

CD recorded at The Harrow Inn to raise funds for The Rosemary Foundation

- Released March 2020

ON SALE FROM THE ROSEMARY FOUNDATION - £12.00 INCLUDING p&p

This CD of singing and songs from The Harrow is mainly a compilation of the songs of Davy Goodchild and new recordings of the songs Anny May Dodd and her brother Jack Oakley as sung in 1965. These are folk songs picked up from Harrow customers, many of them with variants from published versions and unique as they stand: so all can be classified as folk songs from Steep.



The scope is broadened with two pieces connected with Edward Thomas. Two American singers stay locally and visit The Harrow as and when their annual touring in UK permits and the producer wanted them to represent the international aspect of the appeal of the place. (Annie May said she never went on holiday as soon or later "the whole world comes to The Harrow".) What better for them to sing than the American song DH Lawrence sang and Eleanor Farjeon learned from him and Edward from her (and he wrote that the tune had got stuck in his mind) so it was being sung in Steep in 1915: as in 'The Last Four Years' letters. 4 of the 6 verses Lawrence knew were found and two more were added from the researches of Alan Lomax to complete the narrative.

Also in 1915 Edward concluded a letter saying that Mr Dodd was singing 'Glorious Beer', that was Thomas Dodd living with his family at 1 Yew Tree cottages. 'Glorious Beer' was a music-halls song and I found a recording copied from an 1899 wax cylinder. Thomas Dodd's younger brother was Arthur (married to Annie May and Harrow landlord from 1932) who is remembered as singing music-hall songs in the pub and would certainly have known this one. So Chorus-Verse-Chorus of it has been recorded.



SONGS NOW are 10 songs from The Harrow's very own Davy Goodchild. Sadly Davy died on December 3rd 2019 (as this cd was being readied for production) but Davy was such a familiar part of the Harrow that his absence is keenly felt, so the Songs Now title holds good.

SONGS THEN are mostly folk songs picked up locally and as were sung by Annie May and her brother Jack Oakley back in years gone by. The singers are present day Harrow customers: Martyn, Sally & Philip and Judy & Dennis (from Ohio USA) with two tunes from 'Big' John and Esmond.

The singing is unaccompanied as it always was – and is.

All of the performers have given their time and talents at no cost and there has been no charge for the recording and mastering or for the design and layout. The only costs involved have been for the printing and CD manufacture.

After deducting P&P costs all proceeds will come to The Rosemary Foundation and will be particularly welcomed in these difficult times.

(The cover photo from about 1969 – taken by Patrick Hunt – is of Jack with his niece Nisa. The CD onbody snapshot of Davy and Judy Cook sharing songs was taken by Claire in March 2018)



The Rosemary Foundation would like to record their thanks to everyone involved in the production of this CD, the performers, the producers, The Harrow (of course with Claire, Tony and Nisa being such wonderful supporters) and everybody who buys a copy. Without you, we could not do what we do for our communities.

Together for the Community