



Copies of South-East news from pages 40 and page 41:

South-East ♦ 1

OXFORDSHIRE • 1

FRIDAY FOLK®, The Duke of Marlborough, A44, Woodleys, Woodstock OX20 1HT.

Every Friday, 9.00pm

Rota of local singers and an audience who love to sing choruses – the “Duke Choir.” Event has been running in the Woodstock area for over 50 years.

Alasdair McKeane®, alasdair.mckeane<at>gmail.com
www.dukeofmarlborough.co.uk, pub phone 01993 644013

SUNDAY AFTERNOON FOLK®, The Butcher’s Arms, Shutford Road, Balscote, Banbury OX15 6JQ.

Occasional Sundays, 2.30pm

Longstanding Banbury acoustic folk band **The Poachers** lead chorus songs in a cosy pub until 5pm. January, March, May, September, November, usually on 3rd Sunday, but may vary - phone pub to check. Also an audience participation spot.

Alasdair McKeane®, alasdair.mckeane<at>gmail.com
www.thebutchersarmsbalscote.co.uk, pub phone 01295 730750

South-East ♦ 2

OXFORDSHIRE • 2



SUE BROWN & LORRAINE IRWING®

English and Scottish traditional song, a cappella, and with guitar/dulcimer. *“If you like a cappella traditional, you’ll love these two”* - Dave Webber

With rich, haunting harmonies, inventive arrangements and an engaging stage presence, Sue Brown

and Lorraine Irwing have captivated folk club and festival audiences across the country. Their performances have been described as ‘a blend of voices to melt the heart of an iceberg’, ‘brilliantly stark’, and ‘a rare treat of original and sympathetic treatment of old and new songs’, dealing with the timeless folk themes of ‘death, bonking and sheep’!

Their great repertoire includes fine and unusual versions of English songs and ballads, performed mostly a capella, with occasional sensitive accompaniment on guitar, shruti box, Appalachian dulcimer and English concertina.

® **Sue Brown**, 01869 351281, www.sueandlorraine.com



BANBURY FOLK CLUB®

The Coach & Horses, 4 Butchers Row, Banbury OX16 5JH, plus other venues for some bigger events - please check website individual event pages for details.

Wednesdays, 8pm to 10.30pm

Local and nationally known guest nights, theme nights, open stage nights and our popular **Sing, Say,**

Listen and Say (SSLAP) nights; and also regular floor spots to encourage local performers.

May: 3, Jack Blackman 10, Rachel Chai supported by Dave Oakley
17, Paul William Gibson 24, Daria Kulesh & Katrina Davies
31, Chris Elliot & Caitlin Jones

Jun: 7, KC Jones Duo 14, Milton Hide 21, Filkins Duo 28, Bob Fox

Jul: 5, No club – festival clash 12, Free ‘taster’ night
19, Abi Rowberry/Amelia Barnard 26, Roaming Spirits

Aug: *Summer Break*

Sep: 20, Joe Bayliss

Oct: 11, Vikki Clayton/Simon Loake

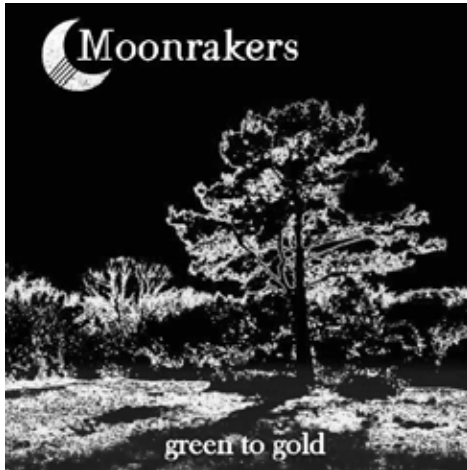
Contact: **Ian Huckin**, irhuckin<at>aol.com; Box Office 07485 821041;

or send a message to www.facebook.com/banburyroots

www.banburyfolkclub.co.uk

Next deadline: 20 Jul for 1 Sep issue

Moonrakers

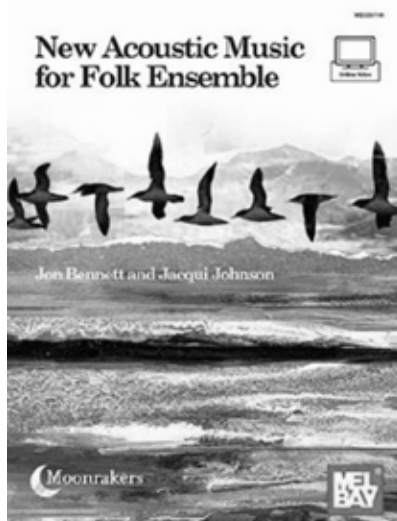


Moonrakers perform sparkling and unique arrangements of traditional UK folk songs and tunes as well as their own compositions. Their new album, **Green to Gold**, is their 5th and includes their trademark warm multi-instrumental sound and sophisticated arrangements that make this band special. With many years' experience playing at community centres, festivals, arts centres, churches and private functions, the band's prolific output has received glowing reviews from the music press ("*The real deal*", The Living Tradition; "*Uplifting, sensitively crafted songs and tunes*" FATEA magazine, "*Multi-instrumental and vocal delights played with skill and verve*" Shire Folk magazine, "*There is a sparkling upbeat positive feel to this band*" Rock&Reel).

The 2023 Moonrakers tour comprises 32 dates including workshop/courses. Moonrakers have been described as "*startlingly talented*" (Oxford Times), with five albums of "*exquisite music*" (BBC) and "*truly wonderful*" performances (Broadstairs and Wycombe Festivals). For live videos and further information, go to www.moonrakers.net. For social media, go to www.facebook.com/MoonrakersBand.

Saturday 27th May !!ALBUM LAUNCH!! St Peter's Church, Upper **WOLVERCOTE**, Oxford OX2 8AQ. Tickets available from www.ticketsoxford.com 01865 305305. £15 (also concessions) and on the door. Enquiries: 01865 769206.

Sunday 30th July WATERPERRY GARDENS, Oxfordshire, OX33 1JZ. 6.00pm Our annual early evening (6pm) concert in the fabulous open air Amphitheatre with an extended interval - bring a picnic, bar available. £20 (+concessions) from www.ticketsoxford.com 01865 305305, some tickets on the door.



Folk Orchestra Workshops

Multi-instrumental residential and day courses across the UK and throughout the year. Suitable for intermediate and advanced players, the focus is on arranging and performing tunes in an ensemble. Professional tutors and lots of creative fun! Further details: www.moonrakers.net

www.moonrakers.net

01865 769206 / 07914 79 5823



OXFORDSHIRE • 3

**MOONRAKERS @**

Moonrakers (www.moonrakers.net) are a 4-piece band with Celtic harp, cello, stringed instruments, female/male vocals. They specialise in traditional & contemporary songs/tunes from across the British Isles and beyond.

Moonrakers new album, **GREEN TO GOLD**, is a sumptuous mix of traditional and self-penned songs and tunes, opening with a full-voiced arrangement of *Grimsby Fisher Lads*, a song written by band member Jon Bennett about the exploitation of teenage boys during the fishing industry boom of the late 19th century. Two traditional songs, *The Turtle Dove* and *The Unquiet Grave*, showcase the Sarah Fell's warm vocals. The album also demonstrates the versatility and exacting musicianship of Jacqui Johnson on cello and Becki Luff on harp as they weave their exquisite arrangements around Jon's instrumental compositions, *Sydlings Copse*, *Shotover*, *Bourbon Reel* and *Chilswell Valley*. There are two longer ballads, also from Jon – *Green to Gold*, orchestrated by cellist Jacqui Johnson, and *Blasket Island* – the latter being a reimagined tale of a curse that ultimately drove

the human population off the Irish island in the mid-1950s.

Ot Moor is a new tune from Moonrakers woven around an anonymous poem protesting against land enclosures in the later 19th century and the riots this induced in an area just outside of Oxford. To lighten the mood, the traditional song *Let Your Back and Sides Go Bare* has an infectious chorus and Jon's composition, *Kiss Me Quick*, dips its toes into lounge jazz. The band is not afraid to explore new avenues for old tunes; *Picardy* and *As I Roved Out* each have appended instrumental parts to compliment the original traditional melodies.

Moonrakers' current line-up was created in 2020. Becki Luff (Celtic harp, harmonium) has played at prestigious venues such as The Wigmore Hall and The Sage and has toured in Hong Kong. Jacqui Johnson (cello, accordion) comes from a classical background where she's played as a soloist with orchestras both in the UK and Australia, was a member of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra and has toured in China and Europe. Jon (bouzouki, guitar, whistles, bodhran) founded Moonrakers 20 years ago and is a published composer, songwriter and multi-instrumentalist. Sarah Fell has run community choirs and has for 6 years been the lead vocalist with Moonrakers.

The 2023 Moonrakers tour comprises 26 dates including an exciting collaboration with the OXUS Quartet covering the music and folk song collections of Ralph Vaughan Williams. This was commissioned by the Vaughan Williams Festival and performed there in October 2022. Moonrakers have been described as "startlingly talented" (Oxford Times), with five albums of "exquisite music" (BBC) and "truly wonderful" performances (Broadstairs and Wycombe Festivals).

The full touring dates, including Folk Orchestra workshops, can be found at www.moonrakers.net.

Bookings, etc at MoonrakersCelticMusic@gmail.com, 01865 769206. @ Jon Bennet ✨ **WORKSHOPS DIARY pages note Moonrakers' Workshops.**

🌟 **FOLK IN OXFORD website** *Brief summary of some detailed listings on the site, for details please see folkinoxford.co.uk*

FESTIVALS🌟 **Folklife members** ⇒ **FESTIVAL DIARY PAGES**

- **Banbury Folk Festival** 🌟
- **Folk Weekend: Oxford** 🌟
- **White Horse Folk Festival** 🌟
- **Fairport's Cropredy Convention**
- **Fiddle Festival of Britain**
- **Great Barn Festival**
- **Towersey Festival**
- **Wallingford Bunkfest**

CEILIDH SERIES

- **Oxford**
- **Red Ceilidh**
- **Family Ceilidh Oxford**
- **White Horse Ceilidhs**

FOLK CLUBS🌟 **Folklife members** ⇒ **News, p41**

- **Banbury Folk Club** 🌟
- **Bampton FC**
- **Catweazle Club**
- **Chippy Folk & Acoustic Club**
- **Eclectic Cabaret**
- **Nettlebed FC**
- **Oxford FC**
- **Wychwood FC**

Many other folk activities are listed, too - see the website.

There's also an event calendar on folkinoxford.co.uk, you can add events.



SUSSEX

**MARTYN WYNDHAM-READ @**

Martyn has been involved with folk music for over fifty years. Working on a sheep station Emu Springs, South Australia, he heard, first-hand, the old songs sung by some of the station hands, and became captivated by these songs and the need to know more of them and where they came from grew. Back to England in 1967, he met up with the renowned singer and song collector Bert Lloyd, who himself

had spent time in Australia. Martyn was asked by Bert Lloyd to be part of the album 'Leviathan' on the Topic label and soon after he started recording for Bill Leader and touring extensively worldwide.

In the early 1970's, Martyn started the '*Maypoles to Mistletoe*' concerts, portraying the seasons of the year, through song, music, dance, and verse. His other shows include '*Down the Lawson Track*' featuring stories, poems/songs of the great Australian Poet of the People, Henry Lawson.

Martyn is also the instigator of the well known *Song Links Project*, and has published a book of his tunes, '*Tunes to Poems to Songs*'; plus recording various LP's and CD's, the latest being *Away To Tintinara* with *No Man's Band*.

I've been putting a song a week up on my YouTube channel, requests which I sing on our old family settle ~ '*Songs from the Settle*', on <https://dandadesign.co.uk/bookings-2020/>

Take care of yourselves in these troubled times, Martyn See <https://dandadesign.co.uk> for more information & details of bookings. Contact wyndham.read@ntlworld.com, or 07787 504814 / 01252 719556

BLACKTHORN BAND @, Sussex.

Folk Music & Song Band & Folk Dance Band.

Fergus McClelland, 01273 455202, www.blackthornband.org

HAMPSHIRE

**FOCSLE Music, Southampton @ at**

The Guide Dog, 38 Earls Rd, Bevois Valley, Southampton SO14 6SF. **2nd & 4th & 5th Tues., 8pm**

The Wellington Arms, 56 Park Road, Freemantle, Southampton SO15 3DE. **1st & 3rd Weds., 8pm**

And, non-cyclically, at **other venues**

VIRTUAL FOCSLE MUSIC *Every Weds., 8pm UK* virtual@focsle.org
for links / codes, details at <http://www.focsle.org/#online>

Ex-Fo'c'sle F C [est. 1963], renamed, o/wise unchanged, has emerged post-COVID, with a mix of Guests and DIY music. Due to the current rising-cases situation, 'live' events are still on notice, if officialdom deems them too risky. Reliably up-to-date info [finally!] returns to our main website - <http://www.focsle.org/> - the best place to check before visiting any of our events, mostly non-ticket [Facebook page - [facebook.com/FocsleMusic](https://www.facebook.com/FocsleMusic) * - is still active, and good for sharing].

Meanwhile, **FOCSLE Music's** internationally-attended **Zooms** continue, often garnering c.24+ folks a time. Due to our venue's change of music night, we've had the luxury, not afforded to all clubs, of running both virtual AND weekly in-person strands concurrently.

Typically, FOCSSLE Music mixes, on the same night, guests and DIY offerings, unplugged being the ideal criterion, rather than specifically "folk" (however [ir-]relevantly applied). Same ethos in its virtual version, though no guests. Humour and wit encouraged, and offered: MCs engage warmly with attenders - performing or not - new and familiar.

Whatever the platform, do give us a try!

Paul Clarke <http://www.focsle.org>

And our thanks to Paul, who has kindly agreed to give us Zoom and general web advice. It's good to have someone else's opinions! And researching for our online list www.folklife-directory.uk/zoom.html



KENT, & HOBGOBLIN SHOPS (IN VARIOUS AREAS)



DEAL FOLK CLUB Ø, St Andrews Church Hall, West Street, Deal, CT14 6DZ.

1st & 3rd Thurs, 7.15 - 9.55pm
Deal Folk Club re-opened its

doors on 16th February in our new venue, St. Andrews Church Hall (address above). We now meet on the 1st and 3rd thursdays of the month from 7.15pm to 9.55pm. All are welcome, audience and performers alike, but it helps if you come prepared to join in the choruses!

We normally have one Singers Night and one guest night per month. Floor Singers are welcome on all nights, and we try to fit everyone in for at least one song, even on guest nights.

Traditional and contemporary folk songs predominate - anything from a capella harmony singing and sea songs to songwriters singing their own compositions. But all styles and instruments are welcome.

Admission on Singer's Nights is £3 and Guest nights are usually £8.

For more information: contact Ø Sue on 01-304-360877, and see the website, www.dealfolkclub.org.uk

DEAL FRIDAY FOLK ZOOM Ø, meeting online on Friday evenings for a singaround; opens 7.15pm for Singing 7.30pm to 10pm.

We intend to keep this Zoom going for as long as people keep coming to it. *For details of Zoom, and latest news, please see our website, www.dealfolkclub.org.uk*

**HOOK LINE & SINKER** Ø

Hook Line & Sinker are Sue Watson, Chrissie Holmes and Karen Scott, an a-capella, close-harmony female trio from South East Kent. Their repertoire is based mainly in traditional folk, but with the odd gospel, blues, Americana and self-penned/contemporary song thrown in for good measure!

For more information contact Sue Watson on 01304-360877.



FOLK AT THE DRUM Ø, The Drum Inn, North Stanford, Ashford, Kent. TN25 6DN. **Mondays, 8pm**

⊕ *Changed from Thursdays to Mondays: new contact*
The Drum Inn is a 1708 country pub in the heart of East Kent, originally frequented by soldiers from the

Duke of Marlborough's Regiment. Later, Revenue Men used it as a base in the fight against Smugglers. Nowadays, The Drum is much quieter and welcomes everybody with fine beer, wine and food. It's close to junction 11, M20 (details on website). It has a camping ground for all types of camping, including for those en route to a Channel crossing, and before Terterden Folk Festival.

Guest artists visit generally once a month with other Thursdays being Singers' Nights.

Admission fees and membership subscription are very reasonably priced and can be found on the website.

Visitors, guests and members are always welcome to play, sing, listen or do all three! On Singers' Nights everyone who wishes, gets a spot of three songs/tunes to perform, but please keep it to about ten minutes! On Guest Nights there is a limited time for 'floor artists' so you will need to email or phone to get a spot.

If you need further information, please email hartleylorna@aol.com.

Ø **Jeff Hartley** www.folkatthedrum.co.uk

**HOBGOBLIN MUSIC**

Mail Order, P.O. Box 4707, Worthing, BN11 9JA, 020 8038 0150

Shops in London & the South-East:

- **Hobgoblin Brighton**, 108 Queens Road, BN1 3XF 01273 760022
 - **Hobgoblin Canterbury**, 22 Lower Bridge Street, CT1 2LG, 01227 769484
 - **Hobgoblin London**, 24 Rathbone Place, W1T 1JA, 020 7323 9040
 - **Hobgoblin Southampton**, 20 East Street, SO14 3HG, 023 8023 1099
- See **ADVERT** on WEST MIDLANDS NEWS, p. 31 www.hobgoblin.com

LONDON

SEA SHANTY SINGAROUND SESSION Ø The Horseshoe Inn, 26 Melior Street, London, SE1 3QP.

3rd Sundays (except Aug), 12 noon until 3pm.

The monthly sea shanty sessions in central London, hosted by **The HogEye Men**, Sunday 21st May, Sunday 18th June

Although the emphasis is on songs of the sea, all kinds of folk music are welcome. These singarounds are held between 12noon and 3pm in the Horseshoe Inn (as above) on the 3rd Sunday of every month, except August. The pub is a 5 minute walk from London Bridge Station. and the session takes place in the upstairs room. Free admission

More details about organisers **The HogEye Men** below.

Hopefully we may meet up there one day! Kind Regards, Mike Green <https://en-gb.facebook.com/events/573994703787294/>

THE HOG EYE MEN Ø

Their CD "50 Years a Sailor" can be purchased via folklondon.co.uk/cds/

We have managed to find the time to record our third album, called "Around the World and Back Again". An online album, with sleeve notes giving details about each song, available for download - simply go to "Bandcamp" & search "HogEye Men".

Sea songs and shanties performed by the HogEye Men aboard the Cutty Sark between 11:45am and 2:30pm on Sat. 3 June as part of the Cutty Sark's Family Fun Days (entrance fee) applies.

On the evening of Friday 12th May, the HogEye Men will be performing in the Orpington Liberal Club, Folk Club.

On Saturday 20th May the HogEye Men will be performing at the Leigh-on-Sea Shanty Festival.

Kind Regards, Mike Green, hogeyemen@at>mail.com

<https://www.facebook.com/HogEyeMen> <https://thehogeyemen.bandcamp.com/album/around-the-world-and-back-again>

**FOLK LONDON** @

Folk London is a bi-monthly listings magazine covering folk music, dance and song events in London & home counties. There's also a CD and book store.

Folk features, reviews, listings and more; contributions and review CDs welcome - see our website folklondon.co.uk

James Eagle, Editor, Folk London

folklondon.co.uk **Mastodon:** @FolkLondonMag@folksocial.org
www.instagram.com/folklondonmag/ <https://twitter.com/FolkLondonMag>



SHARP'S FOLK CLUB Ø Cecil Sharp House, 2 Regents Park Road, London, NW1 7AY, except August Summer Season in a local pub.

Every Tuesday, doors: 7:30pm, singing: 7:45pm

All welcome to sing, play, recite a poem etc at the friendliest folk club in London!

Most evenings at Sharps are singers' nights, which means that anyone is welcome to volunteer to sing, play an instrument, tell a story, etc. Evenings are run by one of a rota of MCs who invites singers and musicians to perform in turn. About once a month a guest artist is booked; the programme (on website) lists forthcoming bookings.

- May 2nd **Theme night: The Merry Month of May** (or: is it safe to go outside?)
 - May 9th **Guest Night: Bolt the Door** • 16th/23rd/30th **Singers' nights**
 - June 6th **Theme night: Midsummer & Murders**
 - June 13/20th **Singers' nights** • June 27th **Guest Night: Claire Rakich**
 - July 4th **Theme night: American or American't**
 - July 11th/18th **Singers' nights** • July 2th **Guest Night: Riggy Rackin**
- Performers/members £7, Other £8.

At various times **Time Out** magazine has said of Sharps:

- *This long-standing, friendly and enjoyable club.*
- *Hugely enjoyable evenings of song and music making.*
- *One of the friendliest, worthiest traditional folk clubs left in London.*

The club takes place in the licensed bar which serves real ales.

Sharps Folk Club @sharpsfolkclub1 @sharpsfolkclub.co.uk
www.sharpsfolkclub.co.uk

**ENGLISH FOLK SONG & DANCE SOCIETY (EFDSS)** @

We champion the folk arts at the heart of England's rich and diverse cultural landscape. We deliver programmes of learning and participation and artist development: through our arts venue, Cecil Sharp House; through our library and archive, the Vaughan Williams Memorial Library; online and at a range of venues across England, and sometimes beyond. This includes workshops.

For details, please see website.

Office: 020 7485 2206. www.efdss.org

EDS (ENGLISH DANCE & SONG) magazine www.efdss.org/efdss-join-us/english-dance-and-song