



THE ACOUSTIC CALENDAR FOR WESSEX: UPDATE 12/6/17

This newsletter is an attempt to keep you abreast of the latest developments in the acoustic DIY scene in that part of England vaguely designated 'Wessex' (singarounds, sessions, open mic, etc.)

Hello People,

Despite what some see as a crushing defeat at the polls, we at the Acoustic Party headquarters are far from downhearted. It may be true that we only had one vote, but the way I see it, if I call it the Will of the British People and keep on saying it, eventually the British People will come to believe it. This strategy has been tried and tested. I was, however, a little disappointed when I realised that 'hung parliament' doesn't mean that we'll see politicians hanging from lampposts.

I can't believe it's 50 years since my picture failed to appear on the album cover of the Beatles' Sergeant Pepper' album. I still feel the slight. By the way, did you know that President Macron of France has a miniature clone of himself called Micron, who sits on his shoulder and plays Gallic airs on a flageolet? That's just one of the many fascinating facts you won't learn from the *Acoustic Calendar*. Read on...

Tony

FROM MY INBOX

*"What the f*** does Llude mean??"* Peter

'Summer is a-coming in / Loud sing cuckoo.' Middle English, innit.

"Barbara's limericks are brilliant! If only I had the time and a few brain cells left I'd have a go myself! PS Cuccu does not llude sing (or any other way) around here!" Bryony

You came Second in the *Reduced Folksong Competition*, so I'm sure the brain cells are there. I actually heard the cuccu the other day, but it was only ssofte (or whatever the opposite of llude is).

"This wonderful publication has been coming to me at the school where I work for the past year or so. Now, however, the increasing security means I'm not allowed to open it! So is there any chance you could send it to my home email from now on?" Marianne

I'm pleased to hear that your school is taking steps to protect vulnerable youth from my subversive nonsense. I'll see that in future you receive it in the privacy of your home.

“My name is Deanna and I am one of 10 Australian folk musicians and dancers who are walking the Coleridge Way from June 19th - 27th. We’d love to meet up with local musos/dancers and have organised our nightly accommodation in pubs happy to host instrumental sessions and dancing. Most of us dance and play multiple styles: Morris, English country dance, Scottish, Irish, Australian bush and historic dance, Regency and American contra. Two of the company are among the country’s top dance callers and a couple of the muso’s are absolutely outstanding. Looking forward to playing and dancing with you.” Deanna

Check out the *Acoustic Calendar* for June to see where you can join Deanna and her friends on each day of their visit.

“I have two probs re the June calendar. If I download from your updates... it is not retained. I guess this is a prob on my computer. If I then go to your website, when I click on your June calendar, it actually loads up the May calendar.” Laurie

I've checked the website and there appears to be nothing wrong with the June link. Computers often try to be 'helpful' by showing you previously downloaded pages. This can be quicker, but it's useless when you want an updated version. If a web page isn't what you expect try refreshing it. You do this either by clicking the 'refresh' or 'reload' symbol or by pressing F5 (top row of the keyboard). When you say it's 'not retained' do you mean you can't save it? You may need to click 'enable editing' (on a yellow bar near the top of the page) before you can save it.

“My tablet allows me to download, but it then deletes itself if I try to view it again. This is probably a prob on my tablet. But what do I know.” Laurie

I don't own a tablet, so can't advise you on that one. I do everything on my laptop.

“Why no Cornwall?” Terry

I know it would be logical to include the whole north west peninsula including Cornwall. I've been meaning to get around to it, but I'm reluctant to take on more work. The reason Cornwall got left out is that the *Acoustic Calendar*, which started life as *Tony & Peter's Folk Diary*, was originally for our private use, so I included only the area within reasonable driving distance of where I live in mid Somerset, i.e. Somerset, Dorset, Devon, Bristol and (just about) Wiltshire and Gloucester. Later Peter moved to the far side of Dorset, so I added Hampshire.

“Thanks Tony! It was idle (and slightly tongue in cheek) curiosity that prompted the question!” Terry

CANCELLED THIS WEEK

Corsham: *Acoustic Oak*, The Royal Oak, 72 High Street SN13 0HF (01249 713607, Judi Beverley: 01249 817034, judibev@gmail.com, <http://www.finemusicworks.com/>)

Normally every Thursday, 8pm. Acoustic night, hosted by Judi Beverley.

“As 80% of our regulars are going to be away this coming Thursday (and it looks as though we may have some nice weather!) I decided I would have a night off too - so if you were thinking of coming this week then my apologies! We will be back on 22nd June with a Spotlight Night so hopefully see you then.” Jude

SOLSTICE SESSION

Sandford Orcas (nr. Sherborne): *The Mitre Inn* DT9 4RU (01963 220271, Linda & David Chiplen: lindachiplen@yahoo.co.uk)

Thursday 22nd June, 7.30pm. Solstice Session. Acoustic music & song. All singers and musicians welcome.

“The first in what we hope will be a quarterly music and song session held on or near the summer and winter solstice and the spring and autumn equinox. The Mitre Inn is a lovely country pub, serving excellent ale and with very a welcoming landlord and landlady, Alan & Cheryl.”

NEW

Glastonbury: Bocabar, Red Brick Building, Morland Rd. BA6 9FT (Bar: 01458 440558; Paul Cannon: 01749 674913, milton.bluesman@hotmail.com)

Second Sunday of each month, 1pm. *Jazz in Glastonbury* (Sunday lunch jazz). "A perfect blend of good food and smooth jazz. The music is served up by members of the *Wells Jazz Collective* plus featured guests. Admission £5. No food order necessary. Table reservations recommended."

Nailsea (nr. Bristol): The White Lion, 13 Silver Street BS48 2AQ (01275 544680; Mike Bostock: 01275 545630, mike.bostock@virginmedia.com)

Last Wednesday of every month, 8pm – 11pm. Old-time American music & dance session. All welcome.

NEW ADDITIONS

Exeter: Cowley Bridge Inn, Cowley Bridge Rd. EX4 5BX (01392 431010)

First Tuesday of the month. Open mic, run by Tony Scott. PA available.

Kingsbridge: The Hermitage Inn, 8 Mill St. TQ7 1ED (01548 853234)

Thursday 8th June & Thursday 20th July, 8.30pm. Open Mic. "All welcome to come and play, sing or watch. Please, no music stands."

Monthly (not always on the same day). See Calendars for future dates.

Lympstone (nr. Exmouth): The Saddlers Arms, Exmouth Rd. EX8 5LS (01395 265369)

Second Thursday of the month. *Firecracker Open Mic.* Run by Ian & Ashley. PA available.

REVISED SCHEDULES

Gloucester: Cross Keys Inn, Cross Keys Lane GL1 2HQ (01452 530046,

<https://www.facebook.com/crosskeysinnngloucester>)

Second & fourth Wednesdays of the month, 8:30pm – 11:30pm. Acoustic open mic. Free entry. "...one of Gloucester's oldest inns... compact and bijou – very much like a house party. We tend to appeal to musicians and we also have comedian / impressionists who perform too."

No longer every Wednesday.

Whitecroft (nr. Lydney): Miners Arms GL15 4PE (01594 562483,

https://www.facebook.com/minersarmswhitecroft/timeline?ref=page_internal)

Monthly on a Friday (date varies). Open mic. Free entry. "Come play, come sing or just drink and dance!"

Next one 7th July.

CHANGE OF VENUE

Uffculme (nr. Cullompton): Culm Valley Music & Performance Club, Village Hall, 5 Bridge St. EX15 3AX (Brian & Gwyneth: 01884 840192 or 07790 774945)

Last Wednesday of every month (except August) (Guest Nights and Open Floor Nights on alternate months), 8pm to 11pm. Everyone welcome. *Bring your own drinks.*

Next Open Floor Night: 26th July.

SUMMER BREAKS

Huish Episcopi (nr. Langport): Eli's (The Rose & Crown, on the A372) TA10 9QT (01458 250494; Rod Harrington: 01823 481253)

Third Saturday of the month (September to May, inclusive), 8.30pm. Traditional singaround.

Finished until September.

Poole: Branksome Railway Hotel, 429 Poole Rd. BH12 1DQ (01202 769555)

Every Sunday afternoon, 3pm till 5.30pm. Folk session. "Run by Mick Ryan on the singaround, take your turn, system."

Finished until September.

Street: Mullions Hotel, 51 High St. BA16 0HP (Pub: 01458 445110; Brian Jefferson: 01458 224568, bjeff1@btinternet.com)

Every other Friday (except during summer break), 8.30pm. “We are a floor singers’ club and welcome all types of (acoustic) music. The resident group is *Hoodwink*.”

Last of the season 7th July. Restarting 1st September.

RIP

Broadmayne (near Dorchester): Sunray Folk Club, The Village Hall, Main Street DT2 8ES (07786 654 074, <http://www.bobkirkpatrick.co.uk/sunrayfolkclub.htm>)

Every 4th Thursday of the month, 8pm – 10.30pm with a half-hour break at 9pm (doors open 7.35pm). ‘The aim of the club is to encourage and provide folk music. During each evening there will be a jug collection - the proceeds of which will be given over to the featured guests.’ Refreshments available to members.

Membership is £1 for a year. ‘People who wish to sing are advised to contact the club as we rarely accept walk-ins. We tend to favour people who are supporters of the club.’

Discontinued.

Tiverton: The Oak Room, 2c St. Peter Street EX16 6NU (07818 073660,

<http://oakroomtiverton.com/events/> ,

<https://www.facebook.com/acousticnightsattheoakroom/info/?tab=overview>)

Fourth Friday of every month, 8pm – 10.30pm. Instrumental folk music session. All welcome. Bar available.

“Come and join us in this unique venue - a former Victorian church with amazing acoustics!”

This one doesn't seem to be happening at the moment, but the second Friday Acoustic Night is still with us.

STEWARDS / VOLUNTEERS WANTED

Bridport: Bridport Folk Festival (contact **Chris Deacon: cv129vg@gmail.com)**

Friday 11th August to Sunday 13th August 2017. Music and dance – three open air stages plus three indoor venues – ceilidhs and workshops.

ACOUSTIC CONUNDRUM – RESULTS

The answers (3 female folksingers) to the acoustic conundra posed in my last Update are, of course –

HYDRANGEA: Ange Hardy

POLAR KNITWEAR: Karine Polwart,

LAZY EARCHIT: Eliza Carthy.

The first (in fact the only) person to send me the correct answers was Mr. Red, who will be crowned King Conundrum, a title I hope he will continue to bear with pride until I decide to run another conundrum competition.

ACOUSTIC QUOTE OF THE MONTH

“I don't know what it means either. But it sounds good. And you want your songs to sound good.”

Bob Dylan on some lines by John Donne. You can get it straight from the horse's mouth, together with other words of wisdom, by watching the bobster's Nobel Lecture on Youtube: <https://youtu.be/6TlcPRlau2Q> .

This is probably the only Nobel lecture you'll ever hear with a musical backing – it's by jazz pianist Alan Pasqua and it forms a pleasantly relaxing accompaniment to the Laureate's rambling explorations of his musical and literary influences.

SAD NEWS (from Facebook)

“R.I.P. Vin Garbutt. Another sad loss. A fine folk singer and a funny, big-hearted man has left us.”

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