

Notes

Coming Events at Readifolk

Reading's folk song
and music club

Issue 36 Winter 2017/18



Tom Lewis navigates his way back to Readifolk on **7th January**.

What he says:

Tom is a 24-year veteran of Her Majesty's Royal Naval diesel submarines; although now he's comfortably located on dry land. His songs cover a wide range of nautical topics, from life on board H.M. ships, through the loneliness and lure of the sea, to traditional shanties and classic nautical poetry, set to his own, and others' melodies.

What others say:

"Thoroughly entertaining... brimming with robustly resonant harmonies and songs, by turns traditional and contemporary, thoughtful and whimsical" - *Mike Joyce, The Washington Post*. "Tom has carved a niche for himself in the annals of maritime music, his traditional idiom song writing is up there alongside Tawney and MacColl" - *Seán Laffey, Traditional & Folk Music Directory*.

What we say:

A firm favourite at Readifolk, Tom will be celebrating his significant birthday with his show '75 years in 75 minutes'. Be ready to sing!

Hear more:

www.tomlewis.net
www.youtube.com/watch?v=c2QREmg3BBQ
www.youtube.com/watch?v=hdAaLV0ucwo



Suntrap bring beautiful vocal harmonies to the club on **14th January**.

What they say:

Suntrap are a 4-piece folk-inspired group with beautiful entrancing harmonies on traditional and self-written material. Suntrap's Sara Byers, Mary Wilson and John Sandall have now been joined by Sue Graves. Sue, known as the 'Surrey Nightingale', is a stunning addition to Suntrap's powerful vocal harmony sound.

What others say:

"Rich harmonies, dazzling folk fusion" - *Time Out*. "Beautiful slip-sliding harmonies" - *JRoots*.

What we say:

Suntrap are making their first visit to Readifolk. We are sure that you will be impressed with this group.

Hear more:

www.suntrap.org
www.youtube.com/watch?v=ellp65i2d68
myspace.com/suntrap/music/song/69638791-76581845



The very fine trans-Atlantic combination of **Zoe Mulford** & **Tom Kitching** come to entertain us on **28th January**.

What they say:

American songwriter, folk singer, and guitar/banjo player Zoe Mulford teams up with English fiddler/mandolinist Tom Kitching to bring together the best of two worlds. The collaboration began in the studio as they worked on Zoe's album "Small Brown Birds." This show in their hometown of

Manchester starts a string of UK tour dates through January and April of 2018. Zoe's beautifully crafted songs and sparkling vocals draw on the traditional music of Appalachia and the British Isles to make sense of the modern world. Tom's spirited instrumentals are deeply rooted in the English folk dance tradition. Together, they make music infused with energy and wit, both vital and deeply moving.

What others say:

"Zoe's lyrics are intelligent, thought-provoking, and so warm that they demand that you get to know this person better" - *Bob Gramann, Fredericksburg Songwriters' Showcase*. "There are dozens of folk violinists, but few with the attack, passion, and ingenuity of Tom Kitching" - *Sunday Express*.

What we say:

Beautiful songs, beautiful singing and superb accompaniment. What more could you ask for?

Hear more:

www.zoemulford.com
www.tomkitching.co.uk
www.youtube.com/watch?v=WmyPFccRHgo



On **4th February** we have a long-awaited return visit of **Moonrakers**.

What they say:

Moonrakers is an Oxford-based group of four musicians, some from the classical and some from the folk tradition. The fact that the band "just OOZES quality" (*Living Tradition*) is down to the careful arrangements and selection of tunes and songs, presenting "exquisite music" (*BBC*). Now with four albums under their belt and described as "startlingly talented" (*Oxford Times*), Moonrakers provide "truly wonderful" (*Wycombe Festival*) informal evenings of musical excellence and humour.

What others say:

"Startlingly talented, performing luscious songs and tunes rooted in traditional music" - *Oxford Times*. "We very much enjoyed your talented performance last night in West Wycombe. Jon and Sarah's vocals blended beautifully, the harpist was brilliant and the fiddle a strong lead. A most pleasant and melodic evening. Well done to all of you!" - *John Beaumont, Wycombe Arts Festival Director*.

What we say:

Moonrakers are an exceptionally talented combination. An excellent evening's entertainment is guaranteed.

Hear more:

www.moonrakers.net
www.youtube.com/watch?v=9P0tvHbb-yU
www.youtube.com/watch?v=BjvGBFzEKBg



North Sea Gas cross the border to entertain us on **18th February**.

What they say:

Over thirty-seven years and stronger than ever! "North Sea Gas" is one of Scotland's most popular folk bands with

great vocals and tremendous three part harmonies. Guitars, Mandolin, Fiddle, Bouzouki, Harmonica, Whistles, Bodhrans, Banjo and good humour are all part of the entertainment. They have received Gold and Silver Disc awards from the Scottish Music Industry Association and regularly have sold out shows at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and around the world!

What others say:

"No airs and graces just fantastic music" - *EdinburghGuide.com*. "The band displays an attachment and a reverence for their roots from the very start. The music feels genuine, unpretentious and spontaneous, with a fondness for storytelling and beautiful harmonies" - *Celtic Radio, Boston*.

What we say:

NSG is one of our all-time favourite groups. Another rip-roaring evening is anticipated.

Hear more:

www.northseagas.co.uk
www.youtube.com/watch?v=uvrmqh_MEJ8
www.youtube.com/watch?v=XvFcBm3AEFM



On **4th March**, Manchester-based trio, **Harp and a Monkey** make a return visit to Readifolk.

What they say:

Songs about cuckolded molecatchers, a lone English oak tree that grows in Gallipoli, care in the community and medieval pilgrims... we can only be talking about the folk experimentalists Harp and a Monkey. The harp 'n' banjo driven electro-folk storytelling is imbued with a deep Lancashire sensibility that shines through in their beautifully crafted and sometimes spooky vignettes of northern life, love and remembrance.

What others say:

"Brilliant" - *Mark Radcliffe, BBC Radio 2*. "Sensational" - *Clare Balding, BBC Radio 2*. "Exceptional" - *fRoots*.

What we say:

Harp and a Monkey have gone from strength to strength since their last appearance at the club. Certainly a band not to be missed.

Hear more:

www.harbandamonkey.com
www.youtube.com/watch?v=7LDD-xXAcC
www.youtube.com/watch?v=tRc1NHatsME



Wildwood Jack make their Readifolk debut on **18th March**.

What they say:

Wildwood Jack are a unique acoustic guitar and ukulele duo from Kent in the UK. Their melodic songs blend the acoustic guitar and ukulele with outstanding fingerstyle playing drawing influences from folk, americana and world music. They embrace the troubadour lifestyle and spend large parts of the year touring across the UK, Europe and New Zealand.

What others say:

"Intensely adept acoustic guitar stylings" - *Nethrhythms*. "Quality songwriting, engaging, uplifting and filled with memorable melodies" - *R2 Magazine*. "Melodic and sophisticated" - *Shire Folk*.

What we say:

We have heard very good reports on this duo and are really looking forward to seeing them at the club.

Hear more:

www.wildwoodjack.com
www.youtube.com/watch?v=442EVRtFPJw
www.youtube.com/watch?v=vjaC3kDIyow



Ange Hardy brings her tech-wizardry to Readifolk on **25th March**.

What she says:

Ange Hardy has grabbed the attention of the traditional folk music world by writing new material and embracing modern technologies whilst maintaining a traditional feel. Alongside a staggering list of other accolades Ange was awarded FATEA Magazine's Female Vocalist of the Year in 2013, Album of the Year in 2014 and The Tradition Award in 2015. As a solo artist Ange performs with a 27-string Salvi Harp, three different guitars, a variety of low whistles, a bodhrán drum, a tambourine, and an Indian shruti box. Combined with her innovative and subtle use of live looping to build layers up vocal harmonies she's one of the most diverse solo-artists you're likely to encounter.

What others say:

"She performs with a warmth that is both disarming and inspirational. Her songs of life and the countryside feel traditional, and she augments voice and guitar with very effective use of a loop pedal to add harmonies or extra instruments. It is a great feat of perfect timing" - *R2 Magazine*. "One of Britain's top folk musicians" - *The Telegraph*.

What we say:

Ange Hardy presents contemporary 'traditional-sounding' songs with impressive technical dexterity. Do not miss this show!

Hear more:

www.angehardy.com
www.youtube.com/watch?v=0_ZVIGl0Y8
www.youtube.com/watch?v=k9w7AArU7Q0

Readifolk Contacts:

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Ian about the radio show radiofolk@readifolk.org.uk



READIFOLK

READING'S FOLK SONG & MUSIC CLUB



Every Sunday 8:00 - 10:30 p.m.

The Community Hall, Watlington House,
44, Watlington Street, Reading, RG1 4RJ

PROGRAMME: *January - March 2018*

J A N U A R Y	7 th	Tom Lewis www.tomlewis.net	<i>Widely acknowledged as one of the finest exponents of contemporary nautical songs. Tom brings to the stage wry humour, button accordion, ukulele and a great voice.</i>
	14 th	Suntrap www.suntrap.org	<i>Suntrap's Sue Byers, Mary Wilson and John Sandall, joined by 'Surrey Nightingale' Sue Graves deliver powerful harmonies on traditional and self-written material.</i>
	21 st	Singers Night	<i>The usual format - a song, a tune, a poem, a joke or just come along and be entertained by us. All welcome.</i>
	28 th	Zoe Mulford & Tom Kitching www.zoemulford.com www.tomkitching.co.uk	<i>American songwriter, folk singer and guitar/banjo player Zoe Mulford teams up with English fiddler/mandolinist Tom Kitching to bring together the best of both worlds.</i>

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F E B R U A R Y	9 th	Moonrakers www.moonrakers.net	<i>Moonrakers is an Oxford-based multi-instrumental group playing Celtic traditional music and some original tunes and songs in the idiom.</i>
	11 th	Theme 'Town & Around'	<i>Songs about any town or its surroundings will fit this theme.</i>
	18 th	North Sea Gas www.northseagas.co.uk	<i>One of Scotland's most popular folk bands with great vocals and tremendous three-part harmonies.</i>
	25 th	Singers Night	<i>Another opportunity for you to show us what you can do.</i>

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M A R C H	9 th	Harp and a Monkey www.harpanamonkey.com	<i>A really entertaining trio from Manchester who are rapidly making a name for themselves on the folk scene.</i>
	11 th	Theme 'Crime & Punishment'	<i>A popular folksy theme. Let's hear your songs on the subject.</i>
	18 th	Wildwood Jack www.wildwoodjack.com	<i>Wildwood Jack are a unique acoustic guitar and ukulele duo from Kent. Their melodic songs blend the acoustic guitar and ukulele with outstanding fingerstyle playing.</i>
	25 th	Ange Hardy www.angehardy.com	<i>BBC Radio 2 Folk Award nominee and winner of FATEA Album of the Year and Female Vocalist of the Year. Ange Hardy is a folk singer/ songwriter performing original contemporary songs with an emphasis on vocal harmony.</i>

Admission: £6 Guest nights; £2 Singers & Theme nights

More information from our web site www.readifolk.org.uk

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Find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/readifolk and Twitter www.twitter.com/readifolk

The Readifolk Radio Show is on the internet every Wednesday 7 - 9pm and Friday 5 - 7pm
<http://blast1386.reading-college.ac.uk> click on 'Listen Live'. And now on www.bluesandrootsofradio.co.uk