



THE HORSES MOUTH

Summer 2011 (Part 1)

4th May - "Scarecrow"

We are very pleased to be welcoming back Scarecrow who are regular favourites at the club and the Folk Festival. They are a band that is well known in the Banbury area, performing at Music at the Crossroads, Adderbury's Party in the Park and Banbury Canal Day. The band consists of Dave Moore (whistle, flute and hummelchen bagpipes), Gordon Raitt (guitar and bouzouki) and Rey Lear (bass guitar, flute and whistle). Their music ranges from traditional to contemporary folk with some jazz and blues for good measure! A fantastic combination of instruments which makes for great sounding haunting tunes and a good repertoire of songs which have also been built into their sets. This concert will be a fundraiser for this year's Banbury Folk Festival.

www.scarecrowband.co.uk/band

Admission £6/ Concessions £5

11th May- Open Stage Night with guest MC Don Thompson of Brackley Folk Club Please pre-book your spot

Our open stage nights have proved very successful over the past few years. They are usually fully booked a month in advance! At the last one we were delighted by a wide variety of acts. Many of these acts will almost certainly have a future booking either at the club or the festival so by coming along to our Open stage nights, not only as performers, but as a listening audience gives you the chance to preview the acts first. This is filling up fast, so if you want to a spot, please book it now on 01295 709881.

Admission £6/ Concessions £5

18th May- Special Guest Night with Clive Gregson With support Fagin's Gang & Guest MC Martin Day of Warwick Folk Club

The last time Clive appeared at the club in 2009 it was a sellout! Born and raised in Manchester, England, Clive is an accomplished singer, musician and record producer. He started his professional music career in 1980 as the leader of cult band Any Trouble. The group toured extensively in support of five critically acclaimed albums and a number of singles that became radio hits before disbanding at the end of 1984. Fondly remembered and greatly missed, the band reformed in 2007 to record a brand new album entitled "Life In Reverse" and play their first live show in 23 years. In 1985, Clive released the first of eight solo albums and he has maintained a solo profile ever since. Along the road from pop front man to singer-songwriter, Clive has followed many musical diversions. Between 1985 and 1992, he formed a partnership with Christine Collister that Rolling Stone called "the state of the art in British folk-rock". Christine's distinctive voice allied to Clive's songs, instrumental and production skills created something truly special and their decision to call it a day left a huge gap in the roots music scene. Clive has also toured and recorded with Richard Thompson, Nanci Griffith, Eddi Reader and Boo Hewerdine. His songs have been recorded by many artists, including Nanci Griffith, Kim Carnes, Fairport Convention, Claire Martin, Norma Waterson and Smokie. Clive relocated to the USA in 1993. He continues to tour regularly and write prolifically. In recent years he has also run a number of song writing workshops and master classes and remains in demand as a record producer and session musician. Obviously there's no sign of Clive slowing down just yet!

www.clivegregson.com

Supporting Clive will be Mark Pidgeon's band Fagin's Gang, formed in 2010, who gave us a cracking evening at the club last December. Playing an eclectic mixture of Folk, Americana, Blues and some things you just can't stick a label on. The band was formed to incorporate a wide range of roots music to allow a variety of different kind of musicians to strut their stuff and express themselves in a fashion (within' reason) they choose.

www.markpidgeon.com

Admission £9/ Concessions £7

25th May- Club Closed (Chris & Kellie While in the Mill Theatre)

2nd June- Sing, Say Listen & Play- Open session

Open sessions in our programme are to encourage everyone to have a go in a less formal setting. A chance to try something new, join up with other performers, join in the singing or just have a good old jam! We are inviting local artists to lead these sessions. Please bring your instruments and voices, poems & stories!

(Donations min £2)

8th June- Chalice Supported by jiva

Chalice is a popular Cotswold based five-piece contemporary folk band. They play a wide range of instruments including guitar, mandola, electric bass, recorders, whistles and cajons and sing in close harmony. During 2010/11 they have played many gigs in local festivals, clubs, and pubs.

They have performed in concerts supporting Cara Dillon, Chris While & Julie Mathews, Steve Tilston, John Tams & Barry Coope, Martin Simpson and Simon Mayor & Hilary James. They are now busy writing their 2nd CD which is due for release later in the year. Chalice appeared at one of our Open Stage Nights in 2010 where they delighted our audience and we are pleased to offer them a night at the club.

www.chalicemusic.co.uk

Supporting Chalice at the club will be jiva. *“What a great pleasure to hear jiva twice in a week. Firstly at the Davy Lamp Folk Club and then at the Clarence in Blackpool. An act maturing with every show, and now displaying that precious ability to write songs that capture an audience’s heart. The song about best friends is a pure winner. Superb!!!”*

- **Anthony John Clarke**

www.jiva.co.uk

Admission £6/ Concessions £5

15th June- A Farmer’s Life Farming songs led by GU4 with a Ploughman’s Supper

GU4 (Guffaw) are a four part acappella harmony group based in Leicestershire. Their rich sound has won many fans and is now taking them to clubs and festivals throughout England. Armed only with a set of pitch pipes, they perform a wide variety of material ranging from gentle and sensitive love songs that can hold an audience rapt in silence, to raucous chorus numbers delivered with such verve that even the most reticent are encouraged to join in. Their repertoire comes straight from the English tradition or from contemporary writers such as Peter Bellamy, Graeme Miles, Benny Graham, George Thomas and their own Miggy Campbell. Depth is added to GU4’s performances through an open approach to each song when deciding who should take the tune, who should take which harmony and how many voices are appropriate. Their renditions are carefully considered and well-crafted, but carry a spark of spontaneity and are delivered with enthusiasm and a healthy slice of good humour. GU4 have performed at the Festival and at our Song & Ale weekend and we are confident they will set the scene for tonight’s farming theme. Club members wishing to perform a farmer’s song will be given the opportunity to perform during the evening.

www.gu4.org.uk

Admission £6/ Concessions £5- Ploughman’s Supper £3.50

22nd June- Special Guest Night with Les Barker Supported by Toots & Fraser

Les Barker - A short biography from the age of three until nearly teatime.

Les Barker writes strange poems and comes originally from Manchester, but he's now Welsh. He was an accountant before he became a professional idiot. He's written 79 books, which sell in large numbers at his gigs because people don't quite believe what they've just heard. His poems have spawned a number of folk heroes: Jason and the Arguments, Cosmo the Fairly Accurate Knife Thrower, Captain Indecisive and Spot of the Antarctic, to name but two. Les began his career as assistant to Mrs Ackroyd, a small hairy mongrel who lay around in folk clubs, bit people and became famous. Mrs Ackroyd was the only dog ever to own her own record label. Since her sad demise, Les is mainly a solo performer, though he has taken to working with humans from time to time. The Mrs Ackroyd Band gradually evolved from an ever-changing who's who of the folk scene into a tightly knit, well-rehearsed group.

les@mrsackroyd.com

Supporting Les at the club will be Toots n’ Fraser aka Suzanne & Fraser Winterbottom, who we have seen at the club in various guises including Fat Freddy’s Cat and Rag n’ Roll Band. Fraser is a singer songwriter/guitarist from the Buckingham area and plays blues, jazz, folk, acoustic, ragtime and a smattering of unexpected arrangements of pop songs. Susanne plays accordion and keyboard. We are looking forward to seeing them as a duo.

www.fraserw.com

Admission £9/ Concessions £7

29th June -The Somervilles

Another band that made an appearance at the club on one of our Open Stage nights, The Somerville Gentlemen's Band first played together in the mid-seventies and by 1980 had become one of the folk festival success stories of the decade. Martin Cole, Phil Ferrar, Jem Patterson and Ted Crum made great music based on tight instrumentation and close harmony singing. They quickly gained national recognition, and were in frantic demand at festivals and clubs until their final emotional performance to close Warwick Festival in 1982, a performance which is still fondly remembered by the hundreds who witnessed it. Now, after nearly thirty years, three of the original members are back as The Somervilles, and they are better than ever. Jem, Phil and Ted have breathed their old magic into a wealth of new material both traditional and contemporary, and together are reinforcing and building on their well-deserved reputation for quality and excellence. The line-up is Ted Crum on melodeon, harmonica & vocals, Phil Ferrar on bouzouki, mandolin, banjo, cittern & vocals with Jem Patterson on guitar, cittern, percussion & vocals.

Admission £6/ Concessions £5

