

Friday February 24th Brigstowe Village Band: Playlist and Cues. Dependent on timing some items MAY be cut

Begone Dull care : Tunes and stories from the life and times of a west country village band

Band: Spirit of the Dance: x3 Boxes intro last 4 bars, Roland will count in - play x3 with short accented last note

Intro

Welcome: Liz

Our programme today ... St Kevern was known for drinking and merry making which we could all do with a bit of in February

Band : St Kevern's Feast :x3. Boxes intro last 4 bars, Pat will count in - play x3 then slow down in last 2 bars

1. Absentmindedness in a parish choir

Link .Between 1750 and 1860..... but first Thomas Hardy's favourite tune, Enrico

Enrico x3 - concertinas intro bars 5-8, Helen will count in - play x3, with short last 3 notes [Note: only 3 times through - if you have 4x marked, skip time 3]

The 29th of May - Wind intro last 4 bars, Pete will count in - play x5 with slow ending as written

Link/Liz :Although the village band's playingcomplaints about the behaviour of some band members in church .

Colin

'there seems to have been a total lack of reverence in the band . Instruments would be tuned during the sermon, (Roland sounds an A) loud exhortation of blame and praise

Lyn ' that A was flat ' 'Liz 'no that was fine'

Link : Liz cuts the moans

Link / Liz

As well as playing in church especially dances.

Reading / speaking :John M: 'For we could turn a jig or a hornpipe out of hand as well as we could turn out a psalm , and perhaps better , not to speak irreverent . In short ,one half hour we could be playing a carol in the squire's hall to the ladies and gentlemen of the parish and drinking tea and coffee with them as a modest as saints; - the next we will be at the Turk's Arms blazing away like wild horses with a New Rigged Ship and a couple of lively lively dances... and moreand swallowing rum and cider hot as flames '

Link / **Roland** : Hardy has a lovely little story, *Absentmindedness in a Parish Choir*, which explains how church organs came in and replaced the village bands

It all came to an end one Sunday just after Christmas - just imagine a dark wintry evening like this one .

During next paragraph BVB mimes falling asleep

Link/ Roland

The Village Band has been bashing out dance tunes late into Saturday night, and on Sunday afternoon they're up in the gallery, stock still, shivering cold. It's freezing 'an inch an hour' and there are no heaters! Just a jug of brandy-and-beer to keep them warm. And the parson's in the pulpit, droning on and on ... like this ... as they struggle to stay awake.

BVB totally asleep

As the sermon finally ends at dusk, he says 'Let us stand and sing the Evening Hymn. No 69 '

He listens. Nobody stirs

Then he shouts: 'Let us stand and sing No 69

The band wakes up ... the church is dark ... they're not quite certain where they are,

Liz counts in: 'A-one, a two, a 123,4 '.

Devil Among The Tailors #1 - during absentminded sketch, wake up and play approx 8 bars

Roland :Stop , stop, stop

Roland : The parson was furious, 'this is blasphemy' he dispensed with the men of the village band.and went out the next day and bough an organ for the church... so these days the west gallery contains a church organ, which is the natural enemy of a band like ours (it can make all the same sounds, but it keeps in time, it's always in tune and is much more compliant .

Devil Among The Tailors #2 - **straight** after the sketch, Alison intro last 2 bars - play x2 (fast!) with short last 3 notes

3. Superstition and health

Link/ Liz: The 1850s... and folk remedies

Link : Lyn The waxing of the moonyou could crawl under for your affliction to be cured.

Link/ Liz: If ,you would like an insight into your temperament..... Perhaps you would like to look at your own nails .. **band please join in**

Colin and Lyn : Fingernails : reading

Link / Liz : Lets have some music to remind us of these superstitions

King Bramble: King Bramble - Alison will count in (1 2 3) and conduct to help with entries. 16 bars intro (wind+boxes 8 bars, fiddles join in 8 bars) then fiddles change to tune and we play x3. Ending = whole bar of silence, then play an A minor chord.

Man in the Moon. Man In The Moon - no intro, Alison will count in (1 2 3 1 2) - play x4 then slow down in last 4 bars

The Sylph - 2 fiddles intro last 2 bars, Alison will count in - play x4 with long last note

4. Soldiers and sailors

Liz / Link often compelled by physical force men of serving age into the army or navy .

Reading : **Roland** : from Dr Johnson ;
No man will be a sailor ...better company.

Link/ Liz .. Introduces tunes

Band The Tide Coming - chord intro first 8 bars, Tony will count in at the end of this! Play x6 (4 normal, rumba break, 5 is rumba page, 6 is normal). Warning: it all happens very fast! Ending = short last 3 notes.

Link/ Liz : Intro :Nelsons Blood - **band** feel free to join in

Singers: Nelsons Blood:

Link /Lyn

Men for the army often recruited from the poorest sections of society Recruiting Officers were highly unpopular .

The Recruiting Officer; The Recruiting Officer - basses intro last 4 bars, Alison will count in - play x4 (2 normal, 3 is 2nd page/wind tune, 4 is normal). Ending = play one extra chord.

New Riggered Ship : New Riggered Ship - fiddles intro last 4 bars, Alison will count in - play x4 with short last note

[New arrangement 19 Feb 2023]

5. Love .. and Romance

Link/ Liz : It would be a shame to let the month that contains Valentines day pass without reference to love .

Link / Liz: In his novel, Under the Greenwood Tree, Thomas Hardy wrote of the romance of Fancy Day and Dick Dewey.

Colin and Mary : A special cup of tea ? : Romance over the handbasin :

Singers : Little Eyes

6. Leaving winter welcoming Spring

Drive The Cold Winter Away -intro 8 bars, Alison will count in - play x4 with slow down/fade out at the end

Link/ Liz ... February we see the lengthening days ..Here is traditional advice for February

Reading : Lyn

INTERLUDE Briggy and Spring

Jockey To The Fair #1 (Briggy entrance) – Alison will count in – everyone play a G major chord for 4 beats, then play the tune, first 8 bars only

Interaction from band please

Jockey To The Fair #2 (Briggy exit) – Alison will count in – everyone straight into the tune, first 8 bars only

Link/ Liz : Thanks for coming .. end by joining the resources of our two groups.. waving of snowdrops/ daffodils

BVB Singers and Badgerset: Be Gone Dull Care - guitar intro last 4 bars, Alison to count in at the end of this! Alison will conduct entries, so singers and instrumentalists should watch her! Play x6 (2, 3 and 5 are quieter verses with singers). Ending = slow down a little, with a long last note.

