



DALES TRADITIONAL MUSIC AND DANCE COLLECTIVE
Newsletter No. 6 July 3rd 2023



Welcome

Yorkshire Dales Musicians, Singers, Dancers, Poets and Listeners
to the Collective's sixth newsletter

Hello Dales Music, Song and Dance Aficionados

A full length screed this time, thanks to many news items from several Collective members.

A. PREVIOUS EVENTS

1. **Session at the Buck. Sunday afternoon June 4th.** Muppet writes:

'The Late Spring Fling session in the Buck yesterday I thought turned out another success. Although when we kicked off just after 2pm there were only a handful of folk there. Over the course of the afternoon though, it started to fill out with both performers and listeners, of which several were first timers. At its height I think there will have been around 15/16 performers of a range of tunes and songs. As in the past when the session finished at around 5pm and we left the pub it was almost empty, although there were a few sat outside enjoying the sunshine.

Re. the future sessions, during the March session I spoke with one of the pub's owners and asked if it was OK for the June Sessions and the October to March Sessions to continue and he was happy for it to do so.' See below for dates and times.

2. **Bishopdale, April 27th.** Bob Ellis writes

'On Thursday 27 April a tune session was held in the Streethead Inn, the pub in which William Calvert was born in 1780. This was arranged by Bob at the last minute when we realised that several musicians had stayed over in the area after the *Melodeons in Wensleydale* workshops in Hawes the previous weekend. Richard and the No Lazy Dancing Band attended together with several melodeon players from the weekend. While the programme was varied, it included several Dales tunes. The landlord said at the end of the evening that he was surprised

by the high quality of the music and that he would welcome us back there in the future.' (What was he expecting?! Ed. Richard)

3. **English Country Music Weekend, Masham 23-25 June.** More from Bob Ellis:

'Around 300 people attended, and music could be heard in the Town Hall, the Methodist Hall, the Bruce Arms, the Bay Horse Inn, and the open-air Artisans' Market in the Market Square. Some tunes local to the Dales were played in sessions in these venues, and Bob gave a presentation on Dales dance tunes in the Town Hall and taught three Dales tunes: *Sailor's Liberty* from the William Calvert MS, *Scaramouneel O Twang, Madam* from the playing of Sam Stables, and *Kendal Ghyll* from the playing of Dick and John Wallbank.'

4. **About Bob himself. Congratulations!**

At the end of the English Country Music Weekend each year an award is made by the Folklore Society to a person they deem to have made a significant contribution to folklore or folk music. This year Bob Ellis was the recipient.

5. **Brighouse, 24th June. News from Pete Coe**

On 24th June Pete Coe & The No Lazy Dancing Dance Band played at Waring Green Community, Brighouse, organised by Ryburn 3 Step. It was the first chance Pete & the band were able to work together playing & calling Dales tunes & dances a modest number braving the heatwave. Pete emphasises that his interpretations from the dance notations in Bob's book, onto the dance floor, are still work in progress.



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B. FUTURE "COLLECTIVE" EVENTS – or events associated with us. Actual, planned or just thought about.

1. Saturday March 2nd 2024. Grassington Town Hall. 7pm to 10pm.

"COME Traditional Dales Village DANCING" with "Buttered Peas" Ceilidh Band and caller Terry Evans. This could be quite a significant Collective event. The Town Hall is managed by the charity Grassington Devonshire Institute. When it invited ideas from the public for a wider range of events at the hall I naturally offered a traditional Dales dance evening and received a very enthusiastic response. Even more so when in discussion with Hazel Drew, the new Chair of Trustees, I suggested that if the first Dales Dance evening is successful it could be the first in a series of such events once or twice a year with different bands taking the lead. Thanks to Pete Coe for that last idea. As long as Buttered Peas do the first one! The hall will provide as much help as they can with publicity, a licensed bar (profit going to the Institute, which I'm happy with), ticketing via the Grassington Hub and Ticket Source, sound equipment if needed and staff help on the evening. The downside, however, is of course finance. Any group hiring the hall must cover its costs. No help from the hall there, but that is the norm with public institutions these days. Nevertheless, I have booked the hall for March 2nd and hope for a massive turnout (especially from the Collective!). As a local person and member of the GDI I get a favourable cost for a 4 hour hire of the hall. Probably no more than £45.
(Richard)

So, a date in your diaries please, for Saturday evening March 2nd 2024 in Grassington!

2. Sessions at the Buck Inn in Buckden 2023 - 2024

For singers, musicians, poetry performers (especially in Yorkshire dialect) and raconteurs- all welcome. Listeners too. There is also space in the middle for some dancers.

Every 2nd Sunday in the Month from October 2023 to March 2024 inclusive.

October 8th, November 12th, December 10th, January 14th, February 11th, March 10th. Time: 2pm to 5pm on October 8th to coincide with Dalesbus summer timetable, thereafter 1pm to 4pm for the Dalesbus winter timetable. Assuming their timetables stay as they are now.

3. Ripley Town Hall – Saturday 30th September

7pm – 10pm with Mark and George's "No Lazy Dancing Dance Band" and Pete and Sue Coe calling. A repeat of their successful world premiere on April 1st this year. Flyer attached in the email.

4. Monday 17th July at Heatherdene Folk Dance Club, Harrogate

8pm to 10.30pm at The Oatlands, 1 Coronation Grove, Harrogate, HG2 8BU

Pete Coe will be teaching and testing out some new, old Dales dances with music from The No Lazy Dancing Dance Band. Come on your own, come with a partner, come with friends – you're all very welcome!

5. Whitby Folk Week – Thursday afternoon 24th August 3.30 –

4.50pm in the Pavilion. Dales Music and Dance Workshop.

Led by Pete Coe with music from Bob Ellis and the ubiquitous No Lazy Dancing Dance Band. A sharing, participatory dance and tune session for musicians, dancers and callers.

6. In the offing but nothing arranged yet – Kettlewell Village Hall on a Sunday afternoon 2pm to 5pm in late October or early November. By popular request a repeat of the successful and enjoyable "Afternoon of Traditional Dales Village Music and Dances" in November 2022. With Buttered Peas Ceilidh Band again but Terry Evans calling. Having launched last year's event off his own bat Richard is looking for moral support from within the village this time before committing himself to it. Watch this space!

C. OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST IN THE REGION

Let Muppett himself introduce this catalogue of enticing events:

"Hiya, Ow yer diddling?"

Although they are not purveyors of Dales music and songs, here are links to a number of concerts taking place in the Dales over the coming months featuring some fantastic bands, groups and performers that I'm sure members of the collective would be interested in seeing:

[An Evening with Steve Tilston - Discover Grassington](#)

(It's Friday 14th July in the Town Hall's Octagon Theatre 7.30pm to midnight.

£1 [Carperby Concerts. \(folkicons.co.uk\)](#)

[Live music - Reeth Memorial Hall \(weebly.com\)](#)

D. THE COLLECTIVE ON THE WEB AND IN FACEBOOK ??

Some thoughts from Colin:

"Just back from an amazing trip to Oslo and Stockholm including visits to amazing Skansens (Outdoor rural life museums) and brilliant Viking museums/sites, including the island of Birka - World Heritage Site Viking island settlement at the top end of a Swedish fjord where many of our ancestors may have come from. One of the streets in central Oslo is called Kirke Gata (Kirkgate). They probably have a Briggate somewhere. Need I say more!

Some amazing developments in your recent emails. I think Richard's newsletter can and is with Muppet and Pete's help developing into a great Dales folk music and events listing calendar which we can easily circulate in its present format to lots of key outlets - Friends of the Dales, National Park Centres, Local Museums etc. It will start to create its own momentum.

What we need now is a simple website where we can put these newsletters on month by month. Surely between us there is someone IT literate out there to do the job. Sons, daughters, grandchildren maybe? We can share any costs.

Now to Bob's response:

"I've had a chat with my friend Brian, who runs my websites. He is happy to run a website for us. It is £100 per year all-inclusive. However, this shouldn't be a problem. A whip-round in one of our Sunday afternoon sessions should raise most of that amount. As well as running the website, he would set it up so that people can self-subscribe to the mailing list on the website, and we can send out the newsletter and other group emails through Mailchimp. This might take some of the load off Richard's shoulders." (Hear, hear! Ed.)

If we want to go ahead with this, we need to consider a domain name to purchase - obviously one that is not already in use. That rules out dalesfolk.uk and dalestunes.org because I already own them and use them for my websites and email. One possibility might be dalesdance&song.org. I haven't checked whether that is available, but it is likely to be.

If you want me to pursue this further with Brian, it may have to wait until we return from our cruise on 7 July, although I should have an internet connection onboard ship.

Colin's response to that:

Excellent!

That gets my vote - and an offer of £20 towards first year and start up costs. Domain name sounds fine.

Any other offers or comments?

The end!

But . . .

Would you like us to spread the word of whatever you are doing or planning in your neck of the woods?



**Happy traditional Dales
music making!**



Richard 3/7/2023

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(Richard Hargreaves, Hawkswick, Littondale,
and Buttered Peas Ceilidh Band)