

STAFFING LIST 2006

ref	dates	location	artistic	logistic
1	27-29 Jan	Halsway WW	Ray Taylor & John & Carol Wippell	Manor Staff
2	13-17 feb	Craft	Joy Simmons, Paul Bull & David Bradley	Hotel Staff
3	28Apr-2May	Wildhern	tbc	tbc
4	26-30 May	Dalton	Brian Pollard, Bob Carter, Hilary Vare & John New	Dave Richardson
5	26-30 May	Loxwood	tbc	tbc
6	2-4 jun	Dancers	Pete & Marj Hendy, Shane & Julia Day	Jenny Walton
7	30jun-2Jul	Musicians	tbc	tbc
8	14-16 jul	Singers	tbc	tbc
9	29Jul-5Aug	Halsway	Chris Turner & tbc	Manor Staff
10	22-29 jul	Bicton	Paul Weir, Emily Weir & Alastair Gavin	Brian Bull, Cheryl Moskowitz & Hilary MacNamara
11	29Jul-5Aug	Bicton	Walter Pohl, Doug Brown, Andy Johnson	Don Thompson, Karl Stevens & tbc
12	5-12 Aug	Bicton	Mark Weaver, Tim Bennett Richard Jones, Holly Sheldrake	Doug Jewitt, Paul Baker & tbc
13	12-19 Aug	Bicton	Sue Malleson, Jenny Newman & Andy Glass	Steve Porritt, Jane Wild, Ros Wiggins
14	6-13 Aug*	Rattery	tbc	tbc
15	5-12 aug	Rossum	Brian Pollard, Bob Carter, Hilary Vare & John New	Eef Nijhuis & Marianne Kammingers
16	12-19 Aug	Rossum	John Dell, Ann Tracey, Hilary Vare & John New	Eef Nijhuis & Marianne Kammingers
17	25-29 Aug	Whixley	Brian Pollard, Bob Carter, Hilary Vare & John New	Richard Kenyon
18	25-29 Aug	Loxwood	tbc	tbc

* Sunday to Sunday

Autumn 2005



All next year's camps!

And much more!

Letter from the Editor

It's been a long time coming this year but then it's been a long year. But what an amazing year, a rollercoaster one but an amazing one all the same.



The quote boxes in this year's Extent, like last year's, come from this year's comment books. They are real comments, from real people and they are what really shows what we're about.

"I loved this week - very warm, friendly, kindly atmosphere and great music (-as always) - thank you!"

To be honest, after 20 years of Folk Camping, I didn't think there was anything more to learn about the society but in the last 12 months, I've learned some things about the strength of passionate feeling about our society, still going strong after 40 years, the enthusiasm and drive behind the membership.

I've learnt that no matter how unimportant and whimsical the Society is to the outside world, to us it burns within our hearts like a beacon - one that we want so many other people to share with us.

There are plenty of announcements in this year's Extent, some exciting, some sad, some major, some minor but they're all important. Why? Because they relate to something we all love and we all work hard for.

I often find it completely amazing that the society attracts people from all walks of life. Surprisingly, all these different people, with different aims in life and different attitudes are all working towards the same goal - while we may pull in different directions sometimes, we are all walking the same way.

I think it's important that we remember that.

Beci

Publications from Folk Camps Society Ltd

Please send your order with your payment (payable to Folk Camps Society Ltd) to:
Folk Camps Society Ltd. 18 Roughmoor Cotts, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 1HA, Tel:- 01823 270754

THE FOLK CAMPERS TUNE BOOK

Edited by Derek & Jill Hammond - £ 8.00 (€6.50 + €1.50 p&p)

Over 100 delightful tunes composed by Folk Campers for Folk Campers.

Over 40 different composers including well known members from the early days of Folk Camps such as John Kirkpatrick, John Blomfield, Mary Brock, David Kettlewell, Pauline Wilson and Barbara Wood together with a large selection from our current batch of talented musicians with the likes of Dave Brown, Dave Roberts and Keith Gregson and many more contributing.

"In a Cottage in a Wood" and other singing games. Compiled by Jean Blomfield - £ 6.50 (€5.00 + €1.50 p&p)

A collection of 25 of Aunty Jeans favourites complete with words and music for use with our younger members and their friends

OTHER ASSOCIATED PUBLICATIONS

TEACHING CHILDREN COUNTRY DANCING (when you are no expert yourself) a book and CD set by Pete Hendy with the Downfielders Band. £13.00 (€10.00 + €3.00 p&p) A Manual for those involved in passing on folk dance to the next generation.. Obtainable from A P Hendy, Richmond, Bisley, GL6 7BG

PLAY IN THE BAND, a core repertoire of folk dance tunes by Barry Moule. £12.00 Obtainable from Cotswold Music Society, PO Box 35, Evesham, WR11 6JH

Become a Governing Member

Nomination Form for Governing Membership

I wish to become a GOVERNING MEMBER of Folk Camps Society Limited. I understand that my financial liability, in the event of failure of the Society, is limited to £10, or any other amount set by the Society at an AGM or EGM.

I enclose my cheque for £ (Min £5)
being () years advance subscription at £1 per year.

NAME

ADDRESS

POST CODE

TEL NO

email:-

signed

Date

PROPOSER (signature):-

(Block Capitals)

SECONDER (signature):-

(Block Capitals)

(Both proposer and seconder must be currently fully paid up Governing Members)

Statement from the chairman...

In vibrant living organisations, changes are inevitable if the whole thing is to survive and progress. Since the first camp in 1961 and the subsequent incorporation in 1968 Folk Camps has always grasped new opportunities whilst holding onto the essential qualities and principles that brought it into being.



“I come to Folk Camp on my own but never feel excluded or lonely - it is a wonderful atmosphere here and people genuinely seem pleased to see me.”

Yes, there have been ups and downs in Folk Camps fortunes over the years but we are still here and, as our Auditor is quick to remind us, he has no other companies, of our size, on his books that have existed for over 40 years. I believe it is the way that we have coped with change that has been the key to our survival and prosperity.

After the AGM in 1984 the Council of Management held an emergency meeting. The Secretary (Tony Millington who did the equivalent of the Administration Manager's & Equipment Manager's jobs) had resigned with immediate effect and we had just £350 in the bank. This might have been the end of the Society, but the Council decided that the concept was so good that it must continue and be re-built. Council took over the running of the business with two members, Roger Conway & Barry Moule taking on the day-to-day responsibilities of the organisation. Costs were cut by giving up the leased office, selling the company car and more vitally, not having to pay any salary or fees.

That was the situation for the next two years and the Council's hard work was starting to pay off with good numbers attending camps and a clear confidence in the operation being shown by the members; there was also a substantially improved bank balance. It was agreed to pay Roger and Barry an

“Another superb weekend.”

“It’s wonderful that campers, dancers & musicians are so patient and caring about the children.”

honoraria fee for the next period. Eventually the Society was in a strong enough financial position to enter formal contracts with Roger and Barry and the rest is, as they say, history.

Now, 21 years after that amazing November meeting, it is time for another change in structure as Roger has decided to start to move towards his retirement. The Administration Manager's role is really two fold, 1) Bookings, finance and general administration and 2) Events Management. The Council have now agreed to split the function accordingly. Roger will give up the main Events Management portion of his contract at the end of 2005 although he will act as mentor/advisor to the new contractor for 2006. He will continue to do the bookings, finance and general admin in 2006 with this function being put to tender before the end of 2006.



The process towards appointing a contractor to take on the Events Management is now starting and if you would like a chat about what the work entails give Roger a ring. The formal tendering process is being handled by the Company Secretary, Chris Butler (0208 549 3342). The contract specifications are currently being drawn up and should be available quite shortly. It is intended that the arrangements will commence early 2006.

Pete Hendy, Chairman
September 2005

“Very enjoyable and instructive with good company.”

Council contact details

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info@folkcamps.co.uk

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They'd never say that!

Things some of our favourite Folkies would never say :

Swerve (Mark Weaver to the rest of us)

No, really, some one could get hurt.

Let's all have an early night.

Paul Harrington

Could I have your attention please, I have an announcement to make.

Emily Malleson

It's really none of my business.

Karl "Tank Commander" Stevens

If you've had chili and rice, you'd better flush twice.

Richard Jones

I think it needs less accordion

Paul Weir

Actually, I've changed my mind about marquees - they're rubbish!

Cat Kelly

I couldn't possibly call when I'm drunk.

Doug Brown

I don't think Speedos are really "me".

Steve Porritt

Hello down there!

Paul Baker

Actually, I've decided that heckling's a bit childish.

Sue Malleson

I think I'm going to take a back seat on this issue.

Council of Management

We've employed Jamie Oliver to revamp the menus.

Tim Bennett

I couldn't say that!

Lizzy French

Have the day off - we'll just ring for pizza.

Thanks to the "I'm sorry I haven't a Folking Clue"
crew from Forestside.

Changes to Extent

Extent is on the move once more. This year's experiment with bi-monthly issues was so successful that we will continue with this format next year with a slight twist. Extent will be available on the Internet in both Adobe Acrobat (as it has been this year) and html editions from January 2006 and it will not be available in a paper edition unless you **specifically request it.**



Not only will this save the society a significant amount of money but it also means that each member of the society will have access to a copy, should they want one (no more students missing out, for example). Other benefits are that every issue will be easily updated with the latest news, every issue will be in colour and you can access & print it whenever you want.

"I've never been to a Folk Camp before... I arrived stressed, finding it hard to relax, sleep or even eat. Since arriving I feel better than I can remember."

This means that if you have an email address, you need to make sure that it's up to date for us to send Extent out to you. Please simply send an email to info@folkcamp.com with the subject line "Extent yes" and you will begin to receive up to date news and Extent straight to your inbox.

If you don't have Internet access and you want to receive a paper copy Extent still, all you need to do is drop me one quick call on 0161 286 8355 (if I'm not in, please leave a message with your name and address) and I will organise your issue to be printed and sent to you like it always has been.

Beci

New meaning?



Folk Camp	Julian Clary playing the melodeon
Singaround	Sewing machine workshop
Melodeon	Bad French cinema
Sicilian Circle	Four Italians on a roundabout
Extent	Marquee in a hurricane
Louise	Vaseline coated toilet roll
Camper Van	Pinker than the next one

Thanks to the "I'm sorry I haven't a Folking Clue" crew from Forestside.

Little Gems

"This has been one of the best camps I have been to."

A grandmother at folk camp this year was queried by a 16 year old youth about whether or not she was using the right washing up bowl. "I was delighted

to be held to account by this young man. He'd obviously been listening to the health and hygiene information and was acting most responsibly."

At the same camp – Forestside 2nd week – a group of teenagers spent a great deal of their time asking to be given jobs and doing them extremely well.

After spending his first week at a folk camp one five year old boy burst into tears at bedtime when he got home. "Why are you crying?" asked his mother. "Because I don't want to live here now," said the boy. "I want to live at folk camp."

Thanks to Sue Malleson for these wonderful anecdotes that show what makes a Folk Camp so special

Thank you to Dalton campers

We really enjoyed the first part of the Dalton Folk Camp, playing in the band on Friday and Saturday, joining the music workshop on Saturday morning and meeting all our old friends but when Bill became ill on Sunday, we just had to pack up and set off for home. Thanks to the valuable medical advice given to us by one of the camp staff, we made our way to the local hospital as soon as we reached home. Bill was admitted within ten minutes of our arrival at the A & E department. He came home after a week and his health is slowly improving.



We are sorry that we missed "The Surprise Party", arranged by Team North to celebrate our Golden Wedding, which was held on the Monday night but we hope everyone had a good time anyway.



Thanks to Jackie and Alan (Kendal) and Richard and Ann (Urswick), the anniversary cake sent by Team North arrived in Barrow just as Bill left hospital.

The beautiful card signed by everyone plus a gold jacketed copy of the special music suite compiled to celebrate our Golden Wedding also arrived this week.

Thank you Roger, Team North, Dave, Hilary and Ann, Dalton folk campers and everyone who has sent "Get Well" wishes to Bill.

Folk Campers are wonderful. We shall return!

Bill and Joan Ward

"A brilliant week - good food, efficient staff team, good variety of workshops, music and dancing...
From a 1st time marquee camper, here's to many more!"

Development Fund

Do you have a project which you feel fits the Folk Camp ethos?

Are you doing a course which could benefit the society?

If so, you could benefit from the Development Fund.

The Development Fund was set up to provide funding for projects which promote traditional folk music and dance. Examples of recent funding include Pete Hendy's hugely successful "Teaching Children Country Dancing - when you're no expert yourself", Jean Blomfield's "In a Cottage in a Wood" and Derek & Jill Hammond's "Folk Campers Tune Book" as well as a few grants for those who have produced more commercial CDs.



The Development Fund also funds First Aid and Food Hygiene courses for Governing members of the society.

If you are a Governing member, please contact the office for further details and an application form.

Lost!

A while ago I loaned our copy of Join The Band to another camper at a morning music workshop, and didn't get it back. Can't remember which camp, maybe Kington Langley or Wildhern. If anyone finds they have a copy with our name in the front, please let the Editor know and we can arrange return.



Stephanie Brown

Women only please!



To All Council Members of Folk Camps.

We would like consideration given to a 'Women's Only Camp' to be held on the Isle of Man.

Suggested workshops

Manicures	Pedicures	Massages
Eyelash tinting	Waxing	Endermology
Yoga	Pilates	Aqua-aerobics
Mud baths	Fashion and styles	Facials and make-up

Facilities needed

Mirrors	Complimentary toiletries
Showers	Hot tubs
Jacuzzis	Hydro pool
Saunas	

Entertainment

The Chippendales

Staff

Leader TBN

Warden (suggestions)

Richard Gere

Michael Schumacher

Neil Morrissey (the folk input)

Noah Wylie (for medical expertise)

Johnny Wilkinson

Matt Damon

Declan Donnelly

Jose Mourino

Guest chef Jean Christophe Novelli

Yours hopefully,
The Maids of Whixley



Many thanks to Ann Kenyon

Publicity Brochures

Brand new folk camp publicity brochures are now available. They look fantastic! Would you like to help us promote Folk Camps to NEW people and spread the word?



The trick is to put them into people's hands rather than just leave them in a rack. If you are involved in a ceilidh band, morris team, festivals or folk clubs, please contact Roger at the office and he will post some out to you.

Folk Camp Forum is online!

<http://www>

The official Folk Camp online forum is online and ready for your input. This is the ideal way to keep in contact with fellow Folk Campers and contribute to the society.

There are bulletin boards for suggestions and also all the individual camps for the season so that you can keep up to date with those you have met in years past and plan your holidays for the future!

Visit <http://www.members-only.org.uk> to visit the forum.

Folk Camp website update

Don't forget to regularly look at the special Members Only Web Site at :

www.members-only.org.uk

For updates and access to Extent, Council reports and other documents. The site has had some 'tidying up' and is now easier to read and navigate. An extra feature for the new season is that you can download the site leaflets and location maps for camps.

Once a camp is full, it will be marked as full on the website, the Folk Camp Forum and in the following edition of Extent. A waiting list will be set up and any places that become free on the camp will be offered to the people at the head of the list.

*If a camp is marked as full, **no** onsite bookings will be allowed - please **do not** put staff under pressure to accept you on site if you have not booked through the office first. This will also apply to people wishing to 'stay on' for some extra days.*

We have had a few comments about having aluminium pans still in use on camps. Council are aware of the concern and have looked into alternatives. Unfortunately, the stainless steel pans we currently use are the largest we are able to economically source and if they were any larger they would be incredibly difficult to lift. As far as we are aware, aluminium is still the industry standard and does not pose any threat to your well-being.



A bit of good news from this weekend. All the lights at the marquee site next year will be electric, this means the potential hazard from using gas-powered lamps is greatly reduced. We understand the concerns about the noise from the generator - which is why we bought a quieter one this year - and next year we should be able to place the generator further away from the marquee and baffle it. All being well, the noise produced should be minimal.

Some concern was raised this year regarding our Health and Safety policy. Council have discussed this and would like to ask anyone with particular expertise in this field to contact Council directly if they feel able to assist us to review this vital document.

We would also like to invite comment from all staff regarding the current Management Manual (the document sent to all staff before camp) on improvements to the wording or format. Is there anything missing that you feel should be added?

Council Working Weekend 2005

All the members of Council attend a Working Weekend once a year in September. Contrary to what some believe, this isn't a weekend where the council members are forced to clean all the equipment and fix the stoves, the point of the weekend is to discuss and evaluate the previous season's camps and plan for the year ahead.

This year, several important issues arose, which it was felt we should put in Extent so that everyone will know about them.



Firstly, Council were concerned about the high numbers on the latter two weeks at Forestside. It was agreed that the numbers were too high and that in future bookings will be limited to 120 per catered week (or however many the site will viably hold, whichever is the smaller - some hall sites will only take 100 campers).

Part of the reason for the high numbers this year was that there has to be a certain number of adults to make a camp socially and practically viable.

It is a simple fact that from a practical point of view, if the kids outnumber the adults, there will be nobody to cook the meals and from a social point of view nobody left to dance in the marquee if everyone is out putting their children to bed!

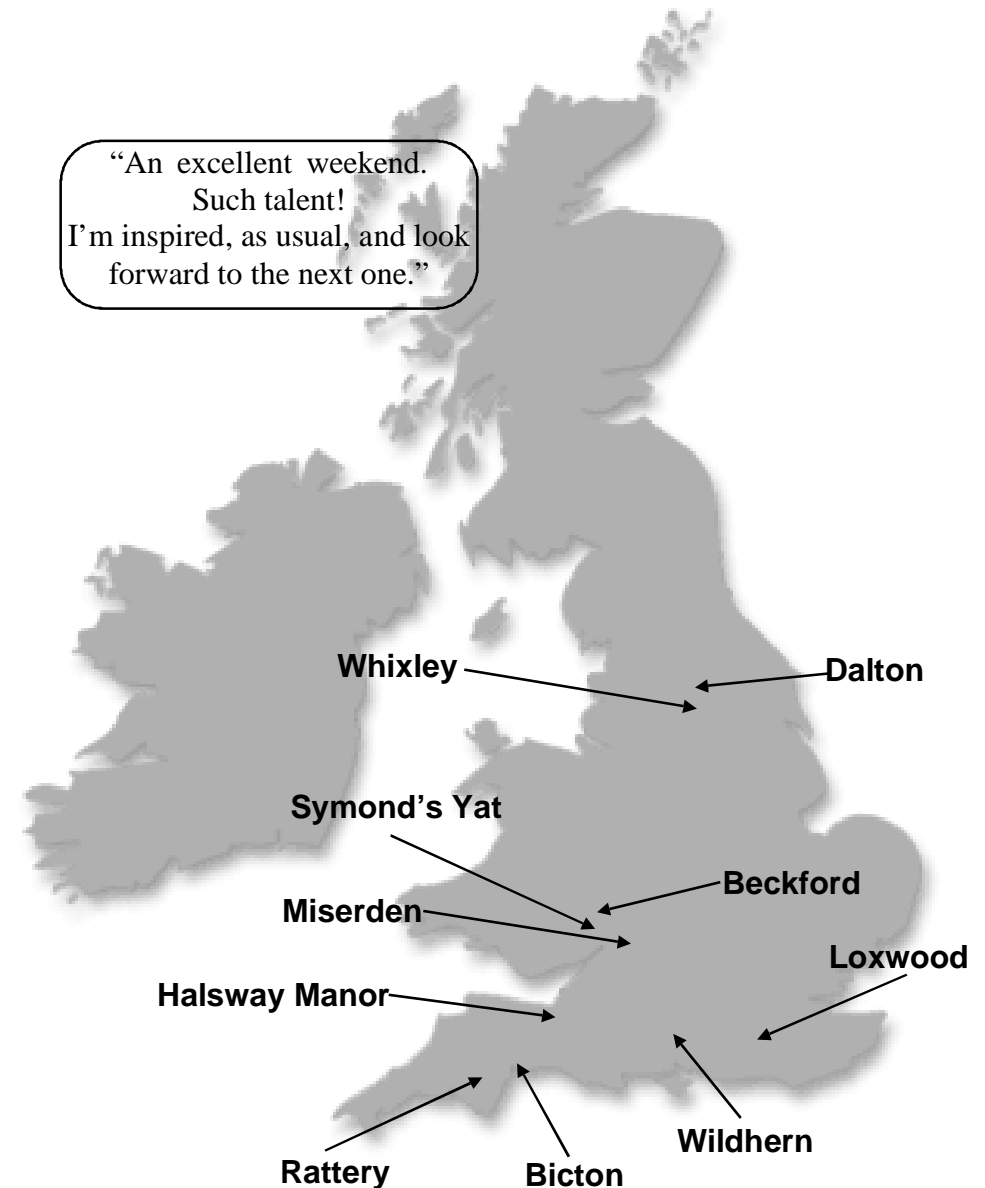
With this in mind, to ensure that we can have the best of both worlds, camps will have a limit on the number of "child places" and once this threshold is reached, priority will be given to bookings from parties with a high proportion of adults and older teenagers. We will aim for a ratio of 60 adults to 40 children.

Anybody too late to get a place & those who do find their booking refused for this reason for their first choice of camp will be offered an alternative week on a first refusal basis.

Site Locations 2006

Approximate locations of UK sites, 2006

"An excellent weekend.
Such talent!
I'm inspired, as usual, and look
forward to the next one."



2006 SEASON

Would you believe that we're already getting bookings for this year's camps? Would you believe that, already, some of them are filling up at a rate of knots?

This year, we return to having a whole four weeks at a marquee site in Devon, there's a half board week for those who want more time for workshops and we're going back to the very popular site at Rossum, Holland. Faces both old and new will provide a multitude of talent and choice.

But we all know that it's the people who go who really make it what it is - make sure you're one of them.

Winter Warmer - Halsway

27 - 29 January 2006



The Winter Warmer returns once again to Halsway, with waitress service, no duties and a wonderfully cosy place to stay, you'll be guaranteed a warm welcome.

Ray Taylor brings his own special talent and inviting manner to this camp with the musical talents of Carol and John Wippell.

Craft - Symond's Yat

13 - 17 February 2006

Joy Simmons leads this very popular arts and crafts based camp in the beautiful Wye valley, with help from Paul Bull and David Bradley.



This camp is very close to being full, if you want to go, you'd better book soon!

A.G.M. 2005

Grieg Hall

Alcester

3rd December, 2005

2:30pm

Doors open 11am for coffee, conversation and catching up

Kemp's Kitchen will be available all day

Evening dance

7:30

with

Dave Jolly & friends

and

MC Doug Brown

£5

patiently helped us with our homework. You never gave us the answer; instead you asked us questions and guided us until we had worked it out for ourselves.

People who loved you know you liked a good conversation - you would talk passionately about what was going on in the world and you encouraged us to do the same.



But most of all, I will remember you for your music, a passion we share because of you. We would often play tunes together at home and at our big family parties and we visited folk clubs; you were always so excited to hear people share their music. I remember you calling for dances - you were so good at finding dances that were just right for the audience.

There was always the mad professor about you and people loved you for your passion and your eccentricities, your love of laughter. I love you so much. Thank you for being my Dad.

Maisie Reynolds

AGM 2005 Reminder

For Governing Members :

“Very enjoyable and instructive with good company.”

Don't forget that this year, **if you cannot make it to the AGM**, you can take advantage of the new proxy voting procedure. You must remember to either give your vote to the chair of the meeting or to the person of your choice. If you do not mark a proxy you will not get your vote.

Mayday weekend - Wildhern

28 Apr to 2 May (Friday evening to Monday late afternoon)

“Thank you to the staff for their organisation and their good humour.”

Welcome in the spring amidst beautiful rolling countryside. The hamlet of Wildhern lies on the very fringe of the North Wessex Downs Area Of Natural Beauty, an area steeped in history including Avebury and Silbury Hill. The Downs offer so much to delight walkers and country-lovers.



For more information visit :

<http://www.northwessexdowns.org.uk/>

<http://www.hants.gov.uk/tangleyparish/>

Spring break - Loxwood

26 to 30 May 2006 (Friday evening to Tuesday morning)

Leave it too late and you won't get in at our popular site in Sussex. This site is the most popular camp of the year and is usually full by March. Get in quick!

Some nice pubs to visit, the attractive town of Haslemere close by and the historic and fascinating city of Guildford is also within range, or you could just stay on site and absorb the non-stop ambience.

For more information visit :

<http://www.haslemere.com/>

<http://www.guildford.org.uk/>

“It's amazing you pay £100 odd for Glastonbury or the Carling festivals, where the gigs are often below par and/or just plain rubbish and you pay £30 for Folk Camp and get blown away by the talent from each and every person, day in, day out. Fantastic.”

Spring break - Dalton

26 to 30 May (Friday evening to Tuesday morning)

“So much talent.
So little time
Great weekend all round”

Five miles from the beautiful castle town of Richmond lies the small village of Dalton. Within easy reach are Darlington and Barnard Castle and the spectacular walking countryside of Swaledale. The usual mix of Folk Camps activities will be on offer.

For information visit :

http://www.visitengland.com/destinationguides/YDestinations/richmond__Yorkshire.aspx



Dancers - Beckford

2 to 4 June (Friday evening to Sunday late afternoon)

A weekend targeted at the more experienced dancer with a focus on challenging dances to quality music.

“I wasn't sure what to expect but I'm really enjoying this and it's a great confidence builder.”

The village of Beckford sits beneath Bredon Hill, famed by Houseman's poem, which has truly wonderful views - and not a little magic. In addition to many lovely Cotswold villages, the towns of Tewkesbury, Evesham, Cheltenham and Winchcombe, with its fine abbey, are all within range.

For information visit :

<http://www.bredon.info/>
<http://www.cotswold.gov.uk/>

Jim Reynolds

At the end of July, Jim Reynolds - a popular Folk Camp leader in the seventies and eighties - died as a result of a car crash in Namibia - where he was working as a teacher with VSO. Many Folk Campers will remember Jim but for those who have come to camps more recently, Jim, along with parents Tubby and Betty, brothers Simon and Dominic, sisters Liz and Claire played a big part in the early years of Folk Camps - right from the Sixties. Later Jim brought all his family - wife Jan and their 3 daughters Maisie, Louise and Zoe.

At his funeral in Belper (followed by an excellent wake) Maisie had written a moving tribute to her dad - a condensed version of which appears below. On a personal note, Jim led the first camp I ever went to - Slapton in 1972 - it was an excellent introduction and I was inspired by his friendship, kindness and sense of fun.

Paul Weir

Dear Dad

I can't believe you're gone. I will miss you so very much, like I already missed you when you went away to Namibia. I am grateful to have witnessed how happy you were there and how proud you were to show us the new and amazing things that you had come to know and love.

I am glad you got to see your girls grow up and I know you were very proud of us all. It seemed to me that you were always slightly amazed that you had three intelligent, happy children and that this was somehow an accident. But it was not an accident, you made it that way.

You taught us to be passionate about learning and exploring what the world contained. I remember when we were younger how we dissected a dead squirrel you had found; how we grew crystals on the stove; how you took us climbing, caving and walking and

insistent, a little bit urgent with a touch of irritation. The same voice that he sang his songs with. No affectation, just pure Charles. And though he could more often be seen strumming with the band bent over the frets rather than on the dance floor, those who have had the pleasure of dancing with him or witnessed Charles sashaying Shoi around the floor with fairy-tale grace will know what an elegant man he was too. Shy Charles, impatient Charles, talented Charles, proud Charles, irascible Charles, supremely intelligent, dignified, kind and irreplaceable Charles.

I thought he was Freud when I first met him until I realised he came from Watford, not Vienna. Sometimes it is only when someone is gone that you wished you had known them better.

The only consolation for his absence is that he will be so strongly remembered.

Cheryl Moskowitz

DEADLINE FOR AUTUMN 2006 ISSUE

SEPTEMBER 15th 2006

*Deadline for issues in January, March, May and July
at the beginning of each month.*

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Musicians - Beckford

30 June to 2 July (to Sunday late afternoon)



A weekend for players of any and every kind of instrument. Lots of playing and a little bit of dancing. The village of Beckford sits beneath Bredon Hill, famed by Houseman's poem, which has truly wonderful views - and not a little magic. In addition to many lovely Cotswold villages, the towns of Tewkesbury, Evesham,

Cheltenham and Winchcombe, with its fine abbey, are all within range.

For information visit :

<http://www.bredon.info/>

<http://www.cotswold.gov.uk/>

<http://www.waterpark.org/>

Singers - Miserden

14 to 16 July (to Sunday late afternoon)

Due to popular demand, the singers camp is back this year. Expect lots of singing with just a smattering of dancing.

Miserden is a small village surrounded by beautiful Cotswold countryside. Gloucester, Cheltenham and Stroud are all nearby but the village is so attractive you may want to just sit in the field and admire the view. The village pub is very welcoming and people often enjoy a session combined with a pub lunch.

For more information visit :

<http://www.cotswold.gov.uk/>

<http://www.cheltenham.gov.uk>

"It's GREAT!

The workshops are cool and
the people are friendly."

Marquee - Bicton, Devon

22 to 29 July - Paul Weir, Emily Weir, Alaister Gavin & co.

29 July to 5 Aug - Walter Pohl, Andy Johnson & Doug Brown & co

5 to 12 Aug - Mark Weaver, Tim Bennett, Richard Jones, Holly Sheldrake & co

12 to 19 Aug - Sue Malleson, Jenny Newman, Andy Glass & co



For 2006 our main marquee site is in the hamlet of Bicton, close to the East Devon coast. After a flood of bookings in 2005 we have expanded the programme to four weeks to cope with the demand. This year, a mix of old and new leaders will ensure a holiday suited to every taste. All the leaders will involve everyone from the smallest to the tallest. Paul and Walter bring tried and tested folkie fun and games for all ages. Mark (perhaps better known as Swerve to the rest of us) is a new face to leading and has proved himself full of enthusiasm, creativity and capability, this will be a week packed full of frolics and plenty to do. Sue rounds the marquee season off with a week of traditional folk activities. All four weeks will have plenty of involvement for the younger members of the society.

Bicton parish is on the west side of the river Otter, about 5 miles from Sidmouth and 12 miles from Exeter. The beaches of Sidmouth, Budleigh Salterton and Exmouth are all in range and the third week of the camp coincides with the world renowned Sidmouth International Festival. There is plenty to see and do in the area. Bicton is close to the Otter Valley and there will be opportunities to visit the Exe Estuary - an area of outstanding natural beauty and a protected wildlife site with a magnificent range of waders and sea birds.

For further information please visit :

<http://www.bictongardens.co.uk/>

<http://www.budleigh-salterton-guide.co.uk/>

http://www.touruk.co.uk/gardens/gardensdevon_bicton.htm

Charles Finn

Charles Finn died suddenly in October 2005. I personally will always remember him as such a wonderful character. So seemingly austere and yet so kind - I remember being completely in awe of him when I was a child.

He was a lynchpin of the society and he will be sorely missed by all who knew him. Cheryl Moskowitz has written a beautiful piece which I wanted to share with you all.

Thank you, Cheryl, and thank you Charles, we'll miss you so.

Beci Brown

Charles Finn was always there. Surely there is no one who can remember Folk Camps without him

Charles and Shoi rolling into the field in their Romahome with their own toilet tent. Charles in the middle of the afternoon in a near empty marquee practicing some old song on his guitar with his glasses perched meaningfully on his unmistakable brow. Charles leaving the evening ceilidh to light his 'one cigarette of the day' underneath the stars, enjoying his solitude. Charles at the camp introductions on Saturday night when for a moment his awkwardness left him and he would introduce not only himself but one by



one, wherever they were, around the marquee, the hall, out on the field, the rest of the Finns. So many Finns. Year by year their numbers have grown as the amount of people getting up for breakfast has dwindled. Saturday night when even the leader can feel a bit tentative, Charles Finn would speak up, loudly and proudly to present his wonderful clan. You'd know that voice anywhere. Gruff,

Compact and Bijou!



We drove up to Folk Camp on Saturday
The marquee looked pretty and white
But when we got out and looked closer
We found it a baffling sight

Chorus:

Compact, compact, our marquee's compact and bijou, bijou
Compact, compact, our marquee's compact and bijou

One hundred and sixty for supper
How would we find room for them, please?
It's lucky it hasn't been raining
Or it would have been a tight squeeze

There's constantly moving of tables
They go in and out to make room
Our mum gets cross if you just leave them
And gives you a whack with the broom

The chairs they look perfectly harmless
But when you sit down for your tea
They buckle and break with no warning
Now half the camp's in casualty

We love to do Folk Camp in marquees
We all agree it's the best thing
But next year can we get a big one
Or we'll have to come back and sing

*Helen Self and family
To the tune of My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean*

European - Rossum, Holland

5 to 12 Aug & 12 - 19 August

"The first 24 hours of this camp have been just as they should - dominated by the outstanding talent of the youngsters of Folk Camps!"

A welcome return to the Dutch village of Rossum where we had a great time in 2004 helped in no small measure by our logistics team - a family of Dutch folk camp enthusiasts with plenty of local knowledge.

Brian Pollard, Bob Carter, Hilary Vare & John New, Eef Nijhuis & Marianne Kamminger and Roger Conway staff the first week with John Dell & Ann Tracey joining the fun on the second week.



Rossum is in an area of woodlands and sparkling streams close to the German border, where there is rolling countryside and hilltop towns complete with castles. Our site is a scouting centre complete with its own meeting hall, kitchen, workroom and dining room. The main evening meal will be served at a local restaurant, so there will be minimal cooking duties!

The attractive market town of Oldenzaal is just 5 miles away with the cities of Hengelo & Enschede also in range. With an excellent (and punctual) rail network, a trip to Amsterdam is also a possibility.

Bicycles rule in the Netherlands with many dedicated cycle paths and it is possible to hire bikes locally if you don't want to bring your own.

For more information visit :

<http://community.webshots.com/album/388147197HTJqmW>

<http://www.hengelo.nl/>

<http://www.visitamsterdam.nl/>

Summer weeks - Halsway Manor

29 July to 5 Aug

Nestling at the foot of the spectacular Quantock Hills, Halsway Manor is the only residential Folk Centre in England. You have a choice of staying in the Manor itself or camping in the water garden. Either way you will be assured of excellent facilities and great food with waitress service and no cooking duties! Oh yes, there is also a bar on site. Walkers may choose between the beautiful countryside of the Quantocks and the rugged landscape of Exmoor. For children, the seaside is just a few miles off and the many visitor attractions include Tropicquaria, "the jungle of Somerset". Cider farms (for a little sampling) and Taunton, Somerset's County town are all worth visiting.

Further information:

www.halswaymanor.co.uk

Summer weeks - Rattery

6 to 13 August (Sunday to Sunday)



Rattery is a small friendly village, close to Totnes and Buckfastleigh, on the fringes of Dartmoor. The focus of the camp is the modern village hall and there will be an emphasis on activities for a more adult crowd, not forgetting the usual Folk Camps activities. Rattery, set in an Area of Outstanding

Natural Beauty, is about seven miles from the coast and the beaches. Needless to say there is absolutely wonderful countryside and walks. For sightseers, Plymouth, Exeter and Torquay are well within reach, and a boat trip on the River Dart is a must! The week will be on a half-board basis (no lunches provided).

For more information visit :

www.Buckfastleigh.org

End of season - Loxwood

25 to 29 August (Friday evening to Tuesday morning)

For 2006 we are moving our Southern August Bank Holiday event to our very popular site at Loxwood in Sussex. Those who regularly attend the Spring Bank Holiday event will be sure to return for a second helping so don't leave it too late or you won't get in.



Some nice pubs to visit, the attractive town of Haslemere close by and the historic and fascinating city of Guildford is also within range, and there will be plenty to do at the camp itself.

For more information visit :

<http://www.haslemere.com/>

<http://www.guildford.org.uk/>

End of season - Whixley

25 to 29 August (Friday evening to Tuesday morning)

"Perfect spot for an end of season camp."

This will be our fifth visit to the village of Whixley, close to Knaresborough, a delightful town complete with 'petrifying' sights. Harrogate and York are both close by.

A modernised village hall, enclosed camping site and a village pub that assures us a great welcome, make this one of the most popular events in our calendar, but it's really the people who make it what it is.

For more information visit :

<http://www.knaresborough.co.uk/>

<http://www.harrogate.com>