



DALES TRADITIONAL MUSIC AND DANCE COLLECTIVE  
[www.dales-music-and-dance-collective.org.uk](http://www.dales-music-and-dance-collective.org.uk)



Newsletter No. 17 May 14<sup>th</sup> 2024

for

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

As it happened:

**MUSICAL TRIBUTE TO BOB ELLIS - SUNDAY AFTERNOON 28<sup>th</sup> APRIL  
IN THE ROSE AND CROWN PUB IN BAINBRIDGE**

About 50 people came to Bainbridge on that Sunday afternoon to play, sing, dance or just listen in tribute to Bob Ellis after his death in January 2024.

They included:

- Crook Morris dancers and musicians, in full costume with bells, batons and knotted white handkerchiefs. This Crook is based not in Co. Durham but in the small village between Bowness and Kendal in the southern Lake District. Bob had been associated with Crook Morris for over 20 years, from when he took up a teaching post at the Lakes School on Lake Windermere. At Bob's funeral in Hawes on 24<sup>th</sup> January they had shivered outside the church to play and dance for the mourners as they left the service. Now in warmer circumstances they performed several times during the afternoon, their oldest member dancing as vigorously as ever at a mere 89.
- The No Lazy Dancing Dance Band with three of its four members who had played Bob tunes inside the church at the end of the funeral service. The band has also put on three "Dancing Around the Dales" events in Ripley Town Hall. No prize for knowing where they got their name from!



- Hebden Bridge Panards, a band playing French and European music and dance, another of Bob's wide-ranging interests and influences.
- Batty Moss Band from Settle in Ribblesdale
- Buttered Peas - just one member, a solitary 'pea' from the band which has put on three "COME Traditional Dales Village DANCING" events in Kettlewell, Arncliffe and Grassington since November 2022.
- Melodeon players from Bob's workshops at Whitby Folk Weeks
- Other musicians and singers contributing individually
- Other general friends and supporters, especially those who came via the Dalesbus 876 service's double-decker ride through the Dales from cities and towns well beyond.



We thank the manager and her staff at the Rose and Crown. She had been very welcoming and had made the dining room available for us for the whole afternoon. With its bare floorboards and low ceiling it was acoustically great to perform in. She is a fan of folk music and would welcome music sessions there.

Towards the end of the afternoon we recalled how Penny was able to bring Bob to what was his last appearance at a Buck session in November 2023. He was clearly a very ill man but he signed copies of the book and when invited to offer a tune on his melodeon he suggested the Ideal Schottische. It's not in the book but it was a favourite which he often played at Buck sessions. With a struggle he played it that November afternoon. In Bainbridge only a few knew the tune

when it was played in his memory but it was enough to prompt a couple from Bob's Whitby followers to get up and dance to it. A good moment.

Finally glasses were raised and clinked in memory of Bob Ellis and it was felt that he had been well and truly commemorated in a way which he would have appreciated. Friends, ardent followers and acquaintances making music together to honour a man who enriched the lives of so many people throughout his life and with his magnificent No Lazy Dancing book can be said to be reviving the social and musical life of the Dales. He died too soon and he is much missed but his music lives on. As we play and dance to 'his' tunes let us also think of his widow Penny for whom he was the carer for so many years.

#### OTHER NEWS AND REMINDERS

**1. Reminder: Summer Reunion Pub Session at The Buck in Buckden, Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2pm to 5pm,** fitting in with the Dalesbus Summer timetable.

Musicians, singers, poets, story teller and listeners ALL WELCOME..

**2. Autumn/Winter 2024/2025 Buck sessions - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays in the month.**

The new season starts on Sunday October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2pm - 5pm, for Dalesbus Summer timetable. Then 1pm to 4pm for the Winter timetable: November 10<sup>th</sup> - December 8<sup>th</sup> - 2025 for January 12<sup>th</sup> - February 9<sup>th</sup>- March 9<sup>th</sup>.

**3. Saturday 1st March 2024 - Grassington Town Hall - 7pm to 10pm - COME Traditional Dales Village DANCING again with Buttered Peas**

**4. Other events within or beyond the Dales**

a) Don't forget the Addingham Ceilidh Club's regular third Sunday in the month evening dances. Jenny Scott on [jennyataireview@gmail.com](mailto:jennyataireview@gmail.com) or [www.addinghamceilidhclub.org.uk](http://www.addinghamceilidhclub.org.uk) for information.

b) Look out of news of other interesting folk music and dance events on our Collective's website, if we hear about them. Or tell me about it if you are organizing one and would like it publicised here.



## Happy traditional Dales music making!

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