

February 2004

ASHINGTON FOLK CLUB

Leisure Centre, Institute Road, Ashington

Assisted by Wansbeck District Council

All Change At Ashington ?

2004 sees some new faces at Ashington Folk Club, and the welcome return of old friends.

We are hoping to see an increase in performers and audience numbers, so decided to canvass opinion from all comers.

Should we charge for admission? What about a smoking policy? Any ideas for improvement?

Results from the 20 completed survey forms show a large majority in favour of a £1 charge for audience, but free for performers.

Opinion on the smoking issue was more divided with 8 votes in favour of no smoking, 4 for no restriction at all and a few for smoking at the bar only.

What do you think? We would appreciate your feedback (*see bottom of page).



First visit to the club for Alex. We hope he'll be back soon.

More pictures and news at www.ashingtonfolkclub.co.uk

Forthcoming Events

4th March 2004

Singers, Musicians & Poets

25th March 2004

Stony

1st April 2004

Singers, Musicians & Poets

6th May 2004

Singers, Musicians & Poets

14th August 2004

Chumbawamba

2004 Kick Off

A cracking good start to 2004. Our first Singers, Musicians & Poets night saw an increase in the audience and the number of performers.

Every table had two copies of the January newsletter, some A5 size leaflets – not forgetting the all-important pen to fill in the survey.

By 20:30 the Folk Bar, while not overflowing, was filling up nicely.

Following the 'Hello and welcome' announcement

Ann Lunam-Cowan gave us her excellent 'Ode To Jimmy And Val' – a fun poem about Ashington's newest resident duo and MCs.

Ray Derrick impressed us with self-penned songs and his guitar and banjo playing skills.

Then came Alex, playing some beautiful classical guitar pieces.

Ann Sessoms treated us to three sets of tunes on her Northumbrian pipes.

Next was Dave Donohoe playing guitar and singing his own brand of quiet

contemporary songs.

jiva closed the first half with '4+20' (Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young) and 'No Telling' (a love song by Linda Thompson).

After a short raffle break, club resident John 'Doc' Campbell did some great blues.

Jack (probably our oldest resident) entertained us to Country music with some fine yodelling.

Ben, another club regular, sang two Bob Dylan songs in his own inimitable style of almost whispering while rhythmically hitting his

guitar.

Last of the residents was Pat whose unaccompanied renditions of classic songs always go down well.

A quick reprise for Dave, John and Ray, and then **jiva** finished the night with 'Dark As A Dungeon' (Merle Travis) and 'Don't Think Twice' (Bob Dylan).

Special thanks to Dave Cooper for providing great sound from the PA.

Thanks to one and all for a smashing opening night for 2004

Singers – Musicians – Poets

Non Guest Nights are held in the Folk Bar on the first Thursday of every month, commencing around 20:30 (that's half past eight in old money!).

Come along and perform or just listen. All styles and abilities welcomed. There is a mixture of residents and visitors performing everything from traditional folk to contemporary music, blues, classics, country and poetry.

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