



DALES TRADITIONAL MUSIC AND DANCE COLLECTIVE

www.dales-music-and-dance-collective.org.uk



Newsletter No. 34 January 25th 2026

for

Yorkshire Dales and Other Musicians, Callers, Singers, Dancers, Poets and Listeners

1. REMINDER - FEBRUARY PUB SESSION - RACEHORSES, KETTLEWELL 1pm to 4pm - Sunday 8th February 1pm to 4pm

2.



3. TOPIC FOLK CLUB - Thursday 26th February 7pm -
An evening with some Collective musicians and singers.

THE DALES TRADITIONAL MUSIC AND DANCE COLLECTIVE
PRESENTS:

Muppett's Part in Reviving the Buck Inn Music Sessions Thursday
February 26th, 2026, at The Castle, Grattan Road Bradford BD7 .

Nigel Broadbent and Jim Jarratt will set the scene with songs, tales and tunes from Upper Wharfedale that will cover well over 50 years of music and dancing. They will be joined by Matt Palmer, stepson of Muppett who played a key part in the recent revival of the tradition. Matt will give us a set of Muppett's utterly unique songs. Colin Speakman, writer and very active promoter of the Yorkshire Dales heritage national park who has walked the tracks & pathways of Upper Wharfedale for over 60 years, will add his poetic insights. Musicians Richard Hargreaves and Joy Leach will add a note or two to the dance numbers.

Nigel has a long history with Yorkshire Dales music having first been introduced to the Jackie Beresford/ Harry Cockerill sessions at the Buck Inn, in the late 1960s and 70s, then, in later years, playing in Tim Boothman's "The Boothman Band", at dance events throughout the Dales, when available, on occasions when a bass player was needed.

Jim is a writer, folk singer & Northern Regionalist who also has a long history with the music of the Yorkshire Dales. Born in Bradford in 1950, this one-time actor and countryside ranger has had a somewhat colourful career. In the 70s he worked with Bob Pegg with whom he appeared on television and at the Ilkley Festival. It was around this time that he began writing his highly distinctive local songs & monologues.

Matt Palmer will be performing the songs of the much loved and missed Muppett. As Muppett's stepson, in the 80s he was dragged kicking and screaming around the folk clubs of Yorkshire. Something clearly sunk in as Matt is an avid lover of folk music to this day and has been playing in various outfits on the circuit for over 30 years. He'll be performing some of Muppett's favourite home grown folk.

4. FOLK IN OTLEY - LOTS OF IT!

[See this link :http://folkforall.org.uk/](http://folkforall.org.uk/) Better still, read what's in it here below. Many thanks to Hannah Walker for putting us on her mailing list. Impressive efforts to get younger people involved in folk music. We could do with some of that up in the Dales themselves.

Welcome to the latest Folk for All Newsletter!

Please accept my apologies that there has been a long gap since we last got in touch. We've been busy putting the final touches to our Spring Gathering - more on that later.

Autumn Afternoon

Thank you to all of you who came and made our Autumn Afternoon a lovely event. We had a slow & steady tunes session, a singaround, a packed "open" session, and a relaxed get-together in the evening.

Website

We have a new, shiny website! It has details of our regular Slow & Steady Tunes Sessions, information about the project and the team behind it, and the Spring Gathering. Take a look and have an explore. folkforall.org.uk

Slow & Steady Tunes Sessions

These beginner-friendly sessions are continuing to prove popular. Thank you to everyone who comes along and makes them a success and makes the music sound so beautiful. Our next one is on **7th February, upstairs at the Black Horse in Otley, from 2 pm till 5 pm.**

Spring Gathering

The Spring Gathering is our main event.

It's going to take place on Saturday 21st March 2026, in a handful of venues around Otley. There will be workshops for all ages led by experienced tutors, a family ceilidh hosted by Addingham Ceilidh Club, and a tunes session. Please head over to our website to read more, and to buy tickets. We are looking forward to seeing you there!

folkforall.org.uk/spring-gathering

Sharing some music

Something totally different this time: [Grit, by Martyn Bennett](#). Martyn was a talented Canadian-Scottish piper and fiddler, and collected and recorded folk songs and stories in the field. Grit was his last studio album, bringing together samples of unaccompanied traditional Scottish singers, his own bagpipe and fiddle playing, and electronic beats. You can listen for free on YouTube, here: [Grit full album playlist](#)

Best wishes to you all,

Hannah, on behalf of the Folk for All team

Happy traditional Dales music making!

Richard 25/1/2026