Wadebridge, N Cornwall ● Thurs 21st—Mon 25th August 2025

52nd Festival!

CORNWALL FOLKFESTIVAL











2025

SOUVENIR PROGRAMME

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Kernow a'gas dynnergh

A warm Kernow Welcome to the 52nd Cornwall Folk Festival!

In a world that seems so divided, music can remind us of what we share—emotion, story, rhythm, and joy.

This year's programme spans the vibrant spectrum of folk, from ancient traditions to urgent new voices.

Catch young artists like Karenza Lily -May and Martha Woods showing that the future is very bright.

Feel the up-tempo energy from Merry Hell, The Countrymen, The Stone **Ryders and Smokin' Pilchards, and** dance your socks off with our opening Nos Lowen from Bagas Fellyon.

The gorgeous harmonies of The Henry Girls and The Magpies will take your breath away.

Dive into the confident trad of Jackie Oates and be dazzled by Tim Edey. And let the earth speak to your soul with Wake the River and Humm.

Cornish pride is centre stage: from Pensans and Tatters Morris to Banjovial, Out of the Wood, shanties from The Shipwrecks, stories of Celtic characters from Annown and The Piskie Trap, and much more.

Over 50 acts fill five days in the Town Hall, Betjeman Centre, FAR Stage and pubs and other Wadebridge Town Centre locations.

Sing, dance, connect, and carry home the echoes of music shared and friendships made.

Thank you for keeping Cornwall folk strong, diverse, and full of heart.

Adrian Jones, on behalf of Cornwall Folk Festival team



www.cornwallfolkfestival.com

CornwallFolkFestival
@cornwallfolkfestival

Camping

We recommend
Little Bodieve Holiday Park:
littlebodieve.co.uk 01208 812323

Venues

Town Hall:
The Platt, PL27 7AQ

John Betjeman Centre:
Southern Way, PL27 7BX

Goods Shed:
Southern Way, PL27 7BX

FAR Stage: behind Wadebridge Wines, Eddystone Rd, PL27 7AL

Shanty St: Our name for street music and dance in town centre.

The Shanty St venues are:

Molesworth Arms:
Molesworth St, PL27 7DP

Near Swan Hotel: Towards the bottom end of Molesworth St, roughly PL27 7DP

The Salt Bar: Upstairs at Salt Box, Goldsworthy Way, PL27 7GF

Tickets

Online: cornwallfolkfestival.com/tickets

Evening Gigs and Workshops: Online, FAR Stage and Town Hall Box Offices, and on door if available.

FAR Stage Tickets: Online, and at entry to FAR Stage.

Thank You!

The Cornwall Folk Festival is very grateful to our generous sponsors and advertisers:

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- Wreckers Radio

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- Wadebridge Town Council
- The Goods Shed

We could not do this without:

- Our many volunteer stewards and bar staff
- Sue and team at Wadebridge Wines, for carpark, warehouse and always friendly help
- BOOM Scaffolding for building the FAR Stage
- Stephen Flanders for FAR Stage sound
- Rob at Wadebridge Bookshop
- Talia, Carl and the team at Wadebridge Town Council
- Cornwall Councillor Robin Moorcroft
- Clive at Solar Audio for town hall sound
- Martin Broadfoot and Ziggy for Betjeman Centre sound
- Our patron Geoff Lakeman
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- The Bridge Medical Centre
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- All photographers
- Foodie Folk
- Wendy Parkyn for the photo -op/selfie display
- Oksana Blonska for artist catering etc
- Molesworth Arms for providing stage space and storage
- The Salt Bar at the Salt Box
- Our session venues Ship, Swan Hotel & Churchill Bars
- All Molesworth St traders for putting up with us!
- Anyone we missed off this list in rush to get to printers!
- And we always remember Mike Walford!

Cornwall Folk Festival 2025
is an event organised by
Cornwall Folk Festival CIC

Registered Office: Trudgeon Halling, The Platt, Wadebridge, Cornwall, PL27 7AE.
CornwallFolkFestival.com

Patron: **Geoff Lakeman**

FOLK FESTIVAL TEAM:
Adrian Jones: *Festival Director*
Jan Walford: *Box Office; Raffles*
Lele Gemma: *Social Media, Minibus*
Mark Wilsher: *Shanty St, St Marketing*
***Glen Chun**: Head Steward; Shanty St*
***Matt & Nicci Hooper:** Fundraisers*
***Jo Vosper**: Sessions*
Lynette Rentoul: *Artist Liaison*

Other tasks shared amongst the team members.

Details as accurate as possible at the time of going to press, but changes may occur. Such changes will be posted on Facebook and at gigs at Town Hall, Betjeman Sessions and FAR Stage.



Minibus

For campers at Little Bodieve, our minibus service is running again.

This year we can only return you to the campsite after performances—around 11pm on Fri, Sat, and Sun, and 9pm on Mon—from the town hall (a short walk from the Betjeman Sessions).

Sorry —we also can't offer this on Thursday.

Wreckers at FAR Stage

Wreckers Radio keeps growing, now a lively hub **for Cornwall's music scene**. Originally part of Cornwall Folk Festival, it's now led by Emma Jaynes of Launceston Folk Club and Chris Hytch of Annown. Renamed Wreckers.Radio, it stays true to its roots: run by musicians, for musicians and music lovers.

Supported by the Adept Living Foundation, Launceston Folk Club, and Cornwall Folk Festival, it's a non-profit station dedicated to showcasing local talent.

As last year, they will broadcast live from the FAR Stage—bringing the festival's spirit to listeners everywhere.

Tune in and explore Cornwall's folk pulse at wreckers.radio.

Website Reviews

We occasionally review albums by local acts—**some who've played the** festival, some who have**n't. Recent reviews in**clude releases by Annown, Julian Gaskell, **Kurt Jewson, and King's** Heathen.

They're at CornwallFolkFestival.com under Info.



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Bagas Fellyon

Town Hall

Thurs 21
Nos Lowen Dance Night

Bagas Fellyon

Bagas Fellyon—Cornish for "Band of Fools"—are Cornwall's fastest-rising Nos Lowen band, delivering a gloriously chaotic groove juggernaut. Formed by fiddler Neil McMahon to promote the album *Hitching Ships*, the band quickly evolved into a collective of highly skilled musicians pushing the boundaries of Cornish traditional music.

Their Nos Lowen sets are immersive and inclusive, with dance leaders guiding the crowd through flowing, joyful routines—no caller needed. In 2025, they've played Sidmouth, Shrewsbury, and a standout St Piran's Nos Lowen. Expect swirling rhythms, rich textures, and a celebration of Cornish identity that's both ancient and modern. Cornwall's supergroup Dalla offshoot band Skillywidden, who pretty much started the Nos Lowen scene, look on Bagas Fellyon as 'their children'! Tonight is open to children of all ages.

Kessenyan

Kessenyan, a rising three-part vocal group from Redruth, bring fresh energy to English, Irish, and Scottish folk and sea shanties. With rich harmonies and inventive arrangements, they've made a strong impression across Cornwall's festival and folk circuits—gracing stages at Mevagissey and Falmouth Shanty Festivals and supporting Martin Carthy. Just at home in intimate clubs or lively pubs, they aim to blend tradition with youthful passion and inspire more young people to sing.


Martha Woods

Fri 22

The Countrymen

Cornwall's five-piece folk-rock harmony band The Countrymen deliver powerful songs rooted in local identity, rural life, and social change. With tight four-part harmonies and strong instrumentation, they perform original material and reworked contemporary folk. In the last couple of years, they've toured the US, UK and Europe and played many big local festivals. Their live shows combine musicianship, humour, and storytelling, making them one of Cornwall's most engaging and energetic acts.



The Henry Girls

Fri 22nd, Town Hall

Sisters Karen, Lorna, and Joleen McLaughlin from Donegal blend Irish folk, Americana, and close harmony singing into spellbinding performances. Multi-instrumentalists with harp, fiddle, accordion, and **piano, they've earned acclaim for their lyrical depth** and musical finesse.

Their 2024 album *A Time to Grow* explores resili**ence and renewal, and in 2025 they've toured the US, opened Glastonbury's Acoustic Stage, and hosted a** sold-out residency in Malin. Known for their warmth on and off stage, The Henry Girls offer a rich, rootsy **sound that's stunning, timeless and contemporary.**

'Stunning vocal harmonies ... impeccable musicianship' RTÉ Radio 1

'A tour de force ... perfectly gorgeous harmonisation' The Irish Echo

Sat 23

Martha Woods

Martha Woods is a multi-instrumentalist, singer and composer from Lostwithiel. She grew up immersed in Cornish folk music and dance and has played this festival several times with her band The Woodcarts.

A recent graduate of Newcastle University's Folk and Traditional Music Degree, she's known for her



Merry Hell *Sat 23rd, Town Hall*

Wigan's folk-rock favourites Merry Hell return with their trademark mix of melody, message, and movement. Formed from the ashes of much-loved folk-punk **band The Tansads, they've built a reputation for high**-energy performances and rousing choruses.

Their 2025 album *Rising of the Bold* features a Thousand Voice Choir and hit the US Folk Radio Charts. Festival appearances include Cropredy, Bearded Theory, and Wickham. With witty, humane songs and infectious joy, they promise a night of foot-stomping anthems and singalong spirit.

'A joyous explosion of folk-rock energy' Folk Radio UK. 'Songs that inspire, uplift and challenge — *delivered with passion and flair' R2 Magazine*

expressive vocals and violin playing, and digitised backing tracks full of inventive twists.

Since graduating, Martha has already released four EP's: 'Mis Kevardhu', 'Spring at Last', 'Golden Furze In Bloom' and 'The Hare Chase and Other Dark Tales' and seems to have written a new tune almost every week. The breath of musical ideas in this collection is staggering, combining elements of folk music from across Britain and Ireland with more contemporary influences and electronic sounds.

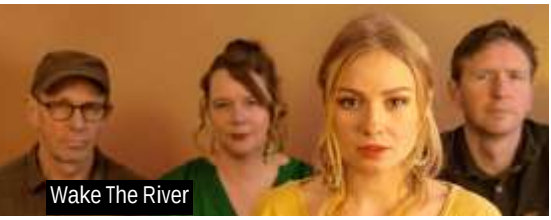
Recently she's supported Seth Lakeman, played Heligan and The Cornish Bank, and continues to build a reputation for emotionally resonant live sets.

Sun 24

Wake the River

Falmouth-based Wake the River span generations and genres, blending folk, blues, indie, and world music into a fresh, ethereal sound. Lead vocalist Free-





born and songwriter Woodburn craft delicate, harmony-rich songs with grooves that invite movement and reflection.

Multi-instrumentalists Height and Seddon add global folk textures. Their 2025 EP *Osprey* embraces their live sound and has earned airplay on BBC Introducing, RTÉ Radio 1, and Radio X. Their performances are immersive, melodic, and quietly powerful.



Tim Edey *Fri 22nd, Betjeman Centre*

Tim Edey is a world-class multi-instrumentalist, celebrated for his virtuosic guitar and melodeon playing. A BBC Radio 2 Folk Musician of the Year **and MG Alba Scots Trad Award winner, he's toured** globally with legends like The Chieftains, Christy Moore, and Sharon Shannon. His solo shows are a dazzling mix of Celtic roots, world music, and joyful improvisation.

In 2025, he's released *Jamland* with Michael McGoldrick and performed at FolkEast and Den**mark's Tønder Festival. Expect jaw**-dropping skill, humour, and musical magic.

'Undoubtedly one of the highlights of the entire festival!' Costa del Folk

'... a musical genius' BBC Radio 2



The Magpies

Sun 24th, Town Hall

The Magpies are a dynamic transatlantic folk band blending Celtic, bluegrass, and Appalachian influences into a vibrant roots sound. Founded by award-winning Bella Gaffney, fiddle virtuoso Holly Brandon, and joined by singer-songwriter Ellie Gowers, they craft intricate harmonies and sharp musicianship with a strong feminist ethos.

Their acclaimed albums Tidings (2020) and Undertow (2022) showcase storytelling and sonic finesse, earning chart success and BBC Radio 2 features. Known for high-**energy performances, they've captivated** UK festivals like Glastonbury and Cambridge, while touring across North America and Europe.

As founders of the inclusive Magpies Festival in York, they continue to innovate and inspire folk audiences worldwide. Their live shows are elegant, energetic, and full of musical finesse.

'One of those effervescent albums you'd be happy** to recommend to people who might not consider **themselves folk fans' Sunday Times

'Folk with finesse' Daily Mail

Betjeman Sessions Fri 22

Humm

Arty Jackson and Carys Lewin are Humm, a south-west-based contemporary folk duo creating music for nature-lovers and inner activists alike. Rooted in tradition but boldly eclectic, their sound draws on John Martyn, Joni Mitchell, Radiohead, and XTC—melding harmonium drones, melodic guitar, and ethereal vocals.

They have captivated audiences with folkloric tales of Welsh saints, Cornish fairy folk, and Greek mythology, weaving heart-

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break and hope into spell-binding performances. Their music always returns to one vital theme: caring for the planet.

In 2022, they won the National Trust Forthlin Road competition, composing and performing at the childhood home of Sir Paul McCartney, and were shortlisted for the BBC Tune Into Nature music prize with their song "For the Thames Eel."



Sun 24

Nicole Tesseyman

St Ives singer-songwriter Nicole Tesseyman blends folk, country, and sea shanty influences into a warm, engaging acoustic style. Her debut album *Oll*

Jackie Oates with Mike Cosgrave

Sun 24th, Betjeman Centre

Jackie Oates, an award-winning English folk singer, fiddler, and songwriter, is one of the **UK's most cherished voices in traditional** music. Her eighth solo album, Gracious Wings (2022), drew widespread acclaim, affirming her place as a central figure in contemporary folk.

Over the years, Jackie has cultivated a broad following through original material, inventive covers, and revitalized traditional songs. Her commissions span The Orchestra of The Swan, LUSH, and CBeebies, while collaborations with John Spiers, Megan Henwood, and others highlight her musical versatility.

As a member of The Imagined Village alongside Eliza and Martin Carthy and Simon Emmerson, Jackie rejoined the band for 2022 festival appearances, including Beautiful Days. That same year, her haunting **rendition of The Cure's Untitled featured on Iggy Pop's BBC Radio 6 Confidential show.**

Joining Jackie is multi-instrumentalist Mike Cosgrave, whose career spans Celtic/World fusion with Sin é, bluegrass with Daily Planet, and collaborations with Jenny Crook and Reg Meuross. With guitar, **melodeon, and backing vocals, Mike's sensitivity and experience perfectly complement Jackie's evocative** artistry.



ST IVES SEPTEMBER FESTIVAL 2025

Sept 13th—27th



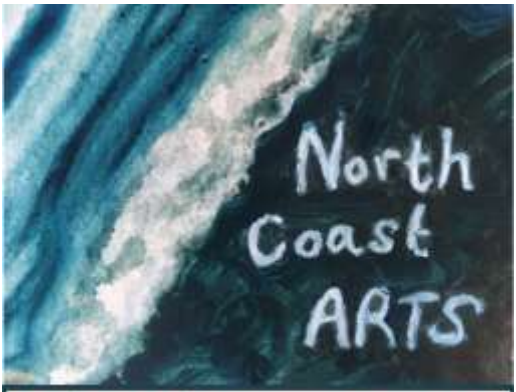
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INFO AND TICKETS AT www.stivesseptemberfestival.co.uk



Selected Future Events

3 Oct *(Comedy)* **Kernow King** Bude
4 Oct **Simon Armitage** Bude
24 Oct **Bude Roots & Shoots** Bude
25 Oct **Gig Antics - Young Bands** Bude
26 Oct **John Illsley** *(Dire Straits)* Bude
6 Nov/8 Nov **Simon & Garfunkel Through The years** Wadebridge/Bude
15 Nov **Voodoo Room** Bude
22 Nov **Beatles Complete** Wadebridge
27 Nov **Henry Normal— The Slide Show** Bude
29 Nov **Andy Fairweather Low** Bude
14 Feb **Phil Beer + Ezmay Grace** Bude
27 Feb **Paul Jones & Dave Kelly** Bude
15 March **Steve Knightley** Bude

Visit **www.northcoastarts.co.uk** for full programme

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Nicole Tesseyman

an Gwella celebrates Cornish life with humour and heart. A performer at St Ives Festival and Penzance's Acorn Theatre, she's known for her expressive vocals and infectious personality. In 2025, she's signed to Polyphony Records and continues to charm audiences across Cornwall.

Goods Shed
Fri 22 2:30pm

The Piskie Trap with Keith Wallis

Join folklorist and podcast host Keith Wallis for a captivating journey into the world of Cornish piskies—those mischievous, magical beings who haunt moorlands, coves, and cottages across the county. Drawing from written accounts and oral histories, Keith explores tales of teleportation, treasure, drinking, dancing, and fairy realms. His podcast *The Piskie Trap* has become a hub for preserving local folklore, with collaborations from leading historians, writers, and storytellers. This live talk brings the podcast to life, offering insight, humour, and a celebration of Cornwall's rich mythic heritage. Doors 2:00pm, talk 2:30–5:00pm.



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FAR Stage

The FAR Stage (Folk, Acoustic, Roots), behind Wadebridge Wines, Eddystone Road, features over 25 great acts from Cornwall and the Southwest.

Sat 23-Mon 25th roughly 11.30-7pm each day, finishing 8pm-ish Mon. Bar. Food.

Individuals: £6 per day; families (you get to define what is a family): £12 per day.


The Revellers

Sat 23

12 noon Richard Gibbons

Also Sat 2.15pm Molesworth Arms, 3.45pm Salt Bar.

Dudley born, Hayle-based guitarist Richard Gibbons blends blues, folk, and acoustic storytelling. He was a member of Midlands close harmony duo Crooked House, supporting artists such as Wizz Jones, Gilmore and Roberts and Scott Matthews. A regular on the local circuit, his sets are warm, melodic, and quietly compelling.


Richard Gibbons

12:45pm The Revellers

Cornish acapella folk group led by Bec Matthews. Their repertoire spans traditional, African and Australian chant, gospel and protest songs, delivered with rich harmonies and vocal precision. They've performed across the county from local pubs and festivals to venues such as the Minack and Hall for Cornwall.

1:30pm Tim Brine & Sue Franklin

Also Sun 1.45pm Salt Bar

A seasoned acoustic duo with heartfelt songs and gentle harmonies., Tim and Sue have been singing together for over twenty years, blending traditional and contemporary folk with original songs of social and environmental themes. Their performances are heartfelt and thought-provoking, with rich harmonies and expressive instrumentation and offer reflective, socially conscious sets.

Their renditions of songs like Dougie Maclean's 'Caledonia' and Dave Swarbrick's 'The White Dress' will stop you in your tracks, whilst numbers like 'Where The Hell Are We Going To Live' bring the urgency of current crises into the folk club circuit.

2:15pm Cataclews

Also Mon 2:45pm Salt Bar, 4.15pm Molesworth Arms

Local heroes Cataclews are a lively four-piece ceilidh band who mix traditional Cornish, English and Irish music.

Outings include the Royal Cornwall Show, Toby Buckland's Garden Festivals, Fowey Royal Regatta and YHA Sunset Sessions, as well as at several recent Cornwall Folk Festival fundraisers.



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Barney Kenny

Based in Trevone, Cornwall, the line-up includes guitar, mandolin, melodeon, recorder, bodhran and vocals.

3pm Barney Kenny

Barney Kenny is a West Country songsmith whose music defies easy categorisation. Armed with a 6-string and lapsteel slide guitar, he blends Anglo-Celtic melodies, blues-rock, and transatlantic folk into foot-stomping, lyrical sets. He's supported Seth Lakeman, Martin Carthy, and Mishra, and toured solo and with Tamar. His latest album *The Seaton Tapes* captures his raw, live-in-session sound. Expect storytelling, groove, and slide guitar mastery from one of the UK's most exciting emerging artists.

3:45pm Out of the Wood

Out of the Wood is a fresh duo featuring two of Cornwall's finest trad musicians: Jen Dyer and Toby Kessell. Their music blends Celtic tunes from Cornwall, Ireland, and beyond,


Annown


Out of the Wood

played on 5-string viola, melodeons, guitar, and vocals. Their arrangements are elegant and earthy, rooted in tradition but delivered with modern flair. In 2025, they've performed at Dartmoor and Scilly folk festivals and Truro Day of Dance.

4:30pm Annown

Annown are a dynamic duo writing original songs steeped in Cornish history and folklore. With fiddle and guitar, they blend Celtic folk, Americana, skiffle, and 50s rock'n'roll into a vibrant "folkabilly" sound. Their fifth album *The Swing Station* earned praise from FATEA and Blues and Roots Radio. Featured on radio from Miami to Manchester, they're known for lyrical storytelling, rhythmic drive, and a deep love of Cornwall's unsung tales.

5:30pm Liam Jordan

Cornish alt-rock and Americana artist with gravelly vocals and heartfelt songwriting. His 2025 album *Coastline* explores identity



and place. He's toured with The Leylines and played at Great Estate Festival. He's joined by violinist Danny Hart.

'One to check out and keep a close eye on' (Matt Owens of Noah And The Whale)

6:15pm The Stone Ryders

The Stone Ryders are a folk-rock quartet led by singer-songwriter Steve Flanders. With Doug MacKinnon, Matt Partridge, and Debbie Sayers, they deliver melodic originals and reimagined classics with strong vocals and driving rhythms. Their 2024 sets at Saltbar and Molesworth Arms earned rave reviews—"the best thing I heard!"—and they return to the FAR Stage with a sound that's reflective, rootsy, and full of


Shannon Connolly



Liam Jordan

heart. Their latest EP *Ryders on the Storm* explores themes of change, travel, and connection.

Sun 24

12 noon
Shannon Connolly

Also Sun 4.15pm Molesworth Arms

Shannon is a South African-born singer-songwriter whose original blend of blues, folk, and country captures thoughtful reflections on life. With a warm, distinctive voice, she built a loyal following across major venues and festivals back home and became a sought-after cover artist. After moving to London in 2018, she busked and released her EP Big Big City. Now based in Cornwall, she returns from a creative break, ready to share new, lyrically rich songs across the South-west.

12:45pm Newquay Rowing Club Singers

Formed in the 1970s by pilot gig rowers, this shanty group brings robust harmonies and maritime spirit to the stage. Their repertoire includes traditional sea songs and Cornish favourites, all delivered with warmth and camaraderie.



Karenza Lily-May

1:30pm
Karenza Lily-May

A young singer-songwriter from Padstow, Karenza Lily-May blends Celtic, Cor-

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AA

nish, and folk influences into her acoustic sets. Her playing at the sessions last year impressed all who heard her, ensuring her FAR stage debut!

2:15pm TBC

2.45pm Ukrainian Sunflowers


The Ukrainian Sunflowers

A community choir of Ukrainian women and children living in Cornwall.

They found shelter in the UK and now share their traditions and cultural heritage, bringing a little hope wherever they go.

Sun 24th is Ukrainian Independence Day, marking 34 years of Soviet independent.

3pm Salt and Sky

Fiddle duo Emma Packer and Lizzie Pridmore are joined by Dan Roach on guitar and Tom Jane on percussion and melodeon for the newly reformed Salt & Sky.

Their joyful take on traditional Cornish music will get toes tapping and voices singing along -- expect some old favourites alongside exciting new songs and tunes for lestening or for dancing.

3:45pm The Press Gang

A nine-piece shanty group from the St Austell Bay area, The Press Gang deliver powerful harmonies and a rousing repertoire of maritime songs. Their 2025 tour includes Mevagissey Feast Weekend the International Sea Shanty Festival in France.

4:30pm Whippletree Ceilidh Band

Whippletree ae a well-established four-piece





ceilidh band with musicians from Hayle, Lanner, Wadebridge, and Truro. They use fiddle, guitars, drums and vocals to create a mix of upbeat, high energy Celtic folk tunes and songs.

5:30pm John Dummer

John Dummer is a British blues legend whose career spans decades and genres. From his 60s band John Dummer's Blues Band to chart-topping doo-wop outfit


John Dummer

Darts, he's played with icons like Howlin' Wolf and John Lee Hooker. Today, he remains a respected figure in the blues and music communities, continuin to captivate audiences with his rich musical legacy.


Joe May

Mon 25

12 noon Joe May

At just 13 years old, Joe May is already making waves with his original songwriting and confident stage pres-

6:15pm Du Glas

Du Glas are Cornish renegades with a fierce attitude and a sound that fuses Americana, folk-rock, and **rebellion. Led by Lucy Osborne's theatrical vocals and Anthony Power's punchy songwriting, their music** spans miners, mutiny, and murder—with a pasty on the side. Their albums *Too Many Ghosts* and *Edge of the World* earned praise from Folk London and BBC Introducing.



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Change is coming to The Acorn... One Step At A Time!

We've raised £10,000 to build a new staircase. This will make a HUGE difference to the venue, and we are incredibly grateful to all those who donated.

We will start work on the staircase later in the year. For updates, subscribe to our newsletter via our website.

If anyone wishes to contribute, donations are still gratefully received. Search online for 'The Acorn Crowdfunder', or scan the QR code to donate.

Calling all Cornwall based folk fans!

We've got plenty of folk, roots, blues music and more coming up at The Acorn!



Christine Collister
Thursday 4 September 8pm

Christine's career now spans an incredible 40 years. According to The Times she has: "A voice personally delivered by God."



Richard Tretheway Trio
Thursday 11 September 8pm

Born in Cornwall's Clay Country, Richard Trethewey is a singer, fiddle and cittern player delivering his distinct take on Cornish music.



Nos Lowen
Saturday 13 September 7.30pm

Dalla Duo offer a celebration of the very best of Cornish traditional music, from wild and mesmerising nos lowen dance tunes to beautifully haunting slower pieces.



The Essential Track Dogs
Wednesday 17 September 8pm

Blending Folk, Americana, Roots and Lationo influences, this group have made a name for themselves in Spain and beyond.

Diary

Thurs 21st

Town Hall	Swan
Nos Lowen with Bagas Fellyon + Kessenyan (Doors 6.45, start 7.30pm)	Come all ye! 7-11pm

Friday 22nd

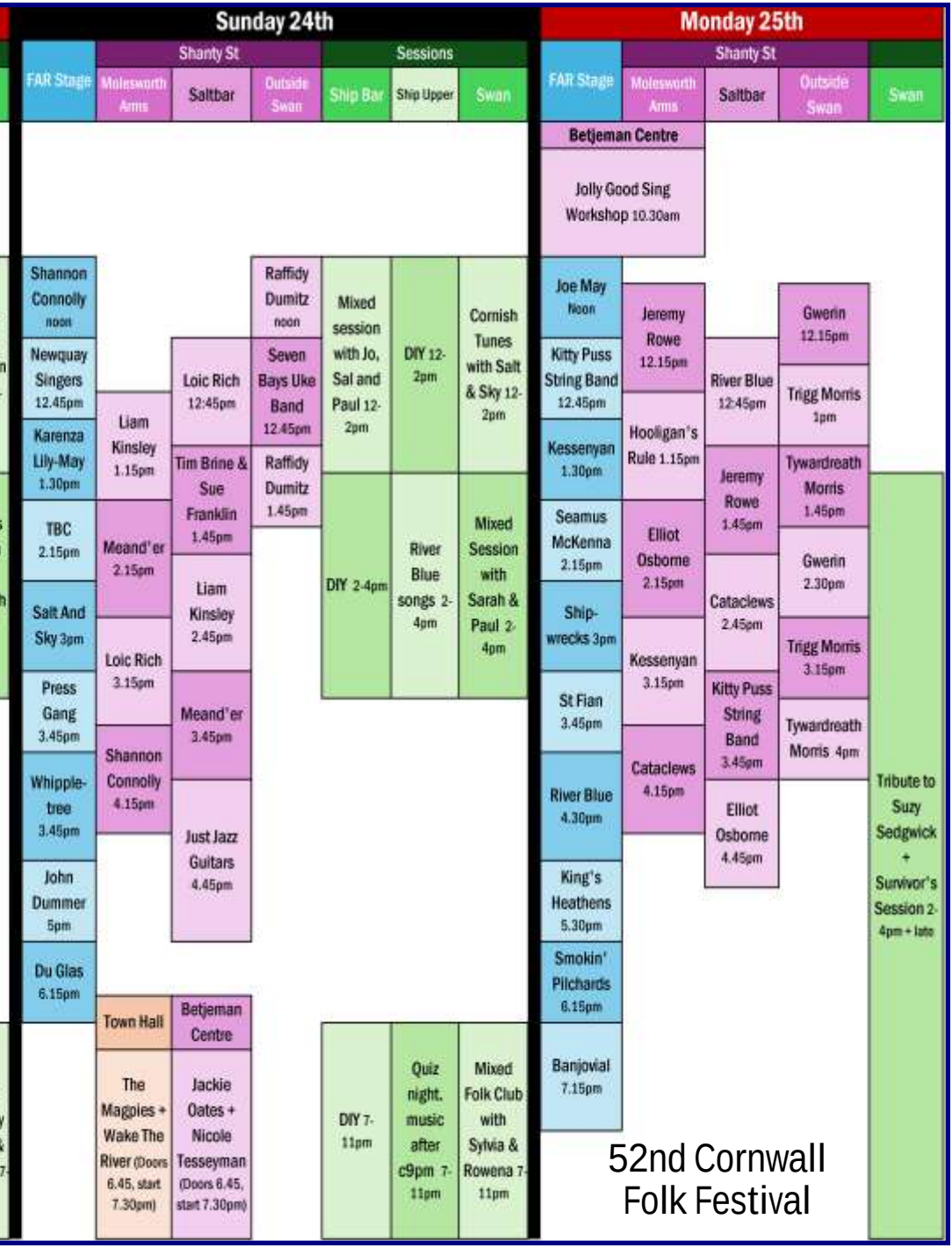
Good shed	Sessions: Ship Bar	Ship Upper	Swan
Piskie Trap (Doors 1.45, start 2.30pm)	DIY 12-2pm	DIY 12-2pm	Mixed Folk Club with Sylvia & Rowena 12-2pm
	New W'bridge Folk Club with Neal Jolly 2-4pm	Folk Blues with Paul Marsh & Steve Ruffe 2-4pm	DIY 2-4pm

Town Hall	Betjeman Centre	Shout w/ Gideon Barrett & SE Cornwall Singers 7-11pm	DIY 7-11pm	Tune and song with Greg Yates 7-11pm
The Henry Girls + The Countrymen (Doors 6.45, start 7.30pm)	Tim Edey + Humm (Doors 6.45, start 7.30pm)			

Saturday 23rd

FAR Stage	Shanty St: Molesworth Arms	Saltbar	Outside Swan	Sessions: Ship Bar	Ship Upper	Swan
Town Hall: Tim Edey Pedals To Performance Workshop 10.30am						
Richard Gibbons noon	Beatnik Skiffle 12.15pm	Karen Swan 12:45pm	Wicked Lollipops 12.30pm	Mixed session with Jo, Sal and Paul 12-2pm	DIY 12-2pm	Singing session with Kevi Brinn 12-2pm
Revellers 12.45pm	Goonbillys 1.15pm		Tatters Morris 1.30pm			
Tim & Sue 1.30pm	Richard Gibbons 2.15pm	Steam-Rocket 1.45pm	Pensans Morris 2.15pm	Bluegrass session with O'Frankels 2-4pm	DIY 2-4pm	Shanties and Sea Songs with Flas Jack 2-4pm
Cataclews 2.15pm	Karen Swan 3.15pm	Goonbillys 2.45pm	Tatters Morris 3pm			
Barney Kenny 3pm	Steam-Rocket 4.15pm	Richard Gibbons 3.45pm	Pensans Morris 3.45pm			
Out of the Wood 3:45pm		Just Jazz Guitars 4.45pm				
Annown 4.30pm						
Liam Jordon 5.30pm						
Stone Ryders 6.15pm						

Town Hall: Merry Hell + Martha Woods (Doors 6.45, start 7.30pm)	DIY 7-11pm	Mixed Folk Club with Sylvia & Rowena 7-11pm	Irish session with Tob Kessell & Jen Dyer 11pm


Sunday 24th
FAR Stage
Shanty St
Molesworth Arms
Saltbar
Outside Swan
Sessions
Ship Bar
Ship Upper
Swan
Shannon Connolly noon
Newquay Singers 12.45pm
Karenza Lily-May 1.30pm
TBC 2.15pm
Salt And Sky 3pm
Press Gang 3.45pm
Whipple-tree 3.45pm
John Dummer 5pm
Du Glas 6.15pm
Liam Kinsley 1.15pm
Meand'er 2.15pm
Loic Rich 3.15pm
Shannon Connolly 4.15pm
Loic Rich 12:45pm
Tim Brine & Sue Franklin 1.45pm
Liam Kinsley 2.45pm
Meand'er 3.45pm
Just Jazz Guitars 4.45pm
Raffidy Dumitz noon
Seven Bays Uke Band 12.45pm
Raffidy Dumitz 1.45pm
Mixed session with Jo, Sal and Paul 12-2pm
DIY 2-4pm
DIY 12-2pm
River Blue songs 2-4pm
Cornish Tunes with Salt & Sky 12-2pm
Mixed Session with Sarah & Paul 2-4pm
Town Hall
Betjeman Centre
The Magpies + Wake The River (Doors 6.45, start 7.30pm)
Jackie Oates + Nicole Tesseyman (Doors 6.45, start 7.30pm)
DIY 7-11pm
Quiz night, music after c9pm 7-11pm
Mixed Folk Club with Sylvia & Rowena 7-11pm
Monday 25th
FAR Stage
Shanty St
Molesworth Arms
Saltbar
Outside Swan
Swan
Betjeman Centre
Jolly Good Sing Workshop 10.30am
Joe May Noon
Kitty Puss String Band 12.45pm
Kessenyan 1.30pm
Seamus McKenna 2.15pm
Ship-wrecks 3pm
St Fian 3.45pm
River Blue 4.30pm
King's Heathens 5.30pm
Smokin' Pilchards 6.15pm
Banjovial 7.15pm
Jeremy Rowe 12.15pm
Hooligan's Rule 1.15pm
Elliot Osborne 2.15pm
Kessenyan 3.15pm
Cataclews 4.15pm
River Blue 12:45pm
Jeremy Rowe 1.45pm
Cataclews 2.45pm
Kitty Puss String Band 3.45pm
Elliot Osborne 4.45pm
Gwerin 12.15pm
Trigg Morris 1pm
Tywardreath Morris 1.45pm
Gwerin 2.30pm
Trigg Morris 3.15pm
Tywardreath Morris 4pm
Tribute to Suzy Sedgwick + Survivor's Session 2-4pm + late
52nd Cornwall Folk Festival


Seamus McKenna

ence. His debut album *Fight for Freedom* blends acoustic folk with pop sensibilities, in which he writes about past experiences, life lessons, and the problems in this world.

12:45pm Kitty Puss String Band

Also Mon 3.45pm Salt Bar

Kitty Puss String Band is a Devon trio playing Appalachian-style Old Time music. Andrew, Emily and Jo share vocals and play fiddle, banjo, guitar, autoharp, and foot percussion. Andrew and Emily, long-time North Carolina residents, have performed at UK festivals including Gainsborough, Orwell, Didmarton, and Cornish Bluegrass, as well as Fiddlers Conventions in the US. Jo brings dynamic flair through Appalachian clogging, dancing with groups in both Philadelphia and Exeter.

1:30pm Kessenyan

Also Thurs 7.30pm Town Hall, Mon 3:15pm Molesworth Arms

See entry under Town Hall

2:15pm Seamus McKenna

Séamus McKenna is a solo artist with over a decade of experience in writing, recording and performing. Blending Irish roots, folk and Americana, he's known for his unique yet familiar sound. In 2024, he moved to Cornwall, collaborating with local musicians and curating Get Folk'd!, a grassroots music series. He's released acclaimed tracks including Man on the Moon and Take Me To The Mountains, and continues building his following through regular shows and festivals.

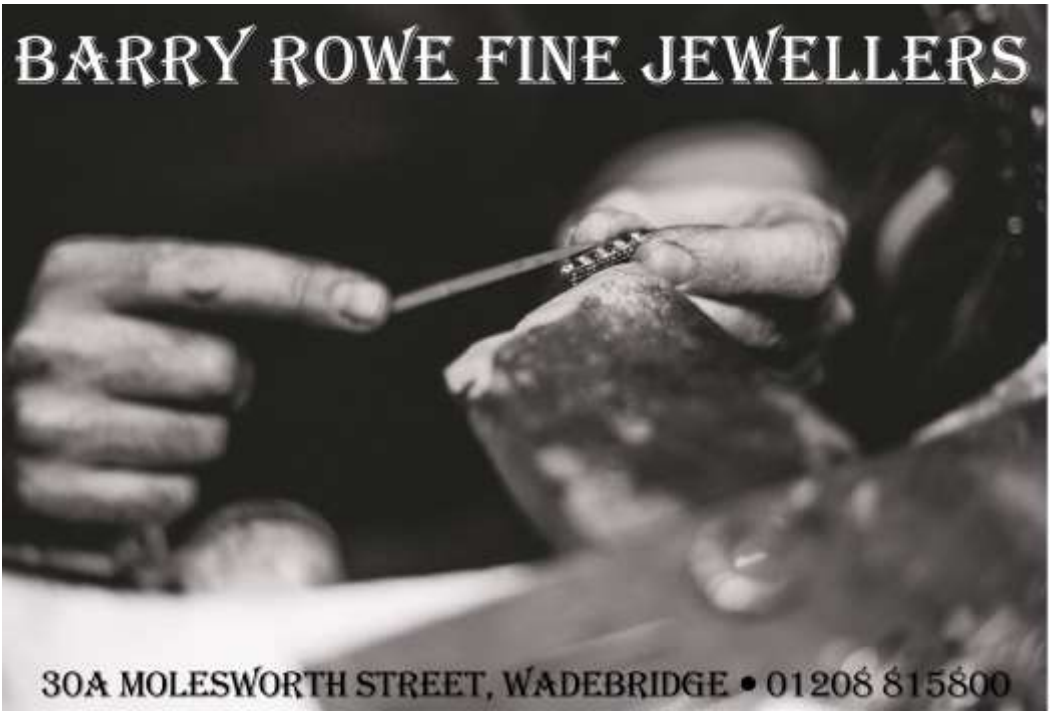
3pm Shipwrecks

Wadebridge's own male harmony group, Shipwrecks deliver vibrant renditions of shanties and maritime songs. Their warm delivery and strong vocals make them a local favourite.

3:45pm St Fian

St Fian are a genre-blending collective combining Celtic, gypsy jazz, and festival folk into a show that makes you laugh, cry,


St Fian



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and dance. Their music is vibrant and theatrical, with a flair for storytelling and emotional connection.

4:30pm River Blue

Also Mon 12:45pm Salt Bar

River Blue are a four-piece acoustic folk-pop band from central Cornwall. With Sid on guitar and vocals, Tim on bass, Ed on guitar, and Paul on percussion, let them serenade you with songs of love, life, the Isles of Scilly and dreaming cats.

5:30pm **King's Heathens**

David Fisher met Evan C Ritchie at a Birmingham barber shop, sparking a spontaneous duet and friendship rooted in traditional music. Originally from Milton Keynes and Texas, the now Brummie duo share a love for Celtic and transatlantic folk, shanties, and ballads.


King's Heathens

Their lively performances feature close harmonies and rousing choruses. Their debut EP Busker & Barber (2022) showcased traditional and original songs, followed by this year's Old Tall Tales, which Folk London described as a "perfect car journey soundtrack".


Smokin' Pilchards

6:15pm **Smokin'** Pilchards

The Smokin' Pilchards are an alternative folk-stomping shanty machine

Wadebridge Festival of Music and Speech
1925

Good luck to **Cornwall Folk Festival** from
Wadebridge Festival of Music and Speech
We've all been supporting live performance in the town for many years and look forward to many more.
Wadebridge Festival of Music and Speech is a competitive Festival, which has been taking place for over 100 years.
The 2026 Festival runs from 2nd- 7th March, the syllabus will be available on our website from 1st October.
Classes for all genres and all ages - take a look!
www.wadebridgefestivalofmusicandspeech.com



7:15pm Banjovial

Forged on the rugged North Cornish coast, Banjovial blend Celtic passion with bluegrass energy in a genre they call "Shanty Grass." Formed by Calum, Jamie, and Tom—formerly of The Stowes—the trio draw on seagoing experience and musical finesse to deliver infectious rhythms and rich harmonies.

Their live sets feature self-penned songs of misadventure, singalong shanties, and fast-paced jigs. Influences include We Banjo 3, Skipinnish, and Ron Block.

With performances at Maine Celtic Festival (USA), Dartmoor Folk Festival, and Rock Oyster, they're fast becoming a festival favourite and the perfect act to end CFF 2025.

based across Cornwall and the Midlands playing high energy shanty inspired folk. With infectious sax driven riffs and punchy soulful vocals, the Pilchards have been delighting audiences at pubs, clubs and festivals all over the country for many years and are a must -see live band!

'I love it ... it encapsulates all the greatness of folk and acoustic, also with a real rock and blues element to it' Alex, BBC Introducing

'(Sounds like) early Adam and the Ants were pirates headbutting members of 80s Madness and Dexy's!' Nick Townsend, Ryan's Gig Guide

LAUNCESTON FOLK CLUB

7th Sept **Christine Collister**
20th Sept **Borderlands Festival** A celebration of Cornish folklore, music, arts, and culture. Headline: Nos Lowen with **Bagas Fellyon** and **Black Friday**
12th Oct **Jim Causley**
20th Oct **Chris while & Julie Matthews** (Eagle House Hotel)
2nd Nov **Miranda Sykes**
16th Nov **Brothers Gillespie**
27th Nov **Suthering**

2026

8th Feb **Martha Woods**
22nd Feb **Cohen Braithwaite-Kilcoyne**
22nd Mar **Bob Fox**
17th/18th Apr **Merry Hell** (Falmouth, The Poly/ Launceston, Town Hall)
4th June **Sarah McQuaid**
12th July **Carrie Martin**
21st/22nd Oct **Fairport Convention** (St Ives, Guildhall/ Launceston, Town Hall)

All at Keep Audio Co. in Launceston unless otherwise stated

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Shanty Street

Saturday, Sunday, Monday Noon–5pm

"Shanty Street" is our scratch project to fill the town centre with music and dance in Molesworth Street and at the Saltbar atop the Saltbox in Goldsworthy Way.

Talent from across the South West, from folk clubs and open mics, random encounters and friendships.

The musical mix will be eclectic – out-right folk, **bluegrass, but also some jazz, pop and rock. There's** five dance troupes and plenty of shanties, too! It will be chaotic, fun and lively! And magical.

Sat 23

Near Swan

12:30pm Wicked Lollipops

Wicked Lollipops are a lively ukulele band from North Cornwall and the "Cornish Riviera." Their repertoire spans 1950s hits to modern singalongs—feel-good tunes that get audiences smiling and tapping along. Originally formed as LostyUkes in



Wicked Lollipops

2014, they've built a reputation for upbeat performances at festivals, community events, and fundraisers. Expect cheerful harmonies and a set full of familiar favourites.

1:30pm Tatters Morris

Also Sat 3pm Same Location

Tatters are a mixed border Morris side from Redruth, reformed in 2019, and are regular performers at Cornwall Folk festival.

They mix border and Cotswold dances with a few of their own inventions. Their musicians are always on hand to entertain with lively tunes and songs. This is a celebratory fusion of Cornish music and seasonal folk dancing from the heart of Redruth.

2:15pm Pensans Morris

Also Sat 3:45pm Same Location

Pensans Morris regularly dance at Camborne's Trevithick Day and Penzance's Mazey Day.

They dance mainly traditional Border style dances with a few of their own and claim to be the finest west of the Hayle River!

Like all Morris sides,



Pensan Morris

there's a dress code: free-style black and white, taking the colours from St. Piran's flag; Black top hats or bowlers preferred. The key word for all their performances is 'fun'!

3pm Tatters Morris

See entry above, 1:30pm



Tatters Morris



TREVOW
MUSIC MANAGEMENT

Our mission is to promote and support Cornish music and dance by working with talented artists and performers, helping promote and stage events and engage with venues and event organisers both at home and further afield.

With our experience as both artists and event organizers, we understand the unique challenges and opportunities that come with this industry, and are dedicated to bringing the traditional sounds of Cornwall to the forefront of the wider music scene.

We are committed to nurturing and developing the next generation of Cornish musicians and dancers, and to preserving the rich cultural heritage of our region. Through our management services, we provide the resources and support necessary for artists to grow and thrive in their careers, from booking gigs and handling promotions to networking and engaging with industry professionals.





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Our Artists

Bagas Fellyon - Jackson's Claret - Salt & Sky - Cove - Keskorra - Kessenyan - Month's Advance - Fable - Grace & Johanna - Backalong - Rhys Wynne-Jones - Neil McMahon - Kerensa - Luna - Johanna


Karen Swan

while playing guitar and a foot pedal-drum. Gill adds percussion—washboard, tea-chest bass, spoons, and sound effects—plus harmonies and occasional solos. They perform skiffle, blues, gospel, folk and more

3:45pm Pensans Morris

See entry for above, 12:15pm

Molesworth Arms

12:15pm Beatnik Skiffle

This retro trio revives the skiffle sound with cheeky charm. Frank sings lead

1:15pm The Goonbillys

Also Sat 2.45pm Salt Bar

The Goonbillys are Pa, Ewanbob, and cousin Dolly Partridge. They play old time skiffle, country songs and rock and roll. Some songs are originals, and some have the old time Goonbilly Foot Stomp, fresh from the foothills of the Redruth Mountains.


The Goonbillys

2:15pm Richard Gibbons

See entry under FAR Stage, 12 noon

3:15pm Karen Swan

Also Sat 12:45pm Salt Bar

Karen Swan, often described as an enigma, blends Avant Folk with soaring vocals and haunting originals that create a rich sonic landscape. Based in Bristol, she performs solo, as a duo with mandolinist Carl Philip Louis, and with her band My Creatures. Also a world-wide-performing actor and clown, she's appeared at Timber International Forest Festival, Bristol Harbour and Balloon Festivals, Bath's Party in the Park, Weston Folk Festival, Keynsham Folk and Roots, and Gloucester Folk Trail.

4:15pm Steamrocket

Also Sat 1:45pm Salt Bar

Steamrocket are a trio whose recipe is to take a mixture of old familiar pop songs from the 50s, 60s and 70s, stir in some blues and country, season it with some rock 'n' roll and fun, and, for Shanty Street, they add a big dash of folk. Lonnie Donegan might rub shoulders with The Kinks, John Denver with Van Morrison, Big Bill Broonzy with The Fureys.

The band consists of Jerry Alleguen on lead vocals and guitar, Phil Brown on lead guitar and backing vocals, and Kate Tidball on double bass.


Steamrocket

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Raffidy Dumitz

Saltbar

12:45pm Karen Swan
See entry for Molesworth Arms, 3:15pm

1:45pm Steamrocket
See entry for Molesworth Arms, 4:15pm

2:45pm The Goonbillys
see entry for The Molesworth Arms, 1.15pm

4:45pm Just Jazz Guitars
Also Sun 4:45pm Salt Bar

John and Robin blend jazz, Latin, and blues with fresh takes on popular tunes. Based in North Cornwall, they've played the Port Isaac Music Festival and regularly support RNLI and Oxjam at local events. John McGinley, a seasoned London musician, has performed with the National Youth Jazz Orchestra and at major festivals and venues alongside top players.


Just Jazz Guitars

Sun 24

Near Swan

12 noon Raffidy Dumitz
Also Sun 1:45pm Same Location

The Raffidy Dumitz Band are a jolly and friendly group of musicians and noise makers who support local events with live music and processions.

The music is traditional Celtic, mainly Cornish in origin. They were established in 2015 to support Penzance's Montol Festival and other local cultural events.

Today they will be processing through the streets of Wadebridge Town Centre before arriving noisily at the FAR Stage around 12:0pm, and then noisily departing about 1.15pm to finish up playing in Molesworth St. At least, that's the plan!

12:30pm Seven Bays Ukulele Band
The Seven Bays Ukulele Band, a cheerful group of sixteen friends from across North Cornwall, play traditional songs, shanties, and pop hits from the 60s to 80s. Their joyful performances raise funds for good causes, with gigs at Mevagissey Shanty Festival, Wheal Martin, The Betjeman Centre, and more—including regular visits to St Breock Care Home. Proud winners of the ukulele class at the Wadebridge Festival of Music and Speech, they're always open to new members. Videos and rehearsal info can be found on their Facebook page.

1:45pm Raffidy Dumitz
See entry for Lower Molesworth Street, 12 noon

Molesworth Arms

1:15pm Liam Kinsley
Also Sun 2:45pm Salt Bar

Liam is a young solo folk/pop singer songwriter musician who creates a whole band sound using loop pedals and acoustic.

He sings covers from 60s on to present day as well as his own songs.

We caught him earlier this year playing storming sets at Lostwithiel's Lostfest, so looking forward to his first outing at Cornwall Folk Festival.

2:15pm Meander
Also Sun 3:45pm Salt Bar

Devon duo Hannah & Graham perform warm open-hearted acoustic music – a mixture of originals and unusual covers with guitar,


Liam Kinsley


Loic Rich

mandolin and harmony vocals.
In previous incarnations they have played at various festivals and have been a support act for many well-known musicians – Martin Carthy, Seth Lakeman, Roy Harper, Julie Felix and Roy Wood to name a few.

3:15pm Loic Rich
Also Sun 12:45pm Salt Bar
Loic is a singer/songwriter playing indie folk originals and can also do some covers.

He's busked, gigged, played all over Cornwall and beyond for many years.

He's also a Cornwall councillor and previous mayor of Truro!

4:15pm Shannon Connolly
See FAR Stage Sunday

Saltbar

12:45pm Loic Rich
See entry for Molesworth Arms, 3:15pm

1:45pm Tim Brine & Sue Franklin
See FAR Stage Saturday

2:45pm Liam Kinsley
See entry for Molesworth Arms, 1:15pm

3:45pm Meander
See entry for Molesworth Arms, 2.15pm

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Gwerin

4:45pm Just Jazz Guitars
See entry for Saltbar, Saturday at 4.45pm

Mon 25

Near Swan

12:15pm Gwerin
Also 2.30pm Same Location
Gwerin is an inter-generational group celebrating traditional Cornish music, dance and song. Gwerin means 'folk' in the Cornish language.

Their costumes are inspired by Cornwall's rich geology, incorporating hues of purple, green, and blue found in its rocks and minerals, alongside the metallic tones of tin and copper.

With members ranging from two years old and upwards, they embrace dancers and musicians of all ages, celebrating Cornish culture and having fun passing these cultural treasures on from one generation to the next.

1pm Trigg Morris
Also Mon 3.15pm Same Location
One of Cornwall's longest-running Morris sides, Trigg Morris perform Cotswold dances with precision and pride. Celebrating their 50th anniversary in 2025, they bring tradition, energy, and community spirit.

1:45pm Tywardreath Morris
Also Mon 4pm Same Location
This mixed Morris side from South Cornwall performs lively Border and Cotswold dances.

Tywardreath Morris have been dancing in and around this area since 2010. Their dances originate from the Cotswold village of Adderbury, and the city of Litchfield, who share similar styles of dancing.

Their costume of black trousers, white shirts and


Trigg Morris

CORNISH UNDERGROUND



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Brendan McGreal (of Cornish Underground) is at the helm of this exciting new recording space.

A seasoned professional, celebrating nearly 25 years in the Cornish Music industry, instrumental in the Cornish folk revival and the Nos Lowen music & dance movement.

Musically, Brendan has created recordings for a wide range of styles and genres, both in the studio & live. His professional network spreads across the many festivals and touring venues around the UK. The studio is offering artists industry standard recordings for commercial release and to promote access to extended UK and European networks.

Please check out the website or email address below for more information and bookings.

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black and gold baldrics reflects the colours of the Cornish coat of arms. The Cornish bezants are embroidered on the front of the baldrics and each member of the team has a personal logo, saying something about them, embroidered on the back.

3:15pm Trigg Morris

See entry for Lower Molesworth Street, 1pm

4pm Tywardreath Morris

See entry for Lower Molesworth Street, 1:45pm

Molesworth Arms

12:15pm Jeremy Rowe

Also Mon 1:45pm Salt Bar

Jeremy is a nature-loving singer-songwriter crafting contemporary folk songs on nylon and steel-string acoustic guitars. His originals span themes from whales and warfare to fossils and the Isles of Scilly, including tracks like "Leviathan," "The Fox and Hare," "Traces," and "The Lost Kingdom." He's performed at festivals and venues across Cornwall, Somerset, and Dorset, such as Freezone Festival, The Old Town Inn (Scillies), David Hall folk nights, and Ringwood Carnival.

1:15pm **Hooligan's Rule**

Hooligan's Rule—Lucy and Tony Simister—perform a vibrant blend of Celtic, French folk, and original music on guitar, fiddle, mandolin, and bodhran. They've played festivals and folk events in England and France. Tony, steeped in diverse genres from blues to flamenco, is a skilled guitarist also inspired by Irish and Scottish traditions. Lucy's bodhran style, rooted in ceilidh rhythms, adapts seamlessly to pop and rock settings.



2:15pm Elliot Osborne

Also Mon 4.45pm Salt Bar

Elliot, a former mayor of Wadebridge, has been singing and playing guitar for well over 50 years, and has appeared at many venues across the UK, as well as in





Tywardreath Morris

the Far East, Australia and America. His material draws from Folk, Country, Country Folk, and a range of genres in between.

3:15pm Kessenyan
See entry for FAR Stage, Monday 1:30pm

4:15pm Cataclews
See entry for FAR Stage, Saturday 2:15pm

Saltbar

12:45pm River Blue
See entry for FAR Stage, Monday 4:30pm

1:45pm Jeremy Rowe
See entry for Molesworth Arms, 12:15pm

2:45pm Cataclews
See entry for FAR Stage, Saturday 2:15pm

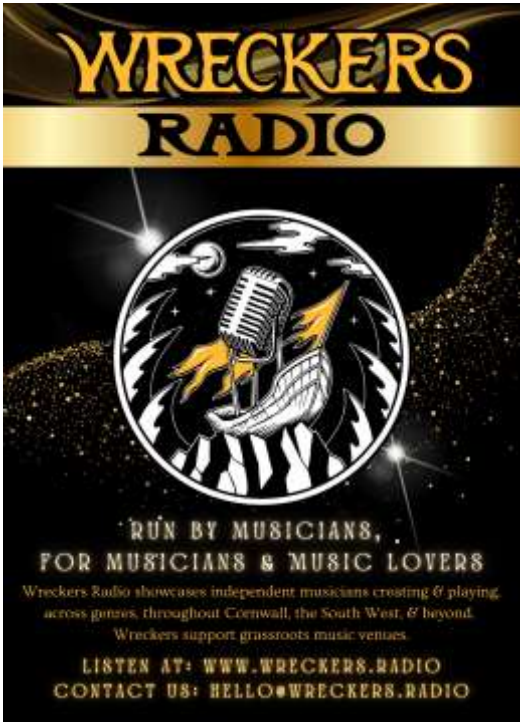
3:45pm Kitty Puss String Band
See entry for FAR Stage, Monday 12:45pm

4:45pm Elliot Osborne
See entry for Molesworth Arms, 2:15pm



Elliot Osborne





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Sessions

The sessions are here for you to sing and play to a range of different genres within the folk world.

In addition to these organised events, The Churchill Bars on Molesworth street welcome any DIY sessions, and The Clementine Cakery welcome small groups to play a few tunes etc outside whilst having a coffee and cake perhaps!

A big thanks goes out to all the session leaders **without whom it wouldn't be possible.**

Have a great festival everyone!



Swan Hotel

Thurs 21

7-11pm: Opening session 'Come all ye!' An opening session guided by you!

Fri 22

12–2pm: Mixed Folk Club style with our lovely Sylvia and Rowena.
2-4pm: DIY
7-11pm: A lively tune and the odd song session with the dynamic Greg Yates.

Memorial session Monday for Suzy Sedgwick (1946-2025)



Sat 23

12-2pm: Lively singing session with the vibrant Kevin Brinn.
2pm–4pm: Shanties and songs of the sea with Flash Jack.
7–11pm: Lively Irish music session with the talented Toby & Tristan Kessell & Jen Dyer.

Sun 24

12–2pm: Come and play Cornish tunes with the amazing Salt and Sky.
2-4pm: A mixed session with Sarah and Paul, hosts of the Ancestor sessions.
7–11pm: Mixed Folk Club style with our lovely Sylvia and Rowena.

Mon 24

2–4pm: A tribute session to the late Suzy Sedgwick (formerly Millington). Suzy was Treasurer and Tickets and information officer for Cornwall Folk Festival. She was a true supporter and friend of so many musicians and singers around the UK. The session will then morph into the survivors' session until closing time.

Ship Bar

Fri 22

12–2pm: DIY
2–4pm: The New Wadebridge Folk Club with Neal Jolly.
7–11pm: A good old-fashioned shout with Gideon Barrett and South East Cornwall Singers.

Sat 23

12–2pm: A fun mixed session with regular festival goers Jo, Sal and Paul.
2–4pm: A Bluegrass-style session with the talented O'Frankels.
7–11pm: DIY

Sun 24

12–2pm: A fun mixed session with regular festival goers Jo, Sal and Paul.
2-4pm: DIY sessions
7–11pm: DIY sessions

Ship Upper Deck

Fri 22

12–2pm: DIY
2–4pm: A Folk Blues with Paul Marsh & Steve Ruffe.
7–11pm: DIY

Sat 23

12–2pm: DIY
2–4pm: DIY
7–11pm: Mixed Folk Club style with our lovely Sylvia and Rowena.

Sun 24

12–2pm: DIY
2-4pm: The River Blue Band. Share songs and play along to well-known songs.
7–11pm: Quiz night. Come and join the quiz; music can start after c9pm.

Workshops

Workshops are included in a full festival ticket, or available at £5 each.

From Pedals to Performance: Tim **Edey's Secret Sauce**

Sat Aug 23 10:30 am, Town Hall

Join us and world-class multi-instrumentalist Tim Edey for an electrifying morning workshop, Saturday 23rd in the Town Hall, Wadebridge. Discover the secrets behind his "one-man band" brilliance—from masterful looper pedal layering to key changes mid-performance using the capo. Learn about his effortless switching between guitar and melodeon, and hear Tim reveal the techniques that fuel his boundless energy and virtuosity.



Neal Jolly

A Jolly Good Sing with Neal Jolly

Mon Aug 25 10:30 am, Betjeman Centre

Whether you're a seasoned singer or just curious to try, come and experience the joy of communal, multi-part harmony with North Cornwall's own 'natural voice' guide, Neal Jolly. No need to read music—just bring your voice and an open heart.

Wizz Jones (1939–2025): Quiet Giant of British Folk

Wizz Jones, the revered folk-blues guitarist and songwriter and patron of the Cornwall Folk Festival, passed away peacefully on April 27, 2025, just two days after his 86th birthday. Though he never courted fame, his influence rippled through generations of musicians—from Keith Richards and Eric Clapton to Bruce Springsteen, who famously opened a Berlin **concert with Jones's** haunting ballad *When I Leave Berlin*.

Born Raymond Ronald Jones in Thornton Heath, Surrey, Wizz earned his nickname from his mother, inspired by his childhood love of magic tricks. That sense of wonder never left him. With a battered George Foley guitar held together by leather and glue, he busked across Europe, played Soho clubs, and helped shape the British folk revival. His style—earthy, intricate, and emotionally raw—was admired by peers like Bert Jansch and Ralph McTell, the latter crediting Wizz with inspiring his own musical journey.



Wizz Jones on the FAR Stage

There are few artists with more claim to being a 'musician's musician' than Wizz Jones. Inspired by Big Bill Broonzy, Rambling Jack Elliot, Alexis Korner and Ewan MacColl, he learnt his guitar licks from the likes of Davy Graham and Long John Baldry while playing in the coffee bars of London's Soho during the late 1950s.

He busked throughout Europe from the streets of Paris to the markets of Marrakesh during the early sixties with many different musicians – including a budding young bluesman named Rod Stewart – and later was cited by John Renbourn and Eric Clapton as an important early influence, thanks to his unique acoustic guitar style, eclectic repertoire and a "right hand worthy of Broonzy".

Jones's connection to Cornwall ran deep. In the early 1960s, he met his wife Sandy in the region, and together they raised a family while touring the continent in a VW van.

He became patron of this festival in 2014.

In 2019, he received a BBC Radio 2 Folk Award for Lifetime Achievement, a rare moment of recognition for a man who preferred the music to speak for itself. His final gig in February 2025 was a humble farewell: "Thanks to all the people... that heard my songs and my guitar playing, and came to my gigs for all those years. Thank you very much."

Wizz Jones is survived by Sandy, their daughter, and two sons. As far as we can work out, he first played the festival in 1992, and honoured us with eight appearances in total, with his last appearance in 2019.

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