



CARRY ON STREAMIN

from *EDINBURGH FOLK CLUB*

Probably the best folk club in the world!



Volume 1.02

Dateline: Wednesday 24 June 2020

IN THE FUTURE ...

THE LATEST COVID19 EDICT on Thursday last week from Scotland's First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon doesn't offer any hope for an early resumption of events and gatherings or pubs. With similar statements from around the UK. Not even close.

In general in fact, the arts, however defined, are looking into a big financial black hole threatening the very existence of this enormously valuable sector of the UK economy over a lengthy period. Years of underinvestment from both local and national governments are coming home to roost.

The hard working staff in museums, orchestras, theatres, and performing arts companies have worked miracles sometimes to maximise revenues and topping out gaps created by cuts (as with the 2012 Olympics which affected arts provision in southern England).

Now, however, with the rules about social distancing pretty much invariant as far as even modest gatherings (like folk clubs) are concerned, it looks like all events are going to suffer as we move into the summer and then autumn and perhaps even through the winter.

Are any UK festivals taking place anywhere in their normal way? Zoom *et al* doesn't cut it either does it? There's no substitute for being in a crowd and being communally uplifted by some great music or wonderful acting! The internet is fine for chatting or for streaming some music but realistically replicating gatherings can't be achieved through that medium.

How many events can live and survive with 50%-plus drops in live attendances? The arithmetic is brutally simple. The arts in general has always offered amazing value for money. But when only half or fewer of the potential audience can be admitted safely (and that is still a question being argued over – what is safe?), the ticket prices have to increase. Then, the big question, who is going to pay double (or more), say £20, to go to an event which used to cost £10 or even less?

Of course the hope is that such counsels of doom will be short lived until a vaccine against coronavirus is found. But will they then fade away along with the danger from the virus? By then will the newly healthy and protected audiences simply have lost the habit of going to the weekly folk club or theatres and cinemas and found something else to supply some sort of 'cultural hit', something which we all need? *A propos* of which [click here](#) for a great version of Crosby, Stills and Nash's **Helplessly Hoping** (Ed: *Encore! More! More!*).

The Arts Council (England) reported in April 2019 that the arts and culture industry had grown £390million in a year and contributed £10.8billion to the UK economy. The sector contributed £2.8billion to the Treasury via taxation, and generated a further £23billion a year and 363,700 jobs.

These are eye-watering figures. In April 2019 as a (sort of) comparison the Scottish whisky industry, enjoyed world-wide, was worth £5.5billion a year to Scotland's economy while (2018) the creative industries in Scotland contributed £4.6 billion to the economy (from <https://culturecounts.scot/useful-facts>).

Are governments seeing the seriousness of this crisis and will they provide adequate support? If not, will we be seeing the devastation of the UK's cultural provision for the next several years perhaps even up to and beyond a decade.

The arts is a resilient critter though. It depends on the expression of our creative instincts and can really shine in adversity. But, are the current adverse conditions just too great to allow the usual fightback?

(continued on page 4)

[Click here](#) to go to Edinburgh FC's new YouTube channel and see the cornucopia of music waiting there for you. The performers awaiting you are pictured on the right.

[Click here](#) **PayPal** to donate, to the Paddy Bort Fund

CARRY ON STREAMIN

Some folk will recognise in our banner the 'reworking' of the of the Carrying Stream festival which EFC's late chair, Paddy Bort, created shortly after the death of Hamish Henderson.

After Paddy died in February 2017, EFC created the Paddy Bort Fund (PBF) to give financial assistance to folk performers who, through no fault of their own, fall on financial hard times.

No-one contemplated anything like the current crisis and now, having given assistance to a number of folk already we need to replenish PBF and have set a target of (at least) £10 000.

There are two strands to Carry On Streamin. There is this publication you're looking at now. Plus, there is our new YouTube channel where you will find, every fortnight, videos donated by some of the best folk acts around.

We're asking you, dear reader, to donate to PBF as best you can, using the PayPal links we provide.





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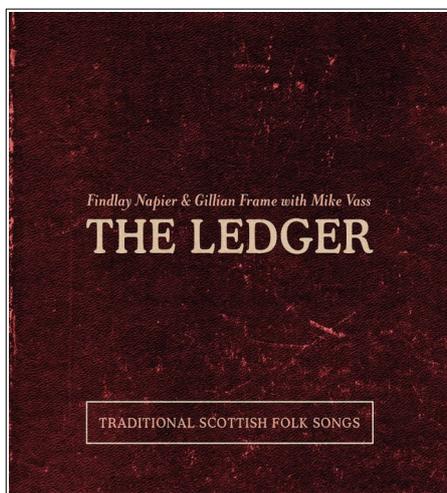
REVIEWS

Jim Welsh from Radio Summerhall writes ...

Radio Summerhall is off air just now due to the current pandemic, although you can still listen to our back catalogue ([click here](#)) and read our news and reviews online ([click here](#)). But you can also read on here to see what I would be playing on **Music Routes** if we were back to normal...

The Ledger: Findlay Napier, Gillian Frame & Mike Vass (Cheerygroove Records). Out now,

Back in the 1950s and '60s, The Scotsman newspaper published words and music to traditional Scottish songs on a weekly



basis. Findlay Napier's grandfather, like many others, collected these, and in his case pasted them into an old ledger.

Many of these songs became standards at

folk clubs and sessions; some still are. Here, Findlay, Gillian and Mike have opened the ledger, selected 10 of the songs they most like to sing, and presented an album that is both a document of those times and a vibrant testament to the power and beauty of songs that have transcended the centuries.

It helps, of course, that the performers are three of the finest in Scottish contemporary and traditional music today. Their take on the likes of Barbara Allan, Twa Recruitin' Sergeants and Mormond Braes is a joy to listen to. This is an album of Scottish folk music as I used to listen to as a boy, as I enjoy listening to it now, and how I would like to listen to it in future.

(continued over ...)



The Best of Scottish Music for 30 years



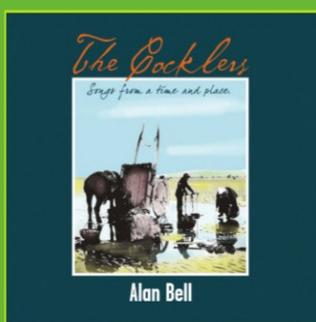
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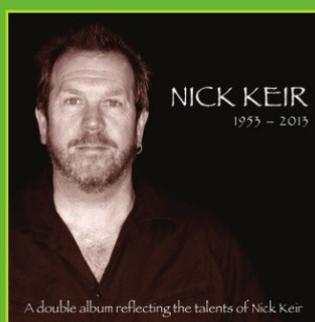
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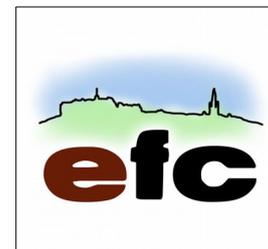
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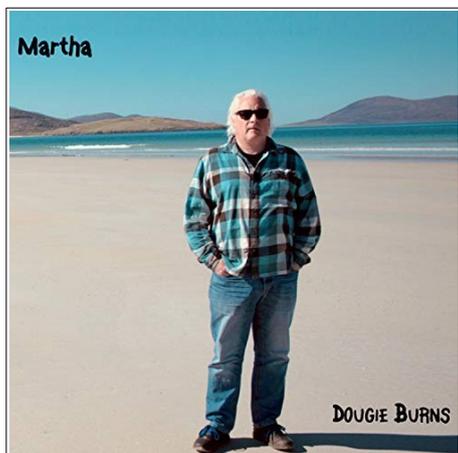
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Martha: Dougie Burns (Own Label). Out now.



Dougie Burns, music journalist, front man for The Cadillac and also half of Bluebelly for around 15 years is – somewhat obviously – a man who should need no introduction to anyone with any familiarity with the Scottish music scene. Taking an enforced break from running his regular gigs in Inverness, he has a new solo album to offer. Albeit, as solo albums usually are, made with the support of - as we say in these parts - hunners** of talented amigos including Martin Stephenson, Ally Macleod and Davy Cowan, who also produced the album.

The songs vary from the personal, title track Martha is a song for his mother, to the get-off-your-backsides-and-dance of Take My Hand (Let's Rock & Roll) and he demonstrates an equal ability to handle both of these.

In short, if you're already acquainted with Dougie's music you'll probably have this by now. And if you're not, this is as good a place as any to start.

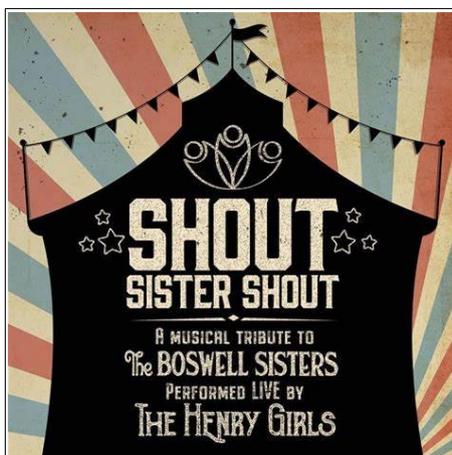
* "hunners" is an old Scots measurement that accurately describes any number between 2 and infinity.

Shout Sister Shout: Henry Girls (Beste!). Out now.

A musical tribute to the Boswell Sisters performed live by the Henry Girls. And

recorded in a circus tent on Malin Green, Donegal during Earagail Arts Festival last year.

Well, I've enjoyed the music of the Boswell Sisters since I was a small boy, and I've loved the Henry Girls since I first heard them, and even more since I've heard them play live. So I'm delighted that this tribute to three sisters by another three



sisters (plus a seven-piece backing band) is all I could want it to be.

The Henry Girls have captured the ethos of the music, not preserving, but revitalising the songs, and the decision to capture them live is, I think, the right one. The balance of skill and effervescence is a champagne cocktail from start to finish as they more than do justice to St Louis Blues, There'll Be Some Changes Made, 42nd Street and the rest.

The Music Goes Round and Round, and it comes out here. And I'm awfully glad it does.

Hello Stranger: Eliza Meyer (Self). Out now.

This is a pretty impressive album even before you find out that Ms Meyer is still in High School. She's been racking up praise and plaudits for her singing and playing for some time now, and given the number of extremely fine talents there are in the field of Appalachian music, that's a feat in itself.

Among those who rate her highly you can name Cathy Fink and Liam Purcell, who co-produced this album and contribute their own talents on a number of tracks. And Eliza has further backing from Marcy Marxer, Sam Gleaves, and Alice Gerrard among others.

However, Meyer remains very much front and centre throughout, demonstrating her vocal and banjo skills on a wealth of well-chosen material. From the traditional Darlin' Corey and The Cuckoo, Hazel Dickens' Workin' Girl Blues and Hills of Home to songs by Si Kahn, the Louvin Brothers and more, the range is wide but the quality is constant.

A talent to look out for.



We're always looking for contributions from you – articles, news, pictures, opinions, reviews.

[Please click here to email them to us.](#)

[Click here PayPal to donate to the Paddy Bort Fund.](#)

[And click here to go to EFC's YouTube channel.](#)



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I WAS JUST THINKING AGAIN...

from Pamela King, EFC's Hon Treasurer ...

The second folk revival in the UK began after World War II, proudly politically radical and articulating protest. Young musicians set out to revive and perform the music of their ancestors. Now, although we have young bands playing the traditional music they want to hear, it is to increasingly grey audiences. Has something gone horribly wrong? Is our tradition unhealthy?

The phrase "traditional cultural expressions" is used by the World Intellectual Property Organization to refer to "any form of artistic and literary expression in which traditional culture and knowledge are embodied. They are transmitted from one generation to the next, and include handmade textiles, paintings, stories, legends, ceremonies, music, songs, rhythms and dance".

The word "tradition" implies a set of practices preserved by consent. As such tradition automatically implies continuity with the past. The English word comes from the Latin *tradere* (to transmit, to hand over, to give for safekeeping). There are many definitions of tradition, but the concept includes a number of interrelated ideas: the key one for our purposes is that it refers to customs performed in the past, and transmitted through time by being taught by one generation to the next, so that they are performed in the present.

In the performance of a traditional genre (such as traditional music), sticking to accepted guidelines about how it should be composed and performed vies for importance with the performer's own preferences. Healthy traditions may be adapted to suit the needs of the day, though the changes are slow and incremental. Durable traditions balance a sense of history with a fluidity to adapt over time. Equally traditions are lost for a number of reasons: marginalisation, modernisation, and failure to assimilate new cultural values.

The folk music in the Cecil Sharp and Hamish Henderson- inspired tradition has arisen historically from oppressed groups, the Irish, the Highland and Island populations, travelling people, labouring, mining, seagoing and industrial workers. Its content is often about homesickness and exile, social injustice and heartache. It has equally often treated these subjects with humour, and for a while it kept proudly up to date. We all remember Matt McGinn's "Jeely Piece" song, actually a serious protest about the insensitivities of clearing tenement communities into high rise flats. Or Hamish Imlach's "celebration" of how the welfare state cared for unmarried mothers in "Cod-liver Oil and the Orange Juice".

However the British folk scene, while still purporting to have working-class roots, has remained very white (and that's not just the hair of the audiences). Three generations after Windrush, it does not reflect present British society and that is, arguably, embarrassing and unsustainable. Has the tradition got stuck in jeely, with the post-war white working class, because it has never really embraced the traditional music and song of the by the now naturalised post-colonial immigrant communities? This is a brew of their own inherited traditions and new songs arising from BAME folk about the experiences of being their kind of Scot.

We can all point at a few members of the BAME community, as well as other Europeans, who have assimilated "our" traditions, become Scotophiles and donned kilts, but going-native is not the same thing. They are exceptions. Nor am I suggesting some crazy fusion project. But we could be more open to listening to the songs of exile and injustice of the BAME and eastern European communities around us. The Edinburgh Folk Club meets in the Ukrainian Community Centre, but I think it is safe to say we have shown little curiosity about the folk music traditions that our Ukrainian population fosters. We could invite more exchange - and as the indigenous parent tradition it is surely our responsibility to take that initiative. Our

ears might have become more accepting of different musical styles, but if we are true to our radical roots, to being proud of a tradition whose centre is nowhere and its circumference infinite, perhaps now is the time to take stock.

Next time: Whatever happened to Calypso?

IN THE FUTURE ...

(continued from front page)

The UK government was just quick enough to bale out the banks in 2008, so why can't a similar urgency be applied to arts and culture. And it is urgent!

Capital handouts or loans as bale outs for theatres, arts centres and so on are not what are required now. What is needed now is major investment in the industry, investment that would produce returns to the Treasury.

The urgency is underlined by an article in The Guardian (June 17), "Most UK theatres have been closed since mid-March as the country began to lock down to curb the spread of coronavirus, with at least four saying they will not reopen. Others are beginning to make redundancies. As they burn through cash reserves, about three-quarters of venues say they will have run out of money by Christmas".

The newspaper also quoted a report from Oxford Economics warning of, "400,000 job losses and a £74bn loss in annual revenue across the arts industry, in what they described as a "cultural catastrophe" wrought by the entire shutdown of arts venues and live events amid the Covid-19 crisis.

One of the greatest moves the government could make would be to make all cultural activity VAT exempt. Not zero rated because they can come along later and make it non-zero again. Nor a VAT holiday because holidays don't last forever.

Chance would be a fine thing,!

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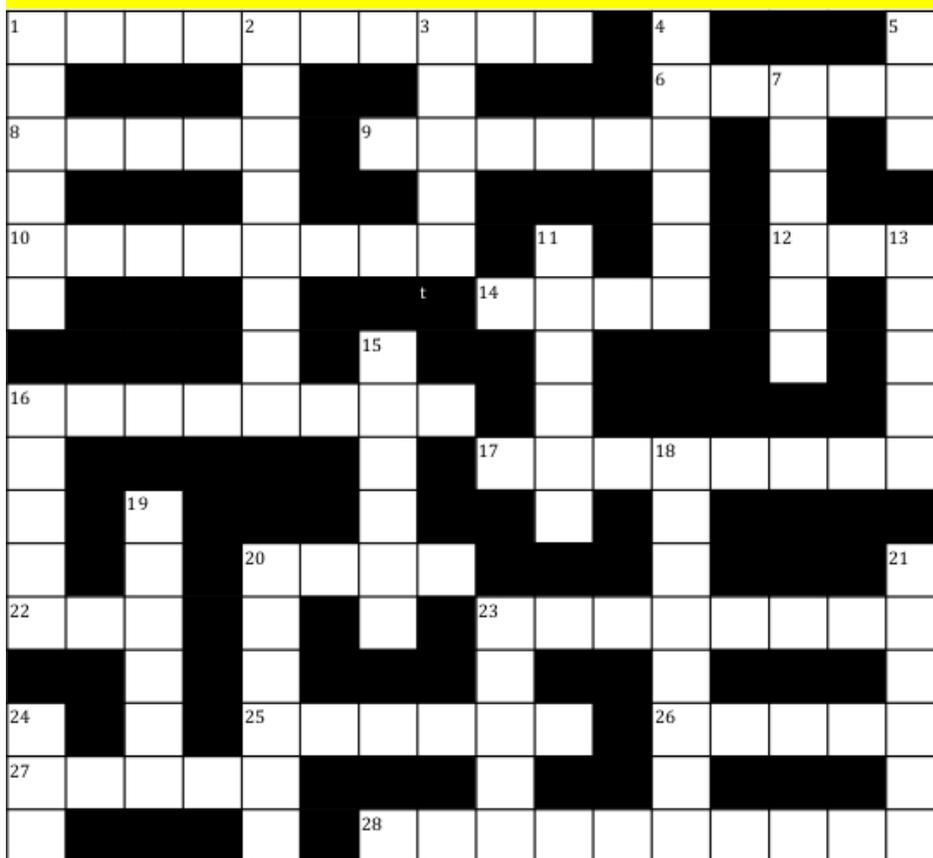
Clues Across:

1. Scottish band formed in 1999 by Angus MacPhail and Andrew Stevenson (10)
6. Village on Union Canal, west of Edinburgh, home to The Bridge Inn (5)
8. In ancient Ireland, a man who is well educated, often in science (5)
9. She wore a...polka-dot _____' Brian Hyland hit (6)
10. Stanley Kubrick film set in New York, '____ Wide ____' (4,4)
12. A most recognised singer-songwriter from USA, ___ Dylan (3)
14. 1977 album from Roy Harper 'Bullinaming____' (4)
16. Scots word meaning unlucky or odd looking, not like the 'great chieftain o' the puddin' race' (8)
17. Yupik, Inuit, and Inupiaq peoples have carved these animal's tusks for centuries (8)
20. Species of small duck, sometimes seen in Britain, males white and black plumage (4)
22. Word often used in exclamation, originally from 16th century Scots (3)
23. Item of clothing worn after washing (8)
25. Traditional Irish folk band, albums include 'Redwood' and 'Otherworld' (6)
26. Male, Canadian born folk singer songwriter 1920-2016, worked often with Jean Ritchie, _____ Brand (5)
27. Competitive sport that arose from cattle herding (5)
28. Folk rock band formed by Billy Connolly, Gerry Rafferty, and Tom Harvey, 'The _____' (10)

Clues Down:

1. Baked goods, pronunciation often debated (6)
2. 1987 solo album by uilleann piper Jerry O'Sullivan 'The _____' (8)
3. A word used to describe many politicians over many years, even more so now (5)

CROSSWORD compiled by The Bairn



4. _____ Folk Club, found in Newcastle upon Tyne, one of the oldest running UK clubs! (6)
5. Shetland formed folk band formed in the late 70's, still gigging (3,3)
7. Small village in Argyll and Bute, name meaning small strip of land between waters (6)
11. Scottish folk band based in Glasgow, albums include 'The Test' (6)
13. First album from Landless (four harmonising Irish ladies singing traditional songs), 'Bleaching _____' (5)
15. Award winning Scottish folk singer, Siobhan _____ (6)
16. Opposite to a 'downbow' on the fiddle (5)
18. If superstitious, you might break this and make a wish after a tasty roast chicken (8)

19. Traditional Scottish ballad recounting a siblicide (6)
20. Dick Gaughan album, with 'Son Of Man' as second song (4,2)
21. Song by Scottish Celtic rock band Skerryvore, 'Can you _____?' (4,2)
23. A broom made of twigs, a negative word normally associated with a woman in Scots (5)
24. See 5 Down.

(COS1.01 solutions on page 11)

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VIRAL VERSES

IN 2018 The Black Snow Roadshow (Jed Grimes and Steve Linstead) played at the Acoustic Music Centre during the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

The following year when the Roadshow played Coventry, Steve met an old long-lost folkie mate from university days, Ted Crum, of cult swing-ceilidh band Steamchicken. They agreed to meet up again this May, but Ted sadly and suddenly died from the Covid-19 virus in April. Steve's poetry appears in the Roadshow and so he wrote another, "Curtains", in Ted's memory.

The poem got such a response on social media that it led to a collection of poems, with associated illustrations, to raise money for the [NHS Charities Together Covid-19 Appeal](#).

This became even more poignant when Steve's son Nick, co-editor on the project and Covid-19 helpline, also lost a close friend, and scattered her ashes on Holy Island of the coast of Northumberland.

Using their networks and those of the University of York's world class Department of English and Related Studies, they managed to assemble a company of poets and artists ranging in age from 16 to 96. This includes well-known poets such as Ian McMillan, Mike Harding, Maurice Rutherford and Ralph McTell, and artists Jeannie Clarke, Graham Ibbeson, Tony Heald, Jed Grimes, Terry Brookes and some exciting young talent.

Almost all the poems and artwork have been specially created for this volume - over 100 poems and 40 artworks in all.

Ralph McTell's lyric "Masks and Gowns" has been illustrated by 96 year old artist Ron Kiddier, father of folk keyboardist Gareth Kiddier, to help promote Ralph's campaign for the empty fourth plinth in Trafalgar Square to honour the medical and nursing professions. With startup funding from the University of York and a [GoFundMe](#) appeal, the book will be able



to maximise returns to the NHS Charities at around 2/3 of the cover price. The **GoFundMe Appeal** is more than 2/3 of the way to its target, and will enable the volume to expand to include more poets and artists.

VIRAL VERSES is published by the University of York's **Borthwick Publications** and will be available with black and white artwork in softback and e-book formats from **August 2020** through

York Publishing Services, online, and selected bookshops nationwide.

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A WEE CHAT ...

with **JENNY STURGEON**

Growing up in Alford, Aberdeenshire, Jenny learnt to love nature in many of its little ways. During this time she was also exposed to the musical creativity that binds the folk scene as a community. Although she moved to Edinburgh to study Zoology, she kept one foot in folk and often sang for her friends and family. Having then completed a PhD in Seabird Ecology she chose to combine her great respect and understanding of nature with her honest singing voice and is currently cultivating creative experiences all over the shop! She kindly stopped for a moment to chat with us...

How many cups of tea have you drunk today?

'That is a very good question.... four?! It's 1pm, I'm hoping to fit in at least another four before the day is out!'

What has been a surprising highlight of your lockdown so far?

'Watching a pair of blackbirds nest in our garden and getting to grow veggies for the first time in years! I'm pleased to report the tatties are doing well.'

Where are you currently locked down and with who (animals included if any)?

'At home, in Shetland with my partner Will, and a lot of plants...'

Do you go through phases/genres or is it all folk?

'I like to listen to a lot of different music but most of it is probably in the folk/acoustic genre. I'm also a big fan of pop, jazz and electronic. With regard to my own music, it really depends what project I'm working on and who I'm working with. I find that different topics/places/themes lend themselves to different styles of songs.'

Do you have a recommendation for readers to listen to?

'I've really been enjoying A Winged Victory For the Sullen's record The Undivided 5, and Neil McSweeney's 'A Coat Worth Wearing' - these are getting lots of spins on my record player at the moment.'



Jenny Sturgeon

Is there an instrument you would like to learn to play? Why?

'Cello. It's got such a beautiful tone and a very versatile instrument.'

What is your favorite Scottish folklore tale to date?

'Probably the selkie. There are a lot of common seals just by the house and I like to think they are selkies. They like to follow us when we're out sea swimming.'

I love your song telling the story of the Maidens Stone near Inverurie, how did you come across the story?

'I grew up hearing it as a wee girl and can't remember when I first heard it. The Alford skyline is dominated by Bennachie, which is where the story is set, so I'm always reminded of when I'm back in Aberdeenshire. It's a lovely place.'

How did Salt House choose the latest album title 'Huam'?

'Lauren gave me 'A Scots Dictionary of Nature' by Amanda Thomson for Christmas a couple of years ago. We were searching for a title and nothing had felt right. Then one evening I was reading through the dictionary and came across Huam. It's as much the sound of the word as the meaning that drew us to it.'

Have you a favourite place that you have performed? Why?

'Ooh that's difficult, there are so many. Generally it's more about the people than the place. The audience is the most important part in making a venue feel special. The last gig I played before lockdown was in Cambridge at the Storey's

Field Centre. Its a gorgeous new building which was designed for its acoustics by my uncle! So it was lovely to play there and report back to him about his design - it sounded amazing.'

What collaborations have you got planned? Or any wishes in that regard?

'I'm working on a couple of collaborations at the moment. One with an Edinburgh based photographer and another with a contemporary dancer. I love working with people in other disciplines - it opens up new avenues for creativity and inspiration.'

Why is Nan Shepards book, The Living Mountain, important to you?

'It has changed the way I see the world. Her writing has modified the way I experience being outside - connecting to a landscape through all my senses. It has made for a richer experience. Her book was written about the Cairngorms, which are very close to where I was brought up. I've spent a lot of time walking in those hills and have very fond memories of days on the mountain.'

What do you do to relax at home?

'I like to walk to the beach and dig in the garden. Simple pleasures! We recently got a bench for the garden and it's such a good spot to sit and watch the birds.'

You create art pieces alongside your musical work - do you find this uses a different method of creation?

'In some ways it's similar. It's a physical and mental work-out and I constantly get to explore new ways of working and creating. However, when I'm creating new pieces of art it's also an opportunity to listen to podcasts/audio books which I really enjoy.'

Have you a favourite dram or tippie?

'Whisky Mac all the way (whisky and ginger wine, great in the winter on a cold night!)

Which bird would you be and why?

'A swift. They are streamlined and elegant and fast. I am none of those things!'

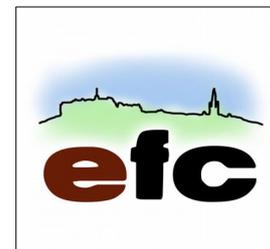
If you would like more information on what Jenny is up to and where to purchase her music, [click here for her website](#).



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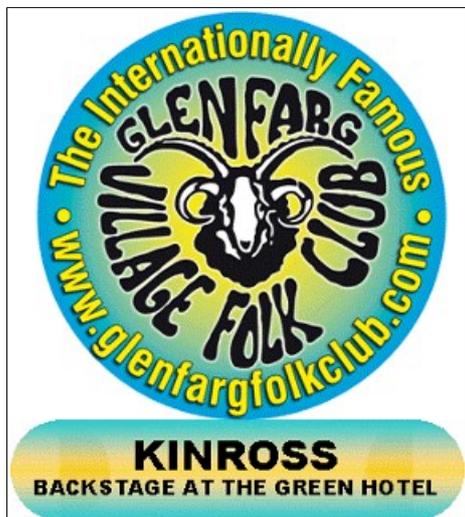
A HISTORY UNFURLED – GLENFARG FOLK CLUB



Graham Brotherston – Glenfarg FC 'booker'

GRAHAM BROTHERSTON who has just received a special 'long service' award for 20 years as 'booker' at Glenfarg Folk Club writes ... "As a former member from way back I sometimes get occasional nostalgia trips when memories are brought kicking and screaming to the surface: eg. our wedding that was held on a club night so that we could share with everyone. Or, Mary Hunter dozing on her bar stool in the wee small hours until the rattle of cash hitting the counter would produce an instant reaction. The Glenfarg Secret Society, *aka* 'The Indestructibles'. Fraser, Gordon, the cherries and the knights. Sandy Watt, big Neil Mathieson, Sausage sizzle at Morag's Midsummer Gathering up at Middle Deuglie

I often wonder how many of today's



members know how the club started and who took that step? What is the significance of our 'emblem' – why a sheep? (pictured) Who introduced the largerphone to the Glenfarg Elastic Band? Why 'Feast' and not 'Festival'? What was Sandy Watt famous for? How many were awarded the pottery medal with the emblem and for what?

Has anyone recorded the club history? Is anyone interested in modern tradition or is it condemned as past its sell by date along with some past members and stalwarts? I believe the first Autumnal Weekend Away was the trip to Oban in about 1983 and the first car rally was the rhyming one that I put together whilst on the committee in 1984.

The golfing day was organised by that lovely lady who owned the landscape gardening business and died from jaundice and liver failure. I can not remember her name to my shame but I am aged myself nowadays! The Sausage Sizzle was annual from I think 1979 until Morag moved to Killecrankie.

Back in the early days a committee member was appointed as a 'Greeter' to informally engage new faces, welcome them and make sure no potential singers and floor spots went unnoticed.

The feast was for the members and was to allow the members to select those guests that had best pleased them and give the chance for a second booking that year. It was at The Feast, open to all, late night sessions that 'The Man Trap' was born and I believe those sessions were the inspiration for the 24hr singarounds. 'Pottery' Andy produced the medals in his kiln in Tayport.

Aye, the memories are rampant tonight!

If you'd like to contribute a piece about your venue or folk club please [click here to email it](#)

WEE BITS and PIECES

ALAN REID writes, "Here's some information about a concert I'm taking part in on Sunday, June 28. It's organised by U.S. fiddler Ed Pearlman who annually brings



Ed Pearlman

over US visitors for walking and music tours throughout Scotland. That can't happen this year so he's organised four online concerts with all Scottish line-ups to compensate for not being able to be here. The first was on **June 14** and featured Sandy Brechin (accordion), Ewan Wilkinson (vocals/guitar), Gillebride Macmillan (Gaelic singer), Gordon Gunn (fiddle), Fin Moore (pipes) under the heading, "From The Highlands". The next concert is on **June 28** with Corrina Hewat (clarsach/vocals), Matt Seattle (border pipes), Iain Fraser (fiddle), Emily Smith (singer) with Jamie McClennan (fiddle), Alan Reid (singer/piano), and Alistair McCulloch (fiddle). [Click here for details](#) of all four shows.



Solas Festival Big Sing Choir

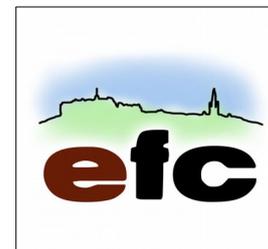
THIS YOU MUST HEAR – Solas Festival Big Sing Choir on-line/Zoom version of Michael Marra's song, **ALL WILL BE WELL**. Just a lovely and uplifting version of a great song.



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Volume 1.02

Dateline: Wednesday 24 June 2020



Jez Lowe

OSCAR'S MUSIC AGENCY's, Bob Gilchrist writes to tell us ... "I am looking for bookings for Jez Lowe particularly in the first half of 2021 although he also has many free dates through the year. I hope at this stage all you good bookers might be interested in pencilling in a date.

A double nomination in the 2015 BBC Folk Awards – for best singer and best new song – was a timely reminder of Jez Lowe's standing in the UK folk and acoustic music scene. Not only he is one of the busiest live performers in the country, but his songs are among the most widely sung by other performers, whether by long-established acts like **Fairport Convention**, **The Dubliners** and **Bob Fox**, or by the new breed of stars like **The Unthanks**, **The Young Uns** and **The Duhks**.

Contact Bob Gilchrist [by email](mailto:by_email) or call 07866 266553, 01698 885739.

PAULINE VALLANCE writes ... "Thanks for the chance to publicise the show I would have been bringing to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe this year. The show is called, "What the Brontës Did at the Fringe" and is a one woman show, imagining Charlotte Brontë coming to the Fringe herself at three different stages of her life. She comes with her sisters (What shows would they go to? Would they partake of Edinburgh's nightlife?). Is interviewed at the International Book Festival (Who would she choose to play Mr Rochester?) and attends one last time with her husband (reader, she married



Pauline Vallance

him!). Interspersed with original songs, this show will explore all these issues and more! A video version of the show will be premiered on-line at the Morecambe Fringe on July 11 at 2pm (further details will follow in COS1.03, *(Ed: due out on Wednesday 8 July and Pauline hopes to tour the show next year)*).



Jed Grimes

JED GRIMES tells us that, "My Watch Party 2's broadcast time is now fixed. It's going out on Facebook at 7.30pm, Sunday, June 28. And this time there'll be a special guest or two... some new songs, some you may recognise from my live shows. [Click here for a wee trailer](#) featuring a favourite Bob Dylan composition...

See y'all there and then!



STONEYPORT ASSOCIATES,

an agency not unknown in many parts is - like Oscar's Agency (*ibid*), and many others - trying to re-book cancelled gigs from 2020's lockdown as well as trying to crystal-ball gaze into 2021 and beyond. This Edinburgh-based agency represents some great, well-known top class performers all of whom have been affected by the lockdown (*Ed: hasn't everyone!?*). You can see who the agency represents by clicking on the link above. The agency welcomes calls on **m: +44(0)7968 131737** if you're also scratching your head about what's going to happen next!

REMINDERS ...



INCORPORATING THE COLLEGE OF PIPING

The NATIONAL PIPING CENTRE in Glasgow invites pipers and drummers to join their first ever online adult gathering from June 29 to July 2 2020. This will be a great thing for your piping and drumming with great tutors on hand to help you!

Click here [PayPal](#) to donate to the Paddy Bort Fund.

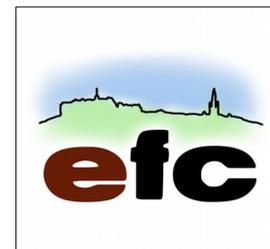
And [click here](#) to go to EFC's YouTube channel.



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The FRIENDS OF THOMAS MUIR

organisation website lists a lot of activity showing what the Friends are up to on a continuing basis behind the scenes. To find out more use their contact details [here](#).

PENICUIK ARTS promotes and encourages the study, practice and knowledge of the Arts in Penicuik and surrounding district. Contact them by [email](#) or phone: **01968 678804**

CEILIDH DANCING in Edinburgh of course has been put on hold during the current crisis but will, no doubt at all, restart when deemed safe to do so. Meanwhile have a look at [EDINBURGH CEILIDH CLUB](#).

THE SCOTTISH Storytelling Centre in Edinburgh's High Street may be closed just now but it is keeping busy with all kinds of streams and on-line stuff. [Click here](#) to find out what's what.

The TMSA (Traditional Music and Song Association) has a calendar list of upcoming events it's involved in on its website.

THE TRADITIONAL MUSIC FORUM

(aka TMF) is a key participant in the Scottish Parliament Cross Party Group on Culture, the Music Education Partnership Group, Culture Counts and Heads of Instrumental Teaching Scotland (HITS) to name but a few. Through the website, newsletter and social media channels, TMF continually showcases the diverse activities of their wide membership and shares news, events, and information. And notably, EFC's man, Dave Francis is the TMF chair.

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MUSIC WAVES

MUSIC ROUTES: **Jim Welsh** broadcasts on-line on Edinburgh's Radio Summerhall.

TRAVELLING FOLK: Sunday (7pm) **Bruce MacGregor** presents BBC Radio Scotland's flagship two-hour folk programme.

BLACK DIAMOND 107.8 FM Midlothian, Sunday 8pm-9pm (and available 24*7). Brian Miller presents "one of the finest folk music programmes on radio".

[CLICK HERE](#) for a long list of folk music shows on **BBC Radio**.

FOLK ALLEY (USA) is a 24*7 internet radio service **produced by the FreshGrass Foundation** which went online in September 2003, streaming a unique blend of traditional folk, roots, Americana, contemporary singer/songwriters, indie-folk, Celtic, bluegrass, and other world sounds.

BLUES AND ROOTS RADIO - **NEW** - based in Mississauga, ON, Canada. **Liz Franklin (@lizlipwig)** presents 'Folk Garden' every Tuesday 6pm - 8pm. All the best in folk, roots and acoustic music.

ACROSS THE POND - **NEW** is hosted by Ed Miller on [Sunradio](#) every Sunday 3-4pm UK time - straight from **Austin, Texas, USA!**

PURE BEAT RADIO - **NEW** from **Aberdeen, Scotland** is an internet radio station that broadcasts all over the world 24*7. Playing a Better Music Mix! You can tune in on your Smartphone, Smartspeaker, Deezer and online.

BOTH SIDES THE TWEED FOLK SHOW - **NEW** is a monthly podcast presented by Gareth Patterson bringing you the very best in folk & acoustic music. Submissions welcomed from artists who would like us to play their music. A CD would be appreciated but please remember it must be **FOLK**.

cyberPRINT

LIVING TRADITION (UK, monthly, print, on-line) – see back page advert in this issue of COS - is a major UK and international folk music magazine published in Scotland with a 20 year history of carrying news, reviews and articles, with a focus on the traditional folk scene in the UK and Ireland. **Issue 134 is out now!** (June/July 2020) carrying articles on Georgia Lewis, Chris Leslie, Natalie MacMaster, Ken Wilson, A Puckle Muckle Sangs, Autohoodening, The Humours of Cocoon, Zoe Wren. Plus, If At First, Hector Christie's take on life in lockdown, Mike Silver's 'Tales From The Road', Transatlantic Connections ... and (phew!) ... festival updates, news, reviews and much more.

THE LIST (Edinburgh HQ but national; print, on-line.) This widely read and nationally distributed magazine is one to seek out for gig and cultural information in general.

MUSIC NEWS SCOTLAND (UK, weekly, on-line) the Scottish music industry's news outlet. A broad range of news and information.

SOUTHSIDE ADVERTISER EDINBURGH has a strap-line saying: "Living & Lifestyle in and around the Southside & Old Town of Edinburgh" and usually carries myriad adverts, reviews, show and exhibition previews and useful local information doing just that. Worth dipping into.

BOX AND FIDDLE (UK, monthly) is the publication of the National Association of Accordion & Fiddle Clubs with an estimated home and overseas readership of 6,000+.

R2 Magazine (UK, bi-monthly) was 'Rock n Reel' back in the 1990s, hit a rocky patch, but returned several years ago as a great commentator, supporter and reviewer of the UK music scene in general.

MAVERICK (UK, monthly) leading independent country music magazine.

RAMBLES (USA, on-line) a wide range of reviews of books and albums.

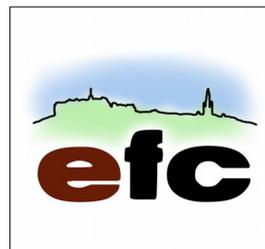
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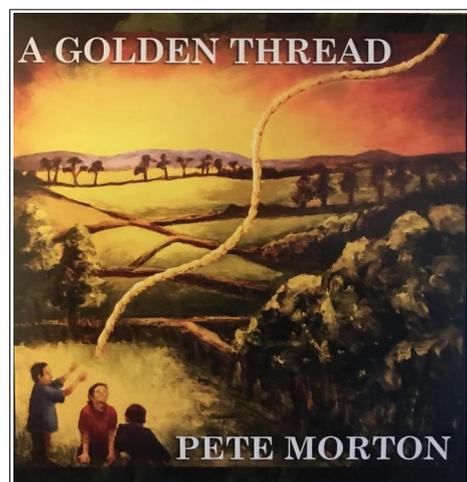
FOLKER (Germany, bi-monthly, print, on-line) one of continental Europe's major folk mags – in fact, probably the leading mag. Folker covers mostly European traditional/folk music and world music and is a valuable source on German and other European artists and the festival scene. It also carries book, record and cassette reviews. (Ed: Editor-in-chief Michael Kamp was a Sandy Bell's man back in the 1970's)

FRASER FIFIELD's new album is entitled: **In Mumbai**. Says Fraser, "Alongside my whistles and pipes are three virtuoso guests, Sabir Khan (sarangi), Navin Sharma (tabla) and Suresh Lawani (violin). The album contains nine tracks which document our three-day meeting in YRF Studios, in the Bollywood district of Mumbai.

meantime we are available for bookings throughout 2021. Help us get that diary filled up!" (Ed: Amen to that came the chorus!) Contact Jim at **07850 86 97 59** or [email him](#).

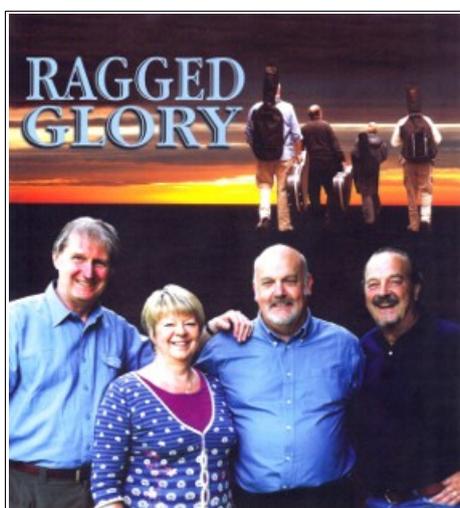
"The album is available to listen or download from [Bandcamp](#) or direct [from my website](#)."

NEW RELEASES ...



PETE MORTON'S latest album 'A Golden Thread' is available now at [Pete's site here](#) as a download and CD and three tracks are available to stream from the site. *Golden thread* - "an idea or feature that is present in all parts of something, holds it together and gives it value" (Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary).

LATE NEWS ...



Jim Weatherstone, scribe for popular local folk band, **Ragged Glory**, writes to say, "Like everyone else, we have been staying safe. After our gigs before lockdown at Leith Folk Club and Edinburgh's Wee Folk Club, we have had cancellations including Dalgety Bay FC and Newtongrange's Gala Weekend In The Park. We were very much looking forward to Festival Folk at the Oak during the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. One of our favourite performances usually takes place at the Burns Monument on Regent Terrace in Edinburgh during the Doors Open Weekend. Unfortunately this weekend too has been cancelled across the city. With no sign of lockdown being lifted for pubs and clubs we hope that our gig at **Almond Valley FC** can go ahead on October 20. Maybe it won't be too long before we can get together for rehearsals. In the

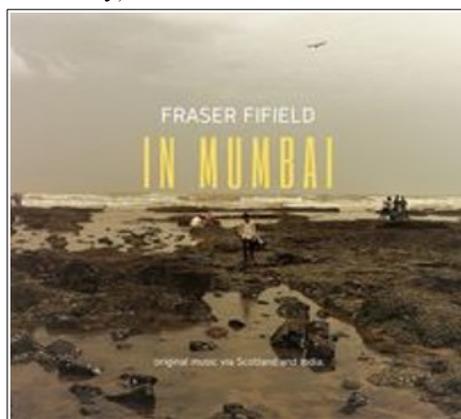
FESTIVAL ROUND-UP

There are so many festivals around these islands, not to mention abroad, that a better use of the limited space in the newsletter is to list websites offering lists of festival.

- [British Arts Festivals Association](#)
- [European Forum of Worldwide Music Festivals - Member Festivals](#)
- [Folk and Roots - UK Festivals](#)

Answers to the crossword in COS1.01 ...

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------|
| Clues Across: | Clues Down: |
| 1. BURN | 1. BREICH |
| 2. FLOOK | 3. LOONY |
| 5. RUM | 4. KINROSS |
| 7. CELTIC | 5. RELATION |
| 10. NOIR | 6. MIXERS |
| 11. OTTER | 8. TRAD |
| 12. HOD | 9. CONIFER |
| 13. FOWLIS | 14. ICELAND |
| 15. BAT | 16. TRANQUIL |
| 17. NUT | 18. BEWITCH |
| 18. BRIDGE | 19. FRANCE |
| 20. ASP | 20. ALAN |
| 22. RENEW | 21. POPEYE |
| 24. IONA FYFE | 23. BANJO |
| 25. DUNDEE | |
| 26. EEL | |
| 27. HERON | |
| 28. See 24 Across | |



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