

BOOKING FORM

The Fife Traditional Singing Festival 12, 13, 14 May 2017

Name (first person booking):

Address:

Post Code:

Telephone:

Email:

Names of others included in the booking:

Camping: Please tick: Tent or Campervan etc :

Camping, caravans and campervans charged at £15 per tent or campervan (weekend) or £10 for one night. Advance booking is not essential. NEW campsite on the ground behind Falkland Palace.

NOTE: The Saturday evening Traditional Concert takes place in Falkland Village Hall. Most other events in the Old Town Hall.

TICKETS:

Tickets (add number in left column)

I would like to order the following tickets:

___ All-In Ticket (Friday to Sunday) @ £36 (£32) is £

___ Friday Evening Gathering @ £12 (£10) is £

___ All day Saturday & Evening Concert @ £20 (£16) is £

___ Saturday Morning Workshops/Talks @ £8 (£6) is £

___ Saturday Afternoon Ballad Concert @ £8 (£6) is £

___ Traditional Concert (Village Hall) @ £12 (£10) is £

___ All day Sunday @ £12 (£10) is £

___ Sunday Morning Workshops/Talks @ £8 (£6) is £

___ Sunday Farewell Concert @ £10 (£8) is £

___ Camping/ Campervan @ £15 or £10 is £

Concession prices (in brackets) for Senior Citizens, Students & Unwaged
Total in £ Sterling: £

Cheques payable to *East of Scotland Traditional Song Group*

Booking and Information:

Fife Traditional Singing Festival

c/o Peter Shephard

Balmalcolm House, Balmalcolm

Cupar, Fife KY15 7TJ

tel: 01337 830773

email: connect@springthyme.co.uk

website: www.springthyme.co.uk/fifesing

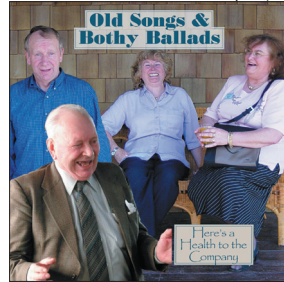
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FifeSingCDs

now £5.00

FifeSing - Volume 1:

Here's a Health to the Company



FifeSing - Volume 2:

Hurrah Boys Hurrah



FifeSing - Volume 6:

There's Bound to Be a Row



FifeSing - Volume 2:

For Friendship & for Harmony



*The East of Scotland Traditional Song Group
presents*

FifeSing2017

The Fife Traditional Singing Festival
Friday - Sunday 12, 13, 14 May
The Old Town Hall, Falkland, Fife KY15 7BY

**All events are in historic Falkland in the
ancient Kingdom of Fife.**

*A celebration of traditional singing
- the songs and the bothy ballads
- for singers and enthusiasts!*

THIS IS the fifteenth Fife Traditional Singing Festival weekend - a unique opportunity to meet, hear and talk with a selection of the finest exponents of traditional singing to be found today - and, of course, to participate in the singing at sessions and singarounds.

The weekend will include:

Concerts ~ featuring the guest singers.

Singarounds and Sessions ~ where all who wish can participate.

Workshops/Talks ~ on topics related to traditional song and culture.

Guests

This year we welcome as guests **Will Duke** from Lewes in Sussex - a fine singer and concertina player with a distinctive repertoire of songs and tunes drawn largely from singers and musicians in his home county. From Aberdeen we welcome **Janice Clark** who has long had an interest in the traditional music and song of the North East of Scotland. We welcome back once more bothy ballad singer **Geordie Murison** from Stonehaven. We are honoured to have with us **Michael McGonigle** - one of the finest of traditional singers - representing the living song traditions of Inishowen in Donegal. From Edinburgh but originally from Aberdeen we welcome **Ellen Birt** - daughter of Janice Clark - who continues the family tradition with an enthusiasm for the old songs. Local Fife singer **Ron Fleming** joins us for the weekend with his extensive repertoire of songs (and stories) learned from family and friends in and around Cardenden in Fife.

Concerts/ Singarounds/ Workshops/Talks/Lectures

Full details of the events of the weekend, titles of the workshops and biographies of the guest singers are on the website at www.springthyme.co.uk/fifesing

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Guest Singers:

WILL DUKE: Will is a mighty singer and anglo concertina player from Lewes in Sussex. His singing is among the finest in the current generation of tradition bearers with a powerful and individual style. He has a distinctive repertoire of songs and tunes drawn largely from singers and musicians in his home county - with a particular enthusiasm for concertina style learned from Scan Tester one of the last of the old traditional players. Will often plays as a duo with Dan Quinn and presents workshops on the concertina repertoire and style of the famed player Scan Tester - and now plays two concertinas that he inherited from Scan.

JANICE CLARK: Janice was born and brought up in Aberdeen and has long had an interest in the traditional music and song of the North East of Scotland. In her early years she was influenced by her mother's enthusiasm for north east song and Janice and her sisters soon started singing together. She has passed on her enthusiasm to her own family and we are very pleased that she will be joined at FifeSing by her now adult daughter Ellen Birt. Their ballad singing style and repertoire has been heavily influenced by some of the great traditional source singers like Jeannie Robertson, Lizzie Higgins and Stanley Robertson. Janice began singing at Folk Clubs and Festivals in her early teens and travelled and recorded with bands such as Iolair, Lang Johnnie More and Highland Connection. Janice has given singing workshops at Folk Festivals throughout Scotland and has been a regular tutor for Scottish Culture and Traditions in Aberdeen, supporting singers to build a repertoire, develop their individual style and gain performance skills for solo and group singing.

GEORDIE MURISON: Geordie was born and brought up on a farm at Fetteresso just outside Stonehaven, his father having moved there in 1935 from a farm in Buchan. His father had two older sisters who were a great source of stories about school and farm life before and after the First World War. The eldest one attended Whitehills School, New Deer while Gavin Greig was still headmaster. His mother's family (Robertson) were very musical and one of his earliest memories is of his granny sitting singing. His uncle played the fiddle and accordion and his older sister plays piano, guitar and sings. A chance meeting with Jim Taylor, Tam Reid's nephew, in 1997 led to Geordie attending Aberdeen Branch TMSA sessions. There he met Tam and Anne Reid who encouraged him to enter competitions at festivals. This led to

him being invited to festivals all over the country including London, Dorset, Dublin and Whitby as well as in Scotland. In February 2008 he won the Elgin Rotary Club's champion of champions Bothy Ballad competition. Geordie has been a stalwart supporter of traditional song events throughout the northeast and of our own FifeSing weekends and we welcome him back as a guest.

MICHAEL MCGONIGLE: We are honoured to have with us Michael McGonigle - one of the finest of traditional singers - representing the living song traditions of Inishowen in Donegal. Michael was born in the townland of Cloontagh in Clonmany, Inishowen. He learned many of his songs from his late father, James Eoghain and is one of a large family - brother to Jim, Pat, Charlie, Annie Hirrell and Mary Gill - who are and were all fine singers. He is part of the Inishowen Singers' Circle that has worked in recent years to encourage the continuation of the rich and distinctive singing traditions of this area of County Donegal.

ELLEN BIRT: Ellen (daughter of Janice Clark) was brought up in an Aberdeen family with aunts, mother and granny who were all enthusiasts for the ballads and songs of the North-east. So it is not surprising that she has inherited a rich traditional song repertoire and it is great to see the tradition being carried on and passed so well to another generation. Janice and Ellen have their own solo favourites but they also take pleasure in singing songs together in unison and harmony. Ellen now works in Edinburgh with the Scottish government.

RON FLEMING: Ron, previously a guest in 2015, was brought up in a Fife family where a party and a sing-song were part of life and where he was of course expected to have a song to sing or a story to tell, and where first footing at New Year often lasted two or three days. We are really pleased to have him back as a guest this year. Ron was a stalwart of the old Elbow Room in Kirkcaldy and the St Andrews Folk Club and Festival. Some of his songs came from his father and other family and friends but he is known in particular for one of his own songs with the fantastical title: *To View the Heights of Benarty from the Back of Kelty Store* - based on a local saying. He served his time as an iron moulder at Melville Brodie in Kirkcaldy, later working at Fairleys foundry in Auchtermuchty and finally in specialist bronze casting at Rosyth. He followed his father's enthusiasm for motor bikes, his favourite being a 1934 Rudge.

The Programme:

VENUE: Most events take place in the Old Town Hall (upstairs) in the main street opposite Falkland Palace. The Friday Gathering will be laid out with seats around tables - bring along your own refreshments - food/ drink. Late evening singarounds on the Friday and Saturday (from 10.30 pm) will be in back room of the Bruce Inn with late licence till 1.00 am. The Traditional Concert on Saturday evening will be a larger event in the Falkland Village Hall.

Friday 12th May

The Gathering: 8.00pm - 10.30pm

This will be more of a singaround than a concert with songs and ballads from the guest artistes and participants - continuing as:

Singaround: 10.30pm - 12.30am

More songs & some music - in The Bruce Inn.

Saturday 13th May

Illustrated Talk: 10.00am - 11.00am

JANICE CLARK & ELLEN BIRT: *A Tradition Inherited: How we came to learn from the great traditional singers of Aberdeen and the North East.*

Interview: 11.30am - 12.30pm

MICHAEL MCGONIGLE: *Jimmy Hutchison talks with Michael about his songs and the Inishowen tradition.*

Ballad Concert: 2.00pm - 5.00pm

The classic big ballads - the muckle sangs.

Traditional Concert in Falkland Village Hall: 7.30pm - 10.00pm

Old Songs & Bothy Ballads - The Living Tradition from England, Ireland and Scotland.

Singaround: 10.30pm - 12.30am

Another opportunity for all - in The Bruce Inn.

Sunday 14th May

Illustrated Talk: 10.30am - 11.30am

GEORDIE MURISON: *Geordie talks about the bothy ballads old and new, sings some himself and takes contributions from the floor..*

Interview: 12.00 noon - 12.30pm

JIMMY HUTCHISON talks with **MANFRED JASPER:** *From the Lowlands of Fife to the Lowlands of Germany: Scottish folk music influence on the German Folk Revival.*

Recollection: 12.30pm - 1.00pm

RON FLEMING: *Jamphlars and the ABCD of Cardenden.*

Farewell Concert: 2.30pm - 4.30pm

The guest artistes lead a farewell concert.

The Place:

Falkland, Fife

The historic village of Falkland lies against the north slopes of the Lomond Hills in the ancient Kingdom of Fife just off the A912. The nearest station is at Ladybank (4 miles) on the main line from Edinburgh to Dundee. Taxi (tel: 01337 858722). Go to the website to download a road map and street plan of Falkland.

Restaurant: Food and Bar Facilities

Falkland is well provided with places to eat: The Bruce Inn, The Covenanter, Lomond Inn, The Hay Loft, The Stag Inn and Campbell's. Wonderful coffee from the Fayre Earth in the square.

Camping, Campervans & Caravans

We now have NEW provision for camping, caravans and campervans in the football field behind Falkland Palace. The Smith Anderson/ St John's Works factory is now demolished. Details/ Map online.

Hotel and B&B Accommodation

Falkland: The Bruce Inn 01337 857226; The Covenanter Hotel 01337 857163; **Newton of Falkland:** Kiln House B&B tel: 01337 857118 **Freuchie:** Lomond Hills Hotel tel: 01337 857329 **Auchtermuchty:** Redwood Cottage tel: 01337 828272 **Gateside:** Edenshead Stables tel: 01337 868500 **Strathmiglo:** Gorno Grove House tel: 01337 860483

For more B&Bs see website link below.

Organised & Hosted by:

The current committee of the ESTSG: **PETE SHEPHEARD**, singer, musician and folksong collector. **JIMMY HUTCHISON**, originally from South Uist - his mother a Gaelic speaker, his father from Glasgow, has been singing traditional songs for many years, was involved in the St Andrews folk club in the 1960s and, along with Pete, was a founder of the TMSA's Blairgowrie Festival. **CHRIS MILES**, born in Falkland, now living in Kirkcaldy has been singing old songs for many years and was a member of Palaver.

With thanks:

Thanks to all who have given free use of their recordings to the East of Scotland Traditional Song Group for their CD series. Profit from their sale goes towards the Fife Traditional Singing Festival and events organised by the Group.

Website News:

www.springthyme.co.uk/fifising
www.facebook.com/fifising

Look up our website for fuller biographies, links to guest websites, Google map and Plans of Falkland.