FOLK FESTIVAL '69

Royal Albert Hall
14—15 February



The English Folk Dance & Song Society



The Harvest

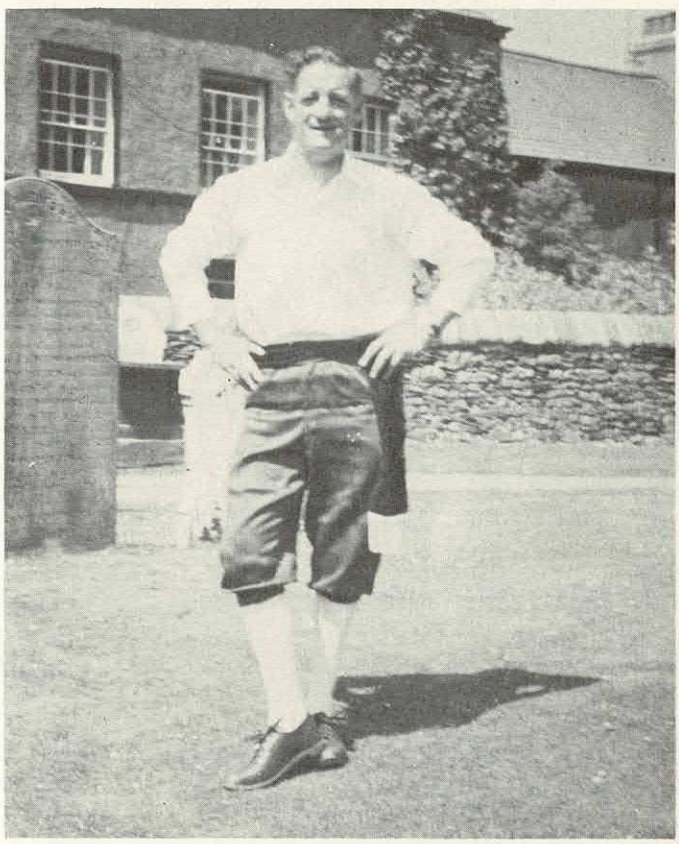
This part of the programme begins with the jollification inherent in the "Harvest Home". Dance, song and music are included, and most of the company will be involved. Our present day Harvest Suppers, splendid though they are, can only be considered a mere shadow of the celebrations which our ancestors knew, when the last of the harvest was gathered in, and food for the Winter was safely ensured.
Many local entertainers took part, and in our programme we

New Year's Eve in Trafalgar Square



"THE HARD MONTHS OF THE YEAR"

Last year's Festival took as its theme, in the second half, the folk customs and traditions of May. This year we go to the cold grey days of Winter, beginning with the culmination of the Summer's work in the Harvest and continuing through to the start of May once again.
Many of the Winter customs are connected with fire ceremonies such as the Allendale fire carrying festival, the Whalton bonfire, the fire throwing at Ottery St. Mary and Up-Helly-Aa in the Shetlands. There are of course many other customs, which belong to these months of the year but time will only allow the inclusion of a few.



Clog Dancer (Norman Robinson)

are happy to welcome Norman Robinson, who started clog dancing at the age of 6 and who follows in the family tradition; his style is that of the Furness Lakes and Westmorland area and can be traced back at least 100 years.

We next move to the more sober Soul Caking custom, with the Souling Carol sung by Tim Hart and Maddy Prior. The soul cakes are no longer made but they were originally intended for the souls in Purgatory who needed help because they could no longer help themselves.

Christmas is too big a subject to be included, and deserves a whole programme to itself, but we are linked to the Christmas-tide period by the Mumming Play performed by the Headington men. This traditional play has a text which has been changed

AMME

Part II

"THE HARD MONTHS OF THE YEAR"

1. HARVEST HOME	Song: "Come Landlord" Dances: Haymakers Jig Corn Rigs Clog Dancer: Norman Robinson Dance: "Juice of Barley"	The Wassailers The Festival Dancers McBain's Band Musician: Denis Smith
2. SOUL CAKING		Tim Hart and Maddy Prior and The Wassailers
3. BOXING DAY MUMMERS		Headington
4. *COUNTRY DANCE	Over the Hills to Glory	County Dancers Massed Bands
5. NEW YEAR'S EVE		Scots and English Piper: Pipe Major Bob Hill McBain's Band
6. HERE WE COME A WASSAILING		The Wassailers
7. THE PAPA STOUR SWORD DANCE		The Sussex Caledonian Sword Dancers Musicians: Brian Heaton and Robin Arzoni
8. "HATFULLS, CAPFULLS, THREE BUSHEL BAGFULLS"		The Wassailers
9. EASTER SATURDAY		The Bacup Nutters
10. MAY DAY – LICHFIELD	The Bower Processional Nuts in May Castlering	The Green Man's Morris Club
11. FINALE	Sellenger's Round Blaydon Races	EVERYBODY

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN

Circassian Circle

* Items so marked will be omitted from the Matinee Performances