



**Leicestershire & Rutland Newsletter**  
**April 2010**

**DIARY DATES LOOKING AHEAD:**

**Saturday April 17<sup>th</sup>** Quorn FDC Barn Dance

**April 24<sup>th</sup>** Maypole dancing Blaby 1030

Then outside 'Curve' at 2 pm and 3 pm

**April 25<sup>th</sup>** Maypole Dancing in Ravenstone

**May 23<sup>rd</sup>** Lots of Traditional dancing at  
Donnington le Heath Manor House.

**June 6<sup>th</sup> Garden Dance** Glenfield

**Looking way ahead, more details later:**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> Sept** District AGM at Glenfield

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> Sept.** Quorn FDC Tea Dance

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October** Leics Playford Ball

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> Dec** Christmas Mix Tea Dance

Please contact the relevant person  
from the listings on the back page for more  
details, or look on the website!

**Remember** the Garden Dance 'bonus' –  
bring cakes for us all to eat and get in FREE

**Rushden area events** - contact George  
Hearndon on 01933 622827:

Sat June 19<sup>th</sup> Charity Folk Dance

Sat Oct 2<sup>nd</sup> Rushden Playford Ball

Sat Oct 16<sup>th</sup> Folk Dance

**Glenfield Folk Summer Programme**

will be running as in previous years with  
callers from within the group on April  
12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> May 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> June 7<sup>th</sup>  
and 21<sup>st</sup> and July 5<sup>th</sup>. Friends from other  
clubs will be made very welcome on any  
evening at The Memorial Hall Glenfield  
7.30 pm to 9.30 pm.

**DON'T FORGET OUR OWN WEBSITE.**

Please use it to keep up to date and tell us  
the news on  
[www.leicestershireandrutlandfolk.org.uk//www](http://www.leicestershireandrutlandfolk.org.uk//www)

**COUNTSTHORPE DAY OF FOLK**

Thank you **Stella Moore** for this:

This year's event was a sellout. The  
workshops were well attended and  
everybody came prepared to join in. I  
thoroughly enjoyed those which I tried. I  
belong to the Jerusalem Jammers - a  
Ladies Garland Dancing group. We held  
our practice at the hall during the  
morning and four ladies joined us who  
were interested in trying us out.

I started my day by maypoling with  
Patsy Paterson. This workshop was  
particularly to encourage potential  
leaders, who it is hoped will take skills  
learnt into the wider community. It was  
gratifying therefore, to see three  
teachers attending, who will be offering  
pupils at their schools the chance to try  
this traditional pastime. Patsy had  
managed to get two maypoles into the  
hall, and we all enjoyed the different  
dances and patterns we made with the  
ribbons.

After lunch I joined in the Scottish  
dancing with Val Weynberg. Val had  
managed to find an assortment of  
simple dances, which gave a real flavour  
of what Scottish dancing is all about  
without being too complicated. Scottish  
dancing is a really excellent exercise for  
both body and brain - why not give it a  
go if you haven't tried it yet.

Next, for me, was the most challenging  
part of the day - clog dancing. I had  
tried this before and found it rather  
difficult. This year, we were very ably led  
by five ladies from Charnwood Clog. I  
was very impressed by the fact that they  
brought along an assortment of clogs  
and nearly everybody was able to find a  
pair which fitted them. This really made  
a difference and I felt that maybe I was  
in with a fighting chance as your feet  
interact with the floor quite differently  
with the correct footwear. The ladies  
took their time to build up a series of  
four short routines with a break called  
"Bob's your uncle" between each one.  
We also split into two groups - a small  
group of those with some previous  
experience - or maybe they were just  
quick learners - and the rest of us who

needed longer to learn each section.  
The ladies were very patient and went  
round to trying to help us all individually.  
We managed to build this up to a finale  
of the routines and breaks - albeit much  
more slowly than the experts and with  
many mistakes - at least on my part.  
Thanks were also due to the musician,  
who kept having to play the same piece  
of music – but slowly.

I then went home for a rest before  
returning refreshed in the evening for  
English dancing with callers David and  
Kathryn Wright and music by Folkus  
Pocus. The music from this young  
couple was truly excellent, and with  
professional calling from the Wrights of  
Lichfield we all had a very enjoyable  
evening to round off the day.

Although the day was well attended, it  
was mostly by those who are already  
involved in dancing or folk music in one  
way or another. It would be great if we  
could manage to attract more people not  
already involved - this seems to be an  
eternal problem that many groups have.  
I wish I knew the answer!

The whole day, however, was an  
excellent opportunity to try something  
different and maybe find a new hobby or  
interest

Committee Note: for the record the  
workshops not covered in Stella's report  
were: International Dancing; Dances  
from Early Days by a "Person of  
Quality"; Storytelling; Drumming;  
Singing; Modern Dancing Masters and  
Craft. All workshop leaders reported that  
they were very satisfied with what had  
been achieved and feedback from  
participants was excellent.

This whole event was sponsored by  
grants from Voluntary Action  
Leicestershire and Blaby District Council

This newsletter is collated by Patay  
Paterson on [pat.count@virgin.net](mailto:pat.count@virgin.net)

**OUR DISTRICT SECRETARY WROTE  
TO THE EFDSS CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Dear Ms Spicer

In a recent issue of Set and Turn Single,  
you invited constructive ideas regarding  
EFDSS's services to folk dancers. This  
was discussed by Leicestershire and  
Rutland District Folk Committee at their  
October meeting and some of our  
thoughts are summarised below.  
We wondered if you know what the  
prime interests are of EFDSS members.  
We consider it likely that a majority are  
dancers rather than singers or  
musicians and that affiliated groups  
follow this trend. We believe this is not  
reflected in the content of the magazine,  
which appears to contain a  
preponderance of articles on song and  
music. Any dance material that is  
included seems to be about morris and  
related forms with little if any about  
country or social dance. This also  
appears to be the case regarding the  
recent leaflet "What's on at CHS". Whilst  
on the topic of the magazine, there do  
not appear to be many letters to the  
editor. The letters pages of newspapers  
and magazines are often the most  
interesting part and their apparent lack,  
perhaps, may signify that the magazine  
is not really serving members.

A number of folk dance CDs and  
booklets designed for schools have  
been produced in the recent past, which  
is to be applauded, but our committee  
wondered what efforts are being made  
to provide training courses for teachers  
to stimulate the wider utilisation of these  
resources. Now that dance is in the  
national curriculum has the society  
taken steps to contact teacher training  
establishments with a view to providing  
such training?

Are we right in thinking that the  
Community Dance CDs brings the  
number of dance-related CDs produced  
by the society to 15? Is the society  
happy that many of these were  
produced under the initiative of  
individual clubs? The American CDSS  
appears to be much more active in this.  
Our final point is that it appears that  
EFDSS provides services focussed on  
London and one cannot avoid the  
impression that subscription income

from members outside London is used to benefit the London area.

Geoff Weston

### EXCERPT FROM THE REPLY

Your points are very helpful and some certainly echo other comments. We will be sending out a questionnaire early in the new year to all our members to survey their thoughts on EFDSS membership. I will briefly address your comments here, and we are in the midst of looking at our activities and services so your organisation's comments will feed in to this discussion.

Magazine - this has been raised by other people and we are discussing with the editor how this may be addressed.

What's on at CSH - the A4 leaflet simply aims to list all events and classes taking place at CSH; the new season brochures, introduced in January, give focussed to EFDSS organised events with a listing of other regular folk hirers. Because of the high number of dance events that are regularly run by other organisations eg London Barn Dance, Knees Up Cecil Sharp, Scottish Ceilidh Club, Friends of Cecil Sharp House, Sets in the City, we have focussed our programming on music events which were completely lacking in the House programme. We don't want to duplicate what our regular folk dance hirers already supply so as a result the brochure does look music biased.

However we have introduced a series of family dances in association with the Friends of Cecil Sharp House and have presented events with other organisations that have included dance and music. We are looking at ways in which we may be able to support the regular folk dance hirers in addition to their very low rental.

Teacher training - this is an area we are developing and have recently tried out some small projects with Youth Dance

England and Camden Education Authorities. We are looking to develop this area of activity and hope to stage events across the country in partnership with other folk, arts and education organisations.

With regards to dance related publications, we are reviewing our current list and looking at what else needs to be produced. We need to work in partnership with other organisations such as folk clubs to produce many of these publications as the start up costs are relatively high. We will certainly refresh our knowledge of the CDSS list.

London V Regions - I would agree that over the past years EFDSS has become more London centric. However, over the past 2 years we have undertaken a large scale education project in Hampshire and Lancashire (Take 6) and are currently developing other projects across the country. We will be aiming to work in partnership with other organisations but we will be looking for projects where longer term developments are possible rather than supporting/delivering one-off workshops or events. However, we will still be undertaking work in London and developing our partnerships here too. I hope this answers, albeit briefly, your queries and thank you again for taking the time to respond.

With kind regards  
Katy Spicer

**Geoff Weston** District Secretary is contactable on 0116 2858352 or via the website

**Phil Preen** has lots of useful info. on: <http://www.philpreen.co.uk/folk/morris/leicsmorris.htm>

[www.lfd.org.uk](http://www.lfd.org.uk) for Folk Song events

Also try [www.leicestershirefestivals.co.uk](http://www.leicestershirefestivals.co.uk) and for the National folk scene [www.setandturnsingle.org.uk](http://www.setandturnsingle.org.uk) [www.efdss](http://www.efdss)

## TRADITIONAL DANCE SIDES

### Anker Morrismen

(Mens' Cotswold) *Wednesdays*.  
Joe Oldaker, 02476-372276.

### Anstey Royale Chalfont

(Ladies' NW Clog) *Tuesdays*.  
Barbara Feely, 0116-2358134

### Bakanalia

(Mixed Border Morris) *Mondays*.  
John Talbot, 01530 836780

### Bare Bones

(Ladies' Border Morris) *Wednesdays*.  
Maggie Johnson, 01509-880866

### Black Annis

(Womens' Cotswold) *Thursday*.  
Lynn Goodall, 0116 243 3273

### Charnwood Clog

(Mixed Step Dancing) *Monday*.  
Tessa de Ville 01509 852189  
[tj.deville@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:tj.deville@tiscali.co.uk)

### Everards Original Anstey Morrismen

(Mens' Cotswold) *Wednesday*.  
Robert Crosby, 0116-2606272

### Hinckley Bullockers

(Mens' Molly Dancing) *Tuesday*.  
Tony Ashley, 01455-239690

### Jerusalem Jammers

(Ladies' Garland/Step) *Saturday*.  
Sue Crockett 01455 458107  
[www.jerusalemjammers.co.uk](http://www.jerusalemjammers.co.uk)

### Leicester Morrismen

(Mens' Cotswold/ Border) *Wednesday*.  
Charlie Corcoran, 0116-2675654.

### Man Friday Morris

(Mens' Cotswold) *Monday*  
Ian Hubbard. 0116-2209133

### Packington Morrismen

(Mens' Cotswold) *Wednesday*.  
Dave Johns 01530-270494

### Pennyroyal Garland Dancers

(Ladies' Garland/ Step) *Wednesday*  
Stephen Edkins, 01827-286001

### Rutland Morrismen

(Mens' Cotswold) *Monday*.  
Mark Oxley, .01572-822334

### Saltarello

(Mixed Elizabethan/ Renaissance) *Thursday*.  
Chris Stokoe, 02476-387524

## SOCIAL DANCE CLUBS

### MONDAY

Glenfield Folk. 7.30pm.  
Memorial Hall, Stamford St., Glenfield.  
Pauline & John Osband, 0116-2393534.  
Loughborough Folk Dance Club  
7.30pm. St Peters Social Cen, Storer Rd.  
John Stewart, 01530-223957

### WEDNESDAY

Quorn Folk Dance Club  
7.30pm, Quorn Village Hall  
Pauline Kinch, 01509 413762  
Burton Overy Dancers  
8.00pm. Burton Overy Village Hall  
Roy Garrington 0116 2418313

### THURSDAY

Burbage Folk Dance Club  
8.00pm (alternate weeks), Sketchley Hill  
Primary School, Burbage.  
Denis Marklew 01455634975

### FRIDAY

### Friday Folk

8.00pm. St Matthews Centre, Malabar Rd, Leicester.  
Richard Spendlove, 0116-2733873.

### Rutland Folk Dance Club.

8.00pm. Town Hall, Uppingham  
Paul StClair 0116 279 2181..

### Elmesthorpe Folk Dance Club

7.45 Elmesthorpe Village Hall  
Wilkinson Lane Elmesthorpe  
Roy Sutton 01455 846203

### SUNDAY

### Victorian Dance Society

7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Phone 0116 260 4442  
[info@victoriandance.co.uk](mailto:info@victoriandance.co.uk).

### DAYTIME

Soar Valley U3A Sutton Bonnington  
2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays 2.30 – 4.30  
Bas Butler 01509 673137

### Countesthorpe U3A

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays 2 to 3.30  
Patsy 0116 2776259

### Geoff's International

2nd and 4th Friday afternoons.  
St Anne's Church Hall  
Geoff Weston on 01162858352