

Fairport Convention



Hello Fairporters,

There's lots going on as we approach Christmas and the new year – including a brand new album release – so we've tons of news to cram in. But first, looking back a few months, a big Fairport 'thank you' to everyone who came to Fairport's Cropredy Convention this year. OK, it was rather wet but the weather did nothing to dampen spirits. Thanks, too, to everyone who wrote in afterwards to say how much they enjoyed the line-up and the event itself.

Moving on to next year's festival, please make sure you put the date in your diary now: **Thursday 11, Friday 12 and Saturday 13 August 2011**. We're already contacting bands and we have some really fantastic acts in mind. We'll post regular updates on our website, www.fairportconvention.com. If you're on the move you can check out our pages on Facebook (Fairportofficial) and Twitter (@faircropfest).

Fairport's Cropredy Convention - beat the VAT

We've got bad news and good news about VAT. The bad news is that VAT on festival tickets will jump from 17.5% to 20% from January 2011. The good news is that we've arranged a special pre-Christmas VAT-buster offer for you, the loyal Cropredy crowd. Our box office normally opens in March but this time we're putting Cropredy tickets on sale from Wednesday 1 December until Tuesday 14 December (note this is a limited period only). Not only will you save 2.5% (which is a significant saving if your family or group buys multiple tickets) but you will receive your tickets in time for Christmas – what better present could you wish for? For full details of our Cropredy VAT-buster, visit www.fairportconvention.com

New Fairport studio album

The big news is that our eagerly-awaited brand new studio album will be released early in 2011. This will be the first new Fairport Convention album for four years and it will be titled *Festival Bell*. There will be fourteen songs and tunes on the album including compositions by our own Chris Leslie and Ric Sanders. Our friend Ralph McTell has written two cracking songs for us as well. We've also included a new version of the Sandy Denny classic *Rising For The Moon*.

We've finished recording the album and now John Gale, our ace sound engineer, is busy mixing the tracks. We hope to have the final mix by the time you receive this newsletter. Please watch the Fairport website and our social network pages for the very latest on *Festival Bell*.



Winter Tour 2011

Our forthcoming Winter Tour kicks off at the end of January and we are planning something really special for 2011. Not only will we be playing brand new songs from *Festival Bell* (and, of course, some classics from our established repertoire) but the first half of each concert will celebrate the fortieth anniversary of "Babbacombe" Lee, Fairport's groundbreaking 1971 folkrock opera. [continued]

CROPREDY TICKET ADVANCE ORDER FORM – place order before December 14

3 Day Concert Ticket

11, 12 & 13 August 2011

Before Jan 1 £88.40

Jan 1 – May 31 £90.00

June 1 – July 31 £95.00

After July 31 £100.00

2 Day Concert Ticket

12 & 13 August 2011

Before Jan 1 £78.55

Jan 1 – May 31 £80.00

June 1 – July 31 £85.00

After July 31 £90.00

1 Day Concert Ticket

13 August 2011

Before Jan 1 £58.94

Jan 1 – May 31 £60.00

June 1 – July 31 £65.00

After July 31 £70.00

3 day Camping*

Before Jan 1 £34.40

After Jan 1 £35.00

2 Day Camping*

Before Jan 1 £29.47

After Jan 1 £30.00

Free Admission for children UNDER 12 years of age. *Camping charge is per vehicle, Saturday-only camping FREE, bikers & backpackers camp FREE.

Please fill in all info clearly and post this form to:

Fairport Convention Ltd, PO Box 8413, Bilsthorpe, Notts NG22 8WY

Please send **3 DAY** (Thu, Fri, Sat) TICKETS at **£88.40** each

Please send **2 DAY** (Fri and Sat) TICKETS at **£78.55** each

Please send **1 DAY** (Saturday only) TICKETS at **£58.94** each

Please send **FREE** CHILDREN'S TICKETS (accompanied under 12s)

Please send **3 DAY CAMPING** stickers at **£34.40** per vehicle

Please send **2 DAY CAMPING** tickets at **£29.47** per vehicle

IMPORTANT: Please add £1 postage charge to your completed order

Name _____

Address _____

_____ postcode/zip code

Email _____

Contact phone number _____

I enclose a cheque, PO or International Money Order for £ _____ (total amount) made payable to FAIRPORT CONVENTION LTD.

...or order online at www.fairportconvention.com

Following a deluge of requests from fans, we will be playing "Babbacombe" Lee in its entirety.

As always, the Winter Tour concerts will feature an opening set from our special guest artists. For 2011 we are delighted to introduce you to a very talented young duo, **Katriona Gilmore and Jamie Roberts**.

You'll also be able to buy a range of merchandise (including copies of *Festival Bell* and "Babbacombe" Lee) at every gig.

Fairport Convention Wintour 2011

January

| | | |
|--------|---|---------------|
| Fri 28 | Tewkesbury The Roses Theatre | 01684 295 074 |
| Sat 29 | Hayes Beck Theatre | 0208 561 8371 |
| Sun 30 | Huddersfield Lawrence Batley Theatre | 01484 430 528 |

February

| | | |
|--------|--|---------------|
| Tue 1 | York Grand Opera House | 0844 847 2322 |
| Wed 2 | Lincoln Drill Hall | 01522 873 894 |
| Thu 3 | Crosby Civic Hall | 0151 928 1919 |
| Fri 4 | Llandudno North Wales Theatre | 01492 872 000 |
| Sat 5 | Burnley The Mechanics | 01282 664 400 |
| Sun 6 | Leamington Spa The Assembly | 01926 523 001 |
| Mon 7 | Barnstaple Queens Theatre | 01271 324 242 |
| Tue 8 | Chichester Festival Theatre | 01243 781 312 |
| Wed 9 | Swindon The Wyvern | 01793 524 481 |
| Thu 10 | Chesterfield The Winding Wheel | 01246 345 334 |
| Fri 11 | Morecambe The Platform | 01524 582 803 |
| Sun 13 | Douglas, Iom The Gaiety | 01624 625 001 |
| Tue 15 | Weston-Super-Mare Playhouse Theatre | 01934 645 544 |
| Wed 16 | Tunbridge Wells The Assembly Halls | 01892 530 613 |
| Thu 17 | Farnham The Maltings | 01252 745 444 |
| Fri 18 | Farnham The Maltings | 01252 745 444 |
| Sat 19 | London The Union Chapel | 0207 226 1686 |
| Sun 20 | Cambridge Corn Exchange | 01223 357 851 |
| Tue 22 | Colchester Arts Centre | 01206 500 900 |
| Wed 23 | Norwich The Assembly House | 01603 598 688 |
| Thu 24 | St. Albans Alban Arena | 01727 844 488 |
| Fri 25 | Exeter Corn Exchange | 01392 665 866 |
| Sat 26 | Margate Theatre Royal | 08451 301 786 |
| Sun 27 | Aylesbury Waterside Theatre | 0844 871 7627 |

March

| | | |
|-------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Tue 1 | Loughborough Town Hall | 01509 231 914 |
| Wed 2 | Cardiff St. David's Hall | 02920 878 444 |
| Thu 3 | Milton Keynes The Stables | 01908 280 800 |
| Fri 4 | Shrewsbury Theatre Severn | 01743 281 281 |
| Sat 5 | Birmingham Town Hall | 0121 780 3333 |

Other tours

In the run-up to Christmas we'll be busy making music. Chris Leslie will be on the road with the **St Agnes Fountain** seasonal show (www.whileandmatthews.co.uk/tour.php) while Peggy and Gerry will be joining Steve Gibbons and PJ Wright on **The Dylan Project** tour (www.hedgeofsound.com/dylans.html). Simon will team up with Fairport founder Ashley Hutchings for the annual **Albion Christmas Band** show (www.folkicons.co.uk/albionchristmas.htm). Even Gareth Williams, Cropredy festival director, gets an occasional reprieve from the office: this year he will be helping alt-country outfit **ahab** (who made such an impression at Cropredy this year) promote their new CD with a series of concerts (www.ahabofficial.com).

Looking further ahead, our agent Nigel Reavill has almost finished booking next May's **Fairport Acoustic Convention** tour. However, there are still a few dates free so if you would like Fairport to visit your area and you know a suitable venue, drop a line to Nigel via our website.

St Agnes Fountain

December

| | | | |
|--------|--|---------------------------|---------------|
| Thu 2 | Leyland Worden Arts Centre | SOLD OUT | 0161 761 2216 |
| Fri 3 | Barton upon Humber The Ropewalk | | 01652 660380 |
| Sat 4 | Halesworth The Cut | | 0845 673 2123 |
| Sun 5 | Canterbury Cathedral ISC | SOLD OUT | 01227 831493 |
| Mon 6 | Maldon St Mary's Church | | 01621 856503 |
| Tue 7 | Farnham The Maltings | | 01252 745444 |
| Wed 8 | Worcester Huntingdon Hall | | 01905 611427 |
| Thu 9 | Totnes Dartington Hall | | 01803 847070 |
| Fri 10 | South Petherton David Hall Arts | | 01460 240340 |
| Sat 11 | South Petherton David Hall Arts | SOLD OUT | 01460 240340 |
| Sun 12 | Hitchin The Sun | SOLD OUT | 01462 812391 |
| Mon 13 | Nettlebed Folk Club | SOLD OUT | 01628 636620 |
| Tue 14 | Lechlade Memorial Hall | | 01367 253510 |
| Wed 15 | Marlborough St Mary's Church | | 01672 512465 |
| Thu 16 | Banbury The Mill | SOLD OUT | 01295 279002 |
| Fri 17 | Thoresby Riding Stables | 01623 794700/01623 870668 | |
| Sat 18 | Thoresby Riding Stables | 01623 794700/01623 870668 | |
| Sun 19 | Birmingham Town Hall | | 0121 780 3333 |

The Dylan Project

November

| | | |
|--------|--|---------------|
| Fri 26 | Shoreham by Sea Rope & Tackle Centre | 01273 464440 |
| Sat 27 | Birmingham (nearly!) Lickey Parish Hall | 0121 445 2342 |
| Sun 28 | St Helens The Citadel | 01744 735 436 |
| Mon 29 | Kinross Green Hotel | 01577 863467 |

December

| | | |
|--------|------------------------------------|---------------|
| Wed 01 | Kinross Green Hotel | 01577 863 467 |
| Thu 02 | Gateshead The Sage | 0191 443 4661 |
| Fri 03 | Manchester Band on the Wall | 0845 2500500 |
| Sat 04 | Kendall Brewery Arts Centre | 01539 725 133 |
| Sun 05 | Skegness Butlins Festival | 0845 070 4750 |
| Thu 09 | Bilston Robin 2 | 01902 401211 |
| Wed 15 | Leek The Swan | 01538 385260 |
| Thu 16 | Southsea Eastney Cellars | 02392 826249 |
| Fri 17 | Winchester The Railway | 01962 867795 |
| Sun 19 | Banbury The Mill | 01295 279002 |
| Wed 29 | Kinross The Green Hotel | 01577 863467 |

The Albion Christmas Band

December

| | | |
|--------|---|---------------|
| Thu 9 | Pontardawe Arts Centre | 01792 863722 |
| Fri 10 | Southampton Centre 2000, Hedge End | 0238 0652333 |
| Sat 11 | Hailsham Pavilion | 01323 841414 |
| Sun 12 | Wellingborough The Castle | 01933 270007 |
| Mon 13 | Norwich Assembly Rooms | 01603 630000 |
| Tue 14 | Pocklington Arts Centre | 01759 301547 |
| Wed 15 | Bury The Met | 0161 761 2216 |
| Thu 16 | Newcastle u Lyme New Vic Theatre | 01782 717962 |
| Fri 17 | Maidenhead Norden Farm Arts Centre | 01628 788997 |
| Sun 19 | Lichfield Guildhall | 01543 262223 |
| Mon 20 | Crosby Civic Hall | 0151 928 1919 |
| Tue 21 | Canterbury Gulbenkian Theatre | 01227 769075 |
| Wed 22 | Worcester Huntingdon Hall | 01905 611427 |

Happy Christmas!

FINALLY, and most importantly, a very Happy Christmas to you all from all of us. We look forward to seeing you all next year.

Simon, Peggy, Ric,
Chris and Gerry

