



topsham folk club

folk music & song on Sunday evenings

spring concerts 2019

Crows

- The Globe Malthouse, Fore Street, Topsham EX3 0HR
24 March 2019 at 8pm. £12 adv/£14 door

Daoiri Farrell

- Matthews Hall, Fore Street, Topsham EX3 0HF
7 April 2019 at 8pm. £12 adv/£14 door

Concert tickets can be bought online at
www.topshamfolkclub.org also on singers' nights
or at concerts - all enquiries 01392 875332

FREE feature spot: at our singers' night at
The Globe Hotel Malthouse on 3 February 2019
we present an hour with Si Barron



Singers nights at The Globe Hotel Fore Street

Topsham EX3 0HR
Apart from concert
evenings and August
all other Sundays are
singers' nights from
8pm-10.30pm.
Free entry.
All welcome
- sing, play, join in,
or just listen...

Totnes Folk Song Club

2nd Thursday of the Month – 8.00pm

The Dartmouth Inn

The Plains, Totnes

10th January - Singers' Night

14th February Singers' Night

14th March - Guest Night - Nick Dow

11th April Singers' Night

For more information contact
Anne & Steve Gill 01803 290427
Or Andy Clarke 01803 732312



PENNYMOOR SINGAROUND

"Cruwys Arms", Pennymoor,
near Tiverton, Devon EX16 8LF

8.00pm, 3rd Wed of month

Contact Nicola King 01837 82100
nicolaaking@btinternet.com

MUSIC SESSION

12pm, last Sun of month

Contact Clare Penney 01884 860023

Facebook:

Pennymoor Singaround**PENNYMOOR SINGAROUND**® see **ADVERT ON LEFT**

This vibrant folk community has been around
since the 1970's.

Folk sessions: several monthly sessions are run by
Penny Moor members in Devon [see **LISTINGS: VENUES** for
more details].

- Last Sundays, Lunchtime, **Cruwys Arms Music Session**,
Pennymoor
- 1st Sundays, **Devonshire Inn Session**, Sticklepath, 8pm
- Last Tuesdays, **The New Inn**, Coleford, 8pm
- 1st Tuesdays, **The Lamb Inn Session**, Sandford, near Crediton, 8pm
- 3rd Wednesdays, **The Pennymoor Singaround**, 8pm

Penny Moor Song and Ale in June 2019, see **FESTIVAL DIARY** for details.

See our **Facebook page: Pennymoor Singaround** for other events.

® *Hazel Underwood*

If you would like to be publicised in FW ~ it's only £15 a year!

• **your membership includes FW posted to you, each issue!**

• **We can set up your publicity:**

- ~ the £15 can include **several listings & news items** ~ **up to 200 words** per item, eg club, performer news, your CD, festival, etc etc
- ~ **we help by drafting LISTINGS**, for you to approve/change before we list them on www.folklife-directory.uk (+ summaries in FW)
- ~ once listings are confirmed, we then use those details **setting up NEWS ITEMS**, again for you to approve/change; and
- ~ we help **setting up ADVERTS** from your emailed text & images

Contact Sam@folklife.co.uk / see p.3



GREETINGS FROM SOUTH DEVON

BY

**MARTYN
HILLSTEAD****Teignmouth Folk Club****Hi all.**

The **Teignmouth Folk Club**® continues to thrive, and celebrated its 15th birthday in October with a great night featuring local trio **Devon Bird**, who delighted a full house with a cracking performance. Our next guests will be **Jack's Rambling**, on Thursday 31 January. This talented duo of Dave Barker and Glen Titmus perform traditional and contemporary tunes and songs on guitar and fiddle from the British Isles and beyond. We meet at The Oystercatcher's Cafe, Northumberland Place, on the last Thursday of the month, 8pm. Free admission. More details from me on 01626 778072, martyng@aol.com or follow us on Facebook.

Teignmouth hosted the inaugural **Teign Shanty Festival** in September. According to Steve Collings, one of the organisers and member of local shanty crew *The Back Beach Boys*, the event was "a roaring success. We had many compliments about how professionally the festival was organised. One of the performing crews said that it was the best organised festival they had ever attended." The festival raised funds for the **RNLI, Torquay's Rowcroft Hospice**, and two Teignmouth-

based causes, the **Teign Heritage Centre** and the **Alice Cross Centre**. The second Shanty Festival is to be held on 28/29 September 2019. Check out teignshantyfestival.co.uk

Mrs H and I had a great evening at the **Totnes Folk Club**® recently when we were treated to superb unaccompanied singing from **Dave Webber and Anni Fentiman**. The club meets at The Dartmouth Inn on the 2nd Thursday on the month. Details from Steve and Anne Gill on 01803 290427.

The wonderful Geoff Lakeman will be guesting at **Folk on the Moor**, Westward Inn, Lee Mill, Ivybridge on Sunday 6 January, and then on the 20 January Geoff's talented son **Sean** and equally talented daughter in law **Kathryn Roberts** will be also guesting at the club. Details from www.moorfolk.co.uk

Local lad made good **Jim Causley** will be playing at St Paul's church in Starcross on Friday 25 January. Jim is one of those naturally gifted performers who can't help but entertain. Tickets are available from www.wegotickets.com/events/45053
Shameless self-promotion alert...

Local folk/rock band, **Mother's Ruin**, featuring your humble correspondent on drums, will be returning to The Cider Bar, East Street, Newton Abbot on Sunday 27 January. 3-5pm. Free admission.

I would just like to say a fond farewell to **Roy Bailey**, one of my favourite performers, who died recently. RIP.

On behalf of myself, Nikki (Mrs H) and our recently adopted Tibetan Terrier, Archie, may I wish you all a happy festive season and a happy, healthy and peaceful 2019.

Martyn

® **Martyn Hillstead, 01626 778071, martyng@aol.com**



Devon (incl. Torbay and Plymouth) 1-Line Summaries (= 1st line of detailed online listings)

DETAILED LISTINGS in www.folklife-directory.uk/Cornwall-Devon — our online Members DIRECTORY

⇒ our Membership (only £15 a year! see p 3) includes listings & your publicity & FW posted to you

MEMBERS LIST 1: VENUES		Song — Music — Poetry — Story — Dance				Clubs — Concerts — Singarounds — Sessions — Dance Clubs & Ceilidhs	
Day Varies	Dev/Som EXMOOR	MOOR MUSIC	www.umbermusic.co.uk		Tom/Barbara Brown		01271 882366
Last Sun, *L*	Devon PENNYMOOR	CRUWYS ARMS MUSIC SESSION	Facebook: Pennymoor Singaround		Clare Penney		01884 860023
1st Sun	Devon STICKLEPATH	DEVONSHIRE INN SESSION	Facebook: Pennymoor Singaround		Derek Moore		01837 659715
Weekly Sun	Devon TOPSHAM	TOPSHAM FOLK CLUB	www.topshamfolkclub.co.uk		John Stephens		01392 875332
Last Tue	Devon COLEFORD	THE NEW INN SESSION	Facebook: Pennymoor Singaround		Ollie Holland		01363 85022
1st Tue	Devon SANDFORD	THE LAMB INN SESSION	Facebook: Pennymoor Singaround		Hazel / Paul		01363 776275
3rd Wed	Devon PENNYMOOR	PENNYMOOR SINGAROUND	Facebook: Pennymoor Singaround		Nicola King		01837 82100
Weekly Thu	Devon BIDEFORD	BIDEFORD FOLK CLUB	www.bidefordfolkclub.com		John Purser		01237 424286
Last Thu	Devon TEIGNMOUTH	TEIGNMOUTH FOLK CLUB	www.communitate.co.uk/twc/teignfc		Marty Hillstead		01626 778071
2nd Thu	Devon TOTNES	TOTNES FOLK SONG CLUB	www.flaxey-green.co.uk		Anne Gill		01803 290427
1st Fri	Devon BRIXHAM	BRIXHAM FOLK CLUB	www.flaxey-green.co.uk		Anne Gill		01803 290427
2nd, 4th Sat	Devon COMBE MARTIN	SHAMMICK ACOUSTIC	www.shammickacoustic.org.uk		Tom/Barbara Brown		01271 882366

MEMBERS LIST 2: PERFORMERS		Pf.1 Folk Music & Song — Pf.2 Folk Dance — Pf.3 Spoken Word				
Pf.1a Folk Music & Song - Bands / Groups						
Devon	MOTHER'S RUIN	www.lemonrock.com/mothersruinbishopsteignton		Marty Hillstead		01626 778071
Devon	THE CLAQUE	(no website)		Bill Crawford		01278 450838
Devon	WREN BAND	www.wrenmusic.co.uk		Wren Music		01837 53754
Pf.1b Folk Music & Song - Duo						
Devon	MARILYN TUCKER & PAUL WILSON	www.wrenmusic.co.uk		Wren Music		01837 53754
Devon	TOM & BARBARA BROWN	www.umbermusic.co.uk		Tom/Barbara Brown		01271 882366
Pf.1d Choirs & Quires: Folk & Community Choirs & Bands, West Gallery						
Devon	WREN MUSIC groups: see List 5, WORKSHOPS.					
Pf.2b Folk Dance Bands						
Devon	WREN BAND	www.wrenmusic.co.uk		Wren Music		01837 53754
Pf.3a Folk Shows & Theatre, Mummings						
Devon	TOM & BARBARA BROWN	www.umbermusic.co.uk		Tom/Barbara Brown		01271 882366

MEMBERS LIST 3: MEDIA						
M.1 ONLINE FOLK MAGAZINES & LISTINGS						
West County [+ W Mids, Wales]	FOLKLIFE MEMBERS' ONLINE DIRECTORY	www.folklife-directory.uk		Sam Simmons		01684 561378
M.2 PRINTED FOLK MAGAZINES & LISTINGS for Journals, see List 8: Folklife Studies						
Devon	WHAT'S AFOOT	www.devonfolk.co.uk		Anne Gill		01803 290427

MEMBERS LIST 4: SERVICES						
S.3 TECHNICAL: PA & SOUND HIRE, ENGINEERS, STUDIOS						
Devon	WREN MUSIC PA System & operator, short run CDs	www.wrenmusic.co.uk		Paul Tucker		01837 53754
S.8 TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRES						
Devon	SIDMOUTH INFORMATION CENTRE	www.visitsidmouth.co.uk		Info		01395 516441

see DIARY-LISTINGS PAGES (follows these news pages) for List 5: WORKSHOP DIARY List 6: FESTIVAL DIARY (NEXT 12 MONTHS)



Apr 27, Jim Causley at Shammick
SHAMMICK ACOUSTIC,
 The Pack O' Cards (01271 882300),
 High St, Combe Martin, Devon EX34 0ET.
Sat: 2nd, Open Nights; 4th, Concerts
Jan 12, Open Night
Jan 26, Jez Lowe: Always one of our favourite guests, it's a treat to welcome back this brilliant North-Eastern songwriter. Jez just goes from strength to strength, with nominations in the BBC's Folk Awards for both Folksinger of the Year and Best New Song.
Feb 9, Open Night

Feb 23, Kimber's Men: One of the most popular shanty and maritime groups in the country, Kimber's Men make a welcome return to Shammick Acoustic. Their use of harmonies is second to none.
Mar 9, Open Night
Mar 23, Granny's Attic: One of the younger rising star groups on the folk scene, Granny's Attic have been stunning audiences with their skilled singing and playing over the last few years. Having started playing together at school in Worcester, all three of them went on to study music at degree level.
Apr 13, Open Night
Apr 27, Jim Causley (or Gym Cawsleigh): Jim needs little introduction, as he is a Devon-grown talent, who relishes the songs, music and folklore of his native West Country. His skill as a singer, songwriter, composer and musician is recognised by his various awards and work for both radio and TV.
May 11, Open Night
 @ Tom & Barbara Brown
 • 01271 882366 • contact@shammickacoustic.org.uk
 • www.shammickacoustic.org.uk • www.umbermusic.co.uk
 Tickets for 4th-Saturday concerts can be bought on-line from www.wegotickets.com/ShammickAcoustic

WREN MUSIC ~ community music in the South West
 • Baring-Gould Folk Weekend, October 26-28, see *FESTIVAL DIARY* pages, & www.baring-gould.co.uk
 • Baring-Gould Folk Song School, October 22-26, see *WORKSHOP DIARY* pages, & www.baring-gould.co.uk
 • see *WORKSHOPS DIARY ~ WEST COUNTRY* for an amazing selection of Wren's continuing courses!
 @ Wren Music 01837 53754 www.wrenmusic.co.uk

BIDEFORD FOLK CLUB, The Joiners Arms, 6 Market Street, Bideford, Devon EX39 2DR. *Every Thursday, 7.30pm*
 The Thursday Folk crowd, at Bideford, have been busy over the last few months with some cracking guests, local 'talent' spots and an **Away Weekend** in Newquay shared with friends from **Bude FC** and **Pennymoor Singaround**. It's made for a busy Autumn, but now winter's upon us we have future events to plan and to look forward to. On **24th January** the wonderful songwriter and gentle humourist **Reg Meuross** is our guest – one of the country's finest writers, whose songs appear in the repertoire of so many current performers. After that on **April 25th** there is a night with **Silvington**, aka Tricia Moore and John Connor, performing traditional and contemporary song, in a partnership started in 2016. **June 13th** brings **Quicksilver** – Hilary Spencer and Grant Baynham - you know they are un-missable. Our final confirmed guest for 2019 so far, is **Bruce Watson** on **10th October**. 'Who he?' I hear you ask, well he's from **Melbourne**, down under, and it's his **first tour here**. He's written some hilarious and scathing songs and his website gives a fair clue as to his **no holds-barred** performance – **should be fun!**
 Every Thursday, **all welcome**, donation only, and plenty of singing guaranteed!
 @ Al Cruse
 Info: @ John Purser, 01237 424286. bidefolk@gmail.com, www.bidefordfolkclub.com

Next deadline: 19 Mar for 1 May issue



MEMBERS' NEWS
 ENGLAND: WEST COUNTRY
 ENGLAND: WEST MIDLANDS + OXON
 ENGLAND: OTHER AREAS



EAST/MID DEVON & EAST SOMERSET REPORT



BY OUR CORRESPONDENT FOR
EAST / MID-DEVON & EAST SOMERSET

BILL CRAWFORD

Traditional singer (solo; and with The Claque) & MC - West Country born and bred. He is a regular performer at Sidmouth, Dartmoor and Chippenham Folk Festivals.

The Claque

Hi everyone, it seems only a few days ago that I was writing the report for the October edition. We are now back to dark evenings and colder weather and I must confess I have spent time curled up by the fire with @ **Martin Graebe's** excellent book on the **Reverend Sabine Baring Gould**. It is well worth reading and contains fantastic detail on him and some of his singers.

In September I managed to get along to the first **Eli's session** of the season (3rd Saturday), The Rose and Crown, Huish Episcopi. It was a capacity crowd with some excellent singing from Rod Harrington and Mary Lepley, John Waltham and Dave Lowry who came up from Exeter to mention a few.

The first weekend in October saw the **Pennymoor singaround** @ hosting a weekend in Brixham. The intention was for it to replace the Bampton 'After the fair' event and to include Breton and Irish friends, but unfortunately none of them could make it. Friday night and Saturday morning and lunchtime were 'jump in' sessions. 'Ollie' Holland was in charge on Saturday night for a more organised song and music session, and he ran a good evening, despite having to put up with some people wandering in and out whilst people were singing. **Pennymoor Singaround** meets every 3rd Wednesday in Pennymoor.

Halloween night saw the second '**Old Grey Mare**' event at Sticklepath, near Okehampton. Regular readers will know I wrote

about this last year as the first evening of a new tradition. There were slightly fewer people there this year, largely due to the heavy rain showers we had, but the community is certainly getting behind this event. For those of you who don't know, Tom Pearce's grave is in Sticklepath and many of the characters in the *Widdecombe Fair* song lived in the village. I suspect however that the old singers used the names of people who happened to be around any given night they sang the song and the well-known names are those used on the night some collector heard it and wrote it down!

The **Sticklepath group** were asked to take the event to **Halsway Manor** @, in the Quantocks, over the weekend of 2nd - 4th November for a weekend of **Dartmoor Folklore and Fakelore**. The performance of the event and 'mummers play' went down well and prompted a lively discussion on what is tradition and what is folklore. It was a great weekend ably hosted by **Tom and Barbara Brown** @, with some fascinating archive film from **Doc Rowe** @ who also gave a brilliant presentation on 'The Mortonhamstead Dancing Tree' - No I had never heard of it either.

Although it is a bit out of my patch, I attended the November '**Inn on the Green**' song and music session in Bristol (Horfield) which is normally the 1st Monday. There was some fine music and singing in a well-supported evening run by Harry Langston. Do try to get along to that and other sessions near you and let me know of anything you are planning, and I will include it in the next edition, until then I hope you had a good Christmas and have some great folky sessions in 2019

Cheers me dears

Bill Crawford

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✉ billcrawford@phonecoop.coop

• Your news is welcome from East and Mid Devon and from East Somerset clubs and sessions