

Roy Clinging Biography

Since the early 1970s, Roy has had a deep-rooted commitment to traditional music, its legacy and its performance. As a stalwart of the local folk scene, he helped to run a number of folk clubs, performing with the local gang of soulers and Chester City Morris Men (of whom he is still a member).



In addition to his acclaimed solo performances (vocals, English concertina and guitar), his music career has encompassed work with harmony groups, most notably Filigree (with Mary Clinging and Mal Waite), with whom he recorded the album *'Treble Chants'* (1995). He continues to enjoy occasional collaborations with other artistes, and has recorded with dance musician Neil Brookes (fiddle).

Roy has extensively researched the songs and traditions of his home county of Cheshire and, with the backing of the former Cheshire County Council, produced the CD *'Cheshire Born'* to complement his unique and ever-popular presentation, *'Here's to Cheshire'*.

Roy performs at venues all over the country, and his commitment to placing traditional music firmly in the heart of the contemporary sees him often working in partnership with regional and local organisations and groups, on a variety of projects – from festivals, education and heritage to social care settings.

Although his love of traditional song is always evident in his live performances, with ballads and songs from all over the British Isles, he has also been involved in the production of a number of shows including *'Off To Sea Once More'*, celebrating the music of our maritime heritage, and as part of the original cast of *'The Navvy's Wife'*, by Mick Ryan. Roy will be touring in 2011/12 with Mick's new show *'The Pauper's Path'* and his own presentation *'When This Old Hat Was New'*.

An example of commissioned work is *'A Poor Man's Heritage'*, for the Salt Museum in Northwich, Cheshire, based on the theme of poverty and the Victorian workhouse.

Roy has recorded four folk albums: *'Cheshire Born'*, *'An Honest Working Man'*, *'Another Round'* and *'When This Old Hat Was New'* and compiled and edited *'Cheshire Folk Songs and associated traditions'*.