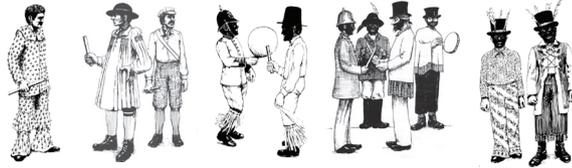


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THE FT PAGES ARE INCLUDED WITH FOLKLIFE WEST PRINT MAGAZINE, see folklife.org.uk

Folklife Traditions ♦ Traddodiadau Bymyd Gwerin

FW's FOLKLIFE TRADITIONS PAGES

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

- Article: *Welsh Traditional Instrumental Music*, by Meurig Williams p41
- Song & notes: '*Bold Lamkin*', sung by Tony Lloyd, Malvern, Worcs. By Gwilym Davies p42-43
- Article: '*Selling Wives*' by Roy & Lesley Adkins p44-45
- *Folklife Studies & Traditions: Folklife News & Diary* Books & Recordings announced; Folklife Societies news & diary p45

○ **YOUR NEXT DEADLINE** is 19 Mar for 1 May FT issue

● ONLINE DIRECTORY - www.folklife-directory.uk - print summary:

- ◆ *List 7, FOLKLIFE SOCIETIES* p46
- ◆ *List 8, FOLKLIFE STUDIES & INSTITUTIONS* p47
- ◆ *List 9, SEASONAL LOCAL CELEBRATIONS* a list & photos, mostly by Doc Rowe .. back cover of insert

◎ symbol denotes *Folklife Members* - regular FT contributors receive free *Folklife Membership*; do join us!

● www.folklife-traditions.uk - the Folklife Traditions (FT) pages online

- FT Directory: lists 7,8,9 - detailed listings online
- FT Archive: individual FT issues, index, links to articles & most of FT

FOLKLIFE TRADITIONS PAGES: contributors.

We are regularly indebted to regular contributors **Doc Rowe** for his list & pictures, to **Roy & Lesley Adkins, Brian Bull, Charles Menteith, Gwilym Davies,** and **Ian Pittaway**, for songs, tunes, articles, & notes; and to others, from time to time, as listed in FT. We welcome **Meurig Williams** from this issue.

And we remember the late **Roy Palmer**, a generous contributor for over 30 years, from August 1983 in *FW's* predecessor, the *Somers' Broadsheet*.

FT header artwork: © our logo, **Chris Beaumont**; and morris dancers © **Annie Jones**; from *The Roots Of Welsh Border Morris* (Dave Jones)

Folklife Traditions: Clera - playing Welsh traditional instrumental music

Clera's *Gwerin Gwent* group playing in the new Atrium at the St Fagans National Museum of History in March 2017



Clera - Folk Life in Wales

Clera is the society for Welsh traditional instruments and we're glad to provide a Welsh voice in this great magazine. The Welsh word *clera* implies gathering like flies (*clêr*) which is how people of old referred to street musicians; it sums up our mission: to get the music out there.

We were established in 1996 and have focused our efforts since then on promoting and supporting the playing of Welsh traditional instrumental music. We plug the gap between *Cymdeithas Alawon Gwerin Cymru*, the Welsh Folk Song society, and *Cymdeithas Ddawns Werin Cymru*, the Welsh Folk Dance Society. Between us we cover the full range of traditional music-based folk activities which in England come under the umbrella of the EFDSS. As well as these organisations, we have in Wales *Cymdeithas Cerdd Dant* (literally 'tooth music') which covers the uniquely Welsh art of singing verses over an accompanying tune with a different melody and timing which has, sadly from our eyes in Clera, become increasingly formalised and less improvisational over the years.

Our title may suggest that our interest is in traditional instruments, but our main concern is in playing our great tunes and this style of music for the enjoyment of all rather than the instruments themselves. Having said this, our home website, www.clera.org provides general information on the society and information pages on the Welsh traditional instruments: the harp, the crwth and the pibgorn: these will be covered in future articles in Folklife. Today's Clera players use the instruments of our times - fiddle, whistle, flute, guitar, harp, ukelele, banjo, accordion, concertina and more.

We support tune clubs for learning the music and sessions for playing it across Wales through our www.sesiwn.com website, *sesiwn* being the Welsh for session and this site provides a calendar and directory of sessions and tune clubs. It also offers a link to our tunes website www.alawoncymru.com which presents scores which can be downloaded and sound files for a large collection of Welsh tunes arranged in sets which are uploaded monthly. Our tune books *Alawon Sesiwn* and *Alawon Sesiwn 2* which were mentioned in the October issue of Folklife are taken from this site.

There are many 19th century publications in various collections of Welsh music played from the latter half of the 18th century onwards and these sources form the basis of the repertoire of today's players, with many of them included in the www.alawoncymru.com website collection. Enthusiastic players have also rummaged through the archives in the National Museum of Wales which has gathered materials since its inception in 1907.

Gwerin Gwent, a band comprising Clera's South-East Wales tune clubs and others from across South Wales will be playing a collection of our tunes in sets from our *Alawon Sesiwn* tune books during the day in the new Atrium space at the St Fagans Museum of Welsh History on Saturday March 9th. All are welcome to attend and we would be glad to talk to any readers who might care to come along.

Meurig Williams (the diphthong *eu* in Welsh is pronounced 'eye' in English)