

Ballad Printers of Herefordshire a series of articles by Roy Palmer 💥 2. - Ledbury 💥



Battle between Spring & Langan

Until the seventy-third round these champions kept the field,

Reform Song

Our Tory foes will ne'er turn back.

Country Statute

So now stand up for wages, lads, Before that you do hire.

There's rolling Gin, the hemp will spin, And Sal will mind the dairy,

And John will kiss the mistress When the master he is weary





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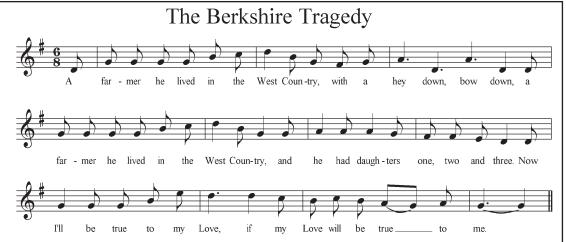
JOURNAL EXPANDS - NOW QUARTERLY!

We are pleased to announce that from this issue, we will publish the Journal in January & quarterly, instead of 6-monthly. Contributions are open to all, except if noted as "[Members only]"

Substantial articles, eg Roy Palmer's in this issue, will be published 6-monthly as before, in January & July. Otherwise, we welcome, quarterly,

- Shorter articles 1/2 page or less (max. 600 words) quarterly, incl information about Folklife Societies
- Seasonal Local Celebrations (Doc Rowe) Members' Folklife Listings: Folklife Organisations, Folklife Studies
- Folklife Diary: courses & workshops (Members only); Conferences & Talks (open to all)
- Publications announced (open to all), CDs announced (Members only);

The Journal is from this issue included in Folklife West; it is also still available separately.



- 1. A farmer he lived in the West Country, With a hey down, bow down, A farmer he lived in the West Country, And he had daughters one, two and three. Now I'll be true to my Love, if my Love will be true to me.
- 2. As they were walking by the river's brim, The eldest pushed the youngest in.
- Oh Sister! oh Sister! Pray give me thy 3. And I'll give thee both house and land.
- 4. Now I'll give thee neither hand nor glove, Unless thou'll give me thine own true love.
- 5. So down she sank and away she swam, Until she came to the Miller's dam.
- The miller's daughter was standing there, 6. As fair as any gillyflower.

- Oh Father, oh Father, here swims a swan Very much like a drowned gentlewoman.
- 8. Oh Miller, I'll give thee guineas ten, If you'll fetch me back to my father again.
- The miller he took her guineas ten, Then he pushed that fair maid back in again.
- 10. The justice was called and the corner too, With a hue and a cry and a hullabaloo.
- 11. The miller was hanged by his own gate, for drowning the farmer's daughter Kate.
- 12. The sister she fled across the seas. And died an old maid among black sav-
- That ends my tale of the West Country, 13. And they call it the Berkshire Tragedy.

I learned this song from Frank Jeal, who then lived at Harwell, Berks (no connection with nuclear research), though he has since lived in Dublin for some 40 years. I have subsequently found the words in Child's Ballads. Child had taken them from Thomas Hughes's novel, "the Scouring of the White Horse", published 1859, set at Uffington, Berks.

Rev Sabine Baring Gould's manuscripts contain a very similar song noted from OC Little by WJ Whitworth on 29 April 1906. However Little noted that the miller's daughter was "as fair as any cauliflower".

Janet Blunt noted the Berkshire Tragedy from her father, Major General Charles Harris Blunt, who learnt it about 1833 or 36 from his uncle and godfather, Mr Harris, who himself got it from his butler, probably a Hampshire man. It is also fairly similar to my version. Another version is included in Lucy Broadwood and J Fuller Maitland's English County Songs (1893). This might have been Frank Jeal's source.

This song is generally regarded as a version of "Binnorie", Child 10, Roud 8, (from the location, the "Dams of Binnorie"), which has been widely found in Scotland and Northumbria. Here a harp or fiddle is strung with the dead sister's hair, or even an instrument is made from her bones. The instrument then plays itself and accuses the older sister.

Charles Menteith

Note from the Editor.-

Last year: bought new equipment and upgraded our Folk West magazine, changing it from A5 to A4 in April, and including a Folklife Diary in October, and so renaming it **Folklife West** to reflect the increased content.

This year: the Journal develops.

We now include it in Folklife West; still available separately (we have a few Journal-only subscribers).

And it becomes quarterly!

Advert rates

are now the same as Folklife West, Details: "INFO PAGE"

= FW page 2, online at www.folklife-west. co.uk/FWads.html

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More copies - rates simply as for FW but for 2 years instead of 1 year!

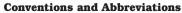
Happy New Year, Sam.



Ballad Printers of Herefordshire a series of articles by Roy Palmer



© Roy Palmer



Printers' trading dates are drawn from the British Book Trades Index (www.bbti.bham.ac.uk), with additional information from census records (kindly provided by Keith Chandler) and from local sources. In the lists of material, ballad and tune titles are in italic; first lines (bracketed), in Roman. Dates of publication are shown in round brackets.

Abbreviations:

BO: Bodleian Library, of which the ballad collection can be consulted and also viewed online at www.bodley.ox.ac.uk/ballads

MA: Madden Collection, Cambridge University Library; microfilm copy in the Vaughan Williams Memorial Library.

*: attributed to this printer.

Part 2: Ledbury

JOURNAL COVER 'LEDBURY', AND 1904 MAP PREVIOUS PAGE, FROM ROY PALMER

James Gibbs

Gibbs, who is sometimes confused with James Gibbs, junior, seems to have been recorded as a letter press printer and auctioneer at Ledbury only in 1821. James Gibbs, junior, who was presumably his son, might well have taken over from him in about 1827 after completing his apprenticeship (see below). Only a handful of ballads with the laconic imprint of 'J. Gibbs, Printer, Ledbury' have survived. One of them chronicles the prize fight which took place at the Pitchcroft in Worcester in January, 1824. The winner, Tom Spring, was a local man, born Thomas Winter at Fownhope in 1795. The Gibbs ballad is completely different from others on the event issued as far afield as London and Gateshead.

Battle between Spring & Langan

Come all you gallant milling blades, wherever you may be, Attend awhile to what I've penn'd, and listen unto me; Tis of two gallant hearts of oak, the truth I will unfold, Fought for Six Hundred Sovereigns in bright and shining gold.

In bumpers fine, of sparkling wine, we'll drink to gallant Spring, The pride of British science, and the hero of the ring.

The one a brave Hibernian youth, young Langan was his name, The other was the champion SPRING, of courage and great fame; On January the seventh my boys, the truth I will declare, To the Race Course in Worcestershire these Champions did repair.

Twas near the hour of one o'clock they entered the ring, The bets in all directions flew in favour of bold Spring; The Irish blades their bets did make in favour of young Langan, But Spring like lightning plac'd his hits upon the Irishman.

O when the fighting did commence, their courage for to try, Quick as lightning Spring soon plac'd a hit on Langan's eye, The Irish bloods were all surpris'd to see such science rare, And wish'd within their heads, my boys, they never had come there.

From the 9th unto the 11th round to Spring was added fame, The Irish coves they one and all were sickening at the game; And when the 12th was ended no marks on Spring were found, But at the closing of the same they both came to the ground.

The 13th and the 14th round were well maintain'd by Spring, Which plainly prov'd to all around, his title to the ring; Though Langan he fought manfully, his friends lost all their hopes,

And in the 17th round, my boys, they both fell o'er the ropes.

Until the seventy-third round these champions kept the field, When Spring severely punish'd him, and forced him to yield; The Irish coves cry'd one and all, We surely are undone, And so with empty purses, boys, they all returned home.

So now the fight is ended, and the contest is all o'er, -The knowing ones of Paddy's land their loss they do deplore; If they again should make a match all for the British ring, Their Langan great, in his retreat, will always find a Spring.

J. GIBBS. PRINTER. LEDBURY

Battle between Spring and Langan (Come all you gallant rolling blades) [1824] BO Call again Tomorrow (I'll to court among all the nobility) / The Beauty (O when I was a little boy) BO Little Sally (Come buy, who'll buy, come buy) **BO** The Much-admired Carol, called The Black Decree (Let Christians all with one accord) BO Vanity Fair! Or A Rough Draught of London, by a Country Bumkin (What's a poor simple clown) BO

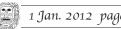
James Gibbs, Junior

This Gibbs was a bookseller, printer, stationer and auctioneer at Home End Street or Homend Street (now called simply the Homend). His ballad imprint invariably identifies him as James Gibbs, Junior. He must be the James Gibbs, printer, aged 35, listed in the 1841 census. He would therefore have been aged 21, and out of his apprenticeship, in 1827, and thus able to succeed his father. In 1851 he appears at 102 Homend Street as James Gibbs, Junior, printer, bookseller and stationer, born in Ledbury. His oldest son was also a James Gibbs, aged 11; and a fifteen year-old apprentice printer, John Davis, shared the family home. James Gibbs, Junior, died in 1859. Thirty-eight of his ballad sheets survive, of which a sequence running from 13 to 32 (but lacking 28) carry stock numbers.

Gibbs favours the standard ballad corpus, with 26 of the 78 individual titles listed here known to be from the oral tradition. Ledbury Ale might seem to be a local production but in fact it simply replaces throughout the word 'English' with 'Ledbury' in a ballad circulating elsewhere in the 1820s and 30s under the title of English Ale or A Bumper of English Ale. However, The Bosbury Carol (also printed in Ledbury by Ward: see below) does appear to be unique to the area. Two further items issued by Gibbs, which I have not seen elsewhere, concern national rather than local matters. William IV, who became king in June 1830, was welcomed with a punning Song, by a Member of a Cricket Club, which concludes:

There's then a health to good King William, Long may he live to grace the Crown; Let us a flowing Crown bowl fill him, And in it all but loyalty drown.

If foes or traitors dare approach, May William prove a striker stout; And, ere the knaves can score a notch, Bowl every rascal of them out.



William IV's personal views were opposed to the reform of the franchise but he grudgingly accepted the act of 1832 which reduced the power of the crown and the influence of the aristocracy and gave parliamentary representation for the first time to industrial towns like Birmingham and Manchester. The event was celebrated by Gibbs in:

Reform Song

Now, my friends, we've gain'd our will, Since we've pass'd the Reform Bill; Then let us to our text stand true, And ne'er desert our loval Blue: And with our glorious Union Jack, Our Tory foes will ne'er turn back. O the Bill, the Reform Bill We've gain'd, and nothing but the Bill.

In times like these let's all agree, And hope for better days to see; -How proud to read in after story, The People sav'd Old England's glory! We fought a battle, gain'd the day, And hang'd be he that dares say nay. O the Bill, &c.

But let us hope the Union fame Our foes will ne'er have cause to blame; Then with Reform wine fill your glasses, And drink to your friends, and wives, and lasses; And may the babe that's yet unborn. Applaud the day we gain'd Reform! O the Bill, &c.

Then since we have our object won, Let's proceed to mirth and fun; To have REFORM a standing toast: And may that toast be pledg'd in peace, Till Kings and People all shall cease! O the Bill, &c.

PRINTED BY J. GIBBS, JUN. [with Rule Britannia]

All titles MA, unless otherwise stated.

All round my Hat (All round my hat I vears a green villow) / Dame Durden (Dame Durden kept five serving girls) All's Well (Deserted by the waning moon) / Canadian Boat Song (Faintly as tolls the evening chime) / My Native Land Adieu (Adieu, my native land, adieu)

Answer to The Gallant Huzzar (It was of a beautiful damsel) / Dashing Sergeant (If I had a beau for a soldier would go)

*Answer to the Inniskillen Dragoon (One fine summer's morning, all in the month of June) / William and Harriet (It's of a rich gentleman

The Awkward Recruit (Behold poor Will, just come from drill) / The Young Rose (This innocent flower I receiv'd from my love)

Betsy Baker (From noise and bustle far away) [c. 1829] / Trio (Hark! the bonny Christ-church bells), no. 13
Black-ey'd Susan (All in the Downs the fleet was moor'd) / The Bold Dragoon (There was an ancient fair, O she lov'd a neat young man),

The Bosbury Carol (When we were all, through Adam's fall) Hereford City Library, Davies Collection, vol. 1, fol. 285

The Devil and Little Mike (It was on one dusky eve) / Cupid is a little Devil (Come here, behold each female face), no. 25

The Good Old Days of Adam & Eve (I sing, I sing of good times older) / When Arthur (When Arthur first at court began), no. 15. The sheet is headed Popular and Select Songs

Green Hills of Tyrol (Green hills of Tyrol, again I see) / The Cabin-Boy (The sea was rough, the clouds were dark) / Time is on the Wing (Strew, strew, with roses)

The Happy Couple (A nobleman liv'd in a village of late) / Wine, Rosy Wine (Wine, wine, rich and rosy wine) / Care flies the Brain (Care flies the brain when you are near)

Heaving the Lead (For England when with fav-ring gale) / Banks of Allan Water (On the banks of Allan Water), no. 23

Here's a Health (Here's a health to all good lasses) / Glorious Apollo (Glorious Apollo from on high behold us) / Pray Goody (Pray Goody, please to moderate the rancour of your tongue) / Away with Melancholy (Away with melancholy)

High-mettled Racer (See the course throng'd with gazers, the sports are begun) / Home! Sweet Home! ('Midst pleasures and palaces, though we may roam) [1823], no. 18

Holes in Stockings (In London town, as I heard say) / The Maid of Llangollan [sic] (Tho' lowly my cot and poor my estate)

How to Nail 'em (My merry, gentle people, pray) / The Woodpecker (I knew by the smoke that so gracefully curl'd), no. 32

Hurrah for the Bonnets of Blue (Here's a health to them that's awa') / Hurrah for an Irish Stew (Hurrah! for an Irish stew), no. 21

I'd be a Butterfly (I'd be a butterfly, born in a bower) / The King! God Bless Him (A goblet of Burgundy fill, fill for me), no. 22 Jack of All Trades (I'm parish-clerk and sexton here) / Song, by a Member of a Cricket Club (Come, Fielders, round the table pop)

Jim Crow (I came from ole Kentucky) / The Flower Girl's Song (Come, buy my flowers! come, buy)

Joe the Marine (Poor Joe, the marine, was at Portsmouth well known) / Light Cigar (Now the day is over), no. 20

L-A-W! (Come list to me a minute) / The Woodlands (How sweet is the woodlands, with fleet hound and horn), no. 16

Life's like a Ship (Life's like a ship in constant motion) / With my Juq in one Hand (With my jug in one hand, and my pipe in the other), no. 26

O Nanny (O Nanny, wilt thou gang with me) / Answer to "O Nanny". Yes, William (Yes, William, I will gang with thee)

The Old English Gentleman (I'll sing you a good old song, made by a good old pate) / The Road! A Parody on 'The Sea' (The Road, the Road, the Turnpike Road!), no. 27

Polly Hopkins and Mr Tomkins (Oh, pretty, pretty Polly Hopkins) / Ledbury Ale (D'ye mind me? I once was a sailor)

The Poor Fisherman's Boy (It was down in the lowlands a poor boy did wander) / Bonny Moon (As I went to my cot at the close of the

Reform Song (Now, my friends, we've gain'd our will) [1832] / Rule Britannia (When Britain first, at Heav'n's command)

Ri fum to fum (If you will list, I vow, sirs) / Pity and Protect the Slave (Sons of freedom, hear my story), no. 17

The Rose-bud of Summer (When the rose-bud of summer its beauties bestowing) / The London Rover (I took my little horse, and from London town I came)

The Sailor's Tear (He leap'd into the boat) / The Exciseman Outwitted (To a village that skirted the sea), no. 29

Scots wha ha (Scots, wha ha wi' Wallace bled) / Oh! No, we never mention her (Oh! no we never mention her)

The Sea (The sea! the sea! the open sea!) / Oyster Girl (Many a knight and lady gay), no. 19

The Soldier's Tear (Upon the hill he turn'd) / Alice Gray (She's all my fancy painted her)

The Wandering Boy (When the winter winds whistle along the wild moor) / Robin Adair (What's this dull town to me?), no. 14

The West Countryman (There was an old chap in the West Country) / Auld Lang Syne (Should auld acquaintance be forgot)

Young Sailor Bold (His cheeks they appear'd like two roses) / Merry Swiss Boy (Come, arouse thee, arouse thee, my brave Swiss boy), no. 24

Ballad Printers of Herefordshire

a series of articles by Roy Palmer

2: Ledbury continued

Thomas Ward

Ward registered his press in the High Street in 1825. He must have died or moved away from Ledbury by 1841, since he does not appear in that year's census. In between, in addition to printing, he owned and ran a 'circulating' library (in fact, a private library which lent books out at a small charge), sold newspapers, and acted as an insurance agent. He appears to have been Herefordshire's most prolific ballad printer, with over fifty sheets extant. In total, these carry over eighty separate items, some of which run to more than one edition. For example, The Seeds of Love and Two Wenches at Once each occur three times. Rather more than half Ward's titles (not necessarily in his versions, of course) are known to have circulated orally, with classics like The Blind Beggar's Daughter, Lord Marlborough and The Golden Glove, not to mention The Wild Rover. Like Gibbs, Ward has little material of obvious local origin. Again like Gibbs, he does print The Bosbury Carol, of which the first of eighteen eight-line verses runs:

When we were all through Adam's fall, Once judged for to die, And from all mirth brought to the earth, To dwell in misery, God pitied then his creature man, In Scripture as you may see, And promised that a woman's seed, Should come for to make us free.

The title may derive from the carol's having been a favourite at Bosbury, and I have a copy of a local manuscript version dating from

Ward may not have printed specifically local material, but he undoubtedly had an eye to the agricultural community in which he lived and worked. The Lucky Farmer's Boy would have been new in the 1830s but, to my personal knowledge, it remained a favourite in the Ledbury area until at least the turn of the twenty-first century. Its rather fortunate dénouement contrasts with the sharp criticism of farmers voiced in ballads which would have found a ready sale at the Ledbury mops, the hiring fairs held every October. The Hiring Day expresses the living-in farm worker's contempt for the conditions under which he has lived:

Old Skin 'emalive was my master last year, He allowed neither ale nor small beer: The cheese was made bad and full of eyes, And rusty fat bacon made into pies. The bread was bad, the flesh was scarce, These are the reason, for leaving my place.

In much the same vein, though not without humour, is:

Country Statute

Come all you lads of high renown, And listen to my story, For now the time is coming on That is to all your glory: For Jumping Joan is coming here The fair for to admire, To see the lads and lasses standing, Waiting to be hired.

The master that a servant wants Will now stand in a wonder. You all must ask ten pounds a year, And none of you go under; It's you that must do all the work, And what they do require, So now stand up for wages, lads, Before that you do hire.

There's rolling Gin, the hemp will spin, And Sal will mind the dairy, And John will kiss the mistress When the master he is weary; There's Tom and Joe will reap and mow, They'll thrash and ne'er be tired, They'll load the carts and do their part, So they are the lads to hire.

There's Poll, so red, will make the bread, Likewise good cheese and butter, And Bet so thick will tread the rick. She is never in a flutter, She'll feed the sows and milk the cows, And do what she is able, Altho' she's mean, she is neat and clean

When waiting at the table.

There's black-eyed Fan with a frying-pan Will cook your eggs and bacon. With beef and mutton roast and boil'd, If I am not mistaken; She'll make the puddings fat and good All ready for the dinner, But if you grumble, when she has done, She will cure you with the skimmer.

The farmer's wife, so full of pride, Must have a lady's maid, sir, All for to dress and curl her hair, And powder it beside, sir; But the girl of art to dress so smart, They call her charming Nancy, She can wink and blink in such a style, She is all the young men's fancy.

And when the mop it is all o'er, You that are young and hearty, Must take your girl all in your hand, And join a drinking party, But when you are returning home, Enjoying sweet embraces, With love and honour spend the night, At Statutes, Fairs and Races.

Ward, Printer, Ledbury [with *Mary's Lament*]

<u>All titles **MA**.</u>

Those marked **BL** are to be found in addition in the British Library, 1876 e 3, 'A Collection of Ballads Printed at Various Places in the Provinces'

Betsy of Dundee (You sailors of this nation, I pray you give attention) / The London Merchant (It is of a rich merchant, who in London we hear)

The Blind Beggar's Daughter (It is of a blind beggar who had lost his sight) / Little Mary, the Sailor's Bride (As William and Mary stray'd by the sea side)

Bold Robin Hood (Bold Robin Hood ranged the forest all round)

The Bosbury Carol (When we were all through Adam's fall) BL

The Butcher turned Devil (Come neighbours draw near me and listen awhile) / Two Wenches at Once (Till I fell in love I was happy enow)

Buy a Broom (From Teutchland I came with my light wares all laden) / I'd be a Butterfly (I'd be a Butterfly born in a bower)

Country Statute (Come all you lads of high renown) / Mary's Lament (My heart it will break, my eyes they will weep) BL

The Curly Hair (Ye lasses and lads land an ear to my song) / The Devil and Hackney Coachman (Ben was a Hackney coachman rare)

The Dandy Bonnet (Come neighbours draw near & listen awhile) / The Seeds of Love (I sowed the seeds of love)

Days of Adam and Eve (I'll sing, I'll sing of good days older) / Flounce to your Gown (Of all the gay fashions we daily do see)

The Deep, Deep Sea (Oh come with me my love) / Undaunted Mary or, The Banks of Sweet Dundee (It's of a farmer's daughter so beautiful I'm told)

Enniskillion [sic] Dragoon (A beautiful damsel of fame and renown) / The Farmer's Son (Come all you pretty maidens fair attend unto my story)

Fanny Blair (Come, all you good people, wheresoever you be) / The Bonny Blue Handkerchief (As early one morning I chanc'd for to stray)

The Flowing Bowl (Come landlord fill a flowing bowl) / The Blind Beggar's Daughter of Bethnal Green (It is of a blind beggar who had lost his sight)

The Fortunate Maid (It's of a pretty maiden fair) / Fate of Young Henry (Young Henry, a sailor bold, as ever plough'd the main)

The Frolicksome Farmer (Tis of a brisk young farmer, who in ----shire did dwell) / The Merry Little Soldier (I'm a merry little soldier)

Ground for the Floor (I livid in the woods for a number of years) / Fair Helen (Fair Helen one morn from her cottage had stray'd)

The Hiring Day (Were you at ----- or did you see) / Sheffield 'Prentice (I was brought up in Sheffield, but not of high degree)

The Humours of the Fair (Ye gallants so pretty in Country and City)

Hurrah for the Bonnets of Blue (Here's a health to them that's awa') / The London Merchant (It is of a rich merchant who in London we hear)

*Jim Crow (I came from old Kentucky, a long time ago) / The Moon is on the Hill Awake my light, my sleeping love)

John and his Wife (Come neighbours draw near and I'll tell you a tale) / The Seeds of Love (I sowed the seeds of love)

*The Life of Georgy (As I was walking over London Bridge) / Highland Mary (Ye banks and braes, and streams around)

*Little Mary, the Sailor's Bride (As William and Mary stray'd by the sea side) / Two Wenches at Once (Till I fell in love I was happy enow)

The London Merchant (It is of a rich merchant who in London we hear) / Down among the Green Bushes (As I walk'd through the meadows one morning in May)

The Lucky Farmer's Boy (The sun had set behind the hill) / Sweet Home (Mid pleasures and palaces though we may roam)

The Lucky Farmer's Boy (The sun had set behind the hill) / Ten o' Clock, Remember Love (Twas ten o' clock one moonlight night)

The Merry Little Soldier (I'm a merry little soldier) / Lash'd to the Helm (In storms when clouds obscure the sky)

The Milk Maid (As cross the fields I chanc'd to stray, I met a pretty milk maid) The Lowland Queen (Now Spring has deck'd the fields with pride)

*My Father's Servant Boy (You lovers all both great & small attend unto my theme) / The Golden Glove (A wealthy young squire of Tamworth we hear)

My Old Hat (I am a poor old man, in years, come listen to my song) / Mary Neil (Once I lov'd a damsel)

The New Fashioned Farmer (Good people all attend awhile)

*The New Sailor's Farewell (Adieu my dearest Betsey, ten thousand times adieu) / The Cottager's Daughter (Down in the valley my father now dwells)

The Nightingale (My love he was a rich farmer's son) / Answer to 3 Strings to my Bow (Oh hear the complaint of a maiden)

The Pawnbroker's Shop (A song I am going to sing you)

The Pensioner's Complaint of his Wife (You neighbours all listen to a story I'll tell) / Down in our Village (When first I was a shepherd bov)

The Pitch Plaister (O have you not heard what a bother and row) BL

*The Poor Little Fisherman's Girl (Twas down in the country a poor girl was weeping) / Lord Marlborough (You generals all and champions

The Rose of Ardee (When first to this country a stranger I came) / The Swiss Boy (Come, arouse thee, arouse thee, my brave Swiss boy) The Swiss Boy (Come arouse thee, arouse thee, my brave Swiss boy) / The Rose of Ardee (When first to this country a stranger I came) *The Tailor in a Hobble (Come listen awhile and a story I'll tell)

Ten o' Clock, Remember Love (Twas ten o' clock one moonlight night) / The Seeds of Love (I sowed the seeds of love)

Times are Altered (Come all you swaggering farmers, wherever you may be)

*Times are Altered (Come all you swaggering farmers, wherever you may be) [another edition]

The Transport (Come all young men of learning a warning take by me) / The Sailor's Courtship (A pretty young shepherdess was keeping

*Two Wenches at Once (Till I fell in love I was happy enow) / The Flowing Bowl (Come landlord fill a flowing bowl)

The Undaunted Female ('Tis of a fair damsel who in London did dwell) / The Merry Little Soldier (I'm a merry little soldier)

What Won't Money Do? (Oh this money, money, money)

The Wild Rover (I have been a wild rover these dozen long years) / The Old Miser ('Tis of an old miser in London did dwell) BL The Wild Rover (I have been a wild rover these dozen long years) / The Lass of Dundee (When first from the city of Dundee I came) BL William and Harriet (It's of a rich gentleman near London did dwell) / The American Stranger (I am a stranger in this country from America

You shan't Come again (I once lov'd a fair maid as dear as my life) / Lost Lady Found (It was down in a valley where violets do grow)

© Roy Palmer.

Fri 20 - Sun 22 | Jan

Shooting Roots: The Great Folk-Splicing Experiment! development weekend for young folk artists.

Fri 27 - Sun 29 | Jan Winter Warmer with Chris Turner, Dave Brown and guests.

Fri 3 - Sun 5 | Feb

Recorder Orchestra

with Justine Spence.

Fri 10 - Sun 12 | Feb

Hurdy-Gurdy Weekend with Nigel Eaton, Patrick Bouffard and Cliff Stapleton.



Sun 12 - Wed 15 | Feb
Traditional storytelling
course: A Place for
Stories with Sharon Jacksties.

Fri 17 - Sun 19 | Feb

Singing Weekend:
Madding Crowd.

Thur 23 - Mon 27 | Feb
Further Improvement
Dance Weekend with
Dorothy Jones and Andrew Shaw.

Fri 2nd - Sun 4 | March

Northumbrian Smallpipes Weekend with Pauline Cato, Andy and Margaret Watchorn, and Francis Wood.

Fri 9 - Sun II | March
Halsway Manor
President's Weekend with
Bonny Sartin and Pete Shutler.

Fri 16 - Sun 18 | March

Community Folk Choir Weekend with Sandra Kerr.

Mon 19 - Fri 23 | March
Traditional Storytellers
and musicians course:
The Music of Story with Sharon
Jacksties.

Fri 23 - Sun 25 | March Halsway Playford Dance Weekend with Alan Davies and guests.

Mon 2 - Fri 6 | Apr

HOT HOUSE

Workshop week for musicians, dancers and artists led by Will Lang.

Thur 5 | Apr. 8pm.

James Findlay - concert

Sat 7 | Apr

SOMERFEST

Jim Moray, James Findlay, 4Square, Dyer:Cummings and more. A one day festival organised by young folk artists.

Fri 13 - Sun 15 | Apr Irish Set Dance Weekend with Ken Lamport and Sarah Loweth, Maggie Daniel. Pendragon Ceili Band.

Mon 16 - Fri 20 | Apr Anglo Scottish Dance Week with Ray Goodswen and Kathy Lawman.

Fri 27 - Sun 29 | Apr Halsway Historical Dance Weekend with Valerie Webster, Bill Tuck, Steve Hunt.

Fri 27 - Mon 30 | Apr **Violin Making Course** with Neville Gardner.

Fri II - Sun I3 | May

Song, Steam and Stories of the Quantocks with Taffy Thomas, Tim Laycock, Tom and Barbara Brown, Hotwells Howlers.

Mon 14 - Fri 18 | May
Halsway Walking and
Dancing Week with Alan
Davies, Peter and Susan Swann and
walking guides.

Mon 21 - Fri 25 | May

Halsway American Contra Dance Week with Jim Kitch (USA). English Contra Dance Band.

Fri 25 - Sun 27 | May

John Kirkpatrick's British Button Box Workshop Weekend



National Centre for the Folk Arts

ENJOY - EXPLORE - LEARN



01984 618274

www.halswaymanor.org.uk



olklife West Journal's Folklife **Diary**

NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS: SHORT COURSES & WORKSHOPS

Note: with a quarterly *Folk West* and a 6-monthly *Journal*, Members' Short Courses & Workshops have been in both.

As from this issue, Journal will now be quarterly, so from this issue, Members' Short Courses & Workshops will be in our Journal pages.

® HALSWAY MANOR, National Centre for the Folk Arts Crowcombe, near Taunton, Somerset TA4 4BD.

see advert on left

Halsway Manor was set up in the mid-1960s as a centre for traditional music. I've met many people who return regularly to the manor 20, 30 and 40 years after their first visit as a child and they all say what a wonderful place it was for children to explore. In recent years though the programme has perhaps been rather dominated by social dance residential events for the older crowd and we are keen to redress the balance and get back to first principles by putting on more activities for young people and families. In January, Shooting **Roots** are putting on a weekend for young folk artists to develop their skills and Will Lang is running our new Hothouse event in March which develops young talent that will perform at the new one day **Somerfest** event for young people at the manor on Easter Saturday. We've also been talking to the Folk Camps organisation about possible collaboration. The Board of Trustees recently adopted a Youth Folk Dance Plan for Halsway Manor which sets some goals for the organisation to provide more developmental activity for younger people. This includes forming a young dance side to perform at festivals. We are actively fundraising for that and the response from our older members has been fantastic. At the same time we need to doing more for older people. The percentage of the population over 65 is growing and many are looking to get involved in folk dance and music because the community side of folk is so strong and inclusive. If anything that is a potentially growing market for Halsway and the folk scene in general. This is all part of Halsway developing from a venue that stages courses to an organisation that makes a more proactive contribution to developing the folk arts. We are one of many organisations nationally that do so and the future is going to be about more collaboration between organisations and festivals to influence national and cultural and education policy and funding. At Halsway Manor we are ready to play our part in that.

® Paul James, Chief Executive

⁴ ceo@halswaymanor.org.uk € 014984 618274 www.halswaymanor.org.uk

® GLEANINGS Rural Study Centre, Crosfields, Gravels Bank, Minsterley, Shropshire SY5 0HG,

We have been so lucky for 2012 to have some top musicians and artists coming along to Gleanings to share in the holiday atmosphere and glorious scenery with those who wish to learn direct from the experts. More information will be added to the website as it comes in - do take a look at regular intervals to keep yourself up to date. If you wish, drop us an email and we shall place you on our Mailing List.

- Sat. 31 Mar Sun. 1 Apr. Sara Grey, Banjo Workshop Weekend 'Instrumental plus accompanying Trad American songs'
- Sat. 14 Apr. Steve Turner, English concertina player 'Traditional songs and accompaniments'
- Sat. 21 Apr. John Hart, 'Willow Basket making for Absolute Beginners'
- Sat. 28 Sun 29 Apr, Vicki Swan & Jonny Dyer "Duos the perfect team"
- Sat. 26 May. Amanda Munday, 'Harp for Beginners' (harps supplied)
- Fri. 8 Sun. 10 Jun. Sue Linton, Watercolour Trees through the
- Sat. 16 Sun. 17 Jun. Sarah Morgan & Carolyn Robson, 'Vocal Harmony Weekend'
- Sat. 23rd Jun. Rees Wesson, Beginners Melodeon 'Simple Tunes and Chords'
- Sun. 24 Jun. Rees Wesson, Beginners Anglo Concertina
- Sat. 14 Sun. 15 Jul. Pauline Fisk, 'Creative Writing Weekend'

® GLEANINGS, continued

- Fri. 31 Aug Sun. 2nd Sep. John Kirkpatrick The Anglo Concertina 'Adding Chords to Tunes and Songs'
- Sat. 29 Sun. 30 Sep. Janet Russell Singing Workshop Dates to be confirmed:
- Karen Tweed, Accordion Workshop: Irish Music (inc O'Carolan)
- Nancy Kerr, Fiddle Weekend Workshop (Saturday concert with James Fagan)

Tutors to be confirmed for following workshops:

- Ukulele, Banjo, Mandolin
 - ® John & Yvonne and John Hart © 01743 891412 ■ www.gleanings.co.uk

see advert below ® WREN MUSIC, Devon Wren Music is set to launch its new Folk Comes To Town series of high profile folk events in



Okehampton. Each FTCC day will feature leading UK and overseas artists from diverse folk traditions, with daytime instrumental workshops and an evening concert or dance. The series kicks off on March 17th with southern France's virtuosos Robert Matta and Pierre Rouch playing music from a variety of traditions from around the western mediterranean on a wide variety of instruments of the oboe and pipe families. Also appearing is multiple award winning Border piper David Faulkner and French dance music aces **Eelgrinders**. The workshops during the daytime will give players of all instruments to learn tunes from the visiting artists and there will be workshops just for pipers. There will also be a rare chance to try out playing pipes with **Ian Clabburn** (pipes are provided but numbers are strictly limited for this bit, so advance booking is strongly recommended).

Find out more and book your place by PayPal at www.wrenmusic.

® Kevin Buckland 🗏 www.wrenmusic.co.uk



"the best in music from around the world"



Piping Hot in Devon on 17th March

A day of workshops, masterclass and evening dance all set on Dartmoor's edge in the lovely old town of Okehampton

Duo Matta-Rouch

Occitan music from Gascony and the Languedoc from two of southern France's finest players of tunes old and new



Eelgrinders

Captivating music from Devon from Brittany and central France ...for the head and for the feet



Piping Hot events include: Masterclass with Matta-Rouch

Technique & repertoire classes for bagpipes (in G) with Robert Matta & Pierre Rouch and David Faulkner

All instruments welcome for afternoon workshops

French and Breton dance workshop Absolute beginners workshop led by Ian Clabburn - pipes

provided - places limited so advanced booking advised French and Breton dance evening with Duo Matta-Rouch and Eelgrinders - presented in association with D'Accord

All day & evening £35 - for booking and separate event prices see www.wrenmusic.co.uk or call 01837 53754





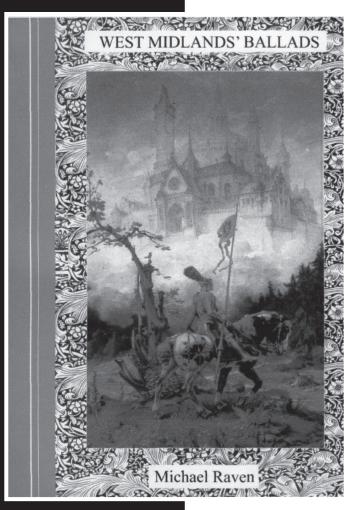








Míke Raven's WEST MIDLANDS' BALLADS



This book contains a superb collection of 171 songs, from Mediaeval times to the present day, that have either words or tunes from the local aural-folk tradition or relate to people or places of historical interest within the region, or were written by authors and composers resident in the area which includes Staffordshire. Shropshire, Warwickshire, Worcester, Herefordshire and the Birmingham - Black Country conurbation.

ISBN 978 0 96114 858 288pp 23cms x 30cms 1.5cms thick The ballads are beautifully illustrated with a wide variety of carefully chosen engravings and photographs, and each has a note and full details of the source of each piece.

PRICE £18.00

available from: Eve Raven telephone 01785 255555 e-mail everaven_nok@yahoo.co.uk

www.michaelravenpublications.com

Folklife West Journal's Folklife Diary

NEXT DEADLINE 20 FEBRUARY FOR 1 APRIL QUARTERLY

NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS: WORKSHOP SERIES



® WREN MUSIC

Mandolin Orchestra Of Devon got off to a good start with its first two rehearsals in the autumn and now has 27 members, playing mandolins and mandolas of all sizes and shapes. The idea of this new orchestra is to bring players together to meet each other, to learn specific mandolin repertoire, and to develop technique and expertise. New faces are always welcome, and the next two sessions are on Saturday 21st January and Saturday 10th March, 2 - 5pm at Fairplace Church, Fairplace, Okehampton, Devon EX20 1DN. Each session will begin with a workshop focusing on elements of technique and answering participants' questions. Then we learn and rehearse pieces specially written for mandolin ensemble. It will be helpful to be able to read music, but not essential - audio files as well as scores will be on the web in advance of each session. Taking part is £15 (£10 for people receiving income-related benefits and full time students).

Find out more and book your place by PayPal at www.wrenmusic.co.uk.

® Kevin Buckland 🖳 www.wrenmusic.co.uk

Folklife Studies: Conferences & Talks

Details are welcome from both Members

and Non-Members, for free insertion

<u>Note: ongoing Workshops series</u> (such as above) are currently listed in our quarterly *Folklife West* magazine. We are considering, since *Journal* changes this issue from 6-monthly to quarterly, that such Member-listings *may* be transferred to our *Journal* pages in future.

FOLKLIFE STUDIES: CONFERENCES & TALKS

Saturday 25th February, 9.30am - 5.30pm

"BROADSIDE DAY 2012"

From: ® Steve Roud NB: Tickets are now available through the EFDSS website:

http://www.musicglue.net/cecilsharphouse/eventdetails/25-feb-12-broadside-day-cecil-sharp-house/

Our third annual one-day event exploring aspects of Street Literature and Popular Print Traditions, Saturday 25th February, 9.30am - 5.30pm, at Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regents Park Road, London NW1 7AY. Organised jointly by the English Folk Dance & Song Society and Traditional Song Forum. Please note: Originally advertised as 10am - 5pm, but to squeeze everything in, we have extended it to 9.30am-5.30pm. Please be prompt if you can! Any questions please contact Steve Road - sroud@btinternet.com.

Speakers (not in the correct order):

E Wyn James (In Merthyr on Saturday Night..: The Ballads & Balladmongers of Glamorgan)

Colin Bargery (The Song of Steam: A Broadside History of the Railway 1820-1870)

Desdemona Mccannon (Contemporary Chapbook Makers and Illustrators)

Anna Guigne ('Old Brown's Daughter')

Lewis Jones (Broadside Ballads with Tunes Attached)

Martin Graebe (The Swimming Lady and the Mountain of Hair: Sabine Baring-Gould and street literature)

Paul Smith (Traditional Drama in Chapbooks)

Giles Bergel (Martin Parker's Wandering Jew's Chronicle; plus New Developments at the Bodleian and EBBA)

Chris Wright ('All You Lovers of Song': Broadsides and the Song Tradition of Scots Travellers).

April 13 - 15

"FOLKLORE AND FANTASY"

From: Dr Caroline Oates

A joint conference of **The Folklore Society** and the **Sussex Centre for Folklore, Fairy Tales and Fantasy,** 13-15 April 2012 at The University of Chichester. For more information, visit <u>www.folklore-society.com</u>

The Folklore Society, c/o The Warburg Institute, Woburn Square, London WC1H 0AB

For more information about membership, visit our website www.folklore-society.com, or call us on 0207 862 8564.



BOOKS ANNOUNCED

Info. welcome from all (Membership not required)

West Midlands Ballads (see advert on left)

This is Mike Raven's last published work before his death in April 2008. It contains a superb collection of 171 songs, from Mediaeval times to the present day, which have either words or tunes from the local aural-folk tradition or relate to people or places of historical interest within the region, or were written by authors and composers resident in the area which the includes Staffordshire, Shropshire, Warwickshire, Worcestershire, Herefordshire and the Birmingham-Black Country conurbation. The ballads are beautifully illustrated with a wide variety of carefully chosen engravings and photographs, and each has a note and full details of the source of each piece.

A4 288 pages, £18.00. ISBN: 978 0 906114 85 8.

Available from: Eve Raven, tel. 01785 255555, e-mail

everaven_nok@yahoo.co.uk; www.michaelravenpublications.com

CDs ANNOUNCED (from our Members only) In The Shadow Of Stromboli (Hobgoblin HOBCD1014)

With a distinctive folk, roots and celtic music sound, The Long Notes' ensemble synergy magically surpasses the sum of its parts, with captivating arrangements of Irish, Scottish, French-Canadian, Galician, Quebecois and old-time tunes. In addition, The Long Notes have honed their writing skills producing some stunning original compositions for their new album. The tension-building title track 'In the Shadow of Stromboli', written by Colette O'Leary, was inspired by a festival the band played in Calabria and a trip to the Aeolian Islands in southern Italy. Across the Tyrrhenian Sea, in the far distant mist, hangs the volcanic plume of the ever-burning Stromboli. Continuing this fiery theme, other brilliantly intense

tracks include Jamie Smith's 'Bogbeat' and 'Viva Galicia', as well as Brian Kelly's trademark banjo pyrotechnics on 'Plain of Jars'. Alex Percy's sensitively sung "Solace and Joy" and guest singer Adam Holmes' beautiful interpretation of the Scottish folk song 'Come by the Hills' add two vocal tracks to an album of outstanding calibre and supreme listenability.

'In the Shadow of Stromboli' is scheduled for general release through *Hobgoblin Records* and *Proper Distribution* on 30th January 2012.

® *Hobgoblin Records*

CDs REVIEWS (from our Members only)

Many folk magazines focus on CD reviews, so we don't. Please do not send CDs to editors. The only CD reviews here will be those sent in by our Members. CD review 150 word limit.

Colin Pitts: March Monday Morning (Cpr 005: Own Label)

Finely-crafted lyrics and melodies inspired by the Vale of Evesham. Larry Kaplan's 'Old Zeb' (the only non-original), the old sea dog remembers his sailing ship with affection. Other tracks: 'Footprints In The Sand' (holidays when young); the title track, chance meeting with a lady driving a 4 x 4 and a motor cyclist at traffic lights; 'Nailers Row', banjo driven about long-demolished Evesham nailmakers' cottages; 'The Monument', Colin's father recalling his father in the Great War and the lack of understanding of frightened volunteers; 'Listen To The Rain', 2007 floods; 'I'm A Fenceman'; 'Step Out Susie', jolly bluegrass; 'Deep Waters Roll' inspired by a painting from his award winning artist son Jonathan; 'Hagley Road'; 'The Dove Flies Over The Mountain', sympathy with refugees as portrayed in the media; 'White House', growing up in Cropthorne village; and 'The Rolling Ramillies', his father's Royal Navy days serving on his favourite battleship. ® Bill Pullen.

For further info, bookings, tuition etc. phone 01386 41760/07939 782280 or email contact@colinpitts.co.uk



no website

[**A**.] FOLKLIFE ORGANISATIONS Associations, Societies, Trusts

(not including those set up solely for 1 folk festival or club/venue or dance series)

Categories as FTD: firstly general (A1-A2), which also appear in our Folk Directory; then specific interests (A3-12).

NATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

ENGLISH FOLK SONG & DANCE SOCIETY (EFDSS) 020 7485 2206 www.efdss.org **FOLKLIFE WEST** Sam & Eleanor Simmons 01684 575704 www.folklife-west.org.uk

A.2 ENGLAND, REGIONAL & LOCAL ORGANISATIONS

[REGIONAL]

Gtr Manc

NW

EM & WM TRADITIONAL ARTS TEAM Pam Bishop 0121 247 3856 www.tradartsteam.co.uk NW **FOLKUS** Alan Bell 01253 872317 www.folkus.co.uk SW WREN MUSIC Kevin Buckland 01837 53754 www.wrenmusic.co.uk

[LOCAL (County, Borough, local area)]

Devon **DEVON FOLK** Colin Andrews 01363 877216 www.devonfolk.co.uk SW Glos **GLOSFOLK** Peter Cripps, Chairman 01452 780401 www.glosfolk.org.uk MALVERN FRINGE ARTS www.malvernfringe.co.uk WM Worcs

TAMESIDE FOLK ASSOCIATION (TFA) Mike Riley FOLK SONG ORGANISATIONS

01452 523861 TRADITIONAL SONG FORUM Secretary: Martin Graebe www.tradsong.org PEDLARS PACK Moderator: Steve Roud http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Pedlars_Pack A.9 FOLKLORE ORGANISATIONS

TALKING FOLKLORE Moderator: Steve Roud http://groups.yahoo.com/group/TalkingFolklore

FOLKLIFE STUDIES [<u>Fs.</u>]

FOLKLIFE RESEARCHERS DOC ROWE 07747 687734 www.docrowe.org.uk/

EDDIE CASS please contact first by post, 548 Wilbraham Road, Manchester, M21 9LB; or by email [available from editor].

GWILYM DAVIES 01242 603094 www.cmarge.demon.co.uk/gwilym

MARTIN GRAEBE 01452 523861 www.sbgsongs.org

STEVE ROUD 01825 766751 / 07739 901998 (no site, email from ed) MIKE RILEY 0161 366 7326 (no website, no email)

FOLKLIFE LECTURERS / SPEAKERS

07747 687734 www.docrowe.org.uk/ DOC ROWE

GWILYM DAVIES 01242 603094 www.cmarge.demon.co.uk/gwilym

MARTIN GRAEBE 01452 523861 www.sbgsongs.org

FOLKLIFE ARCHIVES

The DOC ROWE COLLECTION ARCHIVE Access: please see note on website www.docrowe.org.uk/ FOLKTRAX (the late Peter Kennedy's 'folktrax' website) www.folktrax-archive.org

The ROUD FOLKSONG INDEX Steve Roud http://library.efdss.org/cgi-bin/query.cgi?query=

FOLKLIFE LIBRARIES [also appear in our Folk Directory]

HALSWAY MANOR LIBRARY (Kennedy-Grant Memorial Library) VAUGHAN WILLIAMS MEMORIAL LIBRARY (EFDSS) The Librarian

Directory, and not in **FTD**.

Folk radio

Pf.5c Workshop organisers

The following categories are listed in our *Folk*

Folk directories & local folk magazines

Websites for folk club etc listings

01984 618274 www.halswaymanor.org/kgml/kgml.htm

020 7485 2206 http://library.efdss.org

• M.2

• M.3

• M.4

FOLKLIFE STUDIES: BOOKSELLERS & PUBLISHERS Fs.7

Folklife Publishers ~ Books, Journals & Recordings

ENGLISH FOLK SONG & DANCE SOCIETY (EFDSS)

020 7485 2206 www.efdss.org

'The ROOTS OF WELSH BORDER MORRIS' from Mrs. A. J. Jones

01885 490323 (no website)

0161 366 7326

SAYDISC RECORDS Gef Lucena www.saydisc.com

Folklife Publishers ~ Internet Fs.7c

· With articles and/or detailed information re Folklife resources, not already listed above under Organisations

SABINE BARING-GOULD WEBSITE Martin Graebe 01452 523861

http://www.sbgsongs.org

Based on our Folklife Traditions Directory ("FTD"), printed, & also available as PDFs from

http://ftdir.folklife-west.org.uk

FTD entries are free, and mostly not from Members.

Only our Members are listed here.

Other categories: no Member entries,

SEE OUR

FOLKLIFE TRADITIONS DIRECTORY ('FTD') FOR MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

up to 40 word description, contact details: address, tel, fax, mobile, web

· listing Folklife West Members & non-Members - free!.

THESE 1-LINE SUMMARIES are based on our FTD plus Updates

Clubs, Performers, Festivals, Media, Services

• for Folklife Organisations and Folklife Studies, only members are listed here

• UPDATES will be listed here.

Other categories: see FTD. Suggestions for others always welcome. See FOLKLIFE WEST and the FOLK DIRECTORY for

WE THANK MEMBERS FOR THEIR SUPPORT. without you, there'd be no *Journal*.

OTHER READERS CAN SUPPORT US BY JOINING, details are on page J-2 - it's only £12 for 2 years for Journal Membership or £12 for 1 year for full Membership (including Folklife West magazine)

The Roots Of WELSH BORDER MORRIS



The Welsh Border Morris Dances of Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Shropshire

DAVE JONES

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 anniejones@millfield.orangehome.co.uk



New Website of Gloucestershire Christmas Songs and Traditions

Did you know that The Holly and The Ivy, the carol which we all sing at Christmas, was first recorded from a woman in Chipping Campden?

It's a Gloucestershire carol.

Did you know that the well-known Gloucestershire Wassail is only one of over 20 wassail songs that were sung in Gloucestershire?

If you want to sing carols and see Christmas customs from Gloucestershire, where can you find

There is no one place where people can go to learn about songs that were traditionally sung in Gloucestershire. The information is scattered around in many places. Singers, choirs, schools, local history societies and communities all want to know more about our heritage.

The Glossongs group has been formed to address this need. Next year, we are planning on developing a website that will contain all the songs which we can find which were passed down through family and friends and sung traditionally in Gloucestershire, and also the customs which made a Gloucestershire Christmas. This will need some funding, but we want to get these songs sung again all over Gloucestershire and help groups and schools to do this.

In the meantime with support from Glosfolk we have developed a pilot website:

www.gloschristmas.com

This contains a selection of real Gloucestershire Christmas songs, together with information on Christmas customs such as Wassailing and Mumming. Each song is linked to background notes on the singers and the song - where it was sung, who sang it, who recorded the song from the singer etc. You can hear the song from the original singers and also contemporary recordings.

Song Versions



Each song entry by a singer is presented in several ways for listening and singing. Firstly the 'Copy as collected', secondly the 'Copy for singing and download' and finally 'Contemporary recordings' of the songs.

Copy as collected For every song we always provide the original words and tune as collected. This may have inconsistencies and may only have one verse. To hear the tune we either provide the actual 'archive-recording' or a sound file (MIDI) of the tune when there is no

Copy for singing and download Sometimes the collected song is complete and in a key that most voices can manage. If songs are incomplete and/or too high for the average singer, we provide a PDF document that can be downloaded, containing the full words and score in a lower key, and also a sound file (a MIDI). When creating this copy, the edit or addition of extra words is a matter of judgement and we try to include notes to explain our choices.

Contemporary recordings If we know of contemporary recordings, then these may also be provided as links, so that a contemporary version, often with instruments, can be sampled. This can breathe life into a song for listeners not used to unaccompanied singing or tune files (MIDIs).

You can find out where to hear carols and wassails and where to see mummers:

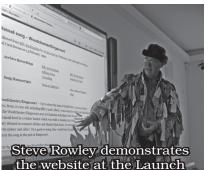
Wassailing in Gloucestershire

The Old Tradition of wassailing probably died out in the country as recently as the 1960s, and consisted of a group of people going from house-to-house during the Christmas period, singing the Wassail Song and carrying a decorated wassail bowl which was occasionally used to collect money or to hold drink, but usually was a token decoration. Furthermore, in a few villages, the wassailers would also carry an effigy of a cow or bull, referred to as the Broad or Bull. After singing their song, perhaps with a few other seasonal pieces, they would then be given money or food in return. Nearly every village in the south of Gloucestershire and even into Wiltshire had their own version of the song and the custom, many of which have been collected, but no one version can be considered as the 'original'. The song was often called The Waysailing Bowl and the pronunciation 'Waysail' must have been the pronunciation that Sharp and other collectors heard but they chose to note it as 'Wassail'. On the website we have noted versions of the song from eight villages but many more exist.

The New Tradition. Of recent years, and driven to some extent by the folk revival, morris dance sides, etc, there has arisen a new manifestation of wassailing in Gloucestershire, based rather on traditions carried out in other counties, such as Somerset and Devon. In this version, rather than a group of people 'going wassailing', entities such as farms will hold a wassail event. This usually consists of blessing the trees in an orchard, especially cider apple trees, firing shotguns in to the branches and reciting short wassail rhymes. This is followed by general merriment, singing, dancing, eating and drinking and a good time is had by all.

Mumming in Gloucestershire

Archives indicate over 60 locations in Gloucestershire where mumming was recorded in the C19th and early C20th. There are mumming performances throughout December, some big and very



public, such as the Boxing Day performance of the City of Gloucester Mummers outside Gloucester Cathedral after the morning service. Other groups perform only for their own community, with little visibility elsewhere. We list where you can see all those that we know of and intend to add to this list in future.

The website was launched at Gloucester Folk Museum on 6th December in the presence of the Sheriff and Deputy Mayor of Gloucester.

We have received help from many people and organisations and we are grateful to these for the assistance they have provided on local carols and customs.



Carol Davies

LISTINGS: SEASONAL LOCAL CELEBRATIONS, A LIST BY DOC ROWE



All listings & photos © Doc Rowe unless stated otherwise.

We are very grateful to Doc for generously providing such detailed listings & photos.

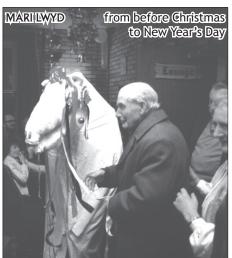
More entries welcome

subject to consent of the event's organisers, please - smaller ones may not want publicity - including further details / detailed reports, contact details, and photos.

• our Folklife Traditions Directory has the complete list plus photos, some in colour. Printed £3 by post, or online as free downloads as PDFs from the FTD webpage: http://ftdir.folklife-west.org.uk









JANUARY All entries from	Doc except any in italics	5	
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
HAX€Y HOOD GAM€	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	Cambs	Sat nr 6 Jan
APPLE TREE WASSAIL	Whimple	Devon	17th January
WASSAILING	Carhampton	Somerset	17th January
DICING FOR MAIDS MON€Y	Guildford	Surrey	29th January or near
<u>UP-HELLY-AA</u> photo above	Lerwick	Shetland	Last Tue in Jan

FEBRUARY, MARCH, INCLUDING SHROVE TUESDAY (21 FEB 2012), ASH WED. (DAY AFTER)						
Woodbridge	Suffolk	2nd February				
Blidworth	Notts	Sunday near 2nd February				
various	UK	February				
Royal Courts of Justice	London	February				
Goldsmiths Hall	London	February (and May)				
Aldgate	London	Friday near 20th February				
Westminster School	London	Shrove Tuesday				
Sedgefield	Co. Durham	Shrove Tuesday				
Alnwick Nor	thumberland	Shrove Tuesday				
Atherstone	Warks	Shrove Tuesday				
Ashbourne	Derbys	Shrove Tuesday				
		and Wednesday				
St Columb Major	Cornwall	Shrove Tuesday				
	Woodbridge Blidworth various Royal Courts of Justice Goldsmiths Hall Aldgate Westminster School Sedgefield Alnwick Atherstone Ashbourne	Woodbridge Suffolk Blidworth Notts various UK Royal Courts of Justice London Goldsmiths Hall London Aldgate London Westminster School London Sedgefield Co. Durham Alnwick Northumberland Atherstone Warks Ashbourne Derbys				

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 Colum	b, Ivan Rabey (Lodenek Press, Padstow: 1972).
CAKES AND ALE CEREMONY	St Pauls	London	Ash Wednesday
KIPLINGCOTES DERBY	Market Weighton	Yorks	Third Thursday in March
TICHBORNE DOLE	Tichborne	Hants	25th March
DAILY OF MEEKIN			

DAILY OK WEEKLY			
RIPON HORNBLOWER	Ripon	N. Yorks	Daily
CEREMONY OF THE KEYS	Tower of London	London	Daily
WAYFARERS DOLE	Winchester	Hants	Daily
FARTHING BUNDLES	Bow	London	Rarely held
JOHN SAYER CHARITY	Woodbridge	Suffolk	Every Saturday

This Diary will be published quarterly in our Folklife West Journal.

• The Journal's webpage ishttp://journal.folklife-west.org.uk

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