



# Lancashire Wallopers Weekend of Clog Dance 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> February 2022



Please note that we are staying  
at the new venue – please don't  
go to Wellfield!

Balshaws CE High School  
Church Lane  
Leyland  
PR25 3AH



On the day you can call 07787 421423 and we will help you if you get lost!

### Workshops:

*Cloughfold Hornpipe (Beginners)* with  
**Carol Nutter & Rachel O'Neill**

*Pink Mazurka (Improvers +)* with **Barbara Wigg**

*Pat Tracey Lancashire Irish (Intermediate)* with  
**Kathryn Tattersall**

*Marley Buck & Wing (Intermediate)* with  
**Harry Cowgill & Robynne Wood**

*Sam Sherry's Original Waltz (Intermediate+)* with  
**Melanie Barber**

*Alex Woodcock Medley (Advanced)* with  
**Ian Craigs & Jean Smith**

*Musician's extravaganza hosted by*  
**Jill Parkinson & Simon Wilson**

### Weekend Tickets:

Adults - £40

16 & below - £20

Musicians - £15

Evening only - free

**Day tickets  
not available**

*We are sorry that lunch  
and evening meals will  
not be available this year.*

Also the usual afternoon displays (all teams/solo artists welcome), clog makers and copious amounts of tea/biscuits. In consideration of the pandemic we have adapted the evening format to help us all have a social but safe evening. The ticket prices have been reduced to reflect these changes.....

## **“Night in with the Wallopers”**

Come and join us for a relaxed social evening with a spattering of activities planned to entertain and delight including:

- “TV time” with footage of the best routines filmed at past Wallopers Weekends in the 80s/90s (especially Pat Tracey, Sam Sherry and other well-known performers)
- Musical interludes from Musician's workshop
- “Show us your party trick!” - this could be dance or family friendly talents for us all to enjoy.
- Games

Bring your own drinks, nibbles for this evening of wholesome fun and we've heard that Wallop might bring some cake too!



## ABOUT THE WORKSHOPS:

### **CLOUGHFOLD HORNPIPE** (Beginners: clogs or hard shoes)

Tutor: Carol Nutter & Rachel O'Neill

This dance was written to introduce beginner level dancers to the building blocks of clog dancing but also give an engaging dance to watch to a commonly known tune. The eight steps encompass shuffles, heel & toe taps with a spattering of interesting rhythms and quirky clicking movements. The aim of the workshop is for participants to feel they have achieved more than expected, had fun and hopefully be hooked on clog dancing!

### **PINK MAZURKA** (Improvers+)

Tutor: Barbara Wigg

The inspiration for this dance came from a cracking tune ("Mazurka de Barbary") that just begged to be danced to and was found in a pink book hence the name! This dance is in 3/4 time that has an emphasis on the second beat and lots of brief pauses for dramatic effect. The 10 step routine includes enigmatic movements such as "flying squirrels", "flamingo hops" and introduces you to the addictive "Dan Lemo" walk. This dance is unique, fun and impossible not to smile whilst doing it – it is perfect for those with a dance or two under their belt but don't quite consider themselves to be intermediate level.

### **LANCASHIRE IRISH** (Intermediate)

Tutor: Kathryn Tattersall

Deservedly popular with dancers, Pat Tracey's Lancashire Irish steps are lively, impressive and fun. They were created as Irish immigrants who came to work in the Lancashire cotton mills adapted their native dancing to the local footwear, exploiting the hard wooden soles of the clogs to create heel catches, toe clicks etc. They enjoyed themselves; now it is your turn to enjoy this pleasing fusion of Lancashire & Irish stepping.

### **ANNA MARLEY BUCK & WING** (Intermediate)

Tutors: Harry Cowgill & Robynne Wood

A seriously fast, crowd pleasing, cool routine from American Vaudeville which is essentially a duet but can, with a one step substitution, be danced as a solo. It contains all the standard Marley motifs that can be a gateway into their other routines but arguably has the most impressive duet kicking step you will ever see. The steps, which are danced to a reel rhythm, are generally not difficult to learn – speed is the main challenge but will be carefully controlled in the workshop!

### **SAM SHERRY'S ORIGINAL WALTZ** (Intermediate+)

Tutor: Melanie Barber

This is the waltz routine that Sam, a leading professional step and acrobatic dancer taught his first clog pupils after he was 'discovered' by the folk world in the late 60's. It is a stylish routine full of variety and interest with Sam's music hall and variety background clearly evident. There are some trickier elements in the middle of this routine and this encouraged Sam to develop the Improvers Waltz, which is a staple mass dance at clog events today. It might help to say that Steps 1, 2, 3, 9 and 10 are in the easier waltz and the middle steps are a challenge well worth taking on!

### **ALEX WOODCOCK MEDLEY** (Advanced)

Tutors: Ian Craigs and Jean Smith

Jean and Ian put together this medley in order to 'showcase' the steps of Alex Woodcock within a single routine. Alex's style stems from the musical hall stage, which makes for a distinctive, creative and engaging dance. This routine begins with a selection of waltz steps followed by some of his Schottische steps and then concludes with his 'quicktime' steps. It contains a good mix of Improver, Intermediate and Advanced steps which should test the dancer's memory as well their dance skills.

### **MUSICIANS' EXTRAVANGANZA**

Hosted by Jill Parkinson & Simon Wilson

We are moving away from the traditional musicians' workshop format this year to have a more interactive weekend around the theme of "playing for clog dancing". Jill and Simon will have some favourite Wallopers tunes prepared to get things going but are hoping that participants will share their tunes and experiences. The idea is along the lines of a musical "jacob's join", becoming a cross between an epic session, problem solving, testing out ideas and getting feedback from Chas and Ruth as skilled clog dancers. There is also the chance to contribute some group party pieces to the evening "do" as well as share learning in the workshop show case – you'll notice the reduced ticket price in recognition of the weekend being a "busman's holiday"!

## About the Tutors:

**CAROL NUTTER** started her clogging with the Ossie Cloggies after initially attending as a taxi driver for her clog dancing daughter. She subsequently became a founder member of Padiham Panache and was instrumental in encouraging a generation of clog dancers and preserving the Marley style in the UK. **RACHEL O'NEILL** was also a member of the Ossie Cloggies as a child and later joined Rossendale Clog Heritage where she met Carol and they are both the current leaders of the team. They are both patient and friendly teachers with a skill for creating and adapting steps to make them accessible to all levels of experience.

**BARBARA WIGG** loved tap and ballet as a child and shared a delight in performing. This was a gap filled by clog dancing with Dukes Dandy in her adult life but with the extra bonus of performing in pubs! Barbara has a wonderfully creative mind when it comes to writing steps and has a patient and engaging teaching style. This and the Duke's Dandy approach to clog is perfectly illustrated by the dance she is teaching this weekend.

**KATHRYN TATTERSALL** learned from Pat Tracey, danced with Pat Tracey (in Camden Clog, Pat's team) for many years, and now specialises completely in the dances of Pat Tracey. She is a very experienced, thorough and patient tutor who is enjoyable to learn from - so if you want to learn about Pat Tracey and get insight into her style then Kathryn is the tutor for you.

**HARRY COWGILL** was one of the many who jumped at the chance to learn from ex-Music Hall & Variety professional Sam Sherry at the clog dancing classes which Sam started in Preston in the late '70s. Unlike most, he never stopped attending Sam's classes, and continued to run them himself until 2010. A former three-times Lancashire & Cheshire clog dance champion, Harry has danced and/or taught at lots & lots of festivals, shows & ceilidhs, both in the UK & abroad. **ROBYNNE WOOD** started clog dancing at the tender age of 11, growing up in the ranks of Padiham Panache and joined The Lancashire Wallopers in 2007. She also the reigning Lancashire & Cheshire clog champion and has a particular fondness for the dances of Anna Marley as, along with Harry, was fortunate to have learned directly from Tony Barrand and the New Dancing Marleys in the mid-1990s.

**MELANIE BARBER** has been a keen clog dancer for more years than she cares to remember, having performed and taught step clog for over 35 years. She originally learnt from Sam Sherry and Pat Tracey, and went on to collect steps from Bill Gibbons and Bert Bowden. A founder member of The Lancashire Wallopers, and having danced with Camden Clog when she lived in London, she currently dances with Strictly Clog and Three's a Crowd. She is also well known for organising the Lancashire and Cheshire Clog Dance Competitions and is currently the Director for Whitby Folk Week's dance activities.

**IAN CRAIGS** started clog dancing in 1979 as a founder member of the "Newcastle Cloggies" and for a period was a member of the 'Instep Research Team' collecting and teaching steps from Elsie Willis and others. **JEAN SMITH** joined the Newcastle cloggies in 1990 and later became involved in research and helped to establish the 'Instep' dance group. She has run a number of workshops and collected dance steps from Alex Woodcock as well as others. Ian and Jean have been performing as Twostep for a number of years, wowing the clog world with their imagination, precision and attention to detail.

**THE LANCASHIRE WALLOPERS** current line-up is: Chas, Harry, musician Jill, Robynne, Ruth & musician Simon. The original team was formed from Sam Sherry's clog class pupils for a one-off performance of the 'Irish Jig', a bargees' social dance learned from Bill Gibbons, at the National Gathering at Cecil Sharp House in 1981. The first Wallopers weekend (instigated & organised by Alan Whittaker & Melanie Barber) was in 1984: the workshop leaders that year were Pat Tracey, Sam Sherry, Bert Bowden, Bill Gibbons & Theresa Hindle.

## **BOOKINGS/CONTACT US**

Bookings should be addressed to:-

**RUTH BIBBY, 2 BIBBY AVE WARRINGTON WA1 3RH**

\*\*Please include your e-mail address(es) if possible if you have not previously done so or if it has changed. Contact for enquiries is Robynne on 0161 2790957 or 07787 421423. Please note that the booking form is available from our web site - google The Lancashire Wallopers (there aren't any others!). The weekend cost is £40 for adults, £20 for 16 and unders and £15 for musicians; all other costs being as advised in this leaflet.

## **FAQS**

### **SATURDAY**

- 9.00 - 9.50** Reception and coffee/tea
- 9.50 - 10.00** Welcome (in the dining area)
- 10.00 - 11.00** Workshops
- 11.00 - 11.30** Coffee/tea break
- 11.30 - 12.45** Workshops
- 12.45 - 2.15** Lunch – bring your own food (see below)
- 2.15 - 3.30** Workshops.
- 3.30 - 4.00** Coffee/tea break
- 4.10 - 5.00** Displays – all teams and solo artists welcome
- 5.00 - 5.50** Saturday afternoon activity (TBC)
- 8.00 - 10.30** Evening entertainment

\*(No bar - bring your own drinks)

### **SUNDAY**

- 9.00 - 9.45** Coffee/tea
- 9.45 - 10.45** Workshops
- 10.45 - 11.15** Coffee/tea break
- 11.15 - 12.00** Workshops
- 12.10 - 12.55** Workshop showcase

Due to the nature of the workshop floors in the venue we will need to use boards. **If you have a favourite board, feel free to bring it along. Please let us know when you make your booking** so we can ensure that we have the right number of boards.

## **COVID MEASURES**

We will be following Government guidelines as they stand at the time of the weekend. However, we will be doing everything we can to keep everyone safe during the weekend. We will not be asking for vaccination status but we would respectfully ask that everyone does a lateral flow test before attending the weekend. Masks in social areas will be encouraged (but still optional) and we will also ensure there is lots of available social space and hand gels. Also, the ceilidh has been replaced with a social evening that will support social distancing and the hall will be well aired throughout the weekend. We thank everyone in advance in their support in these difficult times and please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions/concerns.

**FOOTWEAR:** As stated for the individual workshops but please note that beginners would be fine with flat, hard-soled shoes. We hope to have a limited selection of clogs for beginners to borrow. Clogs must have bare wooden soles as **NO IRON OR RUBBER SOLED CLOGS ARE PERMITTED. IF YOU REMOVE IRONS OR RUBBERS FROM YOUR CLOGS, PLEASE ENSURE THAT NO NAILS OR GRIT REMAIN IN THE SOLES.**

## **WORKSHOP PLACES**

Workshop places will be allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis only, from bookings received with a form, and cannot be booked provisionally. Please indicate first and second choices on the booking form. Also, please give full names of all members of your group (and ages if under 16). If you feel on the day that you are in the wrong workshop, grab someone wearing a 'HELP' badge as soon as possible and we will re-allocate you **to the best of our ability and subject to workshop capacity.**

## **BADGES**

Upon your arrival, you will be given an envelope containing badges which act as your weekend ticket. Please wear your badges at all times.

## **EVENING ONLY TICKETS**

Due to the change in format we are making the evening do free for this year but please let us know if you are bringing extra people prior. This would really help us with our covid planning!

## **SATURDAY AFTERNOON DISPLAYS**

It is our tradition to set aside an hour on Saturday afternoon for you, either singly or in groups, to display your favourite routine or party piece. We would like to encourage you to be prepared to do something (although this is not compulsory) and not leave it to 'everyone else'. If you are willing to give a display, please indicate this in the space provided on your booking form & please limit it to a maximum of 5 minutes.

## **JUNIOR DANCERS**

Whilst we welcome young dancers, past experience dictates that we must ask that there is at least one adult for every 10 children where there are large groups, and that the adults **do** supervise them.

## **SUNDAY WORKSHOP SHOWCASE**

After the final workshops have been completed, we invite you to try out the new skills and steps that you have learned during the weekend in the workshop showcase. This gets the first public performance of your new routine under your belt - in front of an extremely understanding & supportive audience!

## **ACCOMMODATION**

We have compiled (in 2010) a list of hotel accommodation in the local area & a list of camper van or caravan-certified locations which are reasonably close. We email these out with the booking forms. Please contact us if you have been missed out or if you want further details.

## **FOOD**

We will be providing space as usual for people to eat together but sadly we are unable to offer pre-ordered food this year. For lunch, there is a big Tesco store and some smaller supermarkets for buying sandwiches that are easily accessible to the venue. For the evening, there are a number of restaurants and pubs both within a short drive away within Leyland but also up the road in Buckshaw Village that cater for range of needs. If you just fancy a take-away, then you are welcome to bring it back (or even delivered) to the school and eat it in comfort and company.