

Notes

The Readifolk Newsletter

Reading's folk song
and music club

Issue 35 Autumn 2017

"A right funny nun you are..."

John Watterson invokes Jake Thackray at
Readifolk on 19th November



Shows Worth Seeing

Previewing the new season of guest nights coming to Readifolk.

The Skeptics finally make their first visit to Readifolk on **8th October**.

What they say:

Andy Zukowski, Kieran Moore and Peter 'Badger' West, collectively known as The Skeptics, are a North Oxfordshire based male capella trio who have fast become known locally for their stunning harmonies and distinctive style. With their musical roots firmly planted in a variety of styles including folk, jazz and choral they came together in 2009 via a shared desire to bring something different to the folk canon whilst honouring its traditions and heritage.

What others say:

"Their carefully honed three-part harmonies are a



joy to hear and they are also great fun to watch!" - *Banbury Folk Festival*. "You sound great - please can you go away?" - *Jan Ravens (Star of BBC's Dead Ringers)*.

What we say:

We have seen this group on several occasions at Wallingford Bunkfest. They are wonderful singers and great entertainers. Come and see for yourselves.

Hear more:

www.theskeptics.co.uk

www.youtube.com/watch?v=FqXenoSo9d0

www.youtube.com/watch?v=fQA7AGUfA1A



There is a fusion of English & American folk when **James Hickman & Dan Cassidy** come to entertain us on **22nd October**.

What they say:

James Hickman and Dan Cassidy are a transatlantic folk and roots duo. Dan Cassidy (USA), an exciting and virtuosic fiddler, provides the tunes and harmony singing while James Nathan Hickman (UK), brings driving guitar playing and wonderfully unique vocals to their mixture of new and old folk music.

What others say:

"Anybody who likes well-played, well-chosen songs from both British and American folk traditions should really enjoy these guys" - *The Jazz Man*.



What we say:

Join us for an unforgettable transatlantic journey with American and English Folk duo, James Hickman and Dan Cassidy (brother of the late Eva Cassidy). We can't wait.

Hear more:

www.hickmanandcassidy.co.uk

www.youtube.com/watch?v=BFgZdnDf1sl

www.youtube.com/watch?v=CjOpMhPoPfo



We have another trans-Atlantic combination on **5th November** when **James Keelaghan & Hugh McMillan** perform at the club.

What they say:

Called Canada's finest singer songwriter by the respected American journalist and historian Dave Marsh, James Keelaghan is an artist who has proven to be a man for all seasons. Multi-instrumentalist Hugh McMillan is a member of the folk rock band Spirit of the West, is a producer, composer, arranger, session musician and audio engineer as well as being a bit of a scientist.

What others say:

"James Keelaghan always incorporates the command of a Stan Rogers with the raw energy of a young Gordon Lightfoot. And then he has added a large dollop of himself to provide us with a heady brew" - *Living Tradition*.

What we say:

We have wanted to bring this fantastic duo to Readifolk for a long time. Don't miss this opportunity of seeing them.



Hear more:

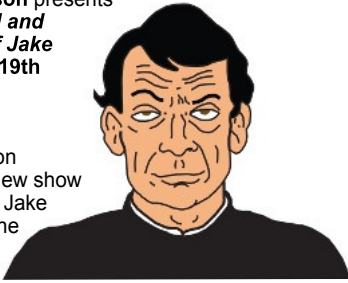
www.keelaghan.com

www.youtube.com/watch?v=P3n9xYmXB5A

www.youtube.com/watch?v=qomNoN7Mcyg

John Watterson presents
The Lost Will and Testament of Jake Thackray on 19th November.

What he says:
John Watterson presents his new show about the late Jake Thackray. In the course of his research,



John has uncovered 15 songs written by Jake but not released, some being banned from broadcast by the BBC. These fabulous songs - hilarious, serious, biting satirical - along with never-before told stories from the biography research, plus some much loved Jake classics, feature in John's brand new show for 2017 *The Lost Will and Testament of Jake Thackray*.

What others say:
"Wonderful stuff, bringing some of Jake's long-forgotten gems back to life. Brilliantly performed songs with uncanny precise enunciation, and accurately capturing the unique Thackray guitar style" - *Victor Lewis Smith, producer BBC Radio 4*.
"Long may John continue to keep Jake's memory alive so affectionately and skilfully" - *Sir Richard Stilgoe*.

What we say:
Jake Thackray appeared at Readifolk on several occasions. We look forward to hearing John Watterson perform songs from a recently discovered collection of original Thackray lyrics.

Hear more:
www.fakethackray.com
www.youtube.com/watch?v=KThrCWcbM-s
www.youtube.com/watch?v=mbM4Ttudq64



We look forward to another rousing evening with **Scarecrow** on **26th November**.

What they say:



Scarecrow are an Oxfordshire-based acoustic band that plays folk music but offers something a bit different: some instrumental

music, some songs and occasionally a bit of jazz and blues. Some tracks are well known and others more obscure but all have been worked on to produce tight and unusual arrangements.

What others say:
"This band provided lively entertainment, variety and a display of real musical skill. Definitely a band I would like to catch again!" - *Banbury Canalside Festival*.

What we say:
We loved their previous performances at Readifolk and are delighted to welcome them back again.

Hear more:
More details and audio clips are found on their website www.scarecrowband.co.uk/tracks



On **10th December**, **Pete Morton, Emily Sanders & Chris Parkinson** bring their **Magical Christmas Tree** to Readifolk.

What they say:

Well-established Fellside artist singer-songwriter Pete Morton teams up with Emily Sanders (Isambarde), Chris Parkinson (The House Band, Sultans Of Squeeze) to do a tour every December. Between them they deliver a richly textured collection of vibrant new songs, beautiful old carols and stunning instrumentals. The tree is decorated with scrolls which might have songs, dances or antics written on them. The audience chooses the scrolls and the trio have to do whatever is written on them. It can get quite anarchic. Given the top-notch singing and first-class musicianship this is a hugely entertaining set.



What others say:
"Fun, irreverent, a little mad but thoroughly enjoyable and the perfect way to go into a winter's night and prepare for the coming festivities" - *Folkall Blogspot*.

What we say:
The perfect way to start off the festive season. This show is suitable for all ages.

Hear more:
www.petemorton.com
www.youtube.com/watch?v=m33FVZ3TefA
www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fc3ALtCY3-o

Readifolk Contacts:

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Ian about the radio show radiofolk@readifolk.org.uk



READIFOLK

READING'S FOLK SONG & MUSIC CLUB



Every Sunday 8:00 - 10:30 p.m.

The Community Hall, Watlington House,
44, Watlington Street, Reading, RG1 4RJ

PROGRAMME: October - December 2017

O C T O B E R	1 st	Theme 'Rise and Fall'	<i>The ups and downs of life or even Autumnal songs - it's your decision.</i>
	8 th	The Skeptics www.theskeptics.co.uk	<i>The Skeptics are a North Oxfordshire based male a capella trio who have fast become known locally for their stunning harmonies and distinctive style.</i>
	15 th	Singers Night	<i>The usual format - a song, a tune, a poem, a joke or just come along and be entertained by us. All welcome.</i>
	22 nd	James Hickman & Dan Cassidy www.hickmanandcassidy.co.uk	<i>A fusion of English & American folk - James' emotive vocals and driving guitar are complemented by Dan's ingenious & virtuosic fiddling.</i>
	29 th	Theme 'Workers Playtime'	<i>Any work-related songs or tunes will fit this theme.</i>



N O V E M B E R	5 th	James Keelaghan & Hugh McMillan www.keelaghan.com	<i>Recognised as one of Canada's finest singer/songwriters, James Keelaghan is accompanied by highly-talented multi-instrumentalist Hugh McMillan.</i>
	12 th	Singers Night	<i>Another opportunity for you to show us what you can do.</i>
	19 th	John Watterson presents The Lost Will & Testament of Jake Thackray www.fakethackray.com	<i>A terrific interpreter of Jake Thackray songs - here John is promoting the album release of new recordings of long-lost Thackray songs.</i>
	26 th	Scarecrow www.scarecrowband.co.uk	<i>This Oxfordshire-based group offer something a bit different: some instrumentals, some songs and occasionally a bit of jazz or blues.</i>



D E C E M B E R	3 rd	Theme 'Odd Odes'	<i>Lots of possibilities with this theme - comic, weird, nonsense or quirky songs and poems, you decide.</i>
	10 th	The Magical Christmas Tree Show with Pete Morton, Emily Sanders & Chris Parkinson www.petemorton.com	<i>A high-flying combination: a singer/songwriter extraordinaire, a superb fiddler and one of the folk scene's most sought-after instrumentalists - presenting a richly textured collection of vibrant new songs, beautiful old carols and stunning instrumentals - plus a magical Christmas tree!</i>
	17 th	Christmas Party	<i>The celebrations continue here. Come and enjoy the music and festive fare.</i>
	24 th	Club Closed	<i>Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all. We are open again on 7th January with Tom Lewis.</i>
	31 st		

Admission: £6 Guest nights; £2 Singers & Theme nights

More information from our web site www.readifolk.org.uk

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Find us on Facebook www.facebook.com/readifolk and Twitter www.twitter.com/readifolk

The Readifolk Radio Show is on the internet every Wednesday 7 - 9pm and Friday 5 - 7pm
<http://blast1386.reading-college.ac.uk> click on 'Listen Live'. And now on www.bluesandrootsradio.co.uk