



**PEACE THROUGH
FOLK
NEWSLETTER
JANUARY.
2025**

Our live music events in 2024 ranged between the little and the large.

- ◆ **The Leek Arts Festival Folk Day on 19th May — headliners ‘Merry Hell’**
- ◆ **Sing&Playarounds at The Old Red Lion Ipstones on 3rd Wednesday of each month.**
 - ◆ **‘Sixties Survivors’ Night 12th September**

◆ **The Peace through Folk Gathering 2024 13th –15th September was a fitting finale when it descended upon the Staffordshire Moorland village of Ipstones in Staffordshire-**
Venues included St Leonards Church, The Methodist Church, and the Memorial Hall. The Gathering also spilled into the pubs and shops. 160 ticket holders, over 80 performers, 30 volunteer stewards, operation teams, and accommodation providers all worked together to make it a special weekend. The massive programme included concerts featuring solo artists, groups and choral workshops, Folk Clubs, singarounds and sessions.

Music, songs and good fellowship echoed throughout the village which took us to its heart.

- ◆ **That was the last of the three day Peace through Folk Gatherings.**

To quote from Pete Seeger’s song ‘Quite Early Morning’
– ‘keep on while we live, - until we have no more to give,
and when these fingers can strum no longer, hand the old banjo to young ones stronger’.

So If anyone younger and stronger is interested in helping do please get in touch

Our special thanks to Cheri Crosley Operation Director and Richard Crosley Finance Director and their operations team without whom the re-birth of the Gatherings of 2023 and 2024 would not have so successful.

Outline plans for 2025

- ◆ **Sound track of the Peace Concert 2024** - editing is now underway, sorry for the delay due to technical complications.
 - ◆ **A few events - are being planned the coming year,** mainly in the wonderful St Leonards Church or the Methodist Church, both in Ipstones, both with superb acoustics, (and other venues in Leek).
 - ◆ **'The Ghost of a Sailor's Talking blues'** a charity show case performance starring Pete Morton April 16th (see page 4)
 - ◆ **Pat & Malc's informal folk camping weekend** might happen in the Peak Park in late May/early June, date TBA Let us know if you might like to join us.
 - ◆ **Plans are being prepared for a one day music event on Saturday 6th September -**
Main venue - St Leonards Church Ipstones with concerts in afternoon and evening featuring our residents artists plus headline acts.
 - ~ Existing local camping sites and other accommodation to be 'signposted'.
 - ~ Other village organisations and venues to be encouraged to host satellite events such as singarounds and sessions -
- Watch this space and do let us know if you would like to help make things happen in 2025.**
- Thank you for all your support over the years**

Live Folk, & Americana Music

Sing and Playaround Night

In the Staffordshire Moorlands on the
third Wednesday of each month



NOW AT A
NEW VENUE WITH GREAT
ACOUSTICS AND ROOM TO GROW
Ipstones Methodist Church,
Brookfield Road, ST10 2LX

on the
Third Wednesday of each month
7.00 doors for 7.30 to 10.00pm

Voluntary collection of £2 please to cover room hire and heating.
Tea and coffee will be available and you can bring your own drinks.
(no alcohol allowed at this venue).

Call Peace through Folk on 0749 473 8939 for more information

Our thanks to Lin, Dan and staff at The Old Red Lion for making us so welcome last
year and where we will still call in for a drink before or after the gig

THE GHOST OF A SAILOR'S TALKING BLUES

Starring

PETE MORTON

AND ANYONE WHO LOVES TO SINGALONG!

**AN UNRULY MIX
OF STORYTELLING,
COMEDY AND
SONG, TOLD IN
THE TRADITION OF
THE TALKING
BLUES!!**

**THE ONLY KNOWN
TALKING BLUES SHOW IN
THE WORLD!**

**World Premiere coming to
Staffordshire Moorlands**

**Pete Morton will
present his new show.**

On Wednesday 16th April

**At Ipstones Methodist Church,
ST10 2LY**

Doors 7.00 for 7.30pm

Tickets £ 10 per head - can be bought direct
from Ipstones Village Shop

Or ctrl clic -

www.wegotickets.com/event/646942

(+ £1 if booked online)

All proceeds will be donated to organisations
who provide direct aid to child victims of war

UNHCR,

Save The Children,

War Child,

Médecins Sans Frontières

for more information text/phone 07494 738 939
or Email peacethroughfolk@gmail.com

**ONE DAY, BEFORE ITS TOO LATE, THE INHABITANTS
OF PLANET EARTH MIGHT ALL LEARN HOW TO DO
GOOD AND LIVE IN PEACE AND HARMONY.**

So let's all pick ourselves up from these
bleak times, and carry on using the positive power
of our music and songs to campaign for
Peace, Friendship, Reconciliation
and a better, kinder, more sustainable World for all.

*"The world is my country,
- all mankind are my brethren,
and to do good is my religion .*

*I prefer peace. But if trouble must come, let it come
in my time, so that my children can live in peace."*

Thomas Paine (1737 - 1809)

Please add to your song lists -

Si Kahn's **'Season of Peace'**

and Nancy Kerr's **'Carol of the Skies'**

(detailed musical arrangements for both are available)

SEASON OF PEACE

Season of Peace, ground snowy white
We are at peace with each other tonight
But in how many places, while we sit at ease
Does the firing of guns break the silence of peace

CHORUS

*Season of Peace, Season of War
When will these battles divide us no more
Work for the day when all wars will cease
And each day that we live is a season of peace*

But in how many places do people still fight
Slave against master - Black against white
Catholic and Protestant - Muslim and Jew
Friend against Neighbour - me against you

CHORUS

Now on this earth ... So shattered and torn
May our hopes be, like the season reborn
May we work together for all that we're worth
To bring a true season of peace on this earth

CHORUS

thankyou for this song Si Kahn©.

Click here to listen to 'Season of Peace' and 'Carol of the Skies' on YouTube > <https://youtu.be/wg60iQ3wkHk>

Carol of the Skies

1. See how the sun upon the Earth does rise

As it has never ever done before

The birds caress the skies (X3)

Arise arise and sleep no more

2. Hear now the earthly singers gathering

As they have never ever sung before

Such heavenly voices ring (X3)

Ring out to drown the sound of war

3. See how the strong unto the weak are kind

As if we never ever were apart

And if they fall behind (X3)

Lift up the weak with hand and heart

4. Hear how a song may melt a heart of stone

One feather on the wing of history

And if you feel alone (X3)

Lift up your voice in harmony

Carol of the Skies (tune 'Ipstones) written by Nancy Kerr (©2024) especially for The Peace through Folk Gathering.

First performed in public by the Melrose Quartet and everyone at the Peace Concert on Saturday 14th September 2024

Detailed musical arrangement is available .

Click here to listen to 'Season of Peace' and 'Carol of the Skies' on YouTube > <https://youtu.be/wg60iQ3wkHk>

**Best wishes for
Health & Happiness,
Peace, Friendship, Reconciliation
and a better, kinder,
more sustainable World
in 2025 and beyond**

(Remember there is no Planet B!)