



# The RAM CLUB



TOP FOLK & ACOUSTIC MUSIC at the  
OLD CRANLEIGHAN CLUB,  
PORTSMOUTH ROAD, THAMES  
DITTON, SURREY KT7 0HB  
FRIDAYS AT 8.30PM

BBC 'Folk Club of the Year' 2007

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## **FEBRUARY 19<sup>TH</sup> - PETE MORTON**

£7 members/£8 guests

PETE is a passionate, intense performer with a driving guitar style & a great stage presence who, for the last couple of decades, has been busy putting back the 'F' in Folk. Carrying on the true tradition of an urban songwriter, he is always 'on the road' and has delivered a wealth of great songs that are an unruly mix of humour, politics, love and social comment. A Ram favourite, Pete sings from the heart and his song 'Another train' is popular with choirs and artists around the world, bringing hope and encouragement to countless listeners over the years. His new CD '*Casa Abierta*' marks a radical departure, featuring ten songs in different tongues including Spanish, Swahili, Welsh, Kurdish, Korean and French. And it's great!

[www.petemorton.com](http://www.petemorton.com)

## **FEBRUARY 26<sup>TH</sup> - CHRIS NEWMAN & MÁIRE NÍ CHATHASAIGH**

£8 members/£10 guests

The brilliant, innovative harping of MAIRE (Irish Traditional Musician of the Year 2001), and the amazing virtuosity and versatility of English guitar wizard CHRIS, make a welcome return with their addictive and stylish cocktail of powerhouse Irish dance-music, gorgeous airs, evocative songs and striking new compositions - with shots of hot jazz and bluegrass thrown in! Their latest CD *FireWire* has garnered extraordinary critical acclaim: "Dazzling virtuosity... The speed and complexity is to be marvelled at... exquisitely delivered... delightful" (The Daily Telegraph). They play the world over, with many an appearance on TV and Radio, but tonight they are all ours again, and we guarantee a unique and captivating evening.

[www.oldbridgemusic.com](http://www.oldbridgemusic.com)

## **MARCH 5<sup>TH</sup> - PETE COE**

£7 members/£8 guests

A vibrant performer who champions traditional English Folk in all its glories. Singer, songwriter, melodeon, banjo, dulcimer and bouzouki player, bandleader, broadcaster, teacher, step dancer, sallow-faced wit, raconteur and all-round good guy, Pete is a 'one man folk industry' who represents the backbone of the folk revival. He's been a key member of numerous significant outfits across three decades - a much-loved duo with Chris Coe, the wondrous dance outfit New Victory Band, Bandoggs and political trailblazers Red Shift. His richly varied solo work takes in songs from the Tradition, dance tunes and his own potent songs.

[www.backshift.demon.co.uk](http://www.backshift.demon.co.uk)

## **MARCH 12<sup>TH</sup> - STEVE ASHLEY**

£7 members/£8 guests

Since the 70s, STEVE's career has been intricately woven into the fabric of English Folk and its Rock offshoots. In 1972 he was in the Albion Country Band with ASHLEY HUTCHINS, then released a solo album 'Stroll On', a masterpiece that was voted 'Contemporary Folk Album of the Year'. Steve then became the first (and possibly only) English Folkie to get a USA deal with Motown! Sometimes it seems like he's disappeared, but with the re-release of his early back catalogue he's back and enjoying a new lease of performing life. He has continued to release fine albums, most recently 'Time and Tide', featuring stirring songs rich in poetry and strong in message & melody that engage with contemporary issues including the environment, war and peace.

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

## **MARCH 19<sup>TH</sup> - IAN BRUCE**

£7 members/£8 guests

A big man, with a voice and presence to match, IAN tours all over the UK, Europe and America, captivating audiences with his own 'songs of the road' and a good helping of traditional Scottish song including his excellent Burns repertoire (he was a major contributor to the definitive 'Complete Songs of Robert Burns' on Linn records). With tonsils purring like a Harley, and some great chorus songs (including the odd pop classic) as well as haunting and compassionate ones, this is free-wheeling, leather-clad Biker Folk at its best! A great feel-good evening in store from one of Scotland's greatest singer/songwriter/performers.

[www.ianbruce.org](http://www.ianbruce.org)

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- More details from [www.theramclub.co.uk](http://www.theramclub.co.uk) or Bob and Maggie Wood on 0208 686 9421
  - To get e-mail updates or tell us of address changes, e-mail [ramfolkclub@btopenworld.com](mailto:ramfolkclub@btopenworld.com)
  - Nearest stations Hinchley Wood or Thames Ditton via South West Trains

**MARCH 26<sup>TH</sup> - PHIL BEER**      **£10 /£12 (Tickets also available AT THE CLUB ONLY from Feb 19th)**

One of the finest multi-instrumentalists on the folk scene, PHIL has spread his talents far and wide, including the ALBION BAND, the ARIZONA SMOKE REVUE and SHOW OF HANDS, with whom he has thrice sold out the Royal Albert Hall (God help us if they all turn up here)! He has played on zillions of sessions including MIKE OLDFIELD, STEVE HARLEY & the ROLLING STONES, because he can play anything, from blistering electric rock, stomping jigs & reels on fiddle and mandolin, slide guitar and, of course, acoustic guitar. Phil got stuck in snow drifts en route last February so we have a helicopter on standby just in case. [www.philbeer.co.uk](http://www.philbeer.co.uk)

**APRIL 2<sup>ND</sup> – CLOSED FOR EASTER**

**APRIL 9<sup>TH</sup> - BRUCE MOLSKY**

**£8 members/£10 guests**

BRUCE is an Appalachian fiddler par excellence and is, along with Andy Irvine and Donal Lunny, a member of Celtic folk mega-group MOZAIK (a modern-day version of PLANXTY). Not only that, he's equally good on guitar and banjo, and his playing and singing runs the whole gamut from Southern, Old -Timey, Scottish and even Canadian & Norwegian music, all played with innovation, emotion and phenomenal dexterity. With an easy, laid-back-porch Ry Cooder vocal style, he'll have you rocking (gently) in your seats. [www.brucemolsky.com](http://www.brucemolsky.com)

**APRIL 16<sup>TH</sup> - BROOKS WILLIAMS**

**£7 members/£8 guests**

A welcome return for this stylish and inspired guitarist & singer in the Lowell George/ James Taylor/ Eric Bibb /Ry Cooder mould. From Statesboro, Georgia, BROOKS has a unique style that blends folk, blues, gospel, jazz, African, Brazilian, and calypso into something special. To quote, *'he sings like the Angel of Soul and possesses a melodic virtuosity that runs like liquid from his fingers'* and tonight he'll be showcasing songs from his excellent new CD 'The Time I Spend With You'. For us that'll be quality time indeed! [www.brookswilliams.com](http://www.brookswilliams.com)

**APRIL 23<sup>RD</sup> - TANNAHILL WEAVERS**

**£9 members/£11 guests**

It is a great pleasure to welcome once again this legendary band back to our humble croft. Truly the Led Zeppelin of Folk, the TANNAHILLS have an unerring ability to switch seamlessly between beautiful, evocative slow airs, ballads and topical songs with rich vocal harmonies, to out-and-out hell-for-leather tune sets led by Highland pipes, fiddle, whistles & flute with a rock-solid rhythm underneath. One of the all time great Scottish bands, they have a pedigree as long as a caber and toss the whole caboodle of the Scots folk cannon into a simmering pot of musical broth. Mists will swirl and babes won't sleep, but this lot are AWESOME! [www.tannahillweavers.com](http://www.tannahillweavers.com)

**APRIL 30<sup>TH</sup> - CHRIS SHERBURN & DENNY BARTLEY**

**£8 members/£9 guests**

They've slimmed down from their last time here in Last Night's Fun but do not despair, this pair have lost none of their capacity to assault your aural senses with the best in Irish-based music, soul-stirring songs and exhilarating tunes on concertina and guitar. And then there's the craic; as ever you'll be the exclusive audience for their trademark hilarious, uproarious, spontaneous between-songs banter - and if we could just get them on a celeb-reality TV show the world would be a better place! Genius takes many forms and musical talent is often at its best when unhinged. Tonight they will be plugging their new CD 'Lucy Wan' for all it's worth - and it is worth it! Acoustic Convulsive Therapy at its most beneficial! [www.lastnightsfun.com](http://www.lastnightsfun.com)

**MAY 7<sup>TH</sup> - CLAIRE MANN & AARON JONES**

**£8 members/£9 guests**

Two young players at the forefront of the thriving Edinburgh folk scene. CLAIRE is a fabulous flute, fiddle and whistle player who has toured extensively with TABACHE and CRAOBH RUA, while AARON has played with Tom McConville & Pauline Cato and countless other bands, contributing sublime guitar & bouzouki as well as vocals. In 2005 he was Instrumentalist of the Year at the Scots Trad Music Awards, a rare feat for an Englishman (albeit with Irish roots)! Now firmly-established as a duo their stunning debut CD Secret Orders, released in 2006, is full of beautiful interpretations of trad & contemporary Scottish & Irish songs, brilliantly played and passionately expressed with energy, feeling and sensitivity. Their new CD 'Until the Cows Come Home' is the product of their Scottish/German collaboration the '2Duos' and is equally brilliant! [www.clairemann.com](http://www.clairemann.com)

**MAY 14<sup>TH</sup> - DAVE SWARBRICK**    **£9/£11 (Tickets also available in advance AT THE CLUB ONLY)**

After learning his craft in the early sixties with Ian Campbell and Martin Carthy, Swarb lent a hand to a young bunch of kids called Fairport Convention and the rest is history. *'Liege and Lief'* was the start of the New Folk and the music changed forever. Since then, his output and entertainment value has been phenomenal. A whirling dervish of manic energy, he has played a trillion notes and continued to innovate in groups like Whippersnapper and Lazarus, the last named after his famous 'resurrection' of 1999, having famously been pronounced dead in a glowing obituary in the Telegraph! 'It's not the first time I've died in Coventry', he quipped at the time. Happily recovered, his one man show of music and banter is not to be missed. [www.folkicons.co.uk/swarb.htm](http://www.folkicons.co.uk/swarb.htm)

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**COMING SOON – May 21 ~ Jeff Warner, May 28 ~ Liz Simcock Trio, June 4 ~ Quicksilver, June 11 ~ Tim Edey Coll. June 18 ~ Soiree, June 25~ Sarah McQuaid, July 2 ~ The Queensberry Rules, July 9 ~ Mike Silver, July 16 ~ Vin Garbutt**