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# South Petherton folk & craft festival ~ 1984



*Baye* *Chris Sten*  
15 16 17  
JUNE

Prize Draw –  
Details on last page

25p





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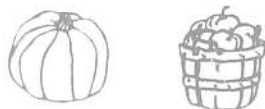


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# A very warm welcome to our



### A FESTIVAL SINCE 1213

It was in this year that King John confirmed a weekly market and an annual fair each Midsummer day, the Festival of St. John the Baptist, although it is probable that these events had been held from Saxon days and Midsummer day celebrations date from pre-Christian times. In 1252 the Fair was extended to include the 'eve and morrow' and by 1294 was valued at 6s 8d (33p). The Fair's value continued to grow and in 1448 it was extended again this time to six days. By 1650 it's value had begun to decline, reaching 6s 8d again by 1701. When the Gregorian calendar was adopted in 1752 (some people imagined that they had been deprived of eleven days of their life!) the Fair, like many others, kept to old Midsummer day – July 5th, and continued on this day until the 1930's when such was the interest, or rather, lack of it, that tolls were levied merely for the sake of tradition.

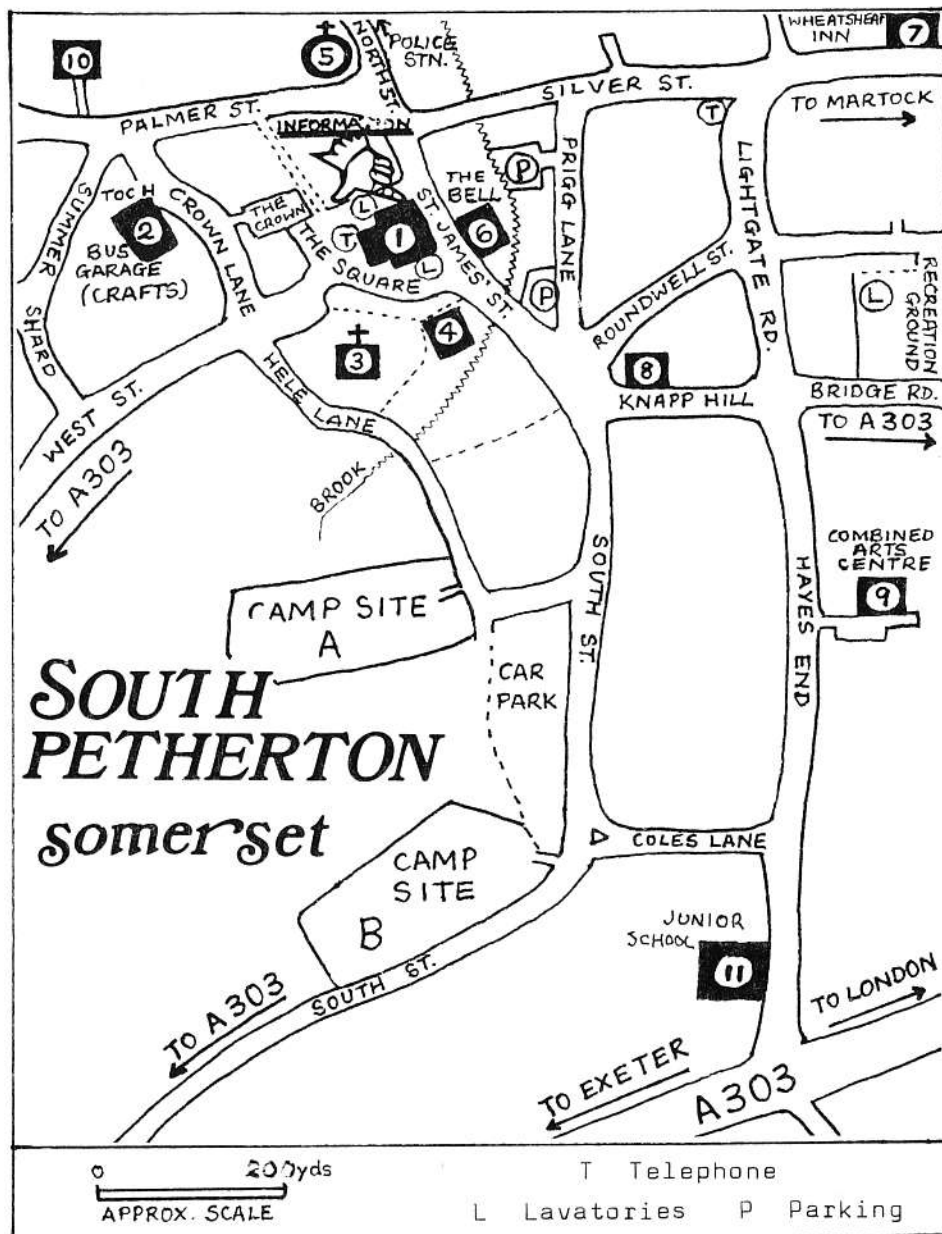
The old market house was demolished in 1843 and the replacement building can now be seen as part of the front section of the Blake Hall which was built in 1911.

Today we have revived the celebrations of old by gathering together musicians, dancers and craftsmen for a Festival of traditional arts in and around South Petherton on the weekend (an 'eve, day and morrow') nearest to Midsummer day. So why not come and join us when the gauntlet is raised, as the Saxon Lords of the Manor may have done in the past, to let the festivities commence, because it is you, the folk, that make Folk.



## eighth festival

Take ten gallons of ale and a large cock, the older the better; parboil the cock, slay him, and stamp him in a stone mortar until his bones are broken (you must draw and gut him when you slay him), then put the cock into two quarts of sack, and put to it five pounds of raisins of the sun, stoned; some blades of mace, and a few cloves; put all these into a canvas bag, and a little before you find the ale has been working, put the bag and ale together into a vessel. In a week or nine days bottle it up; fill the bottle but just above the neck, and give it the same time to ripen as other ale.



THE INFORMATION CENTRE IS AT BLAKE HALL (1)  
Opening times - Friday \* mid day to 9 pm  
Saturday \* 9 am to 8.30 pm and Sunday \* 9 am to 5 pm.

Please keep in touch for last minute ammendments to the programme and additional events. T Shirts, Tickets

**TICKETS** Weekend or day tickets may be obtained in advance from Ann Hodge 71 Silver St., South Petherton, Somerset Tel: 40335; or at the Information Centre during the Festival. Tickets for individual events will be on sale at the door. The price of a Weekend Ticket is great value at £9.50. This price is inclusive of Camping. If you can't stand the strain of the whole weekend then come for a day, or for an individual event! Day Tickets - Saturday £5.00 and Sunday £4.50. Half price Tickets for Children and O.A.P.'s.

**CRAFT EXHIBITION** This will be held in the Bus Garage and will be open on Saturday and Sunday from 10.00 am to 5.00 pm. Admission is free. Come and watch traditional craftsmen at work, including a blacksmith, shoe maker, chair maker, knit-wear designer, instrument maker, jewellery maker and many more.

**CHILDREN** Look out for Bonzo and Zizi, the Clowns. Also the irrepressible street theatre group - Ruff Stough - with their amazing fire eating act. Don't miss the tallest man in the world and the incredible Billy Goats Grough, the Three Little Pigs and other delights. See programme for the Hobby Horse Club and Children's fun Session.

**CAMPERS** Milk will be delivered to the Camp Site for sale from 8.30 am on Saturday and Sunday mornings. Please check at the Information Centre on arrival whether it is Camp Site A or B that is in operation over the Weekend. We hope to have a mobile snack bar based on the camp site - so campers, there is a ready cooked breakfast should you want it.

**THE LUCKY DRAW** To enter just complete the slip at the back of the Programme, and either mail it to us at the address above, or drop it in the box at the Information Centre. The Draw will take place on Sunday 17th June at 4 pm.

**REFRESHMENTS** The W.I. will be serving refreshments all day in the Toc H room (next to the Craft Hall)



# Meet the Artists



**BLOWZABELLA** are a talented group of musicians who play traditional folk music from Britain and Europe. There are three instrument makers in the band and they make many of the instruments used in the group. These include English and Flemish bagpipes, bassoon, bombards, hurdy-gurdies, flute, recorders and drums.

**THE YETTIES**, hailing from Dorset are a group of world-wide acclaim. Pete, Bonny and Mac will be performing in their own inimitable style at the Sunday evening Concert.

**EDDIE WALKER** is a singer, guitarist and songwriter, whose roots are in the folk song movement of the 60's. Eddie's repertoire includes traditional American songs, ragtime and country and blues music, as well as his own material.



**THE DEAD SEA SURFERS** This groups unique blend of comedy and close harmony has delighted audiences all over the U.K. Their basic philosophy of "Try anything at least once" is reflected by their extensive repertoire which includes Blues, Gospel, Swing, Traditional Songs, Jazz, Work Hollers, Music Hall, Doo Wop, Hawaiian Love Chants and several selfpenned songs.

**THE WILSON FAMILY** are a six part harmony group from Teeside. The five brothers and one sister appeared at last year's festival and met with tumultuous applause - so much that we have booked them again this year.



**TONY ROSE** - 1984 sees Tony Rose complete fifteen years as a professional singer and musician. He has toured the U.K., Holland, Belgium, Germany and the U.S.A., and we are fortunate to have him as our song director this year.

**SEAN CANNON** purveyor of fine curries, Irish singer and story teller of note is definitely not to be missed - a very funny man.

**MERIDIAN** are a singing group from the Bristol area and will be making their first appearance at the festival.



**ROSIE UPTON AND PETE MACGREGOR** These two previously solo performers are now appearing together. Rosie who hails from Derbyshire, sings mainly English traditional songs. Peter's repertoire is mainly of Scots songs and ballads, and several southerners claim to understand them, but this is thought to be very unlikely.



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# Programme of Events

Maggie OK Canna?  
LUNCH Times

LOWER PRICES ARE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 14 AND O.A.P.'s

## Friday

	Prices
6.45 OPENING OF THE FESTIVAL 'The Glove is up' in the Square with Morris Men and Music	
7.30 MINI CONCERT - Blake Hall Tony Rose introduces Sean Cannon, the Wilson Family, 'Free Admission'....etc. To be followed at 9.00 pm by the 'BLOWZABELLA Experience! The amazing Blowzabella take over the rest of the evening with one of their notorious knees-ups.	Foster's 2.00/1.00 ✓
8.00 CEILIDH - Bus Garage Tony Slinger and Iain Bryden's Band plus other festival artistes.	2.00/1.00
8.00 FOLK CLUB - The Wheatsheaf Inn Galopede introduce the Dead Sea Surfers, Eddie Walker, Richard Benbow and Ted Bartlett among others.	Free

## Saturday

10.00 CRAFT EXHIBITION opens at the Bus Garage	Free
10.30 DISPLAYS in the Square with Compere Tony Slinger	
10.45 PUNCH and JUDY - Church Lawn/if wet Church Room Includes Hobby Horse Club	0.30
11.00 Meet BLOWZABELLA - Methodist Hall	0.75/0.40
11.00 MORRIS WORKSHOP - The Arts Centre with Graham Barrett	0.75/0.40
11.15 HOBBY HORSE CLUB - Church Lawn/if wet Church Room Lots of fun for the Children with John Chapman, Butterfingers and Bozo & Zizi the Clowns.	0.30
11.30 RUFF STOUGH - The Square The amazing Theatre company present a selection of entertainments for your delight.	
12.00 PERCUSSION WORKSHOP - United Reform Manse John Parish and Robert Ellis in control	0.75/0.40
12.00 SONG AND A PINT - Bell Yard with the Wilson Family and various artists	0.75/0.40

Refreshments will be available throughout the day from the Toc H Room - next to the Bus Garage - served by the W.I.

X 12.30 RUFF STOUGH - Lower Church Room	0.30
12.45/2.30 Lunch for artists in Blake Hall	
2.30/5.00 SONG CONCERT - Methodist Hall with Sean Cannon, Meridian, Rosie Upton & Pete MacGregor, Rogues Gallery and Richard Benbow.	1.75/1.00
2.30 CHILDREN'S FUN AND FACE PAINTING - Upper Church Rm.	0.30
2.45 OVERTURE To the...	
3.00 DANCE DISPLAY - Blake Hall The British Dance Tradition and some Balkan Dances	1.25/0.75
3.00 RUFF STOUGH - the Square and their unbelievable street theatre act	
4.00 PUPPET SHOW - Methodist small room with Anita Jain and puppets	0.30
4.30 Meet the DEAD SEA SURFERS - Church Rooms	0.75/0.40
5.00 Craft Exhibition closes	
5.30 PUNCH and JUDY - The Square	
6.00 DANCE DISPLAYS - The Square All Morris teams plus some Sword Dancing	
X 6.00 BALKAN DANCE WORKSHOP - Methodist Hall with Hursley International	0.75/0.40
X 6.00 CLOG WORKSHOP - Lower Church Room with Sweet Coppin	0.75/0.40
6.00 DANCE SESSION - with Woodfidley at the Arts Centre	0.75/0.40
7.30 FOLK CLUB - the Wheatsheaf Inn	1.00
8.00 SONG CONCERT - Blake Hall with Dead Sea Surfers, Cathy O'Sullivan, the Wilson Family and Eddie Walker - M.C. Tony Rose	2.25/1.25
X 8.00 SOUTHERN NATIONAL BUS CEILIDH - Bus Garage featuring Bev Cave and Travel by Steam, plus other festival items.	2.25/1.25

## Sunday

11.00 DISPLAYS AND DANCING - The Square	
11.00 Meet the WILSON FAMILY - Church Rooms	0.75/0.40
X 11.00 CALLER'S WORKSHOP - Blake Hall with Ron Beeson	0.75/0.40
11.00 PLAYFORD WORKSHOP - Arts Centre with Corinne Sharp	0.75/0.40
11.00 HOBBY HORSE CLUB - Methodist Hall with Butterfingers, Bozo & Zizi the Clowns and Anita Jain's Puppets - fun for the children	0.30

Refreshments will be available throughout the day from the Toc H Room - next to the Bus Garage - served by the W.I.

- 11.30 RUFF STOUGH - the Square  
more entertainment from the irrepressible street theatre group.
- 12.00 SONG AND A PINT - Bell Yard  
with the Jellalabad Folk Club from Yeovil *SANDY + Patsy Friend* 0.75/0.40
- 12.30/2.30 Lunch for the artists - Blake Hall *Amel.*
- 2.30 CHI'DREN'S FUN SESSION - Upper Church Rooms 0.30
- 2.30 SOCIAL DANCE - Junior School Hall  
with Ron Beeson and the Bridgwater Band *William Webb* 1.25/0.75
- 2.30 FESTIVAL SERVICE - the Parish Church  
with music, dancing and a play by 'Miracles at Glastonbury'
- 3.00 SONG CONCERT - Blake Hall  
with Sean Cannon, the Dead Sea Surfers, Eddie Walker, 'Free Admission', and M.C.s Rosie Upton and Pete MacGregor *Pete Wilson* 1.75/1.00
- 3.30 DANCE DISPLAYS - The Square
- 4.30 Meet CATHY O'SULLIVAN AND SEAN CANNON - the Square  
House Barn *Seamus* 0.75/0.40
- 4.45 RUFF STOUGH Theatre Company - the Square
- 5.00 Craft Exhibition closes
- 6.00 PLAYFORD DANCE - Junior School Hall  
with Corinne Sharp and Heritage *N. Hale* 1.25/0.75
- 8.00 WEST COUNTRY CONCERT - Blake Hall  
with Meridian, the YETTIES, Tony Rose and guest Cathy O'Sullivan - M.C. Phil George *CHANTS.* 2.25/1.25
- 8.00 FINAL BARN DANCE - Bus Garage  
with Ron Beeson and Bridgwater Band *Phil. Guffy*

GALOPEDE are a husband and wife duo from Chard in Somerset. Watch out for Andy "Fingers" Card on his melodian! They sing and play traditional, contemporary, and music hall songs.

CATHY O'SULLIVAN is proving to be one of the most innovative talents in the Australian folk scene. Although unmistakably Australian, her music has an Irish flavour, especially when she accompanies herself on the Celtic harp.

FREE ADMISSION are our local group consisting of - Karen, John and Steve, who play a variety of guitar and flute music.

HURSLEY INTERNATIONAL from the Winchester area are no strangers to the festival. The team perform traditional Balkan Dances. With their lively music and authentic costumes, they are a colourful display team.

TRAVEL BY STEAM produce an amazing foot - stomping ceilidh sound, with the Steam provided by the incomparable Barry Lister and friends. Bob Powell leads the multi talented six piece country dance band



SWEET COPPIN are a ladies clog team from Taunton. They perform traditional English clog and other dances.

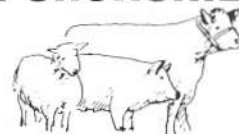


YEOVIL SCOTTISH DANCERS provide a touch of culture from north of the border.

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MOODFIDLE preserve both country and rural dances from the past eight centuries and have made extensive tours abroad with their performance.

HERITAGE will be coming again to delight us with their music at the Playford dance on Sunday.

MIRACLES AT GLASTONBURY - A group of actors will present their plays in the Parish Church on Sunday afternoon, as part of the Folk Festival Service.

DORSET KNOBS AND KNOCKERS are newcomers to the Festival. They perform Stave Dances, which were formerly done as part of the Old Friendly Societies Annual Processions.

BRISTOL FASHION, regular supporters of the festival, are returning to perform English dances, including garland and long sword.

THE BRIDGWATER BAND will play for the two Sunday Dances.

BEETLECRUSHERS are a clog group that we welcome for the first time.

The Morris Tradition will be represented by the WHITE HORSE men, and the CHIPPENHAM men from Wiltshire. The MENDIP men from North Somerset, the BATHAMPTON men from the Bath Area and the WESSEX men from Somerset and Dorset.

QUANTOCK SWORD will give a display of the Rapper dances from the North East.

IAIN BRYDEN - well known in the West Country, will be playing with his Band at the Friday night Ceilidh.

JOHN AND ANGELA SHAW from Bristol will delight all with their Punch and Judy Show. They also sing, and John plays the Appalachian Dulcimers.

JOHN PARISH AND ROBERT ELLIS caused a sensation at the 1982 Festival with their percussion workshop - not to be missed this year.

ANITA JAIN's puppet show will delight the children.

JOHN CHAPMAN will run the Hobby Horse Club, with BONZO and ZIZI the Clowns and BUTTERFINGERS.

RUFF STOUGH are an amazing Street Theatre Group

Callers include - TONY SLINGER, BEV CAVE, RON BEESON, JOHN CHAPMAN and CORINNE SHARP.

## Local Clubs

### SONG CLUBS

CHARD - The Golden Fleece, South Chard - Last Friday of the month. Tel: Andy Card Chard 4936. This very successful club boasts a good attendance with guest artists appearing every other month. The pub skittle alley is the venue and everyone is welcome. The music is varied - from traditional to contemporary .... anything goes.

YEOVIL - Jellalabad Music Club at the Somerset Inn. Every Thursday night. Floor singers are very welcome and there are regular guest appearances. The club has a broad musical policy and is run by professional singer, Tony Rose. It reopens following a break in the Autumn. Tel: Tony Rose West Coker 2007

BRIDGWATER - North Pole Inn - Sundays. Tel: Bridgwater 56022

SHERBORNE - The Yetties Music Club - the Warmington Hotel - 1st Wednesday of month from 8pm. Tel: Pete Shutler Sherborne 814667

### DANCE CLUBS

BRIDGWATER - Mondays at St. Mary's Church Hall, Kings Square Bridgwater - Tel: 0278 722488

CHARD - Alternate Thursdays at Combe St. Nicholas Parish Hall - Tel: 0460 20930

CREWKERNE - Thursdays at Church Hall, Abbey St. Tel: 0460 75213

CROWCOMBE - Somerset Playford Club, last Wednesday of month at Halsway Manor

FROME - Alternate Tuesdays at Vallis School Hall, Milk St. Tel: 0373 62112

GLASTONB'Y - Thursdays at Scout Hall, Benedict St. 0458 3239

HALSWAY - 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at Halsway Manor 082347 4989

SHAPWICK - 1st, 3rd and 5th Tuesdays at Village Hall, Station Road

S PETHERTN - 2nd Fridays from May to Sept. at Arts Centre Hayes End Tel: 0460 40335

S on the FOSSE - Fosseyway Playford Club on 1st Wednesday at Village Hall Tel: 0761 232216

BICKENHALL - Alternate Tuesdays at Trull Old Village Hall Tel: 0984 23679

TAUNTON - All Mondays during Term Time at North Town School, Staplegrove Road Tel: 0823 73091

YEOVIL - Tuesdays from Sept to May at the Old Barn, Plantagenet Chase Tel: 0935 27761

YEOVIL - Playford Club on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays Sept to March at Birchfield Community Centre Tel: 0935 4773.



# MORRIS, CLOG AND MUMMERS

BISHOPSWOOD MUMMERS  
CHALICE MORRIS MEN  
MINEHEAD SHOW HOBBY HORSE  
TAUNTON DEANE MORRIS MEN  
WESSEX MORRIS MEN  
WEST SOMERSET MORRIS MEN.  
WYVERN JUBILEE MORRIS MEN

DR TURBEVILLES MIRACLE MORRIS

FROME VALLEY MORRIS  
BEETLECRUSHERS clog  
QUEENS DELIGHT WOMENS MORRIS  
SWEET COPPIN clog soft shoe  
CHESTNUT CLOGGIES

Robert Cross 0823 86517  
Peter Baker 0934 812993  
Richard Howe 0643 6210  
Sid Percy 0404 2956  
John Holley 0747 3125  
John Holley 0278 732739  
Pete Clemo 0935 75222  
ext 2914

Tuesdays George Hotel  
Crewkerne

Sue Dykes 0749 4815  
Jenny Slade 0935 31673  
Joyce Bothwick 0984 31673  
Helen Cross 0934 812993

After the Monmouth Rebellion in 1685, three men, condemned to be hanged by Judge Jeffreys, were taken to South Petherton and hanged on a beam still to be seen in the side entrance of a house in St. James Street, opposite the Bank.

The last Thursday in October is known as Punky Night at Hinton St. George, when the children make lanterns from Mangel-Wurzels scooped out and carved into faces, with a candle inside. They go through the streets singing -

"Its Punky Night tonight, its Punky Night tonight  
Give us a Candle, give us a light, its Punky Night tonight"

The ancient Shrovetide custom of Egg Shackling survives in the villages of Shepton Beauchamp and Stoke St. Gregory; where the children take eggs to school on Shrove Tuesday, which are marked, placed in a sieve and shaken gently. As they crack, they are removed and the owner of the last uncracked egg receives a prize. This may be a ritual to promote fertility.

At the Tatworth Candle Auction held annually in April, a piece of land known as Stowell Meadow is auctioned, at which an inch of candle is used. The last bid before the Candle goes out is the successful one. During the bidding noone may rise from his seat except to bid and miscreants are fined.

It was in the Vicarage garden at Hambridge, that Cecil Sharp heard his first folk song. "the Seeds of Love" sung by John England, the gardener in 1903. This set him collecting folk songs far and wide.

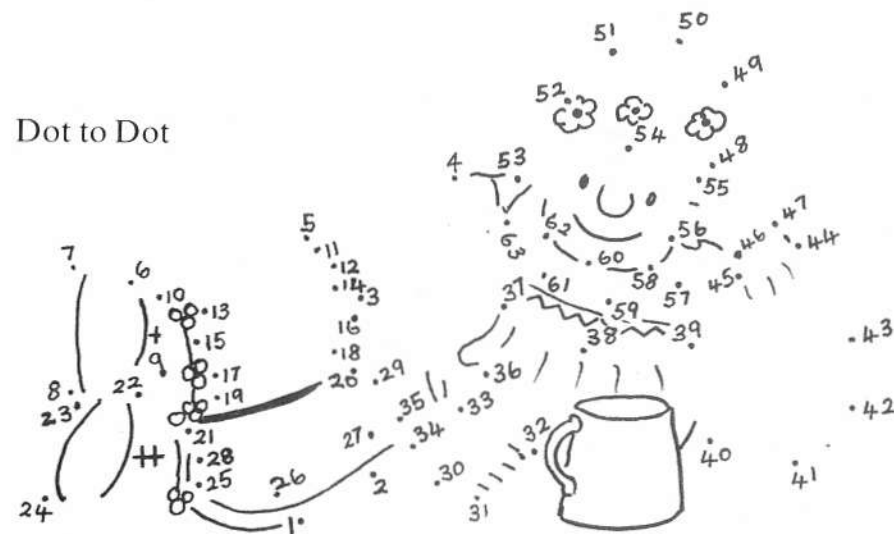
Somerset Cider depends on the Apple Crop and for centuries the orchards have been 'wassailed' - an ancient form of tree worship. After dark on Old Twelfth Night (January 17th) people gather round a large tree and sing :

"Old Apple Tree, old Apple Tree, we wassail thee".

Cider is poured round the trunk and cider soaked toast is placed in the branches; guns are fired to drive away evil spirits, and the chanting of "Hats full, caps full, dree bushel bags full" is followed by cheering. This custom is kept up at Norton Fitzwarren - the home of Taunton Cider and elsewhere in the County.

"Clipping the Church" was a custom once observed at South Petherton and many other places, but allowed to die out. From the Market Square, the people paraded through the streets to the Churchyard where they blew trumpets and circled the Church. When the circle was complete the trumpets were blown again. The purpose of this custom at the start of Lent was said to be that of driving out the devil. This custom is still observed at Painswick in Gloucester.

## Dot to Dot



W. I.

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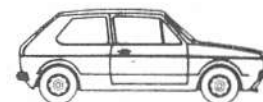
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## Thank You

We wish to extend our thanks to the following-

The Southern National Bus Company, The W.I. for providing refreshments, The Vicar and members of the Parish Church, the Methodist Church and Toc H, for making their premises available; Messrs T & CJ Willy for camping and car park facilities; to South West Arts and Yeovil District Council for financial support and the advertisers in the programme who support in a similar way; to B Reyland & Sons for their donation; to the Parish Council, villagers, and many friends of the festival who have assisted in so many ways and of course to all performers who make ours the really 'Friendly Folk Festival'. Thank you all.

Programme Editor and Design - Jane Bierman; Advertising Sales - Bakehouse Marketing; Setting and Graphic Display - Mark Richards; a special thanks to Milson Marketing and Design and Rodney Miller for use of equipment; Printing - Perrott Print of Crewkerne.

In the early 19th Century Betty Hayne, a Stoke sub Hamdon housewife was on her way back from Yeovil in a snowstorm, when she slipped at the top of Ham Hill and rolled downhill forming a human snowball. When she stopped rolling, she poked a hole in the top, lit her pipe and waited until her husband found her in the morning - nonethe worse.

Late night revellers on the old Fosse Way road close to Dinnington have occasionally been confronted with the Ghost of the Headless Woman who is supposed to have been killed in a carriage accident in the 18th Century and now rides the moonlit nights in search of her severed head!

### PRIZE DRAW

The Draw will take place on Sunday 17th June at 4.00 pm in the Information Centre. To enter .... either - send this completed form to 71 Silver Street, South Petherton, Somerset. to reach us no later than Friday 15th June (mark envelope 'Prize Draw'), or - put it in the box at the Information Centre.

Name .....

Address .....

.....  
.....

## HAWKINS BROS.

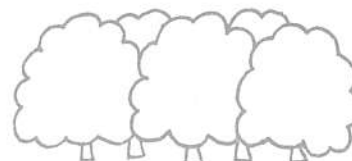


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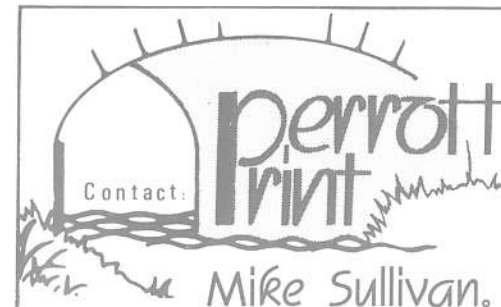


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