

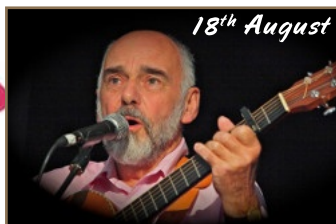
Notes

Coming Events at Readifolk

Reading's folk song
and music club

Issue 42

Summer 2019



11th August

Harp and a Monkey make a long-awaited return to Readifolk on **7th July**.

What they say:

Songs about cuckolded molecatchers, a lone English oak tree that grows at Gallipoli, care in the community and medieval pilgrims... we can only be talking about the folk experimentalists Harp and a Monkey. Formed in 2008, Harp and a Monkey have been establishing a loyal following via the old fashioned practice of relentless gigging and modern practice of social network sites. Regulars on the national circuit, the band have gained a strong reputation for the excellent rapport they establish with their live audiences. Such is the strength of their reputation as a quality live act, they have twice been asked to perform at the English Folk Expo; the annual international showcase of the best of English folk and roots music.

What others say:

"Somehow they produce rousing, heart-warming performances from their odd collection of material, underpinned by fine musicianship. A glockenspiel, mouth organ, banjo, viola and, of course, a harp feature throughout their compelling performances. Catch Harp and a Monkey" - *Manchester Evening News*. "Before tonight, I was not familiar with the music of Harp and a Monkey but, after this performance, I realised that I had been missing something rather wonderful. In fact, I was totally enthralled" - *Fatea Magazine*. "Bright, dry witty tunes are satisfyingly baroque yet rustic, the acoustics mingling into a hypnotic tonic of fun and tradition. Their sanguine songwriting is just magic" - *Manchester Music*.

What we say:

Since their last visit to the club Harp and a Monkey have become major players on the folk scene. Don't miss this rare opportunity of seeing this remarkable trio.

Hear More:

www.harpandamonkey.com
www.youtube.com/watch?v=i7LDD-xXACc
www.youtube.com/watch?v=8JiSm3Pmod



Anglo/Swedish trio **Doggerland**, on their first UK tour, pay a visit to Readifolk on **14th July**.

What they say:

The folk duo Doggerland are Norway-based Englishman Richard Burgess and Swede Anders Ådin. They started playing together in 2005. It was a meeting between English and Scandinavian folk music, between powerful singing and delicate guitar playing, between concertina and hurdygurdy - and it worked! They have since explored this musical landscape both as a duo and in collaboration with other musicians. Most recently they have extended their repertoire through a collaboration with Swedish National Folk Musician Jenny Gustafsson and her charismatic fiddle-playing. Jenny is now a regular feature of Doggerland's live performances and tours. Doggerland's focus is on the common musical heritage of the North Sea and the lands around it. Their unusual line-up, their innovative

musicality and their infectious enthusiasm result in a unique musical experience where rough shanties meet polished polskas and the forest meets the ocean. They call it North Sea music.

What others say:

"This work is faultless in its performance and production, a great listen that continues to impress every time it's played" - *Living Tradition*. "Burgess's voice is strong and expressive... When Ådin plays guitar, the angels sing" - *Rootzone, Denmark*. "A real cracker!" - *The Mike Harding Folk Show*.

What we say:

Our Scandinavian scouts, Malcolm and Clare, speak highly of Doggerland and the album **No Sadness of Farewell** has received critical acclaim. We are delighted that Jenny Gustafsson is coming to make up an exciting trio. This is definitely an evening not to be missed.

Hear more:

www.doggerland.com



Oyez, Oyez, Oyez, the Watchet town crier, **David Milton**, brings his rousing songs to Readifolk on **28th July**.

What Ange Hardy says:

"In the years I've lived near Watchet I've known David as the Watchet Town Crier; but I've also known him as Mr Mommie the Punch and Judy Man, as Santa Claus on the West Somerset Steam Railway, as a singer and leader of shanties at Pebbles Tavern, and as the voice of The Ancient Mariner on my **Estevsee** album (which was the first time we worked together). I knew David was a sculptor, I knew he was a football referee, but until this project, I didn't know him as a songwriter. What David has achieved on this album captures what I think of as the true essence of folk music (although David would never want to limit it with labels and genres). It combines a selection of songs he's learned orally from the good folk of Watchet with songs that document the events and lives of the town. The closing of the Wansbrough Paper Mill after more than 260 years, first hand memories of Ben Norman and the decline of the harbour, a recent Viking funeral at West Quay, the shanties you'll hear at Pebbles Tavern."

What we say:

As soon as we heard David's debut album **Songs from the Bellman** we knew he would go down a storm at Readifolk. Click on the Youtube link below and see if you agree. We hope to see you at the club.

Hear more:

www.songsfromthebellman.co.uk
www.youtube.com/watch?v=2oJeD0bUiiA&t=31s



On **11th August** the 'Surrey Nightingale' **Sue Graves** gives a rare solo performance at the club.

What she says:

Sue Graves is a Surrey based folk singer who sings a mixture of contemporary and traditional songs, accompanying herself on guitar and ukulele. She is a truly remarkable singer and performer with a diverse range of material.

What others say:

"The sweetest close harmonies I've heard in a good long while" - Emma Marshall, *Fatea magazine*.

What we say:

We have seen Sue at the club on many occasions as a singer in groups including **Soiree**, **Voiceover** and **Suntrap**. She has also done the occasional floor spot in support of other artists. We are delighted that she has agreed to perform a complete solo show for us and we look forward to a really memorable evening.

Hear more:

www.facebook.com/suegravesfolksinger
www.youtube.com/watch?v=bOjZ9PKtTYU
www.youtube.com/watch?v=1R7RqrrGeOk



The well-respected singer/songwriter **Derek Gifford** makes a welcome return to Readifolk on **18th August**.

What he says:

Derek has been singing for over 35 years and is well known as an excellent solo performer throughout the U.K and internationally. He has released several albums over this time. He is also a member of shanty group **Three Sheets to the Wind**. Derek's first encounter with English traditional songs was in Birmingham in the late 1960s. In 1970 Derek moved to Lancashire and in 1987 he began writing tunes to Keith Scowcroft's poems culminating in the internationally recognised song *When All Men Sing*. A number of his songs are from other local song writers unaccompanied or accompanied simply but effectively on guitar or bowed psaltery. Chorus songs are one -of Derek's specialities.

What others say:

"I've often been there to watch him do it, winning audiences with his combination of talent and integrity combined with one of the best voices around" - Roy Harris. "As a singer, Giff's relaxed and confident style is perennially winning, while he can also boast a significant (if humble) degree of accomplishment as a guitarist" - *Fatea Magazine*.

What we say:

We know from his previous performances at the club that this will be one of those special evenings - lots of well-loved traditional songs as well as self-penned and other contemporary offerings, with lots of audience participation.

Hear more:

www.derekgifford.co.uk
www.youtube.com/watch?v=1lc2zUYPgqfQ
www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lu7UciWkN1l

The fantastic duo **Oka Vanga** return to entertain us on **8th September**.

What they say:

Oka Vanga are Angela Meyer & William Cox, an award winning Folk & Roots duo. Whether singing, playing guitar, ukulele or mandolin, their relaxed banter and gift for story telling makes their live performances both interesting and memorable.

What others say:

"Meticulous" - *Songlines Magazine*. "Folkloric motifs supernaturally illuminated... beautifully intricate" - *R'n'R*. "A duo of serious accomplishment and musicality... highly skilled" - *JRoots Magazine*.

What we say:

We remember very well their spellbinding performance on their last visit to the club. We look forward to some of the same.

Hear more:

www.okavanga.com
www.youtube.com/watch?v=fVp8Zdak5wk
www.youtube.com/watch?v=XrcMtMZFAds



By popular demand, **Sally Ironmonger** (and husband **Brian Carter**) return to the club on **22nd September**.

What they say:

Sally Ironmonger & Brian Carter have been writing, performing and bickering together for nearly 20 years. They have produced 3 studio albums of songs about shipyards, prostitutes, trips to the seaside, self-deprecating amusing songs and protest anthems. They are an absolute one off. They have a quirky and distinctive style, with Brian's unusual and accomplished guitar technique the perfect accompaniment to Sally's unique voice. They love what they do, and their aim is to entertain, with songs that make you laugh, or cry, or just think.

What others say:

"Teasing, thought-provoking, foot-tapping, belly-laughing, ale swigging, murdering, schizophrenic, tear-inducing wordsmith" - *Pennyblackmusic*. "Sally Ironmonger and Brian Carter put on a brilliant show, firmly rooted in the folk music tradition, but including some hints of jazz and blues and other genres. Mostly self-penned, their songs were moving and funny and quite catchy. Most of all, they were fun and joyous entertainers" - *Richard De'ath, Stratford Sub Castle*.

What we say:

They are brilliant entertainers - can't wait to see them again!

Hear more:

www.sallyironmonger.co.uk
www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Saa_iEN0aQ
www.youtube.com/watch?v=qKk9pG2RBsc



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: July - September 2019

J U L Y	7th	Harp & A Monkey www.harpandamonkey.com	<i>A really entertaining trio from Manchester who are rapidly making a name for themselves on the Folk scene.</i>
	14th	Doggerland www.doggerland.com	<i>This exciting Anglo/Swedish trio play a mix of English and Scandinavian songs and tunes.</i>
	21st	Singers Night	<i>The usual format - a song, a tune, a poem, a joke or just come along and be entertained by us.</i>
	28th	David Milton www.songsfromthebellman.co.uk	<i>David is the official town crier of Watchet, Somerset. Expect some rousing songs of traditional and original material, mainly with a local connection.</i>

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A U G U S T	4th	Club Closed	<i>It's festival time. The club is open again next week.</i>
	11th	Sue Graves www.facebook.com/suegravesfolksinger	<i>Sue is a Surrey-based folk singer who sings a mixture of contemporary and traditional songs, accompanying herself on guitar and ukulele. She is a truly remarkable singer and performer with a diverse range of material.</i>
	18th	Derek Gifford www.derekgifford.co.uk	<i>Excellent singing in the traditional style but with some contemporary lyrics. Guitar and bowed psaltery accompaniment.</i>
	25th	Theme 'Law & Order'	<i>'ello, 'ello, 'ello what have you to offer on this theme?</i>

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S E P T E M B E R	1st	Club Closed	<i>It's Wallingford Bunkfest weekend, so we'll see you there. The club is open again next week.</i>
	8th	Oka Vanga www.okavanga.com	<i>An award winning duo playing their own songs as well as well-known folk and roots numbers. Exquisite guitar instrumentals plus contributions on ukulele and mandolin.</i>
	15th	Singers Night	<i>Another opportunity for you to show us what you can do.</i>
	22nd	Sally Ironmonger www.sallyironmonger.co.uk	<i>Highly-rated singer/songwriter Sally, together with guitarist husband Brian, presents a mix of humorous and thought-provoking songs.</i>
	29th	Theme 'Going With The Flow'	<i>Is this a 'watery' theme or are you going to let others tell you what to do? You decide.</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 week on www.blast1386.com Wed 7 - 9pm and Fri 5 - 7pm, and on www.bluesandrootsradio.com Tue 10 - 12pm, Fri 8 - 10pm and Sat 6 - 8pm.

Podcasts of earlier shows are on www.mixcloud.com/ianfreedman18