HELLY-AA	Lerwick	Shetland	Last Tue in Jan



CHINESE NEW YEAR

February



MARI LWYD

from before Christmas
to New Year's Day

FEBRUARY, MARCH, INCLUDING SHROVE TUESDAY (17 FEB 2015), ASH WED. (DAY AFTER)

CARLOWS CHARITY	Woodbridge	Suffolk	2nd February
CRADLE ROCKING	Blidworth	Notts	Sunday near 2nd February
CHINESE NEW YEAR	various	UK	February
QUIT RENTS CEREMONY	Royal Courts of Justice	London	February
TRIAL OF PYX	Goldsmiths Hall	London	February (and May)
RED FEATHER DAY:			
SIR JOHN CASS SERVICE	Aldgate	London	Friday near 20th February
WESTMINSTER GREAZE	Westminster School	London	Shrove Tuesday
SEDGEFIELD BALL GAME	Sedgefield	Co. Durham	Shrove Tuesday
FOOTBALL	Alnwick	Northumberland	Shrove Tuesday
FOOTBALL	Atherstone	Warks	Shrove Tuesday
ASHBOURNE ROYAL FOOTBALL	Ashbourne	Derbys	Shrove Tuesday and Wednesday
HURLING THE SILVER BALL	St Columb Major	Cornwall	Shrove Tuesday and Saturday following

❖ Unique in being a Shrovetide football where the ball is hurled, not thrown. Hundreds of hurlers turn up, the two teams being the Townsmen and the Countrymen. Goals are about two miles apart, but a goal can also be scored by being carried over the parish boundary. There is an afternoon and an evening game. Youngsters get 'silver cocoa' and the silver ball goes round the pubs being submerged in beer to provide 'silver beer'. Based on information from © Chris Ridley.

Ref: *Hurling at St Columb*, Ivan Rabey (Lodenek Press, Padstow: 1972).

CAKES AND ALE CEREMONY	St Pauls	London	Ash Wednesday
DAME ELIZABETH MARVYN CHARITY	Ufton Nervet	Berks	Mid Lent
ST DAVID'S DAY (celebrations, school events)		Wales	1st March (Eds)
KIPLINGCOTES DERBY	Market Weighton	Yorks	Third Thursday in March
TICHBORNE DOLE	Titchborne	Hants	25th March

The Doc Rowe Collection Support Group

www.docrowe.org.uk

has been set up to support the
Archive of Doc's unique collection.

All listings & photos © Doc Rowe, unless stated otherwise. We are very grateful to Doc, who has generously provided detailed listings, with photos.
 All from Doc except in italics; additional info from © Chris Ridley, © Bill Pullen, Tom & Barbara Brown, Audrey Smith, Gary Heywood-Everett and © the Editors.

If you're involved with such events, more entries welcome (and further details and/or contact details), subject to consent of the event's organisers,
 please - some may not want publicity. For links to websites, see Doc's website: www.docrowe.org.uk

Detailed reports - and photos - are welcomed for our *Folklife Traditions* quarterly; FT webpage is www.folklife.org.uk/ft.html

Each FT includes a list for that quarter, updated as appropriate.

Dates believed to be correct, but some weekday dates seem to
be changing towards weekends.

WWW.FOLKLIFE.ORG.UK



Tar Barrels, Ottery
St Mary, Devon. .
Photos
© Colin Davies



Left: photos from page 47;
below: photos on FQ's cover



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Folklife: traditions

● Articles, News, Diary, Listings ●

- Roy & Lesley Adkins:
Drive the Cold Winter Away
- Gwilym Davies: *All Through the Drunk*
- Folklife Publications announced
- Folklife Studies, Folklife Societies
- *Single Gloucester* Project
- Seasonal Local Celebrations:
Doc Rowe: quarterly list & photos

Folklife: members' news

mainly from England: West County
& West Midlands; and from Wales

- *Directory listings*
- *Festival diary*
- *Workshop diary*