



The Swaledale Squeeze 2016



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Dear All

4th May 2016

Here are the final details for this year's Swaledale Squeeze, together with the Programme, which as usual is full of variety, plus Programme Notes to help you choose the appropriate workshops for you. Please could you read this **now** and, if necessary, contact **Harry** ASAP - if you have any '**Unusual Recordings**', Steven if you would like to join the **walk** - or **request music from Dave Ball** - many thanks. (All contact details are in the "Programme Notes"). If you are having meals in the youth hostel on Friday and/or Saturday night then please could you choose in advance to save us running around with lists at the weekend: just visit this web site, it's very easy: <http://doodle.com/poll/wxrd8mff987isnh9>.

Nick Hopkinson has kindly offered to organise a **walk on Friday afternoon** for anyone who is interested - commencing at 2.00 pm from Grinton Lodge (concertinas/valuables can be locked inside the YHA). The walk will give you a chance to experience the beauty of Swaledale - back well in time for dinner at 7.00pm. **Please email Steven if you would like to join this walk.**

The **International Concertina Association (ICA)** are holding a "Meet the Committee" session which will commence at 5.30 pm on Friday in the Courtyard Room. If you don't know what the ICA does then this is your chance to find out!

On Friday evening we will be holding a brief "**Meet the tutors**" session at 8.00, with different systems in different rooms just to introduce ourselves and to help the tutors get to know you. From about 8.45 there will be the **session** in the Lounge and **Foss** will once again lead the "**Dotty Tune Swop Session**" (using dots!) in the Dining Room. At the same time there will be a **slower session** for 'ear' players in the Garden Room for those people who enjoy playing tunes at a more relaxed pace. This session will then join the main session in the lounge later on. Friday evening will therefore consist of three sessions at Grinton Lodge - to the accompaniment of Black Sheep Bitter!

As usual there will be **workshops** on Saturday and also on Sunday morning. As has now become a tradition there will be a **short concert spot** before dinner on Saturday and, following dinner, there will be a **ceilidh** at Reeth Memorial Hall which will be co-ordinated by **Dave Ball and Steven Bradley**. The band will be led by the **Wade family** but everyone is welcome to join them - do bring other instruments if you would like to (also for joining in the sessions). Dave has pulled together **music for some dancing sets** which we will run through at each of the Friday night sessions so that you can join in the band even if sight-reading is not your strong suit. We will also feature 'spots' from the participants at the ceilidh - songs, tunes, dances, recitals etc - so do brush up your party pieces. We will also use Reeth Memorial Hall for the **concert** on the Sunday afternoon when there will be a chance for a 'playthrough' of the pieces you've been working on in your groups and it will also feature short performances from our tutors.

David Elliott will be joining us on Saturday with his '**Concertina Clinic**' and he will also be running a **Concertina Care & Maintenance Workshop** at 5.10. **Chris Algar's 'Concertina Emporium'** will also be joining us on Saturday with his (do contact him on chris.algar@virgin.net or tel. 01782-851449 if you have any specific requirements). **Roger Gawley** will be bringing along a collection of CDs for sale from Roots2Music and the tutors will also be selling copies of their CDs and possibly books.

Grinton Lodge (Youth Hostel) is clean and cheerful and there is plenty of workshop space for us. Those who are staying in bunks will have meals supplied (with or without the Friday evening meal as ordered). The Friday evening meal will be served from 7.0 - 8.0 pm, but food can be kept warm for latecomers. There is a flat space for campervans in the courtyard and also provision for tents and, although the main door is locked at night, campers have access to an outside toilet at night and the use of inside bathroom facilities during the day. Campers and those in alternative accommodation are also very welcome to use the well-equipped self-catering kitchen.

As well as the kegs of Black Sheep, bottled beer and wine can be purchased from Grinton Lodge. Please do **NOT** bring your own drinks to consume at Grinton Lodge. You will, however, need to bring (or buy from Grinton Lodge) drinks to take to the ceilidh (+ glasses) - there will be no bar there.

The bunkrooms are very comfortable – there is no need to bring any bedding! Each person will be supplied with an individual key to their bunkroom.

Please remember to bring:

- ☐ Concertinas! (and other instruments for joining in the session/s & ceilidh band), music stands, recording equipment if wanted, pencils, rubbers, highlighters etc.
- ☐ Drinks & glasses for the ceilidh (there will be no bar at Reeth Memorial Hall) or, alternatively, you can purchase bottled drinks from Grinton Lodge.
- ☐ Walking boots if you fancy a walk.
- ☐ The enclosed Programme and Programme Notes.
- ☐ Tunes from previous “Dotty Sessions” if you still have them and would like to play them again.
- ☐ Money for beer, books and CDs

For those in Bunk Dormitories:

- ☐ Towel, toiletries and **ear plugs** (if you have difficulty sleeping in a shared dormitory!)
- ☐ A torch for moving round the dormitories without disturbing those who are already asleep
- ☐ Coat hangers if required (hooks only – no wardrobes).

Directions to Grinton Lodge (Youth Hostel) - (those with Sat Navs – see postcode below)

Grinton is only a couple of miles on the Richmond side of Reeth. Travel from the A1 to Richmond via the A6136 from Catterick (if approaching from the south – don’t be confused, you appear to head in the wrong direction for a while) or the A6108 from Scotch Corner (if approaching from the north). From Richmond take the A6108 heading west. After 4 or 5 miles, turn right onto the B6270, continuing for a total of about 6 miles until you reach the small hamlet of Grinton (before reaching Reeth). The Bridge Inn is on the right & the road bends to the right – at that point take the turning to the left & proceed 0.75 miles up a steep hill. Grinton Lodge is the only building on the left at the top of the hill surrounded by trees – it’s an old shooting lodge.

Please leave cars in the outer car park or on the road – the courtyard car park will be reserved for campervans.

A picturesque alternative to going through Richmond is to turn off the A1 south of Catterick and go through Bedale to Leyburn (A684) and over Redmire Moor. Just before you start descending the hill into Grinton you’ll see Grinton Lodge on your right.

Another wonderful alternative, if you are travelling north and have plenty of time to spare, is to find your way to Grassington (just north of Skipton) and head north up the B6160 as far as Buckden, then turn left following the course of the River Wharfe through Hubberholme & Yockenthwaite to Hawes, then north past the Buttertubs to Muker and then head east, passing through Reeth until you reach Grinton. You then need to head up the hill on your right – the lodge is at the top on the left (details above). Scenically this is a very beautiful drive (esp. in good weather) and it’s worth taking the time to meander along the narrow roads and maybe plan a picnic or pub lunch on the way.

The full address of Grinton Lodge is:

Grinton Lodge,

Grinton,

Richmond,

DL11 6HS,

Tel: 01748-884206 (direct line)

0870-7705844 (YHA)

Email: grinton@yha.org.uk

If you are staying at the Youth Hostel and are likely to arrive very late on Friday evening please advise Steven in advance, or phone the YHA if you are held up en route, so that we don’t lock you out!

We look forward to seeing you all there.

Best wishes,

STEVEN BRADLEY