



# THE SIDMOUTH FOLK FESTIVAL

4TH - 11TH AUGUST 2023



Ear to the past - eye on the future

**FREE TASTER PROGRAMME**

**Concerts**

**Ceilidhs**

**Folk Dances**

**Children's Festival**

**Storytelling**

**Workshops**

**Dance Displays**

[WWW.SIDMOUTHFOLKFESTIVAL.CO.UK](http://WWW.SIDMOUTHFOLKFESTIVAL.CO.UK)

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# Welcome to THE SIDMOUTH FOLK FESTIVAL 4TH - 11TH AUGUST 2023



The Sidmouth Folk Festival is a national cultural treasure in the UK events calendar. Not only the longest running folk festival in the country – showcasing the best in folk music, dance and song each year in the first week of August since 1955 – but also distinctive in its diverse week-long programme taking place throughout the stunning East Devon seaside resort. The venues, streets and seafront literally burst into life with colourful dance displays, dawn 'til dusk festive atmosphere and music ringing in the air.

The 69th year kicks off in style with two Pre-Festival concerts at The Ham with Cornwall's best-known sea-themed musical export **The Fisherman's Friends** on Thursday 3rd August 7.30pm and award-winning Scottish singer **Barbara Dickson** with **Nick Holland**, in a special acoustic performance on Friday 4th August 3pm.

The concert stage programme at The Ham then continues throughout the week with the very best in contemporary folk. Book now for concerts from current musical innovators **The Unthanks**, **The Young'uns**, **Lady Maisery**, **Breabach** and **Leveret**; to venerated

old hands **Lindisfarne**, **Maddy Prior's *Forgotten Lands***, and **John Tams** to modern folk classics from **Le Vent Du Nord**, **Cara Dillon**, **Show Of Hands**, **Eliza Carthy Trio** and notable new names **Angeline Morrison**, **Dominie Hooper**, **Brighde Chaimbeul** amongst others.

High energy *big night outs* at The Bulverton will be provided by a line-up including **Grace Petrie**, **Kathryn Tickell & the Darkening**, **Seth Lakeman**, **Skerryvore**, **Talisk**, **Peat & Diesel** and **Blackbeard's Tea Party**. The afterhours chill-out space at Betsy's Lounge also offers the chance to wind down with soothing acoustic music and song.

**Folk Dance** at Sidmouth 2023 has a wide range of dance styles to get your feet stuck into, for beginners to experts, including English, American, Scottish, Early, Euro, Scandinavian, Bal, Playford, Irish Set Dancing workshops and dances and more, both day and night.

As ever, there are some hand-picked Special Shows included in the programme, including **Lewis Wood's *Footwork***, a celebration of English Step Dancing; folk opera **The Undoing of Polly Button**, **The Folk Detectives**; a new show from **Matthew Crampton & Paul Hutchinson**, **Harp & a Monkey's *The Victorians*** and **Reg Meuross & Cohen Braithwaite *Kilcoyne's*** powerful song cycle

charting England's involvement in the Transatlantic slave trade ***Stolen from God***.

Then explore the many different areas in the rest of the programme, with so much more to discover, from energetic ceilidhs, a ***New Callers' Showcase***, some great curated series including **EFDSS Presents** and ***Cellarful of Folkadelia*** co-presented with Folk Radio UK, a jam-packed Children's Festival, Youth Workshops and Sessions for 12-17-year-olds, Traditional Nights Out, Storytelling, Display Dance and hundreds of workshops.

## Tributes

After another year of some significant losses to the folk scene, we celebrate the lives of friends of Sidmouth - much missed and beloved by all- with some celebratory memorial events. In particular, look out for the **Tribute to Paul Sartin**, the multi-talented musician whose sudden death in 2022 sent shockwaves throughout the folk scene.

### A Tribute to Paul Sartin

The Ham Marquee Wednesday 9th August, 3.15pm



Paul Sartin

## Thursday Night in the Market Square



Great Western Morris

Thursday 3rd August  
7.30-9.30pm Market Square

The traditional start to Sidmouth Folk Festival with **Great Western Morris**, **Sidmouth Steppers**, **Sidmouth Traditional Mummers**, **Mrs Midnight's** and other early arrivals.  
MC Chris Rose



Sidmouth Steppers

## Pre-Festival Special Concerts

Pre-Festival concerts set the mood for the week ahead with some surefire hits.

Thursday 3rd August  
7.30pm - 9.30pm

### Fisherman's Friends

Cornwall's best-known musical export, chart-topping singing sensations, film stars and Sidmouth favourites, this force of salty song always put on a great show!

Having got together more than 30 years ago to sing sea shanties on the Platt in their native Port Isaac, The Fisherman's Friends gatecrashed the charts with a Top 10 album in 2010 and went on to sing at the late Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations, play Glastonbury and land the Good Tradition Award at the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards. Their story has been the subject of an ITV documentary and best-selling book, as well as an acclaimed stage musical. Not to mention the hit movie from 2019 and last year saw them become the first British band since The Beatles to have a second feature film made about them.

A £42 (€38)



Fisherman's Friends

Friday 4th August  
3.00- 5.15pm The Ham

### Barbara Dickson With Nick Holland

Emerging from the Scottish folk scene of the late 1960's Barbara had enjoyed mainstream chart success with hits including 'Answer Me', 'Another Suitcase in Another Hall', 'Caravan' and the million-selling number one single, 'I Know Him So Well'. In this special acoustic performance Barbara Dickson and her pianist Nick Holland explore her catalogue of songs at an intimate level. The pair let the words and melodies take 'centre stage' as they perform a wonderful range of material drawing on Barbara's folk roots, contemporary greats, and some of her classic hits.

A £37 (€33)

Pre-Festival Concerts are planned particularly for people from the region, local residents and early Festival arrivals so are separately ticketed. All-in-One, Week Season and Weekend Season ticket holders and residents can buy tickets for these events at a discount – the price shown in brackets above. Tickets are now on sale for events marked with an **A**



Barbara Dickson

Visit [sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk](http://sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk) and use the **What's On** drop down menu to explore more information about the full range of festival events on offer.

# The Ham Concerts

The festival's centrepiece concert venue, The Ham Marquee provides a comfortable seated venue for three first class concerts each day.

Close to Port Royal at the eastern end of the Esplanade, where the River Sid meets the sea, you'll also find a tasty range of street food and The Ham festival bar, a great area to soak up the festival atmosphere!

All concerts are included in the All-In-One ticket. The evening concerts (Saturday to Thursday) are not covered by Week, Weekend and Day season tickets. Where two prices are given, the second is the discount price available only to Week, Weekend, Day Ticket holders and Residents. A limited number of £10 tickets for those aged 25 and Under are available in advance for each Ham show.

## Evening Concerts in The Ham Marquee 8pm

Friday 4th August

### Banter + support

With a common love for the living traditions of English song and dance music, these four fine musicians bring in flavours from a wider palette of musical influences. They explore and reimagine a selection of well-loved traditional songs and a hearty take on some romping dance tunes.

£24 (£19) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under  
*Included in Week and Weekend season tickets*

Saturday 5th August

### Le Vent Du Nord + Topette!!

The award winning and highly acclaimed band **Le Vent du Nord** are a leading force in Québec's exciting and progressive Francophone folk movement. On stage they create intense, joyful and dynamic live performances that expand the bounds of tradition in striking global directions. The mighty Anglo-French dance music-inspired **Topette!!** are energising, lyrical and hypnotic.

£35 (£30) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under

Sunday 6th August

### Show of Hands with Miranda Sykes + Ellie Gowers

Steve Knightley and Phil Beer, one of UK's best singer songwriters and finest multi-instrumentalists respectively, return with formidable folk singer Miranda Sykes for their in-demand Sunday night Sidmouth showstopper. Dynamic songwriter Ellie Gowers performs with a strong voice full of expression. Dynamic songwriter **Ellie Gowers** performs with a strong voice full of expression.

£37 (£32) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under



Show of Hands



Le Vent Du Nord

Monday 7th August

### The Unthanks + The Brothers Gillespie

With their transcendent sibling harmonies, **The Unthanks** use the traditional music of the North East of England as a starting point for their musical explorations but reflect a myriad influences in their uniquely soulful and dramatic soundscapes. **The Brothers Gillespie** songs and performances have a rare, intimate energy that is both earthy and ethereal, romantic and radical.

£37 (£32) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under

Tuesday 8th August

### Saltlines (Gigspanner Big Band with Raynor Winn)

A wonderful reimagining of traditional songs and tunes collected from the South West coast path featuring The Salt Path best-selling author.

£35 (£30) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under

Wednesday 9th August

### Lindisfarne + Crows

Legendary 70s folk-rock pioneers return to Sidmouth with a classic five-piece line up of long-time members fronted by Rod Clements. With a repertoire of unforgettable songs like 'Meet Me On The Corner' and 'Fog On The Tyne', their reputation for live performance is second to none. **Crows** perform a mix of original and traditional music with imaginative instrumentation.

£37 (£32) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under

This Taster Programme offers an overview of the festival.

# The Ham Concerts

Thursday 10th August

### Cara Dillon

#### + support

One of the finest exponents of traditional Irish song, with an instantly recognisable voice. Together with partner, Sam Lakeman, **Cara Dillon** has successfully steered an eclectic musical path, entwining traditional and contemporary elements, and earning both commercial success and critical acclaim.

£32 (£27) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under

## Afternoon Concerts in The Ham Marquee 3.15pm

Saturday 5th August

### Leveret + McCusker McGoldrick Doyle

Celebrating ten years of this unique collaboration between three of England's finest folk musicians (Sam Sweeney, Rob Harbron & Andy Cutting) with a special **Leveret** requests set. Masters of flute, fiddle, song and guitar, **McCusker McGoldrick Doyle** have worked with the biggest and brightest, and dazzle with their vast repertoire of beautifully crafted music.

£25 (£20) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under

Sunday 6th August

### Lady Maisery + support

The uniquely captivating Hazel Askew, Hannah James and Rowan Rheingans combine to create "some of the most some of the most exquisite, thrilling vocal harmony work in the English folk scene". The Guardian

£25 (£20) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under

Monday 7th August

### Breabach + support

Among Scotland's most skilled and imaginative contemporary folk acts, and BBC ALBA Scots Trad Music Awards 2022 Folk Band Of The Year, uniting deep roots in Highland and Island tradition with the innovative musical ferment of their Glasgow base.

£27 (£22) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under

Tuesday 8th August

### Eliza Carthy Trio + George Sansome & Matt Quinn

Powerhouse trio featuring the unstoppable Eliza Carthy alongside long-time musical collaborators Saul Rose and David Delarre, with a repertoire of dynamic tunes and songs. Plus exciting new collaboration from George (Granny's Attic) and Matt (Dovetail Trio).

£27 (£22) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under

See [www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk](http://www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk) for more details.

Friday 11th August, 7.30pm

### The Young' Uns

#### + support

Popular Teeside trio **The Young'uns** bring us their trademark heart-on-the-sleeve storytelling, beautiful lyrics, warm harmonies and relentless repartee.

£25 (£20) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under  
*Included in Week season tickets.*

Wednesday 9th August

### Paul Sartin Tribute

Musician friends and family unite in a moving celebration of the life of multi-talented musician whose sudden death in 2022 sent shockwaves throughout the folk scene.

£25 (£20) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under

Thursday 10th August

### Maddy Prior & The Forgotten Lands

The iconic singer's new project exploring what the human voice can do through original, traditional and acapella pieces. This concert follows a workshop earlier in the day.

£27 (£22) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under

Friday 11th August

### The Magpie Arc + Jackie Oates & Jon Wilks

Cross-border band out of Sheffield and Edinburgh featuring the multi-award-winning talents and wide musical influences of Nancy Kerr, Martin Simpson, Findlay Napier, Tom A Wright and Alex Hunter.

£27 (£22) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under

Lunchtime and Afternoon Concerts in The Ham are included in Week and Day season tickets. Where two prices are given the second is the discount price available only to Residents



Eliza Carthy Trio

## Lunchtime Concerts in The Ham 12 noon

**Sunday 6th August**

### From Pub to Pulpit

Acapella group Broomdasher and Paul Hutchinson's new band Coracle in an imaginative, rousing concert bringing to life the musical journey of folk songs and celebrating Vaughan Williams's 150th birthday. This concert follows a workshop earlier in the weekend.

**A £18 (£13) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under**

**Monday 7th August**

### John Tams + The English Fiddle Ensemble

Described by Mojo as 'one of the ultimate British songwriters', John is an enchanting performer with an evocative voice. Four of England's finest traditional fiddlers: Bryony Griffith, Jim Boyle, Ross Grant, Rosie Butler-Hall.

**A £22 (£17) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under**

**Tuesday 8th August**

### Brighde Chaimbeul Trio + Vri

Award-winning piper Brighde Chaimbeul, musician/composer Ross Ainslie, and Irish guitarist/drummer Steven Byrnes team up for an innovative instrumental collaboration showcasing the Scottish smallpipes. Three young men from deepest, darkest chapel-going Wales Vri shed a new light on a vibrant folk tradition, harnessing the raw energy of the fiddle with the finesse of the violin, the beauty of chamber music with the joy and hedonism of a pub session.

**A £20 (£15) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under**

**Wednesday 9th August**

### Dominie Hooper + support

Outstanding guitarist, cellist, singer and songwriter breathing new life into alternative music through seeds of British folk and alt-rock.

**A £18 (£13) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under**

**Thursday 10th August**

### Angeline Morrison + Cerys Hafana

Angeline performs traditional song with deep love, respect and curiosity, including her vital exploration of black voices in British folk song. Shapeshifting Welsh triple harpist Cerys mangles, mutates, and transforms traditional music.

**A £18 (£13) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under**

**Friday 11th August**

### Festival Workshop Showcase

A chance to see the fruits of some of the week's workshops.

*Open access - Festival collection*

Lunchtime and Afternoon Concerts in The Ham are included in Week and Day season tickets.

Where two prices are given the second is the discount price available only to Residents.



The Bulverton is the hub for high energy festival action through 'til the early hours.

Opposite the campsite, close to the Festival Car Park and boasting stunning sunset views, the Bulverton includes a standing marquee venue & Betsy's Lounge, a social space dedicated to relaxation and late-night playing and singing.

The Blackmore Volunteers Bar in Betsy's Lounge serves a wide range of local ales and ciders, showcasing the best of Devonshire suppliers. Arrive early for special catering and bar deals, stay late for the special Late Night Extras and campsite sessions. Tickets include Late Night Extra Events and Betsy's sessions.

Bulverton events are included in the All-In-One, Bulverton-in-One, and Season tickets. Where two prices are given, the second is the discount price available only to Residents.

A limited number of £10 tickets for those aged 25 and Under are available in advance for each Bulverton Evening Concert.

## The Bulverton Evening Concert Programme

**Doors and Sessions 7pm, Support acts 8.15pm**

**Headliners on stage approx. 9.05pm unless otherwise stated.**

**Friday 4th August**

### Kathryn Tickell & the Darkening + Support

Brilliant pipe-driven band galvanising the dark, powerful, shamanic sounds of Ancient Northumbria with contemporary resonance. The Darkening is the Northumbrian name for twilight, but this band's music blazes fiercely... bringing some of the oldest Northumbrian tunes and songs throbbing to life, intermingling them with new material and binding it all together with contemporary resonance and attitude.

"To say that Kathryn plays pipes is like saying that Shakespeare was a bit of a writer... one of the true stars of our music." Living Tradition

**A £22 (£17) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under**

**Saturday 5th August**

### Blackbeard's Tea Party + Support

Traditional songs and tunes are given a heavy rock edge with earth shattering riffs, playful arrangements and driving dance rhythms. Blackbeard's Tea Party believe a live music show should be a spectacle for the eyes as well as the ears. Outlandish outfits, costume changes, DIY props, unhinged stage antics and chaotic choreography all add up to an engaging, high-octane show that leaves audiences wanting more.

**A £18 (£13) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under**



**Sunday 6th August**

### Grace Petrie + Support

Grace Petrie: folk singer, songwriter and activist with a unique take on life, love and politics, delivered with warmth and wit. Grace stands out as one of the most important songwriters working in the UK today.

**A £26 (£21) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under**



Blackbeard's Tea Party



Grace Petrie

# Big Nights Out @ The Bulverton (Standing Venue)



Skerryvore

## Monday 7th August

### Skerryvore

#### + Support

Tiree's award-winning **Skerryvore** take us on a high-energy, broad-horizoned ride of Scottish trad. with fiddle, accordions, whirling pipes and whistles underpinned by a driving rhythm section.

**A** £29 (£24) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under



Bulverton

## Tuesday 8th August

### Talisk

#### + Support

Ground-breaking, chart-topping, genre-bending, globetrotting, instantly enthralling, Talisk rank highly amongst the most in-demand folk-based groups to emerge from Scotland in the last decade and more. Mohsen Amini, Graeme Armstrong and Benedict Morris fuse concertina, guitar and fiddle to produce an inventive, multi-layered signature that has captivated audiences around the globe. Three seemingly acoustic instruments in the hands of three master craftsmen, they create one unmistakable, bold sound and a truly captivating live show.

**A** £26 (£21) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under

## Wednesday 9th August

### Peat & Diesel

#### + Support

Breakthrough Hebridean sensations **Peat & Diesel** bring a Celtic rock edge to their ceilidh-style compositions, with a vibrantly tongue-in-cheek edge to their lyrics. The authentic Stornoway trio went viral with their pure joy driven anthems about everyday Lewis life and have caused a sensation at many sold out gigs and festivals across Scotland. Brace yourselves for an adrenaline-driven night out!

**A** £22 (£17) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under

## Thursday 10th August

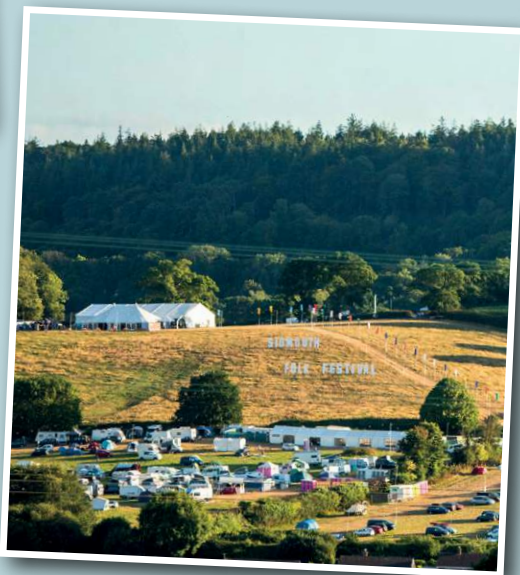
### Seth Lakeman Band

#### + Support

Our local hero exploded back on the music scene, post-lockdown, with his stunning album *Make Your Mark*. Expect powerful, brand-new songs on a range of subjects from the environment to love, death and self-belief as well as passionate, heartfelt performances from his prodigious back catalogue. Seth's trademark, visceral fiddle, voice and stomp-box is lifted to new heights with the playing of his superb four-piece band, creating fresh, contemporary music borne out of deep folk roots.

**A** £26 (£21) Limited £10 tickets for 25yrs and Under

Advance price tickets are now on sale for events marked with an **A**



This Taster Programme offers an overview of the festival.

# Ceilidhs

Dance the night and day away with a packed programme of ceilidhs and dances.

See below for the **Blackmore Gardens Marquee Evening** highlights and look out for more ceilidh details in the Main Festival Programme in July.

## Friday 4th August

7.30pm

### Peeping Tom

Fast, raunchy, and rocky tunes making for tight, exciting dance music. £16

## Saturday 5th August

7.30pm

### Brown Boots Boogie Band

#### Caller Erin Mansfield

Will Allen on melodeon and Martin Clarke on fiddle are joined by Will Chamberlain on keyboard & Paul Quarry on drums, playing traditional tunes with dance-focused vigour and stomping energy. Bring your boots... £16

## Sunday 6th August

7.30pm

### Whapweasel

#### Caller Gordon Potts

Solid seven piece folk rock dance band who have been delighting and exhausting the folk dance enthusiasts for over 20 years and over that time notched up 7 albums of enthralling, turbo-charged dance music. £16

## Monday 7th August

7.30pm

### Token Women

#### Callers Jo Freya and Fi Fraser

The 'divas of the dance world', this all-female line up play an unusual and inspiring smorgasbord of tunes from around Europe. £16



See [www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk](http://www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk) for more details.



## Tuesday 8th August

7.30pm

### New Callers' Showcase Ceilidh

A chance to dance to some new voices that you will not have heard call at the festival before. Hosted by Shooting Roots with infectious dance rhythms from Out of Hand. £15

If you are an up-and-coming caller and want to get involved, check out the application form at [www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk/ceilidhs/](http://www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk/ceilidhs/)

## Wednesday 9th August

7.30pm

### Morris Wednesday

#### Hosted by Chinewrde Morris

A Queen & King themed evening, with dancing to Relentless, unceasing in enthusiasm, musical adrenaline and fun and blurring the line between traditional and contemporary dance music. £16

## Thursday 10th August

7.30pm

### Sidmouth Seaside Stomper Ceilidh Band

#### Caller Nick Walden

The Children's Festival Workshop Ceilidh Band take the stage for the evening, along with some fabulous entertainment spots. £12 (Children £6 Family £18)

## Friday 11th August

7.00pm

### Celebration Contra

with The English Contra Dance Band and Will Mentor. £16

### The Anchor Inn

The Anchor Inn on Old Fore Street, at the heart of the town and the festival, provides a lively, family-friendly atmosphere. The Garden behind the pub offers a welcome home for lunchtime and late afternoon ceilidhs which include **Flowers & Frolics, Panjandrum, Stumpy Oak, New Bees, Out of Hand, The EFDSS Ceilidh Band, Jigfoot, Mrs Midnight's, The Barber Band** and many more.

# Folk Dance

**Sidmouth Folk Dance 2023 has a wide range of dancing to get your feet stuck into!**

**Will Mentor (USA), The Linda Game Band** and **Bearded Dragons** are headlining the American workshops; **Brooke Friendly (USA), Vicki Swan & Jonny Dyer,** and **Matt Norman & Dave Yeomans** are leading the English workshops. And the wonderful **Rhodri Davies, Andrew Swaine** and **Lynne Render** will be providing a varied mix of English and American workshops and dances. New dancers are being welcomed in even more in 2023 with each stream running its own beginners' workshop included in the main workshop offerings.

Irish Set dancing is back with **Kevin & Carol Monaghan;** Scottish country dance is returning with **Bridget Flett & Chris Toyne;** and **Tim Walker** will be leading the Early Dance with **Fayre Play.** Euro dancing has a big push this year with a daily workshop stream. **Kerry Fletcher** will host the Euro events, with **Chris Dyer** leading on Scandi; and the new band, **Oscina** on Bal.

The evenings will involve Playford, Eurobals, Irish Set dance ceili, and a range of English, American and mixed evening dances. So much choice, only one week to fit it all in!

The calling/teaching style for each ceilidh & folk dance will be shown in the Main Programme out in July.

## Evening highlights include

### Friday 4th August

**7.30pm** Methodist Church Hall  
**Welcome Dance - English** with **Rhodri Davies** and **Dave Yeomans & Christine Dyer.** £16

**7.30pm** St Teresa's Church Hall  
**Welcome Dance - American** with **Andrew Swaine** and **The Linda Game Band.** £16

**7.30pm** All Saints Church  
**Bal** with **Kerry Fletcher** and **Topette!!** £17



Oscina

### Saturday 5th August

**7.30pm** St Teresa's Church Hall  
**American Dance** with **Lynne Render** and **The Linda Game Band.** £16

**7.30pm** Methodist Church Hall  
**Playford Ball** with **Rhodri Davies** and **Vicki Swan & Jonny Dyer.** £16



### Sunday 6th August

**7.30pm** Methodist Church Hall  
**English Dance** with **Rhodri Davies** and **Vicki Swan & Jonny Dyer.** £16

**7.30pm** St Teresa's Church Hall  
**American Dance** with **Lynne Render** and **The Linda Game Band.** £16

**7.30pm** Stowford Rise  
**Euro Dance: Balfolk & Scandi** with **Kerry Fletcher, Oscina, Christine Dyer & Tom Evans.** £16

This Taster Programme offers an overview of the festival.

# Folk Dance

### Monday 7th August

**7.30pm** Methodist Church Hall  
**Mixed Dance** with **Lynne Render** and **Matt Norman & Dave Yeomans.** £16

**7.30pm** Stowford Rise  
**English Dance** with **Brooke Friendly** and **Vicki Swan & Jonny Dyer.** £16

**7.30pm** St Teresa's Church Hall  
**American Dance** with **Rhodri Davis** and **Bearded Dragons.** £16

### Tuesday 8th August

**7.30pm** Stowford Rise  
**Techno Contra** with **Will Mentor** and **Bearded Dragons.** £16

**7.30pm** Methodist Church Hall  
**English Dance** with **Andrew Swaine** and **Matt Norman & Dave Yeomans.** £16

**7.30pm** St Teresa's Church Hall  
**Irish Dance** with **Carol & Kevin Monaghan** and **WillPower.** £16

### Wednesday 9th August

**7.30pm** Stowford Rise  
**American Dance** with **Lynne Render** and **Vicki Swan & Jonny Dyer.** £16

**7.30pm** Methodist Church Hall  
**Euro Dance: Balfolk & Breton** with **Kerry Fletcher, Oscina, Christine Dyer & Tom Evans.** £16

**7.30pm** St Teresa's Church Hall  
**Euro Dance: Balfolk & Breton** with **Kerry Fletcher** with **Oscina** and **Tom Evans.** £16



### Thursday 10th August

**7.30pm** St Teresa's Church Hall  
**American Dance** with **Lynne Render** and **Linda Game Band.** £16

**7.30pm** Methodist Church Hall  
**English Dance** with **Rhodri Davies** and **Matt Norman & Dave Yeomans.** £16

**7.30pm** Con Club  
**Playford Party** with **Andrew Swaine** and **Bearded Dragons.** £16

### Friday 11th August

**7.00pm** Blackmore Gardens Marquee  
**Celebration Contra** with **English Contra Dance Band** and **Will Mentor.** £16

**7.00pm** Methodist Church Hall  
**Celebration Bal** with **Kerry Fletcher** with **Oscina** and **Tom Evans.** £16



Brooke Friendly

# At a Glance

Time		Adult (Residents)	25 & Under (6-25yrs) Limited number	Child 6-17 (Residents)	Advance Rate Booking
<b>Thursday 3rd August</b>					
7.30pm	The Ham Pre- Festival Special: <b>Fisherman's Friends</b>	£42 (£38)		£21 (£19)	✓
<b>Friday 4th August</b>					
3pm	The Ham Pre- Festival Special: <b>Barbara Dickson &amp; Nick Holland</b>	£37 (£33)		£19 (£17)	✓
7.30pm	Methodist Church Hall • <b>Welcome English Dance</b>	£16		£8	✗
7.30pm	Blackmore Gardens Marquee • <b>Ceilidh</b>	£16		£8	✗
7.30pm	All Saints Church • <b>Bal with Topette!!</b>	£17			✗
8pm	The Ham • <b>Banter</b> This first concert is included in Week and Weekend tickets at no extra charge.	£24 (£19)	£10		✓
8.15pm	The Bulverton* Doors open 7pm • <b>Kathryn Tickell &amp; the Darkening</b> Bulverton tickets include Late Night Extra events and Betsy's sessions	£22 (£17)	£10	£11 (£9)	✓
<b>Saturday 5th August</b>					
11.30am	The Ham • <b>Opening Welcome Concert</b>	Collection			✗
3pm	Manor Pavilion • <b>Halsway Young Folk</b>	£8		£4	✗
3.15pm	The Ham • <b>Leveret + McCusker McGoldrick Doyle</b>	£25 (£20)	£10		✓
3.15pm	Blackmore Gardens Marquee • <b>Dance Spectacular</b>	Collection			✗
7.30pm	Blackmore Gardens Marquee • <b>Ceilidh</b>	£16		£8	✗
7.30pm	Methodist Church Hall • <b>Playford Ball</b>	£16		£8	✗
8pm	The Ham • <b>Le Vent du Nord</b>	£35 (£30)	£10		✓
8pm	Manor Pavilion • <b>The Undoing of Polly Button</b>	£19		£10	✓
8.15pm	The Bulverton* Doors and Sessions 7pm • <b>Blackbeards Tea Party</b> Bulverton tickets include Late Night Extra events and Betsy's sessions	£18 (£13)	£10	£9 (£7)	✓
<b>Sunday 6th August</b>					
12noon	The Ham • <b>From Pub to Pulpit</b>	£18 (£13)	£10		✓
3pm	Blackmore Gardens Marquee • <b>John Gasson Jig Competition</b>	Collection			✗
3.30pm	Manor Pavilion • <b>1918 - The Untold Stories Of The Great War</b>	£18		£9	✓
3.15pm	The Ham • <b>Lady Maisery</b>	£25 (£20)	£10		✓
7.30pm	Methodist Church Hall • <b>English Dance</b>	£16		£8	✗
7.30pm	Blackmore Gardens Marquee • <b>Ceilidh</b>	£16		£8	✗
8pm	The Ham • <b>Show of Hands</b>	£37 (£32)	£10		✓
8.15pm	The Bulverton* Doors and Sessions 7pm • <b>Grace Petrie</b> Bulverton tickets include Late Night Extra events and Betsy's sessions	£26 (£21)	£10	£13 (£11)	✓
<b>Monday 7th August</b>					
12noon	The Ham • <b>John Tams</b>	£22 (£17)	£10		✓
3pm	Manor Pavilion • <b>Harp &amp; a Monkey - The Victorians</b>	£18		£9	✓
3.15pm	The Ham • <b>Breabach</b>	£27 (£22)	£10		✓
7.30pm	Blackmore Gardens Marquee • <b>Ceilidh</b>	£16		£8	✗
7.30pm	Stowford Rise • <b>English Dance</b>	£16		£8	✗
8pm	The Ham • <b>The Unthanks</b>	£37 (£32)	£10		✓
8.15pm	The Bulverton* Doors and Sessions 7pm • <b>Skerryvore</b> Bulverton tickets include Late Night Extra events and Betsy's sessions	£29 (£24)	£10	£15 (£13)	✓

Advance Rate tickets available until Midnight 30 July. From Monday 31 July At The Festival ticket rates apply.  
 All Festival events are included in All-in-One tickets (excluding the 2 pre-festival concerts)  
 Season Tickets include all Festival events except Pre-festivals & Sat to Thu Ham evening concerts for the period of the ticket.  
 Prices in brackets are the discount price for season ticket holders and local residents as appropriate.  
 See Festival Programme (available in July) for full event details.

# At a Glance

Time		Adult (Residents)	25 & Under (6-25yrs) Limited number	Child (6-17)	Advance Rate Booking
<b>Tuesday 8th August</b>					
12noon	The Ham • <b>Brighde Chaimbeul Trio</b>	£20 (£15)	£10		✓
3.15pm	Blackmore Gardens Marquee • <b>Dance Spectacular</b>	Collection			✗
3.15pm	The Ham • <b>Eliza Carthy Trio</b>	£27 (£22)	£10		✓
7.30pm	Blackmore Gardens Marquee • <b>New Callers' Showcase Ceilidh</b>	£15		£8	✗
7.30pm	Stowford Rise • <b>Techno Contra</b>	£16		£8	✗
8pm	Manor Pavilion • <b>Lewis Wood's Footwork</b>	£19		£10	✓
8pm	The Ham • <b>Saltlines (Raynor Wynn with Gigspanner Big Band)</b>	£35 (£30)	£10		✓
8.15pm	The Bulverton* Doors and Sessions 7pm • <b>Talisk</b> Bulverton tickets include Late Night Extra events and Betsy's sessions	£26 (£21)	£10	£13 (£11)	✓
<b>Wednesday 9th August</b>					
12noon	The Ham • <b>Dominie Hooper</b>	£18 (£13)	£10		✓
3.15pm	The Ham • <b>Paul Sartin Tribute</b>	£25 (£20)	£10		✓
7.30pm	Blackmore Gardens Marquee • <b>Morris Wednesday with Relentless</b>	£16		£8	✗
7.30pm	Methodist Church Hall • <b>English Dance</b>	£16		£8	✗
7.30pm	Stowford Rise • <b>American Dance</b>	£16		£8	✗
8pm	Manor Pavilion • <b>Stolen From God with Reg Meuross &amp; Cohen Braithwaite-Kilcoyne</b>	£23		£12	✓
8pm	The Ham • <b>Lindisfarne</b>	£37 (£32)	£10		✓
8.15pm	The Bulverton* Doors and Sessions 7pm • <b>Peat &amp; Diesel</b> Bulverton tickets include Late Night Extra events and Betsy's sessions	£22 (£17)	£10	£11 (£9)	✓
<b>Thursday 10th August</b>					
12noon	The Ham • <b>Angeline Morrison</b>	£18 (£13)	£10		✓
3.15pm	Blackmore Gardens Marquee • <b>Dance Spectacular</b>	Collection			✗
3.15pm	The Ham • <b>Maddy Prior &amp; the Forgotten Lands</b>	£27 (£22)	£10		✓
7.30pm	Blackmore Gardens Marquee • <b>Ceilidh with Sidmouth Seaside Stompers</b>	£12 £18 Family		£6	✗
7.30pm	Methodist Church Hall • <b>English Dance</b>	£16		£8	✗
8pm	The Ham • <b>Cara Dillon</b>	£32 (£27)	£10		✓
8pm	Manor Pavilion • <b>The Folk Detectives with Matthew Crampton and Paul Hutchinson</b>	£18		£9	✓
8.15pm	The Bulverton* Doors and Sessions 7pm • <b>Seth Lakeman Band</b> Bulverton tickets include Late Night Extra events and Betsy's sessions	£26 (£21)	£10	£13 (£11)	✓
<b>Friday 11th August</b>					
12noon	The Ham • <b>Workshop Showcase</b>	Collection			✗
3.15pm	The Ham • <b>The Magpie Arc</b>	£27 (£22)	£10		✓
7pm	Blackmore Gardens Marquee • <b>Celebration Contra</b>	£16		£8	✗
7pm	Methodist Church Hall • <b>Celebration Bal</b>	£16		£8	✗
7.30pm	The Ham • <b>The Young'uns</b> This final concert is included in Week and Friday Day tickets at no extra charge	£25 (£20)	£10		✓
7.30pm	Manor Pavilion • <b>Exmouth Shanty Men</b>	£16		£8	✓
10pm	Esplanade • <b>Torchlight Procession</b>	Collection			✗
11pm	The Bulverton* • <b>Late Night Extra</b>	£16		£8	✗

\*The Bulverton Marquee is a Standing Venue.

# Tickets

## All-in-One Tickets: Week and Weekend

Give admission to all events at the Festival, space permitting, except Pre-Festival Events for which there is a discount. For all events, All-in-One Ticket holders have priority over customers paying at the door, up to 10 minutes before the start of the event.

**AiO Week: Adult £549 / 25 & Under £382 / Youth £250 / Child £164**

**AiO Weekend: Adult £242 / 25 & Under £168 / Youth £106 / Child £53**

## Bulverton-in-One Tickets

Gives admission to all 8 days of Bulverton events and includes Full Week Camping.

**Available for 18-25 and 25+. BiO: 18-25 £172 / 25+ £242**

## Week Season Tickets

Give admission, space permitting, to all events at the Festival except Ham Marquee Evening Concerts (Sat-Thurs) and Pre-Festival Events, for both of which there is a discount. Week Ticket holders have priority over customers paying at the door, up to 10 minutes before the start of the event.

**Week: Adult £399 / 25 & Under £269 / Youth £169 / Child £85**

## Day and Weekend Season Tickets

If you can't come for the whole Festival, buy a Day or Weekend Ticket. They have the same conditions as the Week Tickets, for the appropriate time period. The Weekend ticket covers Friday to Sunday.

**Weekend: Adult £176 / 25 & Under £119 / Youth £72 / Child £35**  
**Day: Adult £88 / 25 & Under £59 / Youth £35 / Child £17**

**25 & Under (18-25), Youths (12-17) and Children (6-11)**  
There are discounted tickets for all of the above. Ages are calculated as at 4 August 2023. Children 5 and under free.

## Advance Event Tickets

Advance Tickets are available for events marked with an **A**. Advance Rate tickets available until Midnight 30 July. From Monday 31 July At The Festival ticket rates apply.

## Children's Prices

Prices for events in this Taster Programme for children (6-17) are half the adult price shown, rounded up to the nearest £ where necessary. Children under 5 go free. Children under 12 (and Youths under 16 for Bulverton Late Night Extra events) must be accompanied by a responsible adult for all performance events.

# Small Stages: Big Heart

One of the many bonuses of a week-long festival are the many opportunities to see festival guests in more intimate spaces, in small venues around the town, as well as headlining main stages.

The **EFDSS Presents** concerts showcase the talents of the established and emerging folk stars of the next generation, including recipients of EFDSS Bursaries. Look out for **Owen Spafford & Louis Campbell, Frankie Archer, Amy Hollinrake, Johnny Campbell, Jennie Higgins** and more.

The popular **Cellar Full of Folkadelia** inspired by the late lamented fRoots and now co-curated with Folk Radio UK, takes place in the Cellar Bar at Kennaway House and

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## Family Ticket Offer

Buy at least one Adult ticket and pay for one Youth (12-17) or Child (6-11) and the next Child ticket is FREE.

## Pre-Festival Concerts

Thursday 3rd August 7.30pm - FISHERMEN'S FRIENDS

Friday 4th August 3.00pm - BARBARA DICKSON

See pages 12-13 for ticket price information

## How to Book

### Online

[www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk](http://www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk)

Payment by credit/debit card. All ticket purchases will receive an email receipt which needs to be presented to the selected festival box office on arrival at the festival.

### By Post

Download the Booking Form from the Tickets page at [www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk](http://www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk) and send to Sidmouth Folk Festival Tickets, Tourist Information Centre, Ham Lane, Sidmouth EX10 8XR. Cheques should be made payable to Sidmouth TIC and should reach the TIC by 1st July at the latest.

### From Monday 31st July

Tickets can be bought from the Folk Festival Box Office (near the Ham Marquee). Tel: 01395 577952. Open 12noon-8pm 31st July, 9am-8pm 1st-10th August, 9am-6pm 11th August. The Folk Festival Box Office will accept telephone bookings for event tickets until 5pm on the day of the event for evening shows with advance tickets, and 1pm for Ham afternoon concerts.

### Refunds

No refunds or exchanges.

All prices include VAT at 20% VAT Reg 878 4532 77. We undertake not to sell, distribute, disclose or otherwise misuse any contact information given to us. We will not post any tickets. A receipt will be emailed and this can be exchanged for tickets on arrival in Sidmouth. Sidmouth FolkWeek Productions Ltd (registered in England No 05610997) can give no guarantee that any events will take place, or any artists will perform at any particular time, or at all. We will, however, make every effort to carry out the programme as advertised. See website for full terms and conditions.

includes **Shovel Dance Collective, The Brothers Gillespie, Cerys Hafana, Mishra with Deepa Shakti and Flo Perlin**.

The Old Meeting House Unitarian Chapel is home to some special acoustic concerts including 'the fiddler with the Midas touch' **Sam Sweeney**, and join special guests at our campfire sessions under the stars at Bulverton.

See the Main Programme in July for a full schedule of all venues.

This Taster Programme offers an overview of the festival.

# Manor Pavilion

The Manor Pavilion is a traditional theatre space, ideal for many of the special Sidmouth shows. **Highlights include:**

## Saturday 5th August 8pm

**The Undoing of Polly Button** by Katherine Fear.

Polly Button was a historical figure from the nineteenth century whose story serves as an example of courage in the face of adversity. At the heart of this story which has been worked into a poignant musical retelling, there is a battle for women's rights, a mystery which may never be fully solved and a lesson of resilience. **A £19**

## Sunday 6th August 3.30pm

**1918 - The Untold Stories Of The Great War**, with **Chris Hoban, The Sidmouth Town Band** & special festival guests. A chronological journey of music, history, anecdote and humour exploring some of the less familiar characters and events of World War One. **A £18**

## Monday 7th August 3pm

**Harp & a Monkey - The Victorians**. Award-winning trio **Harp & a Monkey** specialise in poignant, humorous and melodic song and stories. The Victorians features a collection of largely forgotten Victorian street, parlour, work, popular and rural songs and stories reworked for contemporary ears. It is safe to say that you can expect some unusual insights into the whole Victorian period. **A £18**

## Tuesday 8th August 8pm

**Lewis Wood's Footwork** - a celebration of English Step Dancing, this show brings together these varied traditions and the experiences of those who have lived and breathed them, all set to a backdrop of exquisite newly composed music. **A £19**



Lewis Wood's Footwork

## Wednesday 9th August 8pm

**Stolen From God** with **Reg Meuross & Cohen Braithwaite-Kilcoyne**. With evidence of the slave trade across the South-West of England, and a real need for our history to be told, **Reg Meuross** has researched and written a song cycle 'Stolen From God' - a set of moving and thought provoking songs, with narration, to tell the challenging and often harrowing tales of the region's past. **A £23**



## Thursday 10th August 8pm

**The Folk Detectives** are upholding the lore - the Folklore. Join **Matthew Crampton** and **Paul Hutchinson** for some bold but inept examination of our nation's heritage. In this thirteenth pilot for their new podcast, they'll challenge the 'experts' with outlandish theories, unusual songs, and their distinctive 'humour'. **A £18**

## Fri 11th August 7.30pm

**Tall Ships & Tavern Tales**. Take a voyage in song from the high seas to dockside alehouses with **Exmouth Shanty Men**. **A £16**

A limited number of advance event tickets are available for each of the above shows marked with **A**.

See [www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk](http://www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk) for the Main Programme in July & full Manor Schedule.

## Traditional Nights Out

return to the Arts Centre, hosted by **Dan Quinn & Mike Bettison**. Guests include **Sara Grey, Pete Coe, The McCarthy Family, Katie Howson & Roger Digby, Vic Legg, Peta Webb & Ken Hall, Ron Taylor & Moira Craig, Peter & Barbara Snape, Paul Downes & Annie Winter, Scott Gardiner** and more. **Bob & Gill Berry** host Acoustic Evenings at The Woodlands Hotel with plenty of opportunities to sing, say and play. The Woodlands also hosts Ballad Sessions with **Sheila Miller & Moira Craig**.

See [www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk](http://www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk) for more details.

## Spoken Word

Storytelling is an integral part of The Sidmouth Folk Festival. This year we welcome dramatic performances and inspiring tales from **Debs Newbold, Pat Ryan, Fiona Eadie & Hannah Moore** and **Rattlebox** amongst others. Storytelling Circles return with **Janet Dowling & Ean Richardson**, look out for storyrounds and late night stories with **Tom Goodale**. Poetry for All sessions are back with **Ilse Pedler** in the Royal Glen Hotel, and more to come.

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# Workshops

A comprehensive programme of workshops with a dazzling variety of music, dance and song options offer wonderful opportunities to follow your curiosity and to learn and develop skills in a safe and welcoming community of teachers and learners.



Try one-off taster sessions or commit to week-long series. Join in with perennial favourites or try something totally new. Many series lead to showcase performances at the end of the week.

Festival Regulars include **Sandra Kerr**, back at the helm of the Sidmouth Festival Choir, **John Kirkpatrick** with his Festival Concert Band and **Nick & Mary Barber** with the Big Band. **Kitty Greenwood's** Fiddle for Beginners, **John Dipper's** advanced fiddle workshops, **Saul Rose** with Advanced Melodeon, **Paul Scourfield** for Intermediate Melodeon and **Pat Brennan's** Beginners' Whistle workshops.

If you want to start a new hobby, **Squeezebox from Scratch (Ed Rennie & Helena Painting)** return with Absolute Beginners' Melodeon, plus a new 'Next Step' series for previous participants, **Bob Ellis** joins us with Melodeon for Relative Beginners and a brilliant entry into the world of session playing with Well-Known Tunes at a Steady Pace.

New for this year is **Steve Turner** with concertina song accompaniment, plus **Stephen Rowley** brings us both Playing for Cotswold Morris and a Mumming Skills workshop.



Folkulele is back with **Norma Mills**, leading a beginners & experienced series of ukulele workshops based on folk song, and popular percussion workshops include **Jo May** on spoons, **Louisa Davies-Foley** on bones and **Alice Jones** on body percussion.

As well as our popular choir, song-based workshops include song crafting with **Lady Maisery**, harmony singing with **Daisybell**, West Gallery Music and Shape Note, Sean Nos, **Stream of Sound** with more singing workshops for grown-ups, Classical Indian Song with **Samia Malik** and an exploration of the human voice with **Maddy Prior & Rose-Ellen Kemp**.

For dancers, there's a wealth of Folk Dance from Contra to English Country Dance and Ritual Dance from Rapper to Border Morris. Swing dance with **Hannah Moore** including Lindy Hop, jazz moves for solo dancers and high energy moves like the Charleston, and Early dance returns with **Tim Walker & Fayre Play**. **Kerry Fletcher** returns with a whole week of European dance, Scandi with **Chris Dyer** and **Oscina** on Bal, there's Scottish with **Bridget Flett & Chris Toyne**, Irish Set with **Kevin & Carol Monaghan** and **Avatar Indian Dance** are back for more of their very popular Bhangra. English & American dancers are spoilt for choice with **Will Mentor**, **Brooke Friendly**, **Rhodri Davies**, **Andrew Swaine & Lynne Render**. Stepping workshops return, including one linked to **Lewis Wood's** Footwork show.



There are storytelling workshops and storyrounds, poetry sessions with **Ilse Pedler**, guided walks, plus a wide range of talks and presentations with **Reg Meuross**, **Sara Grey**, **Peter & Barbara Snape**, **Stephen Rowley**, **The McCarthy Family**, **Hannah Sanders**, **Michael Heaney**, **Jennie Higgins**, **Maddie Morris**, **Amy Hollinrake** and many more.

The Bulverton Creative Making sessions return with **Mark Clarke**, offering a community build, metalworking, resin flowers and more.

Workshops & Talks are included in All-in-One, Week, Weekend and Day tickets. For non-season ticket holders a book of 6 Workshop Passes offers advance savings.

See [www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk](http://www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk) for the Main Programme in July for full workshop details.

## Festival Souvenirs

Unique Festival Souvenirs are on sale at The Ham and Blackmore Gardens official Merchandise stalls. You can buy T-shirts and a host of other souvenirs and collectors' items with special designs for The Sidmouth Festival by David Owen, the internationally renowned graphic artist.

Come and browse to pick up something special to mark your time at the Festival.

This Taster Programme offers an overview of the festival.

# Children's Festival

The Children's Festival is back for 2023. Situated at the beautiful Peacock Lawns, this is the perfect place for families of all ages to come and relax and find a space just for them. Throughout the week the Children's Festival will be playing host to storytelling, dance, music, crafting and some very special surprises.

## A Full Week of Activities

For over 8s there's a brilliant selection of workshops and performances including **Sidmouth's Songswell Choir**, **Bollywood dance workshops**, **beginner's ukulele**, **songwriting workshops**, and the ceilidh dance workshop **The Sidmouth Seaside Stompers**. All this plus a huge range of crafting activities including the return of the ever popular Story In A Box!

**Ages 5-7** can sign up for **The Minims Beginners Band**, a great way to take your first steps in playing together with other people. **The Sidmouth Mini Singers** are also back, led by **Jackie Oates**, offering little voices the chance to sing and perform together. Those with a spring in their step won't want to miss **Mini Morris** workshops and will also enjoy traditional songs and singing games from **Paul Scourfield**.



David Gibb's Family Jukebox

For ages 0-4 we've introduced a brand new space specially designed with small people in mind - **The Rainbow Tent**. Kitted out with picture books and toys, The Rainbow Tent will host a sensory story playtime session every morning and will also act as a place to feed, change and generally have a bit of quiet time later in the day for parents and their little ones.

We know that families come in all shapes and sizes - and ages! With this in mind, we've made sure that there's lots going on for the whole family to enjoy together.

See [www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk](http://www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk) for more details.

Storyteller extraordinaire **Ian Douglas** will be delivering morning and teatime storytelling sessions which are guaranteed to have parents and children alike spellbound. We're delighted to have **Thingamajig Theatre** back to Sidmouth who'll be delivering lantern making workshops throughout the week ready for the spectacular torchlit procession. They'll also be popping up around the festival site with their incredible **Flying Dodos**, and their **A La Puppet Carte** theatre shows! We're also very excited to be introducing the '**Sidmouth Festival Postal Service**' - a really fun way for children to post and receive letters to each other throughout the festival.

Finally, after taking a break last year, we're delighted that the **Young Performer's Stage** will be returning to Sidmouth Folk Festival, at its new home in Peacock Lawn. It's a great showcase of some of the best young talent that the UK folk scene has to offer. Bring your lunch and a picnic blanket and enjoy some brilliant music.

## When The Lights Go Down

There's nothing that quite beats sitting down as a whole family and getting to enjoy an evening of brilliant theatre, music, and dance. Saturday evening kicks off with **David Gibb's Family Jukebox**, a live gig experience for families, where wolves roam the school corridors, dragons live under the bed and teddy bears dance the night away at the disco. On Sunday, world famous magical explorer, **Professor Jigget**, brings his collection of **Storytelling Suitcases** to Sidmouth. Inside each one is a world of magic and mayhem! The rest of the week includes two brilliant storytelling shows from **Ian Douglas** and **Gacko**, guaranteed



Thingamajig Theatre

to bring music and merriment to all. **Under The Bed Theatre** will be joining us to perform their brilliant musical family show **Where The Lost Socks Go**, with lots of songs, joining in and, of course, socks! The week rounds off with the world-famous **Stomping Ceilidh**, featuring the **Sidmouth Seaside Stompers Ceilidh Band** led by Team STOMPIT!

## Tickets

The best way to make sure that children get the most value out of the Children's Festival is to purchase a children's season ticket for the week. This gives priority access to all events in the Children's Programme - space permitting. These are available in advance online or from the Sidmouth Tourist Information Centre - local families might want to check out the special resident's ticket deal for children.



Gacko

# Youth Festival with Shooting Roots and Stream of Sound

Shooting Roots will be back at Sidmouth bringing you a full programme of the youth workshops you know and love! And we can't wait!

If you're new to **Shooting Roots** and not quite sure what this all involves, come and join us for our taster session on Saturday 5th August to get a flavour for the rest of the week, and then newbies and old hands alike can get stuck in on the Sunday with our Craft Day, learning exciting traditional craft skills and making something to take home.

During the rest of the week, there are regular workshops for 12-17 year olds in Dance, Band, Theatre and Storytelling. And for some spectacular singing, our friends over at **Stream of Sound** have got you covered with

their fabulous daily workshops. These will lead up to performances in the youth showcase, a dance out and a storyround!

Daytime workshops are not the only events we have up our sleeves this year. We are super excited to be hosting the **New Callers Showcase** again on Tuesday 8th. This will be a varied and refreshing evening of dancing at which we would love to see lots of familiar faces, whether dancing or calling! Check out the application form on the festival website if you want to call.



Our famous Betsy's Bash sessions will of course have a place in our evening programme too, where we'll be joining by some of Scotland's finest young musicians from **Feis Rois Ceilidh Trail**.

With this bursting programme of events throughout the week, there's never a dull moment for young people at Sidmouth Folk Festival, and we can't wait to share this week with all of you!

See you there!



## The Festival Fringe

During the festival there are plenty of opportunities for singers and musicians to participate in informal sessions. Many are listed in the Festival Programme, others are part of our much valued Fringe programme. **The Middle Bar Singers** are firmly established in the upstairs room of **The Anchor Inn** every lunchtime and evening. Their financial support of the Festival is much appreciated.

The Festival now programmes evening music and song sessions and morning singarounds in **The Royal York & Faulkner**. Musicians are also welcome at **Pynes Bar** in **The Bedford Hotel**, **The Swan Inn**, **The Volunteer**, **The Radway** and **The Balfour Inn**. Please support the Festival by giving generously to the Collectors' tins in these venues.



This Taster Programme offers an overview of the festival.

# Food & Drink / Craft & Music Village

**The Rusty Pig**, our main caterer, comes roaring back to the Ham, full of 2023 Oink, to bring us very fine cooking from their local restaurants for the festival scene. Master Chef Robin Rea has created a new 2023 menu for the Festival, combining fabulous new flavours with some good old favourites and of course Tom's pies.



All our caterers celebrated 'Sidmouth is Back' in 2022 with the return of the 'proper job' Festival. This year they are building on an even bigger event to bring you more variety and quality. At the Ham, **Rusty Pig** and **The Plant Cafe** (veggie) are joined by the **Bean Machine Coffee**, with Espresso Martinis, cake and ridiculous Elvis doughnuts, all served out of the beautiful Airstream Café. **Salcombe Dairy's** Ice Cream Parlour is a staple of the Ham outdoors and in the Marquee during the intervals. We give a hearty welcome back to **Oh Crepes**, a roaring success last year. New this year are **Sukhino Smoothies**: we are really excited about these blenders of practically anything & everything, and all are Sukhino = Free from Harm.



See [www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk](http://www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk) for more details.

In Blackmore Gardens, you'll find the Craft and Music Village under the trees, bringing with them our star, super duper vegetarian **Café Dish**, splendid **Salcombe Dairy** ice cream, quality coffee and drinks from the unique **Tin Shack**, the very popular **Fat Fox café** with quality burgers as just part of their wide menu and **Harry's Kitchen**: With a multitude of special twists on fish & chips, mussels, seafood, curry, kids portions and more. Tucked away amongst the Craft stalls, you will also find **Froth and Grind** who have moved down from up the hill at Bulverton last year.

This year at the Bulverton, we are cooking up some special eating options for lovers of 'Life on the Hill'! You can eat here the whole evening and late for the Betsy's Loungers. Look out for more news later, but hope to see our South Indian friends **Maya's Kitchen** amongst others.

For all you hungry campers, our Campsite caterers will be serving you something special to get your day going, kickstart the late risers and restore your reserves for the evening ahead.

When it comes to getting the Festival buzz all day, there's no better place than sitting out at the Ham, our go-to destination for excellent food and drinks. And that's where you will meet the **Anchor's Away** bar team and their well stocked bar of ales, ciders, wines, spirits, and more. They are featuring our Brewery Sponsor, Exeter Brewery, with an outstanding range of ales and lager.

**The Blackmore Volunteer** bar team are flying high after a great 2022 in Blackmore serving into and out of the Gardens dance venue, and spreading their wings to Bulverton to great acclaim from the hill toppers. There will be a lovely range of ales from main sponsors Exeter Brewery and local 'Special Festival Status' breweries including Powderkeg & more. There will be a full range of wines and spirits on offer, alongside the ales and lagers.

From the true home of cider, up in the beautiful Devon heartlands, Sandford Orchards bring us delicious craft and fruit varieties, both fizzy and still, for all Festival cider lovers – Simply the Best, Better than All the Rest...



## Craft & Music Village

The eclectic and exciting Craft & Music Village is bigger and better than ever and back in Blackmore Gardens in the heart of town. We bring a wide and beautiful array of gifts and crafts from around the South West as well as slightly further afield with both returning friends and new favourites!

Open daily throughout the Festival (including longer opening times every day from 10am to 7pm), the Craft & Music Village provides an opportunity to browse and discover that memento of The Sidmouth Folk Festival to take home with you.

Our acoustic music stage brings added music, dancing, entertainment, craft displays and workshops as well as 'pop-up' stalls only trading for a day or two offering all sorts of things to enhance your Folk Festival experience.

Café Dish once again returns to tempt you with their culinary creativity and with picnic benches aplenty, you can relax, unwind, peruse and purchase at your leisure.

## Display Dance

Once again, the Festival will be showcasing a diverse range of British dance traditions, performed by some of the very best teams from across the country and this year across an ocean too with **Compass Roses** bringing us dances and songs from North America.



During the week the teams can be seen in Processions, 'Chance to Meets', in displays around the town and along the seafront, in Dance Spectaculars in the Blackmore Dance Marquee and Connaught Gardens, and in other special events. Apart from these, Sunday will also feature as usual the astonishingly high standards of jig dancing in the **John Gasson Jig Competition**, while **Chinewrde Morris** are promising a fun packed evening as hosts of Morris Wednesday.



### Highlights include

#### Saturday 5th August

**3.15pm Blackmore Gardens Marquee Dance Spectacular** A taster of some of this year's dance teams.

#### Sunday 6th August

**1.30pm Port Royal Sidmouth Horse Trials**

Hobby horses and beasts of disguise compete for the prestigious Aardman trophy.

**3pm Blackmore Gardens Marquee The 35th John Gasson Jig Competition**  
Astounding high standards of energetic jigs.

*All afternoon Display Dance events in Blackmore Gardens Marquee and Connaught Gardens are open access. Please give generously to Festival Collectors.*

This year's dance workshops will once again be catering for a range of abilities, and will include workshops in North West Morris, Rapper, Appalachian, Cotswold, Border, Stepping and Irish dance. **Michael Heaney** will be talking about his new rigorously researched book 'The Ancient English Morris Dance', and there will also be a talk on the origins of Sheffield's Handsworth Sword Dancers.

Dance teams invited to perform this year include **Aurora Appalachian, Bampton Traditional Morris Dancers, Berkshire Bedlam, Chiltern Hundreds Clog Morris, Chinewrde Morris, Compass Roses (US / Canada), Handsworth Traditional Sword Dancers, JD & Folk, Luascadh Irish Dancers, Northgate Rapper, Pecseatan Morris, The Shropshire Bedlams and Martha Rhoden's Tuppeny Dish, and Tower Ravens Rapper.**



### Dance Spectaculars

**3.15pm Tuesday, Thursday Blackmore Gardens Marquee**

**2.30pm Monday, Wednesday, Friday Connaught Gardens**

### A Chance to Meet

**1pm Sunday to Friday Blackmore Gardens Marquee**

### Processions

**2.30pm Saturday & Thursday**  
from the seafront to Blackmore Gardens

**10pm Friday 11th August Torchlight Procession**

**This Taster Programme offers an overview of the festival.**

## Sponsorship, Grants and Donations

### Sidmouth Town Council

Sidmouth Town Council has again renewed its significant and long term support for the Festival, demonstrating the importance of this internationally renowned event to the town as a resort and to its businesses. Town Council support has enabled us to develop the Children's Festival, our Social dance offering and our main venue programmes. All areas of the Festival benefit from this support, including the Festival's organisational structure and Marketing, particularly our rapidly growing Social media coverage, with a reach of over 2m during Festival week.

### Devon County Council

We are grateful to Devon County Council for their support of the Folk Festival which is a major West Country event and particularly important to Devon. County support helps us to strengthen our main concert programme and provide for new Young People's initiatives.

### EFDS

The English Folk Dance and Song Society co-curate another series of Folk Rising Plus concerts and a showcase featuring some of their Bursary recipients.

### Folk Radio UK

Folk Radio UK have joined us to co-curate the Folkadelia concert series.

### Halsway Manor

Halsway Manor, the national centre for the folk arts, showcase their Young Folk participants in concerts and sessions.



### Sidmouth Businesses and Organisations

The Festival provides a significant benefit to town and local area businesses and organisations.

There is a strong recognition that significant business sponsorship is needed to sustain the event.

The Festival Sponsorship programme, with five bands from Bronze to Platinum, advertising promotional opportunities and Social Media support through the year and particularly over an extended period prior to and during the Festival, reaches tens of thousands of festival-goers and visitors.

Local Festival sponsors and advertisers are identified by Business Supporter posters in their windows and are listed in the Festival Programme. Please support them by using these businesses whenever you can.

## Join Friends of The Sidmouth Folk Festival Keeping The Tradition

For nearly 70 years, the Festival in Sidmouth has been a vibrant and innovative event in the cultural life of the town, and in the national folk music and dance calendar. The town-based festival offers an array of events reflecting the diversity of the folk arts, including dance, song, music and storytelling. The continuation of the tradition has always been a priority for the Folk Festival and this is reflected in the huge variety of workshops for both adults and children. In recent Festivals, Friends' donations have supported some of the Ham Marquee headline concerts and the Workshop programme.

By becoming a member of the Friends of The Sidmouth Folk Festival, you would help to make a contribution to the continued existence of the Festival and towards its future development. The money raised is put into a fund administered by Sidmouth FolkWeek Limited, a registered charity (no. 1111958).

Please support the sustainability of the Festival by becoming a Friend of The Sidmouth Folk Festival. Just go online to [sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk](http://sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk) to download a membership form, look for the Friends page under 'Information'. Please tick the Gift Aid box to increase the value of your membership, if you qualify as a UK taxpayer.

Individual membership - £20 per year  
Joint membership - £35 per year  
Group membership - £50 per year

### Sidmouth Folk Festival Grand Draw 2023

Top prize £1000. Many other valuable prizes. Tickets on sale from 1 June until Thursday 10 August. Promoted by Sidmouth FolkWeek Ltd (Charity no. 1111958)

### Legacies

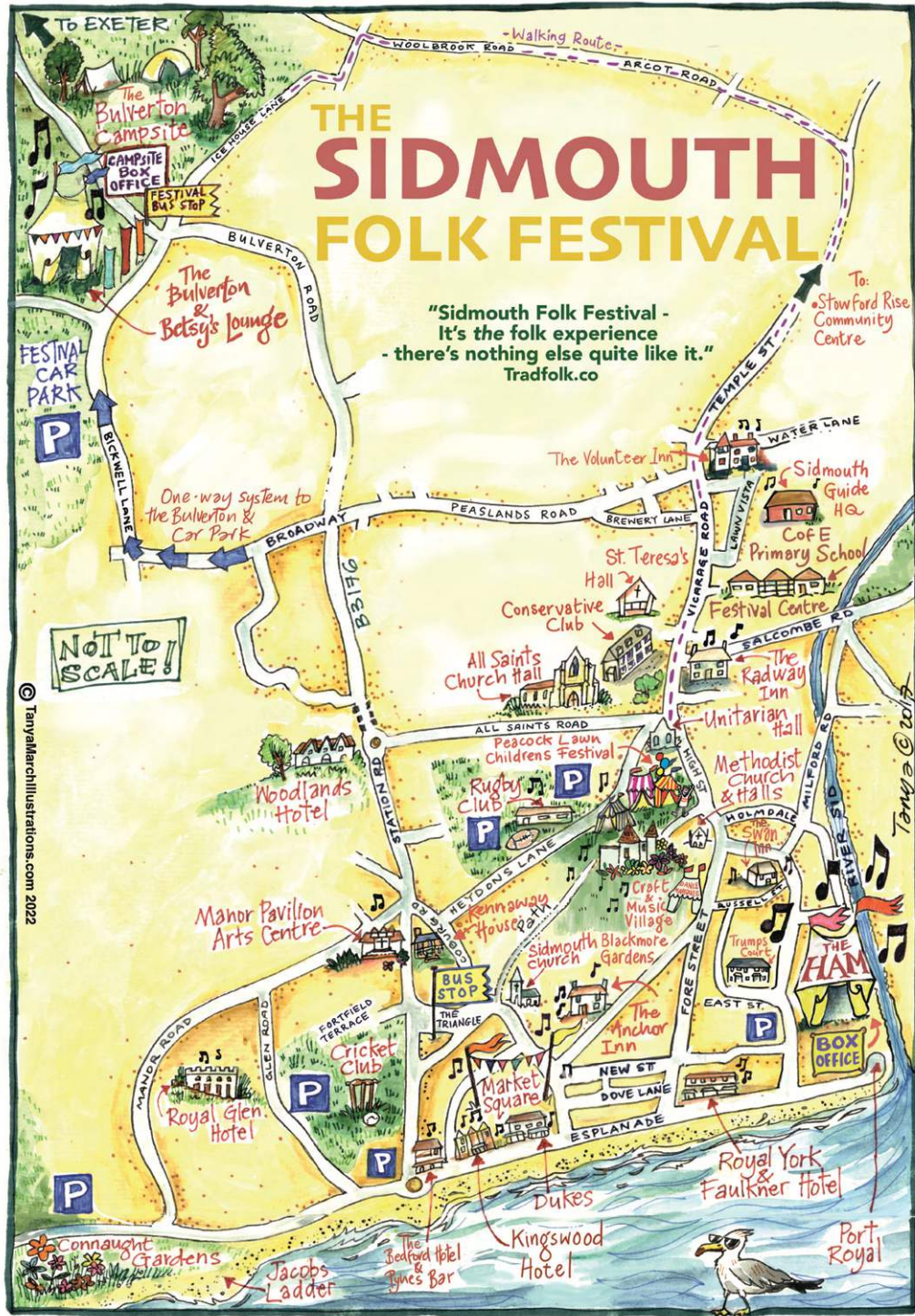
What Will Your Legacy Be?

Help the future of the festival by leaving a legacy in your will.

Further details:

[www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk/legacyscheme/](http://www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk/legacyscheme/)





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## FAQs

### Where is Sidmouth?

Sidmouth is on the East Devon 'Jurassic' Coast, just a few miles from junction 30 of the M5. The nearest stations are at Exeter or Honiton with regular bus services into Sidmouth.

The Festival is held throughout the Regency Town using a wide variety of seated & standing venues.

### Transport and Parking

Car parks are available at the Cricket and Rugby Clubs and Bedford Lawn (all festival sponsors), as well as The Ham and Manor Road. The Official Festival Car Park is next to The Bulverton: a short walk down the hill takes you to the Campsite bus stop and into town. The Festival Buses provide a timetabled service from the Campsite (near to The Bulverton) to the Town Centre and also include a regular service via town supermarkets.



### Festival Campsite

The Festival Campsite is located about 1.5 miles from the seafront, on Bulverton Road, B3176, with great views across the valley.

Facilities include trailer toilets, as well as portaloos, showers and washing up sinks, plus a convenient Hub area with box office, delicious festival catering, a campsite office and a useful general meeting area.

We have a designated quieter family camping area, and the accessibility area of the campsite is available to pre-book - simply contact [access@sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk](mailto:access@sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk) after purchasing your ticket.

The Festival Campsite is available to all those attending the Festival with tents, motorhomes and caravans. Festival Ticket holders get a preferential rate and should book in advance. Those without a ticket can stay at the Campsite at the higher non ticket (NT) rate. Children 5 and under are free with an adult camping ticket. Under 18s must be booked with a responsible adult.

The Campsite is open from noon on Wednesday August 2nd and closes at noon on Saturday 12th August.

See [www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk](http://www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk) for more details.



### Accessibility

We try to make the Festival as accommodating as possible to all. The Main Programme and website contains details venue accessibility in July and our volunteer stewards are always ready to assist with any special needs. We offer free Personal Assistant tickets those requiring assistance to attend the festival. Tickets can be booked online (qualifying documentation required for ticket collection - full details on the website). If you have any questions relating to accessibility please email [access@sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk](mailto:access@sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk)

### Dogs

Well behaved dogs on leads are welcome on the Festival Campsite, at The Hub, in Connaught Gardens, the Anchor Garden and in Blackmore Gardens.

No dogs are allowed within festival venues (including Peacock Lawn and the Blackmore Gardens Marquee) except recognised assistance dogs.

### Volunteering Opportunities

We're looking for enthusiastic and friendly people to join the Volunteer Team and support our fabulous festival. You can get involved in a whole range of roles from helping in venues, with processions, on the campsite, collecting donations right through to working in artist liaison, the box offices and admin roles. Visit [sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk/volunteers-2/](http://sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk/volunteers-2/) to find out more and apply direct.



# Day by Day

## Thursday 3rd August

Fisherman's Friends (Pre-Festival Special)

## Friday 4th August

Barbara Dickson with Nick Holland (Pre-Festival Matinee Special)

Banter ● Topette!! ● Kathryn Tickell & the Darkening ● Mrs Midnight ● The Linda Game Band

## Saturday 5th August

Le Vent du Nord ● Blackbeard's Tea Party ● McCusker McGoldrick Doyle ● Leveret (10th Anniversary Jukebox) ● Tashi Lhunpo Monks  
The Undoing of Polly Button ● Banter ● Halsway Young Folk ● Avtar Indian Dance ● Sidmouth Town Band ● Brown Boots Boogie Band  
Playford Ball

## Sunday 6th August

Show of Hands with Miranda Sykes ● Grace Petrie ● Lady Maisery ● Whapweasel ● John Gasson Jig Competition  
Sidmouth Horse Trials ● From Pub to Pulpit ● Samia Malik ● Will Finn & Rosie Calvert ● Chris Hoban & Sidmouth Town Band – 1918  
The Untold Stories of the Great War ● Ellie Gowers ● Jennie Higgins

## Monday 7th August

The Unthanks ● Skerryvore ● Breabach ● John Tams ● Token Women ● Sara Grey ● Harp & A Monkey ● The Brothers Gillespie  
Bearded Dragons ● Rattlebox ● English Fiddle Ensemble ● Maddie Morris ● John Dipper ● Lizzie Hardingham

## Tuesday 8th August

Saltlines (Gigspanner Big Band with Saltpath author Raynor Winn) / Talisk / Eliza Carthy Trio / Vri / Brighde Chaimbeul, Ross Ainslie,  
Steven Byrnes / New Callers Showcase / Lewis Wood's Footwork / Steve Turner / Frankie Archer / George Sansome & Matt Quinn

## Wednesday 9th August

Lindisfarne ● Peat & Diesel ● Paul Sartin Tribute Concert ● Reg Meuross & Cohen Braithwaite Kilcoyne – Stolen from God ● Iona Lane  
Dominie Hooper ● Relentless ● Vicki Swan & Jonny Dyer ● Crows ● The Canny Band ● Flowers & Frolics ● Brazen Thieves

## Thursday 10th August

Cara Dillon ● Seth Lakeman Band ● Maddy Prior & the Forgotten Lands ● Angeline Morrison  
Martin Carthy in Conversation with Jon Wilks ● Cerys Hafana ● Shooting Roots Showcase ● Family Ceilidh with The Seaside Stompers  
Reg Meuross ● The Folk Detectives (Matthew Crampton & Paul Hutchinson) ● Shovel Dance Collective

## Friday 11th August

The Young'uns ● The Maggie Arc ● Flo Perlin ● Exmouth Shanty Men ● Grand Workshop Showcase ● Torchlight Procession  
Celebration Contra with The English Contra Dance Band ● Celebration Bal with Oscina ● Jackie Oates & Jon Wilks

## And lots more including

Andrew Swaine ● Annie Winter ● Avtar Indian Sance ● Bill Crawford ● Bob Ellis & Jannette Stewart ● Brazen Thieves  
Bridget Flett & Chris Toyne ● Brooke Friendly ● Campfire Sessions ● Chris Dyer ● Colin & Sonja Andrews  
Dan Quinn & Mike Bettison ● Debs Newbold ● EFDSS Ceilidh Band ● Fayre Play ● Fee Lock ● Flowers & Frolics ● Good Habits  
Hannah Moore ● Ilse Pedler ● Intarsia ● James Delarre & Saul Rose ● Jane Bird ● Janet Dowling ● Jigfoot ● Jim Causley  
Jo Freya ● Jo May ● John Dipper ● John Kirkpatrick ● Johnny Campbell ● Katie Howson ● Kerry Fletcher  
Kevin & Carol Monaghan ● Kitty Greenwood ● Kitty Vernon & Tim Edwards ● Lizzy Hardingham ● Louisa Davies-Foley  
Lynne Render ● Maddie Morris ● Mark Clarke Creative Making ● Matt Norman and Dave Yeomans ● Mishra ● Moe Keast ● Narthen  
New Bees ● Nick & Mary Barber ● Nick Walden ● Norma Mills ● Oscina ● Out of Hand ● Owen Spafford & Louis Campbell  
Patakas (Will & Joe Sartin) ● Patrick Ryan ● Paul Downes ● Paul Scourfield ● Pete Coe ● Peter & Barbara Snape ● Rhodri Davies  
Sandra Kerr ● Sam Sweeney ● Sara Grey ● Saul Rose ● Sheila Miller & Moira Craig ● Shooting Roots ● Shovel Dance Collective  
Squeezebox from Scratch (Ed Rennie & Helena Painting) ● Stephen Rowley ● Stream of Sound ● Stumpy Oak ● Suntou Susso  
The Barber Nand ● The Linda Game Band ● The McCarthy Family ● The Weaving (aka Meabh Begley Trio) ● Tim Walker  
Will Allen ● Will Finn and Rosie Calvert ● Will Mentor

Many of our performers and workshop leaders are at the Festival all week – check out the Main Programme in July for full details of our 500+ events

Box Office 01395 577952 ● [www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk](http://www.sidmouthfolkfestival.co.uk)

## The Sidmouth Folk Festival Supporters

Sidmouth Town Council ● East Devon District Council ● Devon County Council ● EFDSS ● Halsway Manor

We would like to thank the following business sponsors and donors for supporting The Sidmouth Folk Festival.

The Anchor Inn, Bedford Hotel, Churches Together in Sidmouth, Dukes, Exeter Brewery, Hanlons Brewery, Hotel Elizabeth, Hunters Moon Hotel, Kingswood Hotel, Middle Bar Singers, Powderkeg Brewery, Royal Glen Hotel, Royal York & Faulkner Hotel, Sandford Orchards Cider, Sidmouth Chamber of Commerce, Sidmouth Cricket, Tennis & Croquet Club, Sidmouth Rugby Club, The Swan Inn, Sweetcombe Cottages, Upper Crust Bakery, The Woodlands Hotel.

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