

# COBBLERS AWL

INSTRUCTIONAL WEEKEND

MAY 10-12 1986

Brynglas House, Newport, Gwent.

Sam Sherry - Advanced  
Pat Tracey - Intermediate  
Huw Williams & Cliff Jones - Welsh  
Ian Hughes - Irish Stepping  
Wessex Woods - Beginners  
Musician's and Rapper Workshops

Ceilidh, Musician's session, Sing Around,  
Indoor Accomodation, Camping, Real Ale Bar and  
Refreshments, Clogmakers and other stalls.

For further details contact:

Carol Loughlin, 30 Grafton Rd, Newport, Gwent.

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No 17



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EDITORIAL.

Quite a lot seems to have happened since the last issue of Instep, so here is the latest gossip, or at any rate that which is printable!

As you will see from this issue, the Mrs Marhoff video is now out, and I'm very pleased to be able to include a review by the doyen of the folk film world, Barry Calaghan.

I am very pleased to report that research is proceeding apace into what remains of the "Mendip stepping" tradition and that the results so far are extremely interesting. I hope in due course to persuade those involved to write me a brief article on their progress to date. It just shows what a little bit of co-operation can do. The original information was provided by the Beetlecrushers, a local dance team, passed on to me, and I was able eventually to push it in the right direction at the right moment.

I have just heard of the discovery of some travellers on the Welsh Border who can step dance - more than this I do not know but I hope to find out! I also believe that some enterprising dancers from Halifax have finally managed to track down that elusive commodity, a Yorkshire clog dancer. No more details yet, but I understand that she is willing and able to teach her steps. I suspect that this may turn out to be the find of the year but we must wait and see. I am also aware that a small group of researchers are to commence work in Liverpool - best of luck. It does all seem to be happening at the moment.

I hear with some regret that this year's Traditional Dance Conference is to be the last. The Conference is to be held on 8th March at Crewe and Alsager College. Contact T Buckland, 2 Carisbrooke Cl, Wistaston, Crewe for details.

Finally, Routledge and Kegan Paul have republished the Fletts' book "Traditional Dancing in Scotland" in paperback. This extremely valuable work should be on every dancer's bookshelf. Rush out and buy your copy now.

I also have a stop-press item. Ira Bernstein will be in the U.K. from Mid-July to August and will be available to take classes in Appalachian Clogging. For further details give me a ring.

## Pat Tracey

YORKSHIRE DANCE CENTRE, LEEDS

April 26 & 27 1986

Two standards : 1. Advanced Beginners/Intermediate  
each day 2. Advanced

The weekend will be spent on the revision and development of the Lancashire Hornpipe. Different steps taught each day.

£8 per day (£6 concession) or £12 weekend (£10 concession)

Write, enclosing cheque and sae for booking confirmation:  
Yorkshire Dance Centre, 3 St Peters Buildings, York St,  
Leeds, LS9 8AJ 0532-426066

## FOLKDANCE '86

A FESTIVAL OF FOLK DANCING TO CELEBRATE MANX HERITAGE YEAR

May 2-5 1986

Port Erin, Isle of Man

Displays of Manks dancing, Irish and Scottish traditional  
Morris, Rapper, Longsword and clog

Folk Dance Workshops, Ceili's and concerts

Talks, films, exhibitions and informal sessions

Contact: I Hannan, Brotby, Peveril Rd, Peel, I.O.M.  
062484-2910



## READING DAY OF DANCE. A REVIEW.

This year's Reading Day featured a greater choice of workshops than ever before, far too many for me to comment on individually in every case, but these brief comments may give some flavour of the day.

Those attending the 1984 day will well remember Ronnie Collis' stunning dancing. This year he was taking a class, described as being "soft shoe shuffle". This was billed as an advanced class, and indeed the routine was a little on the tricky side. Unfortunately Ronnie was unable to begin teaching the routine until rather late in the day as he was forced to spend most of the workshop taking the class through rather more basic material and in fact only two steps of the billed routine were taught. The class proved however to be a valuable opportunity for those interested in tap to be taught by a top class dancer. Perhaps next year Ronnie will once again be persuaded to teach the soft shoe shuffle and finish the routine begun this year.

Another excellent first for the 1985 Day was a class in Dartmoor stepping, taken by Ann-Marie Hulme and Peter Clifton. I have felt for some time that a day of dance in the south such as this should feature more "southern" dancing and I hope that this is merely a start and that more may follow. I gather that the class was a very good introduction to this style of stepping, which, although superficially simple, is in fact rather difficult to perform. Several of the class gave a short display of the steps in the afternoon, showing just how much had been accomplished in a short space of time.

I saw the end result of Ian Dunmur's First of August class, once again because members of the class, led by Ian, gave a performance at the afternoon show. I'm afraid to say that I didn't like the style in which the steps had been interpreted as I found it a little too "un-Scottish" for my taste, but then if everyone danced the steps identically it would be a very boring world indeed.

Finally I must mention Colin Robertson's class. (I've got the name right this year!) I have heard much of Colin's tour de force performances of the Sailor's Hornpipe and as in previous years Colin showed not only his mastery of the dance but also his great skill at imparting this to his class. It is perhaps a pity that the dance world does not see more of him.

The highlight of the day must however have been the food. I know just how difficult it is to cater for this type of event and the effort which goes into organising the feeding of so many hungry dancers. If there was an Egon Ronay guide to festivals, the award would go to this event.

## Manx Traditional Dancing.

### An Introduction by Malcolm Hannan

In 1928 the English Folk Dance Society decided to hold a vacation school in Douglas in the Isle of Man the following Easter (1929), and Mona Douglas, a collector of Manx folk music, was asked to give a lecture to the members of the school on Manx music - not dances, for at that time none of the people interested in folk dancing realised that there were any distinctive manx dances, though Morris and some English country dances were being taught in some schools.

Mona Douglas had at that time been working for a number of years on the collection and notation of dances as well as songs, and she knew from what she had been able to gather piecemeal through descriptions and step and figure demonstrations, mainly by elderly fishermen and farm workers, that there was actually still living though almost defunct Manx folk dance tradition, sternly repressed for at least two generations by a rather putitanical methodism and at least some of the dances were remembered as "games".

Mona Douglas had been reared and therefore stimulated by her maternal grandmother who had been taught to dance as a child by her father, a well known singer and dancer. It was from her that Mona learnt many of the steps and figures, as well as the characteristic arm extension of the Manx dances and later she was given Great Grandfather Quale's precious MS book where others had been noted. He was born in 1824 and died in 1900.

Mona Douglas decided to give the E.F.D.S. school a surprise by getting a team of school children to demonstrate some Manx dances as an illustration to her lecture. She met Leighton Stowell at Albert Road School in Ramsey who at that time was teaching morris dancing. That was the beginning of a long and fruitful collaboration which was to prove the start of the Manx folk dance revival.

One of the better known dances which Mona collected is Shooyl Inneeyn, a walking dance for young women. Mona collected this from an old woman living up in the hills above Kirk Michael, a little village on the west coast not far from the residence of the Bishops of Sodor and Mann - Bishops Court. Traditionally there were hiring fairs held around the island for hiring farm workers both male and female. These were often spread over several days and one was held at Michaelmas at the Mitre Hotel in Kirk Michael. After the midday dinner all the young women would perform this dance in front of the men in order to be hired for the next year. These fairs were held well into living memory and modern folk lore has it that Mona Douglas was nearly hired whilst she was collecting material on dances and music.



## A Review by Barry Callaghan

Premiered at the Newcastle Weekend last November, the Instep Research Team's new video of Mrs Viona Marhoff is another wonderful and valuable addition to the list of published knowledge that the group has given us over the last few years. How much we would have lost if it hadn't been for their consistent work at a crucial time.

In this, their second video, they have had to deal with the particular problem - and one which I am sure will have to be faced once again - of recording a dancer who no longer has the agility to perform all her steps as she would formerly have danced them. Well, they've succeeded very well; two excellent dancers - Julie Jarman and Alice Smith - have spent a long period of time learning and dancing the steps to Mrs Marhoff's exacting standards. The video is based around an extended conversation with Mrs Marhoff, during the course of which she herself gets up to dance a couple of steps by way of illustration and Julie and Alice provide the complete versions of the steps and routines. It's interesting though of course not surprising, that even though they have been coached to perfection by Mrs M., Julie and Alice don't look anything like her when they dance; so the value of the short sequences that Mrs Marhoff does herself is considerable.

The whole thing works extremely well, for two main reasons: firstly because Mrs Marhoff is a very engaging and positive personality and talker, so there's never a dull moment; and secondly because the video does manage to capture a sense of cheerful informality. The way the tape is put together capitalises on these advantages, for example by keeping in, rather than excluding, the precious moment when Mrs Marhoff's clog flies off menacingly towards the camera, while she is in full flight! The fact that it is filmed in Mrs Marhoff's own home, with a board on the floor and familiar chairs for support when necessary, also helps the relaxed feeling of the project.

Since this is a review, and one is expected to have a few tactful reservations, perhaps I should note that the production does have the odd technical blemish - at times the lighting and the framing of the feet of the dancers are not adequate to record the steps in sufficient detail (though the steps are published in the Newcastle Series) - but really this doesn't matter a jot. The point is that it is a valuable tape, and an enjoyable one. I've paid my money for my copy, and at fifteen quid every club in the country ought to have its own copy. Me, I'm looking forward with increased excitement to seeing the results of the current Instep video project, of Marion Cowper of Whitehaven. And many more after that.

Barry Callaghan.  
17.12.85.

Once again the time has come for an updated list of active clog teams. This is the third such list, I hope it is also the most complete. It may interest you to know that this list takes more time to compile than the time spent on the rest of the magazine for a whole year!

Each entry is coded as follows:

1. Name and address of contact.
2. Day, time and place of meetings.
3. Other interests apart from clog dancing.
4. Brief repertoire details:

ND Northumberland/Durham	W Lakeland
NDW Northumberland/Durham Waltz	SSH Sam Sherry Hornpipe
LTH Lancs Toe and Heel	SSW Sam Sherry Waltz
LH Lancashire Hornpipe	SSJ Sam Sherry Jig
EFH Fife Clog Hornpipe	SSR Sam Sherry Reel
EFL Liverpool Hornpipe	1A First of August
FE Flowers of Edinburgh	LI Lancashire Irish
MCW Marion Cowper Waltz	ML Marhoff Lily of Laguna
MH Marhoff Hornpipe	EE Earl of Errol

## 5. Other dances and comments.

Annies Fantasies	1.B Sawyer, 59 Wimpole Rd, Colchester, Essex 0206-561924 2.Sun 11.00 St Martins Centre, Colchester. 3. Clog Morris & Border. 4.W,ND,NDW,LTH,SSW,LI
April Morning	1.R Griffiths, 29 Saxon St, Chippenham, Wilts 0249-654964. 2.Tue 7.30 Angel Hotel, Chippenham. 4.SSH,LTH,EFH. 5. By invitation only. Novelty dances and waltz steps of own composition.
Beetlecrushers	1.R Lemonnier, 5 Franklyn Tce, Farrington Gurney, Avon 0761-53214 2.Wed 6.00 Portway Annexe, Blue School, Wells, Somerset .4.LTH,LH,EFH,1A,EE,FE.
Carlisle Cloggies	1.A Lee, Leafield, Crawhall, Brampton, Cumbria 06977-2649 2.Mon 7.30, Currock Hse Comm Centre, Carlisle. 4.W,ND,1A,SSW,EFL,MCW. 5.Tap dancing.
Carnkie Clog	1.C Allen, Hope Cott, Higher Pennace, Lanner, Redruth, Cornwall . 0209-820939 2.Tues 7.30 Carnkie Ch Hall. 3.NW Morris. 4.SSH,SSW,SSJ,LTH,W,ND,LTH,NDW
Charnwood Clog	1.L M Goodfellow, 26 Wanlip La, Birstall, Leics 0533-676957. 2.Mon 8.00, Rawlins Comm Centre, Quorn, Loughboro'. 4.W,ND, LH,LTH,SSH,SSW,EFH,1A.



Chelmsford Morris	1.M Fraser, 4 Longship Wy, Maldon, Essex 0621-58952. 2. Mon 8.00 at above. 3. NW & Garland Dancing. 4.ND,LTH,W,SSW,EFL,LI,EFH. 5.Beginners fortnightly,Wed, 8.00 Boreham Vill Hall.	English Miscellany	1.G Buchanan, 114 Lancaster Rd, St Albans, Herts 0727-61236. 2.Mon 8.30 (ring in advance) 3.NW Morris, Cotswold Morris and Country Dance. 4.LH,NDW,W
Chestnut Cloggies	1.H Cross, 2 Palmers Wy, Hutton, nr Weston S Mare, Avon 0934-812993 2.Tues 8.00 Winscombe Comm Ass Hall. 3.Sword & Garland. 4.LH,W,ND,MH. 5.Welsh dances.	Feet First	1.J James, 40 Sherbourne Ave, Chesterfield, Yorks 0246-454986 2.Wed 8.00 Red Lion, Chatsworth Rd, Chesterfield. 4.Appalachian Clogging.
Claygate Clog Dancers	1.F Jenkins, 389 Kingston Rd, Ewell, Surrey 01-393-3084 2.Wed 8.00 Foley Arms Claygate. 4.ND,W,LTH,LH. 5.Dances involving stepping.	Fen Nightingale	1.J Dunn, 49 Beach Rd, Cottenham, Cambs 0954-50191 2.Wed 8.00 Cottenham Vill Hall. 4.W,NDW,LTH,SSH,LH.
Cleckheaton Clog	1.S Illingworth, Downshutts Hse, St Georges Rd, Scholes, Holmfirth, Yorks 0484-585520 2.Mon 8.30, The Royal, Cleckheaton. 4.ND. 5.Steps of own Composition.	Frithwoods Solo Clog and Longsword	1.M Bradley, 52 Browndge Rd, Buxton, Derbys 0298-77155. 2.Thurs 8.00, Co-Op Store, Whaley Bridge. 3.Longsword and Processional. 4.W,LH,LTH,EFL.
Cleveland Clog	1.C Burnett, 14 Spennithorne Rd, Stockton Cleveland 0642-607860 2. Wed, 6.45 Eaglescliffe Sch, Eaglescliffe. 4.ND,NDW,W,LTH,SSH,SSW,EFL,1A.	Green Ginger	1.Sue Jenkinson, 4 Lowland Cl, Astral Wy, Sutton on Hull. 0482-836232 2.Thurs 8.00 Hospice, Cottingham Rd, Hull. 4.W,ND,NDW
Cloggers Row	1.E Pennington, 14 Back La, Thornton, Bradford, Yorks 0274-832197 2.Mon 8.00 Thornton View Hospital.4.LH,ND,LTH,EFL. 5.Ivy Sands Sailor's Hornpipe.	Greenwood	1.L Hardy, 69 Longfield La, Ilkeston, Derbys 2. Mon 8.00, Scout Hut, Mona Rd. 4.LTH,ND,LI,EFH,EFL,1A,NDW,ML. 5.American Colg, Lakeland Reels.
Cobblers Awl	1.V Sawicka, 59 Redlands Rd, Penarth, Glamorgan tel 0222-700338 2.Mon 7.45 Brynglas Hse, Newport. 4.W,ND, LTH,LH,SSW 5.Welsh broom dances and reels.	Gyppeswick Garland	1.S Reid, 100 Furry Rd, Ipswich, Suffolk 0473-50730 2. Wed 8.00 Half Moon & Star, Ipswich. 3.Garland. 4. LH,EFH,NDW.
Devils Jumps	1. H Line, Clovelly, Newells La, W Ashling, Chichester, W Sussex 2.Thurs, 8.00 St John's Ch, Rowlands Castle, Hants. 4.W,LTH,LH,ND,EFH.	Harrow FDC	1.J Lawes, 49 Tenby Rd, Harrow, Middx , 2.2nd,3rd & 4th Fri,Harrow Arts Centre. 7.45 4.W,SSW.
Doglogerum	1.A Jones, Mill Hse, Putley, Herefs 0531-83249 2.Alt Sun, 2.30 Putley Vill Hall. 4.LH,NDW,ND,W,SSW. 5.Welsh Clog.	Hips adn Haws	1.J Field, 12 St Mary's Pl, Chippenham, Wilts 0249-657128 2.Mon 8.00 Bridge Centre, Chippenham. 3.Dances of own composition. 4.LH,LTH,W.
Dandy Clog Dance Club	1.John the Fish, 2 The Bungalows, Tarrandean La, Perranwell Stn, Truro, Cornwall 0872-863825 2.Tues, 8.00 The Swan, Truro. 4.W,ND,LH,LTH,SSH,SSW,SSJ.	Hoddesden Crownsmen Clogdancers	1.S Jones, 51 High St, Standon, Herts 0920-821108 2.Sun 10.30, Crown, Stanstead Abbots 3.Rapper 4.W,NDW,ND,LTH,LH.
Dukes Dandy	1.P Smith, 48 Lime Tree Ave, Retford, Notts 2.Wed 8.00 Methodist Y.C. Hall Retford. 4.LTH,NDW,W,EFL,LH,LI.	Island Cloggies	1.L Atkins, 3 West View Rd, Cowes, IOW 0983-291780 2.Sun Carisbrooke Sch Hall, 8.00.4.ND,SSH,SSW,EFH,LI,1A 5.Reels involving stepping.
		Jenny Geddes	1.C Shearing, 17 Royal Pk Tce, Edinburgh 031-661-0254 2.University Societies Centre Tues, 7.30 3.NW Morris. 4.LTH,SSW,SSH,ND,MCW.



Kebles Queen Clog Team	1.G Wilcock, 2 Shakespeare Rd, W Melton, Rotherham, <u>Yorks</u> 0709-878508 2.Mon 8.00 Red Lion, Wath. 4.W,LH,ND,NDW,SSW	Sheffield Celebrated	1. M Rhodes, Top Cottage, Stoney Middleton, Sheffield, <u>S Yorks</u> 0433-30048 2.Tues 7.30 <u>Croft House</u> Settlement, Garden St, Sheffield. 4.ND,W,LTH,SSH,SSJ,LH,EFL.
Lancashire Wallopers	1.M Barber, 38 Howick Cross, Penwortham, Preston, <u>Lancs</u> 0772-742690 4.SSW,SSJ, SSE,LTH,LI. 5.By invitation only. Performance team specialising in Lancashire dances.	Spinning Jenny	1.A Dubaie, 7 Ollersett La, New Mills, Stockport, <u>Lancs</u> 0633-42943. 2.Wed 8.00 Co-Op Hall <u>Whaley Bridge</u> .
Lizzie Dripping	1.V Civico, 2 Brick Row, Crane Moor Nook, Crane Moor, Sheffield, <u>S Yorks</u> 0742-884642 2.Thurs 7.30 <u>Walkley Comm</u> Centre, Sheffield. 4.1A,LI,MCW,ML. 5.Scottish and Manx trad dances. Women's performance team.	Stafford Castle Clog	1.B Crumpton 1 Campion Cl, Poolhouse Farm, Wombourne, <u>Staffs</u> 2.Wed, 8.00 <u>Castle Ch Hall</u> , Stafford. 4.W,ND,LTH,LH,SSW,NDW,EFL
Minster Clog	1.L Pike, 116 Prestbury Dv, Warminster, <u>Wilts</u> 0985-216449 2.Thurs 8.00. Minster Hall, Warminster. 4.ND,SSH,SSW.	Sun Oak	1.K Nightingale, Meadow View, 3 Byfleets La, Warnham, <u>W Sussex</u> 0403-66086 2.Mon 8.00 <u>Forest Comm Sch</u> . 4.W,ND, NDW,LH,LTH,SSW,EFL
Newcastle Cloggies	1.E Wilson, 1 Greensfield Pl, Ryton, <u>Tyne &amp; Wear</u> 091-413-4633 2.Thurs 8.00 <u>St Silas' Church</u> , Byker. 4,ND,W,SSW,SSJ, SSE,EFH,EFL,1A,FE,LTH,LI,ML. 5.Social dances involving stepping, collection, research and filming.	Sweet Coppin	1.S Robson, 32 Oakfield Pk, Wellington, <u>Somerset</u> 082347-6609 2.Mon 8.00 <u>Trinity Church Hall</u> , Taunton. 3.Ritual & Garland 4.W,ND,LTH,SSH,SSW,LH. 5.Welsh Dancing.
The Norwich Clog	1.S.Sissons, 2 Livingstone Rd, Norwich, <u>Norfolk</u> 2.Thurs 7.00 <u>The Crome Centre</u> , <u>Telegraph La East</u> , Norwich. 4.LH,W,ND, NDW.	Towersey Clog Dancers	1.T Searle, "Saddlers", 14 Thame RD, Haddenham, <u>Bucks</u> 0844-291015. 2.Towersey Vill Hall, Fri 7.00. 4.W,LH, ND,NDW,LTH,MH.
Pennyroyal	1.J Stewart, 1 Park Terr, St John's Rd, Carshalton, <u>Surrey</u> 01-669-9959 2.Tues 7.30 <u>Manor Pk Infants Sch</u> . Sutton. 3.Cheshire Morris & Garland. 4.W,LTH,SSH,SSW,LH,EFH,NDW. 5.Welsh Broom Dance.	Treacle Eater Clog	1.Ann Flew, 34 Mudford Rd, Yeovil, <u>Somerset</u> 0935-23321 2.Mon 7.00 <u>Old Barn Club</u> , Yeovil. 3.NW Morris/Garland 4.W,LI,NDW.5.Devon stepping.
Reading Traditional Step Dance Group	1.I Dunmur, Rose Cott, Sulhampstead Abbots, Reading, <u>Berks</u> 073529-2662 2.Tues, Watlington Hse, Watlington St, Reading. 4.W,ND,NDW,SSH,SSJ,SSW,LTH,LH, EFH,EFL,FE,1A,MCW 5.Stepping in country dances and reels, Devon stepping, collection and research.	Wessex Woods	1.N White, 10 Old Wareham Rd, Parkstone, Poole, <u>Dorset</u> 0202-733699 2.Tues <u>Pembroke Arms</u> , Bournemouth. 3.Garland. 4.W,LH,SSJ,EFH.
Rum Shuffles	1.G MacNab, 15 Northall Rd, Eaton Bray, Dunstable <u>Beds</u> 0525-221763 2.Wed 5.By invitation only.	Westmorland Step and Garland Dancers	1.H Birkett, 121 Lingmoor Rise, Kendal, <u>Cumbria</u> 0539-28289. 2. Mon 8.00, <u>Brewery Arts Centre</u> , Kendal. 3. Ladies NW Morris. 4.W.
Saddleworth Garland and Clog Dancers	1.H Woodcock, 34 Huddersfield Rd, Diggle, Saddleworth, <u>Lancs</u> 04577-70200 2.Mon 8.30 <u>Cross Keys</u> , Uppermill 3.Garland. 4.SSJ,SSH,SSW,W,EFH. 5.Lessons once a month.	Yorkshire Rose	1.E Yates, 8 Heath Ave, Savile Pk, Halifax, <u>W Yorks</u> 0422-60595 2.Stirk <u>Bridge Inn</u> , Sowerby Bridge Tue 8.00. 4.LTH,LH,W,ND.