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**FESTIVAL
PROGRAMME
40p**

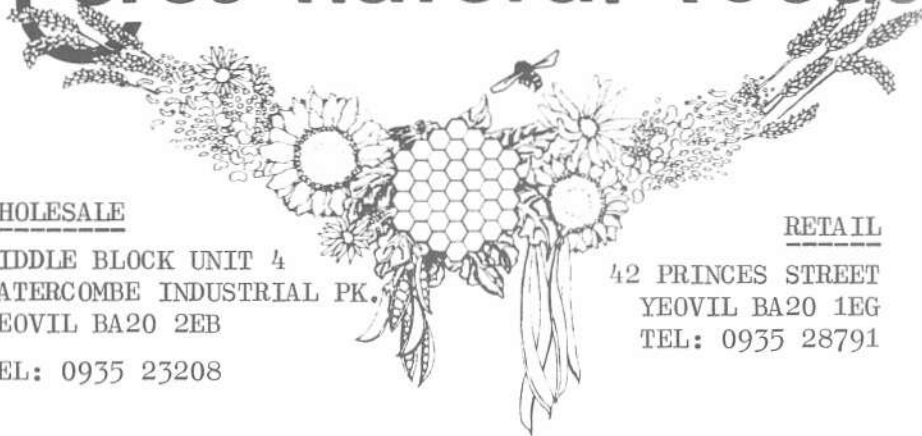
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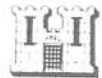
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South Petherton Folk & Craft Festival 1986 June 13-15

WELCOME to the 1986 South Petherton Folk & Craft Festival. This year marks the occasion of the TENTH South Petherton Festival and having reached this landmark in the history of the Festival, we naturally hope that this will be the best festival yet. The Festival prides itself on its friendly reputation, and we know that for many of the regular visitors to the festival the unique village setting and atmosphere are major attractions, but the Festival enjoys tremendous local support too, so whether you live locally or whether you have travelled to South Petherton from further afield, we hope you will enjoy the varied programme that we have put together for you. The guest line-up for the 1986 Festival has, we think, a quality to match the occasion:

SWAN ARCADE * BLOWZABELLA * THE HOUSE BAND * JOHN JAMES * LEN GRAHAM & GARRY O'BRIAN * BOB CANN & THE DARTMOOR PIXIE BAND * CHRIS PITT & GAVIN ATKIN * TONY ROSE * PETE MORTON * WOODFIDLEY * RUFF STOUGH * HURSLEY INTERNATIONAL * IVY THORN BAND * JOHN CHAPMAN * BATH ROYAL SCOTTISH * CHIPPENHAM MORRIS * BOURNE RIVER MORRIS * TATTERED SWAN BORBER MORRIS * TREACLE EATERS * JOHNNY COLLINS and his 'SINGING CHEF' catering service and many more.

Throughout the weekend there are dozens of events - CONCERTS, DANCES, STREET THEATRE, CEILIDHS, CHILDRENS EVENTS - for all the family. The important craft side of the Festival will be better than ever this year, and there are other innovations. The former United Reformed Church in the centre of the village has been converted into an arts centre, and is now known as the David Hall, and this will provide a splendid new venue for dances and concerts.

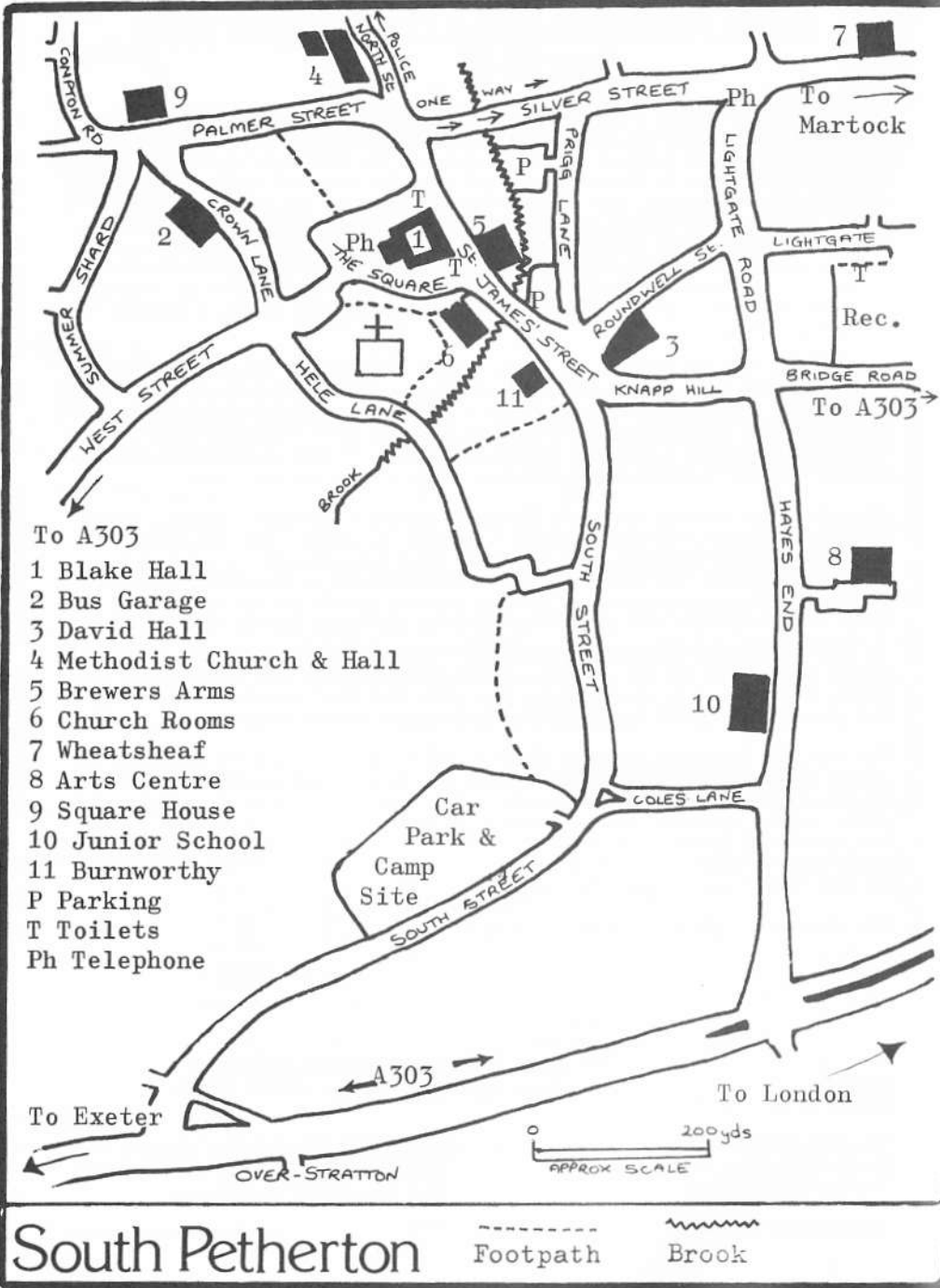
In addition Johnny Collins' 'Singing Chef' catering service is here to provide cooked breakfasts for the campers, and an extensive hot meal service for all during the day and in the evenings. You will find full details of the times and places where meals can be obtained elsewhere in the programme.

The Festival Committee welcomes suggestions and/or constructive criticism for future festivals and wishes all visitors to the festival an enjoyable weekend. We are grateful to the villagers and tradespeople of South Petherton for all their support and help, and we welcome offers of help for the future. If you are interested in being involved with the festival please do let us know. We would like as many people as possible in the South Petherton area genuinely to feel that this is their festival!

The 1986 South Petherton Festival Committee:

FESTIVAL DIRECTOR AND SONG DIRECTOR - TONY ROSE
DANCE DIRECTOR - DENNIS PRESTON
CRAFT ORGANISER - MEG ROSE
FESTIVAL SECRETARY - ANN HODGE
FESTIVAL TREASURER - JOHN JOHNSON
SALES & CHIEF STEWARDS - JOHN BAGGE, PHIL CHANT, HILARY CHANT
PROGRAMME ADVERTISING and 101 other invaluable jobs - ARCHIE BRYDEN
PUBLICITY & PROGRAMME - TONY ROSE

The Committee would like to acknowledge financial assistance and support from South West Arts, South Somerset District Council, Hardington Brewery and the Brewers Arms, South Petherton, and Lawrence & Co., South Petherton.



To A303

- 1 Blake Hall
- 2 Bus Garage
- 3 David Hall
- 4 Methodist Church & Hall
- 5 Brewers Arms
- 6 Church Rooms
- 7 Wheatsheaf
- 8 Arts Centre
- 9 Square House
- 10 Junior School
- 11 Burnworthy
- P Parking
- T Toilets
- Ph Telephone

To Exeter

To London

GENERAL INFORMATION

THE FESTIVAL INFORMATION CENTRE is at the Blake Hall in the square. (1 on map) This is also the sales point for programmes and festival souvenirs. Please check with the office for additional events and any programme changes. Opening times are as follows:

Friday	Midday	- 9 pm
Saturday	9 am	- 9 pm
Sunday	9 am	- 5 pm

TICKETS Weekend or Saturday Day tickets may be obtained in advance from Ann Hodge, 71 Silver Street, South Petherton, Somerset. Tel: South Petherton 40335.... or at the Festival Information Centre during the festival. There are no Sunday Day tickets this year - tickets for individual events will be available at the door.

PRICES The price of a weekend ticket - including camping - is just about the best festival bargain you'll find anywhere at £10.00. There is also the new Family weekend ticket (2 adults and 2 children) at £24.00. If you can only make it for part of the festival, then buy a Saturday Day ticket at £6.00, or if you prefer, you can pay at the door for individual events. Tickets are half-price for children and senior citizens.

CRAFT MARKET & EXHIBITION This will be held at the Bus Garage in Crown Lane, and admission is free, so don't miss the opportunity to watch crafts- persons at work or to buy from a wide range of craft stalls - wood turning, ceramics, fashion jewellery, musical instruments, clay models, miniatures, pen and ink drawings, wooden toys and games etc etc. There will also be a second-hand clothes stall, and a record stall where you can purchase records of most of the artists at the festival.

CHILDREN There are numerous events for the children throughout the week- end with BUTTERFINGERS and another visit from the ever popular street theatre group RUFF STOUGH with their amazing fire-eating act, the tallest man in the world and much more. Watch the boards at the Information centre for times of perform- ances, and see pro- gramme for Hobby Horse club and fun sessions.

CAMPERS Milk will be delivered to the camp site as usual from 8.30 am on Sat and Sun mornings. But if you don't fancy cooking your own break- fast this year, then see under FOOD (next page) The 'Singing Chef' Johnny Collins, may well be the ans- wer to your problem!

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The Festival Information Office is at the Blake Hall in the centre of the village. Please keep in touch for details of any additional events or changes in the published programme.

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FOOD!

An essential part of most people's festival enjoyment! This year we hope that the variety of food available to

festival visitors in South Petherton will be better than ever before. The pubs in and around the village provide the usual variety of hot and cold bar snacks and the W.I. has its customary refreshment service in the Church Rooms. There is a 'chippy' in the village and two quality restaurants in Brook House and Le Tire Bouchon but the main innovation at this year's festival is JOHNNY COLLINS' 'SINGING CHEF' CATERING SERVICE. This is based in the Blake Hall, and throughout the festival a wide selection of hot dishes will be available at lunchtime and in the evening. For full details of menus and times of opening see notices in the Blake Hall during the festival. A breakfast service will also be provided between 8 - 10 am at the Blake Hall. In the past the provision of an adequate meals service at the festival has been a problem - now we have this service, let's make full use of it.

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« JOHNNY COLLINS' 'SINGING CHEF' CATERING SERVICE - ALL WEEKEND IN THE BLAKE HALL !

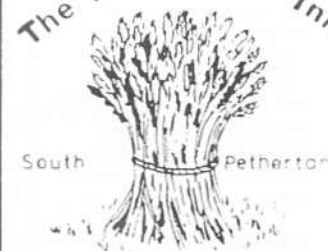
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MEET THE ARTISTS

**** SWAN ARCADE ****

Swan Arcade - Dave and Heather Brady and Jim Boyes - was founded in Bradford in 1970 - the band taking its name from a local landmark demolished during the city's re-planning. Their gutsy, exciting unaccompanied treatment of a range of traditional and modern songs has won them great acclaim and they have consistently been in demand at clubs and festivals in this country and abroad. After a number of changes of personnel and quite a long period of inactivity when the group split up for a while to do other things, the original line-up got back together (actually for the third time!) and in 1985 made triumphant return to the British scene with a widely acclaimed LP 'Together Forever' (Fellside FE037). Now



they are working on a new Fellside LP 'Diving for Pearls' and we are delighted to welcome one of the folk scene's most innovative and vital living legends to South Petherton. Their singing will make your hair stand on end - it is indeed '.... unaccompanied singing which is relevant, interesting and entertaining Swan Arcade succeed in firing up their material so that it sounds like some sort of English rock'n'roll..' (Swing '51)

**** THE HOUSE BAND ****

The House Band perform a variety of music from all over Britain and their repertoire features an ever-widening range of instrumentation to take advantage of the great versatility of the members of the band. The driving force behind the formation of the band - GED FOLEY (previously with the Battlefield Band) now adds Northumbrian pipes to his skilful guitar and mandolin, and founder member CHRIS PARKINSON (formerly with



Yorkshire Relish among others) is a master of keyboards and melodeon, with fiddle thrown in for good measure. These two are now joined by outstanding musicians BRIAN BROOKS and JOHN SKELTON, both formerly with Shegui. Brian is one of the most able and innovative accompanists on the scene, whereas John has a background in traditional Irish music, and is widely regarded as one of the finest flute players in Britain. We are delighted to welcome these distinguished musicians to South Petherton for the first time.

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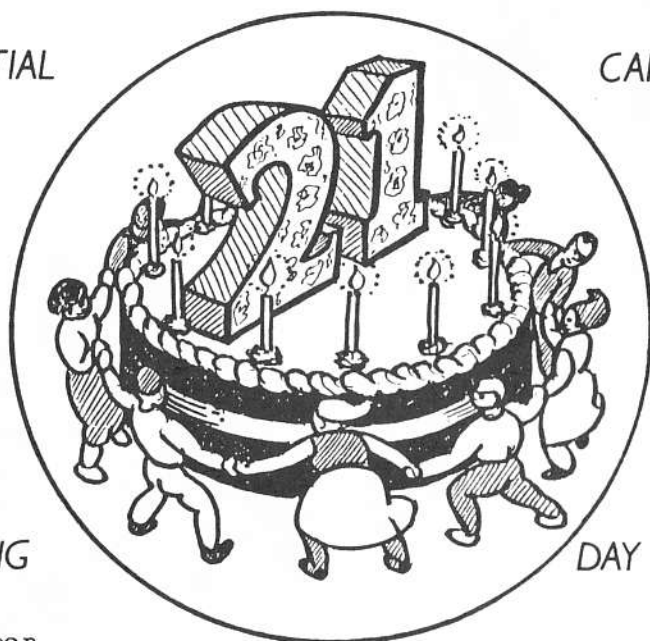
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**** BLOWZABELLA ****

It's welcome back to South Petherton yet again to this most exciting of British bands currently playing on the folk scene. New members Nigel Eaton (hurdy-gurdy) and Ian Luff (bass guitar) bring fresh talent and energy to an experienced and well-established line-up. The band's sound comes from British and European traditional music and self-composed material, all played with ferocious power and the inimitable Blowzabella approach. Pioneers in bringing the hurdy-gurdy and lesser known bagpipes back into currency, the band continue to prove that their unusual combination of acoustic instruments and a progressive approach to music produces a result that is powerful, often unexpected and always entertaining.

Blowzabella will be at South Petherton for the Friday night ceilidh which they will conduct in their own unique fashion. There could be no better way of getting the festival off to a great start.



**** JOHN JAMES ****

A unique combination of impish humour and brilliant musicianship has made John James one of the most popular guitarists of his generation. It is no small tribute to his presentation and performance that he has brought an otherwise esoteric guitar style from the initial acclaim of dedicated guitar fans to the appreciation of a wider audience. Primarily hailed as Britain's premier ragtime guitarist, his current repertoire now encompasses many different styles. His career includes appearances at the Royal Albert Hall; Olympia, Paris; Cambridge and Edinburgh festivals, and a touring itinerary covering 15 countries including America. We are privileged that he should be adding South Petherton to the list this year.



**** LEN GRAHAM and GARRY O'BRIAIN ****

Len Graham is among Ireland's finest traditional singers. Coming from County Antrim, one of the richest areas in folk music, he learned most of his songs first hand from the many older singers he met there and elsewhere in Ireland. Accompanying Len on mandocello will be Garry O'Briain. Originally from Dublin, and now living in North Clare, Garry has worked with several groups in the past and more recently with such fine musicians as Jacky Daly. The full-bodied tone of the mandocello and the sensitivity of Garry's accompaniments give light and shade to Len's rich singing. 'Len Graham is such a complete, consummate singer that there seems no way his voice could ever fail you ... warm, relaxed, utterly assured, he's a treasure - the very finest traditional music'. (Southern Rag. April 1985)

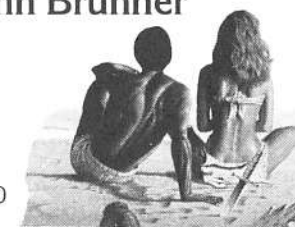
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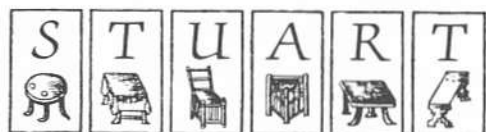
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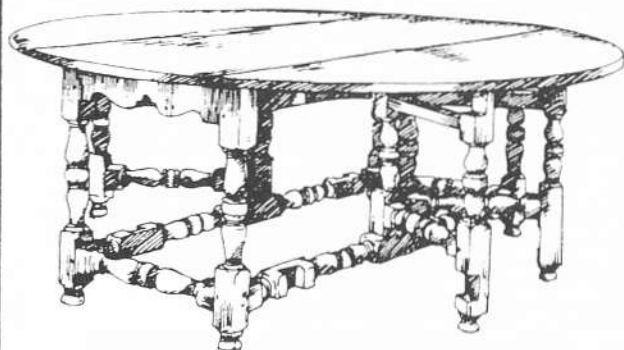




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**** PETE MORTON ****

Pete Morton is one of the most promising and exciting newcomers on the National folk scene. Still only 21 Pete hails from Leicester, now lives in Manchester and has been writing songs since he was 14. His material is mainly self-penned, being of outstanding honesty and maturity for one so young. He is familiar with traditional songs too, and has adapted several to his own unique style of performance. It is a pleasure to welcome Pete to South Petherton - and 'one in the eye' for the pessimists who claim there is no new blood on the folk scene.

****CHRIS PITT & GAVIN ATKIN ****

Chris and Gavin came to the festival last year where their crazy antics and hilarious performances won them instant popularity. We had no hesitation at all in inviting them back this year as guests. Their ability to grab hold of a pub session, or to involve ceilidh audiences in whatever they happen to be doing makes them absolutely invaluable at any festival. We are delighted to see them back.

In addition to all the festival guests, Festival Director TONY ROSE is hoping that he will have time to do some singing during the festival. Tony is one of the most consistent of the folk revival singers to emerge in the late 60s and has never been out of the top rank of solo singers. A word too for the many locally based singers and musicians who make a valuable contribution to the success of the festival, and without whose willingness to take on compering and MC-ing duties, the running of the festival would be impossible. Among those at the festival this year are IAN FINDLAY of the Dorchester Club, BOB AXFORD whom many will remember as Rosie Hardman's guitarist for a while, and who now lives locally, and COLIN THOMPSON, luminary of the Cattistock ceilidhs and member of the band Eric.

**** RUFF STOUGH ****

Ruff Stough's street theatre group seems almost to have become a

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permanent feature of South Petherton Festival in recent years, but we're not complaining about that. They have delighted us with their clowning, and we shall be glad to join in the fun with them once again. Watch out for the spectacular fire eating and the tallest man in the world.

**** BOB CANN & THE DARTMOOR PIXIE BAND ****

For the first time South Petherton is delighted to welcome Bob Cann, the popular West Country singer, musician and caller, with his Dartmoor Pixie Band. Don't be misled by the name - this is without doubt the funkiest combo ever to come out of South Zeal. The Saturday ceilidh in their hands will go with a swing.

**** WOODFIDLEY ****

Woodfidley, fresh from their performances at the National Garden Festival at Stoke-on-Trent, will delight us with dances from their ever-growing repertoire.

**** HURSLEY INTERNATIONAL ****

Hursley International, regular visitors to the festival, will bring the colourful dances and costumes of the Balkans.

**** BATH ROYAL SCOTTISH ****

For the second year running the Bath branch of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society will bring a breath of Scotland (the heather rather than the whisky) as they demonstrate the crisp dances from over the Border.

'Our' JOHN CHAPMAN will MC the Friday ceilidh, with the Ivythorn Band from the Street area, led by Edwin Spring, and John will be helping the ever lively BUTTERFINGERS and friends at the HOBBY HORSE CLUB. Butterfingers have run the club ever since the first festival.

ERIC LANGFORD, from Totnes, will MC the Playford Dance on Sunday, and also the morning workshop, with PETER & SUSAN SWAN from Warminster on violin and piano. All three of the English Morris traditions will be represented this year. CHIPPENHAM MORRIS and BOURNE RIVER MORRIS to show Cotswold; the STOCKPORT MORRIS to dance the North West clog dances; and TATTERED SWAN from Cornwall to give us the Border Morris - another first!

The TREACLE EATERS are a local clog team from the Yeovil area, taking their name from a well-known folly in Barwick Park. Quite interesting to speculate on the naming of dance teams after follies in the park but that's another story.

There is a long-standing tradition of Mumming in BOVEY TRACY in Devon, and the present group has revived it and will be showing us their version of the age old play during the festival.

This, then, is the guest line-up for the tenth South Petherton Festival. We hope that all visitors to the festival will be well entertained by as good a guest list as you will find anywhere in the country at a festival of comparable size.

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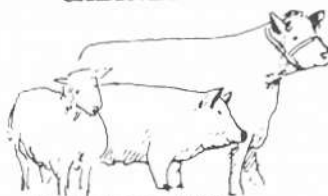
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SOUTH PETHERTON TEN YEARS ON



On the occasion of this, the tenth South Petherton Folk & Craft Festival, we have asked two of the Festival founders - Marjorie Brunner and Archie Bryden - to recall their memories of earlier festivals, but before that some more background information -

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. The fair's value continued to grow and in 1448 it was extended again, this time to six days. By 1650 its 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 1930s, 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

MARJORIE BRUNNER writes as follows:

"Until I had to retire from the committee owing to illness, preparing for the folk and craft festival were some of the happiest years of my life. The committee was wonderful, a team of people who each had a job and did it with enthusiasm, resulting in a great June event.

At first there was reluctance in the village to support such a venture and a few residents went away for the week-end to avoid what they feared would be an invasion of pot-smoking hippies. They soon discovered that 'folkies' are serious friendly people, if not always sober. But the Bell and the Crown welcomed them with open doors.

Financially it was hard going for the first few years and we never had the success of the East Coker festival which ran for a week and gave me the inspiration for a folk festival in South Petherton - a perfect venue. But looking back I thank my singing friends who came to help set up the first years - John Foreman, the Broadsheet King, Joy Hyman, a fine contralto of radio fame, the colourful Balkan group 'Narodni' and the superb baritone Mark Childs who brought enthusiastic applause in the Crown Not to be

(continued overleaf)

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PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

FRIDAY

PRICES

- 7.30 Opening ceremony of the Festival - 'The glove is up' in the Square. The Festival will be officially declared open on this its tenth birthday by Paddy Ashdown M.P. Dance display. Morris. 2.50/1.25
- 8.00 CEILIDH - David Hall
The amazing BLOWZABELLA experience. Blowzabella take over the whole evening and get the Festival off to a pulsating start. 2.00/1.00
- 8.00 CEILIDH - Blake Hall
John Chapman and the Ivythorn Band 1.00
- 8.30 FOLK CLUB - The Wheatsheaf
Informal 'Come-All-Ye' - a chance for anyone to sing plus spots from those festival guests who have so far arrived.

SATURDAY

- 10.00 CRAFT EXHIBITION opens - Bus Garage Free
- 10.30 DANCE DISPLAYS - The Square
- 11.00 MORRIS WORKSHOP - David Hall
with Pete Robson 0.80/0.40
- 11.30 MEET SWAN ARCADE - The Wheatsheaf
Get your first hearing of this amazing harmony singing - informal session where Swan Arcade can sing a bit and talk a bit. 1.00/0.50
- 11.30 HOBBY HORSE CLUB - The Churchyard
with Butterfingers and friends 0.40
- 12.00 SONG AND A PINT - Brewers Arms Yard
with Chris Pitt & Gavin Atkin, but mostly yourselves. 0.80/0.40
- 2.30 FUN FOR THE CHILDREN - Methodist Hall 0.40
- 2.30 SONG CONCERT - David Hall
with The House Band, Swan Arcade, Len Graham & Garry O'Briain John James and Pete Morton 2.00/1.00
- 3.00 FESTIVAL DANCE DISPLAY - Blake Hall
with all the teams. Compere: Archie Bryden 1.50/0.75
- 3.00 GENERAL DANCING and FUN - The Square
with Ruff Stough and others
- 5.30 CLOG WORKSHOP - Methodist Hall
with Stockport Morris 0.80/0.40

- 6.00 CRAFT EXHIBITION & MARKET CLOSES Collection
- 6.00 MUSIC SESSION - Church Rooms
with Colin Thompson (member of 'Eric') - all musicians are invited to sit in on this informal session led by Colin
- 6.00 DANCE DISPLAYS - The Square
Morris, Clog, Scottish etc. Compere: Dennis Preston
- 7.30 CEILIDH - David Hall
with BOB CANN and the Dartmoor Pixie Band 2.50/1.25
- 8.00 FOLK CLUB - The Wheatsheaf
Opportunity for all singers and musicians plus appearances from festival guests 1.00
- 8.00 STAR CONCERT - Blake Hall
with Chris Pitt & Gavin Atkin, Pete Morton, John James, Len Graham & Garry O'Briain, Swan Arcade and the House Band. MC Tony Rose 2.50/1.25

SUNDAY

- 10.00 CRAFT EXHIBITION & MARKET OPENS - Bus Garage Free
- 10.30 MEET WOODFIDLEY - Blake Hall 0.80/0.40
- 11.00 DANCE DISPLAY - The Square
- 11.00 PLAYFORD WORKSHOP - Arts Centre
with Eric Langford 0.80/0.40
- 11.00 HOBBY HORSE CLUB - Methodist Hall
with Butterfingers 0.40
- 11.30 MEET JOHN JAMES - David Hall
A chance to meet John informally, listen to him play and ask questions if you want to - a 'must' for guitarists 1.00/0.50
- 12.00 SONG AND A PINT - Brewers Arms Yard 0.80/0.40
- 2.30 FUN FOR THE CHILDREN - Methodist Room 0.40
- 2.30 FINAL CONCERT (till 5.30) - David Hall
All festival guests remaining - The House Band, Len Graham & Garry O'Briain, John James, Chris & Gavin, Pete Morton, Ian Findlay etc. 2.50/1.25
- 2.30 FESTIVAL SERVICE - The Parish Church
Items from the festival
- 3.30 PLAYFORD DANCE - Blake Hall
with Eric Langford 1.50/0.75
- 3.45 DANCING AND DISPLAYS - The Square
- 5.30 CRAFT EXHIBITION & MARKET CLOSES
- 5.30 FESTIVAL CLOSING CEREMONY IN THE SQUARE
Everyone comes together in the Square. Singing and dancing to mark the end of the 10th festival.

RUFF STOUGH: Throughout the weekend Ruff Stough have been given a 'wandering' brief, and will be popping up here, there and everywhere. However set times for longer Ruff Stough performances will be posted around the Blake Hall during the weekend.

As usual light refreshments will be available during the day from the W.I in the Church Rooms. Johnny Collins' 'Singing Chef' catering service will be operating from the Blake Hall kitchen throughout the weekend. Menus and times when hot meals will be available will be displayed in and around the Blake Hall throughout the weekend.

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SOUTH PETHERTON TEN
YEARS ON continued ..

forgotten were friends who sang for money raisers, the famous banjo picker and guitarist Tom Paley and TV personality Cy Grant. Oh yes they were happy days.

Looking through old programmes I remember it was a pleasure to present Ian Campbell and his group - and such professional performers as Rosie

Upton, Roy Harris, Vin Garbutt, and the fabulous Bully Wee Band I could go on. Finding the Ruth fairground organ at the Martock Fayre was a stroke of luck and we booked it to give the festival a lively opening before the glove was thrown in the air by John.

Then the irrepressible Dev Deverill joined us. He set up the folk club at the Bell, gave us all a lot of pleasure on a Sunday evening; he, Audrey and Steve added their talents to the festival concerts - as seen on TV!

There were a few fraught moments such as when one lead singer did not show up and when the Curate's Egg group's van broke down at Sparkford and our good neighbour David Eccles went out and rescued them with their gear. The show must go on!

One special memory was when Dev found Nigel Chippendale* with his various instruments sitting outside the Crown. Dev booked him on the spot and he became one of the stars of the festival.

Of course one of the 'perks' for us was and is the great pleasure of having song sessions at the Square House - in the garden if the sun is shining or the barn if it is cool, and accommodating all the singers over the week-end and sometimes afterwards. It was a sad day for us - and the village - when the Crown was sold, but we are lucky this year to be able to perform in the new Arts Centre (David Hall) and we all owe sincere thanks to Mr. Brian Hall for his initiative. We look forward to participating in this annual village event in years to come. Long may it be the friendly folk and craft festival!

Marjorie and John Brunner.

*NIGEL CHIPPENDALE - Sadly, since the writing of this letter, the folk scene everywhere has heard with great regret of the untimely death at the age of only 29 of Nigel Chippendale after a brave and uncomplaining battle with cancer. Nigel was a gregarious person and a fine musician - universally liked by those who met him and played music with him, or listened to his multi-instrumental virtuosity. He is missed by the folk scene everywhere, but nowhere more so than at South Petherton, where the story of his 'discovery' by Dev Deverill has become almost legendary, and where he was for a number of years one of the leading personalities of the Festival. From all at South Petherton our condolences go out to his family and friends.

ARCHIE BRYDEN'S memory of early South Petherton festivals emphasises the practical aspects and problems of running a village festival, and the unsung labours of the local community:

'Plans for the first festival in 1977 were set in motion in July 1976, by a very small committee of enthusiasts, who co-opted others for various jobs of work as we went along. The festival dates - July 1 - 3, coincided with a heatwave and the Wimbledon finals, but in spite of this and inadequate publicity, the programme as planned laid a sound basis for the future, and we were encouraged by visiting artists, some of whom came for minimal expenses, and by spectator-visitors, many of whom assured us that potentially we had an excellent small festival, and told us not to be in the least discouraged by the £190 deficit.

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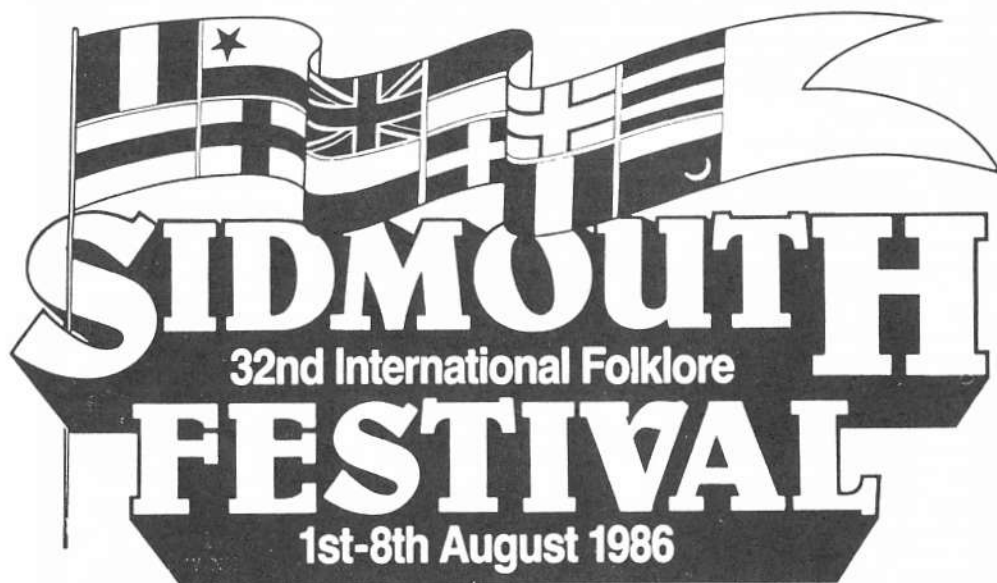
We started planning for 1978 immediately, and laid on a number of money-making inter-festival events; we changed our date to late June to avoid clashing with other similar events, an almost impossible task; we were successful in seeking sponsorship, which enabled us to extend the publicity; we learned from the mistakes made in the first year, so that in the end we had a smoother running festival, resulting in a small profit.

Planning for 1979 again started early. Fresh people were enlisted to help in various ways, and a bunch of them made an excellent job of selling programmes in local villages. Fresh venues were found for our events, and we were more adventurous in booking artists. The local populace, realising the value of the festival to the community, offered help in many ways. All of this paid off in what we were told on all sides was 'the best festival yet', resulting in a respectable profit.

Since then, the festival has continued to develop along similar lines. Fresh venues were continually being sought, and an excellent campsite, owned by a very co-operative farmer, was acquired close to the village. Much good will has been created, so that artistes who have come to the festival in past years frequently ask to come back again. Since the first festival we have catered specially for children with the ever popular Hobby Horse Club, run by a group of teachers and their friends. In addition several local ladies have organised afternoon sessions for young children, with face-painting and other activities. Street theatre, Punch & Judy and Mummers Plays have all been popular innovations.

In recent years the festival has become more expensive to run, and has therefore had to become a little more commercial. New venues have had to be found to replace former ones that have been lost. One of the main and continuing tasks of the committee is the raising of funds to keep pace with rising costs, and thanks to many hours of devoted service on their part, we now hope each year to break even. In addition more emphasis is being placed on finding new sponsorship. Meanwhile the reputation of 'Spetherton' festival, a name coined by the folk fans, has grown and continues to attract old and new friends.

Archie Bryden.



Details from: Festival Office, 43 The Knowle, Sidmouth, Devon EX10 8HL Tel (03955) 5134

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SOMERSET QUIZ

Whether you live locally or you are a visitor to the area, test your knowledge of Somerset by trying to answer these questions. Answers on the last page.

1. Where was the heroine of Blackmore's 'Lorna Doone' married?
2. The last battle on English soil was fought in Somerset in 1685. Where?
3. Which Somerset town is famous for its Yarn Market?
4. What was the name of the dandy who made Bath famous in the eighteenth century?
5. Who is reputed to have planted the Holy Thorn at Glastonbury?
6. Where was King Alfred reputed to have burnt the cakes and hidden in the marshes?
7. Who was responsible for the manufacture and production of the stone from which Bath was built?
8. Where is the Fleet Air Arm Museum?
9. Where is the oldest pre-historic clapper bridge in Britain?
10. Which Somerset town bears the same name as a famous British general?
11. Who built the Clifton Suspension Bridge?
12. Which Somerset town was referred to in Domesday Book as the Hundred of Catsash?
13. Which Somerset town has a statue of Admiral Blake?
14. Where was the treaty between Alfred and the Danes signed in 878?
15. Which island in the Bristol Channel is famous for its puffins?
16. Which Somerset town or city has an old leper hospital?
17. Who was head of the Doone household in Blackmore's novel?
18. Nether Stowey is associated with a famous poet - who?
19. Dunster Castle has for years been the home of a famous family. Can you name it?
20. Which Somerset town was once the capital of the county and the home of King Ina?



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LOCAL FOLK

FOLK SONG CLUBS

YEOVIL

The Jellalabad Folk club has not met on a regular weekly basis for over a year, but it is still arranging occasional 'one-offs' usually at the Lamb & Lark, Limington, Ilchester. Any enquiries should be made to Tony Rose on West Coker 2007

LIMINGTON

At the same venue as above John Waltham is putting on occasional evening events and reasonably frequent Sunday lunch-time music and song sessions. Children are welcome to these too. Events are usually advertised individually. Contact John Waltham on Milborne Port 250462

CHEDDAR

Folk in the Bath FC is held every Sunday evening at 8.0 pm. The new venue for the club is The Caveman (by the caves in Cheddar Gorge). This is currently the most successful club in Somerset. Enquiries to Pete and Anita MacNab - Cheddar (0934) 742320

STREET

A relatively new club (since last festival anyway) runs on alternate Fridays at The Street Inn, High Street, Street. Contact Richard Frapwell on Street (0458) 43291 for dates and details. Guests on Friday 27 June are The Portway Pedlars - Len and Barbara Berry.

WELLINGTON

The Bombadil Folk Club meets on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month at The Ship Inn, Mantle Street, Wellington. For details telephone Marie Stanbury on 0984 23526. First guest after the summer break is Duck Baker on 15th September.

DORCHESTER

The Cornwall FSC meets every Tuesday at the Cornwall Hotel, Alexandra Road, Dorchester. Regular guest nights. Contact Ian Findlay, 2 Burnside, Martinstown, Dorchester, Dorset. Tel: 030 588 427

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South Petherton 40335
West Coker 2592
Yeovil 28994
Mere 860833
Crewkerne 73052
Yeovil 23321
Milborne Port 250462
Yetminster 872900
Sherborne 812205
Yeovil 25427

DANCE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JUNE

27 Fri Dance Martock Primary
School. Glens Elastic
Band/Pip Oxenbury
27 Fri Dance Vicarage Lawn
Marquee - Huish Epis-
copi. Five Prong Pick
/Dave Jackson
28 Sat Dance Nunney Tithe
Barn. 2's Company/
Graham Dore
28 Sat Dance Holway Mill,
Sandford Orcas. Five
Prong Pick/Dave Jack-
son.
29 Sun Dancing at the Abbey
Barn, Glastonbury 3pm

JULY

4 Fri Cattistock Ceilidh
Raunchers/Nick Blades

SHERBORNE The Yetties Music Club meets
on the first Wednesday of the
month at the Woolmington Hotel,
Sherborne. Contact Pete
Shutler on Sherborne 814667

CHARD Fleece FSC at the Golden Fleece
Perry Street. Last Friday of
the month. Sue Adams 04606 3240

BRIDGWATER Quantock Gateway. Fortnightly
Sundays. Bridgwater 457090

FOLK DANCE CLUBS

If your interest is in folk dance, there
is a considerable number of clubs and
dance teams in the area, all of which
welcome new members. They are too numer-
ous to list in detail, but the following
contact list will enable you to obtain
further information.

English Folk Dance & Song Society.
Glen Taylor Yeovil 27761

Yeovil Folk Dance Club
Glen Taylor Yeovil 27761

Stonecraft

T. MONAGHAN

South Petherton ☐ Telephone 40094

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.

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!

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 - none the
worse.

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 -

"It's Punky Night tonight, it's Punky Night tonight

Give us a candle, give us a light, it's Punky Night tonight".

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
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The Southern National Bus Company; South Petherton W.I. for the provision of refreshments; the Rector and members of the Parish Church Council for the use of the Church rooms; the Methodist Church for making their premises available; Messrs. T. & C.J. Willey for the camping and car park facilities; Global Village Crafts for the use of the committee room; the Combined Arts Society for the use of the Arts Centre; South West Arts and South Somerset District Council for their financial support; Hardington Brewery and the Brewers Arms and Lawrence & Co. of South Petherton for financial support, and to all the advertisers who support in a similar way; the Parish Council, villagers and many friends of the festival who have assisted us in so many ways - fund-raising, promoting, selling programmes, stewarding etc; those who have kindly offered accommodation to the artists appearing at the festival; and of course to the performers themselves, the dancers, singers, and musicians who make South Petherton the really 'friendly folk festival'.

Thank you all.

Programme editor and design - Tony Rose

Programme printed by Stable Print, Stoke-sub-Hamdon.

Answers to quiz

1. Oare Church 2. Sedgemoor 3. Dunster 4. Beau Nash 5. Joseph of Arimathea
6. Athelney 7. Ralph Allen 8. Yeovilton 9. Tarr Steps 10. Wellington
11. Isambard Kingdom Brunel 12. Castle Cary 13. Bridgwater 14. Wedmore
15. Lundy Island 16. Taunton 17. Sir Ensor Doone 18. Coleridge 19. Luttrell Family 20. Somerton



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