

EAST/MID DEVON & EAST SOMERSET REPORT


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

BILL CRAWFORD'S FINAL REPORT

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

Bill Crawford

Since writing the last report for the May edition, I have visited many traditional song sessions up and down the country from Sussex to North Yorkshire, and realise that, with the retirement of *The Claque*, the a-cappella group I sang with, my involvement with the East Devon folk scene has diminished somewhat. It is with this in mind, coupled with my extensive travelling/trekking, which impinges on my involvement in Somerset, that I have decided to relinquish my post as correspondent for this journal. This will therefore be my last article. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as correspondent although am disappointed that in all that time no one has contacted me about future events they may want publicised. Indeed the only feedback I have had is as a result of my piece on reading the words when singing, the excuse was "I've a brain like a fish". If a Pacific Salmon can find its way to its birth river you can learn a few words - you owe it to your audience.

In my last piece I mentioned the fact that the **Bridgwater Arts Centre** auditorium was closed for a while. I am pleased to announce it is now open again and they have had some excellent nights. Like most Arts venues, the BAC is run by volunteers and they continue to programme acoustic nights and free events in the bar, as well as performances in the auditorium. Check out their website and give them some support.

There are of course the usual song and music sessions and regular

clubs around Somerset and Devon such as **Eli's** at **Huish Episcopi** and **Sidmouth (Anchor)**. Also outside my patch is **The Inn on the Green, North Bristol**, 1st Monday. An evening of music and song ably hosted by Harry Langston. I do have a couple of changes for you to note though. For various reasons the 3rd Thursday of the month song sessions at **The Royal Oak, Nadderwater** (near Exeter), formerly run by Barry Lister and friends has finished. The landlady is starting a new 1st Thursday of the month session, with the first one on 1st August. The proposal is for a broader 'sing & play what you like' session as opposed to the more traditional/folk sessions of the past. One ends, another begins - on the 3rd Tuesday at **The Salterton Arms, Budleigh Salterton**, traditional song session. The first one held on 16th July was well supported and judged a success. Please try to get along on 17th September and enjoy a good night's singing.

Sadly I am concluding my last article with reference to two dear friends who died in July. Firstly **Cissie Christopher**, widow of Len Christopher and a founder member of the Pennymoor singaround. Cissie was always bright and cheerful and will be much missed at the Pennymoor gatherings. Also **Ern Keast**, husband of Mo, the diminutive Cornish storyteller and singer. Ern was a very quiet man with some wonderful, unique songs that no one else sang. He will be sorely missed by all who knew him, both in the Westcountry and in the wider folk community.

That about wraps it up folks, so I'll take this opportunity to say thank you to you all, and wish you good luck, health music and song for the future. Please say hello if you bump into me at a club or festival. Cheers me dears

Bill Crawford

© 01278 450838

© 07815 195863

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OUR THANKS TO BILL for all his work ~ Sam & Eleanor



DEVON FOLK @ dance, song, music, morris. Publishing "WHAT'S AFOOT", December, April, & August. www.devonfolk.co.uk

Yer 'tis! Somerset & Dorset ~ now includes N. Som. and BANES districts

HALSWAY MANOR @, Halsway Lane, near Crowcombe TA4 4BD.

Various dates & times

September

- Sat 7, 8pm. **Nykleharpas: Vicki Swan, Daniel Pettersson, David Eriksson.**
- Sat 21, 8pm. **Becki Driscoll, Nick Wyke, Paul Sartin.**

October

- Thu 3, 8pm. **Guitar concert: Kevin Dempsey, Tristan Seume, Charlotte Carrivick.**
- Sat 5, 8pm. **Ceilidh: Matt Norman, Ed Rennie, Jenny Read, Steph West.**
- Thu 18, 8pm. **Melodeon Concert: Anne Niepold & Riccardo Tesi.**
- Sat 19, 8pm. **Ceilidh: Merry Neet. Taffy Thomas, Daniel Morden, Paul Jackson, storytelling & music.**
- Sat 26, 8pm. **Bagpipes: Callum Armstrong & Matthias Branschke.**

November

- Sun 3, 5pm. **Folk Song Evening: Tom & Barbara Brown, Mick Ryan, Lester Simpson.**
- Sat 9, 8pm. **Narthen. Seasonal fare.**
- Sat 30, 8pm. **London Klezmer Quartet: soulful toe-tapping evening of traditional Jewish wedding music and dance.**

December

- Tue 3, 6pm. **Storytelling Supper: Talking to the Dark. Sharon Jacksties.**
- Thu 5, 8pm. **Belshazzar's Feast.**
- Sat 7, 8pm. **Christmas Frolics with The Mellstock Band.**
- Thu 12, 8pm. **Yuletide! A Tudor Christmas with Piva.**
- Sun 15, 3.30pm **Concert: Steph West, folk harpist & singer.**
- Sun 22, 6pm. **'Country Christmas' Dinner & Folk Dance. Jane Thomas (caller), musicians Gareth Kiddier & Linda Game.**



HALSWAY MANOR MUSIC & SONG CLUB @, Halsway Lane, near Crowcombe, Somerset TA4 4BD.

1st Sundays (not Jul & Aug), 8pm till late

Halsway Manor open their doors to all on the 1st Sunday evening of each month for an evening of folk and acoustic music. Singers and musicians of all abilities are invited. If you're curious about folk music and just want to listen with a drink from the bar you are also welcome.

There's been a "Sunday Club" meeting at Halsway Manor for many years. It's Spring now and time for a refresh, and so we're relaunching our open-door event as "Halsway Manor Music and Song club".

This 'Sunday Club' for musicians and singers is informal and relaxed. We have a folk theme, but all types of acoustic music, song and poetry are welcome. The evening generally combines some playing together with individual spots. We don't frown on you having your own words or music in front of you, and certainly encourage beginners.

Just come along or give Roger a call if you would like to find out more.

Halsway Music and Song Club is held 8pm on the 1st Sunday of each month (with the exception of a short summer break).

Free to attend - donations welcome.

8 Sept, 6 Oct, 3 Nov, 1 Dec.

Contact the Manor: 01984 618274 www.halswaymanor.org.uk
halswaymanor.org.uk/2019/03/27/new-halsway-music-and-song-club

- **Mel's Melodeon Club at Halsway Manor.** Monthly lessons, see **WORKSHOPS DIARY**

These **SOMERSET & DORSET NEWS** print pages:
also **ONLINE** and **DOWNLOAD**,
on folklife.org.uk/Somerset-Dorset

Contact: Halsway Manor, Halsway Lane, near Crowcombe TA4 4BD.

• Tickets, info **01984 618274** or *event websites above* • www.halswaymanor.org.uk • www.wegotickets.com

○ *Amazing range of courses, see **LISTINGS: WORKSHOPS DIARY***

➔ **SaDFolk, SOMERSET AND DORSET FOLK DIARY ®**

www.sadfolk.co.uk Steve Cunio

Subscribe or email via website. The **Somerset and Dorset Folk Diary** (or **SaDFolk**) is based around a weekly email service, listing 'folk' events in Somerset and Dorset. The term 'event' covers concerts, barn dances, sessions, workshops and any other folk related activity.



NAILSEA FOLK CLUB

Tithe Barn, Nailsea, N. Somerset
all events *Tithe Barn* except stated otherwise
(occasionally at *Ring of Bells*)

Below all in the *Tithe Barn*:

- 20 Sep **Georgia Lewis Trio**, 8pm
- 8 Nov **Granny's Attic**, 8pm
- 22 Nov **The Tannahill Weavers**, 8pm
- 1 Dec **Causley Christmas**, with **Jim Causley**, 7.30pm

also **NAILSEA FOLK singers & musicians nights**
Grove Sports Centre, 2nd Tues, 8pm

online tickets: www.ticketsource.co.uk/nailsea-folk-club
• nailseafolkclub@hotmail.co.uk • **Dave Francis 01275 540231**
www.nailseafolkclub.co.uk for full details



Granny's Attic at Nailsea, 8 Nov.

Nominated for *Radio 2 Folk Horizon Award*; winner of *Future of Young Folk Award*, *Ely Band Competition*, *Agility Mendip Stepping Competition*; "really well received concerts" (Julie Fowles). 'The Bird Who Sings Freedom' - "an impeccable British folk album" (*Songlines*). With Rowan Piggott (5-string fiddle) and Benjamin Trott (guitar).

8 Nov, Granny's Attic, 8pm, £12. **Cohen Braithwaite-Kilcoyne** (Melodeon, Concertina, Vocals), **George Sansome** (Guitar, Vocals) and **Lewis Wood** (Fiddle, Mandolin, Vocals) play the tradition with verve, energy and their own inimitable style. Three young exceptional musicians and fine singers and play English traditional and original music. Lively performances and a maturity in their delivery and selection of traditional songs.

22 Nov, The Tannahill Weavers, 8pm, £14. A band which performs traditional Scottish music. Releasing their first album in 1976, they became notable for being one of the first popular bands to incorporate the sound of the Great Highland Bagpipe in an ensemble setting, and in doing so helped to change the sound of Scottish traditional music. In 2011 the band were inducted into the Scottish Traditional Music Hall of Fame.

1 Dec, Causley Christmas, 7.30pm, £10. Join **Jim Causley** in celebrating the Christmas season as he entertains you with lesser known West Country carols, medieval and secular carols from around the British Isles, his own settings of moving Christmas poems by his relative, the late Cornish poet Charles Causley as well as a gurt dollop of festive fun with songs of over-indulgence and even a spot of panto too! **@ David Francis**

For up to date news: www.nailseafolkclub.co.uk;
David 01275 540231, nailseafolkclub@hotmail.co.uk
Ticket Info Line: 01275 790915

Tickets on line from: www.ticketsource.co.uk/nailsea-folk-club

NAILSEA FOLK SINGERS & MUSICIANS NIGHT ®, Grove Sports Centre (opposite the Ring 'o' Bells Pub), Nailsea, North Somerset.

2nd Tuesdays, 7.30 for 8.00pm • see **ADVERT ABOVE**

On the second Tuesday of the month, we meet in the Grove Sports Centre (opposite the Ring 'o' Bells Pub) 7.30 for 8.00pm start (till 11pm). There's a large car park with disabled parking near the entrance.

Our private room has a stage and we are primarily acoustic so it's ideal for those who like a quieter space to perform and listen to all types of performance, music poetry stories. We're very friendly and supportive and with only £1 to pay for the room hire and cheap beer at the well stocked bar it a great evening. And the bonus - free nibbles at half time!!!!

Come along and join in, try out that song or tune, or just sit back and relax with others in our comfortable cafe-style folk club. We are wheelchair accessible.

We welcome music of all kinds, not just what might be thought of as folk or traditional, so don't be shy, come and join the fun.

Details: Rich Simmons, 01275 857784, rjsimmons49@gmail.com, www.nailseafolkclub.co.uk/musicians-singers

Somerset & Dorset 1-Line Summaries (= 1st line of detailed online listings)

* MEMBERS LIST 1: VENUES *		Song - Music - Poetry - Story - Dance * Clubs - Concerts - Singarounds - Sessions - Dance Clubs & Ceilidhs *				
Day Varies	Som.	CROWCOMBE	HALSWAY MANOR conc., dances	www.halswaymanor.org.uk	All enquiries	01984 618274
Day Varies	Som.	PRIDDY	KIZZY MUSIC CONCERTS	www.kizzymusic.co.uk	Dean Collier	01749 678949
Day Varies	Dorset	STOURTON CAUNDLE	THE TROOPER FOLK CONCERTS	www.thetrooperinn.co.uk/events	John Waltham	01963 362890
1st Sun	Som.	CROWCOMBE	HALSWAY MANOR MUSIC & SONG CLUB	www.halswaymanor.org.uk	All enquiries	01984 618274
2nd Sun	Dorset	STOURTON CAUNDLE	THE TROOPER FOLK SONG NIGHT	www.thetrooperinn.co.uk/events	John Waltham	01963 362890
4th Sun	Dorset	STOURTON CAUNDLE	THE TROOPER FOLK MUSIC NIGHT	www.thetrooperinn.co.uk/events	Mandy Waltham	01963 362890
Weekly Mon	Dorset	BRIDPORT	BRIDPORT FOLK DANCE CLUB	(no website)	Monty	01308 423 442
2nd Tue	N.Som.	NAILSEA	NAILSEA FC singers/musicians	www.nailseafolkclub.co.uk/musicians-singers	David Francis	01275 540231
4th Fri	Som.	ASHILL	ASHILL SINGAROUND /MUSIC SESSION (no website)	.....	Tony Watts	01823 480414
3rd Fri,+	N. Som.	NAILSEA	NAILSEA FOLK CLUB	www.nailseafolkclub.co.uk	David Francis	01275 540231
1st Sat (some)	Dorset	BRIDPORT	BRIDPORT CEILIDHS	https://bridportceilidhs.wordpress.com	Mecki or Monty	01308 423 442

* MEMBERS LIST 2: PERFORMERS *		Pf.1 Folk Music & Song - Pf.2 Folk Dance - Pf.3 Spoken Word *				
Pf.1a	Folk Music & Song - Bands / Groups					
N. Som	FOUGERE ROUGE	.....	(no website)		Eric Brooker	01934 733207
Pf.1c	Folk Music & Song - Solo					
Somerset	BILL CRAWFORD	.....	(no website)		Bill Crawford	01278 450838
Pf.1d	Choirs & Quires: Folk & Community Choirs & Bands, West Gallery					
N. Som	BARLEY RYE CHOIR	.....	www.nailseafolkclub.co.uk/barleyrye		Keith Burrows	01179 248817
Pf.2b	Folk Dance Bands					
N.E.Som	FOUGERE ROUGE	.....	(no website)		Eric Brooker	01934 733207

* MEMBERS LIST 3: MEDIA *		M.1 ONLINE FOLK MAGAZINES & LISTINGS				
Somerset & Dorset	SOMERSET AND DORSET FOLK DIARY	www.sadfolk.co.uk	Steve Cunio			
South-West, + part SE	THE ACOUSTIC CALENDAR (was: A.C. for Wessex)	http://sanchobramble.weebly.com	Tony Watts			
West County [+ W Mids, Wales]	FOLKLIFE MEMBERS' ONLINE DIRECTORY	www.folklife-directory.uk	Sam Simmons	01684 561378		
M.3	FOLK RADIO					
Somerset	JOHNNY COPPIN (BBC Somerset)	www.bbc.co.uk/gloucestershire	Johnny Coppin	01453 885088		

* MEMBERS LIST 4: SERVICES *		S.2 AGENTS, MANAGERS, PROMOTERS, MCs & STAGE MANAGEMENT * for Dance or Concert Series: see "LIST 1: VENUES"				
Somerset	BILL CRAWFORD	.....	(no website)		Bill Crawford	01278 450838

see DIARY-LISTINGS PAGES (follows these news pages) for * List 5 : WORKSHOP DIARY * List 6 : FESTIVAL DIARY (NEXT 12 MONTHS) *
DETAILED LISTINGS in www.folklife-directory.uk/West-Country — our online Members DIRECTORY
⇒ our Membership (only £16 a year! see p 3) includes listings & your publicity & FW posted to you

MEMBERS' NEWS ➔ CWYRU ➔ ENGLAND: WEST COUNTRY ➔ ENGLAND: SOUTH / WEST MIDLANDS ➔ ENGLAND: OTHER AREAS

NORTH DORSET & SOUTH SOMERSET REPORT

 BY OUR CORRESPONDENT FOR
 NORTH DORSET & SOUTH SOMERSET

JOHN WALTHAM

Dorset-born singer, song collector and organiser of Trooper Song Sessions, Dorset Song Weekends and occasional one-off events, as well as guesting at a few Scots and Irish festivals.

Trooper Song Sessions

It's been a busy time for me so far this summer, initially taken up by preparation and delivery of the latest version of Graham Moore's **Tolpuddle Man**. I found myself alongside Graham, James Findlay, Phil Humphries and a couple of others in the old Courtroom in Dorchester, the very place where the martyrs were tried 185 years ago, and very atmospheric. Playing to a packed house (the tickets sold out well before the performance) reminded me of doing it there 25 years ago, and as on that occasion, we could have filled the place for another night.

Now, bear with me for a moment – you'll see the connection. You may possibly own a terrarium, and you've probably visited an aquarium at some time, but have you ever been to a *serpentarium*? If you have, you're lucky, because they only occur once every two years, in a different part of the world on each occasion, and they inexorably draw serpents (and their players) out of their lairs and away to wherever the event's being staged.

On this occasion, the event was centred in and around Dorset's county town of Dorchester and organized by the redoubtable Phil Humphries, serpenteer in the Mellstock Band, to take place over the Whitsun bank holiday weekend. Phil mentioned to me that there was to be a free concert on the last day, and the weather being fine and my motorcycle willing, off I went.

There were serpents of all sizes and ages, from "anacondas" downwards, together with their owners; several had come from the USA, one from Germany, one from Australia and a couple from Scotland, and Phil conducted and MC'd a most enjoyable and informative afternoon of music interspersed with informative comment and good natured humour. I suspect that many of us will have shared the assumption that these are an old English instrument (in my case due to Hardy's references to them in his writing), but they were in fact spawned in France and began their lives as military band instruments, which later brought them over the water to our regiments, and thus to the village bands and church musicians of Hardy's Wessex.

In my ignorance, I had always thought these idiosyncratic instruments might have a very limited range, but the participants had spent the weekend polishing up examples of everything from marches, dances from the Hardy manuscripts and traditional song tunes through to gospel, classic Scots tunes and (as a grand finale) Eric Idle's *Always Look on the Bright Side of Life*, polished off with an encore of the theme from the Wallace and Gromit movies. All were performed by the assembled players with panache, enthusiasm and expertise. An unforgettable afternoon and I returned home via the Piddle valley with a smile on my face, glad that I'd had an opportunity of broadening my musical experience that is not often available. And to crown it all, the westerling sun was shining over the Dorset hills.

If you would like to be publicised in FW ~ it's only £16 a year!

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

• We can set up your publicity:

- ~ the £16 can include several listings & news items ~
- ~ 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

THE ACOUSTIC CALENDAR®

The monthly calendar of folk clubs, singarounds, acoustic sessions & open mics: all about DIY music (not concerts, gigs, ceilidhs, etc). Its purpose is to keep you informed of all the places where you can take your voice and/or instrument and join in or do your own thing.

It has three parts: (1) **monthly Calendar of events**; (2) **alphabetical Venues List**, giving a fuller description & contact details for each venue; (3) **list of Festivals** for the coming months (updated as details become available). Each part can be downloaded in pdf format. The Calendar can also be downloaded in a Word version so you can customise it according to your local requirements.

If you'd like my more-or-less twice monthly **Acoustic Calendar Updates** delivered to your inbox, let me know, using the contact form on the website.

 © Tony Watts, <http://sanchobramble.weebly.com>

A couple of weeks later, **Helen English** (celtic harp) and I were asked to perform at the revived **South Petherton Folk Fest**, now a very enjoyable one-day event where virtually all the events are free. A most enjoyable day out, and Helen and I got a great reception and lots of good reactions afterwards. Keep your eyes and ears open for **Hannah Cumming** and **John Dyer** – two quite exceptionally gifted younger musicians, and Hannah's got a great way with a song. She and her brother used to come to the Yetties Club in Sherborne from a very young age, and her talent was obvious back then.

Sessions are winding down as the festival season gets into full swing, but our music nights at the **Trooper**® keep going every month; the song nights will kick off again on the 2nd Sunday of September, so this may just be in time to act as a reminder. By the time you're reading this, summer will be nearly over and the nights'll be drawing in, but there's plenty to look forward to. We've got **Chris Foster** coming to the Trooper on September 27th, and later in the winter (25th March) we'll have a visit from **Daoiri Farrell**. Both nights will be restricted to around 65 people, and both are purely acoustic. Both are likely to be sold out before the night, so please get in touch well beforehand if you want tickets.

John Waltham

 01963 362890 • jhnwaltham@yahoo.co.uk
North Dorset & South Somerset
Clubs & Sessions: your details welcome

King William, Barn St, Crewkerne, Somerset, 1st Monday of the month. Music session, but they did allow me a song! And the music's lively.

Baker Arms, Child Okeford, Blandford, Dorset 2nd Thursday of the month, charles@childokeford.plus.com. A long established and usually very enjoyable evening of music and song

The Plough, Manston, Sturminster Newton, DT10 1HB. 4th Thursday of the month. 01963 363816. Popular evening of mixed music and song.

Eli's (Rose & Crown), Huish Episcopi, Langport. 3rd Saturday of the month, not June, July, August. 01823 481253. "And on the 8th Day, He created Eli's, and Lo! there was singing"

Camelot Music Nights, Davis Hall, West Camel, Yeovil. See the web for details. Concert nights to a high standard, pre-booked slots only, but good listening and a broad range of material.

Wessex Acoustic Folk Club, RBL, Blandford. See web for details. Fridays monthly. First rate guests with excellent support acts. Not cheap, but worth it.

Chalk & Cheese, Maiden Newton. 3rd Sunday, usually. Starts around 5.00pm for an early finish - check with 01300 321396. Mainly music, with some songs. Always interesting and fun.

Unicorn, Bayford, Wincanton, BA9 9NL 1st Wednesday of the month, music only. 07788 517827. Can be very good, and the cider's excellent.

The Trooper Inn Stourton Caundle, near Sturminster Newton, Dorset DT10 2JW. 2nd Sunday of the month, **The Trooper Folk Song Night**®, 8.30pm. not July or August. John Waltham, 01963 362890, jhnwaltham@yahoo.co.uk. Songs mostly – but musicians welcome too. Contrary to popular belief, John does not lynch anyone who sings non-traditional stuff!

And 4th Sunday of the month, **The Trooper Folk Music Night**®, Mandy Waltham, 01963 362890, jhnwaltham@yahoo.co.uk. Emphasis will be on tunes rather than songs. All welcome, to join in or listen.

Bridport area: a small selection, and by no means all that's going on in that area. *Asking around at one session that you've enjoyed will usually lead you to another one!* Thanks to **Alan 12T** for much of this information.

New Inn, Shipton Gorge, DT6 4LT. 1st Tuesdays, mainly singing.

The **Woodman**, DT6 3NZ, 2nd Tuesdays, songs and music.

The **Lord Nelson**, DT6 3LL, 3rd Tuesdays, hosts an evening that's traditional music based.

The **George at Chideock**, also 3rd Tuesdays, mainly singing evening.

The **Fleet Club, Beaminster** DT8 3EF, 3rd Wednesdays.

The **Beach and Barnicott**, DT6 3NQ, 3rd Thursdays.

The **Anchor** out at **Salway Ash**, DT6 5HU, 4th Tuesdays.

Note: please check before you go - unless underlined®, those listed are not Folklife members, so we don't check for updates etc - Eds.



BRIDPORT CEILIDHS ®, St Mary's Church House Hall, adjacent to St Mary's Church, South Street, Bridport DT6 3NW.

1st Sat, Jan-Mar; June; Sept-Dec. 7.30 – 11pm

Bridport Ceilidhs are run 'for the fun of it' 8 times a year, as above.

We look to engage some of the best bands and callers in the area, and mix and match them to give both experienced and new dancers an entertaining and exciting evening.

So, come along and join us – whether your main dancing interest is in folk dance, country dancing, contra dance, square dancing, Playford style, or you just fancy a jolly good knees up at a barn dance – you can be sure of a warm welcome. No partners are required, all dances are talked and walked through and both the caller and other dancers will help you enjoy the evening to its full!

Bring food to share and your own alcohol; some soft drinks provided.

2019 Music and Callers:

- Sept 7th A Pair of Shears + Simon Maplesden
(October event given to Bridport FDC for 100th anniversary dance)
- Nov 2nd Chris Toyne Big Band + Gill Spence
- Dec 7th Doug Eunson & Sarah Matthews + Jeremy Child

To reserve tickets or for more information, see our website or Facebook or please contact as below.

® **Mecki or Monty:** 01308 423 442, monty3dayslate<at>yahoo.co.uk

<https://bridportceilidhs.wordpress.com>

www.facebook.com/bridportceilidhs



BRIDPORT

FOLK DANCE CLUB ®

Bridport WI Hall, North Street, Bridport, DT6 3JQ.

Every Monday,

7.30 pm - 9.30 pm.

Do come along to a dance; we dancers are a friendly crowd and will be happy to guide the less experienced around the floor. Check out the long-established **Bridport Folk Dance Club** - now in its 100th year! - as a venue to learn or improve your dancing; the club meets throughout the year (with a summer break) at the WI Hall, North Street, 7.30-9.30 pm on Monday evenings.

Enjoy fun evenings of dance in the English folk tradition, with guest and club callers, recorded music and occasional live bands. No partner or previous experience required. Admission £3.00 for members (annual membership £3), £4 for non-members, £1 for non-dancers and free for 16s and under.

Note: parking at Rax Lane Car Park just up the road.

100th Anniversary Dance, Oct 5th, with **Chris Jewell and Ted Farmer**, 7.30 – 11pm, St Mary's Church House Hall, DT6 3NW. Birthday cake, raffle and floor spots. £8 a ticket.

**For more info, call Sue on 01308 458 165
or Monty on 01308 423 442**

ASHILL SINGAROUND / MUSIC SESSION ®

Ashill Inn (01823 480 471), Ashill, near Ilminster, TA19 9ND

4th Fri, 8.30pm.

Very friendly unplugged singaround / music session. All styles, all ages, all abilities, all welcome. Free chips for performers!

® **Tony Watts**, 01823 480414

